Exhibit 4.1

ARRHYTHMIA RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY, INC.

2010 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

1. Purpose and Objectives

The Arrhythmia Research Technology, Inc. 2010 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") is designed to align the interests of (i) designated employees of Arrhythmia Research Technology, Inc. (the "Company") and its subsidiaries, (ii) non-employee members of the board of directors of the Company, and (iii) consultants and key advisors of the Company and its subsidiaries with the interests of the Company's stockholders and to provide an opportunity for such persons to acquire and maintain a proprietary interest in the Company through stock ownership. By extending the opportunity to receive grants of stock options, stock units, stock awards, stock appreciation rights and other stock-based awards, the Company believes that the Plan will encourage the participants to contribute materially to the growth of the Company, thereby benefitting the Company's shareholders, and will align the economic interests of the participants with those of the shareholders. The Plan may furthermore be expected to benefit the Company and its stockholders by making it possible for the Company to attract and retain the best available talent. The Plan shall become effective if and at the time it is approved by the shareholders of the Company.

2. Definitions

Whenever used in this Plan, the following terms will have the respective meanings set forth below:

a. "Board" means the Company's Board of Directors.

b. "Cause," unless otherwise defined in the instrument evidencing an award or in a written employment, services or other agreement between the Participant and the Company, means dishonesty, fraud, serious or willful misconduct, violation of Company policies and procedures including the Code of Ethics, unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential information or trade secrets, or conduct prohibited by law (except minor violations), in each case as determined by the Compensation Committee, whose determination shall be conclusive and binding.

c. "Change of Control" shall be deemed to have occurred if:

i. A merger, consolidation, liquidation or reorganization of the Company into or with another company or other legal person, after which merger, consolidation, liquidation or reorganization of the capital stock of the Company outstanding prior to consummation of the transaction is not converted into or exchanged for or does not represent more than 50% of the aggregate voting power of the surviving or resulting entity;

ii. The direct or indirect acquisition by any person (as the term "person" is used in Section 13(d)(3) or 14(d)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) of more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting capital stock of the Company, in a single or series of related transactions; or

iii. The sale, exchange, or transfer of all or substantially all of the Company's assets (other than a sale, exchange or transfer to one or more entities where the stockholders of the Company immediately before such sale, exchange or transfer retain, directly or indirectly, at least a majority of the beneficial interest in the voting stock of the entity or entities to which the assets were transferred).

d. "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

e. "Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Board or another committee appointed by the Board to administer the Plan. Grants that are intended to be "qualified performance-based compensation" under section 162(m) of the Code shall be made by a committee that consists of two or more persons appointed by the Board, all of whom shall be "outside directors" as defined under section 162(m) of the Code and related Treasury regulations.

f. "Company" means Arrhythmia Research Technology, Inc., any present or future subsidiary, and any successor corporation.

g. "Company Stock" means the common stock, \$0.01 par value, of the Company.

h. "Consultant" means a consultant or advisor who performs services for the Employer and who renders bona fide services to the Employer, if the services are not in connection with the offer and sale of securities in a capital-raising transaction and the Consultant does not directly or indirectly promote or maintain a market for the Employer's securities.

i. "Disability" means a Participant's becoming disabled within the meaning of section 22(e)(3) of the Code, within the meaning of the Employer's long-term disability plan applicable to the Participant, or as otherwise determined by the Committee.

j. "Effective Date" of the Plan means April 30, 2010.

k. "Employee" means an employee of the Employer (including an officer or director who is also an employee).

1. "Employer" means the Company and its subsidiaries.

m. "Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

n. "Exercise Price" means the per share price at which shares of Company Stock may be purchased under an Option, as designated by the Committee.

o. "Fair Market Value" means, with respect to a share of Common Stock, the fair market value thereof as of the relevant date of determination, as determined in accordance with the valuation methodology approved by the Committee. In the absence of any alternative valuation methodology approved by the Committee, the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock shall equal the closing price for the Common Stock on any given date during regular trading, or if not trading on that date, such price on the last preceding date on which the Common Stock was traded.

p. "Grant" means an Option, Stock Unit, Stock Award, SAR or Other Stock-Based Award granted under the Plan.

q. "Grant Agreement" means the written instrument that sets forth the terms and conditions of a Grant, including all amendments thereto.

r. "Incentive Stock Option" means an Option that is intended to meet the requirements of an incentive stock option under section 422 of the Code.

s. "Non-Employee Director" means a member of the Board who is not an employee of the Employer.

t. "Nonqualified Stock Option" means an Option that is not intended to be taxed as an incentive stock option under section 422 of the Code.

u. "Option" means an option to purchase shares of Company Stock, as described in Section 7.

v. "Other Stock-Based Award" means any Grant based on, measured by or payable in Company Stock (other than a Grant described in Sections 7, 8 or 9 of the Plan), as described in Section 10.

w. "Participant" means an Employee, Consultant or Non-Employee Director designated by the Committee to participate in the Plan.

x. "Plan" means this Arrhythmia Research Technology, Inc. 2010 Equity Incentive Plan, as in effect from time to time.

y. "SAR" means a stock appreciation right as described in Section 10.

z. "Stock Award" means an award of Company Stock as described in Section 9.

aa. "Stock Unit" means an award of a phantom unit representing a share of Company Stock, as described in Section 8.

3. Administration

a. <u>Committee</u>. The Plan shall be administered and interpreted by the Committee. The Committee may delegate to officers or managers of the Company or any subsidiary of the Company the authority, subject to such terms as the Committee shall determine, to perform functions designated by the Committee, to the extent that such delegation is permitted under the Delaware General Corporation Law and other applicable laws. Other provisions of the Plan notwithstanding, the Board may perform any function of the Committee under the Plan, in order to ensure that transactions under the Plan are exempt under Rule 16b-3 or for any other reason; *provided, however*, that authority specifically reserved to the Board under the terms of the Plan, the Company's Certificate of Incorporation or By-Laws, or applicable law shall be exercised by the Board and not by the Committee.

b. <u>Committee Authority</u>. Except as otherwise provided herein or as required by law, the Committee shall have the authority to make recommendations to the Board as to (i) the Participants to whom Grants shall be made under the Plan, (ii) the type, size and terms and conditions of the Grants to be made to each such Participant, (iii) the time when the grants will be made and the duration of any applicable exercise or restriction period, including the criteria for exercisability and the acceleration of exercisability, and (iv)

amendment of the terms and conditions of any previously issued Grant, subject to the provisions of Section 17 below, and to deal with any other matters arising under the Plan.

c. <u>Committee Determinations</u>. The Committee shall have full power and express discretionary authority to administer and interpret the Plan, to make factual determinations and to adopt or amend such rules, regulations, agreements and instruments for implementing the Plan and for the conduct of its business as it deems necessary or advisable. The interpretations of the Plan and all determinations made by the Committee and/or the Board pursuant to the powers vested in it hereunder shall be conclusive and binding on all persons having any interest in the Plan or in any awards granted hereunder. All powers of the Committee and/or the Board shall be executed in its sole discretion, in the best interest of the Company, not as a fiduciary, and in keeping with the objectives of the Plan and need not be uniform as to similarly situated Participants.

d. <u>Limitation of Liability</u>. Each member of the Committee or the Board shall be entitled to, in good faith, rely or act upon any report or other information furnished to him by any officer or other employee of the Company or any subsidiary, the Company's independent certified public accountants, or any executive compensation consultant, legal counsel, or other professional retained by the Company to assist in the administration of the Plan. No member of the Committee or the Board, nor any officer or employee of the Company acting on behalf of the Committee or the Board, shall be personally liable for any action, determination, or interpretation taken or made in good faith with respect to the Plan, and all members of the Committee or the Board and any officer or employee of the Company acting on behalf of the Committee or the Board or members thereof shall, to the extent permitted by law, be fully indemnified and protected by the Company with respect to any such action, determination, or interpretation.

4. Grants

a. Grants under the Plan may consist of Options as described in Section 7, Stock Units as described in Section 8, Stock Awards as described in Section 9, and SARs or Other Stock-Based Awards as described in Section 10. All Grants shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee deems appropriate and as are specified in writing by the Committee to the Participant in the Grant Agreement.

b. All Grants shall be made conditional upon the Participant's acknowledgement, in writing or by acceptance of the Grant, that all decisions and determinations of the Committee shall be final and binding on the Participant, his or her beneficiaries and any other person having or claiming an interest under such Grant. Grants under a particular Section of the Plan need not be uniform as among the Participants.

5. Shares Subject to the Plan

a. <u>Shares Authorized</u>. The aggregate number of shares of Company Stock that may be issued under the Plan shall be, subject to adjustment as described in subsection (d) below:

i. 400,000 shares plus

ii. 100,000 shares reserved for issuance pursuant to the 2005 Stock Award Plan, which shares shall cease, as of the Effective Date, to be available for grant and issuance under the 2005 Stock Award Plan but shall be available for issuance under the Plan.

b. <u>Source of Shares; Share Counting</u>. Shares issued under the Plan may be authorized but unissued shares of Company Stock or reacquired shares of Company Stock, including shares purchased by the Company on the open market. If and to the extent Options and SARs granted under the Plan terminate, expire, or are canceled, forfeited, exchanged or surrendered without having been exercised, and if and to the extent that any Stock Awards, Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards are forfeited or terminated, or otherwise are not paid in full, the shares reserved for such Grants shall again be available for purposes of the Plan.

c. <u>Individual Limits</u>. In no event shall the aggregate fair market value (determined at the time the option is granted) of Common Stock for which ISOs granted to any employee are exercisable for the first time by such employee during any calendar year (under all stock plans of the Company) exceed \$100,000.

d. <u>Adjustments</u>. If there is any change in the number or kind of shares of Company Stock outstanding (i) by reason of a stock dividend, spinoff, recapitalization, stock split, or combination or exchange of shares, (ii) by reason of a merger, reorganization or consolidation, (iii) by reason of a reclassification or change in par value, or (iv) by reason of any other extraordinary or unusual event affecting the outstanding Company Stock as a class without the Company's receipt of consideration, or if the value of outstanding shares of Company Stock is substantially reduced as a result of a spinoff or the Company's payment of an extraordinary dividend or distribution, the maximum number of shares of Company Stock available for issuance under the Plan, the maximum number of shares of Company Stock for which any individual may receive Grants in any year, the number of shares covered by outstanding Grants, the kind of shares issued and to be issued under the Plan, and the price per share or the applicable market value of such Grants may be appropriately adjusted by the Board to reflect any increase or decrease in the number of, or change in the kind or value of, issued shares of Company Stock to preclude, to the extent practicable, the enlargement or dilution of rights and benefits under such Grants; provided, however, that any fractional shares resulting from such adjustment shall be eliminated. Any adjustments determined by the Board shall be final, binding and conclusive.



6. Eligibility for Participation

a. <u>Eligible Persons</u>. All Employees, Consultants and Non-Employee Directors shall be eligible to participate in the Plan.

b. <u>Selection of Participants</u>. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall select the Employees, Consultants and Non-Employee Directors to receive Grants, and shall determine the type of Grant and the number of shares of Company Stock subject to each Grant.

7. Options

a. <u>General Requirements</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may grant Options to an Employee, Consultant or Non-Employee Director upon such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate under this Section 7. The Committee shall recommend to the Board for its determination the number of shares of Company Stock that will be subject to each Grant of Options to Employees, Consultants and Non-Employee Directors.

b. <u>Type of Option, Price and Term</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may grant Incentive Stock Options or Nonqualified Stock Options or any combination of the two, all in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein. Incentive Stock Options may be granted only to Employees of the Company or its parents or subsidiaries, as defined in section 424 of the Code. Nonqualified Stock Options may be granted to Employees, Consultants or Non-Employee Directors.

i. The Exercise Price of Company Stock subject to an Option shall be determined by the Board; provided, however, that the Exercise Price for an Incentive Stock Option will be equal to, or greater than, the Fair Market Value of a share of Company Stock on the date the Option is granted and further provided that an Incentive Stock Option may not be granted to an Employee who, at the time of grant, owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any parent or subsidiary, as defined in section 424 of the Code, unless the Exercise Price per share is not less than 110% of the Fair Market Value of the Company Stock on the date of grant.

ii. The Committee shall recommend to and the Board shall determine the term of each Option, which shall not exceed ten years from the date of grant. However, an Incentive Stock Option that is granted to an Employee who, at the time of grant, owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any parent or subsidiary, as defined in section 424 of the Code, may not have a term that exceeds five years from the date of grant.

iii. Exercisability of Options.

iv. Options shall become exercisable in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board and specified in the Grant Agreement. The Board upon the recommendation of the Committee may accelerate the exercisability of any or all outstanding Options at any time for any reason.

v. Options granted to persons who are non-exempt employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, may not be exercisable for at least six months after the date of grant (except that such Options may become exercisable, as determined by the Board upon the recommendation of the Committee, upon the Participant's death, Disability or retirement, or upon a Change of Control or other circumstances permitted by applicable regulations).

c. <u>Termination of Employment or Service</u>. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the instrument evidencing an award or in a written employment, services or other agreement between the Participant and the Company, upon termination of employment or the services of a Participant, an Option may only be exercised as follows:

i. In the event that a Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer for any reason other than Disability, death, or termination for Cause, any Option which is otherwise exercisable by the Participant shall terminate unless exercised within three months after the date on which the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer (or within such other period of time as may be specified by the Board upon the recommendation of the Committee), but in any event no later than the date of expiration of the Option term. Any of the Participant's Options that are not otherwise exercisable as of the date on which the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer shall terminate as of such date.

ii. In the event the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer on account of a termination for Cause by the Employer, any Option held by the Participant shall terminate as of the date the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section 7, if the Board determines that the Participant has engaged in conduct that constitutes Cause at any time while the Participant is employed by, or providing service to, the Employer or after the Participant's termination of employment or service, any Option held by the Participant shall immediately terminate and the Participant shall automatically forfeit all shares underlying any exercised portion of an Option for which the Company has not yet delivered the share certificates, upon refund by the Company of the Exercise Price paid by the Participant for such shares. Upon any exercise of an Option, the Company may withhold delivery of share certificates pending resolution of an inquiry that could lead to a finding resulting in forfeiture.

iii. In the event the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer on account of the Participant's Disability, any Option which is otherwise exercisable by the Participant shall terminate unless exercised within one year after the date on which the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer (or within such other period of time as may be specified by the Board), but in any event no later than the date of expiration of the Option term. Except as otherwise provided by the Board, any of the Participant's Options which are not otherwise exercisable as of the date on which the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer shall terminate as of such date.

iv. If the Participant dies while employed by, or providing service to, the Employer or while an Option remains outstanding under Section 7(d)(i) or 7(d)(iii) above (or within such other period of time as may be specified by the Board), any Option that is otherwise exercisable by the Participant shall terminate unless exercised within one year after the date on which the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer (or within such other period of time as may be specified by the Board), but in any event no later than the date of expiration of the Option term. Except as otherwise provided by the Board, any of the Participant's Options that are not otherwise exercisable as of the date on which the Participant ceases to be employed by, or provide service to, the Employer shall terminate as of such date.

d. <u>Exercise of Options</u>. A Participant may exercise an Option that has become exercisable, in whole or in part, by delivering a notice of exercise to the Company. The Participant shall pay the Exercise Price for the Option (i) in cash, (ii) by delivering shares of Company Stock owned by the Participant and having a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise equal to the Exercise Price or by attestation to ownership of shares of Company Stock having an aggregate Fair Market Value on the date of exercise equal to the Exercise equal to the Exercise Price, (iii) by payment through a broker in accordance with procedures permitted by Regulation T of the Federal Reserve Board, or (iv) by such other method as the Committee may approve. Shares of Company Stock used to exercise an Option shall have been held by the Participant for the requisite period of time to avoid adverse accounting consequences to the Company with respect to the Option. Payment for the shares pursuant to the Option, and any required withholding taxes, must be received by the time specified by the Committee depending on the type of payment being made, but in all cases prior to the issuance of the Company Stock.

e. <u>Limits on Incentive Stock Options</u>. Each Incentive Stock Option shall provide that, if the aggregate Fair Market Value of the stock on the date of the grant with respect to which Incentive Stock Options are exercisable for the first time by a Participant during any calendar year, under the Plan or any other stock option plan of the Company or a parent or subsidiary, as defined in section 424 of the Code, exceeds \$100,000, then the Option, as to the excess, shall be treated as a Nonqualified Stock Option. An Incentive Stock Option shall not be granted to any person who is not an Employee of the Company or a parent or subsidiary, as defined in section 424 of the Code.

8. Stock Units

a. <u>General Requirements</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may grant Stock Units to an Employee, Consultant or Non-Employee Director, upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate under this Section 8. Each Stock Unit shall represent the right of the Participant to receive a share of Company Stock or an amount based on the value of a share of Company Stock. All Stock Units shall be credited to bookkeeping accounts on the Company's records for purposes of the Plan.

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b. <u>Terms of Stock Units</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may grant Stock Units that are payable on terms and conditions determined by it, which may include payment based on achievement of performance goals. Stock Units may be paid at the end of a specified vesting or performance period, or payment may be deferred to a date authorized by the Committee. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall determine the number of Stock Units to be granted and the requirements applicable to such Stock Units.

c. <u>Payment With Respect to Stock Units</u>. Payment with respect to Stock Units shall be made in cash, in Company Stock, or in a combination of the two, as determined by the Committee. The Grant Agreement shall specify the maximum number of shares that can be issued under the Stock Units.

d. <u>Requirement of Employment or Service</u>. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall determine in the Grant Agreement under what circumstances a Participant may retain Stock Units after termination of the Participant's employment or service, and the circumstances under which Stock Units may be forfeited.

9. Stock Awards

a. <u>General Requirements</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may issue shares of Company Stock to an Employee, Consultant or Non-Employee Director under a Stock Award, upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate under this Section 9. Shares of Company Stock issued pursuant to Stock Awards may be issued for cash consideration or for no cash consideration, and subject to restrictions or no restrictions, as determined by the Board. The Committee may recommend and the Board may establish conditions under which restrictions on Stock Awards shall lapse over a period of time or according to such other criteria as the Committee deems appropriate, including restrictions based upon the achievement of specific performance goals. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall determine the number of shares of Company Stock to be issued pursuant to a Stock Award.

b. <u>Requirement of Employment or Service</u>. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall determine in the Grant Agreement under what circumstances a Participant may retain Stock Awards after termination of the Participant's employment or service, and the circumstances under which Stock Awards may be forfeited.

c. <u>Restrictions on Transfer</u>. While Stock Awards are subject to restrictions, a Participant may not sell, assign, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of the shares subject thereof except upon death as described in Section 14(a). Each certificate for a share subject of a Stock Award shall contain a legend giving appropriate notice of the restrictions in the Grant. The Participant shall be entitled to have the legend removed when all restrictions on such shares have lapsed. The Company may retain possession of any certificates for Stock Awards until all restrictions on such shares have lapsed.

d. <u>Right to Vote and to Receive Dividends</u>. The Committee shall recommend and the Board shall determine to what extent, and under what conditions, the Participant shall have the right to vote shares subject of Stock Awards and to receive any dividends or other distributions paid on such shares during the restriction period.

10. Stock Appreciation Rights and Other Stock-Based Awards

a. The Committee may recommend and the Board may grant SARs to an Employee, Non-Employee Director or Consultant separately or in tandem with an Option. The following provisions are applicable to SARs:

i. <u>Base Amount</u>. The base amount of the SAR shall be established at the time the SAR is granted. The base amount of each SAR shall be equal to the per share Exercise Price of the related Option or, if there is no related Option, an amount that is at least equal to the Fair Market Value of a share of Company Stock as of the date of Grant of the SAR.

ii. <u>Tandem SARs</u>. Tandem SARs may be granted either at the time the Option is granted or at any time thereafter while the Option remains outstanding; provided, however, that, in the case of an Incentive Stock Option, SARs may be granted only at the date of the grant of the Incentive Stock Option. In the case of tandem SARs, the number of SARs granted to a Participant that shall be exercisable during a specified period shall not exceed the number of shares of Company Stock that the Participant may purchase upon the exercise of the related Option during such period. Upon the exercise of an Option, the SARs relating to the Company Stock covered by such Option shall terminate. Upon the exercise of SARs, the related Option shall terminate to the extent of an equal number of shares of Company Stock.

iii. <u>Exercisability</u>. An SAR shall be exercisable during the period specified in the Grant Agreement and shall be subject to such vesting and other restrictions as may be specified in the Grant Agreement. SARs may be granted that are subject to achievement of performance goals or other conditions. The Board may accelerate the exercisability of any or all outstanding SARs at any time for any reason. SARs may only be exercised while the Participant is employed by, or providing service to, the Employer or during the applicable period after termination of employment or service as described in Section 7 (d). A tandem SAR shall be exercisable only during the period when the Option to which it is related is also exercisable.



iv. <u>Grants to Non-Exempt Employees</u>. SARs granted to persons who are non-exempt employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, may not be exercisable for at least six months after the date of grant (except that such SARs may become exercisable, as determined by the Committee, upon the Participant's death, Disability or retirement, or upon a Change of Control or other circumstances permitted by applicable regulations).

v. <u>Value of SARs</u>. When a Participant exercises SARs, the Participant shall receive in settlement of such SARs an amount equal to the value of the stock appreciation for the number of SARs exercised. The stock appreciation for an SAR is the amount by which the Fair Market Value of the underlying Company Stock on the date of exercise of the SAR exceeds the base amount of the SAR as described in subsection (i).

vi. Form of Payment. The Committee shall determine whether the stock appreciation for an SAR shall be paid in the form of shares of Company Stock, cash or a combination of the two. For purposes of calculating the number of shares of Company Stock to be received, shares of Company Stock shall be valued at their Fair Market Value on the date of exercise of the SAR. If shares of Company Stock are to be received upon exercise of an SAR, cash shall be delivered in lieu of any fractional share.

b. <u>Other Stock-Based Awards</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may grant other awards not specified in Sections 7, 8 or 9 above that are based on or measured by Company Stock to Employees, Consultants and Non-Employee Directors, on such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate. Other Stock-Based Awards may be granted subject to achievement of performance goals or other conditions and may be payable in Company Stock or cash, or in a combination of the two, as determined by the Committee in the Grant Agreement.

11. Qualified Performance-Based Compensation

a. <u>Designation as Qualified Performance-Based Compensation</u>. The Committee may recommend and the Board may determine that Stock Units, Stock Awards, SARs or Other Stock-Based Awards granted to an Employee shall be considered "qualified performance-based compensation" under section 162(m) of the Code, in which case the provisions of this Section 11 shall apply to such Grants. The Committee may recommend and the Board may also grant Options under which the exercisability of the Options is subject to achievement of performance goals as described in this Section 11 or otherwise.

b. <u>Performance Goals</u>. When Grants are made under this Section 11, the Grant shall set forth in writing (i) the objective performance goals that must be met, (ii) the period during which performance will be measured, (iii) the maximum amounts that may be paid if the performance goals are met, and (iv) any other conditions that the Committee deems appropriate and consistent with the requirements of section 162(m) of the Code for "qualified performance-based compensation." The performance goals shall satisfy the requirements for "qualified performance-based compensation," including the requirement that the achievement of the goals be substantially uncertain at the time they are established and that the performance goals be established in such a way that a third party with knowledge of the relevant facts could determine whether and to what extent the performance goals have been met. The Board shall not have discretion to increase the amount of compensation that is payable, but may reduce the amount of compensation that is payable, pursuant to Grants identified by the Board as "qualified performance-based compensation."

c. <u>Criteria Used for Objective Performance Goals</u>. Objectively determinable performance goals shall be based on one or more of the following criteria: stock price, earnings per share, price-earnings multiples, gross profit, net earnings, operating earnings, revenue, revenue growth, number of days sales outstanding in accounts receivable, number of days of cost of sales in inventory, productivity, margin, EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization), net capital employed, return on assets, shareholder return, return on equity, return on capital employed, growth in assets, unit volume, sales, cash flow, market share, performance relative to a designated comparison group, debt reduction, market capitalization or strategic business criteria consisting of one or more objectives based on meeting specified R&D programs, new product releases, revenue goals, market penetration goals, customer growth, geographic business expansion goals, cost targets, quality improvements, cycle time reductions, manufacturing improvements and/or efficiencies, human resource programs, customer programs, or goals relating to acquisitions or divestitures. The performance goals may relate to one or more business units or the performance of the Company as a whole, or any combination of the foregoing. Performance goals need not be uniform among Participants. Performance goals may be set on a pre tax or after tax basis, may be defined by absolute or relative measures, and may be valued on a growth or fixed basis.

d. <u>Timing of Establishment of Goals</u>. Performance goals shall be established in writing either before the beginning of the performance period or during a period ending no later than the earlier of (i) 90 days after the beginning of the performance period or (ii) the date on which 25% of the performance period has been completed, or such other date as may be required or permitted under applicable regulations under section 162(m) of the Code.

e. <u>Certification of Results</u>. The Board shall certify the performance results for the performance period specified in the Grant Agreement after the performance period ends. The Board shall determine the amount, if any, to be paid pursuant to each Grant based on the achievement of the performance goals and the satisfaction of all other terms of the Grant Agreement.

f. <u>Death, Disability or Other Circumstances</u>. The Grant Agreement may provide that Grants under this Section 11 shall be payable, in whole or in part, in the event of the Participant's death or Disability, a Change of Control or under other circumstances consistent with the Treasury regulations and rulings under section 162(m) of the Code.

12. Deferrals

The Company may permit or require a Participant to defer receipt of the payment of cash or the delivery of shares that would otherwise be due to the Participant in connection with any Grant. The Company shall establish rules and procedures for any such deferrals, consistent with applicable requirements of section 409A of the Code.

13. Withholding of Taxes

a. <u>Required Withholding</u>. All Grants under the Plan shall be subject to applicable federal (including FICA), state and local tax withholding requirements. The Company may require that the Participant or other person receiving or exercising Grants pay to the Company the amount of any federal, state or local taxes that the Company is required to withhold with respect to such Grants, or the Company may deduct from other wages paid by the Company the amount of any withholding taxes due with respect to such Grants.

b. <u>Election to Withhold Shares</u>. If the Committee so permits, a Participant may elect to satisfy the Company's tax withholding obligation with respect to Grants paid in Company Stock by having shares withheld, at the time such Grants become taxable, up to an amount that does not exceed the minimum applicable withholding tax rate for federal (including FICA), state and local tax liabilities. The election must be in a form and manner prescribed by the Committee.

14. Transferability of Grants

a. <u>Restrictions on Transfer</u>. Except as described in subsection (b) below, only the Participant may exercise rights under a Grant during the Participant's lifetime, and a Participant may not transfer those rights except by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. When a Participant dies, the personal representative or other person entitled to succeed to the rights of the Participant may exercise such rights. Any such successor must furnish proof satisfactory to the Company of his or her right to receive the Grant under the Participant's will or under the applicable laws of descent and distribution.

b. <u>Transfer of Nonqualified Stock Options to or for Family Members</u>. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company may provide, in a Grant Agreement, that a Participant may transfer Nonqualified Stock Options to family members, or one or more trusts or other entities for the benefit of or owned by family members, consistent with the applicable securities laws, according to such terms as the Company may determine; provided that the Participant receives no consideration for the transfer of an Option and the transferred Option shall continue to be subject to the same terms and conditions as were applicable to the Option immediately before the transfer.

15. Consequences of a Change of Control

In the event of a Change of Control, the Company may take any one or more of the following actions with respect to any or all outstanding Grants, without the consent of any Participant: (i) determine that outstanding Options and SARs shall be fully exercisable, and restrictions on outstanding Stock Awards and Stock Units shall lapse, as of the date of the Change of Control or at such other time or subject to specific conditions as the Committee recommends, (ii) require that Participants surrender their outstanding Options and SARs in exchange for one or more payments by the Company, in cash or Company Stock as recommended by the Committee, in an amount equal to the amount by which the then air Market Value of the shares of Company Stock subject to the Participant's unexercised Options and SARs exceeds the Exercise Price, if any, and on such terms as the Committee determines, (iii) after giving Participants an opportunity to exercise their outstanding Options and SARs, terminate any or all unexercised Options and SARs at such time as the Committee recommends, (iv) with respect to Participants holding Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards, in such amount and form and on such terms as may be determined by the Committee, or (v) determine that Grants that remain outstanding after the Change of Control shall be converted to similar grants of the surviving corporation (or a parent or subsidiary of the surviving corporation). Such acceleration, surrender, termination, settlement or assumption shall take place as of the date of the

Change of Control or such other date as the Company may specify.

16. Requirements for Issuance of Shares

No Company Stock shall be issued in connection with any Grant hereunder unless and until all legal requirements applicable to the issuance of such Company Stock have been complied with to the satisfaction of the Company. The Company shall have the right to condition any Grant made to any Participant hereunder on such Participant's undertaking in writing to comply with such restrictions on his or her subsequent disposition of such shares of Company Stock as the Company shall deem necessary or advisable, and certificates representing such shares may be legended to reflect any such restrictions. Certificates representing shares of Company Stock issued under the Plan will be subject to such stop-transfer orders and other restrictions as may be required by applicable laws, regulations and interpretations, including any requirement that a legend be placed thereon. No Participant shall have any right as a shareholder with respect to Company Stock covered by a Grant until shares have been issued to the Participant.

17. Amendment and Termination of the Plan

a. <u>Amendment</u>. The Board may amend or terminate the Plan at any time; provided, however, that the Board shall not amend the Plan without approval of the shareholders of the Company if such approval is required in order to comply with the Code or applicable laws, or to comply with applicable stock exchange requirements. No amendment or termination of this Plan shall, without the consent of the Participant, materially impair any rights or obligations under any Grant previously made to the Participant under the Plan, unless such right has been reserved in the Plan or the Grant Agreement, or except as provided in Section 18(b) below. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, the Board may amend the Plan in such manner as it deems appropriate in the event of a change in applicable law or regulations.

b. <u>Stockholder Approval for "Qualified Performance-Based Compensation</u>." If Grants are made under Section 11 above, the Plan must be reapproved by the Company's shareholders no later than the first stockholders meeting that occurs in the fifth year following the year in which the stockholders previously approved the provisions of Section 11, if additional Grants are to be made under Section 11 and if required by section 162(m) of the Code or the regulations thereunder.

c. <u>Termination of Plan</u>. The Plan shall terminate on the day immediately preceding the tenth anniversary of its Effective Date, unless the Plan is terminated earlier by the Board or is extended by the Board with the approval of the shareholders. The termination of the Plan shall not impair the power and authority of the Board or the Committee with respect to an outstanding Grant.

18. Miscellaneous

a. <u>Grants in Connection with Corporate Transactions and Otherwise</u>. Nothing contained in this Plan shall be construed to (i) limit the right of the Board to make Grants under this Plan in connection with the acquisition, by purchase, lease, merger, consolidation or otherwise, of the business or assets of any corporation, firm or association, including Grants to employees thereof who become Employees, or for other proper corporate purposes, or (ii) limit the right of the Company to grant stock options or make other stock-based awards outside of this Plan. Without limiting the foregoing, the Grant may be made to an employee of another corporation who becomes an Employee by reason of a corporate merger, consolidation, acquisition of stock or property, reorganization or liquidation involving the Company in substitution for a grant made by such corporation. The terms and conditions of the Grants may vary from the terms and conditions required by the Plan and from those of the substituted stock incentives, as recommended by the Committee and determined by the Board.

b. <u>Compliance with Law</u>. The Plan, the exercise of Options and the obligations of the Company to issue or transfer shares of Company Stock under Grants shall be subject to all applicable laws and to approvals by any governmental or regulatory agency as may be required. With respect to persons subject to section 16 of the Exchange Act, it is the intent of the Company that the Plan and all transactions under the Plan comply with all applicable provisions of Rule 16b-3 or its successors under the Exchange Act. In addition, it is the intent of the Company that Incentive Stock Options comply with the applicable provisions of section 162(m) of the Code, that Grants of "qualified performance-based compensation" comply with the applicable provisions of section 162(m) of the Code and that, to the extent applicable, Grants comply with the requirements of section 409A of the Code. To the extent that any legal required under section 16 of the Exchange Act or section 422, 162(m) or 409A of the Code, that Plan provision shall cease to apply. The Board may revoke any Grant if it is contrary to law or modify a Grant to bring it into compliance with any valid and mandatory government regulation. The Committee may also adopt rules regarding the withholding of taxes on payments to Participants. The Committee may, in its sole discretion, agree to limit its authority under this Section.

c. Enforceability. The Plan shall be binding upon and enforceable against the Company and its successors and assigns.

d. <u>Funding of the Plan; Limitation on Rights</u>. This Plan shall be unfunded. The Company shall not be required to establish any special or separate fund or to make any other segregation of assets to assure the payment of any Grants under this Plan. Nothing contained in the Plan and no action taken pursuant hereto shall create or be construed to create a fiduciary relationship between the Company and any Participant or any other person. No Participant or any other person shall under any circumstances acquire any property interest in any specific assets of the Company. To the extent that any person acquires a right to receive payment from the Company hereunder, such right shall be no greater than the right of any unsecured general creditor of the Company.

e. <u>Rights of Participants</u>. Nothing in this Plan shall entitle any Employee, Non-Employee Director or other person to any claim or right to receive a Grant under this Plan. Neither this Plan nor any action taken hereunder shall be construed as giving any individual any rights to be retained by or in the employment or service of the Employer nor shall it interfere in any way with the right of the Company or any subsidiary to terminate such person's employment or service at any time. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Grant Agreement, an approved leave of absence shall not be considered a termination of employment or service for purposes of a Grant under the Plan

f. <u>No Fractional Shares</u>. No fractional shares of Company Stock shall be issued or delivered pursuant to the Plan or any Grant. The Company shall determine whether cash, other awards or other property shall be issued or paid in lieu of such fractional shares or whether such fractional shares or any rights thereto shall be forfeited or otherwise eliminated.

g. <u>Employees Subject to Taxation Outside the United States</u>. With respect to Participants who are subject to taxation in countries other than the United States, the Board may make Grants on such terms and conditions as the Committee recommends to comply with the laws of the applicable countries, and the Committee may adopt such procedures, or recommend the Board adopt such addenda and subplans and make such modifications as may be necessary or advisable to comply with such laws.

h. <u>Governing Law</u>. The validity, construction, interpretation and effect of the Plan and Grant Agreements issued under the Plan shall be governed and construed by and determined in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware, without giving effect to the conflict of laws provisions thereof.

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