

ROYAL GOLD INC
Form DEF 14A
September 23, 2008

Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
SCHEDULE 14A
(Rule 14a-101)
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities
Exchange Act of 1934**

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

ROYAL GOLD, 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 transaction applies:

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

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

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

- o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- o Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NOTICE OF 2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

PROXY STATEMENT

2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

PROPOSAL 1.

ELECTION OF CLASS III DIRECTORS

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION

SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE-IN-CONTROL

PROPOSAL 2. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPANY'S 2004 OMNIBUS

LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN

AUDIT COMMITTEE AND RELATED MATTERS

PROPOSAL 3. RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC

ACCOUNTANTS

OTHER MATTERS

Table of Contents

ROYAL GOLD, INC.
1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 1000
Denver, Colorado 80202
303/573-1660
303/595-9385 (Fax)
info@royalgold.com (E-mail)
www.royalgold.com (Web site)

NOTICE OF 2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held November 5, 2008

* * * *

To the Stockholders of ROYAL GOLD, INC.:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of Royal Gold, Inc. will be held at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, at the Oxford Hotel, Sage Room, 1600 Seventeenth Street, Denver, Colorado, USA, to:

1. Elect three Class III Directors to serve until the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until each such director's successor is elected and qualified;
2. Approve amendments to the Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan to increase the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance thereunder from 900,000 to 1,300,000 and to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (Section 409A);
3. Ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as independent registered public accountants of the Company for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009; and
4. Transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting and any postponements or adjournments thereof.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the meeting; however, only stockholders of record as of the close of business on September 16, 2008, are entitled to vote at the meeting and any postponements or adjournments thereof. It is important that your shares are represented and voted at the Annual Meeting. For that reason, whether or not you expect to attend in person, please vote your shares by telephone or by Internet. If this proxy statement was mailed to you, you may also vote by marking, signing and returning the proxy card in the enclosed envelope. If you do attend the Annual Meeting, you may withdraw your proxy should you wish to vote in person.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen P. Gross
Vice President & Corporate Secretary

September 23, 2008

Table of Contents

ROYAL GOLD, INC.
1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 1000
Denver, Colorado 80202
303/573-1660
303/595-9385 (Fax)
info@royalgold.com (E-mail)
www.royalgold.com (Web site)

PROXY STATEMENT

2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

General Information

This Proxy Statement is furnished to holders of Royal Gold, Inc. (the Company) common stock, in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Company, to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company (the Annual Meeting) to be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.

This year we are taking advantage of the new Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, rules that allow companies to furnish proxy materials to stockholders via the Internet. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, or Notice, by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials, unless you specifically request one. The Notice instructs you on how to access and review the proxy statement and annual report as well as how to submit your proxy over the Internet. The Notice will also identify the date, time and location of the annual meeting; the matters to be acted upon at the meeting and the Board of Directors' recommendation with regard to each matter; a toll-free number, e-mail address and a website where stockholders can request a paper or e-mail copy of the proxy statement, our annual report and a form of proxy relating to the annual meeting; information on how to access the form of proxy; and information on how to obtain directions to attend the meeting and vote in person.

We plan to mail the Notice to stockholders on or about September 23, 2008. A printed copy of this proxy statement and form of proxy card will be mailed to beneficial stockholders that hold greater than 1,000 shares of our common stock and to all shareholders of record. We expect that mailing to begin on or about September 23, 2008.

Stockholders Entitled to Vote

All voting rights are vested exclusively in the holders of the Company's common stock, par value per share \$0.01 (common stock). Only stockholders of record of the common stock at the close of business on September 16, 2008 (the record date), are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting and at any and all postponements and adjournments thereof. As of the record date, there were 33,926,495 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote.

Voting Your Shares

Each share of common stock that you own entitles you to one vote. Your proxy card shows the number of shares of common stock that you own.

If this proxy statement was mailed to you, you may vote your shares by signing and returning the enclosed proxy card. You may also vote by telephone or by the Internet by following the telephone or Internet voting instructions that are included with your proxy card. If you received a Notice, you may vote your shares by telephone or by the Internet by following the telephone or Internet voting instructions that are included with the Notice. If you vote by telephone or the Internet, you do not need to return your proxy card. If you vote by proxy, the proxy holders (each or any of the

individuals named on the proxy) will vote your shares as you instruct on the proxy. If you sign and return the proxy, but do not give instructions on how to vote your shares, your shares will be voted (1) FOR the election of directors as described herein under Proposal 1 Election of Directors, (2) FOR the approval of amendments to the Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan to increase the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance thereunder from 900,000 to 1,300,000 and to comply with the requirements of Section 409A as described herein under Proposal 2

Table of Contents

Approval of Amendments to the Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan, and (3) FOR ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accountants described herein under Proposal 3 Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accountants.

You may attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person. You will be given a ballot when you arrive. However, if your stock is held in the name of your broker, bank or another nominee, you must get a signed proxy from the broker, bank or other nominee giving you the right to vote your shares. This will be the only way we can be sure that the broker, bank or other nominee has not already voted your shares on your behalf.

Revocation of Proxy or Voting Instruction Form

You may revoke your proxy at any time before the proxy is voted at the Annual Meeting. This can be done by either submitting another properly completed proxy card with a later date, sending a written notice of revocation to the Corporate Secretary of the Company with a later date or by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. You should be aware that simply attending the Annual Meeting will not automatically revoke your previously submitted proxy; rather you must notify a Company representative at the Annual Meeting of your desire to revoke your proxy and vote in person. Written notice revoking a proxy should be sent to the Corporate Secretary, Royal Gold, Inc., 1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 1000, Denver, Colorado 80202.

Quorum and Votes Required to Approve Proposals

A majority of the outstanding shares of the Company's common stock entitled to vote, represented in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum at a meeting of the stockholders. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted as being present in person for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum.

With respect to Proposal 1, the election of a director will require an affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast with respect to that director at a meeting at which a quorum is present. With respect to Proposals 2 and 3, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares that are represented and entitled to vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the stockholders. For Proposal 1, a WITHHOLD vote will have the effect of an AGAINST vote with respect to the director for whom the vote is WITHHOLD. Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST Proposals 2 and 3. If a stockholder does not give a proxy to his or her broker with instructions as to how to vote the shares, the broker has authority under New York Stock Exchange rules to vote those shares for or against routine matters, such as the election of directors and the ratification of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. If a broker votes shares that are unvoted by its customers for or against a routine proposal, those shares will be counted for the purpose of determining the outcome of such routine proposal. If a broker chooses to leave these shares unvoted, the shares will have no effect on Proposal 1 and the same effect as a vote AGAINST Proposal 3. A broker does not have authority to vote on Proposal 2. If you do not give your broker instruction on how to vote the shares with respect to Proposal 2, those shares will not be counted for the purpose of determining the outcome of Proposal 2.

Cumulative voting is not permitted for the election of directors. Under Delaware law, holders of common stock are not entitled to appraisal or dissenters' rights with respect to the matters to be considered at the Annual Meeting.

Tabulation of Votes

Votes at the Annual Meeting will be tabulated and certified by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.

Solicitation Costs

In addition to solicitation of proxies by mail or by electronic data transfers, the Company's directors, officers or employees, without additional compensation, may make solicitations by telephone, facsimile, or personal interview. The Company has retained Laurel Hill Advisory Group to aid in the solicitation of brokers, banks, intermediaries and other institutional holders in the United States and Canada for a fee of \$8,000, plus reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses. All costs of the solicitation of proxies will be borne by the Company. The Company will also reimburse the banks and brokers for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners of shares of common stock.

Table of Contents**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table shows the beneficial ownership, as of September 16, 2008, of the Company's common stock by each director, the Company's principal executive officer, principal financial officer and the three most highly compensated executive officers in fiscal year 2008 (each a named executive officer), persons known to the Company to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock, and by all of the Company's directors and executive officers as a group.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned	Percent of Class
Stanley Dempsey ⁽¹⁾ Executive Chairman 1660 Wynkoop Street Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80202	649,608	1.9%
Tony Jensen ⁽²⁾ President, Chief Executive Officer and Director 1660 Wynkoop Street Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80202	169,600	*
John W. Goth ⁽³⁾ Director 9157 Ranch River Circle Highlands Ranch, CO 80126	69,250	*
M. Craig Haase ⁽⁴⁾ Director 1622 Eagle Hill Road Gunnison, CO 81230	4,250	*
William Hayes ⁽⁵⁾ Director 808 Brickell Key Drive, #804 Miami, FL 33131	0	*
S. Oden Howell, Jr. ⁽⁶⁾ Director P.O. Box 36097 Louisville, KY 40233	545,730	1.6%
Merritt E. Marcus ⁽⁷⁾ Director	214,993	*

1412 Mockingbird Valley Green
Louisville, KY 40207

James W. Stuckert ⁽⁸⁾ Director P.O. Box 32760 Louisville, KY 40232	1,806,385	5.3%
--	-----------	------

Donald Worth ⁽⁹⁾ Director 2679 Bayview Avenue Willowdale, Ontario M2L 1C1 Canada	32,750	*
---	--------	---

Table of Contents

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned	Percent of Class
Karen P. Gross ⁽¹⁰⁾ Vice President and Corporate Secretary 1660 Wynkoop Street Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80202	224,754	*
William Heissenbuttel ⁽¹¹⁾ Vice President of Corporate Development 1660 Wynkoop Street Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80202	22,289	*
Stefan L. Wenger ⁽¹²⁾ Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer 1660 Wynkoop Street Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80202	82,037	*
All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (13 persons)	3,835,512	11.3%
NFJ Investment Group L.P. ⁽¹³⁾ 2100 Ross Avenue, Suite 700 Dallas, TX 75201	1,926,200	5.7%

* Less than 1% ownership of the Company's common stock.

- (1) Includes options to purchase 157,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date and 106,818 shares beneficially owned by certain members of Mr. Dempsey's immediate family. Mr. Dempsey disclaims beneficial ownership of these 106,818 shares of common stock.
- (2) Includes 67,500 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 65,000 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (3) Includes 1,250 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 32,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (4) Includes 1,250 shares of restricted stock.
- (5) Mr. Hayes became a member of the Board of Directors effective January 15, 2008.
- (6)

Edgar Filing: ROYAL GOLD INC - Form DEF 14A

Includes 1,250 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 37,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.

- (7) Includes 1,250 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 17,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (8) Includes 1,250 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 17,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (9) Includes 1,250 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 17,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (10) Includes 27,500 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 117,500 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (11) Includes 15,000 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 4,999 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (12) Includes 36,250 shares of restricted stock and options to purchase 34,612 shares of common stock that were exercisable as of September 16, 2008, or which become exercisable within 60 days from such date.
- (13) As reported by NFJ Investment Group L.P. on Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on April 16, 2008. NFJ Investment Group L.P. has sole dispositive power over 1,926,200 shares of common stock and sole voting power over 1,895,800 shares of common stock.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 1.

ELECTION OF CLASS III DIRECTORS

The Company's Board of Directors consists of three classes of directors, with each class of directors serving for a three-year term ending in a successive year. The Company's current Class I Directors are Messrs. Dempsey, Goth and Jensen; the Class II Directors are Messrs. Hayes, Marcus and Stuckert; and the Class III Directors are Messrs. Haase, Howell and Worth. Edwin W. Peiker, Jr. served as a Class III director until his retirement from the Board of Directors effective July 25, 2007.

If the proxy is properly completed and received in time for the Annual Meeting, and if the proxy does not indicate otherwise, the represented shares will be voted **FOR** M. Craig Haase, S. Oden Howell, Jr., and Donald Worth as Class III Directors of the Company. If any of the nominees for election as a Class III Director should refuse or be unable to serve (an event that is not anticipated), the proxy will be voted for a substitute nominee who is designated by the Board of Directors. Each Class III Director elected shall serve until the 2011 Annual Meeting, or until his successor is elected and qualified.

The Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws (bylaws) require that each director be elected by the majority of votes cast at a meeting at which a quorum is present with respect to such director in uncontested elections (the number of shares voted for a director nominee must exceed 50% of the votes cast with respect to that director). In a contested election (a situation in which the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected), the standard for election of directors would be a plurality of the shares represented in person or by proxy at any such meeting and entitled to vote on the election of directors. This year's election is expected to be an uncontested election, and the majority vote standard will apply. If a nominee who is serving as a director is not elected at the annual meeting, Delaware law provides that the director would continue to serve on the Board as a holdover director. Under the Company's bylaws, each director nominee who is serving as a director that is not elected shall offer to tender his or her resignation to the Board of Directors. In that situation, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee would make a recommendation to the Board of Directors on whether to accept or reject the resignation, or whether to take other action. The Board of Directors will act on the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's recommendation and publicly disclose its decision and the rationale behind it within 90 days from the date of the certification of the election results. The director who tenders his or her resignation will not participate in the Board of Directors' decision. If a nominee who was not already serving as a director fails to receive a majority of votes cast at the annual meeting, Delaware law provides that the nominee does not serve on the Board as a holdover director. All of the Class III director nominees are currently serving on the Board of Directors.

Information concerning the nominees for election as directors is set forth below under Directors and Officers.

Vote Required for Approval. Each director must receive a majority of votes cast with respect to that director at a meeting at which a quorum is present in order to be elected (the number of shares voted for a director nominee must exceed 50% of the votes cast with respect to that director).

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR EACH OF THE DIRECTOR NOMINEES.

Table of Contents**DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

The following is information regarding the directors and executive officers of the Company related to their names, position with the Company, periods of service and experience. The persons who are nominated for election as directors at the Annual Meeting are indicated with an asterisk.

Name	Age	Principal Occupation During Last 5 Years and Position with Company	Continuously a Director Since	Class of Director/Term Expires
Stanley Dempsey	69	Director. Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors since July 2006. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company from August 1988 until June 2006. President of the Company from May 2002 until August 2003. President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company from July 1987 to July 1988. From 1983 through June 1986, Mr. Dempsey was a partner in the law firm of Arnold & Porter. During the same period, he was a principal in Denver Mining Finance Company, a firm that provides financial, management, and advisory services to the mining industry. From 1970 through 1983, Mr. Dempsey was employed by AMAX, Inc., a major international mining firm, serving in various managerial and executive capacities. Mr. Dempsey is a member of the board of directors of Taranis Resources. He is a director of the World Gold Council, and is also involved in various mining-related associations.	August 1983	I/2009
Tony Jensen	46	Director. President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since July 2006. President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company from August 2003 until June 2006. Mr. Jensen has over 25 years of mining industry experience, 18 with Placer Dome Inc. His corporate and operations experience were developed both in the United States and Chile where he occupied several senior management positions in mine production, corporate development and finance. Before joining the Company, he was the Mine General Manager of the Cortez Joint Venture	August 2004	I/2009

from August 1999 to June 2003, a mining joint venture between Barrick (formerly Placer Dome Inc.) and Kennecott Explorations (Australia) Ltd., a subsidiary of Rio Tinto. Mr. Jensen is a director of the Industrial Advisory Board of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, and is a member of the board of directors of the National Mining Association, the Nevada Mining Association, and the Colorado Mining Association.

Table of Contents

Name	Age	Principal Occupation During Last 5 Years and Position with Company	Continuously a Director Since	Class of Director/Term Expires
John W. Goth	81	Director. Mr. Goth has been a consultant to the mining industry since 1985. Mr. Goth held several senior positions at AMAX, Inc., a major international mining firm, from April 1954 to November 1985. Mr. Goth has been director of Behre Dolbear since 1998. He is past chairman of the Mineral Information Institute and the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America, a former non-executive director and director of the Denver Gold Group, a mining-related association. He is a former director of U.S. Gold, Magma Copper Corporation, U.S. Zeolites, and Dome Mines Corporation.	August 1988	I/2009
*M. Craig Haase	65	Director. Retired mining executive. Mr. Haase served as Director, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Franco-Nevada Mining Corporation, a publicly-traded precious metals royalty company for more than 15 years prior to its acquisition by Newmont Mining Corporation in 2002. He served as a director of Newmont from March 2002 until he retired in May 2003. He served in a similar capacity at Euro-Nevada Mining Corporation from 1987 to 1999 when Euro-Nevada merged with Franco-Nevada. Mr. Haase was also Chairman and CEO for Gold Marketing Corporation of America, Inc., a physical gold export company, from 1994 to 2002. He received his J.D. degree from the University of Illinois and was engaged in private practice from 1971 to 1990.	July 2007	III/2008

Table of Contents

Name	Age	Principal Occupation During Last 5 Years and Position with Company	Continuously a Director Since	Class of Director/Term Expires
William Hayes	63	<p>Director. Retired mining executive. Mr. Hayes served in various management positions with Placer Dome, Inc. from 1988 to 2006. He was Executive Vice President Placer Dome Inc. for Project Development and Corporate Affairs from 2004 to 2006. From 2000 to 2004, he served as Executive Vice President Placer Dome Inc. for the USA and Latin America, and from 1994 to 1999 as Executive Vice President Placer Dome Inc. for Latin America. From 1991 to 1994, he served as Chief Executive Officer of Mantos de Ore, Chile, at the La Coipa mine and was Chief Financial Officer there from 1988 to 1991. Mr. Hayes served as Vice President and Treasurer of Placer Dome from 1991 to 1994, and Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of La Coipa mine from 1988 to 1991. From 1972 to 1987, Mr. Hayes served in various financial positions with Exxon Corporation. Mr. Hayes is an advisor to the Calista Native Corporation in Alaska, and a director of Tethyan Copper Company, a copper mining and exploration business focused in the South Asian region and Antofogasta Minerals, and Antofogasta PLC, each a copper mining company focused on operations in Chile.</p>	January 2008	II/2010
*S. Oden Howell, Jr.	68	<p>Director. President of Howell & Howell Contractors, Inc., a renovation contractor, and industrial and commercial painting contractor, since 1988. Owner of Kessinger Service Industries, LLC, an industrial coatings contractor firm. Secretary/Treasurer of LCM Constructors, Inc., a general construction company located in Charleston, S.C. and Secretary/ Treasurer of SemperFi Constructors, LLC, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business located in Charleston, S.C. From 1972 until 1988, Mr. Howell was Secretary/Treasurer of Howell &</p>	December 1993	III/2008

Howell, Inc., an industrial and commercial painting contractor firm. Mr. Howell is a director of Keller Manufacturing Company and Paragon Door Designs, Inc.

Table of Contents

Name	Age	Principal Occupation During Last 5 Years and Position with Company	Continuously a Director Since	Class of Director/Term Expires
Merritt E. Marcus	74	Director. Retired. Former President and Chief Executive Officer of Marcus Paint Company, a manufacturer of industrial liquid coatings, and Performance Powders, LLC, a manufacturer of industrial powder coatings, from 1983 until 2004. Mr. Marcus served several terms as a director of the National Paint and Coatings Association.	December 1992	II/2010
James W. Stuckert	70	Director. Senior Executive of Hilliard, Lyons, Inc., since 2004, a full service financial asset management firm. Mr. Stuckert joined Hilliard, Lyons in 1962 and served in several capacities including Chief Executive Officer prior to being named Chairman in December 1995. He served as Chairman from December 1995 to December 2003.	September 1989	II/2010
*Donald Worth	76	Director. Retired. Mr. Worth is a director of Sentry Select Capital Corporation, Cornerstone Capital Resources, Inc., and Tiomin Resources Inc. He is also a trustee of Labrador Iron Ore Royalty Income Fund. Mr. Worth has been involved in the mining industry since 1949. He formerly was a mining specialist and a vice president of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (Canada) from July 1984 to August 1997, when he retired. He is involved with several professional associations both in Canada and the United States.	April 1999	III/2008
Karen Gross	54	Vice President of the Company since June 1994 and Corporate Secretary since 1989. From 1987 until 1989, Ms. Gross was the Assistant Secretary to the Company. Ms. Gross is in charge of investor relations, public relations and ensuring the Company's compliance with various corporate governance standards. Ms. Gross is involved		

with the National Investor Relations
Institute, the Society of Corporate
Secretaries and Governance Professionals,
and is a director of the Denver Gold Group, a
mining-related association.

Table of Contents

Name	Age	Principal Occupation During Last 5 Years and Position with Company	Continuously a Director Since	Class of Director/Term Expires
William Heissenbuttel	43	<p>Vice President of Corporate Development since February 2007. Manager of Corporate Development from April 10, 2006 through January 2007. Mr. Heissenbuttel brings more than twenty years of corporate finance experience with thirteen of those years in project and corporate finance in the metals and mining industry. Mr. Heissenbuttel served as Senior Vice President from February 2000 to April 2006 and Vice President from 1999 to 2000 at N M Rothschild & Sons (Denver) Inc. From 1994 to 1999, he served as Vice President and Group Vice President at ABN AMRO Bank N.V. From 1987 to 1994, he was a Senior Credit Analyst and an Associate at Chemical Bank Manufacturers Hanover. Mr. Heissenbuttel holds a Master of Business Administration degree with a specialization in finance from the University of Chicago.</p>		
Bruce C. Kirchhoff	49	<p>Vice President and General Counsel since February 2007. Mr. Kirchhoff has over 20 years experience representing hardrock and industrial minerals mining companies, as well as mineral exploration and development clients. From January 2004 through January 2007, Mr. Kirchhoff was a partner with the law firm Carver Kirchhoff Schwarz McNab & Bailey, LLC. From January 2003 to December 2003, Mr. Kirchhoff was a partner with the law firm Carver & Kirchhoff, LLC, and from April 1996 through December 2002, Mr. Kirchhoff was a partner in the law firm Alferts & Carver, LLC. Prior to private practice, Mr. Kirchhoff was a senior attorney with Cyprus Amax Minerals Company from June 1986 through March 1996. Mr. Kirchhoff holds a J.D. from the University of Denver, a Masters of Science in Mineral Economics from the Colorado</p>		

School of Mines, and a B.A. from Colorado
College.

Table of Contents

Name	Age	Principal Occupation During Last 5 Years and Position with Company	Continuously a Director Since	Class of Director/Term Expires
Stefan Wenger	35	Chief Financial Officer since July 2006 and Treasurer since August 2007. Chief Accounting Officer of the Company from April 2003 until June 2006. Mr. Wenger was with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as a manager from June 2002 until March 2003. From September 2000 until June 2002, he was a manager with Arthur Andersen LLP. Mr. Wenger has over 13 years of experience in the mining and natural resources industry working in various financial roles. Mr. Wenger is a certified public accountant. He is a member of the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.		

MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008 (fiscal year 2008), the Board of Directors held four regular meetings, each of which included executive sessions of the independent directors, and fifteen special meetings. Each director attended, in person or by telephone, at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Committee(s) of the Board of Directors on which he served. It is the Company's policy that each director attends each Annual Meeting. All directors attended last year's Annual Meeting.

Independence of Directors

The Board of Directors has determined that each director, except for Messrs. Dempsey and Jensen, who are officers of the Company, is independent under the NASDAQ listing standards. The Board of Directors has determined that the directors designated as independent have no relationship with the Company that would interfere with the exercise of their independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

Lead Director

The Board of Directors has elected a lead, independent director who presides over executive sessions of the independent directors scheduled at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors. This lead director position is a rotating position on a yearly basis. The lead director chairs the executive sessions of the independent directors and serves as liaison between the Executive Chairman and the President and Chief Executive Officer, and the other independent directors. Mr. S. Oden Howell, Jr. currently serves as lead director.

Audit Committee

The Board of Directors has a standing Audit Committee. The Audit Committee consists of James W. Stuckert, as Chairman, John W. Goth, and Donald Worth. All members of the Audit Committee are independent under the

NASDAQ listing standards and Section 10A(m)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Audit Committee held six meetings during the fiscal year. The Audit Committee Charter is available on the Company's web site at www.royalgold.com.

The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in its oversight of the integrity of the Company's financial statements and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and corporate policies and controls. The Audit Committee has the sole authority to retain and terminate the Company's independent registered public accountants, review reports of the independent registered public accountants,

Table of Contents

approve all auditing services and related fees and the terms of any agreements, and to pre-approve any non-audit services to be rendered by the Company's independent registered public accountants. The Audit Committee monitors the effectiveness of the audit process and the Company's financial reporting, reviews the adequacy of financial and operating controls and evaluates the effectiveness of the Committee. The Audit Committee is responsible for confirming the independence and objectivity of the independent registered public accountants. The Audit Committee reviews and approves all transactions between the Company and parties related to the Company. The Audit Committee discusses and reviews any transaction between the Company and parties related to the Company and reports to the full Board of Directors whether it has approved the transaction. The Audit Committee is also responsible for preparation of the annual report of the Audit Committee for public disclosure in the Company's proxy statement. The Board of Directors has determined that James Stuckert is an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in Item 407(d) of Regulation S-K. As an audit committee financial expert, Mr. Stuckert satisfies the NASDAQ financial literacy and sophistication requirements.

Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The Board of Directors has a standing Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. During fiscal year 2008, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consisted of John W. Goth, as Chairman, James W. Stuckert and Mr. S. Oden Howell. Mr. Peiker retired from the Board of Directors effective July 25, 2007, simultaneously resigning his position on the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. On August 23, 2007, Mr. S. Oden Howell was elected by the Board of Directors to serve on the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. All members of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are considered independent directors under the NASDAQ listing standards. The Committee held five meetings during the fiscal year. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Charter is available on the Company's web site at www.royalgold.com.

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee oversees the Company's compensation policies, plans and programs and reviews and recommends the compensation to be paid to executive officers and directors.

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also administers and implements the Company's incentive compensation and equity-based plans. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is also responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and preparing the report on executive compensation for public disclosure in the Company's proxy statement.

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may form subcommittees and delegate to its subcommittees such power and authority as it deems necessary or advisable. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has no current intention to delegate any of its authority with respect to determining executive officer compensation to any subcommittee. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not delegate its responsibilities with respect to executive compensation to any executive officer of the Company.

In addition to compensation matters, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also identifies or reviews individuals proposed to become members of the Board of Directors and recommends director nominees. In selecting director nominees, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assesses the nominee's independence, as well as considers his or her experience, areas of expertise, including experience in the mining industry, diversity, perspective, broad business judgment and leadership, all in the context of an assessment of the perceived needs of the Board of Directors at that time. Further, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider director candidates recommended by stockholders using the same criteria outlined above, provided such written recommendations are submitted to the Corporate Secretary of the

Company in accordance with the advance notice and other provisions of the Company's bylaws.

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also advises the Board of Directors on various corporate governance principles. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate

Table of Contents

Governance Committee reviews the content and compliance with the Company's Board of Directors' Governance Guidelines annually.

All recommendations from the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

During fiscal year 2008, all of the members of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee were non-employee directors. No interlocking relationship existed between our board of directors or our Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the board of directors or compensation committee of any other company during fiscal year 2008.

Communication with Directors

Any stockholder who desires to contact the Company's Board of Directors may do so by writing to the Corporate Secretary, Royal Gold, Inc., 1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 1000, Denver, Colorado 80202. Any such communication should state the number of shares beneficially owned by the stockholder making the communication. The Corporate Secretary will forward any such communication to the Chairman of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and will forward such communication to other members of the Board of Directors, as appropriate, provided that such communication addresses a legitimate business issue. Any communication relating to accounting, auditing or fraud will be forwarded to the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Code of Business Ethics and Conduct

The Company has adopted a Code of Business Ethics and Conduct applicable to all of its directors, officers and employees, including the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, and other persons performing financial reporting functions. The Code is reviewed on a yearly basis. The Code is available through the Company's web site at www.royalgold.com. The Code is designed to deter wrongdoing and promote (a) honest and ethical conduct; (b) full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosures; (c) compliance with laws, rules and regulations; (d) prompt internal reporting of Code violations; and (e) accountability for adherence to the Code. The Company will post on its web site any amendments to the Code.

Governance Guidelines

In August 2007, the Board of Directors, upon recommendation from the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, adopted Board of Directors' Governance Guidelines to assist the Board of Directors in the discharge of its duties and to serve the interests of the Company and its stockholders. The Directors' Governance Guidelines are available on the Company's website at www.royalgold.com.

Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

In November 2005, the Company entered into a strategic exploration alliance with Taranis Resources, Inc. (Taranis Resources), a Colorado-based resource company listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, to pursue exploration opportunities in Finland. As of June 30, 2008, the Company has provided \$506,404 in funding for a 2.0% net smelter return royalty and future royalty earn-in rights. In January 2006 and in support of the strategic exploration alliance, Mr. Dempsey, Executive Chairman of the Company, became a director of Taranis Resources. As a director of Taranis Resources, Mr. Dempsey is awarded stock options under Taranis Resources' stock option plan. In January 2006, Mr. Dempsey was awarded 100,000 incentive stock options, exercisable for a period of four and one-half years from

the date of grant, at a price of Cdn\$0.35 per share.

In July 2006, the Company entered into an agreement with Mr. Dempsey under which any director fees, consulting fees and other remuneration (whether in cash, securities or otherwise) paid to Mr. Dempsey by Taranis Resources will be remitted to the Company (the Agreement). Pursuant to the Agreement, the Company may require Mr. Dempsey to exercise the stock options granted to him by Taranis Resources at any time or from time to time during the exercise period and under the terms of the Taranis Resources stock option agreement. If the Company requires Mr. Dempsey to exercise the stock options, it will pay Mr. Dempsey the

Table of Contents

amount necessary to exercise the stock options. The securities gained upon exercise will be transferred to the Company. The Company will reimburse Mr. Dempsey for incurred tax liability, if any.

The Company currently beneficially owns 1,137,500 shares, or 5.94%, of Taranis Resources common stock, including 100,000 stock options awarded to Mr. Dempsey that the Company has the right to acquire.

DIRECTORS COMPENSATION

Royal Gold's compensation for non-employee directors is designed to link rewards to business results and stockholder returns. The Company does not have a retirement plan for non-employee directors. Executive officers who are also directors are not paid additional compensation for their services on the Board.

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, or the Committee, is responsible for evaluating and recommending to the independent members of the Board of Directors the compensation for non-employee directors. The independent members of the Board of Directors make final compensation decisions. In August 2006, the Committee engaged Frederick W. Cook & Associates to evaluate Royal Gold's compensation package for non-employee directors. The study reviewed annual cash retainers, fees for attending board and committee meetings, fees for committee membership, and an annualized present value of equity compensation and found that compensation for non-employee directors was competitive with the benchmark peer group but some slight improvements should be considered.

Based on the August 2006 study and the increased business demands of the Company, the Board of Directors modified the non-employee directors' compensation in August 2007 to increase the annual retainer for board and committee membership and meeting fees. The Board of Directors also determined to cease awarding stock options to non-employee directors, but to increase annual grants of restricted stock from 1,250 shares to 2,500 shares. A new policy was also implemented to require non-employee directors to own a minimum of 10,000 shares of the Company's common stock. There is no time frame in which the directors must meet these ownership targets. Messrs. Goth, Howell, Marcus, Stuckert and Worth have met the ownership target.

Cash Compensation

For fiscal year 2008, each non-employee director of the Company received an annual fee of \$20,000 for service as a director and an additional \$1,000 for each Board of Directors' meeting attended, either in person or via telephone. The Chairman of the Audit Committee received an annual fee of \$6,000 and the Chairman of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee received an annual fee of \$4,000 for their service as chairman of their respective committees. Each member of the Audit Committee and Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee received \$750 for each meeting attended, either in person or via telephone. Mr. Peiker received a one-time bonus of \$35,000 in connection with his retirement from the Board of Directors in July 2007. The Board of Directors determined the one-time bonus was appropriate as recognition of Mr. Peiker's long standing service to the Company, including over ten years of service as an executive of the Company and twenty years of service on the Company's Board of Directors.

Equity Compensation

On November 7, 2007, each non-employee director was granted 2,500 shares of restricted stock. Half of the shares of restricted stock vested immediately upon grant and the remaining half of the shares of restricted stock will vest on the first anniversary of the grant date. Non-employee directors were not awarded stock options in fiscal year 2008.

Expenses

Non-employee directors are reimbursed for all out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the business and affairs of the Company.

Table of Contents**Fiscal Year 2008 Directors Compensation**

The following table provides information regarding the compensation of the Company's non-employee directors in fiscal year 2008. Amounts shown for each director vary due to service on committees or as committee chairs for all or a portion of the year. The annual retainer for fiscal year 2008 is paid in cash on a quarterly basis.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Stock Awards⁽²⁾ (\$)	Option Awards⁽³⁾ (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
John W. Goth	\$ 41,000	\$ 65,435	\$ 3,834	\$	\$ 110,269
M. Craig Haase	\$ 31,750	\$ 61,359	\$	\$	\$ 93,109
William Hayes ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 11,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 11,000
S. Oden Howell	\$ 34,250	\$ 65,435	\$ 3,834	\$	\$ 103,519
Merritt Marcus	\$ 31,750	\$ 65,435	\$ 3,834	\$	\$ 101,019
James Stuckert	\$ 44,000	\$ 65,435	\$ 3,834	\$	\$ 113,269
Donald Worth	\$ 34,750	\$ 65,435	\$ 3,834	\$	\$ 104,019
Edwin Peiker ⁽⁵⁾	\$	\$	\$	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000

- (1) Non-employee directors received an annual cash retainer for service on our Board of Directors of \$20,000, and an additional \$1,000 for each Board of Directors meeting attended. Mr. Stuckert received an additional annual retainer of \$6,000 for service as the Chairman of the Audit Committee. Mr. Goth received an additional annual retainer of \$4,000 for service as the Chairman of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Messrs. Howell, Goth, Stuckert and Worth each received an additional \$750 for each committee meeting attended.
- (2) The amounts shown represent the portion of fair value of restricted stock awards that vest on continued service recognized during fiscal year 2008 for financial statement reporting purposes in accordance with SFAS 123R. Amounts shown do not represent cash payments made to the individuals, amounts realized or amounts that may be realized. Refer to Note 8 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 20, 2008, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 22, 2008, for a discussion of the assumptions used in valuation of the restricted stock awards. In accordance with SFAS 123R, the grant date fair value for each restricted stock award in fiscal year 2008 was \$29.75. Restricted stock awards related to continued service for non-employee directors vest 50% immediately upon grant and 50% on the first anniversary of the grant. As of June 30, 2008, Messrs. Goth, Haase, Hayes, Howell, Marcus, Stuckert and Worth each owned, in the aggregate, 1,250, 1,250, 0, 1,250, 1,250, 1,250 and 1,250 shares of restricted stock, respectively.
- (3) Amounts shown reflect the portion of fair value of stock option awards recognized during fiscal years 2008 for financial statement reporting purposes in accordance with SFAS 123R, using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing. Amounts shown do not represent cash payments made to the individuals, amounts realized or amounts that may be realized. Refer to Note 8 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 20, 2008, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 22, 2008, for a discussion of the assumptions used in valuation of stock option awards. No stock option awards were granted to non-employee directors during

fiscal year 2008. Stock option awards for non-employee directors vest 50% immediately upon grant and 50% on the first anniversary of the grant. As of June 30, 2008, Messrs. Goth, Haase, Hayes, Howell, Marcus, Stuckert and Worth each owned, in the aggregate, 32,500, 0, 0, 37,500, 17,500, 17,500 and 17,500 stock options, respectively.

- (4) Mr. Hayes joined the Board of Directors effective January 15, 2008.
- (5) Mr. Peiker retired from the Board of Directors effective July 25, 2007. Mr. Peiker was given a one time bonus of \$35,000 in connection with his retirement as recognition for his service to the Company. All of Mr. Peiker's shares of restricted stock and unexercisable stock options on the date of his retirement were forfeited upon his retirement. Mr. Peiker's exercisable stock options on the date of his retirement remained exercisable for 90 days following July 25, 2007. Mr. Peiker exercised all of his stock options in September 2007.

Table of Contents

SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Company's officers and directors, and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of the Company's equity securities, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Officers, directors and greater than 10% stockholders are required by the regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) reports they file. Based solely on its review of copies of such reports received and written representations from certain persons that no other reports were required for those persons, the Company believes that all filing requirements applicable to its officers, directors and greater than 10% stockholders were met for fiscal year 2008, and all transactions are reflected in this Proxy Statement.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Report

The information contained in the following Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Report shall not be deemed soliciting material or filed with the SEC, nor shall such information be incorporated by reference into a future filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent the Company specifically incorporates this Report by reference therein.

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors has reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K. Based on such review and discussion, the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement.

This Report has been submitted by the following members of the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors:

John W. Goth, Chairman
S. Oden Howell, Jr.
James W. Stuckert

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Overview

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (the Committee) is responsible for, among other things, setting and administering the policies that govern the compensation for the executive officers of the Company. The Committee evaluates the performance of management and recommends to the full Board of Directors the compensation level for all officers and key employees. The Committee also administers the Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan and recommends levels of equity awards such as stock options, restricted stock and performance stock awards to executive officers and key employees to the full Board of Directors. The Committee is composed entirely of independent outside directors, as defined under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, and each member is independent under the applicable rules of the NASDAQ. Final compensation decisions are made by the independent members of the Board of Directors based on the recommendations of the Committee.

Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

Royal Gold's general compensation philosophy is focused on paying a competitive salary and providing attractive long-term incentives to reward growth and to link management interests with stockholder interests. The Committee believes that bonus and long-term incentives are critical to the sustainability and continuity of the Company's business and that such incentives support executive retention and avoid short-term windfalls.

Table of Contents

The Committee specifically believes that the compensation philosophy and programs of Royal Gold should:

- link rewards to individual performance, business results and stockholder returns;
- encourage creation of long-term stockholder value and achievement of strategic objectives;
- target management salary range structures and award opportunities at or slightly above the market median, with opportunity to receive total direct compensation in the upper quartile for superior results;
- maintain an appropriate balance between base salary, annual bonuses and long-term incentives; and
- attract and retain the highest caliber personnel on a long-term basis.

Royal Gold employs sixteen employees and places primary importance on the talent of those employees to manage and grow the Company. Based on the small number of employees, Royal Gold's executives are required to be multi-disciplined, self-reliant, and highly experienced. The Committee feels the loss of Royal Gold's executive talent would be a significant threat for the Company, requiring the Company to target total direct compensation in the upper quartile of its peer group companies in the United States and Canada engaged in either the mining or exploration of precious metals or in the acquisition or management of interests in mining operations. In determining specific compensation amounts for executives, the Committee considers such factors as (1) experience; (2) individual performance; (3) tenure; (4) role in achieving corporate objectives; and (5) compensation compared to the Company's other officers and to the Company's peer group.

Role of Management

Corporate goals and objectives are established by the Committee with recommendations by the President and Chief Executive Officer and reviewed annually with the Board of Directors. Each executive officer completes annually a self-assessment of his or her individual performance and contributions to the Company's corporate goals and objectives, which is reviewed with Royal Gold's President and Chief Executive Officer. Based on such annual reviews and the Company's compensation objectives, the President and Chief Executive Officer recommends annual bonus awards and long-term incentive awards to the Committee. The Committee considers the President and Chief Executive Officer's recommendations in making annual bonus and long-term incentive award recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Committee conducts an annual review of the President and Chief Executive Officer's performance and all recommendations relating to the President and Chief Executive Officer's compensation are made by the Committee independent from members of management.

Role of Compensation Consultants and Evaluation of Compensation Package

The Committee has sought and received advice from independent compensation and benefits consultants as necessary or useful to conduct a review of the Company's compensation position. The Committee's goals in utilizing compensation and benefits consultants is to maintain total direct compensation near the 75th percentile and base salary above the 50th percentile. The Committee also reviews cost of living increases as a separate factor in salary increases, and utilizes the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index to determine the level salaries should be increased to reflect cost of living increases.

In August 2006, the Committee engaged Frederic W. Cook to conduct an extensive study of the Company's compensation package, including comparing the compensation package to Royal Gold's benchmark peer group of companies in the U.S. and Canada engaged in either the mining or exploration of precious metals or in the acquisition and management of interests in mining operations. The benchmark peer group consisted of 15 companies: Barrick

Gold, Newmont Mining, Goldcorp, Freeport McMoran Copper and Gold, Glamis Gold, Agnico-Eagle Mines, Kinross Gold, Meridian Gold, Yamana Gold, IAMGOLD, Pan American Silver, Coeur d'Alene Mines, Golden Star Resources, Vista Gold and International Royalty Corporation.

Table of Contents

The study reviewed the Company's base salaries, annual bonuses, benefits, non-cash compensation, and long-term incentives in comparison with the benchmark group and provided a review of the competitiveness, fairness, and effectiveness of each component of compensation and an evaluation of individual total compensation. The study found that the salaries of the named executive officers were in the 16th percentile of the benchmark group, salaries plus bonuses were at the 26th percentile, long-term incentives averaged in the 63rd percentile, and total direct compensation (salary, bonus, and long-term incentives) were in the 54th percentile.

The Committee felt the evaluation by Frederick W. Cook was based on a peer group of companies that, based on market capitalization, was not entirely appropriate for Royal Gold's executive compensation evaluation purposes. Nonetheless, based on the evaluation, the Committee concluded that it was necessary to increase the cash compensation for management in fiscal year 2008 to reinforce the key objectives of attracting and retaining key executives at what was a very competitive time in the mining industry. The Committee approved and recommended base salary increases for the named executive officers of 6.2% on average for fiscal year 2008, which included a 3.5% adjustment for cost of living increases. Based on this, the Committee recommended, and the independent directors of the Board of Directors approved, an increase in base salary of \$6,500, \$21,000, \$15,000, \$15,000 and \$12,500 for Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen, Wenger, Ms. Gross and Mr. Heissenbuttel, respectively, for fiscal year 2008.

In July 2007, the Committee engaged Frederick W. Cook again to conduct a study of the Company's compensation package as modified by the salary increases. Frederick W. Cook was asked to use a benchmark peer group of companies in the U.S. and Canada engaged in either the mining or exploration of precious metals or in the acquisition and management of interests in mining operations that excluded the largest market capitalized companies. In response to the Committee's request, Frederick W. Cook used a smaller benchmark peer group consisting of 10 companies: Agnico-Eagle Mines, Meridian Gold, Yamana Gold, IAMGOLD, Silver Wheaton, Pan American Silver, Coeur d'Alene Mines, Golden Star Resources, Hecla Mining and International Royalty Corporation.

The results of the July 2007 study showed that executive officer salaries were in the 32nd percentile, salaries plus bonuses were in the 45th percentile, long-term incentives were near the 83rd percentile, and total direct compensation (salary, bonus, and long-term incentives) was in the 69th percentile of the benchmark peer group.

The Committee concluded that executive compensation packages for the Company's executive officers were approaching an appropriate mix of competitive salary and bonus incentives as well as long-term incentives to motivate executives to achieve positive businesses results and increase shareholder value and that the July 2007 study should be used to determine appropriate long-term incentive awards for fiscal 2008, as discussed further below, and total compensation for fiscal 2009. The Committee also felt that methodical adjustments be made over the next few years, instead of a lump sum catch-up, for those individuals whose salaries fall below the 50th percentile.

Subsequent Evaluations

The Committee used the July 2007 study to review and provide guidance for certain executive compensation changes for upcoming fiscal year 2009. In order to develop compensation changes consistent with the Company's geographical market, the Committee also consulted with the Mountain States Employers Council, or the MSEC, and utilized the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index to determine whether salary increases should be made to reflect cost of living increases.

The MSEC's 2007 survey for calendar 2008 compensation trends indicated projections for average exempt salary increases specific to the mining industry of 4.8% while mining executive and other officer salaries were projected to increase 7.3%. The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index stated that consumer prices for all goods nationwide have increased 4.0% from March 2007 compared to March 2008.

Based on the 2007 study, the Committee concluded that the Company's overall compensation package is well positioned at the 70% level, but that some salary adjustments should be made in order to reflect salary increases expected for mining executives and officers in the Company's geographic region and cost of living increases.

Table of Contents

The Committee approved and recommended to the Board of Directors base salary increases of 7.4% on average, including a 4.0% adjustment for cost of living increases, for fiscal year 2009. Based on this, the Committee recommended, and the independent members of the Board of Directors approved, an increase in base salary of \$7,500, \$33,500, \$12,000, \$12,000 and \$19,500 for Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen, Wenger, Ms. Gross and Mr. Heissenbuttel, respectively, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

Components of Executive Compensation

Royal Gold's compensation program consists of base pay, annual cash bonuses, long-term incentives and benefits. The Company believes perquisites for executives should be extremely limited in scope and value and, therefore, generally does not provide perquisites or other special benefits to executive officers that are not available to all employees. The Committee attempts to pay competitively in the aggregate as well as deliver an appropriate balance between fixed compensation (base salary, bonuses and benefits) versus variable compensation (long-term incentives). Consistent with the Company's philosophy of attracting and retaining its executive talent, the Committee emphasizes long-term incentives over fixed compensation as components of the executive compensation package. The relative portions of fixed compensation and long-term incentives varies for each named executive officer, but generally is intended to provide a significant portion of the executives' compensation through long-term incentives.

Employment Agreements

Royal Gold had previously entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Dempsey and Wenger and Ms. Gross. Each employment agreement was for a one year employment term that automatically extended without further action by the employee for successive one year periods unless the Company delivered a written notice of involuntary termination with 90 days prior notice. Each of the employment agreements provided for post-termination benefits of one year of severance in the event of a voluntary termination by the executive for good reason after a change of control of Royal Gold and six months severance in the event of death or disability. Until September 14, 2008, the Company had not entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Jensen, the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer or Mr. Heissenbuttel, Vice President of Corporate Development.

In May 2008, the Committee, as part of its ongoing review of the Company's executive compensation package, determined that to remain competitive with its peer companies, the Company should offer and enter into an employment agreement with Mr. Jensen, providing, among other things, severance benefits. The Committee retained Frederick W. Cook to conduct a review of a wide range of employment agreements and to provide advice on developing an employment agreement and severance benefits to be offered to Mr. Jensen. The Committee and Frederick W. Cook also reviewed the then-existing employment agreements with Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Wenger and Ms. Gross to determine if modifications were necessary to provide competitive compensation and severance benefits within the industry.

Based on its review, the Committee approved and recommended to the Board of Directors employment agreements to be offered to the named executive officers that provided for severance benefits to Mr. Jensen and Mr. Heissenbuttel, neither of whom had previously entered into employment agreements, and increased severance benefits to Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Wenger and Ms. Gross over those provided under each of their then-existing employment agreements. The independent members of the Board of Directors approved the new employment agreements, and each of Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen, Wenger, and Ms. Gross accepted and entered into the employment agreements offered by the Company on September 15, 2008. Mr. Heissenbuttel did not enter into an employment agreement.

Pursuant to Mr. Jensen's employment agreement, Mr. Jensen will receive severance compensation upon an involuntary termination of employment without Cause, a voluntary termination of employment for Good Reason, or if the Company elects not to renew the employment term during the four-year renewal period of the employment agreement

for a period of one year. If such termination or non-renewal is within two years after a change of control, Mr. Jensen will be entitled to two and one-half times his then base salary, two and one-half times his average annual cash incentive bonus for the prior three fiscal years and continued employee benefits for twelve months.

Table of Contents

Pursuant to the employment agreements with Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Wenger and Ms. Gross, each such executive will receive severance compensation upon an involuntary termination of his or her employment without Cause, a voluntary termination of his or her employment for Good Reason, or if the Company elects not to renew his or her employment term during the four-year renewal period of his or her employment agreement for a period of one year. If such termination or non-renewal is within two years after a change of control, the executive will be entitled to one and one-half times his or her then base salary, one and one-half times his or her average annual cash incentive bonus for the prior three fiscal years and continued employee benefits for twelve months.

The employment agreements, and benefits payable thereunder, with each of Messrs. Jensen, Dempsey and Wenger and Ms. Gross are described in further detail in the section titled Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control on page 29.

Base Salary

Base salary is the fixed cash amount paid to an officer on a fiscal year cycle. Increases in cost of living are considered and will be added to the base salary levels at the prevailing rate, if appropriate. Actual salaries vary by individual and are based on sustained performance toward achievement of the Company's goals and objectives, experience and current salary. The Committee believes that salaries should be adjusted as necessary in order to maintain competitiveness within the mining industry. Due to the Company's emphasis on long-term incentives, individual salaries are intended to be around the 50th percentile of the Company's benchmark peer group for each position, including the position of the President and Chief Executive Officer. Based on the August 2006 study, the Committee determined that base salary compensation, which was in the 16th percentile of the benchmark peer group used in that study, was adequate for fiscal year 2007 as a component of total compensation, which was in the 63rd percentile of the benchmark peer group, but required adjustment for fiscal year 2008. After such adjustments were made, the Committee determined that the base salary compensation, which was in the 32nd percentile based on the peer group used in the July 2007 study, and the total direct compensation, which was at the 70th percentile, obtained a position within the range of the benchmark peer group that would be competitive to retain executives but further adjustment to cash compensation would be considered in the future. Base salary figures for each of the named executive officers are shown in the Summary Compensation Table. In the latter part of fiscal year 2008, the Committee again reviewed base salaries and determined that changes were necessary for fiscal year 2009 as described above. The independent members of the Board of Directors approved salaries for fiscal year 2009 for each of Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen, Wenger, Heissenbuttel and Ms. Gross in the amount of \$194,000, \$374,500, \$182,000, \$182,000, and \$182,000, respectively.

Annual Cash Bonuses

Annual cash bonus awards are discretionary and are based on individual and corporate performance, returns to shareholders, the Company's ability to pay, and general practices in the mining industry. Bonuses are designed to balance rewards for exceptional performance, personal contributions, and to tie accountability with actual performance. Annual bonuses are recommended to the Committee by the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer based on annual reviews of each executive officer's performance and contribution to the Company's corporate goals and objectives. The Company does not utilize a formula to determine the amount of bonus awards or the amount of bonus awards as a percentage of base salary, but instead looks to qualitative considerations in evaluating each executive. The Committee reviews the recommendations and the individual performance of each executive officer and recommends bonus awards to the independent members of the Board of Directors in November following the end of the prior fiscal year. Bonuses are paid at the beginning of the next calendar year. At this time, the amount of annual cash bonuses for fiscal year 2008 for each of the named executive officers is not determinable but, in fiscal year 2007, annual cash bonus awards for the named executive officers ranged from 53% to 63% of base salary.

Long-Term Incentives

The Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan (LTIP) permits the award of various types of stock-based incentives. Grants are typically in the form of incentive and non-qualified stock options,

Table of Contents

shares of restricted stock and performance stock awards that vest based on the achievement of performance objectives. The LTIP is designed to balance short-term performance with the need for sustainable results, to align the interests of management with stockholders, and to provide each executive officer with a significant incentive to manage the Company from the perspective of an owner with an equity stake in the business. The LTIP compensation is intended to drive future performance of employees by potentially delivering a significant portion of each executive officer's total compensation at a future date. The amount of each incentive award is driven by the Company's interest in retaining the individual as an employee, an individual's relative level in the Company, and his or her ability to impact corporate goals. With respect to equity awards made in fiscal year 2008, the Committee looked to the individual's contribution across six elements to determine the amount and form of equity awards: (1) the Company's financial growth, (2) cost containment, (3) financial strength, (4) protection of assets, (5) governance, and (6) marketing. The amount and form of equity awards were determined based on each named executive officer's contributions to each of these six elements.

The amount and form of equity awards for each named executive officer are determined by the Committee based on recommendations by the President and Chief Executive Officer and recommended by the Committee to the independent members of the Board of Directors in November and awards are granted at that time. The Company does not utilize predetermined levels of LTIP awards as a percentage of base salary, but instead evaluates each executive's contribution to the six elements stated above, or other elements that the Committee may utilize to evaluate executives in the future. Members of Royal Gold's management do not have authority to make off-cycle or ad-hoc equity grants. In the event of a new hire grant, concurrence is obtained prior to any grant being made either through approval at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting or by unanimous written consent.

Stock Options

The Company grants stock options as part of its LTIP. Stock options are considered long-term awards that are intended to drive shareholder value and align management with shareholders with regard to share price appreciation. Stock options are granted once a year as recommended by the Committee to the independent members of the Board of Directors in November. The exercise price of options is based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on the date of grant. Options have 10 year terms. For all of the named executive officers, other than Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross, stock options vest in equal annual increments over three years. Stock options granted to Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross vest one year from the grant date. The Committee recommended and the independent members of the Board of Directors approved a shorter vesting schedule for Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross to reward their long standing service with the Company that has continued for more than 20 years and because both Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross have exceeded the stock ownership levels determined for each of them pursuant to the Company's stock ownership program described below.

Restricted Stock

The Company's LTIP also allows for the issuance of restricted stock awards. Restricted stock awards are focused on retention and long-term commitment of executives. Restricted stock awards are granted to officers and certain other employees. Shares of restricted stock are granted once a year as recommended by the Committee to the independent members of the Board of Directors in November. Shares of restricted stock are considered issued and outstanding with respect to which executives may vote and may receive dividends paid in the ordinary course to other Royal Gold stockholders. Dividends are calculated at the same rate as paid to other stockholders. Royal Gold has paid a cash dividend on its common stock for each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 2000. Royal Gold currently plans to pay a dividend on a calendar year basis, subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Restricted stock awards vest in equal one-third increments beginning on the fourth anniversary of the restricted stock grant date, with full vesting six years from the date of grant. The Committee has determined that delaying the vesting

of restricted stock awards until the fourth anniversary of the grant date improves the retention value of the awards.

Table of Contents*Performance Awards*

The Company also grants performance awards under the LTIP. Performance awards, which are also referred to as performance shares or performance stock awards in this Proxy Statement, are intended to provide significant incentive to obtain long-term, non-dilutive growth performance. The portion of each executive officer's total compensation in the form of performance shares varies for each officer. In awarding performance shares to any executive officer, the Committee considers the executive officer's responsibilities with the Company and the executive officer's ability to influence or meet the performance objectives. Performance shares can only be earned if either one of two defined multi-year performance goals are met within five years of the date of grant. If the performance goals are not earned by the end of the five year period, the performance shares will be forfeited. Performance shares granted may vest upon meeting one of two defined performance goals: (1) growth of free cash flow per share on a trailing twelve month basis; and (2) growth of royalty ounces in reserve per share on an annual basis. The Committee believes that free cash flow per share is an important indicator of the Company's financial health and growth. The Company defines free cash flow, a non-GAAP financial measure, as operating income plus depreciation, depletion and amortization, non-cash charges and impairment of mining assets, if any, less minority interest in income of consolidated subsidiary. The Committee strives to establish performance goals that are challenging to meet and would provide significant stockholder value, if achieved. Performance shares may vest in 25% increments upon meeting 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of performance goals. Performance shares will vest upon the Committee's determination that such 25% increment of the performance goals has been met.

Performance shares are not considered issued and outstanding shares with respect to which executives may vote or receive dividends. Performance shares are settled with shares of the Company's common stock when they vest.

As of June 30, 2008, 50% of the performance targets set for the performance shares awarded in fiscal year 2007 were met and, as a result, 50% of the performance shares vested and were settled with common stock. As of August 19, 2008, an additional 25% of the performance targets set for the performance shares awarded in fiscal year 2007 were met and, as a result, an additional 25% of the performance shares awarded in fiscal year 2007 will vest and be settled with common stock. As of the record date, none of the performance shares awarded in fiscal year 2008 have vested. Solely for purposes of SFAS 123R recognition of compensation expense, as of June 30, 2008, management determined that it is probable that 25% of the performance shares granted in fiscal year 2008 will vest. However, performance shares will not vest until performance objectives are actually met as determined by the Committee.

Benefit Programs

Benefit programs for the executive officers are generally common in design and purpose to those for the broad-base of employees in the United States. The Company also maintains a Simplified Employee Pension Plan, known as a Salary Reduction/Simplified Employee Pension Plan (SARSEP Plan) in which all employees are eligible to participate. This plan was chosen because of regulatory compliance simplicity, avoidance of significant administrative expense, availability of substantial tax-advantaged investment opportunities, and relative freedom from significant vesting or other limitations. The SARSEP Plan allows employees to reduce their pre-tax salary and to put this money into a tax deferred investment plan. This is a voluntary plan. Individuals may make contributions of up to the lesser of (i) 25% of their aggregate annual salary and bonus, or (ii) \$15,500, or if the employee is over age 50, \$20,500, for calendar 2008. The Company will match 100% of the individual's contribution, up to 7% of an individual's annual salary and bonus. Those that do not participate in the SARSEP Plan will receive a 3% employer contribution in accordance with the Plan. Employer contributions are immediately 100% vested. Total employee and employer contributions may not exceed the smaller of \$46,000 for calendar 2008 or 25% of aggregate annual salary and bonus for any individual.

Perquisites

The Company believes perquisites for executives should be extremely limited in scope and value and, therefore, generally does not provide perquisites or other special benefits to executive officers that are not available to all employees.

Table of Contents**Executive Stock Ownership**

Royal Gold has adopted a stock ownership program to encourage its executive officers to achieve and maintain a minimum investment in the Company's common stock at levels set by the Committee. The program provides incentives for these officers to focus on improving long-term shareholder value and linking the interest of management and stockholders. Royal Gold's executive stock ownership program requires all of the Company's executive officers to own a number of shares that is a multiple of base salary. Unexercised stock options, shares of restricted stock and unearned performance shares are not considered owned for purposes of the program. The multiple for the President and Chief Executive Officer is four times base salary, and the multiple for all other executive officers is two times base salary. There is no time frame in which the executive officers must meet ownership targets. The program requires each executive officer to hold an aggregate of fifty percent (50%) of the shares of stock acquired pursuant to any option grant, restricted stock grant, or performance share grant until such executive officer reaches his or her ownership target. This holding requirement is determined after liquidation of shares of stock required for tax withholdings. Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross have exceeded their stock ownership targets.

Post-Termination Compensation

The Company does not provide pension or other retirement benefits apart from the SARSEP plan described above. The Company provides certain post-termination benefits pursuant to the terms of employment agreements and the LTIP, described below under the section titled "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control" on page 29. In connection with the Committee's review of employment agreements and severance benefits described above, the Committee reviewed the change of control benefits provided to its executives under the LTIP. The Committee determined that in order to provide competitive post-termination benefits, executives should receive acceleration of equity incentive awards in addition to the additional severance benefits offered in the new employment agreements. The Committee recommended, and the independent members of the Board of Directors approved, Award Modification Agreements for each of Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen and Wenger and Ms. Gross modifying the terms of stock option, restricted stock and performance stock awards granted to them under the LTIP prior to the effective date of the Award Modification Agreement. The Award Modification Agreements provide accelerated vesting upon certain post-termination circumstances, including in connection with a change of control. Terms of the Award Modification Agreements are described further in the section titled "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control" on page 29. Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen and Wenger and Ms. Gross each entered into an Award Modification Agreement on September 15, 2008.

2008 SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

The following table provides information regarding the compensation of the Company's named executive officers for fiscal years 2008 and 2007.

Name and Principal Position	Year (Fiscal)	Salary⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Bonus⁽²⁾ (\$)	Stock Awards⁽³⁾ (\$)	Option Awards⁽⁴⁾ (\$)	All Other Compensation⁽⁵⁾ (\$)	Total (\$)
Stanley Dempsey	2008	\$ 186,500	\$	\$	\$ 525,612	\$ 21,331	\$ 733,443
Executive Chairman	2007	\$ 180,000	\$ 95,000	\$ 73,788	\$ 472,978	\$ 23,193	\$ 884,959
Tony Jensen	2008	\$ 341,000	\$	\$ 453,941	\$ 198,807	\$ 35,826	\$ 1,029,574
President and Chief Executive Officer	2007	\$ 320,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 590,106	\$ 181,972	\$ 29,469	\$ 1,321,547

Edgar Filing: ROYAL GOLD INC - Form DEF 14A

Stefan Wenger Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2008	\$ 169,019	\$	\$ 236,228	\$ 127,260	\$ 18,638	\$ 551,145
	2007	\$ 155,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 304,310	\$ 124,592	\$ 16,836	\$ 685,738
Karen P. Gross Vice President and Corporate Secretary	2008	\$ 170,000	\$	\$ 203,009	\$ 164,253	\$ 21,794	\$ 559,056
	2007	\$ 155,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 249,828	\$ 174,768	\$ 20,627	\$ 690,223
William Heissenbuttel ⁽⁶⁾ Vice President of Corporate Development	2008	\$ 162,500	\$	\$ 157,107	\$ 39,221	\$ 15,406	\$ 374,234
	2007	\$ 135,000	\$ 95,000	\$ 152,294	\$ 26,942	\$ 9,071	\$ 418,307

(1) Salaries are subject to annual review and adjustment by the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee as approved by the Board of Directors. In July 2008, the Board of Directors

Table of Contents

approved salaries for fiscal year 2009 for Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen, Wenger and Heissenbuttel and Ms. Gross in the amount of \$194,000, \$374,500, \$182,000, \$182,000 and \$182,000, respectively.

- (2) Bonus award amounts for fiscal year 2008 are not determinable as of the date of this Proxy Statement. Amounts of bonus awards for fiscal year 2008 will be determined in November 2008 and paid in January 2009. Amounts of bonus awards for fiscal year 2007 were determined in November 2007 and were paid in January 2008.
- (3) Amounts shown reflect the portion of fair value of restricted stock awards that vest on continued service and performance stock awards that vest based on achievement of predetermined performance goals recognized during fiscal years 2008 and 2007 for financial statement reporting purposes in accordance with SFAS 123R. Amounts shown do not represent cash payments made to the individuals, amounts realized or amounts that may be realized. Refer to Note 8 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 20, 2008, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 22, 2008, for a discussion of the assumptions used in valuation of the restricted stock and performance stock awards.
- (4) Amounts shown reflect the portion of fair value of stock option awards recognized during fiscal years 2008 and 2007 for financial statement reporting purposes in accordance with SFAS 123R, using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model. Amounts shown do not represent cash payments made to the individuals, amounts realized or amounts that may be realized. Refer to Note 8 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 20, 2008, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 22, 2008, for a discussion of the assumptions used in valuation of stock option awards.
- (5) All Other Compensation includes the following:

Name	Year (Fiscal)	Employer SARSEP Contributions	Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance Premiums	Long-Term Disability Insurance Premiums	Total All Other Compensation
Stanley Dempsey	2008	\$ 19,705	\$ 801	\$ 825	\$ 21,331
	2007	\$ 21,565	\$ 803	\$ 825	\$ 23,193
Tony Jensen	2008	\$ 34,299	\$ 702	\$ 825	\$ 35,826
	2007	\$ 27,942	\$ 702	\$ 825	\$ 29,469
Stefan Wenger	2008	\$ 17,111	\$ 702	\$ 825	\$ 18,638
	2007	\$ 15,426	\$ 585	\$ 825	\$ 16,836
Karen P. Gross	2008	\$ 18,200	\$ 702	\$ 2,892	\$ 21,794
	2007	\$ 17,150	\$ 702	\$ 2,775	\$ 20,627
William Heissenbuttel	2008	\$ 13,879	\$ 702	\$ 825	\$ 15,406
	2007	\$ 7,696	\$ 632	\$ 743	\$ 9,071

The Company provides SARSEP and life and disability benefits to all of its employees. Ms. Gross receives additional disability benefits pursuant to a previous benefits package. The Company matches employee contributions to the SARSEP, up to 7% of an individual's aggregate annual salary and bonus.

- (6) Mr. Heissenbuttel was appointed Vice President of Corporate Development effective February 15, 2007. Prior to being appointed Vice President of Corporate Development, Mr. Heissenbuttel served as the Manager of Corporate Development. The fiscal year 2007 salary amount shown reflects Mr. Heissenbuttel's salary paid for the entire fiscal year.

Table of Contents**GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS IN FISCAL YEAR 2008**

This table provides information regarding incentive awards and other stock-based awards granted during fiscal year 2008 to the named executive officers.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units ⁽²⁾	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options ⁽³⁾	Exercise or Base Prices of Option Awards ⁽⁴⁾	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards ⁽⁵⁾
		Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards ⁽¹⁾ Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)				
Stanley Dempsey	11/7/2007					40,000	\$ 29.75	\$ 512,800
Tony Jensen	11/7/2007	3,750	15,000	15,000				\$ 446,250
	11/7/2007				20,000			\$ 595,000
	11/7/2007					15,000	\$ 29.75	\$ 192,300
Stefan Wenger	11/7/2007	1,875	7,500	7,500				\$ 223,125
	11/7/2007				10,000			\$ 297,500
	11/7/2007					10,000	\$ 29.75	\$ 128,200
Karen P. Gross	11/7/2007	1,250	5,000	5,000				\$ 148,750
	11/7/2007				10,000			\$ 297,500
	11/7/2007					12,500	\$ 29.75	\$ 160,250
William Heissenbuttel	11/7/2007	1,875						\$ 223,125
	11/7/2007		7,500	7,500	10,000			\$ 297,500
	11/7/2007					10,000	\$ 29.75	\$ 128,200

(1) Represents performance stock awards that will vest upon achievement of target performance objectives within five years of the grant. If target performance objectives are not met within five years of the grant, the performance stock awards will be forfeited. If target performance objectives are met at any time during the five year period, up to 100% of the performance stock awards will vest. Interim amounts may vest in 25% increments upon achievement of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of the target objectives. Amounts shown in the Threshold column represent minimum achievement of 25% of the target objectives. Amounts shown in the Target column and Maximum column represent maximum achievement of 100% of the target objectives. Each performance stock award, if earned, will be settled with a share of Royal Gold common stock. The closing price of Royal Gold's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on the date of grant was \$29.75. Performance targets are based on growth of free cash flow on a trailing twelve month basis and growth of royalty ounces in reserve per share on an annual basis. Performance stock awards will not vest until performance targets are

actually met. Performance stock awards are not issued and outstanding shares upon which the named executive officer may vote or receive dividends.

- (2) Represents shares of restricted stock that vest on continued service. The closing price of Royal Gold's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on the date of grant was \$29.75. Shares of restricted stock vest ratably over three years commencing on the fourth anniversary of the grant date. Accordingly, one-third of the awarded shares will vest on November 7 of each of the years 2011, 2012 and 2013. Shares of restricted stock are issued and outstanding shares of common stock which have voting rights and upon which the named executive officers received dividends calculated at the same rate as paid to other stockholders. Royal Gold has paid a cash dividend on its common stock for each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 2000.
- (3) Stock option awards granted to Messrs. Jensen, Wenger and Heissenbuttel vest ratably over three years commencing on the first anniversary of the grant date and accordingly, one-third of the stock options will become exercisable on November 7 of each of the years 2008, 2009 and 2010. Stock options granted to Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross vest entirely on the first anniversary of the grant date and, accordingly, will become exercisable on November 7, 2008.

Table of Contents

- (4) Exercise or base price is the closing price of the Company's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on the grant date.
- (5) Amounts shown represent the total fair value of awards calculated as of the grant date in accordance with SFAS 123R and do not represent cash payments made to the individuals, amounts realized or amounts that may be realized. For restricted stock and performance stock awards, grant date fair value is calculated using the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. For stock option awards, grant date fair value is calculated using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model on the date of grant. In accordance with SFAS 123R, the grant date fair value for stock option awards granted on November 7, 2007 was \$12.82 and the grant date fair value for performance stock awards and restricted stock granted on November 7, 2007 was \$29.75. Refer to Note 8 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 20, 2008, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 22, 2008, for a discussion of the assumptions used in valuation of plan-based awards.

Table of Contents**2008 OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR END**

This table provides information about the outstanding stock options, shares of restricted stock and performance stock awards for each of the named executive officers as of June 30, 2008.

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards			Equity Incentive Plan Awards:
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options ⁽¹⁾ Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options ^(#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units That Have Not Vested ⁽²⁾ (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units That Have Not Vested ⁽³⁾ (\$)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested ⁽⁴⁾ (#)	Market Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested ⁽⁵⁾ (\$)
Stanley Dempsey	50,000		\$ 20.08	5/29/2013				
	27,500		\$ 22.22	11/8/2015				
	40,000		\$ 28.78	11/7/2016				
		40,000 ⁽⁶⁾	\$ 29.75	11/7/2017				
Tony Jensen	10,000		\$ 12.55	5/20/2014				
	25,000		\$ 17.38	11/10/2014				
	10,000	5,000 ⁽⁷⁾	\$ 22.22	11/8/2015				
	5,000	10,000 ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 28.78	11/7/2016				
		15,000 ⁽⁹⁾	\$ 29.75	11/7/2017				
				12,500 ⁽¹⁰⁾	\$ 392,000			
				15,000 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$ 470,400			
				20,000 ⁽¹²⁾	\$ 627,200			
				20,000 ⁽¹³⁾	\$ 627,200			
						7,500 ⁽¹⁴⁾	\$ 235,200	
						15,000 ⁽¹⁵⁾	\$ 470,400	

Edgar Filing: ROYAL GOLD INC - Form DEF 14A

Stefan Wenger	4,980		\$ 20.08	5/29/2013		
	9,633		\$ 17.38	11/10/2014		
	6,666	3,334 ⁽⁷⁾	\$ 22.22	11/8/2015		
	3,333	6,667 ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 28.78	11/7/2016		
		10,000 ⁽⁹⁾	\$ 29.75	11/7/2017		
					6,250 ⁽¹⁰⁾	\$ 196,000
					10,000 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$ 313,600
					10,000 ⁽¹²⁾	\$ 313,600
					10,000 ⁽¹³⁾	\$ 313,600
						3,750 ⁽¹⁴⁾ \$ 117,600
					7,500 ⁽¹⁵⁾ \$ 235,200	
Karen P. Gross	10,000		\$ 2.875	6/5/2010		
	25,000		\$ 10.17	5/10/2012		
	25,000		\$ 20.08	5/29/2013		
	2,500		\$ 12.55	5/20/2014		
	15,000		\$ 17.38	11/10/2014		
	15,000		\$ 22.22	11/8/2015		
	12,500		\$ 28.78	11/7/2016		
		12,500 ⁽⁶⁾	\$ 29.75	11/7/2017		
					7,500 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$ 235,200
					10,000 ⁽¹²⁾	\$ 313,600
				10,000 ⁽¹³⁾	\$ 313,600	
					2,500 ⁽¹⁴⁾ \$ 78,400	
					5,000 ⁽¹⁵⁾ \$ 156,800	
William Heissenbuttel	833	1,667 ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 28.78	11/7/2016		
		10,000 ⁽⁹⁾	\$ 29.75	11/7/2017		
					5,000 ⁽¹²⁾	\$ 156,800
					10,000 ⁽¹³⁾	\$ 313,600
						3,750 ⁽¹⁴⁾ \$ 117,600
					7,500 ⁽¹⁵⁾ \$ 235,200	

(1) Figures represent shares of common stock underlying stock options. Stock options awarded to Messrs. Jensen, Wenger and Heissenbuttel vest ratably over three years commencing on the first

Table of Contents

- anniversary of the grant date. Stock options granted to Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gross vest entirely on the first anniversary of the grant date.
- (2) Represents shares of restricted stock that vest based on continued service. Shares of restricted stock vest ratably over three years commencing on the fourth anniversary of the grant date.
 - (3) Market value is based on a stock price of \$31.36, the closing price of Royal Gold's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on June 30, 2008, and the outstanding number of shares of restricted stock.
 - (4) Represents performance stock awards that will vest upon achievement of target performance objectives within five years of the grant. If target performance objectives are not met within five years of the grant, the performance stock awards will be forfeited. If target performance objectives are met at any time during the five year period, 100% of the performance stock awards will vest. Interim amounts may vest in 25% increments upon achievement of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of the target objectives. Each performance stock award, if earned, will be settled with a share of Royal Gold common stock. Performance targets are based on growth of free cash flow on a trailing twelve month basis and growth of royalty ounces in reserve per share on an annual basis.
 - (5) Payout value is based on a stock price of \$31.36, the closing price on NASDAQ Global Select Market on June 30, 2008, and assuming 100% of the performance stock awards shown will vest based on the achievement of target performance objectives. Amounts indicated are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that may be realized by the named executive officers.
 - (6) Unexercisable stock options will become exercisable on November 7, 2008.
 - (7) Unexercisable stock options will become exercisable on November 8, 2008.
 - (8) One-half of the unexercisable stock options will become exercisable on November 7, 2008, and the remaining one-half of the unexercisable stock options will become exercisable on November 7, 2009.
 - (9) One-third of the unexercisable stock options will become exercisable on each of November 7, 2008, 2009 and 2010.
 - (10) Shares will vest ratably on November 10, 2008, 2009 and 2010.
 - (11) Shares will vest ratably on November 8, 2009, 2010 and 2011.
 - (12) Shares will vest ratably on November 7, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
 - (13) Shares will vest ratably on November 7, 2011, 2012 and 2013.
 - (14) Awards will expire on November 7, 2011 if the vesting requirements are not met. See note (4) above. As of August 19, 2008, an increment of 25% of the target performance objectives were met and Mr. Jensen, Mr. Wenger, Ms. Gross and Mr. Heissenbittel are entitled to receive 3,750, 1,875, 1,250 and 1,875 shares of common stock upon settlement of the performance shares. The closing price of Royal Gold's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on August 19, 2008 was \$34.24.
 - (15) Awards will expire on November 7, 2012 if the vesting requirements are not met. See note (4) above. Solely for purposes of SFAS 123R purposes, as of June 30, 2008, it was determined by management that it is probable

25% of these awards will be earned and paid out during fiscal year 2009. However, performance stock awards will not vest until performance targets are actually met, as determined by the Committee.

Table of Contents**FISCAL YEAR 2008 OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED**

This table provides information on option exercise and the vesting of shares of restricted stock or performance stock awards for each of the named executive officers during fiscal year 2008.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting ⁽²⁾ (#)	Value Realized on Vesting ⁽³⁾ (\$)
Stanley Dempsey		\$		\$
Tony Jensen		\$	3,750	\$ 102,863
Stefan Wenger		\$	1,875	\$ 51,431
Karen P. Gross	20,500	\$ 506,043	1,250	\$ 34,288
William Heissenbuttel		\$	1,875	\$ 51,431
Bruce C. Kirchhoff		\$		\$

- (1) Value realized upon exercise of stock options was computed by calculating the closing price of the underlying Royal Gold common stock on the date of exercise less the exercise price of the option, multiplied by the number of shares underlying the options exercised.
- (2) Amounts shown represent the number of performance stock awards that vested on August 23, 2007, and the shares of common stock acquired by the named executive officer upon the settlement of the vested performance stock awards, as approved by the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, due to the Company achieving certain performance objectives. The Company settles vested performance shares with shares of the Company's common stock.
- (3) Value realized upon vesting of performance stock awards was computed by calculating the closing price of the underlying Royal Gold common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on the date that the performance stock awards vested, multiplied by the number of performance stock awards that vested. Performance stock awards represented in the table vested on August 23, 2007. The closing price of the Company's common stock on NASDAQ Global Select Market on the vesting date was \$27.43.

POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE-IN-CONTROL**Employment Agreements**

Each of the employment agreements with Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen and Wenger and Ms. Gross provide post-termination benefits and benefits upon a change of control. Pursuant to Mr. Jensen's employment agreement, Mr. Jensen will continue to serve as the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer and the Company's Board of Directors will continue to nominate Mr. Jensen for re-election as director. The employment agreement has a one-year term, which will automatically renew for four consecutive one-year periods unless either the Company or Mr. Jensen

timely elects for non-renewal. Pursuant to the employment agreement, Mr. Jensen will receive severance compensation upon an involuntary termination of employment without Cause, a voluntary termination of employment for Good Reason, or if the Company elects not to renew the employment term during the four-year renewal period. If such termination or non-renewal does not occur within two years after a change of control, then Mr. Jensen will be entitled to one times his then base salary. If such termination or non-renewal occurs within two years after a Change of Control, then Mr. Jensen will be entitled to two and one-half times his then base salary, two and one-half times his average annual cash incentive bonus for the prior three fiscal years and continued employee benefits for twelve months. The employment agreement restricts Mr. Jensen from competing against the Company or soliciting the Company's employees, customers or business relationships for a period of twelve months following termination of his employment with the Company.

Pursuant to individual employment agreements, Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Wenger and Ms. Gross will continue to serve as the Company's Executive Chairman, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, and Vice President and Corporate Secretary, respectively. Each employment agreement has a one-year term, which will automatically renew for four consecutive one-year periods unless either the Company or the executive timely elects for non-renewal. Pursuant to each employment agreement, the executive will

Table of Contents

receive severance compensation upon an involuntary termination of employment without Cause, a voluntary termination of employment for Good Reason, or if the Company elects not to renew the employment term during the four-year renewal period. If such termination or non-renewal does not occur within two years after a Change of Control, then the executive will be entitled to one times his or her then base salary. If such termination or non-renewal occurs within two years after a Change of Control, the executive will be entitled to one and one-half times his or her then base salary, one and one-half times his or her average annual cash incentive bonus for the prior three fiscal years and continued employee benefits for twelve months. The employment agreement restricts each executive from competing against the Company or soliciting the Company's employees, customers or business relationships for a period of twelve months following termination of his or her employment with the Company.

Under the employment agreement with Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen and Wenger, and Ms. Gross, Cause is defined as (i) guilty verdict of fraud, theft, embezzlement or misappropriation against the Company; (ii) guilty verdict of a felony or any other crime involving moral turpitude; (iii) compromise of Company proprietary and confidential information or gross or willful misconduct that causes substantial and material harm to the Company, or (iv) material uncured breach of the employment agreement. Good Reason is defined as the timely noticed and uncured occurrence of any of the following circumstances: (i) any material adverse change in the executive's title or responsibilities with the Company; (ii) any material reduction in the executive's base salary; (iii) receipt of notice of relocation of more than fifty miles from the job-site immediately prior to the effective date of the employment agreement, or (iv) if a Change of Control has occurred, failure to provide for the executive's participation in compensation plans that are not less than those provided by the Company to similarly situated executive officers and those provided for under any plans in which the executive was participating immediately prior to the date on which a Change of Control occurs. Change of Control means any of the following: (i) the dissolution or liquidation of the Company or a merger, consolidation, or reorganization of the Company in which the Company is not the surviving entity; (ii) a sale of substantially all of the assets of the Company to another person or entity; (iii) any transaction which results in any person or entity (other than persons who are stockholders or affiliates immediately prior to the transaction) owning fifty percent (50%) or more of the combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company, or (iv) during any period of two consecutive years, a change in the majority membership on the Board of Directors members, except as approved by the majority of directors then still in office.

2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan

The Company's restricted stock agreement, performance share agreement, and stock option agreement, for both incentive stock options and non-qualified stock options, under the LTIP provide that in the event of an Involuntary Termination within one year in connection with a Corporate Transaction, all outstanding shares of restricted stock, performance shares and stock options will be immediately vested. Corporate Transaction means (i) the dissolution or liquidation of the Company or a merger, consolidation, or reorganization of the Company in which the Company is not the surviving entity, (ii) a sale of substantially all of the assets of the Company, or (iii) any transaction which results in change in the majority voting power in the Company. Involuntary Termination means involuntary discharge for reasons other than Cause or voluntary resignation from the Company following (i) a material adverse change in the executive's title or responsibilities with the Company, (ii) a material reduction in the executive's base salary, or (iii) relocation of more than 50 miles. The Company's restricted stock agreement under the LTIP also provides that all unvested shares of restricted stock will become immediately vested upon a termination, other than for Cause, after 15 years of service.

Pursuant to the Award Modification Agreement entered into with Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen and Wenger and Ms. Gross, each executive will be entitled to accelerated vesting of stock options, shares of restricted stock and performance stock awards that were granted prior to the effective date of the Award Modification Agreements upon an involuntary termination of employment without Cause, a voluntary termination of employment for Good Reason, or if the Company elects not to renew the employment term during the four year renewal period under the

employment agreement with each Grantee. If such termination or non-renewal does not occur within two years after a Change of Control, then upon such termination or non-renewal (i) all stock options will become immediately exercisable, (ii) a pro-rated portion of each grant of shares of restricted stock will vest based on the period of employment from the date of grant to

Table of Contents

the date of termination or non-renewal, and (iii) all or a portion of the performance stock awards will fully vest based on the number of performance stock awards to which the executive would have been entitled, taking into account the Company's performance through the last day of the fiscal quarter in which the termination or non-renewal takes place determined in accordance with the Company's practices with respect to performance stock awards. If such termination or non-renewal occurs within two years after a change of control, then upon such termination or non-renewal all stock options will become immediately exercisable and all shares of restricted stock and performance stock awards will fully vest. Cause, Good Reason, and Change of Control are as defined under the executive's employment agreement and are described further above under the section titled "Employment Agreements" immediately above.

Other Employee Benefits

The Company provides life insurance benefits of \$150,000 to all of its employees. The Company also provides long-term disability coverage to all of its employees that provides for 60% of monthly salary protection up to \$7,000 a month until age 65. Each of the named executive officers shown below would be entitled to these amounts upon termination for death or disability.

The table below shows for each of our named executive officers the estimated payments and benefits that would be provided as a result of termination or a change-in-control of the Company. Calculations for this table assume that the triggering event took place on June 30, 2008, the last business day of our 2008 fiscal year, except as noted. Salary and bonus calculations for Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen and Wenger and Ms. Gross are based on employment agreements entered into on September 15, 2008. Calculations for amounts shown for awards under the Company's LTIP are based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on NASDAQ Global Select Market on June 30, 2008, which was \$31.36 and, for Messrs. Dempsey, Jensen Wenger and Ms. Gross, other than as noted, based on acceleration benefits provided under Award Modification Agreements entered into on September 15, 2008.

	Salary/ Bonus	Value of Medical Insurance Continuation	Restricted Stock	2004 LTIP Stock Options	Performance Stock Awards	Total
Stanley Dempsey						
Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement	\$ 194,000 ⁽¹⁾	\$	\$	\$ 64,400 ⁽²⁾	\$	\$ 258,400
Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment	\$ 513,500 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 15,623 ⁽¹⁾	\$	\$ 64,400 ⁽²⁾	\$	\$ 593,523

Agreement with Change of Control Tony Jensen Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement	\$ 374,500 ₍₁₎	\$	\$ 497,808 ₍₃₎	\$ 633,250 ₍₂₎	\$ 117,600 ₍₄₎	\$ 1,623,158
Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement with Change of Control Stefan Wenger Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement	\$ 1,348,750 ₍₁₎	\$ 20,772 ₍₁₎	\$ 2,116,800 ₍₂₎	\$ 633,250 ₍₂₎	\$ 705,600 ₍₄₎	\$ 4,825,172
Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement	\$ 182,000 ₍₁₎	\$	\$ 376,666 ₍₃₎	\$ 254,622 ₍₂₎	\$ 58,800 ₍₄₎	\$ 872,088
Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement with Change of Control	\$ 379,000 ₍₁₎	\$ 20,772 ₍₁₎	\$ 1,136,800 ₍₂₎	\$ 254,622 ₍₂₎	\$ 352,800 ₍₄₎	\$ 2,143,994

Table of Contents

	Salary/ Bonus	Value of Medical Insurance Continuation	Restricted Stock	2004 LTIP Stock Options	Performance Stock Awards	Total
Karen P. Gross Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement	\$ 182,000 ⁽¹⁾	\$	\$ 862,400 ⁽⁵⁾	\$ 20,125 ⁽²⁾	\$ 39,200 ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 1,103,725
Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement with Change of Control	\$ 403,000 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 17,807 ⁽¹⁾	\$ 862,400 ⁽²⁾	\$ 20,125 ⁽²⁾	\$ 235,200 ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 1,538,532
William Heissenbuttel⁽⁶⁾ Involuntary or Voluntary Termination	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Involuntary Termination with Change of Control	\$	\$	\$ 470,400	\$ 22,550	\$ 352,800	\$ 845,750

- (1) Amounts shown are based on employment agreements entered into with Messrs. Jensen, Dempsey and Wenger and Ms. Gross on September 15, 2008.
- (2) Amounts shown are based on Award Modification Agreements entered into with Messrs. Jensen, Dempsey and Wenger and Ms. Gross on September 15, 2008.
- (3) Amounts shown are based on Award Modification Agreements entered into with Messrs. Jensen, Dempsey and Wenger and Ms. Gross on September 15, 2008. Amounts shown for Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement are based on a pro-rated number of shares of restricted stock that will vest based on the length of the named executive officer's service from the date of grant to the date of termination. Amounts calculated are based on a termination date of June 30, 2008, though Award Modification Agreements were entered into on September 15, 2008.
- (4) Amounts shown are based on Award Modification Agreements entered into with Messrs. Jensen, Dempsey and Wenger and Ms. Gross on September 15, 2008. Amounts shown for Involuntary Termination, Voluntary Termination for Good Reason or Company Non-Renewal of Employment Agreement are based on the Company's achievement of target performance objectives through the end of the fiscal quarter in which the termination took place, in this case as of June 30, 2008, though Award Modification Agreements were entered into on September 15, 2008.
- (5) Amount based on the restricted stock agreement under the Company's LTIP that provides accelerated vesting for all shares of restricted stock in the event of a termination without cause after 15 years of service with the Company. As of June 30, 2008, Ms. Gross's service to the Company exceeded 15 years.

- (6) Mr. Heissenbuttel did not enter into an employment agreement with the Company and is not entitled to post-termination benefits in the event of involuntary or voluntary termination other than life insurance and long-term disability benefits provided to all employees in the event of death or disability described further above. Amounts shown for Mr. Heissenbuttel are based on acceleration benefits under the Company's LTIP that provides for acceleration of restricted stock, stock options and performance stock upon an Involuntary Termination after a Corporate Transaction as further described above.

Table of Contents**Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The following table sets forth information concerning shares of common stock that are authorized and available for issuance under the Company's equity compensation plans as of June 30, 2008.

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a)	Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (b)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders ⁽¹⁾	652,714 ⁽²⁾	\$ 21.65 ⁽³⁾	70,567
Equity compensation plans not approved by stockholders ⁽⁴⁾			
Total	652,714	\$ 21.65	70,567

(1) Represents the Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan.

(2) Includes 66,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the vesting of performance stock awards that vest upon the achievement of target performance objectives within five years of the grant, but does not include 193,250 shares of restricted stock outstanding pursuant to the equity compensation plan.

(3) Weighted-average exercise price does not take into account shares of common stock issuable upon vesting of performance stock awards, which do not have exercise prices.

(4) The Company does not maintain equity compensation plans that have not been approved by its stockholders.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 2.

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPANY'S 2004 OMNIBUS
LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN**

We are asking our stockholders to approve amendments to our 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan (the Plan) (1) to increase the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance thereunder from 900,000 to 1,300,000 shares and (2) to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (Section 409A). The Board of Directors adopted, subject to stockholder approval, the amendments described above on May 20, 2008. Below is a summary of the principal provisions of the Plan, assuming approval of the above amendment, which summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Plan, as amended, attached hereto as Appendix A.

The Board of Directors approved the Plan on October 6, 2004. Our stockholders approved the Plan on November 10, 2004 with 900,000 shares of our common stock available for issuance thereunder and 450,000 of the 900,000 shares of our common stock available for issuance pursuant to awards other than options or stock appreciation rights.

The Board of Directors believes that granting restricted stock, performance stock, stock options and other awards is necessary for us to attract and retain the services of well-qualified employees and advisors, including officers and directors who will contribute to our success. Our general compensation philosophy is focused on providing attractive leverage in long-term incentives to reward growth and to link management interests with stockholder interests. We encourage maximum effort from our employees and directors by offering those persons an opportunity to acquire or increase a direct proprietary interest in the operations and future success of the Company. We currently award restricted stock, performance stock and stock options under the Plan. As of September 16, 2008, there were 70,567 shares available for issuance under the Plan and 57,250 shares available for issuance pursuant to awards other than options or stock appreciation rights. Accordingly, unless our stockholders approve the increase in shares reserved for issuance under the Plan, we will be limited in our ability to make equity awards to our employees and directors.

Unless otherwise indicated, properly executed proxies will be voted in favor of Proposal 2 to approve the amendments to the Plan.

Description of the Plan

A description of the provisions of the Plan is set forth below. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the detailed provisions of the Plan as amended, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this Proxy Statement.

Administration. The Board of Directors has the power and authority related to administering the Plan. The Board of Directors has delegated its authority, and currently the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (the Committee) is responsible for administering the Plan, including making determinations that the Board is permitted to make under the Plan. Subject to the terms of the Plan, the Committee may select participants to receive awards, determine the types of awards and terms and conditions of awards, and interpret provisions of the Plan.

Common Stock Reserved for Issuance under the Plan. If the above described amendment to the Plan is approved, the aggregate number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the Plan shall be 1,300,000 and the aggregate number of shares of common stock available for issuance pursuant to awards other than options or stock appreciation rights shall be 650,000. The common stock issued or to be issued under the Plan consists of authorized but unissued shares and treasury shares. If any shares covered by an award are not purchased or are forfeited, or if an award otherwise terminates without delivery of any common stock, then the number of shares of common stock

counted against the aggregate number of shares available under the Plan with respect to the award will, to the extent of any such forfeiture or termination, again be available for making awards under the Plan. The number of shares reserved for issuance under the Plan will be increased by the number of shares of common stock repurchased with the proceeds from any option

Table of Contents

exercises. The number of shares added pursuant to stock repurchases with option proceeds shall not exceed the total amount of such option proceeds divided by the fair market value of the common stock on the date of the exercise of the applicable option. For this purpose, option proceeds include the cash paid for the option price and the tax benefit to the Company of such option exercise.

Eligibility. Awards may be made under the Plan to employees and directors of or consultants to the Company or any of our affiliates, including any such employee who is an officer or director of the Company or of any affiliate, and to any other individual whose participation in the Plan is determined to be in the best interest of the Company by the Board of Directors. As of the Record Date, the Company has sixteen employees and seven non-employee directors, all of whom are eligible to participate in the Plan.

Amendment or Termination of the Plan. The Board of Directors may terminate or amend the Plan at any time and for any reason. The Plan shall terminate in any event ten years after its effective date. The Committee may also amend, suspend or terminate the Plan as to any shares of common stock as to which awards have not been made. Amendments will be contingent on stockholder approval to the extent stated by the Board of Directors or required by applicable law or applicable stock exchange listing requirements.

Awards under the Plan

Options and SARs. The Plan permits the granting of options to purchase shares of common stock intended to qualify as incentive stock options under the Internal Revenue Code, stock options that do not qualify as incentive stock options and stock appreciation rights. Stock appreciation rights (SARs) may be granted in conjunction with all or part of an option award, at any time during the term of the option, or any other award or without regard to an option or other award.

The exercise price of each option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of our common stock underlying the options on the date of grant. The fair market value is determined as the closing price of the common stock on The NASDAQ Stock Market on the grant date. In the case of certain 10% stockholders who receive incentive stock options, the exercise price may not be less than 110% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date of grant. An exception to these requirements is made for options that the Company grants in substitution for options held by employees of companies that the Company acquires. In such a case the exercise price is adjusted to preserve the economic value of the employee's stock option from his or her former employer.

The grant price of each SAR shall be determined by the Committee or the Board and set forth in the award agreement. The grant price may be the fair market value of our common stock underlying the SAR on the date of grant or may vary in accordance with a predetermined formula while the SAR is outstanding. The fair market value is the closing price of the common stock on The Nasdaq Stock Market on the determination date.

The term of each stock option is fixed by the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and may not exceed ten years from the date of grant or five years from the date of grant for incentive stock options awarded to 10% stockholders. The vesting schedule of options is determined by the Board of Directors and stated in the option award agreement, including in the case of retirement, death, disability or other termination of employment.

An option may be exercised by notice to the Company and payment in full of the option price plus any withholding taxes. The optionee may pay the exercise price of an option by cash, certified check, by tendering shares of common stock (which if acquired from the Company have been held by the optionee for at least six months), or by means of a broker-assisted cashless exercise. The minimum number of shares of common stock with respect to which an option may be exercised is the lesser of 100 shares or the maximum available for purchase under the option.

Stock options granted under the Plan may not be sold, transferred, pledged or assigned other than by will or under applicable laws of descent and distribution. However, the Company may permit limited transfers of non-qualified options for the benefit of immediate family members of grantees to help with estate planning concerns.

Table of Contents

The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall determine the exercise and other terms of SARs, including whether SARs may become exercisable based on achievement of performance goals and/or future service requirements.

Stock options and SARs may not be repriced absent stockholder approval. This provision applies to both direct repricings (lowering the exercise price of an outstanding grant) and indirect repricings (canceling an outstanding grant and granting a replacement grant with a lower exercise price).

Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units. Awards of shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units may be made at no cost or for a purchase price determined by the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may establish a period of time during which shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units are subject to restrictions, which may include both the passage of time or the satisfaction of corporate or individual performance objectives, provided however that, except for certain circumstances, restricted stock that vests solely on the basis of the passage of time may not vest in full in less than three years and restricted stock for which vesting may be accelerated by achieving performance targets may not vest in full in less than one year. Holders of restricted stock have the same voting and dividend rights with respect to such shares of restricted stock as other stockholders of the Company. Holders of restricted stock units have no rights as stockholders of the Company.

Performance and Annual Incentive Awards. The right of a grantee to exercise or receive a grant or a settlement of any award under the Plan may be subject to such performance conditions as may be specified by the Board. If and to the extent such performance based awards are intended to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, any authority relating to the performance award shall be exercised by the Committee and not the Board. It is the intent of the Company that Performance Awards and Annual Incentive Awards awarded under the Plan constitute performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Performance goals consist of one more business criteria and a targeted level or levels of performance with respect to each such criteria as established by the Committee and otherwise meeting the requirements of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Performance goals are established no later than 90 days after the beginning of any performance period applicable to the performance or annual incentive award, as required by Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, or at such other date as may be required or permitted for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

One or more of the following business criteria are used exclusively by the Committee in establishing performance goals for Performance of Annual Incentive Awards: total stockholder return; total stockholder return as compared to total return (on a comparable basis) of a publicly available index such as, but not limited to, the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index; net income; pretax earnings; earnings before interest expense, taxes, depreciation and amortization; pretax operating earnings after interest expense and before bonuses, service fees and extraordinary or special items; operating margin; earnings per share; return on equity; return on capital; return on investment; operating earnings; working capital; ratio of debt to stockholders' equity; revenue; and free cash flow and free cash flow per share. Business criteria may be measured on an absolute entity, subsidiary or business unit basis or on a relative basis to peer companies, and on a GAAP or non-GAAP basis.

Settlement of Performance or Annual Incentive awards may be in cash, shares of common stock or other property, in the discretion of the Committee. All determinations by the Committee as to the achievement of performance goals shall be made in writing in the case of any award intended to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Other Awards. The Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may also award unrestricted shares of common stock to participants in recognition of past services or other valid consideration, in lieu of cash

compensation to be paid to participants and dividend equivalent rights entitling the recipient to receive credits for dividends that would be paid if the recipient had held a specified number of shares of common stock.

Table of Contents

Limitations on Awards. The maximum number of shares of common stock subject to options or SARs that can be awarded under the Plan to any person is 100,000 per year. The maximum number of shares of common stock that can be awarded under the Plan to any person, other than pursuant to an option or SAR, is 100,000 per year. The maximum amount that may be earned as an annual incentive award or other cash award in any fiscal year by any one person is \$1,000,000 and the maximum amount that may be earned as a performance award or other cash award in respect of a performance period by any one person is \$2,000,000.

Effect of Certain Corporate Transactions. Change of control transactions, transactions involving the sale of substantially all of the assets of the Company and the dissolution or liquidation of the Company or a merger, consolidation or a reorganization of the Company in which the Company is not the surviving entity will result in the acceleration of the awards under the Plan unless the successor assumes the awards or substitutes the awards for equivalent awards.

Adjustments for Stock Dividends and Similar Events. The Committee will make proportional adjustments in outstanding awards and the number of shares available for issuance under the Plan, including the individual limitations on awards, to reflect recapitalization, reclassification, stock split, exchange of shares, common stock dividends, and other similar events.

Federal Income Tax Consequences

Incentive Stock Options. The grant of an option will not be a taxable event for the grantee or for the Company. A grantee will not recognize taxable income upon exercise of an incentive stock option (except that the alternative minimum tax may apply), and any gain realized upon a disposition of our common stock received pursuant to the exercise of an incentive stock option will be taxed as long-term capital gain if the grantee holds the shares of common stock for at least two years after the date of grant and for one year after the date of exercise (the holding period requirement). The Company will not be entitled to any business expense deduction with respect to the exercise of an incentive stock option, except as discussed below.

For the exercise of an option to qualify for the foregoing tax treatment, the grantee generally must be a Company employee or an employee of a subsidiary of the Company from the date the option is granted through a date within three months before the date of exercise of the option.

If all of the foregoing requirements are met except the holding period requirement mentioned above, the grantee will recognize ordinary income upon the disposition of the common stock in an amount generally equal to the excess of the fair market value of the common stock at the time the option was exercised over the option exercise price (but not in excess of the gain realized on the sale). The balance of the realized gain, if any, will be capital gain. The Company will be allowed a business expense deduction to the extent the grantee recognizes ordinary income, subject to the Company's compliance with Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code and to certain reporting requirements.

Non-Qualified Options. The grant of an option will not be a taxable event for the grantee or the Company. Upon exercising a non-qualified option, a grantee will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise price and the fair market value of the common stock on the date of exercise. Upon a subsequent sale or exchange of shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of a non-qualified option, the grantee will have taxable capital gain or loss, measured by the difference between the amount realized on the disposition and the tax basis of the shares of common stock (generally, the amount paid for the shares plus the amount treated as ordinary income at the time the option was exercised).

If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount and generally at the

same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

A grantee who has transferred a non-qualified stock option to a family member by gift will realize taxable income at the time the non-qualified stock option is exercised by the family member. The grantee will be subject to withholding of income and employment taxes at that time. The family member's tax basis in the shares of common stock will be the fair market value of the shares of common stock on the date the option is exercised. The transfer of vested non-qualified stock options will be treated as a completed gift for gift and

Table of Contents

estate tax purposes. Once the gift is completed, neither the transferred options nor the shares acquired on exercise of the transferred options will be includable in the grantee's estate for estate tax purposes.

In the event a grantee transfers a non-qualified stock option to his or her ex-spouse incident to the grantee's divorce, neither the grantee nor the ex-spouse will recognize any taxable income at the time of the transfer. In general, a transfer is made incident to divorce if the transfer occurs within one year after the marriage ends or if it is related to the end of the marriage (for example, if the transfer is made pursuant to a divorce order or settlement agreement). Upon the subsequent exercise of such option by the ex-spouse, the ex-spouse will recognize taxable income in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise price and the fair market value of the shares of common stock at the time of exercise. Any distribution to the ex-spouse as a result of the exercise of the option will be subject to employment and income tax withholding at this time.

Restricted Stock. A grantee who is awarded restricted stock will not recognize any taxable income for federal income tax purposes in the year of the award, provided that the shares of common stock are subject to restrictions (that is, the restricted stock is nontransferable and subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture). However, the grantee may elect under Section 83(b) of the Internal Revenue Code to recognize compensation income in the year of the award in an amount equal to the fair market value of the common stock on the date of the award (less the purchase price, if any), determined without regard to the restrictions. If the grantee does not make such a Section 83(b) election, the fair market value of the common stock on the date the restrictions lapse (less the purchase price, if any) will be treated as compensation income to the grantee and will be taxable in the year the restrictions lapse and dividends paid while the common stock is subject to restrictions will be subject to withholding taxes. If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount and generally at the same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

Stock Units. There are no immediate tax consequences of receiving an award of stock units under the Plan. A grantee who is awarded stock units will be required to recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the fair market value of shares issued to such grantee at the end of the restriction period or, if later, the payment date. If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount and generally at the same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

Dividend Equivalent Rights. Participants who receive dividend equivalent rights will be required to recognize ordinary income in an amount distributed to the grantee pursuant to the award. If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount and generally at the same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

Stock Appreciation Rights. There are no immediate tax consequences of receiving an award of SARs under the Plan. Upon exercising a SAR, a grantee will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise price and the fair market value of the common stock on the date of exercise. If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount and generally at the same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

Performance and Annual Incentive Awards. The award of a performance or annual incentive award will have no federal income tax consequences for the Company or for the grantee. The payment of the award is taxable to a grantee as ordinary income. If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount

and generally at the same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

Unrestricted Common Stock. Participants who are awarded unrestricted common stock will be required to recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the fair market value of the shares of common stock on the date of the award, reduced by the amount, if any, paid for such shares. If the Company complies with applicable reporting requirements and with the restrictions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue

Table of Contents

Code, it will be entitled to a business expense deduction in the same amount and generally at the same time as the grantee recognizes ordinary income.

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code limits publicly-held companies such as the Company to an annual deduction for federal income tax purposes of \$1,000,000 for compensation paid to their covered employees. However, qualified performance-based compensation is excluded from this limitation. The Board has attempted to structure the Plan to permit the Committee to grant awards that qualify as performance-based compensation for purposes of satisfying the conditions of Section 162(m) as described further above such that remuneration attributable to such awards will not be subject to the \$1,000,000 limitation of Section 162(m).

New Plan Benefits

All future grants under the Plan are within the discretion of the Board of Directors or the Compensation, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The number, types and benefits of awards that will be granted under the Plan in the future are not determinable.

Vote Required for Approval. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares that are represented and entitled to vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required to approve the amendments to the Company's 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE PROPOSAL TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPANY'S 2004 OMNIBUS LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN.

Table of Contents

AUDIT COMMITTEE AND RELATED MATTERS

The information contained in the following Audit Committee Report shall not be deemed soliciting material or filed with the SEC, nor shall such information be incorporated by reference into a future filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent the Company specifically incorporates this Report by reference therein.

Audit Committee Report

The Company's Audit Committee is comprised of three members who are independent within the meaning of such term under Rule 4200(a)(15) of the NASD listing standards and the meaning of such term under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and regulations promulgated under the Act. Each member of the Audit Committee is able to read and understand fundamental financial statements and at least one member has past employment experience in finance or accounting or other comparable experience. The Audit Committee actively oversees the Company's financial condition and results of operations. The main function of the Audit Committee is to ensure that effective accounting policies are implemented and that internal controls are put in place in order to deter fraud, anticipate financial risks and promote accurate, high quality and timely disclosure of financial and other material information to the public markets, the Board of Directors and the stockholders. The Audit Committee also reviews and recommends to the Board of Directors the approval of the annual financial statements and provides a forum, independent of management, where the Company's independent registered public accounting firm can communicate any issues of concern.

The independent members of the Audit Committee believe that the present composition of the Committee accomplishes all of the necessary goals and functions of an audit committee as recommended by the Blue Ribbon Committee on Improving the Effectiveness of Corporate Audit Committees and adopted by the U.S. stock exchanges and the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Audit Committee Charter is available on the Company's web site at www.royalgold.com. The Audit Committee Charter specifies the scope of the Audit Committee's responsibilities and how it should carry out those responsibilities.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, with the Company's management. The Audit Committee has discussed with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the Company's independent registered public accountants, the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (Communications with Audit Committees), as amended by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 90 (Audit Committee Communications). The Audit Committee has also received the written disclosures and the letter from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussion with Audit Committees) and the Audit Committee has discussed the independence of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP with the Company.

Based on the review and discussions with the Company's auditors, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, for filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

This Report has been submitted by the following members of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors:

James W. Stuckert, Chairman
John W. Goth
Donald Worth

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 3.

**RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

The Audit Committee and the Board of Directors are seeking stockholder ratification of its appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, to audit the consolidated financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

The ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is being submitted to the stockholders because the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors believes this to be good corporate practice. Should the stockholders fail to ratify this appointment, the Audit Committee will review the matter.

Representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are expected to attend the Annual Meeting. They will have an opportunity to make a statement, if they so desire, and will have an opportunity to respond to appropriate questions from the stockholders.

Fees for services rendered by PwC for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2007 are as follows:

Audit Fees. Fees were \$495,668 and \$719,970 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Included in this category are fees associated with the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and review of quarterly statements, issuance of consents, comfort letter and procedures, and review of documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Audit fees also include fees associated with the audit of management's assessment and operating effectiveness of the Sarbanes Oxley Act, Section 404, internal control reporting requirements.

Audit-Related Fees. Fees were \$0 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007.

Tax Fees. Fees were \$0 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007.

All Other Fees. Fees were \$0 and \$1,616 for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. All other fees for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, include the Company's annual subscription to PwC on-line accounting research product.

Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee has adopted a policy that requires advance approval for all audit, audit-related, tax services, and other services performed by the independent registered public accounting firm. The policy provides for pre-approval by the Audit Committee of specifically defined audit and non-audit services. Unless the specific service has been previously pre-approved with respect to that year, the Audit Committee must approve the permitted service before the independent auditor is engaged to perform it. The Audit Committee has delegated to the Chairman of the Audit Committee authority to approve certain permitted services, provided that the Chairman reports any such decisions to the Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting. The Audit Committee pre-approved all of the services described above for the Company's 2008 fiscal year.

Vote Required for Approval. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares that are represented and entitled to vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present is required to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR

**THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP
AS INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS OF THE COMPANY.**

Table of Contents

OTHER MATTERS

The Board of Directors knows of no other matters to be brought before the Annual Meeting. However, if other matters should come before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of each person named in the proxy to vote such proxy in accordance with his own judgment on such matters.

Stockholder Proposals

Stockholder proposals intended to be presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and to be included in the Company's proxy materials for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders must be received by the Company at its principal executive office in Denver, Colorado, by June 18, 2009, if such proposals are to be considered timely and included in the proxy materials. The inclusion of any stockholder proposal in the proxy materials for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be subject to applicable rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Stockholders may present proposals that are proper subjects for consideration at the annual meeting even if the proposal is not submitted by the deadline for inclusion in the proxy materials. To do so, the proposal must be received not less than 90 but no more than 120 days prior to the date of the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders; provided, however, that if notice or public disclosure of the date of the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders is not made at least 100 days prior to the date of the meeting, notice by the stockholder must be received no later than the close of business on the tenth day following the date the notice of the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders was mailed or public disclosure was made.

Proxies for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders will confer discretionary authority to vote with respect to all proposals of which the Company does not receive proper notice by September 1, 2009.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen P. Gross
Vice President & Corporate Secretary

Denver, Colorado
September 23, 2008

Upon the written request of any record holder or beneficial owner of common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, the Company will provide, without charge, a copy of its Annual Report on Form 10-K including financial statements and any required financial statement schedules, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. Requests for a copy of the Annual Report should be mailed, faxed, or sent via e-mail to Karen P. Gross, Vice President & Corporate Secretary, Royal Gold, Inc., 1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 1000, Denver, Colorado 80202-1132, 303-595-9385 (fax), or kgross@royalgold.com.

Table of Contents

Appendix A

ROYAL GOLD, INC.

2004 OMNIBUS LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN

Adopted on November 10, 2004, as amended

Royal Gold, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the **Company**), sets forth herein the terms of its 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan (the **Plan**), as follows:

1. PURPOSE

The Plan is intended to enhance the **Company's** and its **Affiliates** (as defined herein) ability to attract and retain highly qualified officers, directors, key employees, and other persons, and to motivate such officers, directors, key employees, and other persons to serve the **Company** and its **Affiliates** and to expend maximum effort to improve the business results and earnings of the **Company**, by providing to such persons an opportunity to acquire or increase a direct proprietary interest in the operations and future success of the **Company**. To this end, the Plan provides for the grant of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, stock units, unrestricted stock, dividend equivalent rights and cash awards. Any of these awards may, but need not, be made as performance incentives to reward attainment of annual or long-term performance goals in accordance with the terms hereof. Stock options granted under the Plan may be non-qualified stock options or incentive stock options, as provided herein.

2. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of interpreting the Plan and related documents (including Award Agreements), the following definitions shall apply:

2.1 **Affiliate** means, with respect to the **Company**, any company or other trade or business that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the **Company** within the meaning of Rule 405 of Regulation C under the Securities Act, including, without limitation, any **Subsidiary**.

2.2 **Annual Incentive Award** means an Award made subject to attainment of performance goals (as described in **Section 14**) over a performance period of up to one year (the fiscal year, unless otherwise specified by the **Committee**).

2.3 **Award** means a grant of an Option, Stock Appreciation Right, Restricted Stock, Unrestricted Stock, Stock Unit, Dividend Equivalent Rights, or cash award under the Plan.

2.4 **Award Agreement** means the written agreement between the **Company** and a Grantee that evidences and sets out the terms and conditions of an Award.

2.5 **Benefit Arrangement** shall have the meaning set forth in **Section 15** hereof.

2.6 **Board** means the Board of Directors of the **Company**.

2.7 **Cause** means, as determined by the Board and unless otherwise provided in an applicable agreement with the **Company** or an **Affiliate**, (i) gross negligence or willful misconduct in connection with the performance of duties; (ii) conviction of a criminal offense (other than minor traffic offenses); or (iii) material breach of any term of any employment, consulting or other services, confidentiality, intellectual property or non-competition agreements, if any,

between the Service Provider and the Company or an Affiliate.

2.8 **Code** means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or as hereafter amended.

2.9 **Committee** means a committee of, and designated from time to time by resolution of, the Board, which shall be constituted as provided in **Section 3.2**.

2.10 **Company** means Royal Gold, Inc.

A-1

Table of Contents

2.11 **Corporate Transaction** means (i) the dissolution or liquidation of the Company or a merger, consolidation, or reorganization of the Company with one or more other entities in which the Company is not the surviving entity, (ii) a sale of substantially all of the assets of the Company to another person or entity, or (iii) any transaction (including without limitation a merger or reorganization in which the Company is the surviving entity) which results in any person or entity (other than persons who are stockholders or Affiliates immediately prior to the transaction) owning 50% or more of the combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company.

2.12 **Covered Employee** means a Grantee who is a Covered Employee within the meaning of Section 162(m)(3) of the Code.

2.13 **Disability** means the Grantee is unable to perform each of the essential duties of such Grantee's position by reason of a medically determinable physical or mental impairment which is potentially permanent in character or which can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months; provided, however, that, with respect to rules regarding expiration of an Incentive Stock Option following termination of the Grantee's Service, Disability shall mean the Grantee is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of a medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

2.14 **Dividend Equivalent Right** means a right, granted to a Grantee under Section 13 hereof, to receive cash, Stock, other Awards or other property equal in value to dividends paid with respect to a specified number of shares of Stock, or other periodic payments.

2.15 **Effective Date** means October 6, 2004, the date the Plan is approved by the Board.

2.16 **Exchange Act** means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as now in effect or as hereafter amended.

2.17 **Fair Market Value** means the value of a share of Stock, determined as follows: if on the Grant Date or other determination date the Stock is listed on an established national or regional stock exchange, is admitted to quotation on The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. or is publicly traded on an established securities market, the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock shall be the closing price of the Stock on such exchange or in such market (if there is more than one such exchange or market the Board shall determine the appropriate exchange or market) on the Grant Date or such other determination date (or if there is no such reported closing price, the Fair Market Value shall be the mean between the highest bid and lowest asked prices or between the high and low sale prices on such trading day) or, if no sale of Stock is reported for such trading day, on the next preceding day on which any sale shall have been reported. If the Stock is not listed on such an exchange, quoted on such system or traded on such a market, Fair Market Value shall be the value of the Stock as determined by the Board in good faith.

2.18 **Family Member** means a person who is a spouse, former spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, niece, nephew, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law, including adoptive relationships, of the Grantee, any person sharing the Grantee's household (other than a tenant or employee), a trust in which any one or more of these persons have more than fifty percent of the beneficial interest, a foundation in which any one or more of these persons (or the Grantee) control the management of assets, and any other entity in which one or more of these persons (or the Grantee) own more than fifty percent of the voting interests.

2.19 **Grant Date** means, as determined by the Board, the latest to occur of (i) the date as of which the Board approves an Award, (ii) the date on which the recipient of an Award first becomes eligible to receive an Award under **Section 6** hereof, or (iii) such other date as may be specified by the Board.

2.20 **Grantee** means a person who receives or holds an Award under the Plan.

2.21 **Incentive Stock Option** means an incentive stock option within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any subsequently enacted tax statute, as amended from time to time.

2.22 **Non-qualified Stock Option** means an Option that is not an Incentive Stock Option.

2.23 **Option** means an option to purchase one or more shares of Stock pursuant to the Plan.

A-2

Table of Contents

- 2.24 **Option Price** means the exercise price for each share of Stock subject to an Option.
- 2.25 **Option Proceeds** means, with respect to an Option, the sum of (i) the Option Price paid in cash, if any, to purchase shares of Stock under such Option, plus (ii) the value of all Federal, state, and local deductions to which the Company is entitled with respect to the exercise of such Option determined using the highest Federal tax rate applicable to corporations and a blended tax rate for state and local taxes based on the jurisdictions in which the Company does business and giving effect to the deduction of state and local taxes for Federal tax purposes.
- 2.26 **Other Agreement** shall have the meaning set forth in **Section 15** hereof.
- 2.27 **Outside Director** means a member of the Board who is not an officer or employee of the Company.
- 2.28 **Performance Award** means an Award made subject to the attainment of performance goals (as described in **Section 14**) over a performance period of up to ten (10) years.
- 2.29 **Plan** means this Royal Gold, Inc. 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- 2.30 **Purchase Price** means the purchase price for each share of Stock pursuant to a grant of Restricted Stock or Unrestricted Stock.
- 2.31 **Reporting Person** means a person who is required to file reports under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.
- 2.32 **Restricted Stock** means shares of Stock, awarded to a Grantee pursuant to **Section 10** hereof.
- 2.33 **SAR Exercise Price** means the per share exercise price of an SAR granted to a Grantee under **Section 9** hereof.
- 2.34 **Securities Act** means the Securities Act of 1933, as now in effect or as hereafter amended.
- 2.35 **Service** means service as a Service Provider to the Company or an Affiliate. Unless otherwise stated in the applicable Award Agreement, a Grantee's change in position or duties shall not result in interrupted or terminated Service, so long as such Grantee continues to be a Service Provider to the Company or an Affiliate. Subject to the preceding sentence, whether a termination of Service shall have occurred for purposes of the Plan shall be determined by the Board, which determination shall be final, binding and conclusive.
- 2.36 **Service Provider** means an employee, officer or director of the Company or an Affiliate, or a consultant or adviser currently providing services to the Company or an Affiliate.
- 2.37 **Stock** means the common stock, par value \$.01 per share, of the Company.
- 2.38 **Stock Appreciation Right** or **SAR** means a right granted to a Grantee under **Section 9** hereof.
- 2.39 **Stock Unit** means a bookkeeping entry representing the equivalent of shares of Stock, awarded to a Grantee pursuant to **Section 10** hereof.
- 2.40 **Subsidiary** means any subsidiary corporation of the Company within the meaning of Section 424(f) of the Code.
- 2.41 **Termination Date** means the date upon which an Option shall terminate or expire, as set forth in **Section 8.3** hereof.

2.42 **Ten Percent Stockholder** means an individual who owns more than ten percent (10%) of the total combined voting power of all classes of outstanding stock of the Company, its parent or any of its Subsidiaries. In determining stock ownership, the attribution rules of Section 424(d) of the Code shall be applied.

2.43 **Unrestricted Stock** means an Award pursuant to **Section 11** hereof.

A-3

Table of Contents

3. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLAN

3.1. Board.

The Board shall have such powers and authorities related to the administration of the Plan as are consistent with the Company's certificate of incorporation and by-laws and applicable law. The Board shall have full power and authority to take all actions and to make all determinations required or provided for under the Plan, any Award or any Award Agreement, and shall have full power and authority to take all such other actions and make all such other determinations not inconsistent with the specific terms and provisions of the Plan that the Board deems to be necessary or appropriate to the administration of the Plan, any Award or any Award Agreement. All such actions and determinations shall be by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board present at a meeting or by unanimous consent of the Board executed in writing in accordance with the Company's certificate of incorporation and by-laws and applicable law. The interpretation and construction by the Board of any provision of the Plan, any Award or any Award Agreement shall be final, binding and conclusive.

3.2. Committee.

The Board from time to time may delegate to the Committee such powers and authorities related to the administration and implementation of the Plan, as set forth in **Section 3.1** above and other applicable provisions, as the Board shall determine, consistent with the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the Company and applicable law.

(i) Except as provided in Subsection (ii) and except as the Board may otherwise determine, the Committee, if any, appointed by the Board to administer the Plan shall consist of two or more Outside Directors of the Company who: (a) qualify as outside directors within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code and who (b) meet such other requirements as may be established from time to time by the Securities and Exchange Commission for plans intended to qualify for exemption under Rule 16b-3 (or its successor) under the Exchange Act and who comply with the independence requirements of the stock exchange on which the Common Stock is listed.

(ii) The Board may also appoint one or more separate committees of the Board, each composed of one or more directors of the Company who need not be Outside Directors, who may administer the Plan with respect to employees or other Service Providers who are not officers or directors of the Company, may grant Awards under the Plan to such employees or other Service Providers, and may determine all terms of such Awards.

In the event that the Plan, any Award or any Award Agreement entered into hereunder provides for any action to be taken by or determination to be made by the Board, such action may be taken or such determination may be made by the Committee if the power and authority to do so has been delegated to the Committee by the Board as provided for in this Section. Unless otherwise expressly determined by the Board, any such action or determination by the Committee shall be final, binding and conclusive. To the extent permitted by law, the Committee may delegate its authority under the Plan to a member of the Board.

3.3. Terms of Awards.

Subject to the other terms and conditions of the Plan, the Board shall have full and final authority to:

- (i) designate Grantees,
- (ii) determine the type or types of Awards to be made to a Grantee,
- (iii) determine the number of shares of Stock to be subject to an Award,

(iv) establish the terms and conditions of each Award (including, but not limited to, the exercise price of any Option, the nature and duration of any restriction or condition (or provision for lapse thereof) relating to the vesting, exercise, transfer, or forfeiture of an Award or the shares of Stock subject thereto, and any terms or conditions that may be necessary to qualify Options as Incentive Stock Options),

(v) prescribe the form of each Award Agreement evidencing an Award, and

A-4

Table of Contents

(vi) amend, modify, or supplement the terms of any outstanding Award. Such authority specifically includes the authority, in order to effectuate the purposes of the Plan but without amending the Plan, to modify Awards to eligible individuals who are foreign nationals or are individuals who are employed outside the United States to recognize differences in local law, tax policy, or custom.

As a condition to any subsequent Award, the Board shall have the right, at its discretion, to require Grantees to return to the Company Awards previously made under the Plan. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, any such new Award shall be upon such terms and conditions as are specified by the Board at the time the new Award is made. The Board shall have the right, in its discretion, to make Awards in substitution or exchange for any other award under another plan of the Company, any Affiliate, or any business entity to be acquired by the Company or an Affiliate. The Company may retain the right in an Award Agreement to cause a forfeiture of the gain realized by a Grantee on account of actions taken by the Grantee in violation or breach of or in conflict with any employment agreement, non-competition agreement, any agreement prohibiting solicitation of employees or clients of the Company or any Affiliate thereof or any confidentiality obligation with respect to the Company or any Affiliate thereof or otherwise in competition with the Company or any Affiliate thereof, to the extent specified in such Award Agreement applicable to the Grantee. Furthermore, the Company may annul an Award if the Grantee is an employee of the Company or an Affiliate thereof and is terminated for Cause as defined in the applicable Award Agreement or the Plan, as applicable. The grant of any Award shall be contingent upon the Grantee executing the appropriate Award Agreement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no amendment or modification may be made to an outstanding Option or SAR which reduces the Option Price or SAR Exercise Price, either by lowering the Option Price or SAR Exercise Price or by canceling the outstanding Option or SAR and granting a replacement Option or SAR with a lower exercise price without the approval of the stockholders of the Company, provided, that, appropriate adjustments may be made to outstanding Options and SARs pursuant to **Section 17**.

3.4. Deferral Arrangement.

The Board may permit or require the deferral of any award payment into a deferred compensation arrangement, subject to such rules and procedures as it may establish, which may include provisions for the payment or crediting of interest or dividend equivalents, including converting such credits into deferred Stock equivalents and restricting deferrals to comply with hardship distribution rules affecting 401(k) plans. Any such deferrals shall be made in compliance with Code Section 409A.

3.5. No Liability.

No member of the Board or of the Committee shall be liable for any action or determination made in good faith with respect to the Plan or any Award or Award Agreement.

3.6. Book Entry.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan to the contrary, the Company may elect to satisfy any requirement under this Plan for the delivery of stock certificates through the use of book-entry.

4. STOCK SUBJECT TO THE PLAN

Stock issued or to be issued under the Plan shall be authorized but unissued shares; or, to the extent permitted by applicable law, issued shares that have been reacquired by the Company. Subject to adjustment as provided in **Section 17** hereof, the number of shares of Stock available for issuance under the Plan shall be the sum of one million

three hundred thousand (1,300,000), and any shares of Stock available for grant (including shares which become available due to forfeitures of outstanding awards) under the Company's Equity Incentive Plan. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence and also subject to adjustment as provided in **Section 17** hereof, the aggregate number of shares of Stock which cumulatively may be available for issuance pursuant to Awards other than Awards of Options or SARs shall not exceed six hundred fifty thousand (650,000), and the aggregate number of shares of Stock that may be issued under the Plan shall not exceed one million three hundred thousand (1,300,000). If any shares covered by an Award are not

A-5

Table of Contents

purchased or are forfeited, or if an Award otherwise terminates without delivery of any Stock subject thereto, then the number of shares of Stock counted against the aggregate number of shares available under the Plan with respect to such Award shall, to the extent of any such forfeiture or termination, again be available for making Awards under the Plan. If the Option Price of any Option granted under the Plan, or if pursuant to **Section 18.3** the withholding obligation of any Grantee with respect to an Option or other Award, is satisfied by tendering shares of Stock to the Company (by either actual delivery or by attestation) or by withholding shares of Stock, the number of shares of Stock issued net of the shares of Stock tendered or withheld shall be deemed delivered for purposes of determining the maximum number of shares of Stock available for delivery under the Plan. The number of shares of Stock reserved under this **Section 4** shall be increased by the number of any shares of Stock that are repurchased by the Company with Option Proceeds in respect of the exercise of an Option; provided, however, that the number of shares of Stock contributed to the number of shares reserved under this **Section 4** in respect of the use of Option Proceeds for repurchase shall not be greater than: (A) the amount of such Option Proceeds divided by, (B) the Fair Market Value on the date of exercise of the applicable Option. The Board shall have the right to substitute or assume Awards in connection with mergers, reorganizations, separations, or other transactions to which Section 424(a) of the Code applies, provided such substitutions and assumptions are permitted by Section 424 of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder. The number of shares of Stock reserved pursuant to **Section 4** may be increased by the corresponding number of Awards assumed and, in the case of a substitution, by the net increase in the number of shares of Stock subject to Awards before and after the substitution.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE, DURATION AND AMENDMENTS

5.1. Effective Date.

The Plan shall be effective as of the Effective Date, subject to approval of the Plan by the Company's stockholders within one year of the Effective Date. Upon approval of the Plan by the stockholders of the Company as set forth above, all Awards made under the Plan on or after the Effective Date shall be fully effective as if the stockholders of the Company had approved the Plan on the Effective Date. If the stockholders fail to approve the Plan within one year after the Effective Date, any Awards made hereunder shall be null and void and of no effect.

5.2. Term.

The Plan shall terminate automatically ten (10) years after its adoption by the Board and may be terminated on any earlier date as provided in **Section 5.3**.

5.3. Amendment and Termination of the Plan.

The Board may, at any time and from time to time, amend, suspend, or terminate the Plan as to any shares of Stock as to which Awards have not been made. An amendment shall be contingent on approval of the Company's stockholders to the extent stated by the Board, required by applicable law or required by applicable stock exchange listing requirements.

6. AWARD ELIGIBILITY AND LIMITATIONS

6.1. Service Providers and Other Persons.

Subject to this **Section 6**, Awards may be made under the Plan to: (i) any Service Provider to the Company or of any Affiliate, including any Service Provider who is an officer or director of the Company, or of any Affiliate, as the Board shall determine and designate from time to time, (ii) any Outside Director, and (iii) any other individual whose participation in the Plan is determined to be in the best interests of the Company by the Board.

6.2. Successive Awards.

An eligible person may receive more than one Award, subject to such restrictions as are provided herein.

A-6

Table of Contents

6.3. Limitation on Shares of Stock Subject to Awards and Cash Awards.

During any time when the Company has a class of equity security registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act:

- (i) the maximum number of shares of Stock subject to Options or SARs that can be awarded under the Plan to any person eligible for an Award under **Section 6** hereof is one hundred thousand (100,000) per calendar year;
- (ii) the maximum number of shares that can be awarded under the Plan, other than pursuant to an Option or SARs, to any person eligible for an Award under **Section 6** hereof is one hundred thousand (100,000) per calendar year; and
- (iii) the maximum amount that may be earned as an Annual Incentive Award or other cash Award in any calendar year by any one Grantee shall be \$1,000,000, and the maximum amount that may be earned as a Performance Award or other cash Award in respect of a performance period by any one Grantee shall be \$2,000,000.

The preceding limitations in this **Section 6.3** are subject to adjustment as provided in **Section 17** hereof.

6.4. Stand-Alone, Additional, Tandem, and Substitute Awards.

Awards granted under the Plan may, in the discretion of the Board, be granted either alone or in addition to, in tandem with, or in substitution or exchange for, any other Award or any award granted under another plan of the Company, any Affiliate, or any business entity to be acquired by the Company or an Affiliate, or any other right of a Grantee to receive payment from the Company or any Affiliate. Such additional, tandem, and substitute or exchange Awards may be granted at any time. If an Award is granted in substitution or exchange for another Award, the Board shall require the surrender of such other Award in consideration for the grant of the new Award. In addition, Awards may be granted in lieu of cash compensation, including in lieu of cash amounts payable under other plans of the Company or any Affiliate, in which the value of Stock subject to the Award is equivalent in value to the cash compensation (for example, Stock Units or Restricted Stock), or in which the Option Price, grant price or purchase price of the Award in the nature of a right that may be exercised is equal to the Fair Market Value of the underlying Stock minus the value of the cash compensation surrendered (for example, Options granted with an Option Price discounted by the amount of the cash compensation surrendered).

7. AWARD AGREEMENT

Each Award granted pursuant to the Plan shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement, in such form or forms as the Board shall from time to time determine. Award Agreements granted from time to time or at the same time need not contain similar provisions but shall be consistent with the terms of the Plan. Each Award Agreement evidencing an Award of Options shall specify whether such Options are intended to be Non-qualified Stock Options or Incentive Stock Options, and in the absence of such specification such options shall be deemed Non-qualified Stock Options.

8. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF OPTIONS

8.1. Option Price.

The Option Price of each Option shall be fixed by the Board and stated in the Award Agreement evidencing such Option. The Option Price of each Option shall be at least the Fair Market Value on the Grant Date of a share of Stock; *provided, however*, that in the event that a Grantee is a Ten Percent Stockholder, the Option Price of an Option granted to such Grantee that is intended to be an Incentive Stock Option shall be not less than 110 percent of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Grant Date. In no case shall the Option Price of any Option be less than the par value of a share of Stock.

Table of Contents

8.2. Vesting.

Subject to **Sections 8.3** and **17.3** hereof, each Option granted under the Plan shall become exercisable at such times and under such conditions as shall be determined by the Board and stated in the Award Agreement. For purposes of this **Section 8.2**, fractional numbers of shares of Stock subject to an Option shall be rounded down to the next nearest whole number. No Option shall be exercisable in whole or in part prior to the date the Plan is approved by the Stockholders of the Company as provided in **Section 5.1** hereof.

8.3. Term.

Each Option granted under the Plan shall terminate, and all rights to purchase shares of Stock thereunder shall cease, upon the expiration of ten years from the date such Option is granted, or under such circumstances and on such date prior thereto as is set forth in the Plan or as may be fixed by the Board and stated in the Award Agreement relating to such Option (the Termination Date); *provided, however*, that in the event that the Grantee is a Ten Percent Stockholder, an Option granted to such Grantee that is intended to be an Incentive Stock Option shall not be exercisable after the expiration of five years from its Grant Date.

8.4. Termination of Service.

Each Award Agreement shall set forth the extent to which the Grantee shall have the right to exercise the Option following termination of the Grantee's Service. Such provisions shall be determined in the sole discretion of the Board, need not be uniform among all Options issued pursuant to the Plan, and may reflect distinctions based on the reasons for termination of Service.

8.5. Limitations on Exercise of Option.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, in no event may any Option be exercised, in whole or in part, prior to the date the Plan is approved by the stockholders of the Company as provided herein or after the occurrence of an event referred to in **Section 17** hereof which results in termination of the Option.

8.6. Method of Exercise.

An Option that is exercisable may be exercised by the Grantee's delivery to the Company of written notice of exercise on any business day, at the Company's principal office, on the form specified by the Company. Such notice shall specify the number of shares of Stock with respect to which the Option is being exercised and shall be accompanied by payment in full of the Option Price of the shares for which the Option is being exercised plus the amount (if any) of federal and/or other taxes which the Company may, in its judgment, be required to withhold with respect to an Award. The minimum number of shares of Stock with respect to which an Option may be exercised, in whole or in part, at any time shall be the lesser of (i) 100 shares or such lesser number set forth in the applicable Award Agreement and (ii) the maximum number of shares available for purchase under the Option at the time of exercise.

8.7. Rights of Holders of Options.

Unless otherwise stated in the applicable Award Agreement, an individual holding or exercising an Option shall have none of the rights of a stockholder (for example, the right to receive cash or dividend payments or distributions attributable to the subject shares of Stock or to direct the voting of the subject shares of Stock) until the shares of Stock covered thereby are fully paid and issued to him. Except as provided in **Section 17** hereof, no adjustment shall be made for dividends, distributions or other rights for which the record date is prior to the date of such issuance.

8.8. Delivery of Stock Certificates.

Promptly after the exercise of an Option by a Grantee and the payment in full of the Option Price, such Grantee shall be entitled to the issuance of a stock certificate or certificates evidencing his or her ownership of the shares of Stock subject to the Option.

A-8

Table of Contents

8.9. Transferability of Options.

Except as provided in **Section 8.10**, during the lifetime of a Grantee, only the Grantee (or, in the event of legal incapacity or incompetency, the Grantee's guardian or legal representative) may exercise an Option. Except as provided in **Section 8.10**, no Option shall be assignable or transferable by the Grantee to whom it is granted, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution.

8.10. Family Transfers.

If authorized in the applicable Award Agreement, a Grantee may transfer, not for value, all or part of an Option which is not an Incentive Stock Option to any Family Member. For the purpose of this **Section 8.10**, a not for value transfer is a transfer which is (i) a gift, (ii) a transfer under a domestic relations order in settlement of marital property rights; or (iii) a transfer to an entity in which more than fifty percent of the voting interests are owned by Family Members (or the Grantee) in exchange for an interest in that entity. Following a transfer under this **Section 8.10**, any such Option shall continue to be subject to the same terms and conditions as were applicable immediately prior to transfer. Subsequent transfers of transferred Options are prohibited except to Family Members of the original Grantee in accordance with this **Section 8.10** or by will or the laws of descent and distribution. The events of termination of Service of **Section 8.4** hereof shall continue to be applied with respect to the original Grantee, following which the Option shall be exercisable by the transferee only to the extent, and for the periods specified, in **Section 8.4**.

8.11. Limitations on Incentive Stock Options.

An Option shall constitute an Incentive Stock Option only (i) if the Grantee of such Option is an employee of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company; (ii) to the extent specifically provided in the related Award Agreement; and (iii) to the extent that the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined at the time the Option is granted) of the shares of Stock with respect to which all Incentive Stock Options held by such Grantee become exercisable for the first time during any calendar year (under the Plan and all other plans of the Grantee's employer and its Affiliates) does not exceed \$100,000. This limitation shall be applied by taking Options into account in the order in which they were granted.

9. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF STOCK APPRECIATION RIGHTS

9.1. Right to Payment.

An SAR shall confer on the Grantee to whom it is granted a right to receive, upon exercise thereof, the excess of (A) the Fair Market Value of one share of Stock on the date of exercise over (B) the grant price of the SAR as determined by the Board. The Award Agreement for an SAR shall specify the grant price of the SAR, which may be fixed at the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date of grant or may vary in accordance with a predetermined formula while the SAR is outstanding. SARs may be granted in conjunction with all or part of an Option granted under the Plan or at any subsequent time during the term of such Option, in conjunction with all or part of any other Award or without regard to any Option or other Award.

9.2. Other Terms.

The Board shall determine at the date of grant or thereafter, the time or times at which and the circumstances under which an SAR may be exercised in whole or in part (including based on achievement of performance goals and/or future service requirements), the time or times at which SARs shall cease to be or become exercisable following termination of Service or upon other conditions, the method of exercise, method of settlement, form of consideration payable in settlement, method by or forms in which Stock will be delivered or deemed to be delivered to Grantees,

whether or not an SAR shall be in tandem or in combination with any other Award, and any other terms and conditions of any SAR.

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF RESTRICTED STOCK AND STOCK UNITS

10.1. Grant of Restricted Stock or Stock Units.

Awards of Restricted Stock or Stock Units may be made for no consideration (other than par value of the shares which is deemed paid by Services already rendered).

A-9

Table of Contents

10.2. Restrictions.

At the time a grant of Restricted Stock or Stock Units is made, the Board may, in its sole discretion, establish a period of time (a restricted period) applicable to such Restricted Stock or Stock Units. Each Award of Restricted Stock or Stock Units may be subject to a different restricted period. The Board may, in its sole discretion, at the time a grant of Restricted Stock or Stock Units is made, prescribe restrictions in addition to or other than the expiration of the restricted period, including the satisfaction of corporate or individual performance objectives, which may be applicable to all or any portion of the Restricted Stock or Stock Units in accordance with **Section 14.1 and 14.2**. Notwithstanding the foregoing and except in the case of accelerated vesting for Grantees whose age plus years of Service total at least sixty-five (65), (i) Restricted Stock that vests solely by the passage of time shall not vest in full in less than three (3) years from the Grant Date and (ii) Restricted Stock for which vesting may be accelerated by achieving performance targets shall not vest in full in less than one (1) year from the Grant Date. Neither Restricted Stock nor Stock Units may be sold, transferred, assigned, pledged or otherwise encumbered or disposed of during the restricted period or prior to the satisfaction of any other restrictions prescribed by the Board with respect to such Restricted Stock or Stock Units.

10.3. Restricted Stock Certificates.

The Company shall issue, in the name of each Grantee to whom Restricted Stock has been granted, stock certificates representing the total number of shares of Restricted Stock granted to the Grantee, as soon as reasonably practicable after the Grant Date. The Board may provide in an Award Agreement that either (i) the Secretary of the Company shall hold such certificates for the Grantee's benefit until such time as the Restricted Stock is forfeited to the Company or the restrictions lapse, or (ii) such certificates shall be delivered to the Grantee, provided, however, that such certificates shall bear a legend or legends that comply with the applicable securities laws and regulations and makes appropriate reference to the restrictions imposed under the Plan and the Award Agreement.

10.4. Rights of Holders of Restricted Stock.

Unless the Board otherwise provides in an Award Agreement, holders of Restricted Stock shall have the right to vote such Stock and the right to receive any dividends declared or paid with respect to such Stock. The Board may provide that any dividends paid on Restricted Stock must be reinvested in shares of Stock, which may or may not be subject to the same vesting conditions and restrictions applicable to such Restricted Stock. All distributions, if any, received by a Grantee with respect to Restricted Stock as a result of any stock split, stock dividend, combination of shares, or other similar transaction shall be subject to the restrictions applicable to the original Grant.

10.5. Rights of Holders of Stock Units.

10.5.1. Voting and Dividend Rights.

Unless the Board otherwise provides in an Award Agreement, holders of Stock Units shall have no rights as stockholders of the Company. The Board may provide in an Award Agreement evidencing a grant of Stock Units that the holder of such Stock Units shall be entitled to receive, upon the Company's payment of a cash dividend on its outstanding Stock, a cash payment for each Stock Unit held equal to the per-share dividend paid on the Stock. Such Award Agreement may also provide that such cash payment will be deemed reinvested in additional Stock Units at a price per unit equal to the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date that such dividend is paid.

10.5.2. Creditor's Rights.

A holder of Stock Units shall have no rights other than those of a general creditor of the Company. Stock Units represent an unfunded and unsecured obligation of the Company, subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable Award Agreement.

A-10

Table of Contents

10.6. Termination of Service.

Unless the Board otherwise provides in an Award Agreement or in writing after the Award Agreement is issued, upon the termination of a Grantee's Service, any Restricted Stock or Stock Units held by such Grantee that have not vested, or with respect to which all applicable restrictions and conditions have not lapsed, shall immediately be deemed forfeited. Upon forfeiture of Restricted Stock or Stock Units, the Grantee shall have no further rights with respect to such Award, including but not limited to any right to vote Restricted Stock or any right to receive dividends with respect to shares of Restricted Stock or Stock Units.

10.7. Purchase of Restricted Stock.

The Grantee shall be required, to the extent required by applicable law, to purchase the Restricted Stock from the Company at a Purchase Price equal to the greater of (i) the aggregate par value of the shares of Stock represented by such Restricted Stock or (ii) the Purchase Price, if any, specified in the Award Agreement relating to such Restricted Stock. The Purchase Price shall be payable in a form described in **Section 12** or, in the discretion of the Board, in consideration for past Services rendered to the Company or an Affiliate.

10.8. Delivery of Stock.

Upon the expiration or termination of any restricted period and the satisfaction of any other conditions prescribed by the Board, the restrictions applicable to shares of Restricted Stock or Stock Units settled in Stock shall lapse, and, unless otherwise provided in the Award Agreement, a stock certificate for such shares shall be delivered, free of all such restrictions, to the Grantee or the Grantee's beneficiary or estate, as the case may be.

11. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF UNRESTRICTED STOCK AWARDS

The Board may, in its sole discretion, grant (or sell at par value or such other higher purchase price determined by the Board) an Unrestricted Stock Award to any Grantee pursuant to which such Grantee may receive shares of Stock free of any restrictions (Unrestricted Stock) under the Plan. Unrestricted Stock Awards may be granted or sold as described in the preceding sentence in respect of past services and other valid consideration, or in lieu of, or in addition to, any cash compensation due to such Grantee.

12. FORM OF PAYMENT FOR OPTIONS AND RESTRICTED STOCK

12.1. General Rule.

Payment of the Option Price for the shares purchased pursuant to the exercise of an Option or the Purchase Price for Restricted Stock shall be made in cash or in cash equivalents acceptable to the Company.

12.2. Surrender of Stock.

To the extent the Award Agreement so provides, payment of the Option Price for shares purchased pursuant to the exercise of an Option or the Purchase Price for Restricted Stock may be made all or in part through the tender to the Company of shares of Stock, which shares, if acquired from the Company and if so required by the Company, shall have been held for at least six months at the time of tender and which shall be valued, for purposes of determining the extent to which the Option Price or Purchase Price has been paid thereby, at their Fair Market Value on the date of exercise or surrender.

12.3. Cashless Exercise.

With respect to an Option only (and not with respect to Restricted Stock), to the extent permitted by law and to the extent the Award Agreement so provides, payment of the Option Price for shares purchased pursuant to the exercise of an Option may be made all or in part by delivery (on a form acceptable to the Board) of an irrevocable direction to a licensed securities broker acceptable to the Company to sell shares of Stock and to deliver all or part of the sales proceeds to the Company in payment of the Option Price and any withholding taxes described in **Section 18.3**.

A-11

Table of Contents

12.4. Other Forms of Payment.

To the extent the Award Agreement so provides, payment of the Option Price for shares purchased pursuant to exercise of an Option or the Purchase Price for Restricted Stock may be made in any other form that is consistent with applicable laws, regulations and rules.

13. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF DIVIDEND EQUIVALENT RIGHTS

13.1. Dividend Equivalent Rights.

A Dividend Equivalent Right is an Award entitling the recipient to receive credits based on cash distributions that would have been paid on the shares of Stock specified in the Dividend Equivalent Right (or other award to which it relates) if such shares had been issued to and held by the recipient. A Dividend Equivalent Right may be granted hereunder to any Grantee as a component of another Award or as a freestanding award. The terms and conditions of Dividend Equivalent Rights shall be specified in the grant. Dividend equivalents credited to the holder of a Dividend Equivalent Right may be paid currently or may be deemed to be reinvested in additional shares of Stock, which may thereafter accrue additional equivalents. Any such reinvestment shall be at Fair Market Value on the date of reinvestment. Dividend Equivalent Rights may be settled in cash or Stock or a combination thereof, in a single installment or installments, all determined in the sole discretion of the Board. A Dividend Equivalent Right granted as a component of another Award may provide that such Dividend Equivalent Right shall be settled upon exercise, settlement, or payment of, or lapse of restrictions on, such other award, and that such Dividend Equivalent Right shall expire or be forfeited or annulled under the same conditions as such other award. A Dividend Equivalent Right granted as a component of another Award may also contain terms and conditions different from such other award.

13.2. Termination of Service.

Except as may otherwise be provided by the Board either in the Award Agreement or in writing after the Award Agreement is issued, a Grantee's rights in all Dividend Equivalent Rights or interest equivalents shall automatically terminate upon the Grantee's termination of Service for any reason.

14. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PERFORMANCE AND ANNUAL INCENTIVE AWARDS

14.1. Performance Conditions.

The right of a Grantee to exercise or receive a grant or settlement of any Award, and the timing thereof, may be subject to such performance conditions as may be specified by the Board. The Board may use such business criteria and other measures of performance as it may deem appropriate in establishing any performance conditions, and may exercise its discretion to reduce the amounts payable under any Award subject to performance conditions, except as limited under Sections 14.2 hereof in the case of a Performance Award or Annual Incentive Award intended to qualify under Code Section 162(m). If and to the extent required under Code Section 162(m), any power or authority relating to a Performance Award or Annual Incentive Award intended to qualify under Code Section 162(m), shall be exercised by the Committee and not the Board.

14.2. Performance or Annual Incentive Awards Granted to Designated Covered Employees.

If and to the extent that the Committee determines that a Performance or Annual Incentive Award to be granted to a Grantee who is designated by the Committee as likely to be a Covered Employee should qualify as performance-based compensation for purposes of Code Section 162(m), the grant, exercise and/or settlement of such Performance or Annual Incentive Award shall be contingent upon achievement of pre-established performance goals and other terms

set forth in this Section 14.2.

14.2.1. Performance Goals Generally.

The performance goals for such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards shall consist of one or more business criteria and a targeted level or levels of performance with respect to each of such criteria, as specified by the Committee consistent with this **Section 14.2**. Performance goals shall be objective and shall otherwise meet the requirements of Code Section 162(m) and regulations thereunder including the

A-12

Table of Contents

requirement that the level or levels of performance targeted by the Committee result in the achievement of performance goals being substantially uncertain. The Committee may determine that such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards shall be granted, exercised and/or settled upon achievement of any one performance goal or that two or more of the performance goals must be achieved as a condition to grant, exercise and/or settlement of such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards. Performance goals may differ for Performance or Annual Incentive Awards granted to any one Grantee or to different Grantees.

14.2.2. Business Criteria.

One or more of the following business criteria for the Company, on a consolidated basis, and/or specified subsidiaries or business units of the Company (except with respect to the total stockholder return and earnings per share criteria), shall be used exclusively by the Committee in establishing performance goals for such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards: (1) total stockholder return; (2) such total stockholder return as compared to total return (on a comparable basis) of a publicly available index such as, but not limited to, the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index; (3) net income; (4) pretax earnings; (5) earnings before interest expense, taxes, depreciation and amortization; (6) pretax operating earnings after interest expense and before bonuses, service fees, and extraordinary or special items; (7) operating margin; (8) earnings per share; (9) return on equity; (10) return on capital; (11) return on investment; (12) operating earnings; (13) working capital; (14) ratio of debt to stockholders' equity; (15) revenue and (16) free cash flow and free cash flow per share. Business criteria may be measured on an absolute basis or on a relative basis (i.e., performance relative to peer companies) and on a GAAP or non-GAAP basis.

14.2.3. Timing For Establishing Performance Goals.

Performance goals shall be established not later than 90 days after the beginning of any performance period applicable to such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards, or at such other date as may be required or permitted for performance-based compensation under Code Section 162(m).

14.2.4. Performance or Annual Incentive Award Pool.

The Committee may establish a Performance or Annual Incentive Award pool, which shall be an unfunded pool, for purposes of measuring Company performance in connection with Performance or Annual Incentive Awards.

14.2.5. Settlement of Performance or Annual Incentive Awards; Other Terms.

Settlement of such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards shall be in cash, Stock, other Awards or other property, in the discretion of the Committee. The Committee may, in its discretion, reduce the amount of a settlement otherwise to be made in connection with such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards. The Committee shall specify the circumstances in which such Performance or Annual Incentive Awards shall be paid or forfeited in the event of termination of Service by the Grantee prior to the end of a performance period or settlement of Performance Awards.

14.3. Written Determinations.

All determinations by the Committee as to the establishment of performance goals, the amount of any Performance Award pool or potential individual Performance Awards and as to the achievement of performance goals relating to Performance Awards, and the amount of any Annual Incentive Award pool or potential individual Annual Incentive Awards and the amount of final Annual Incentive Awards, shall be made in writing in the case of any Award intended to qualify under Code Section 162(m). To the extent required to comply with Code Section 162(m), the Committee may delegate any responsibility relating to such Performance Awards or Annual Incentive Awards.

14.4. Status of Section 14.2 Awards Under Code Section 162(m).

It is the intent of the Company that Performance Awards and Annual Incentive Awards under Section 14.2 hereof granted to persons who are designated by the Committee as likely to be Covered Employees within the meaning of Code Section 162(m) and regulations thereunder shall, if so designated by

A-13

Table of Contents

the Committee, constitute qualified performance-based compensation within the meaning of Code Section 162(m) and regulations thereunder. Accordingly, the terms of Section 14.2, including the definitions of Covered Employee and other terms used therein, shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with Code Section 162(m) and regulations thereunder. The foregoing notwithstanding, because the Committee cannot determine with certainty whether a given Grantee will be a Covered Employee with respect to a fiscal year that has not yet been completed, the term Covered Employee as used herein shall mean only a person designated by the Committee, at the time of grant of Performance Awards or an Annual Incentive Award, as likely to be a Covered Employee with respect to that fiscal year. If any provision of the Plan or any agreement relating to such Performance Awards or Annual Incentive Awards does not comply or is inconsistent with the requirements of Code Section 162(m) or regulations thereunder, such provision shall be construed or deemed amended to the extent necessary to conform to such requirements.

15. PARACHUTE LIMITATIONS

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan or of any other agreement, contract, or understanding heretofore or hereafter entered into by a Grantee with the Company or any Affiliate, except an agreement, contract, or understanding hereafter entered into that expressly modifies or excludes application of this paragraph (an Other Agreement), and notwithstanding any formal or informal plan or other arrangement for the direct or indirect provision of compensation to the Grantee (including groups or classes of Grantees or beneficiaries of which the Grantee is a member), whether or not such compensation is deferred, is in cash, or is in the form of a benefit to or for the Grantee (a Benefit Arrangement), if the Grantee is a disqualified individual, as defined in Section 280G(c) of the Code, any Option, Restricted Stock or Stock Unit held by that Grantee and any right to receive any payment or other benefit under this Plan shall not become exercisable or vested (i) to the extent that such right to exercise, vesting, payment, or benefit, taking into account all other rights, payments, or benefits to or for the Grantee under this Plan, all Other Agreements, and all Benefit Arrangements, would cause any payment or benefit to the Grantee under this Plan to be considered a parachute payment within the meaning of Section 280G(b)(2) of the Code as then in effect (a Parachute Payment) and (ii) if, as a result of receiving a Parachute Payment, the aggregate after-tax amounts received by the Grantee from the Company under this Plan, all Other Agreements, and all Benefit Arrangements would be less than the maximum after-tax amount that could be received by the Grantee without causing any such payment or benefit to be considered a Parachute Payment. In the event that the receipt of any such right to exercise, vesting, payment, or benefit under this Plan, in conjunction with all other rights, payments, or benefits to or for the Grantee under any Other Agreement or any Benefit Arrangement would cause the Grantee to be considered to have received a Parachute Payment under this Plan that would have the effect of decreasing the after-tax amount received by the Grantee as described in clause (ii) of the preceding sentence, then the Grantee shall have the right, in the Grantee's sole discretion, to designate those rights, payments, or benefits under this Plan, any Other Agreements, and any Benefit Arrangements that should be reduced or eliminated so as to avoid having the payment or benefit to the Grantee under this Plan be deemed to be a Parachute Payment, provided, however, that in order to comply with Code Section 409A, the reduction or elimination will be performed in the order in which each dollar of value subject to an Award reduces the Parachute Payment to the greatest extent.

16. REQUIREMENTS OF LAW**16.1. General.**

The Company shall not be required to sell or issue any shares of Stock under any Award if the sale or issuance of such shares would constitute a violation by the Grantee, any other individual exercising an Option, or the Company of any provision of any law or regulation of any governmental authority, including without limitation any federal or state securities laws or regulations. If at any time the Company shall determine, in its discretion, that the listing, registration or qualification of any shares subject to an Award upon any securities exchange or under any governmental regulatory body is necessary or desirable as a condition of, or in connection with, the issuance or purchase of shares hereunder,

no shares of Stock may be issued or sold to the Grantee or any other individual exercising an Option pursuant to such Award unless such listing,

A-14

Table of Contents

registration, qualification, consent or approval shall have been effected or obtained free of any conditions not acceptable to the Company, and any delay caused thereby shall in no way affect the date of termination of the Award. Specifically, in connection with the Securities Act, upon the exercise of any Option or the delivery of any shares of Stock underlying an Award, unless a registration statement under such Act is in effect with respect to the shares of Stock covered by such Award, the Company shall not be required to sell or issue such shares unless the Board has received evidence satisfactory to it that the Grantee or any other individual exercising an Option may acquire such shares pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act. Any determination in this connection by the Board shall be final, binding, and conclusive. The Company may, but shall in no event be obligated to, register any securities covered hereby pursuant to the Securities Act. The Company shall not be obligated to take any affirmative action in order to cause the exercise of an Option or the issuance of shares of Stock pursuant to the Plan to comply with any law or regulation of any governmental authority. As to any jurisdiction that expressly imposes the requirement that an Option shall not be exercisable until the shares of Stock covered by such Option are registered or are exempt from registration, the exercise of such Option (under circumstances in which the laws of such jurisdiction apply) shall be deemed conditioned upon the effectiveness of such registration or the availability of such an exemption.

16.2. Rule 16b-3.

During any time when the Company has a class of equity security registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, it is the intent of the Company that Awards pursuant to the Plan and the exercise of Options granted hereunder will qualify for the exemption provided by Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act. To the extent that any provision of the Plan or action by the Board does not comply with the requirements of Rule 16b-3, it shall be deemed inoperative to the extent permitted by law and deemed advisable by the Board, and shall not affect the validity of the Plan. In the event that Rule 16b-3 is revised or replaced, the Board may exercise its discretion to modify this Plan in any respect necessary to satisfy the requirements of, or to take advantage of any features of, the revised exemption or its replacement.

17. EFFECT OF CHANGES IN CAPITALIZATION

17.1. Changes in Stock.

If the number of outstanding shares of Stock is increased or decreased or the shares of Stock are changed into or exchanged for a different number or kind of shares or other securities of the Company on account of any recapitalization, reclassification, stock split, reverse split, combination of shares, exchange of shares, stock dividend or other distribution payable in capital stock, or other increase or decrease in such shares effected without receipt of consideration by the Company occurring after the Effective Date, the number and kinds of shares for which grants of Options and other Awards may be made under the Plan shall be adjusted proportionately and accordingly by the Company. In addition, the number and kind of shares for which Awards are outstanding shall be adjusted proportionately and accordingly so that the proportionate interest of the Grantee immediately following such event shall, to the extent practicable, be the same as immediately before such event. Any such adjustment in outstanding Options or SARs shall not change the aggregate Option Price or SAR Exercise Price payable with respect to shares that are subject to the unexercised portion of an outstanding Option or SAR, as applicable, but shall include a corresponding proportionate adjustment in the Option Price or SAR Exercise Price per share. The conversion of any convertible securities of the Company shall not be treated as an increase in shares effected without receipt of consideration. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of any distribution to the Company's stockholders of securities of any other entity or other assets (including an extraordinary cash dividend but excluding a non-extraordinary dividend payable in cash or in stock of the Company) without receipt of consideration by the Company, the Company may, in such manner as the Company deems appropriate, adjust (i) the number and kind of shares subject to outstanding Awards and/or (ii) the exercise price of outstanding Options and Stock Appreciation

Rights to reflect such distribution.

A-15

Table of Contents

17.2. Reorganization in Which the Company Is the Surviving Entity Which does not Constitute a Corporate Transaction.

Subject to **Section 17.3** hereof, if the Company shall be the surviving entity in any reorganization, merger, or consolidation of the Company with one or more other entities which does not constitute a Corporate Transaction, any Option or SAR theretofore granted pursuant to the Plan shall pertain to and apply to the securities to which a holder of the number of shares of Stock subject to such Option or SAR would have been entitled immediately following such reorganization, merger, or consolidation, with a corresponding proportionate adjustment of the Option Price or SAR Exercise Price per share so that the aggregate Option Price or SAR Exercise Price thereafter shall be the same as the aggregate Option Price or SAR Exercise Price of the shares remaining subject to the Option or SAR immediately prior to such reorganization, merger, or consolidation. Subject to any contrary language in an Award Agreement evidencing an Award, any restrictions applicable to such Award shall apply as well to any replacement shares received by the Grantee as a result of the reorganization, merger or consolidation. In the event of a transaction described in this Section 17.2, Stock Units shall be adjusted so as to apply to the securities that a holder of the number of shares of Stock subject to the Stock Units would have been entitled to receive immediately following such transaction.

17.3. Corporate Transaction.

Subject to the exceptions set forth in the last sentence of this **Section 17.3** and the last sentence of **Section 17.4**:

(i) upon the occurrence of a Corporate Transaction, all outstanding shares of Restricted Stock and all Stock Units shall be deemed to have vested, and all restrictions and conditions applicable to such shares of Restricted Stock shall be deemed to have lapsed and the shares of stock subject to such Stock Units shall be delivered, immediately prior to the occurrence of such Corporate Transaction, and

(ii) either of the following two actions shall be taken:

(A) fifteen days prior to the scheduled consummation of a Corporate Transaction, all Options and SARs outstanding hereunder shall become immediately exercisable and shall remain exercisable for a period of fifteen days, or

(B) the Board may elect, in its sole discretion, to cancel any outstanding Awards of Options, Restricted Stock, Stock Units and/or SARs and pay or deliver, or cause to be paid or delivered, to the holder thereof an amount in cash or securities having a value (as determined by the Board acting in good faith), in the case of Restricted Stock or Stock Units, equal to the formula or fixed price per share paid to holders of shares of Stock and, in the case of Options or SARs, equal to the product of the number of shares of Stock subject to the Option or SAR (the Award Shares) multiplied by the amount, if any, by which (I) the formula or fixed price per share paid to holders of shares of Stock pursuant to such transaction exceeds (II) the Option Price or SAR Exercise Price applicable to such Award Shares.

With respect to the Company's establishment of an exercise window, (i) any exercise of an Option or SAR during such fifteen-day period shall be conditioned upon the consummation of the event and shall be effective only immediately before the consummation of the event, and (ii) upon consummation of any Corporate Transaction the Plan, and all outstanding but unexercised Options and SARs shall terminate. The Board shall send written notice of an event that will result in such a termination to all individuals who hold Options and SARs not later than the time at which the Company gives notice thereof to its stockholders.

This **Section 17.3** shall not apply to any Corporate Transaction to the extent that provision is made in writing in connection with such Corporate Transaction for the assumption or continuation of the Options, SARs, Restricted Stock and Stock Units theretofore granted, or for the substitution for such Options, SARs, Restricted Stock and Stock Units for new common stock options and stock appreciation rights and new common stock restricted stock and stock

units relating to the stock of a successor entity, or a parent or subsidiary thereof, with appropriate adjustments as to the number of shares (disregarding any consideration that is not common stock) and option and stock appreciation right exercise prices, in which event the Plan,

A-16

Table of Contents

Options, SARs, Restricted Stock and Stock Units theretofore granted shall continue in the manner and under the terms so provided.

17.4. Adjustments.

Adjustments under this **Section 17** related to shares of Stock or securities of the Company shall be made by the Board, whose determination in that respect shall be final, binding and conclusive. No fractional shares or other securities shall be issued pursuant to any such adjustment, and any fractions resulting from any such adjustment shall be eliminated in each case by rounding downward to the nearest whole share. The Board shall determine the effect of a Corporate Transaction upon Awards other than Options, SARs, Stock Units and Restricted Stock, and such effect shall be set forth in the appropriate Award Agreement. The Board may provide in the Award Agreements at the time of grant, or any time thereafter with the consent of the Grantee, for different provisions to apply to an Award in place of those described in **Sections 17.1, 17.2 and 17.3**.

17.5. No Limitations on Company.

The making of Awards pursuant to the Plan shall not affect or limit in any way the right or power of the Company to make adjustments, reclassifications, reorganizations, or changes of its capital or business structure or to merge, consolidate, dissolve, or liquidate, or to sell or transfer all or any part of its business or assets.

18. GENERAL PROVISIONS

18.1. Disclaimer of Rights.

No provision in the Plan or in any Award or Award Agreement shall be construed to confer upon any individual the right to remain in the employ or service of the Company or any Affiliate, or to interfere in any way with any contractual or other right or authority of the Company either to increase or decrease the compensation or other payments to any individual at any time, or to terminate any employment or other relationship between any individual and the Company. In addition, notwithstanding anything contained in the Plan to the contrary, unless otherwise stated in the applicable Award Agreement, no Award granted under the Plan shall be affected by any change of duties or position of the Grantee, so long as such Grantee continues to be a director, officer, consultant or employee of the Company or an Affiliate. The obligation of the Company to pay any benefits pursuant to this Plan shall be interpreted as a contractual obligation to pay only those amounts described herein, in the manner and under the conditions prescribed herein. The Plan shall in no way be interpreted to require the Company to transfer any amounts to a third party trustee or otherwise hold any amounts in trust or escrow for payment to any Grantee or beneficiary under the terms of the Plan.

18.2. Nonexclusivity of the Plan.

Neither the adoption of the Plan nor the submission of the Plan to the stockholders of the Company for approval shall be construed as creating any limitations upon the right and authority of the Board to adopt such other incentive compensation arrangements (which arrangements may be applicable either generally to a class or classes of individuals or specifically to a particular individual or particular individuals) as the Board in its discretion determines desirable, including, without limitation, the granting of stock options otherwise than under the Plan.

18.3. Withholding Taxes.

The Company or an Affiliate, as the case may be, shall have the right to deduct from payments of any kind otherwise due to a Grantee any federal, state, or local taxes of any kind required by law to be withheld with respect to the vesting

of or other lapse of restrictions applicable to an Award or upon the issuance of any shares of Stock upon the exercise of an Option or pursuant to an Award. At the time of such vesting, lapse, or exercise, the Grantee shall pay to the Company or the Affiliate, as the case may be, any amount that the Company or the Affiliate may reasonably determine to be necessary to satisfy such withholding obligation. Subject to the prior approval of the Company or the Affiliate, which may be withheld by the Company or the Affiliate, as the case may be, in its sole discretion, the Grantee may elect to satisfy such obligations, in whole

A-17

Table of Contents

or in part, (i) by causing the Company or the Affiliate to withhold shares of Stock otherwise issuable to the Grantee or (ii) by delivering to the Company or the Affiliate shares of Stock already owned by the Grantee. The shares of Stock so delivered or withheld shall have an aggregate Fair Market Value equal to such withholding obligations. In no case shall the shares withheld or delivered exceed the minimum required federal, state, and FICA statutory withholding rates. The Fair Market Value of the shares of Stock used to satisfy such withholding obligation shall be determined by the Company or the Affiliate as of the date that the amount of tax to be withheld is to be determined. A Grantee who has made an election pursuant to this **Section 18.3** may satisfy his or her withholding obligation only with shares of Stock that are not subject to any repurchase, forfeiture, unfulfilled vesting, or other similar requirements.

18.4. Captions.

The use of captions in this Plan or any Award Agreement is for the convenience of reference only and shall not affect the meaning of any provision of the Plan or such Award Agreement.

18.5. Other Provisions.

Each Award granted under the Plan may contain such other terms and conditions not inconsistent with the Plan as may be determined by the Board, in its sole discretion.

18.6. Number and Gender.

With respect to words used in this Plan, the singular form shall include the plural form, the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender, etc., as the context requires.

18.7. Severability.

If any provision of the Plan or any Award Agreement shall be determined to be illegal or unenforceable by any court of law in any jurisdiction, the remaining provisions hereof and thereof shall be severable and enforceable in accordance with their terms, and all provisions shall remain enforceable in any other jurisdiction.

18.8. Governing Law.

The validity and construction of this Plan and the instruments evidencing the Award hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware, other than any conflicts or choice of law rule or principle that might otherwise refer construction or interpretation of this Plan and the instruments evidencing the Awards granted hereunder to the substantive laws of any other jurisdiction.

Section 18.9. Section 409A

The Board intends to comply with Code Section 409A, or an exemption to Code Section 409A, with regard to Grants hereunder that constitute nonqualified deferred compensation within the meaning of Code Section 409A. To the extent that the Board determines that a Grantee would be subject to the additional 20% tax imposed on certain nonqualified deferred compensation plans pursuant to Code Section 409A as a result of any provision of any Grant granted under this Plan, such provision shall be deemed amended to the minimum extent necessary to avoid application of such additional tax. The nature of any such amendment shall be determined by the Board.

Table of Contents

VOTE BY INTERNET www.proxyvote.com Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web ROYAL GOLD, INC. site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an 1660 WYNKOOP ST, #1000 electronic voting instruction form. DENVER, CO 80202-1132 ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE STOCKHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by Royal Gold, Inc. in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via e-mail or the Internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access stockholder communications electronically in future years. VOTE BY PHONE - 1-800-690-6903 Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you call and then follow the instructions. VOTE BY MAIL Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Royal Gold, Inc., c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717. TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS: ROYLG1 KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED. ROYAL GOLD, INC. For Withhold For All To withhold authority to vote for any individual All All Except nominee(s), mark For All Except and write the The Board of Directors recommends a vote number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below. FOR Proposals 1, 2 and 3. Vote on Directors 0 0 0 1. PROPOSAL to elect as Class III Directors to serve until the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until each such Director s successor is elected and qualified, each of the following nominees: Nominees: 01) M. Craig Haase 02) S. Oden Howell, Jr. 03) Donald Worth For Against Abstain Vote on Proposals 2. PROPOSAL to approve amendments to the Company s 2004 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan to increase the number of 0 0 0 shares of common stock reserved for issuance thereunder from 900,000 to 1,300,000 shares and to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. 3. PROPOSAL to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as independent registered public accountants of the Company for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. 0 0 0 4. To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting and any postponements or adjournments thereof. In their discretion, the Proxies are also authorized to vote all of the shares of the undersigned upon such other business as may properly come before the Meeting. Management and Directors are not currently aware of any other matters to be presented at the Meeting. The undersigned acknowledges receipt of this Proxy and a copy of the Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement, dated September 23, 2008. Please sign, date and return this Proxy promptly. Please sign exactly as name appears on this Proxy. When shares are held by joint tenants, both should sign. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, trustee or guardian, please give full title as such. If a corporation, please sign in full corporate name by president or other authorized officer. If a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person. Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] Date Signature (Joint Owners) Date

Table of Contents

Important Notice Regarding Internet Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting: The Notice and Proxy Statement and Annual Report are available at www.proxyvote.com. PROXY PROXY ROYAL GOLD, INC. THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS The undersigned hereby appoints Stanley Dempsey and Tony Jensen, or either of them, as attorneys, agents and proxies each with full power of substitution to vote, as designated below, all the shares of Common Stock of Royal Gold, Inc. held of record by the undersigned on September 16, 2008, at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Royal Gold, Inc. (the Meeting) which will be held on November 5, 2008, at the Oxford Hotel, Sage Room, 1600 Seventeenth Street, Denver, Colorado, at 9:30 A.M., Mountain Standard Time, or at any postponement or adjournment thereof. THIS PROXY, WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED, WILL BE VOTED IN THE MANNER DIRECTED HEREIN BY THE UNDERSIGNED STOCKHOLDER. IF NO DIRECTION IS MADE, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED FOR PROPOSALS 1, 2 AND 3.