#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM 8-K CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) January 27, 2006 OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) Delaware 0-8675 30-20-3000 (State or other jurisdiction of (Commission File (IRS Employer Identification No.) 410 North Michigan Avenue Suite 400 Chicago, Illinois 60611-4213 ----------(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code (312) 321-1515 (Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- $|\_|$  Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- $|\_|$  Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

ITEM 1.01 ENTRY INTO A MATERIAL DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT.

NEW CREDIT AGREEMENT. On January 27, 2006, Oil-Dri Corporation of America ("Oil-Dri" or the "Company") and certain of its subsidiaries as guarantors entered into an unsecured revolving credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement") with Harris N.A. (the "Bank"), pursuant to which the Company may borrow from the Bank up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from time to time. The Credit Agreement provides that the Company may select either a variable rate based on Harris' prime rate from time to time plus a margin which varies depending on the Company's debt to earnings ratio, a LIBOR-based rate plus a margin which varies

depending on the Company's debt to earnings ratio, or a fixed rate as agreed between the Company and the Bank. The Company's payment obligations under the Credit Agreement are guaranteed fully and unconditionally by Oil-Dri Corporation of Georgia, Oil-Dri Production Company, Oil-Dri Corporation of Nevada, Mounds Production Company, LLC, Mounds Management, Inc., Blue Mountain Production Company, and Taft Production Company, each of which is a subsidiary of the Company. The Credit Agreement replaces the prior credit agreement between the Company, certain of its subsidiaries as guarantors, and a predecessor of the Bank, which had been entered into as of January 29, 1999. Unless terminated earlier in accordance with its terms, the Credit Agreement will expire January 27, 2009.

The Credit Agreement contains certain covenants that restrict the Company's ability and the ability of certain of the Company's subsidiaries to, among other things, (i) incur liens, (ii) incur indebtedness, (iii) merge or consolidate, (iv) sell assets, (v) sell stock of those certain subsidiaries, (vi) engage in business that would change the general nature of the business engaged in by the Company, (vii) enter into transactions other than on "arm's length" terms with affiliates, and (viii) limits annual capital expenditures. In addition, the Credit Agreement requires the Company to maintain a minimum fixed coverage ratio and minimum consolidated net worth. These limitations are subject to a number of important qualifications and exceptions.

Upon the occurrence of certain Events of Default (as defined in the Credit Agreement) relating to the Company's default in the payment of any principal amount or other fees or obligations of the Company when due or payable for more than five business days after the interest becomes due or payable, the Bank may declare at its option, by notice in writing to the Company, all principal and interest outstanding under any loans under the Credit Agreement, together with certain other obligations of the Company to the Bank, immediately due and payable. Upon the occurrence of certain Events of Default relating to orders for relief under bankruptcy or similar law, or the appointment of a custodian regarding a substantial part of assets, in respect of the Company or a significant subsidiary group, all principal and interest outstanding under any loans under the Credit Agreement together with certain other obligations of the Company to the Bank will become immediately due and payable.

This summary description of the Credit Agreement and the guarantees thereof is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full and complete terms thereof contained in the Credit Agreement filed as Exhibit 10.1 hereto.

THIRD AMENDMENT TO NOTE AGREEMENT. Additionally, on January 27, 2006, Oil-Dri Corporation of America ("Oil-Dri" or the "Company") entered into a third amendment ("3rd Amendment") to its existing Note Purchase Agreement dated as of April 15, 1998 regarding its \$25,000,000 6.55% Senior Notes due April 15, 2013 (the "Note Agreement") among the Company and the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association Of America and the Prudential Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company as noteholders thereunder (the "Noteholders"). Pursuant to the 3rd Amendment, the Noteholders agreed to modify the definition of Priority Debt under the Note Agreement to exclude from that definition and related restrictions under the Note Agreement certain guarantees of debt of the Company made by subsidiaries of the Company, where those subsidiaries were also guarantors of the payment obligations of the Company under the Credit Agreement. In connection with the 3rd Amendment, Oil-Dri Corporation of Georgia, Oil-Dri Production Company, Oil-Dri Corporation of Nevada, Mounds Production Company, LLC, Mounds Management, Inc., Blue Mountain Production Company, and Taft Production Company, each of which is a subsidiary of the Company, entered into guaranty agreements to fully and unconditionally guaranty the Company's payment obligations under the Note Agreement.

This summary description of the Note Agreement and the guarantees thereof is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full and complete terms thereof contained in the Note Agreement filed as Exhibit 10.2 hereto.

ITEM 2.03 CREATION OF A DIRECT FINANCIAL OBLIGATION OR AN OBLIGATION UNDER AN OFF-BALANCE SHEET Arrangement of a REGISTRANT.

See the discussion  $% \left( 1,0\right) =0$  under Item 1.01 above,  $% \left( 1,0\right) =0$  which discussion is incorporated by reference herein.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

## (d) Exhibits

Exhibit Number				
10.1	Credit Agreement dated January 27, 2006, among Oil-Dri Corporation of America, Oil-Dri Corporation of Georgia, Oil-Dri Production Company, Oil-Dri Corporation of Nevada, Mounds Production Company, LLC, Mounds Management, Inc, Blue Mountain Production Company, and Taft Production Company, and Harris, N.A. including the form of note attached thereto.			
10.2	Third Amendment dated January 27, 2006 to Note Purchase Agreement dated as of April 15, 1998 regarding its \$25,000,000 6.55% Senior Notes due April 15, 2013, among Oil-Dri Corporation of America, Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association Of America and Prudential Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company, including the form of guaranty attached thereto.			

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

By: /s/ Charles P. Brissman

Charles P. Brissman

Vice President and General Counsel

Date: February 1, 2006

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## Exhibit Index

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibits			
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CREDIT AGREEMENT

BY AND AMONG

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA,

THE GUARANTORS FROM TIME TO TIME PARTIES HERETO,

AND

HARRIS N.A.

DATED AS OF JANUARY 27, 2006

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#### OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA CREDIT AGREEMENT

Harris N.A. Chicago, Illinois

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned, Oil-Dri Corporation of America, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), applies to you (the "Bank") for your commitment, subject to the terms and conditions hereof and on the basis of the representations and warranties hereinafter set forth, to make a revolving credit (the "Revolving Credit") available to the Company, all as more fully hereinafter set forth.

SECTION 1. THE CREDITS.

Section 1.1. Revolving Credit. Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Bank agrees to extend a Revolving Credit to the Company which may be availed of by the Company from time to time during the period from and including the date hereof to but not including the Termination Date, at which time the commitment of the Bank to extend credit under the Revolving Credit shall expire. The Revolving Credit may be utilized by the Company in the form of loans (individually a "Loan" and collectively the "Loans") and Letters of Credit, provided that the aggregate principal amount of Loans and Letters of Credit outstanding at any one time shall not exceed \$15,000,000 (the "Revolving Credit Commitment", as such amount may be reduced pursuant to Section 3.4 hereof). Each Loan shall be in a minimum amount of \$100,000 or such greater amount which is an integral multiple of \$25,000; provided, however, that Loans which bear interest with reference to the Adjusted LIBOR or Offered Rate shall be in such greater amount as is required by Section 2 hereof. The Loans shall be made against and evidenced by a single promissory note of the Company in the form (with appropriate insertions) attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Note") payable to the order of the Bank in the principal amount of \$15,000,000. The Note shall be dated the date of issuance thereof and be expressed to bear interest as set forth in Section 2 hereof. The Note, and all Loans evidenced thereby, shall mature and be due and payable in full on the Termination Date. Without regard to the principal amount of the Note stated on its face, the actual principal amount at any time outstanding and owing by the Company on account of the Note shall be the sum of all Loans made under this Section less all payments of principal actually received by the Bank. During the period from and including the date hereof to but not including the Termination Date, the Company may use the Revolving Credit Commitment by borrowing, repaying and reborrowing Loans in whole or in part, all in accordance with the terms and conditions of this

The Company acknowledges that it is justly and truly indebted to the Bank on the Present Loans in the principal amount of \$0.00 plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon. Upon satisfaction of the conditions precedent to effectiveness set forth in Section 6 hereof, the Present Loans shall automatically, and without further action on the part of either the Bank or the Company, become evidenced by the Note and, to that extent, the Note is issued in renewal of, and evidences the same indebtedness formerly evidenced by, the Prior Note, as well as

evidencing all additional Loans made pursuant hereto. All of the Present Loans shall, for all purposes of this Agreement, be treated as though they constituted Loans under this Agreement in an amount equal to the aggregate unpaid principal balance of the Present Loans made on the date the conditions precedent to effectiveness set forth in Section 6 hereof have been satisfied or duly waived in writing by the Bank. Simultaneously with such satisfaction or waiver of such conditions precedent, any commitment of the Bank under the Prior Credit Agreement shall terminate and all accrued but unpaid interest on the Present Loans and accrued but unpaid letter of credit and commitment fees shall be due and payable.

Section 1.2. Manner and Disbursement of Loans. The Company shall give written or telephonic notice to the Bank (which notice shall be irrevocable once given and, if given by telephone, shall be promptly confirmed in writing) by no later than 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) on the date the Company requests the Bank to make a Loan hereunder; provided, however, that telephonic notice may only be given by a Class A Authorized Representative. Each such notice shall specify (i) the date of the Loan requested (which must be a Business Day) and (ii) and the amount of such Loan. The Company agrees that the Bank may rely upon any written or telephonic notice given by any person the Bank reasonably and in good faith believes is an Authorized Representative without the necessity of independent investigation and, in the event any earlier telephonic notice conflicts with the later written confirmation, such notice shall govern if the Bank has acted in reasonable reliance thereon. Subject to the provisions of Section 6 hereof, the proceeds of each Loan shall be made available to the Company at the principal office of the Bank in Chicago, Illinois, in immediately available funds. Each Loan shall initially constitute part of the Base Rate Portion except to the extent the Company has otherwise timely elected as provided in Section 2 hereof.

#### Section 1.3. Letters of Credit.

- (a) General Terms. Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Revolving Credit Commitment may be availed of by the Company in the form of standby letters of credit issued by the Bank for the account of the Company (individually a "Letter of Credit" and collectively the "Letters of Credit"), provided that the aggregate amount of Letters of Credit (including the Present Letters of Credit) issued and outstanding hereunder shall not at any one time exceed \$5,000,000. For purposes of this Agreement, a Letter of Credit shall be deemed outstanding as of any time in an amount equal to the maximum amount which could be drawn thereunder under any circumstances and over any period of time plus any unreimbursed drawings then outstanding with respect thereto. If and to the extent any Letter of Credit expires or otherwise terminates without having been drawn upon, the availability under the Commitment shall to such extent be reinstated. The parties acknowledge and agree that the Present Letters of Credit shall each constitute a "Letter of Credit" herein for all purposes of this Agreement to the same extent, and with the same force and effect as if such Letter of Credit had been issued at the request of the Company hereunder. The parties further acknowledge and agree that the Blue Mountain L/C is not a Letter of Credit hereunder.
- (b) Term. Each Letter of Credit issued hereunder shall expire not later than the earlier of (i) twelve (12) months from the date of issuance (or be cancelable not later than twelve (12) months from the date of issuance and each renewal) or (ii) the Termination Date.

- (c) General Characteristics. Each Letter of Credit issued hereunder shall be payable in U.S. Dollars, conform to the general requirements of the Bank for the issuance of a standby letter of credit as to form and substance, and be a letter of credit which the Bank may lawfully issue.
- (d) Applications. At the time the Company requests each Letter of Credit to be issued (or prior to the first issuance of a Letter of Credit in the case of a continuing application), the Company shall execute and deliver to the Bank an application for such Letter of Credit in the form then customarily prescribed by the Bank (individually an "Application" and collectively the "Applications"). Subject to the other provisions of this subsection, the obligation of the Company to reimburse the Bank for drawings under a Letter of Credit shall be governed by the Application for such Letter of Credit. In the event a drawing is paid on a Letter of Credit and the Company has not notified the Bank by 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) on the date when such drawing is paid that the Company intends to repay such reimbursement obligation with funds not borrowed under this Agreement, the Company shall be deemed to have irrevocably requested a Loan constituting a Base Rate Portion on such day in the amount of the reimbursement obligation then due, in each case subject to Section 6.1 hereof (other than the requirement that a Loan be in a certain minimum amount), which new Loan shall be applied to pay the reimbursement obligation then due. Anything contained in the Applications to the contrary notwithstanding, (i) in the event the Bank is not reimbursed by the Company (whether out of the proceeds of such a Loan or otherwise) for the amount the Bank pays on any amount drawn under a Letter of Credit issued hereunder by 2:00 p.m. (Chicago time) on the date when such drawing is paid, the obligation of the Company to reimburse the Bank for the amount of such drawing paid shall bear interest (which the Company hereby promises to pay on demand) from and after the date the drawing is paid until payment in full thereof at the fluctuating rate per annum determined by adding 2% to the Base Rate as from time to time in effect (computed on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as the case may be, for the actual number of days elapsed), (ii) the Company shall pay fees in connection with each Letter of Credit as set forth in Section 3 hereof, and (iii) prior to the occurrence of an Event of Default the Bank will not call for the funding of a Letter of Credit by the Company prior to being presented with a drawing thereunder.

Section 1.4. Guaranties from Domestic Subsidiaries . Payment of the Obligations shall at all times be jointly and severally guaranteed by each Domestic Subsidiary pursuant hereto or pursuant to a Guaranty issued by such Domestic Subsidiary; provided, however, that no such guaranty shall be required from any Domestic Subsidiary which is an Inactive Subsidiary. In the event any Domestic Subsidiary is hereafter acquired or formed or any previously Inactive Domestic Subsidiary ceases to be Inactive, the Company shall also cause such Domestic Subsidiary to execute a Guaranty, together with such other instruments, documents, certificates and opinions required by the Bank in connection therewith.

#### SECTION 2. INTEREST ON LOANS AND CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES.

Section 2.1. Interest Rate Options on Loans. (a) Subject to all of the terms and conditions of this Section 2, portions of the principal indebtedness evidenced by the Note (all of the indebtedness evidenced by the Note bearing interest at the same rate for the same period of time being hereinafter referred to as a "Portion") shall bear interest with reference to the Base Rate (the "Base Rate Portion") or, at the option of the Company subject to the terms and

conditions hereof, with reference to an Adjusted LIBOR ("LIBOR Portions") or with reference to an Offered Rate ("Offered Rate Portions"), and Portions may be converted from time to time from one basis to the other. All of the indebtedness evidenced by the Note which is not part of a Fixed Rate Portion shall constitute a single Base Rate Portion. All of the indebtedness evidenced by the Note which bears interest with reference to a particular Adjusted LIBOR for a particular Interest Period shall constitute a single LIBOR Portion. All of the indebtedness evidenced by the Note which bears interest with reference to a particular Offered Rate for a particular Interest Period shall constitute a single Offered Rate Portion. There shall not be more than ten (10) Fixed Rate Portions applicable to the Note outstanding at any one time. Anything contained herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the obligation of the Bank to create, continue or effect by conversion any Fixed Rate Portion shall be conditioned upon the fact that at the time no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing. The Company hereby promises to pay interest on each Portion at the rates and times specified in this Section 2.

- (b) Base Rate Portion. The Base Rate Portion shall bear interest at the rate per annum determined by adding the Applicable Margin to the Base Rate as in effect from time to time, provided that if the Base Rate Portion or any part thereof is not paid when due (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise), or at the election of the Bank upon notice to the Company during the existence of any other Event of Default, such Portion shall bear interest, whether before or after judgment, until payment in full thereof at the rate per annum determined by adding 2% to the interest rate which would otherwise be applicable thereto from time to time. Interest on the Base Rate Portion shall be payable quarter-annually on the last day of each March, June, September and December, in each year (commencing on the first such date occurring after the date hereof) and at maturity of the Note and interest after maturity (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise) shall be due and payable upon demand. Any change in the interest rate on the Base Rate Portion resulting from a change in the Base Rate shall be effective on the date of the relevant change in the Base Rate.
- (c) LIBOR Portions. Each LIBOR Portion shall bear interest for each Interest Period selected therefor at a rate per annum determined by adding the Applicable Margin to the Adjusted LIBOR for such Interest Period, provided that if any LIBOR Portion is not paid when due (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise), or at the election of the Bank upon notice to the Company during the existence of any other Event of Default, such Portion shall bear interest, whether before or after judgment, until payment in full thereof through the end of the Interest Period then applicable thereto at the rate per annum determined by adding 2% to the interest rate which would otherwise be applicable thereto, and effective at the end of such Interest Period such LIBOR Portion shall automatically be converted into and added to the Base Rate Portion and shall thereafter bear interest at the interest rate applicable to the Base Rate Portion after default. Interest on each LIBOR Portion shall be due and payable on the last day of each Interest Period applicable thereto and, with respect to any Interest Period applicable to a LIBOR Portion in excess of three (3) months, on the date occurring every three (3) months after the date such Interest Period began and at the end of such Interest Period, and interest after maturity (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise) shall be due and payable upon demand. The Company shall notify the Bank on or before 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) on the third Business Day preceding the end of an Interest Period applicable to a LIBOR Portion whether such LIBOR Portion is to continue as a LIBOR Portion, in which event the Company shall notify the Bank of

the new Interest Period selected therefor, and in the event the Company shall fail to so notify the Bank, such LIBOR Portion shall automatically be converted into and added to the Base Rate Portion as of and on the last day of such Interest Period.

(d) Offered Rate Portions. Each Offered Rate Portion shall bear interest for the Interest Period selected therefor at the Offered Rate for such Interest Period, provided that if such Offered Rate Portion is not paid when due (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise), or at the election of the Bank upon notice to the Company during the existence of any other Event of Default, such Portion shall bear interest, whether before or after judgment, until payment in full thereof through the end of the Interest Period then applicable thereto at the rate per annum determined by adding 2% to the interest rate which would otherwise be applicable thereto and effective at the end of such Interest Period such Offered Rate Portion shall automatically be converted into and added to the Base Rate Portion and shall thereafter bear interest at the interest rate applicable to the Base Rate Portion after default. Interest on each Offered Rate Portion shall be due and payable on the last day of each Interest Period applicable thereto, and interest after maturity (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise) shall be due and payable upon demand. The Company shall notify the Bank by 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) on the Business Day on which the Company requests that any Offered Rate Portion be created or that any part of the Base Rate Portion or any part of a LIBOR Portion be converted into an Offered Rate Portion (each such notice to specify in each instance the amount thereof and the Interest Period selected therefor). Upon receipt of notice from the Bank of the Company's request that an Offered Rate Portion be created or effected by conversion, the Bank shall in its discretion quote an interest rate to the Company at which the Bank would be willing to make the Offered Rate Portion available to the Company for such Interest Period. The Company understands and agrees that (i) the Bank has no obligation to quote Offered Rates or to make any Offered Rate Portion available to the Company, (ii) that the Bank may refuse to make any such Offered Rate Portion available to the Company after receiving a request therefor from the Company and (iii) that any such Offered Rate Portion made available to the Company shall be subject to such other terms and conditions as are mutually agreed upon by the Company and the Bank. If the Company accepts the Offered Rate so quoted by the Bank, then the Company shall be irrevocably committed to take the Offered Rate Portion on the date, in the amount and for the Interest Period requested by the Company and at the Offered Rate quoted by the Bank. The Company acknowledges and agrees that each interest rate quote is given for immediate acceptance, and if the Company does not so immediately accept the Offered Rate quoted on the terms and conditions specified by the Bank and in the amount and for the Interest Period requested by the Company, the offer to make such Offered Rate Portion shall be deemed immediately withdrawn and such Offered Rate Portion not created or effected by conversion, as the case may be.

Section 2.2. Minimum Amounts; Computation of Interest and Fees.

(a) Minimum Amounts. Each LIBOR Portion shall be in an amount equal to \$500,000 or such greater amount which is an integral multiple of \$50,000. Each Offered Rate Portion shall be in an amount equal to \$500,000 or such greater amount which is an integral multiple of \$50,000.

(b) Computation of Interest and Fees. All interest on each Fixed Rate Portion and the Letter of Credit fees shall be computed on the basis of a year of 360 days for the actual number of days elapsed. All interest on the Base Rate Portion and the commitment fee shall be computed on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as the case may be, for the actual number of days elapsed.

Section 2.3. Manner of Rate Selection. The Company shall notify the Bank by (i) 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) at least three (3) Business Days prior to the date upon which the Company requests that any LIBOR Portion be created or that any part of the Base Rate Portion or any part of an Offered Rate Portion be converted into a LIBOR Portion (each such notice to specify in each instance the amount thereof and the Interest Period selected therefor) and (ii) 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) at least one (1) Business Day prior to the date upon which the Company requests that any Offered Rate Portion be created or that any part of the Base Rate Portion or any part of a LIBOR Portion be converted into an Offered Rate Portion (each such notice to specify in each instance the amount thereof and the Interest Period selected therefor). If any request is made to convert a Fixed Rate Portion into the Base Rate Portion, such conversion shall only be made so as to become effective as of the last day of the Interest Period applicable thereto. All requests for the creation, continuance and conversion of Portions under this Agreement shall be irrevocable. Such requests may be written or oral and the Bank is hereby authorized to honor telephonic requests for creations, continuances and conversions received by it from any person the Bank reasonably and in good faith believes to be a Class A Authorized Representative without the need of independent investigation, the Company hereby indemnifying the Bank from any liability or loss ensuing from so acting.

Section 2.4. Change of Law. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement or the Note, if at any time the Bank shall determine reasonably and in good faith that any change in applicable laws, treaties or regulations or in the interpretation thereof makes it unlawful for the Bank to create or continue to maintain any Fixed Rate Portion, it shall promptly so notify the Company and the obligation of the Bank to create, continue or maintain any such Fixed Rate Portion under this Agreement shall be suspended until it is no longer unlawful for the Bank to create, continue or maintain such Fixed Rate Portion. The Company, on demand, shall, if the continued maintenance of any such Fixed Rate Portion is unlawful, thereupon prepay the outstanding principal amount of the affected Fixed Rate Portion, together with all interest accrued thereon and all other amounts payable to the Bank with respect thereto under this Agreement; provided, however, that the Company may elect to convert the principal amount of the affected Fixed Rate Portion into the Base Rate Portion, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Section 2.5. Unavailability of Deposits or Inability to Ascertain Adjusted LIBOR. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement or the Note, if prior to the commencement of any Interest Period, the Bank shall determine reasonably and in good faith that deposits in the amount of any LIBOR Portion scheduled to be outstanding during such Interest Period are not readily available to the Bank in the interbank eurodollar market or, by reason of circumstances affecting the interbank eurodollar market, adequate and reasonable means do not exist for ascertaining Adjusted LIBOR, then the Bank shall promptly give notice thereof to the Company and the obligations of the Bank to create, continue or effect by conversion any such

LIBOR Portion in such amount and for such Interest Period shall be suspended until deposits in such amount and for the Interest Period selected by the Company shall again be readily available in the interbank eurodollar market and adequate and reasonable means exist for ascertaining Adjusted LIBOR.

- Section 2.6. Taxes and Increased Costs. With respect to any Fixed Rate Portion, if the Bank shall determine in good faith that any change in any applicable law, treaty, regulation or guideline (including, without limitation, Regulation D of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System) or any new law, treaty, regulation or guideline, or any interpretation of any of the foregoing by any governmental authority charged with the administration thereof or any central bank or other fiscal, monetary or other authority having jurisdiction over the Bank or its lending branch or the Fixed Rate Portions contemplated by this Agreement (whether or not having the force of law), shall:
  - (i) impose, increase, or deem applicable any reserve, special deposit or similar requirement against assets held by, or deposits in or for the account of, or loans by, or any other acquisition of funds or disbursements by, the Bank which is not in any instance already accounted for in computing the interest rate applicable to such Fixed Rate Portion;
  - (ii) subject the Bank, any Fixed Rate Portion or the Note to the extent it evidences such a Portion to any tax (including, without limitation, any United States interest equalization tax or similar tax however named applicable to the acquisition or holding of debt obligations and any interest or penalties with respect thereto), duty, charge, stamp tax, fee, deduction or withholding in respect of this Agreement, any Fixed Rate Portion or the Note to the extent it evidences such a Portion, except such taxes as may be measured by the overall net income or gross receipts of the Bank or its lending branches and imposed by the jurisdiction, or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof, in which the Bank's principal executive office or its lending branch is located;
  - (iii) change the basis of taxation of payments of principal and interest due from the Company to the Bank hereunder or under the Note to the extent it evidences any Fixed Rate Portion (other than by a change in taxation of the overall net income or gross receipts of the Bank); or
  - (iv) impose on the Bank any penalty with respect to the foregoing or any other condition regarding this Agreement, its disbursement, any Fixed Rate Portion or the Note to the extent it evidences any Fixed Rate Portion;

and the Bank shall determine reasonably and in good faith that the result of any of the foregoing is to increase the cost (whether by incurring a cost or adding to a cost) to the Bank of creating or maintaining any Fixed Rate Portion hereunder or to reduce the amount of principal or interest received or receivable by the Bank (without benefit of, or credit for, any prorations, exemption, credits or other offsets available under any such laws, treaties, regulations, guidelines or interpretations thereof), then the Company shall pay on demand to the Bank from time to time as specified by the Bank such additional amounts as are sufficient to compensate and indemnify it

for such increased cost or reduced amount. If the Bank makes such a claim for compensation, it shall provide to the Company a certificate setting forth the computation of the increased cost or reduced amount as a result of any event mentioned herein in reasonable detail and such certificate shall be prima facie correct.

- Section 2.7. Funding Indemnity. In the event the Bank shall incur any loss, cost or expense (including, without limitation, any loss (including loss of profit), cost or expense incurred by reason of the liquidation or reemployment of deposits or other funds acquired or contracted to be acquired by the Bank to fund or maintain any Fixed Rate Portion or the relending or reinvesting of such deposits or other funds or amounts paid or prepaid to the Bank) as a result of:
  - (a) any payment of a Fixed Rate Portion on a date other than the last day of the then applicable Interest Period for any reason, whether before or after default, and whether or not such payment is required by any provisions of this Agreement, but in any event excluding such a payment to the extent required by Section 2.4 hereof; or
  - (b) any failure by the Company to create, borrow, continue or effect by conversion a Fixed Rate Portion on the date specified in a notice given pursuant to this Agreement unless such failure results from the Bank's inability or unwillingness pursuant to Sections 2.4 or 2.5 hereof to create, continue or effect by conversion such Fixed Rate Portions;

then upon the demand of the Bank, the Company shall pay to the Bank such amount as will reimburse the Bank for such loss, cost or expense. If the Bank requests such a reimbursement, it shall provide to the Company a certificate setting forth the computation of the loss, cost or expense giving rise to the request for reimbursement in reasonable detail and such certificate shall be prima facie correct.

Section 2.8. Lending Branch. The Bank may, at its option, elect to make, fund or maintain Portions of the Loans hereunder at such of its branches or offices as the Bank may from time to time elect. To the extent reasonably possible, the Bank shall designate an alternate branch or funding office with respect to the Fixed Rate Portions to reduce any liability of the Company to the Bank under Section 2.6 hereof or to avoid the unavailability of an interest rate option under Section 2.5 hereof, so long as such designation is not otherwise disadvantageous to the Bank.

Section 2.9. Discretion of Bank as to Manner of Funding. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Bank shall be entitled to fund and maintain its funding of all or any part of the Note in any manner it sees fit, it being understood, however, that for the purposes of this Agreement all determinations hereunder (including, without limitation, determinations under Sections 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7 hereof) shall be made as if the Bank had actually funded and maintained each Fixed Rate Portion during each Interest Period applicable thereto through the purchase of deposits in the interbank eurodollar market in the amount of such Fixed Rate Portion, having a maturity corresponding to such Interest Period, and, in the case of any LIBOR Portion, bearing an interest rate equal to the LIBOR for such Interest Period.

SECTION 3. FEES, PREPAYMENTS, PORTION, TERMINATIONS, EXTENSIONS, APPLICATIONS AND CAPITAL ADEQUACY.

Section 3.1. Fees.

- (a) Commitment Fees. For the period from and including the date hereof to but not including the Termination Date, the Company shall pay to the Bank a commitment fee at the rate per annum equal to the Applicable Margin for the commitment fee as from time to time in effect on the average daily unused portion of the Revolving Credit Commitment. Such commitment fee shall be payable quarterly in arrears on the last day of each March, June, September, and December in each year (commencing on the first such date occurring after the date hereof) and on the Termination Date.
- (b) Letter of Credit Fees. For the period from and including the date hereof to but not including the Termination Date, the Company shall pay to the Bank a fee at a rate per annum equal to the Applicable Margin for Letter of Credit fees in effect as of the time such fee is payable, on the average daily outstanding amounts during the preceding quarter of the Letters of Credit which are standby letters of credit. Such letter of credit fee shall be payable quarterly in arrears on the last day of each March, June, September, and December in each year (commencing on the first such date occurring after the date hereof) and on the Termination Date.
- (c) Letter of Credit Transaction Charges. In addition to the Letter of Credit fee called for by Section 3.1(b) hereof, the Company further agrees to pay to the Bank such issuing, processing and transaction fees and charges as the Bank from time to time customarily imposes in connection with any issuance, amendment, cancellation, negotiation, and/or payment of any Letter of Credit and the drawings made thereunder.
- (d) Upfront Fee. The Company shall pay to the Bank on the date hereof an upfront fee of \$22,500, or 0.15% of the Revolving Credit Commitment.
- Section 3.2. Voluntary Prepayments. The Company shall have the privilege of prepaying the Loans in whole or in part (but, if in part, then (i) if such Loan or Loans constitutes part of the Base Rate Portion, in an amount not less than \$50,000, (ii) if such Loan or Loans constitutes part of a Fixed Rate Portion, in an amount not less than \$50,000, and (iii) in each case, in an amount such that the minimum amount required for a Loan pursuant to Sections 1.1 and 2.2(a) hereof remain outstanding) at any time upon prior notice to the Bank (such notice if received subsequent to 11:00 a.m. (Chicago time) on a given day to be treated as though received at the opening of business on the next Business Day) by paying to the Bank the principal amount to be prepaid and (i) if such a prepayment prepays the Note in full and is accompanied by the termination of the Revolving Credit Commitment in whole, accrued interest thereon to the date of prepayment, and (ii) in the case of any prepayment of a Fixed Rate Portion of the Loans, accrued interest thereon to the date of prepayment plus any amounts due the Bank under Section 2.7 hereof.
- Section 3.3. Mandatory Prepayment. If, within sixty (60) days after receiving notice under Section 7.5(e) of a Change of Control Event, the Bank notifies the Company that the Bank requires prepayment of the Obligations, on the date set forth in such notice (which date shall be

no earlier than (x) thirty (30) days after such notice is given or (y) the day on which the Company or any Subsidiary repays any other Consolidated Total Debt for Borrowed Money aggregating \$1,000,000 or more before its original scheduled due date or (z) the occurrence of such Change of Control Event, whichever day is earlier), the Company shall pay in full all Obligations then outstanding, including the prepayment of the Letters of Credit in the manner contemplated by Section 8.4 hereof, and the Revolving Credit Commitment shall terminate in full.

Section 3.4. Terminations. The Company shall have the right at any time and from time to time, upon three (3) Business Days' prior notice to the Bank, to terminate without premium or penalty and in whole or in part (but if in part, then in an amount not less than \$500,000) the Revolving Credit Commitment, provided that the Revolving Credit Commitment may not be reduced to an amount less than the aggregate principal amount of the Loans and Letters of Credit then outstanding. Partial terminations of the Revolving Credit Commitment hereunder shall not reduce the maximum amount of Letters of Credit permitted under Section 1.3(a) hereof unless and until the Revolving Credit Commitment has been reduced to an amount less than \$5,000,000, in which event such maximum amount of Letters of Credit shall be equal to the Revolving Credit Commitment. Any termination of the Revolving Credit Commitment.

Section 3.5. Place and Application of Payments. All payments of principal, interest, fees and all other Obligations payable hereunder and under the other Loan Documents shall be made to the Bank at its office at 111 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois (or at such other place as the Bank may specify) no later than 2:00 p.m. (Chicago time) on the date any such payment is due and payable. Payments received by the Bank after 2:00 p.m. (Chicago time) shall be deemed received as of the opening of business on the next Business Day. All such payments shall be made in lawful money of the United States of America, in immediately available funds at the place of payment, without setoff or counterclaim and without reduction for, any and all present or future taxes, levies, imposts, duties, fees, charges, deductions, withholdings, restrictions and conditions of any nature imposed by any government or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof (but excluding any taxes imposed on or measured by the net income or gross receipts of the Bank). Unless the Company otherwise directs, except during the continuance of any Event of Default, principal payments shall be first applied to the Base Rate Portion of the Note until payment in full thereof, with any balance applied to the Fixed Rate Portions of the Note in the order in which their Interest Periods expire. All payments on any Note (whether voluntary or required) shall be accompanied by any amount due the Bank under Section 2.7 hereof, but no acceptance of such a payment without requiring payment of amounts due under Section 2.7 shall preclude a later demand by the Bank for any amount due it under Section 2.7 in respect of such payment. Any amount paid or prepaid on the Note may, subject to all of the terms and conditions hereof, be borrowed, repaid and borrowed again.

Section 3.6. Notations. All Loans made against the Note, the status of all amounts evidenced by the Note as constituting part of the Base Rate Portion or a LIBOR Portion or an Offered Rate Portion, and in the case of any Fixed Rate Portion, the rates of interest and Interest Periods applicable thereto shall be recorded by the Bank on its books and records or, at its option in any instance, endorsed on a schedule to the Note and the unpaid principal balance and status, rates and Interest Periods so recorded or endorsed by the Bank shall be evidence in any court or

other proceeding brought to enforce the Note of the principal amount remaining unpaid thereon, the status of the Loans evidenced thereby and the interest rates and Interest Periods applicable thereto; provided that the failure of the Bank to record any of the foregoing shall not limit or otherwise affect the obligation of the Company to repay the principal amount of such Note together with accrued interest thereon. Prior to any negotiation of the Note, the Bank shall record on a schedule thereto the status of all amounts evidenced thereby as constituting part of the Base Rate Portion or a LIBOR Portion or an Offered Rate Portion, and in the case of any Fixed Rate Portion, the rates of interest and the Interest Periods applicable thereto.

Section 3.7. Change in Capital Adequacy Requirements. If the Bank shall determine that the adoption after the date hereof of any applicable law, rule or regulation regarding capital adequacy of banks generally, or any change in any existing law, rule or regulation, or any change in the interpretation or administration thereof by any governmental authority, central bank or comparable agency charged with the interpretation or administration thereof, or compliance by the Bank (or any of its branches) with any request or directive regarding capital adequacy of banks generally (whether or not having the force of law) of any such authority, central bank or comparable agency, has or would have the effect of reducing the rate of return on the Revolving Credit or on the Bank's capital as a consequence of its obligations hereunder with respect to the Revolving Credit to a level below that which the Bank could have achieved but for such adoption, change or compliance (taking into consideration the Bank's policies with respect to liquidity and capital adequacy) by an amount deemed by the Bank to be material, then from time to time, within fifteen (15) days after demand by the Bank, the Company shall pay to the Bank such additional amount or amounts reasonably determined by the Bank as will compensate the Bank for such reduction.

#### SECTION 4. DEFINITIONS; INTERPRETATION.

Section 4.1. Definitions. The following terms when used herein shall have the following meanings:

"Acquisition" means (i) the acquisition of all or any substantial part of the assets, property or business of any other Person, or (ii) any acquisition of a majority of the common stock or other equity securities of any Person.

"Adjusted LIBOR" means a rate per annum determined by the Bank in accordance with the following formula:

> Adjusted LIBOR = LIBOR -----

100%-Reserve Percentage

"Reserve Percentage" means, for the purpose of computing Adjusted LIBOR, the maximum rate of all reserve requirements (including, without limitation, any marginal, emergency, supplemental or other special reserves) imposed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (or any successor) under Regulation D on Eurocurrency liabilities (as such term is defined in Regulation D) for the applicable Interest Period as of the first day of such Interest

Period, but subject to any amendments to such reserve requirement by such Board or its successor, and taking into account any transitional adjustments thereto becoming effective during such Interest Period. For purposes of this definition, LIBOR Portions shall be deemed to be Eurocurrency liabilities as defined in Regulation D without benefit of or credit for prorations, exemptions or offsets under Regulation D. "LIBOR" means, for each Interest Period, (a) the LIBOR Index Rate for such Interest Period, if such rate is available, and (b) if the LIBOR Index Rate cannot be determined, the arithmetic average of the rates of interest per annum (rounded upward, if necessary, to the nearest 1/100th of 1%) at which deposits in U.S. Dollars in immediately available funds are offered to the Bank at 11:00 a.m. (London, England time) 2 Business Days before the beginning of such Interest Period by 3 or more major banks in the interbank eurodollar market selected by the Bank for a period equal to such Interest Period and in an amount equal or comparable to the applicable LIBOR Portion scheduled to be outstanding from the Bank during such Interest Period. "LIBOR Index Rate" means, for any Interest Period, the rate per annum (rounded upwards, if necessary, to the next higher one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point) for deposits in U.S. Dollars for a period equal to such Interest Period which appears on the Telerate Page 3750 as of 11:00 a.m. (London, England time) on the date 2 Business Days before the commencement of such Interest Period. "Telerate Page 3750" means the display designated as "Page 3750" on the Telerate Service (or such other page as may replace Page 3750 on that service or such other service as may be nominated by the British Bankers' Association as the information vendor for the purpose of displaying British Bankers' Association Interest Settlement Rates for U.S. Dollar deposits). Each determination of LIBOR made by the Bank shall be conclusive and binding absent manifest error.

"Affiliate" means any Person directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by, or under direct or indirect common control with, another Person. A Person shall be deemed to control another Person for purposes of this definition if such Person possesses, directly or indirectly, the power to direct, or cause the direction of, the management and policies of the other Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, common directors, trustees or officers, by contract or otherwise.

"Aggregate Cumulative Amount" means, as of any time, (a) with respect to Net Income, the sum of the amounts (with one separate amount to be computed for each Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary and such amounts then added together to produce such sum) equal (for each such Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary) to the Net Income attributable to such Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary for the fiscal year of the Company immediately preceding the fiscal year in which such Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary first became a Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary and (b) with respect to Consolidated Total Assets, the sum of the amounts (with one separate amount to be computed for each Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary and such amounts then added together to produce such sum) equal (for each such Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary) to the Consolidated Total Assets attributable to such Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary as of the close of the fiscal year of the Company immediately preceding the fiscal year in which such Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary first became a Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary.

"Agreement" means this Credit Agreement, as the same may be amended, modified or restated from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof.

"Applicable Margin" means, with respect to the Base Rate Portion, LIBOR Portions, the commitment fee payable under Section 3.1(a) hereof and the letter of credit fee payable under Section 3.1(b) hereof shall mean the rate specified for such Obligation below, subject to quarterly adjustment as hereinafter provided:

WHEN FOLLOWING STATUS EXISTS FOR ANY MARGIN DETERMINATION DATE	APPLICABLE MARGIN FOR BASE RATE PORTION IS:	APPLICABLE MARGIN FOR LIBOR PORTIONS IS:	APPLICABLE MARGIN FOR COMMITMENT FEE IS:	APPLICABLE MARGIN FOR LETTER OF CREDIT FEE IS:
Level I Status	0.0%	0.375%	0.10%	0.375%
Level II Status	0.0%	0.50%	0.10%	0.50%
Level III Status	0.0%	0.625%	0.15%	0.625%
Level IV Status	0.25%	0.875%	0.20%	0.875%
Level V Status	0.25%	1.00%	0.25%	1.00%

provided, however, that all of the foregoing is subject to the following:

- (i) the initial Applicable Margin in effect through the first Margin Determination Date shall be the Applicable Margin for Level II Status;
- (ii) on or before the date that is five (5) Business Days after the latest date by which the Company is required to deliver a Compliance Certificate to the Bank pursuant to Section 7.5 hereof for each fiscal quarter of the Company (such date that is five (5) Business Days after the latest date by which the Company is required to deliver a Compliance Certificate to the Bank for the relevant fiscal quarter being herein referred to as the "Margin Determination Date" for such fiscal quarter) (commencing with the first fiscal quarter ending after the date hereof), the Bank shall determine whether Level I Status, Level II Status, Level III Status or Level IV Status exists as of the close of the applicable quarterly accounting period, based upon the Compliance Certificate and financial statements delivered to the Bank under Section 7.5 hereof for such accounting period, and shall promptly notify the Company of such determination and of any change in the Applicable Margin resulting therefrom. Any such change in the Applicable Margin shall be effective as of the related Margin Determination Date, with such new Applicable Margin to continue in effect (subject to interim adjustment in the events and with the effects set forth in the immediately following clause (iii)) until the next Margin Determination Date;
- (iii) if the Company has not delivered a Compliance Certificate by the date such Compliance Certificate is required to be delivered under Section 7.5 hereof for a given Margin Determination Date (a "Late Compliance Certificate"), the Applicable

Margin shall be the Applicable Margin for Level IV Status unless and until a Compliance Certificate is delivered for the next Margin Determination Date; provided, however, that if the Company subsequently delivers the Late Compliance Certificate before such next Margin Determination Date, the Applicable Margin shall be established by such Late Compliance Certificate, shall take effect from the date of such late delivery and shall remain effective until such next Margin Determination Date; and

(iv) if and so long as any Event of Default has occurred and is continuing hereunder, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Applicable Margin shall be the Applicable Margin for Level IV Status.

"Application" is defined in Section 1.4 hereof.

"Authorized Representative" means those persons shown on the list of officers provided by the Company pursuant to Section 6.2(a) hereof and so designated on such list, or on any update of any such list provided by the Company to the Bank, or any further or different officer of the Company so named and designated by any Authorized Representative of the Company in a written notice to the Bank.

"Bank" is defined in the introductory paragraph hereof.

"Base Rate" means, for any day, the greater of (i) the rate of interest announced by the Bank from time to time as its prime commercial rate, as in effect on such day; and (ii) the sum of (x) the rate determined by the Bank to be the average (rounded upwards, if necessary, to the next higher 1/100 of 1%) of the rates per annum quoted to the Bank at approximately 10:00 a.m. (Chicago time) (or as soon thereafter as is practicable) on such day (or, if such day is not a Business Day, on the immediately preceding Business Day) by two or more Federal funds brokers selected by the Bank for the sale to the Bank at face value of Federal funds in an amount equal or comparable to the principal amount owed to the Bank for which such rate is being determined, plus (y) 1/2 of 1% (0.50%).

"Base Rate Portion" is defined in Section 2.1(a) hereof.

"Blue Mountain L/C" means that certain standby letter of credit issued by the Bank to The First National Bank of Chicago dated November 11, 1988 in the original face amount of \$2,634,590, as the same may from time to time be modified or amended.

"Business Day" means any day other than a Saturday or Sunday on which the Bank is not authorized or required to close in Chicago, Illinois and, when used with respect to LIBOR Portions, a day on which the Bank is also dealing in United States Dollar deposits in London, England and Nassau, Bahamas.

"Capital Lease" means any lease of Property which in accordance with GAAP is required to be capitalized on the balance sheet of the lessee.

"Capitalized Lease Obligation" means the amount of the liability shown on the balance sheet of any Person in respect of a Capital Lease as determined in accordance with GAAP.

"Change of Control Event" means at any time:

- (i) any person or group of persons (within the meaning of Section 13 or 14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), but in any event excluding the Jaffee Group and any other holders of the Class B Common Stock of the Company as of the date of this Agreement) shall have acquired beneficial ownership (within the meaning of Rule 13d-3 promulgated by the SEC under the Exchange Act) of 30% or more in voting power of the outstanding Voting Stock of the Company; or
- (ii) during any period of twenty-four consecutive months beginning after the date of this Agreement, individuals who at the beginning of such period constitute the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") and any new director (other than a director designated by a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company to effect a transaction described in clause (i) of this Change of Control Event definition or a transaction that would constitute an Event of Default under Section 7.12 hereof) whose election or nomination for election was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who either were directors at the beginning of the period or whose election or nomination for election was previously so approved cease for any reason to constitute a majority of the Board.

"Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any successor statute thereto.  $\,$ 

"Company" is defined in the introductory paragraph hereof.

"Consolidated Capital Expenditures" means, for any period, capital expenditures (as defined and classified in accordance with GAAP) during such period by the Company and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

"Consolidated Debt" means, at any time the same is to be determined, the sum (but without duplication) of (a) all Indebtedness for Borrowed Money of the Company and its Subsidiaries at such time, and (b) all Indebtedness for Borrowed Money of any other Person which is directly or indirectly guaranteed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries has agreed (contingently or otherwise) to purchase or otherwise acquire or in respect of which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries has otherwise assured a creditor against loss.

"Consolidated EBITDA" means, with reference to any period, Net Income for such period plus all amounts deducted in arriving at such Net Income amount in respect of (i) Interest Expense for such period, plus (ii) federal, state and local income taxes for such period, plus (iii) all amounts properly charged for depreciation of fixed assets and amortization of intangible assets during such period on the books of the Company and its Subsidiaries.

"Consolidated EBITR" means, with reference to any period, Net Income for such period plus (A) all amounts deducted in arriving at such Net Income amount in respect of (i) Interest Expense for such period, plus (ii) federal, state and local income taxes for such period, plus (iii) the lease and rental expense of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period, minus (B) all amounts included in arriving at such Net Income amount in respect of (i) interest income for such period, plus (ii) gains on sales of fixed assets for such period.

"Consolidated Fixed Charges" means, with reference to any period, Interest Expense for such period, plus lease and rental expense of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period, minus interest income of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period.

"Consolidated Net Worth" means, at any time the same is to be determined, the total shareholders' equity (including capital stock, additional paid-in capital and retained earnings after deducting treasury stock, but excluding minority interests in Subsidiaries) which would appear on the balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Total Assets" means, at any time the same is to be determined, the aggregate of all assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries at such time as computed on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"Controlled Group" means all members of a controlled group of corporations and all trades and businesses (whether or not incorporated) under common control which, together with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, are treated as a single employer under Section 414 of the Code.

"Current Debt Maturities" means, with reference to any period, the aggregate amount of payments required to made by the Company and its Subsidiaries during such period in respect of principal on all Indebtedness for Borrowed Money (whether at maturity, as a result of mandatory sinking fund redemption, mandatory prepayment, acceleration or otherwise), excluding any principal payments required to be made by the Company and its Subsidiaries on the Note.

"Debt to Earnings Ratio" means, as of any time, the ratio of (x) Consolidated Debt at such time to (y) Consolidated EBITDA for the twelve then most recently completed calendar months.

"Default" means any event or condition the occurrence of which would, with the passage of time or the giving of notice, or both, constitute an Event of Default.

"Defaulting Insignificant Subsidiary" means an Insignificant Subsidiary which is the subject of any Subsidiary Default on or at any time after the date hereof.

"Domestic Subsidiary" means each Subsidiary other than a Foreign Subsidiary.

"ERISA" means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, or any successor statute thereto.

"Event of Default" means any event or condition identified as such in Section 8.1 hereof.

"Fixed Rate Portions" means and includes LIBOR Portions and Offered Rates Portions, unless the context in which such term is used shall otherwise require.

"Foreign Subsidiary" means (i) each Subsidiary of the Company which is organized under the laws of a jurisdiction other than the United States of America or any State thereof and (ii) each Subsidiary of the Company of which a majority of the revenues, earnings or total assets (determined on a consolidated basis with that Subsidiary's Subsidiaries) are located or derived from operations outside the United States of America.

"Funds Transfer and Deposit Account Liability" means the liability of the Company or any Guarantor owing to any of the Bank arising out of (a) the execution or processing of electronic transfers of funds by automatic clearing house transfer, wire transfer or otherwise to or from deposit accounts of the Company and/or any Guarantor now or hereafter maintained with the Bank, (b) the acceptance for deposit or the honoring for payment of any check, draft or other item with respect to any such deposit accounts, and (c) any other deposit, disbursement, and cash management services afforded to the Company or any Guarantor by the Bank.

"GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles as in effect from time to time, applied by the Company and its Subsidiaries on a basis consistent with the preparation of the Company's most recent financial statements furnished to the Bank pursuant to Section 5.5 hereof.

"Guarantor" means each Domestic Subsidiary of the Company that is a signatory hereto or that executes and delivers to the Bank a Guaranty along with the accompanying closing documents required by Section 6.2 hereof.

"Guaranty" means a letter to the Bank in the form of Exhibit C attached hereto executed by a Subsidiary whereby it acknowledges it is party hereto as a Guarantor under Section 9 hereof.

"Hedging Liability" means the liability of the Company or any Guarantor to the Bank in respect of any interest rate, foreign currency, and/or commodity swap, exchange, cap, collar, floor, forward, future or option agreement, or any other similar interest rate, currency or commodity hedging arrangement, as the Company or such Guarantor, as the case may be, may from time to time enter into with the Bank.

"Inactive Subsidiaries" means each Subsidiary of the Company which has no operations and no assets other than the minimum amount of assets required under applicable state law to maintain such Subsidiary's corporate existence, but in no event more than \$10,000 in assets.

"Indebtedness for Borrowed Money" means for any Person (without duplication) (i) all indebtedness created, assumed or incurred in any manner by such Person representing money borrowed (including by the issuance of debt securities), (ii) all indebtedness for the deferred purchase price of property or services, (iii) all indebtedness secured by any Lien upon Property of such Person, whether or not such Person has assumed or become liable for the payment of such

indebtedness, (iv) all Capitalized Lease Obligations of such Person and (v) all obligations of such Person on or with respect to letters of credit, bankers' acceptances and other extensions of credit whether or not representing obligations for borrowed money, in each case other than trade accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business.

"Insignificant Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary that is not a Significant Subsidiary.

"Interest Expense" means, with reference to any period, the sum of all interest charges (including imputed interest charges with respect to Capitalized Lease Obligations and all amortization of debt discount and expense) of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period determined in accordance with GAAP.

"Interest Period" means, with respect to (a) any LIBOR Portion, the period commencing on, as the case may be, the creation, continuation or conversion date with respect to such LIBOR Portion and ending one (1), two (2), three (3) or six (6) months thereafter as selected by the Company in its notice as provided herein, and (b) any Offered Rate Portion, the period commencing on, as the case may be, the creation, continuation or conversion date with respect to such Offered Rate Portion and ending not less than seven (7) days to not more than thirty (30) days thereafter as selected by the Company in its notice as provided herein; provided that all of the foregoing provisions relating to Interest Periods are subject to the following:

- (i) if any Interest Period would otherwise end on a day which is not a Business Day, that Interest Period shall be extended to the next succeeding Business Day, unless in the case of an Interest Period for a LIBOR Portion the result of such extension would be to carry such Interest Period into another calendar month in which event such Interest Period shall end on the immediately preceding Business Day;
- (ii) no Interest  $\,$  Period may extend beyond the final  $\,$  maturity date of the Note; and
- (iii) the interest rate to be applicable to each Portion for each Interest Period shall apply from and including the first day of such Interest Period to but excluding the last day thereof.

For purposes of determining an Interest Period, a month means a period starting on one day in a calendar month and ending on a numerically corresponding day in the next calendar month, provided, however, if an Interest Period begins on the last day of a month or if there is no numerically corresponding day in the month in which an Interest Period is to end, then such Interest Period shall end on the last Business Day of such month.

"Jaffee Group" means the Jaffee Investment Partnership, L.P., and Richard M. Jaffee, members of his immediate family and trusts for the benefit of any one or more of the foregoing.

"Letter of Credit" is defined in Section 1.3(a) hereof.

"Level I Status" means, for any Margin Determination Date, that as of the close of the most recently completed calendar quarter with reference to which such Margin Determination Date was set, the Debt to Earnings Ratio is less than 1.00 to 1.0.

"Level II Status" means, for any Margin Determination Date, that as of the close of the most recently completed calendar quarter with reference to which such Margin Determination Date was set, the Debt to Earnings Ratio is greater than or equal to 1.00 to 1.0 but less than 1.50 to 1.0.

"Level III Status" means, for any Margin Determination Date, that as of the close of the most recently completed calendar quarter with reference to which such Margin Determination Date was set, the Debt to Earnings Ratio is greater than or equal to 1.50 to 1.0 but less than 2.00 to 1.0.

"Level IV Status" means, for any Margin Determination Date, that as of the close of the most recently completed calendar quarter with reference to which such Margin Determination Date was set, the Debt to Earnings Ratio is greater than or equal to 2.00 to 1.0, but less than 2.50 to 1.0.

"Level V Status" means, for any Margin Determination Date, that as of the close of the most recently completed calendar quarter with reference to which such Margin Determination Date was set, the Debt to Earnings Ratio is greater than or equal to 2.50 to 1.0.

"LIBOR Portions" is defined in Section 2.1(a) hereof.

"Lien" means any mortgage, lien, security interest, pledge, charge or encumbrance of any kind in respect of any Property, including the interests of a vendor or lessor under any conditional sale, Capital Lease or other title retention arrangement.

"Loan" and "Loans" each is defined in Section 1.1 hereof.

"Loan Documents" means this Agreement, the Note, the Applications, and the Guaranties, and each other instrument or document to be delivered hereunder or thereunder or otherwise in connection therewith.

"Margin Determination Date" is defined in the definition of Applicable Margin.

"Material Plan" is defined in Section 8.1(g) hereof.

"Net Income" means, with reference to any period, the net income (or net loss) of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period as computed on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP, and, without limiting the foregoing, after deduction from gross income of all expenses and reserves, including reserves for all taxes on or measured by income, but excluding any extraordinary profits and also excluding any taxes on such profits.

"Note" is defined in Section 1.1 hereof.

"Obligations" means all obligations of the Company to pay principal and interest on the Loans, all obligations of the Company to reimburse the Bank for drawings on Letters of Credit, all fees and charges payable hereunder, all obligations of the Company or any Guarantor with respect to any Funds Transfer and Deposit Account Liability, all obligations of the Company or any Guarantor with respect to any Hedging Liability, and all other payment obligations of the Company arising under or in relation to any Loan Document, in each case whether now existing or hereafter arising, due or to become due, direct or indirect, absolute or contingent, and howsoever evidenced, held or acquired.

"Offered Rate" means the rate per annum quoted to the Company by the Bank for the applicable Interest Period, such Offered Rate being subject at all times to the provisions of Section 2.1(d) hereof.

"Offered Rate Portions" is defined in Section 2.1(a) hereof.

"PBGC" means the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation or any Person succeeding to any or all of its functions under ERISA.

"Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association, trust, unincorporated organization or any other entity or organization, including a government or agency or political subdivision thereof.

"Plan" means any employee pension benefit plan covered by Title IV of ERISA or subject to the minimum funding standards under Section 412 of the Code that either (a) is maintained by a member of the Controlled Group for employees of a member of the Controlled Group or (b) is maintained pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or any other arrangement under which more than one employer makes contributions and to which a member of the Controlled Group is then making or accruing an obligation to make contributions or has within the preceding five plan years made contributions.

"Portion" is defined in Section 2.1(a) hereof.

"Present Letters of Credit" means those certain letters of credit issued by the Bank described on Schedule 1.3 attached hereto and made a part hereof.

"Present Loans" means the indebtedness of the Company to the Bank evidenced by the Prior Note.

"Prior Credit Agreement" means that certain Credit Agreement dated as of January 29, 1999, by and between the Company and the Bank, as amended and supplemented.

"Prior Note" means that certain Revolving Credit Note made by the Company in favor of the Bank pursuant to the Prior Credit Agreement.

"Property" means any interest in any kind of property or asset, whether real, personal or mixed, or tangible or intangible.

- "Revolving Credit" is defined in Section 1.1 hereof.
- "Revolving Credit Commitment" is defined in Section 1.1 hereof.
- "SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Significant Subsidiary" means at any time any Subsidiary that would at such time constitute a "significant subsidiary" (as such term is defined in Regulation S-X of the SEC as in effect on the date hereof) of the Company.

"Subsidiary" means any corporation or other Person more than 50% of the outstanding ordinary voting shares or other equity interests of which is at the time directly or indirectly owned by the Company, by one or more of its Subsidiaries, or by the Company and one or more of its Subsidiaries.

"Subsidiary Defaults" is defined in Section 8.5 hereof.

"Termination Date" means January 27, 2009, or such earlier date on which the Revolving Credit Commitment is terminated in whole pursuant to Section 3.4, 8.2 or 8.3 hereof.

"Total Capitalization" means, at any time the same is to be determined, the sum of Consolidated Debt plus Consolidated Net Worth.

"Unfunded Vested Liabilities" means, for any Plan at any time, the amount (if any) by which the present value of all vested nonforfeitable accrued benefits under such Plan exceeds the fair market value of all Plan assets allocable to such benefits, all determined as of the then most recent valuation date for such Plan, but only to the extent that such excess represents a potential liability of a member of the Controlled Group to the PBGC or the Plan under Title IV of ERISA.

"Voting Stock" of any Person means the capital stock of any class or classes or other equity interests (however designated) having ordinary voting power for the election of directors or similar governing body of such Person, other than stock or other equity interests having such power only by reason of the happening of a contingency.

"Welfare Plan" means a "welfare plan" as defined in Section 3(1) of ERISA.

"Wholly-Owned Subsidiary" means a Subsidiary of which all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock (other than directors' qualifying shares as required by law) or other equity interests are owned by the Company directly or indirectly through one or more Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries within the meaning of this definition.

Section 4.2. Interpretation. The foregoing definitions are equally applicable to both the singular and plural forms of the terms defined. The words "hereof", "herein", and "hereunder" and words of like import when used in this Agreement shall refer to this Agreement as a whole and not to any particular provision of this Agreement. All references to time of day herein are references to Chicago, Illinois time unless otherwise specifically provided. Where the character

or amount of any asset or liability or item of income or expense is required to be determined or any consolidation or other accounting computation is required to be made for the purposes of this Agreement, it shall be done in accordance with GAAP except where such principles are inconsistent with the specific provisions of this Agreement.

SECTION 5. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

The Company represents and warrants to the Bank as follows:

Section 5.1. Organization and Qualification. The Company is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing as a corporation under the laws of the State of Delaware, has full and adequate corporate power to own its Property and conduct its business as now conducted, and is duly licensed or qualified and in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the nature of the business conducted by it or the nature of the Property owned or leased by it requires such licensing or qualifying, except where the failure to be so licensed or qualified would not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Section 5.2. Subsidiaries. Each Subsidiary is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated or organized, as the case may be, has full and adequate power to own its Property and conduct its business as now conducted, and is duly licensed or qualified and in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the nature of the business conducted by it or the nature of the Property owned or leased by it requires such licensing or qualifying, except where the failure to be so licensed or qualified would not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole. Schedule 5.2 hereto identifies each Subsidiary, the jurisdiction of its incorporation or organization, as the case may be, the percentage of issued and outstanding shares of each class of its capital stock or other equity interests owned by the Company and the Subsidiaries and, if such percentage is not 100% (excluding directors' qualifying shares as required by law), a description of each class of its authorized capital stock and other equity interests and the number of shares of each class issued and outstanding and whether or not such Subsidiary is a Significant Subsidiary or Inactive Subsidiary. All of the outstanding shares of capital stock and other equity interests of each Subsidiary are validly issued and outstanding and fully paid and nonassessable and all such shares and other equity interests indicated on Schedule 5.2 as owned by the Company or a Subsidiary are owned, beneficially and of record, by the Company or such Subsidiary free and clear of all Liens. There are no outstanding commitments or other obligations of any Subsidiary to issue, and no options, warrants or other rights of any Person to acquire, any shares of any class of capital stock or other equity interests of any Subsidiary.

Section 5.3. Corporate Authority and Validity of Obligations. (a) The Company has full right and authority to enter into this Agreement and the other Loan Documents, to make the borrowings herein provided for, to issue its Note in evidence thereof, and to perform all of its obligations hereunder and under the other Loan Documents. The Loan Documents delivered by the Company have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company enforceable in accordance with their terms except

as enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and general principles of equity (regardless of whether the application of such principles is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law); and this Agreement and the other Loan Documents do not, nor does the performance or observance by the Company of any of the matters and things herein or therein provided for, contravene or constitute a default under any provision of law or any judgment, injunction, order or decree binding upon the Company or any provision of the charter, articles of incorporation or by-laws of the Company or any covenant, indenture or agreement of or affecting the Company or any of its Properties, or result in the creation or imposition of any Lien on any Property of the Company.

(b) Subsidiaries. Each Subsidiary executing a Loan Document has full right, power and authority to enter into the Loan Documents executed and delivered by it and to perform all of its obligations thereunder. The Loan Documents delivered by each Subsidiary have been duly authorized, executed and delivered by each Subsidiary and constitute valid and binding obligations of the each Subsidiary enforceable in accordance with their terms except as enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and general principles of equity (regardless of whether the application of such principles is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law); and the other Loan Documents delivered by each Subsidiary do not, nor does the performance or observance by each Subsidiary of any of the matters and things therein provided for, contravene or constitute a default under any provision of law or any judgment, injunction, order or decree binding upon each Subsidiary or any provision of the organizational documents (e.g., charter, certificate or articles of incorporation and by-laws, certificate or articles of association and operating agreement, partnership agreement, or other similar organizational documents) of any or any covenant, indenture or agreement of or affecting each Subsidiary or any of its Properties, or result in the creation or imposition of any Lien on any Property of each Subsidiary.

Section 5.4. Use of Proceeds; Margin Stock. The Company shall use the proceeds of the Loans solely for general corporate purposes and for such other legal and proper purposes as are consistent with all applicable laws. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is engaged in the business of extending credit for the purpose of purchasing or carrying margin stock (within the meaning of Regulation U of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System), and no part of the proceeds of any Loan will be used to purchase or carry any such margin stock or to extend credit to others for the purpose of purchasing or carrying any such margin stock.

Section 5.5. Financial Reports. The consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as at July 31, 2005, and the related consolidated statements of income, retained earnings and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries for the fiscal year then ended, and accompanying notes thereto, which financial statements are accompanied by the audit report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent public accountants, heretofore furnished to the Bank, fairly present the consolidated financial condition of the Company and its Subsidiaries as at said date and the consolidated results of their operations and cash flows for the period then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis; subject, in the case of an unaudited interim consolidated balance sheet, to year-end adjustments, and provided that such unaudited interim consolidated balance sheet was prepared without footnotes.

Section 5.6. No Material Adverse Change. Since July 31, 2005, there has been no change in the condition (financial or otherwise) or business prospects of the Company or any Subsidiary except those occurring in the ordinary course of business, none of which individually or in the aggregate have been materially adverse to the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Section 5.7. Full Disclosure. The statements and information furnished to the Bank in connection with the negotiation of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents and the commitment by the Bank to provide all or part of the financing contemplated hereby do not contain any untrue statements of a material fact or omit a material fact necessary to make the material statements contained herein or therein not misleading, the Bank acknowledging that as to any projections furnished to the Bank, the Company only represents that the same were prepared on the basis of information and estimates the Company believed to be reasonable.

Section 5.8. Good Title. The Company and its Subsidiaries each have good and defensible title to their assets as reflected on the most recent consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries furnished to the Bank (except for sales of assets by the Company and its Subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business), subject to no Liens other than such thereof as are permitted by Section 7.8 hereof.

Section 5.9. Litigation and Other Controversies. There is no litigation or governmental proceeding or labor controversy pending, nor to the knowledge of the Company threatened, against the Company or any Subsidiary which if adversely determined would (a) impair the validity or enforceability of, or impair the ability of the Company to perform its obligations under, this Agreement or any other Loan Document or (b) result in any material adverse change in the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Section 5.10. Taxes. All tax returns required to be filed by the Company or any Subsidiary in any jurisdiction have, in fact, been filed, except where the failure to file such tax returns would not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, and all taxes, assessments, fees and other governmental charges upon the Company or any Subsidiary or upon any of their respective Properties, income or franchises, which are shown to be due and payable in such returns, have been paid. The Company does not know of any proposed additional tax assessment against it or its Subsidiaries for which adequate provision in accordance with GAAP has not been made on its accounts. Adequate provisions in accordance with GAAP for taxes on the books of the Company and each Subsidiary have been made for all open years, and for its current fiscal period.

Section 5.11. Approvals. No authorization, consent, license, or exemption from, or filing or registration with, any court or governmental department, agency or instrumentality, nor any approval or consent of the stockholders of the Company or any other Person, is or will be necessary to the valid execution, delivery or performance by the Company of this Agreement or any other Loan Document.

Section 5.12. Affiliate Transactions. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is a party to any contracts or agreements with any of its Affiliates (other than with Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries) on terms and conditions which are less favorable to the Company or such Subsidiary than would be usual and customary in similar contracts or agreements between Persons not affiliated with each other.

Section 5.13. Investment Company; Public Utility Holding Company. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is an "investment company" or a company "controlled" by an "investment company" within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, or a "public utility holding company" within the meaning of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended.

Section 5.14. ERISA. The Company and each other member of its Controlled Group has fulfilled its obligations under the minimum funding standards of and is in compliance in all material respects with ERISA and the Code to the extent applicable to it and has not incurred any liability to the PBGC or a Plan under Title IV of ERISA other than a liability to the PBGC for premiums under Section 4007 of ERISA. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has any contingent liabilities with respect to any post-retirement benefits under a Welfare Plan, other than liability for continuation coverage described in article 6 of Title I of ERISA.

Section 5.15. Compliance with Laws. The Company and its Subsidiaries each are in compliance with the requirements of all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations applicable to or pertaining to their Properties or business operations (including, without limitation, the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and laws and regulations establishing quality criteria and standards for air, water, land and toxic or hazardous wastes and substances), non-compliance with which could have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has received notice to the effect that its operations are not in compliance with any of the requirements of applicable federal, state or local environmental, health and safety statutes and regulations or are the subject of any governmental investigation evaluating whether any remedial action is needed to respond to a release of any toxic or hazardous waste or substance into the environment, which non-compliance or remedial action could have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Section 5.16. Other Agreements. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is in default under the terms of any covenant, indenture or agreement of or affecting the Company, any Subsidiary or any of their Properties, which default if uncured would have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole.

Section 5.17. No Default. No Default or Event of Default has occurred and is continuing.

The obligation of the Bank to make any Loan or issue any Letter of Credit under this Agreement is subject to the following conditions precedent:

- Section 6.1. All Advances. As of the time of the making of each extension of credit (including the initial extension of credit) hereunder:
  - (a) each of the representations and warranties set forth in Section 5 hereof and in the other Loan Documents shall be true and correct as of such time, except to the extent the same expressly relate to an earlier date;
  - (b) the Company shall be in full compliance with all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement and of the other Loan Documents, and no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing or would occur as a result of making such Loan;
  - (c) after giving effect to such extension of credit, the aggregate principal amount of all Loans and Letters of Credit outstanding under this Agreement shall not exceed the Revolving Credit Commitment;
  - (d) in the case of the issuance of any Letter of Credit, the Bank shall have received a properly completed Application therefor together with the fees called for hereby; and
  - (e) such Loan shall not violate any order, judgment or decree of any court or other authority or any provision of law or regulation applicable to the Bank (including, without limitation, Regulation U of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System) as then in effect.

The Company's request for any Loan or Letter of Credit shall constitute its warranty as to the foregoing effects.

- Section 6.2. Initial Advance. At or prior to the making of the initial extension of credit hereunder, the following conditions precedent shall also have been satisfied:
  - (a) the Bank shall have received the following (each to be properly executed and completed) and the same shall have been approved as to form and substance by the Bank:
    - (i) this Agreement duly executed and delivered by the Company and each Domestic Subsidiary party hereto as a guarantor;
      - (ii) the Note from the Company

- (iii) copies (executed or certified, as may be appropriate) of all legal documents or proceedings taken in connection with the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents to the extent the Bank or its counsel may reasonably request;
- (iv) an incumbency certificate containing the name and title of each of the Company's Authorized Representatives;
  - (v) evidence of insurance required by Section 7.4 hereof; and
- (b) the Bank shall have received such valuations and certifications as it may require in order to satisfy itself as to the financial condition of the Company and its Subsidiaries, and the lack of material contingent liabilities of the Company and its Subsidiaries;
- (c) legal matters incident to the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents and to the transactions contemplated hereby shall be satisfactory to the Bank and its counsel; and the Bank shall have received the favorable written opinion of counsel for the Company and each Guarantor in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank and its counsel;
- (d) the Bank shall have received a good standing certificate for the Company and each Guarantor (dated as of the date no earlier than December 1, 2005) from the office of the secretary of state of the state of its incorporation; and
- (e) such other agreements, instruments, documents, certificates and opinions as the Bank may reasonably request.

#### SECTION 7. COVENANTS.

The Company agrees that, so long as any credit is available to or in use by the Company hereunder, except to the extent compliance in any case or cases is waived in writing by the Bank:

- Section 7.1. Maintenance of Business. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, preserve and maintain its existence. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, preserve and keep in force and effect all licenses, permits and franchises necessary to the proper conduct of its business. The foregoing to the contrary notwithstanding, this Section 7.1 shall not operate to prevent any merger or consolidation otherwise permitted by Section 7.11 hereof.
- Section 7.2. Maintenance of Properties. The Company shall maintain, preserve and keep its property, plant and equipment in good repair, working order and condition (ordinary wear and tear excepted) and shall from time to time make all needful and proper repairs, renewals, replacements, additions and betterments thereto so that at all times the efficiency thereof shall be fully preserved and maintained (ordinary wear and tear excepted), and shall cause each Subsidiary to do so in respect of Property owned or used by it.

Section 7.3. Taxes and Assessments. The Company shall duly pay and discharge, and shall cause each Subsidiary to duly pay and discharge, all taxes, rates, assessments, fees and governmental charges upon or against it or its Properties, in each case before the same become delinquent and before penalties accrue thereon, unless and to the extent that the same are being contested in good faith and by appropriate proceedings which prevent enforcement of the matter under contest and adequate reserves are provided therefor.

Section 7.4. Insurance. The Company shall insure and keep insured, and shall cause each Subsidiary to insure and keep insured, with good and responsible insurance companies, all insurable Property owned by it which is of a character usually insured by Persons similarly situated and operating like Properties against loss or damage from such hazards and risks, and in such amounts, as are insured by Persons similarly situated and operating like Properties; and the Company shall insure, and shall cause each Subsidiary to insure, such other hazards and risks (including employers' and public liability risks) with good and responsible insurance companies as and to the extent usually insured by Persons similarly situated and conducting similar businesses. The Company shall upon request furnish to the Bank a certificate setting forth in summary form the nature and extent of the insurance maintained pursuant to this Section.

Section 7.5. Financial Reports. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, maintain a standard system of accounting in accordance with GAAP and shall furnish to the Bank and its duly authorized representatives such information respecting the business and financial condition of the Company and its Subsidiaries as the Bank may reasonably request; and without any request, shall furnish to the Bank:

- (a) as soon as available, and in any event within sixty (60) days after the last day of each fiscal quarter of the Company, a copy of the consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the last day of such fiscal quarter and the consolidated statements of income, retained earnings and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries for such fiscal quarter and the fiscal year-to-date period then ended, each in reasonable detail showing in comparative form the figures for the corresponding date and period in the previous fiscal year, prepared by the Company in accordance with GAAP (subject to year-end adjustment and provided that such balance sheet was prepared without footnotes) and certified to by the chief financial officer of the Company;
- (b) as soon as available, and in any event within one hundred twenty (120) days after the last day of each fiscal year of the Company, a copy of the consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the last day of such fiscal year and the consolidated statements of income, retained earnings and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries for the fiscal year then ended, and accompanying notes thereto, each in reasonable detail showing in comparative form the figures for the previous fiscal year, accompanied by an opinion thereon of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP or another firm of independent public accountants of recognized standing, selected by the Company and satisfactory to the Bank, to the effect that the consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP and present fairly in accordance with GAAP the consolidated financial condition of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the close of such fiscal year and the results of their operations and cash flows for the

fiscal year then ended and that an examination of such accounts in connection with such financial statements has been made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, such examination included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as were considered necessary in the circumstances;

- (c) promptly after the sending or filing thereof, copies of all proxy statements, financial statements and reports which the Company sends to its shareholders, and copies of all other regular, periodic and special reports and all registration statements which the Company files with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States or any successor thereto, or with any national securities exchange; and
- (d) promptly after knowledge thereof shall have come to the attention of any responsible officer of the Company, written notice of (i) any threatened or pending litigation or governmental proceeding or labor controversy against the Company or any Subsidiary which, if adversely determined, would adversely effect the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, or (ii) the occurrence of any Default or Event of Default hereunder or (iii) any Change of Control Event.

Each of the financial statements furnished to the Bank pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this Section shall be accompanied by a written certificate in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B signed by the Company's chief financial officer or such other officer of the Company acceptable to the Bank to the effect that to the best of such officer's knowledge and belief no Default or Event of Default has occurred during the period covered by such statements or, if any such Default or Event of Default has occurred during such period, setting forth a description of such Default or Event of Default and specifying the action, if any, taken by the Company to remedy the same. Such certificate shall also set forth the calculations supporting such statements in respect of Section 7.17 of this Agreement.

Section 7.6. Inspection. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, permit the Bank and its duly authorized representatives and agents, at the Bank's expense, to visit and inspect any of the Properties, corporate books and financial records of the Company and each Subsidiary, to examine and make copies of the books of accounts and other financial records of the Company and each Subsidiary, and to discuss the affairs, finances and accounts of the Company and each Subsidiary with, and to be advised as to the same by, its officers and independent public accountants (and by this provision the Company hereby authorizes such accountants to discuss with the Bank the finances and affairs of the Company and of each Subsidiary) at such reasonable times and reasonable intervals as the Bank may designate; provided, however, that in the absence of any Default or Event of Default, there shall be no more than one such inspection per calendar year.

- Section 7.7. Indebtedness for Borrowed Money. The Company shall not, nor shall it permit any Subsidiary to, issue, incur, assume, create or have outstanding any Indebtedness for Borrowed Money; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not restrict nor operate to prevent:
  - (a) the Obligations of the Company owing to the Bank and other indebtedness and obligations of the Company or any Subsidiary from time to time owing to the Bank;
  - (b) purchase money indebtedness and Capitalized Lease Obligations secured by Liens permitted by Section 7.8(d) hereof in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250,000 at any one time outstanding;
  - (c) intercompany indebtedness from time to time owing to the Company by any Domestic Subsidiary which is a Guarantor hereunder in the ordinary course of business;
    - (d) indebtedness from time to time owing under the Blue Mountain L/C;
  - (e) indebtedness from time to time owing by any Foreign Subsidiary to any third-party financial institution in an aggregate amount not to exceed the U.S. Dollar equivalent of \$2,000,000 at any one time outstanding;
  - (f) unsecured indebtedness issued by the Company with respect to the 6.55% Senior Notes due April 15, 2013 issued under that certain Note Purchase Agreement dated as of April 15, 1998, unsecured indebtedness issued by the Company with respect to the 5.89% Senior Notes due October 15, 2015 issued under that certain Note Agreement dated as of December 16, 2005, and any other unsecured indebtedness issued by the Company from time to time, provided that the aggregate principal amount of all indebtedness permitted under this subsection shall not to exceed \$35,500,000 at any one time outstanding and, in connection with any such indebtedness issued after the date hereof, no Default or Event of Default shall exist at the time of such issuance or shall arise as a consequence thereof; and
  - (g) unsecured Indebtedness for Borrowed Money not otherwise permitted by this Section aggregating not more than \$250,000 at any one time outstanding.
- Section 7.8. Liens. The Company shall not, nor shall it permit any Subsidiary to, create, incur or permit to exist any Lien of any kind on any Property owned by the Company or any Subsidiary; provided, however, that this Section shall not apply to nor operate to prevent:
  - (a) Liens arising by statute in connection with worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, old age benefits, social security obligations, taxes, assessments, statutory obligations or other similar charges (other than Liens arising under ERISA), good faith cash deposits in connection with tenders, contracts or leases to which the Company or any Subsidiary is a party or other cash deposits required to be made in the ordinary course of business, provided in each case that the obligation is not for borrowed money and that the obligation secured is not overdue or, if overdue, is being contested in

good faith by appropriate proceedings which prevent enforcement of the matter under contest and adequate reserves have been established therefor;

- (b) mechanics', workmen's, materialmen's, landlords', carriers', or other similar Liens arising in the ordinary course of business with respect to obligations which are not due or which are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings which prevent enforcement of the matter under contest;
- (c) the pledge of assets for the purpose of securing an appeal, stay or discharge in the course of any legal proceeding, provided that the aggregate amount of liabilities of the Company and its Subsidiaries secured by a pledge of assets permitted under this subsection, including interest and penalties thereon, if any, shall not be in excess of \$5,000,000 at any one time outstanding;
- (d) Liens on property of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries created solely for the purpose of securing purchase money indebtedness and Capitalized Lease Obligations, representing or incurred to finance, refinance or refund the purchase price of Property, provided that no such Lien shall extend to or cover other Property of the Company or such Subsidiary other than the respective Property so acquired, and the principal amount of indebtedness secured by any such Lien shall at no time exceed the original purchase price of such Property; and
- (e) Liens on certain fixed assets securing obligations of the Company in respect of those certain Town of Blue Mountain, Mississippi Variable/Fixed Rate \$2,500,000 Industrial Development Revenue Bonds dated October 1, 1988, which are backed by the Blue Mountain L/C referred to in Section 7.7(d) hereof.
- Section 7.9. Acquisitions, Investments, Loans, Advances and Guaranties. The Company shall not, nor shall it permit any Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly, make, retain or have outstanding any investments (whether through purchase of stock or obligations or otherwise) in, or loans or advances (other than for travel advances and other similar cash advances made to employees in the ordinary course of business) to, any other Person, or be or become liable as endorser, guarantor, surety or otherwise for any debt, obligation or undertaking of any other Person, or otherwise agree to provide funds for payment of the obligations of another, or supply funds thereto or invest therein or otherwise assure a creditor of another against loss, or apply for or become liable to the issuer of a letter of credit which supports an obligation of another, or subordinate any claim or demand it may have to the claim or demand of any other Person; provided, however, that the foregoing provisions shall not apply to nor operate to prevent:
  - (a) investments in direct obligations of the United States of America or of any agency or instrumentality thereof whose obligations constitute full faith and credit obligations of the United States of America, provided that any such obligations shall mature within one year of the date of issuance thereof;

- (b) investments in commercial paper rated at least P-1 by Moody's Investors Services, Inc. and at least A-1 by Standard & Poor's Corporation maturing within 270 days of the date of issuance thereof;
- (c) investments in certificates of deposit issued by any United States commercial bank having capital and surplus of not less than \$100,000,000 which have a maturity of one year or less;
- (d) endorsement of items for deposit or collection of commercial paper received in the ordinary course of business;
  - (e) equity investments in Subsidiaries;
- (f) the Letters of Credit, the Blue Mountain L/C, the Guaranties, and the obligations of any Guarantor under Section 9 hereof, and any guarantee by the Company of the indebtedness of its Foreign Subsidiaries permitted under Section 7.7(e) above;
- (g) guaranties issued by Subsidiaries in support of obligations of the Company permitted under Section 7.7 above, provided that in the case of any Domestic Subsidiary it is also a Guarantor hereunder;
- (h) Acquisitions of all or any substantial part of the assets or business of any other Person or division thereof engaged in the same or any related business, or of a majority of the voting stock of such a Person, provided that (i) no Default or Event of Default exists or would exist after giving effect to such Acquisition, (ii) the board of directors or other governing body of such Person whose Property, or voting stock or interests in which, are being so acquired has approved the terms of such Acquisition, (iii) the Company shall have delivered to the Bank prior written notice of such Acquisition and, if a new Subsidiary results from such Acquisition, an updated Schedule 5.2, (iv) the sum of (1) the aggregate amount expended by the Company and its Subsidiaries as consideration for such Acquisition (and in any event (x) including as such consideration, any Indebtedness for Borrowed Money assumed or incurred as a result of such acquisition, and (y) excluding as such consideration, any equity securities issued by the Company as consideration for such Acquisition) and (2) the aggregate amount expended as consideration (including Indebtedness for Borrowed Money and excluding equity securities as aforesaid) for all other Acquisitions permitted under this Section 7.9(h) after the date hereof on a cumulative basis does not exceed \$32,000,000 in the aggregate, and (v) where the aggregate amount expended as consideration (including Indebtedness for Borrowed Money and excluding equity securities as aforesaid) for such Acquisition equals or exceeds \$15,000,000, the Company shall have furnished to the Bank at such time reasonable details as to such Acquisition (including sources and uses of funds), historical financial information and pro forma financial forecasts of the Company on a consolidated basis after giving effect to the Acquisition and covenant compliance calculations reasonably satisfactory to the Bank (and, within 60 days after the date of any such Acquisition where the aggregate amount expended as consideration (including Indebtedness for Borrowed Money and excluding equity securities as aforesaid) for such

Acquisition equals or exceeds \$15,000,000, the Company shall provide the Bank a summary integration plan for the business being acquired); and

(i) investments, loans, advances and guaranties (excluding Acquisitions) not otherwise permitted by this Section 7.9, provided that the aggregate amount of all such investments, loans, advances and guaranties permitted by this subsection (i) does not then exceed an amount equal to 15% of Tangible Net Worth as then determined and computed.

In determining the amount of investments, acquisitions, loans, advances and guarantees permitted under this Section, investments and acquisitions shall always be taken at the original cost thereof (regardless of any subsequent appreciation or depreciation therein), loans and advances shall be taken at the principal amount thereof then remaining unpaid, and guarantees shall be taken at the amount of obligations guaranteed thereby.

Section 7.10. Mergers, Consolidations and Sales. The Company shall not, nor shall it permit any Subsidiary to, be a party to any merger or consolidation, or sell, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any substantial part of its Property (excluding any disposition of Property as part of a sale and leaseback transaction) or in any event sell or discount (with or without recourse) any of its notes or accounts receivable; provided, however, that this Section shall not apply to nor prohibit:

- (a) the merger or consolidation of any Subsidiary with or into the Company or any other Subsidiary (including any corporation which, after giving effect to such transaction, will become a Subsidiary) so long as in any merger or consolidation involving the Company, the Company shall be the surviving or continuing corporation and in any merger or consolidation not involving the Company, a Subsidiary shall be the surviving or continuing corporation;
- (b) the merger or consolidation of the Company with or into any other corporation if the Company shall be the surviving or continuing corporation and at the time of such consolidation or merger and after giving effect thereto no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing; and
- (c) the sale, lease or other disposition by any Subsidiary of all or any substantial part of its assets to the Company or any other Subsidiary.

The term "substantial" as used herein shall mean the sale, transfer, lease or other disposition of 20% of the total assets of the Company.

Section 7.11. Maintenance of Subsidiaries. The Company shall not assign, sell or transfer, or permit any Subsidiary to issue, assign, sell or transfer, any shares of capital stock of a Subsidiary; provided that the foregoing shall not operate to prevent the issuance, sale and transfer to any person of any shares of capital stock of a Subsidiary solely for the purpose of qualifying, and to the extent legally necessary to qualify, such person as a director of such Subsidiary;

further, provided, however, that this Section 7.11 shall not operate to prevent any transaction otherwise permitted by Section 7.10 hereof.

Section 7.12. ERISA. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, promptly pay and discharge all obligations and liabilities arising under ERISA of a character which if unpaid or unperformed might result in the imposition of a Lien against any of its Properties. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, promptly notify the Bank of (a) the occurrence of any reportable event (as defined in ERISA) with respect to a Plan, (b) receipt of any notice from the PBGC of its intention to seek termination of any Plan or appointment of a trustee therefor, (c) its intention to terminate or withdraw from any Plan, and (d) the occurrence of any event with respect to any Plan which would result in the incurrence by the Company or any Subsidiary of any material liability, fine or penalty, or any material increase in the contingent liability of the Company or any Subsidiary with respect to any post-retirement Welfare Plan benefit.

Section 7.13. Compliance with Laws. The Company shall, and shall cause each Subsidiary to, comply in all respects with the requirements of all federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and orders applicable to or pertaining to their Properties or business operations, non-compliance with which could have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, Properties, business or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, or could result in a Lien upon any of their Property, which Lien is not otherwise permitted by Section 7.8 hereof.

Section 7.14. Burdensome Contracts With Affiliates. The Company shall not, nor shall it permit any Subsidiary to, enter into any contract, agreement or business arrangement with any of its Affiliates (other than with Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries) on terms and conditions which are less favorable to the Company or such Subsidiary than would be usual and customary in similar contracts, agreements or business arrangements between Persons not affiliated with each other.

Section 7.15. Change in the Nature of Business. The Company shall not, and shall not permit any Subsidiary to, engage in any business or activity if, as a result, the general nature of the business of the Company and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, would be changed in any material respect from the general nature of the business engaged in by the Company and its Subsidiaries on the date of this Agreement.

Section 7.16. Formation of Subsidiaries. In the event any Subsidiary is formed or acquired after the date hereof, the Company shall within thirty (30) Business Days thereof (x) furnish an update to Schedule 5.2 hereof to reflect such new Subsidiary and (y) cause, if such newly-formed or acquired Subsidiary is a Domestic Subsidiary, such Domestic Subsidiary to execute a Guaranty as the Bank may require, together with documentation (including a legal opinion) similar to that described in Section 6.2(c) hereof relating to the authorization for, execution and delivery of, and validity of such Subsidiary's obligations as a Guarantor hereunder and under its Guaranty in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank other instruments, documents, certificates and opinions as are reasonably required by the Bank in connection therewith.

- Section 7.17. Financial Covenants. (a) Consolidated Net Worth. The Company will, as of the last day of each fiscal quarter of the Company, maintain Consolidated Net Worth at not less than the Minimum Required Amount. For purposes of this Section 7.7, the term "Minimum Required Amount" shall mean \$56,759,047 and shall increase (but never decrease) as of January 31, 2006, and as of the last day of each fiscal quarter ending thereafter (i.e., the last day of each April, July, October, and January) by an amount equal to 25% of Net Income (but only if positive) for the fiscal quarter then ended.
- (b) Consolidated Debt Ratio. The Company will, as of the last day of each fiscal quarter of the Company, maintain a ratio of Consolidated Debt to Total Capitalization of less than 0.55 to 1.0.
- (c) Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio. The Company will, as of the last day of each fiscal quarter of the Company, maintain a ratio of (a) Consolidated EBITR for the four fiscal quarters then ended to (b) Consolidated Fixed Charges for the same period of four fiscal quarters then ended of greater than 1.50 to 1.0.
- (d) Consolidated Capital Expenditures. The Company shall not permit Consolidated Capital Expenditures to be incurred (whether by the Company or any Subsidiary) in excess of \$12,000,000 in the aggregate during any fiscal year of the Company.

## SECTION 8. EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND REMEDIES.

Section 8.1. Events of Default. Any one or more of the following shall constitute an "Event of Default" hereunder:

- (a) default for a period of five days in the payment when due of all or any part of the principal of or interest on any Note (whether at the stated maturity thereof or at any other time provided for in this Agreement) or of any fee or other Obligation payable by the Company hereunder; or
- (b) default in the observance or performance of any covenant set forth in Sections 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.10, or 7.11 hereof, or
- (c) default in the observance or performance of any covenant set forth in Sections 7.5, 7.6, 7.16, or 7.17 hereof which is not remedied within five days after the earlier of (i) the date on which such failure shall first become known to any officer of the Company or (ii) written notice thereof is given to the Company by the Bank; or
- (d) default in the observance or performance of any other provision hereof which is not remedied within thirty (30) days after the earlier of (i) the date on which such failure shall first become known to any officer of the Company or (ii) written notice thereof is given to the Company by the Bank; or
- (e) any representation or warranty made by the Company herein or in any statement or certificate furnished by it pursuant hereto, or in connection with any Loan

made hereunder, proves untrue in any material respect as of the date of the issuance or making thereof; or

- (f) default shall occur under any evidence of Indebtedness for Borrowed Money issued, assumed or guaranteed by the Company or (subject to Section 8.5 hereof) any Subsidiary aggregating in excess of \$1,000,000 or under any indenture, agreement or other instrument under which the same may be issued, and such default shall continue unwaived for a period of time sufficient to permit the acceleration of the maturity of any such Indebtedness for Borrowed Money (whether or not such maturity is in fact accelerated) or any such Indebtedness for Borrowed Money shall not be paid when due (whether by lapse of time, acceleration or otherwise); or
- (g) any judgment or judgments, writ or writs, or warrant or warrants of attachment, or any similar process or processes in an aggregate amount in excess of \$1,000,000 shall be entered or filed against the Company or (subject to Section 8.5 hereof) any Subsidiary or against any of their Property and which remains unvacated, unbonded, unstayed or unsatisfied for a period of thirty (30) days; or
- (h) the Company or any member of its Controlled Group shall fail to pay when due an amount or amounts aggregating in excess \$5,000,000 which it shall have become liable to pay to the PBGC or to a Plan under Title IV of ERISA; or notice of intent to terminate a Plan or Plans having aggregate Unfunded Vested Liabilities in excess of \$5,000,000 (collectively, a "Material Plan") shall be filed under Title IV of ERISA by the Company or any other member of its Controlled Group, any plan administrator or any combination of the foregoing; or the PBGC shall institute proceedings under Title IV of ERISA to terminate or to cause a trustee to be appointed to administer any Material Plan or a proceeding shall be instituted by a fiduciary of any Material Plan against the Company or any member of its Controlled Group to enforce Section 515 or 4219(c)(5) of ERISA and such proceeding shall not have been dismissed within thirty (30) days thereafter; or a condition shall exist by reason of which the PBGC would be entitled to obtain a decree adjudicating that any Material Plan must be terminated; or
- (i) dissolution or termination of the existence of (i) the Company or (ii) to the extent not otherwise permitted by Section 7.9 hereof and in any event subject to Section 8.5 hereof, any Subsidiary; or
- (j) the Company or (subject to Section 8.5 hereof) any Subsidiary shall (i) have entered involuntarily against it an order for relief under the United States Bankruptcy Code, as amended, (ii) not pay, or admit in writing its inability to pay, its debts generally as they become due, (iii) make an assignment for the benefit of creditors, (iv) apply for, seek, consent to, or acquiesce in, the appointment of a receiver, custodian, trustee, examiner, liquidator or similar official for it or any substantial part of its Property, (v) institute any proceeding seeking to have entered against it an order for relief under the United States Bankruptcy Code, as amended, to adjudicate it insolvent, or seeking dissolution, winding up, liquidation, reorganization, arrangement, adjustment or

composition of it or its debts under any law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization or relief of debtors or fail to file an answer or other pleading denying the material allegations of any such proceeding filed against it, or (vi) fail to contest in good faith any appointment or proceeding described in Section 8.1(k) hereof; or

- (k) a custodian, receiver, trustee, examiner, liquidator or similar official shall be appointed for the Company or (subject to Section 8.5 hereof) any Subsidiary or any substantial part of any of their Property, or a proceeding described in Section 8.1(j)(v) shall be instituted against the Company or (subject to Section 8.5 hereof) any Subsidiary, and such appointment continues undischarged or such proceeding continues undismissed or unstayed for a period of sixty (60) days.
- Section 8.2. Non-Bankruptcy Defaults. When any Event of Default described in subsection (a) through (i), both inclusive, of Section 8.1 has occurred and is continuing, the Bank may, by notice to the Company, take one or more of the following actions:
  - (a) terminate the obligation of the Bank to extend any further credit hereunder on the date (which may be the date thereof) stated in such notice;
  - (b) declare the principal of and the accrued interest on the Note to be forthwith due and payable and thereupon the Note, including both principal and interest and all fees, charges and other Obligations payable hereunder, shall be and become immediately due and payable without further demand, presentment, protest or notice of any kind; and
  - (c) enforce any and all rights and remedies  $\$ available to it under the Loan Documents or applicable law.
- Section 8.3. Bankruptcy Defaults. When any Event of Default described in subsection (j) or (k) of Section 8.1 has occurred and is continuing, then the Note, including both principal and interest, and all fees, charges and other Obligations payable hereunder, shall immediately become due and payable without presentment, demand, protest or notice of any kind, and the obligation of the Bank to extend further credit pursuant to any of the terms hereof shall immediately terminate. In addition, the Bank may exercise any and all remedies available to it under the Loan Documents or applicable law.
- Section 8.4. Collateral for Undrawn Letters of Credit. When any Event of Default, other than an Event of Default described in subsection (j) or (k) of Section 8.1, has occurred and is continuing, the Company shall, upon demand of the Bank, and when any Event of Default described in subsection (j) or (k) of Section 8.1 has occurred the Company shall, without notice or demand from the Bank, immediately pay to the Bank the full amount of each Letter of Credit then outstanding, the Company agreeing to immediately make such payment and acknowledging and agreeing that the Bank would not have an adequate remedy at law for failure of the Company to honor any such demand and that the Bank shall have the right to require the Company to specifically perform such undertaking whether or not any draws have been made under any such Letters of Credits.

Section 8.5. Defaults of Insignificant Subsidiaries. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, any event or occurrence of a type described in subsections (f), (g), (i), (j) or (k) of Section 8.1 hereof which occurs with respect to any Insignificant Subsidiary (collectively, "Subsidiary Defaults") shall not constitute an Event of Default under Section 8.1 hereof unless and until either (x) the Aggregate Cumulative Amount of Net Income attributable to Insignificant Subsidiaries which were the subject of Subsidiary Defaults on or at any time after the date hereof exceeds 15% of Net Income for the most recently completed fiscal year of the Company or (y) the Aggregate Cumulative Amount of Consolidated Total Assets attributable to such Insignificant Subsidiaries exceeds 15% of Consolidated Total Assets as of the close of the most recently completed fiscal year of the Company.

#### SECTION 9. THE GUARANTEES.

Section 9.1. The Guarantees. To induce the Bank to provide the credits described herein and in consideration of benefits expected to accrue to each Guarantor by reason of the commitments and for other good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, each Guarantor hereby unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees jointly and severally to the Bank, and each other holder of any Obligations, the due and punctual payment of all present and future Obligations, including, but not limited to, the due and punctual payment of principal of and interest on the Note, the due and punctual payment of all obligations owing under the Applications, and the due and punctual payment of all other Obligations now or hereafter owed by the Company under the Loan Documents as and when the same shall become due and payable, whether at stated maturity, by acceleration or otherwise, according to the terms hereof and thereof. In case of failure by the Company punctually to pay any indebtedness or other Obligations guaranteed hereby, each Guarantor hereby unconditionally agrees jointly and severally to make such payment or to cause such payment to be made punctually as and when the same shall become due and payable, whether at stated maturity, by acceleration or otherwise, and as if such payment were made by the Company.

Section 9.2. Guarantee Unconditional. The obligations of each Guarantor as a guarantor under this Section 9 shall be unconditional and absolute and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall not be released, discharged or otherwise affected by:

- (a) any extension, renewal, settlement, compromise, waiver or release in respect of any obligation of the Company or of any other Guarantor under this Agreement or any other Loan Document or by operation of law or otherwise;
- (b) any modification or amendment of or supplement to this Agreement or any other Loan Document;
- (c) any change in the corporate existence, structure or ownership of, or any insolvency, bankruptcy, reorganization or other similar proceeding affecting, the Company, any other Guarantor, or any of their respective assets, or any resulting release or discharge of any obligation of the Company or of any other Guarantor contained in any Loan Document;

- (d) the existence of any claim, set-off or other rights which the Guarantor may have at any time against the Bank or any other Person, whether or not arising in connection herewith;
- (e) any failure to assert, or any assertion of, any claim or demand or any exercise of, or failure to exercise, any rights or remedies against the Company, any other Guarantor or any other Person or Property;
- (f) any application of any sums by whomsoever paid or howsoever realized to any obligation of the Company, regardless of what obligations of the Company remain unpaid;
- (g) any invalidity or unenforceability relating to or against the Company or any other Guarantor for any reason of this Agreement or of any other Loan Document or any provision of applicable law or regulation purporting to prohibit the payment by the Company or any other Guarantor of the principal of or interest on the Note or any other amount payable by it under the Loan Documents; or
- (h) any other act or omission to act or delay of any kind by the Bank or any other Person or any other circumstance whatsoever that might, but for the provisions of this paragraph, constitute a legal or equitable discharge of the obligations of the Guarantor under this Section 9.

Section 9.3. Discharge Only Upon Payment in Full; Reinstatement in Certain Circumstances. Each Guarantor's obligations under this Section 9 shall remain in full force and effect until the commitments are terminated and the principal of and interest on the Note and all other amounts payable by the Company under this Agreement and all other Loan Documents shall have been paid in full. If at any time any payment of the principal of or interest on any Note or any other amount payable by the Company under the Loan Documents is rescinded or must be otherwise restored or returned upon the insolvency, bankruptcy or reorganization of the Company or of a Guarantor, or otherwise, each Guarantor's obligations under this Section 9 with respect to such payment shall be reinstated at such time as though such payment had become due but had not been made at such time.

Section 9.4. Subrogation. Each Guarantor agrees it will not exercise any rights which it may acquire by way of subrogation by any payment made hereunder, or otherwise, until all the Obligations shall have been paid in full subsequent to the termination of the Revolving Credit Commitment and expiration of all Letters of Credit. If any amount shall be paid to a Guarantor on account of such subrogation rights at any time prior to the later of (x) the payment in full of the Obligations and all other amounts payable by the Company hereunder and the other Loan Documents and (y) the termination of the Revolving Credit Commitment and expiration of all Letters of Credit, such amount shall be held in trust for the benefit of the Bank (and their Affiliates) and shall forthwith be paid to the Bank (and their Affiliates) or be credited and applied upon the Obligations, whether matured or unmatured, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

Section 9.5. Waivers. Each Guarantor irrevocably waives acceptance hereof, presentment, demand, protest and any notice not provided for herein, as well as any requirement that at any time any action be taken by the Bank or any other Person against the Company, another Guarantor or any other Person.

Section 9.6. Limit on Recovery. Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, the right to recovery of the holders of the Obligations against each Guarantor under this Section 9 shall not exceed \$1.00 less than the lowest amount which would render such Guarantor's obligations hereunder void or voidable under applicable law, including without limitation fraudulent conveyance law.

Section 9.7. Stay of Acceleration. If acceleration of the time for payment of any amount payable by the Company under this Agreement or any other Loan Document is stayed upon the insolvency, bankruptcy or reorganization of the Company, all such amounts otherwise subject to acceleration under the terms of this Agreement or the other Loan Documents shall nonetheless be payable jointly and severally by the Guarantors hereunder forthwith on demand by the Bank.

## SECTION 10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Section 10.1. Holidays. If any payment hereunder becomes due and payable on a day which is not a Business Day, the due date of such payment shall be extended to the next succeeding Business Day on which date such payment shall be due and payable. In the case of any payment of principal falling due on a day which is not a Business Day, interest on such principal amount shall continue to accrue during such extension at the rate per annum then in effect, which accrued amount shall be due and payable on the next scheduled date for the payment of interest.

Section 10.2. No Waiver, Cumulative Remedies. No delay or failure on the part of the Bank or on the part of the holder of the Obligations in the exercise of any power or right shall operate as a waiver thereof or as an acquiescence in any default, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any power or right preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other power or right. The rights and remedies hereunder of the Bank and of the holder of the Obligations are cumulative to, and not exclusive of, any rights or remedies which any of them would otherwise have.

Section 10.3. Amendments, Etc. No amendment, modification, termination or waiver of any provision of this Agreement or of any other Loan Document, nor consent to any departure by the Company therefrom, shall in any event be effective unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the Bank. No notice to or demand on the Company in any case shall entitle the Company to any other or further notice or demand in similar or other circumstances.

Section 10.4. Costs and Expenses. The Company agrees to pay on demand the costs and expenses of the Bank incurred in connection with the negotiation, preparation, execution and delivery of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents and the other instruments and documents to be delivered thereunder, and in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby, and in connection with any consents hereunder and any waivers or

amendments hereto or thereto, including the fees and expenses of counsel for the Bank, with respect to all of the foregoing (whether or not the transactions contemplated hereby are consummated). The Company further agrees to pay to the Bank or any other holder of the Obligations all costs and expenses (including court costs and attorneys' fees), if any, incurred or paid by the Bank or any other holder of the Obligations in connection with any Default or Event of Default or in connection with the enforcement of this Agreement or any other Loan Document or any other instrument or document delivered thereunder (including, without limitation, all such costs and expenses incurred in connection with any proceeding under the United States Bankruptcy Code involving the Company or any Guarantor). The Company further agrees to indemnify the Bank, and any security trustee, and their respective directors, officers and employees, against all losses, claims, damages, penalties, judgments, liabilities and expenses (including, without limitation, all expenses of litigation or preparation therefor, whether or not the indemnified person is a party thereto) which any of them may pay or incur arising out of or relating to any Loan Document or any of the transactions contemplated thereby or the direct or indirect application or proposed application of the proceeds of any extension of credit made available hereunder, other than those which arise from a material breach of this Agreement by the party claiming indemnification or the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the party claiming indemnification. The Company, upon demand by the Bank at any time, shall reimburse the Bank for any legal or other expenses incurred in connection with investigating or defending against any of the foregoing except if the same is directly due to a material breach of this Agreement by the party to be indemnified or the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the party to be indemnified. The obligations of the Company under this Section shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

Section 10.5. Documentary Taxes. The Company agrees to pay on demand any documentary, stamp or similar taxes payable in respect of this Agreement or any other Loan Document, including interest and penalties, in the event any such taxes are assessed, irrespective of when such assessment is made and whether or not any credit is then in use or available hereunder.

Section 10.6. Survival of Representations. All representations and warranties made herein or in any of the other Loan Documents or in certificates given pursuant hereto or thereto shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents, and shall continue in full force and effect with respect to the date as of which they were made as long as any credit is in use or available hereunder.

Section 10.7. Survival of Indemnities. All indemnities and other provisions relative to reimbursement to the Bank of amounts sufficient to protect the yield of the Bank with respect to the Loans, including, but not limited to, Sections 2.6 and 2.7 hereof, shall survive the termination of this Agreement and the payment of the Note.

Section 10.8. Notices. Except as otherwise specified herein, all notices hereunder shall be in writing (including cable, telecopy or telex) and shall be given to the relevant party at its address, telecopier number or telex number set forth below, or such other address, telecopier number or telex number as such party may hereafter specify by notice to the other given by courier, by United States certified or registered mail, by telecopy or by other telecommunication

device capable of creating a written record of such notice and its receipt. Notices hereunder shall be addressed:

to the Company at: to the Bank at: Oil-Dri Corporation of America Harris N.A.

410 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 400 111 West Monroe Street Chicago, Illinois 60611 Chicago, IL 60603

Attention: Jeffrey Libert, Attention: Michael Leong Vice President of Finance Telephone: (312) 461-2432

Telephone: (312) 706-3239 Telecopy: (312) 293-5068
Telecopy: (312) 706-1239

Each such notice, request or other communication shall be effective (i) if given by telecopier, when such telecopy is transmitted to the telecopier number specified in this Section and a confirmation of such telecopy has been received by the sender, (ii) if given by telex, when such telex is transmitted to the telex number specified in this Section and the answer back is received by sender, (iii) if given by mail, five (5) days after such communication is deposited in the mail, certified or registered with return receipt requested, addressed as aforesaid or (iv) if given by any other means, when delivered at the addresses specified in this Section; provided that any notice given pursuant to Section 1 or Section 2 hereof shall be effective only upon receipt.

Section 10.9. Construction. The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that this Agreement and the other Loan Documents shall not be construed more favorably in favor of one than the other based upon which party drafted the same, it being acknowledged that all parties hereto contributed substantially to the negotiation of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents.

Section 10.10. Headings. Section headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and are not a part of this Agreement for any other purpose.

Section 10.11. Severability of Provisions. Any provision of this Agreement which is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof or affecting the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other jurisdiction.

Section 10.12. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and by different parties hereto on separate counterpart signature pages, and all such counterparts taken together shall be deemed to constitute one and the same instrument.

Section 10.13. Binding Nature, Governing Law, Etc. This Agreement shall be binding upon the Company and the Guarantors, and their successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of the Bank and the benefit of its successors and assigns, including any subsequent holder of the Obligations. The Company may not assign its rights hereunder without the written consent of the Bank. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and any prior agreements, whether written or oral, with respect thereto

are superseded hereby. THIS AGREEMENT AND THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE PARTIES HERETO SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE INTERNAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS WITHOUT REGARD TO PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICTS OF LAWS.

Section 10.14. Submission to Jurisdiction; Waiver of Jury Trial. The Company and the Guarantors each hereby submits to the nonexclusive jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and of any Illinois State court sitting in the City of Chicago for purposes of all legal proceedings arising out of or relating to this Agreement, the other Loan Documents or the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby. The Company and the Guarantors each irrevocably waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any objection which it may now or hereafter have to the laying of the venue of any such proceeding brought in such a court and any claim that any such proceeding brought in such a court has been brought in an inconvenient forum. THE COMPANY, THE GUARANTORS, AND THE BANK HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVE ANY AND ALL RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO ANY LOAN DOCUMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED THEREBY.

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

Upon your acceptance hereof in the manner hereinafter set forth, this Agreement shall constitute a contract between us for the uses and purposes hereinabove set forth.

Dated as of this 27th day of January, 2006.

"COMPANY"

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

By /s/ Jeffrey M. Libert
Name Jeffrey M. Libert
Title VP, Finance & Treasurer

"GUARANTORS"

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF GEORGIA

By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President

OIL-DRI PRODUCTION COMPANY

By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF NEVADA

By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President

MOUNDS PRODUCTION COMPANY, LLC
BY MOUNDS MANAGEMENT, INC., ITS MANAGING MEMBER
By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President
MOUNDS MANAGEMENT, INC.
By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President
BLUE MOUNTAIN PRODUCTION COMPANY
By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President
TAFT PRODUCTION COMPANY
By /s/ Charles P. Brissman
Name Charles P.Brissman
Title Vice President
Illinois, as of the day and year last
HARRIS N.A.

By /s/ George Dluhy, Director

Name George Dluhy
----Title Director

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Accepted}}$  and agreed to at Chicago, above written.

## EXHIBIT A

## OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA REVOLVING NOTE

\$15,000,000

Chicago, Illinois January 27, 2006

On the Termination Date, for value received, the undersigned, Oil-Dri Corporation of America, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), hereby promises to pay to the order of Harris N.A. (the "Bank") at its main office at 111 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois, the principal sum of Fifteen Million and no/100 Dollars (\$15,000,000), or (ii) such lesser amount as may at the time of the maturity hereof, whether by acceleration or otherwise, be the aggregate unpaid principal amount of all Loans owing from the Company to the Bank under the Revolving Credit provided for in the Credit Agreement hereinafter mentioned.

This Note evidences Loans made or to be made to the Company by the Bank under the Revolving Credit provided for under that certain Credit Agreement dated as of January 27, 2006, between the Company and the Bank (said Credit Agreement, as the same may be amended, modified or restated from time to time, being referred to herein as the "Credit Agreement"); and the Company hereby promises to pay interest at the office described above on such Loans evidenced hereby at the rates and at the times and in the manner specified therefor in the Credit Agreement.

This Note is issued by the Company under the terms and provisions of the Credit Agreement, and this Note and the holder hereof are entitled to all of the benefits provided for thereby or referred to therein, to which reference is hereby made for a statement thereof. This Note may be declared to be, or be and become, due prior to its expressed maturity and voluntary prepayments may be made hereon, all in the events, on the terms and with the effects provided in the Credit Agreement. All capitalized terms used herein without definition shall have the same meanings herein as such terms are defined in the Credit Agreement.

The Company hereby promises to pay all costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) suffered or incurred by the holder hereof in collecting this Note or enforcing any rights in any collateral therefor. The Company hereby waives presentment for payment and demand. THIS NOTE SHALL BE CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, AND GOVERNED BY, THE INTERNAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS WITHOUT REGARD TO PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICTS OF LAWS.

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

Ву	/s/	Jeffrey M. Libert
	Name	Jeffrey M. Libert
	Title	VP, Finance & Treasurer

## EXHIBIT B

## COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

This Compliance Certificate is furnished to Harris N.A. (the "Bank") pursuant to that certain Credit Agreement dated as of January 27, 2006, by and between Oil-Dri Corporation of America (the "Company") and the Bank (the "Credit Agreement"). Unless otherwise defined herein, the terms used in this Compliance Certificate have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Credit Agreement.

UNDERSIGNED		

1. I am the duly elected	of	the
Company;		

- 2. I have reviewed the terms of the Credit Agreement and I have made, or have caused to be made under my supervision, a detailed review of the transactions and conditions of the Company and its Subsidiaries during the accounting period covered by the attached financial statements;
- 3. The examinations described in paragraph 2 did not disclose, and I have no knowledge of, the existence of any condition or the occurrence of any event which constitutes a Default or Event of Default during or at the end of the accounting period covered by the attached financial statements or as of the date of this Certificate, except as set forth below;
- 4. The financial statements required by Section 7.5 of the Credit Agreement and being furnished to you concurrently with this certificate are, to the best of my knowledge, true, correct and complete as of the dates and for the periods covered thereby; and
- 5. The Attachment hereto sets forth financial data and computations evidencing the Company's compliance with certain covenants of the Credit Agreement, all of which data and computations are, to the best of my knowledge, true, complete and correct and have been made in accordance with the relevant Sections of the Credit Agreement.

Described below are the exceptions, if any, to paragraph 3 by listing, in detail, the nature of the condition or event, the period during which it has existed and the action which the Company has taken, is taking, or proposes to take with respect to each such condition or event:

The foregoing certifications the Attachment hereto and the Certificate in support hereof,	financial statements	delivered with this
		,
	(Type or Print Name	) (Title)

# ATTACHMENT TO COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

Compliance Calculations for Credit Agreement Dated as of January 27, 2006 Calculations as of , 20

\_\_\_\_\_\_ CONSOLIDATED NET WORTH (SECTION 7.17(A)) Α. 1. Consolidated Net Worth \_\_\_\_\_ Positive Net Income for each fiscal quarter ending 1/31/06 or later 3. 25% of Line 2 -----4. As listed in Section 7.17(a), for the date of this Certificate, Consolidated Net Worth must not be less than \$ (\$56,759,047 plus Line 3) 5. Company is in compliance? (Circle yes or no) Yes/No CONSOLIDATED DEBT RATIO (SECTION 7.17(B)) В. Consolidated Debt as defined 2. Net Worth \_\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Ratio of Line B1 to B2 ("Consolidated Debt Ratio") to 1.0 As listed in Section 7.17(b), for the date of 4. this Certificate, the Consolidated Debt Ratio shall be less than 0.55 to 1.0 ========= 5. Company is in compliance? (Circle yes or no) Yes/No ========== С. FIXED CHARGE COVERAGE RATIO (SECTION 7.17(C)) Net Income 1. 2. (a) Interest Expense (b) Federal, state, ----and local taxes (c) Lease and rental expense Sum of Lines 1, 2(a), (b) and (c) 3. Interest Income 4. Gains on sales of fixed assets 5. Sum of Lines 4 and 5 6. Line 3 minus Line 6 ("Consolidated EBITR") 8. Sum of Line 2(a) and 2(c) \_\_\_\_\_\_ 9. Line 8 minus line 4 ("Consolidated Fixed Charges") Ratio of Line 7 to Line 9 10.

As listed in Section 7.17(c), for the date of

11.

this Certificate, the Line 10 ratio shall not be greater than	1.50:1
Company is in compliance? (Circle Yes or No)	Yes/No
PENDITURES (SECTION 7.17(D)	

D. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES (	(SECTION	7.17(	(D)
---------------------------	----------	-------	-----

12.

1. Year-to-Date Capital Expenditures 2. Line F1 must be less than or equal to The Company is in compliance (circle yes or no) 3. yes/no

## EXHIBIT C

## **GUARANTY AGREEMENT**

										,	2	9	)		
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_

Harris N.A. 111 West Monroe Street Chicago, Illinois 60603

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the Credit Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2006 (the "Credit Agreement") between Oil-Dri Corporation of America and Harris N.A. Capitalized terms used and not defined herein have the meanings assigned to them in the Credit Agreement.

The undersigned, [name of Subsidiary Guarantor], a [jurisdiction of incorporation or organization] hereby elects to be a "Guarantor" for all purposes of the Credit Agreement, effective from the date hereof. The undersigned confirms that the representations and warranties set forth in Section 5 of the Credit Agreement are true and correct as to the undersigned as of the date hereof and the undersigned shall comply with each of the covenants set forth in Section 7 of the Credit Agreement applicable to it.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the undersigned hereby agrees to perform all the obligations of a Guarantor under, and to be bound as a Guarantor in all respects by the terms of, the Credit Agreement, including without limitation Section 9 thereof, to the same extent and with the same force and effect as if the undersigned were a signatory party thereto.

The undersigned acknowledges that this Agreement shall be effective upon its execution and delivery by the undersigned to the Bank, and it shall not be necessary for the Bank, or any of its Affiliates entitled to the benefits hereof, to execute this Agreement or any other acceptance hereof. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the internal laws of the State of Illinois.

By Name Title

Very truly yours,
[NAME OF GUARANTOR]

## SCHEDULE 1.3

## PRESENT LETTERS OF CREDIT

ISSUE DATE	L/C NUMBER	TYPE	FACE AMOUNT	BENEFICIARY
November 30, 1988	HACH195720S	Special Purpose	\$2,500,000.00	JPMorgan Chase
August 1, 2003	HACH197620S	Special Purpose	\$ 790,000.00	Federal Ins. Co (Chubb)
August 31, 2005	HACH1098910S	Standby	\$ 2,700.00	National Bank of Egypt
January 13, 2016	HACH1179560S	Standby	\$ 3,197.25	Egyptian National Bank
January 13, 2006	HACH177220S	Standby	\$ 4,110.75	Bank of Alexandria
January 13, 2006	HACH1177210S	Standby	\$ 2,283.75	Commercial International Bank
January 13, 2006	HACH1177230S	Standby	\$ 913.50	National Bank of Egypt
January 19, 2006	HACH1190590S	Standby	\$ 913.50	Banque Misr

## SCHEDULE 5.2

## SUBSIDIARIES

NAME	JURISDICTION OF ORGANIZATION	PERCENTAGE OWNERSHIP	TYPE
Oil-Dri Corporation of Georgia	Georgia	100%	Significant
Oil-Dri Production Company	Mississippi	100%	Significant
Mounds Management, Inc. (formerly known as Oil-Dri Transportation Co.)	Delaware	100%	Insignificant
Oil-Dri (U.K.) Limited	United Kingdom	100%	Insignificant
Oil-Dri Corporation of Nevada	Nevada	100%	Insignificant
ODC Acquisition Corp.	Illinois	100%	Insignificant; Inactive
Oil-Dri S.A.	Switzerland	100%	Insignificant
Favorite Products Company, Ltd.	Canada	100% (by Oil-Dri S.A.)	Insignificant
Blue Mountain Production Company	Mississippi	100% (by Favorite Products)	Insignificant
Mounds Production Company, LLC	Illinois	75% (by Mounds Management, Inc.) and 25% (by Blue Mountain Production Company)	Insignificant
Taft Production Company	Delaware	100%	Insignificant

#### OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

THIRD AMENDMENT

Dated as of January 27, 2006

Tο

Note Purchase Agreement Dated as of April 15, 1998

Re: \$25,000,000 6.55% Senior Notes due April 15, 2013

## Third Amendment to Note Purchase Agreement

This Third Amendment dated as of January 27, 2006 (this "Third Amendment") to the Note Purchase Agreement dated as of April 15, 1998 is among Oil-Dri Corporation of America, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and each of the institutions which is a signatory to this Third Amendment (collectively, the "Noteholders").

#### RECITALS:

- A. The Company and each of the Noteholders have heretofore entered into the Note Purchase Agreement as of April 15, 1998 (the "Note Purchase Agreement") and further have entered into a First Amendment to Note Purchase Agreement dated as of January 15, 2001 (the "First Amendment"), and a Second Amendment to Note Purchase Agreement dated as of July 15, 2002 (the "Second Amendment"). The Company has heretofore issued the \$25,000,000 6.55% Senior Notes due April 15, 2013 (the "Notes") pursuant to the Note Purchase Agreement. The Noteholders are the holders of 100% of the outstanding principal amount of the Notes.
- B. The Company and the Noteholders now desire to amend the Note Purchase Agreement (as amended by the First Amendment and the Second Amendment) in the respects, but only in the respects, hereinafter set forth.
- C. Capitalized terms used herein shall have the respective meanings ascribed thereto in the Note Purchase Agreement unless defined herein or the context shall otherwise require.
- D. All requirements of law have been fully complied with and all other acts necessary to made this Third Amendment a valid, legal and binding instrument according to its terms for the purposes herein expressed have been done or performed.

Now, THEREFORE, the Company and the Noteholders, in consideration of good and valuable consideration, the receipt sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby agree as follows:

- SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS. The Note Purchase Agreement is amended as follows:
  - 1.1. New Section 9.7 is added as follows:
  - Section 9.7. Subsidiary Guaranties. The Company will at all times cause each Guarantor Subsidiary to be a party to a Guaranty Agreement.
- 1.2. In Section 11(j), the period at the end of such section is deleted and "; or" substituted in its place, and the following new Section 11(k) is added:
  - (k) (i) the obligations of any Guarantor Subsidiary contained in any Guaranty Agreement shall cease to be in full force and effect or shall be declared by a court or governmental authority of competent jurisdiction to be void, voidable or unenforceable against any such Guarantor Subsidiary; (ii) the Company or any Guarantor Subsidiary shall contest the validity or enforceability of any Guaranty Agreement against any such Guarantor

Subsidiary, or (iii) the Company or any Guarantor Subsidiary shall deny that such Guarantor Subsidiary has any further liability or obligation under any Guaranty

Agreement unless in each case the Guaranty Agreement is replaced by an equivalent new Guaranty Agreement lacking the defect at issue.

1.3. In Schedule B, a new definition of "Guaranty Agreement" is added as follows:

"Guaranty Agreement" means, a Guaranty Agreement made by each Guarantor Subsidiary in favor of the holders of the Notes in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto. (as the same may be amended, modified or supplemented from time to time).

1.4. In Schedule B, a new definition of "Guarantor Subsidiary" is added as follows:

"Guarantor Subsidiary" means each Subsidiary that is party to a Guaranty of any Debt of the Company (other than the Notes).

1.5. In Schedule B, the definition of "Priority Debt" is hereby deleted in its entirety an the following is hereby substituted therefor:

"Priority Debt" means, without duplication, the sum of (a) all Debt of the Company secured by any Lien permitted under Section 10.5(k), and (b) all Debt of Restricted Subsidiaries (except (i) Debt held by the Company or a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary or (ii) any Guaranty by any Subsidiary of any Debt of the Company so long as such Subsidiary is party to a Guaranty Agreement).

SECTION 2. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES. The Company represents and warrants as follows:

- 2.1. The execution, delivery and performance of this Third Amendment have been duly authorized by all requisite action and this Third Amendment has been duly executed and delivered by authorized officers of the Company and is the valid obligation of the Company, legally binding upon and enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by (i) bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and (ii) general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law).
- 2.2. The execution and delivery of this Third Amendment by the Company, and of the Guaranty Agreement by each Guarantor Subsidiary and the fulfillment of or the compliance with the terms and provisions hereof and thereof will not conflict with, or result in a breach of the terms, conditions or provisions of, or constitute a default under, or result in any violation of, or result in the creation of any Lien upon any of the properties or assets of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries pursuant to, the certificate of incorporation or articles of organization (as the case may be), the by-laws or limited liability company agreement (as the case may be) of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, any award of any arbitrator or any agreement (including any agreement with stockholders or holders of membership interests (as the case may be) of the Company or any such Subsidiary or Persons with director or indirect ownership interests in stockholders or holders of membership interests (as the case may be) of the Company), instrument, order, judgment, decree, statute, law, rule or regulation to which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is subject.

2.3. After giving effect to this Third  $\,$  Amendment,  $\,$  no Default or Event of Default exists.

## SECTION 3. MISCELLANEOUS

- 3.1. This Third Amendment shall be construed in connection with and as part of the Note Purchase Agreement and except as modified and expressly amended by this Third Amendment, all terms, conditions and covenants contained in the Note Purchase Agreement, the First Amendment thereto, the Second Amendment thereto, and the Notes are hereby ratified and shall be and remain in full force and effect
- 3.2. Any and all notices, requests, certificates and other instruments executed and delivered after the execution and delivery of this Third Amendment may refer to the Note Purchase Agreement without making specific reference to this Third Amendment but nevertheless all such references shall include this Third Amendment unless the context otherwise requires.
- 3.3. The descriptive headings of the various sections or parts of this Third Amendment are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or construction of any of the provisions hereof.
- 3.4. This Third Amendment shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and the rights of the parties shall be governed by, the law of the State of Illinois excluding choice-of-law principles of the law of such State that would require the application of the laws of a jurisdiction other than such State.

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The remainder of this Page is intentionally left blank.

3.5. The execution hereof by the parties hereto shall constitute a contract among such parties for the uses and purposes hereinabove set forth, and this Third Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts, each executed counterpart constituting an original, but all together only one agreement.

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Libert

Jeffrey M. Libert, Vice President,
Finance & Treasurer

Accepted and Agreed to:

TEACHERS INSURANCE AND ANNUITY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

By: /s/ Estelle D. Simsolo
Estelle D. Simsolo
Director, Private Placements

PRUDENTIAL RETIREMENT INSURANCE AND ANNUITY COMPANY

By:Prudential Investment Management, Inc., as investment manager

By: /s/ Anthony Colette
Anthony Coletta
Vice President

## [FORM OF GUARANTY AGREEMENT]

#### **GUARANTY AGREEMENT**

## WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Oil-Dri Corporation of America, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and each of the Noteholders have heretofore entered into the Note Purchase Agreement as of April 15, 1998, as amended by the First Amendment to Note Purchase Agreement dated as of January 15, 2001 (the "First Amendment"), the Second Amendment to Note Purchase Agreement dated as of July 15, 2002 (the "Second Amendment") and the Third Amendment to Note Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2006 ((the "Third Amendment"); the Note Purchase Agreement, as so amended and as further amended from time to time, being referred to as the "Note Purchase Agreement"). The Company has heretofore issued the \$25,000,000 6.55% Senior Notes due April 15, 2013 (the "Notes") pursuant to the Note Purchase Agreement.

WHEREAS, the Third Amendment requires that the Company cause each Guarantor Subsidiary to execute and deliver this Guaranty for the benefit of the Noteholders.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants herein contained, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, each Guarantor, intending to be legally bound, does hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS; RECITALS. Capitalized terms that are used in this Guaranty and not defined in this Guaranty shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Note Purchase Agreement. The recitals in this Guaranty are incorporated into this Guaranty.

## 2. THE GUARANTY.

2A. Guaranty of Payment. Each Guarantor, jointly and severally, absolutely, unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees the full and prompt payment in United States currency when due (whether at maturity, a stated prepayment date or earlier by reason of acceleration or otherwise) and at all times thereafter, of all of the indebtedness, existing on the date hereof or arising from time to time hereafter, whether direct or indirect, joint or several, actual, absolute or contingent, matured or unmatured, liquidated or unliquidated, secured or unsecured, arising by contract, operation of law or otherwise, of the Company to any Noteholder under or in respect of the Note Purchase Agreement and the Notes, including, without limitation, the principal of and interest (including, without limitation, interest accruing before, during or after any bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, arrangement, readjustment of debt, liquidation

or dissolution proceeding, and, if interest ceases to accrue by operation of law by reason of any such proceeding, interest which otherwise would have accrued in the absence of such proceeding, whether or not allowed as a claim in such proceeding) on the Notes or any Make-Whole Amount (collectively, the "Guarantied Obligations"). This is a continuing guaranty of payment and not of collection. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the aggregate amount of any Guarantor's liability under this Guaranty shall not exceed the maximum amount that such Guarantor can guaranty without violating, or causing this Guaranty or such Guarantor's obligations under this Guaranty to be void, voidable or otherwise unenforceable under, any fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer law, including Section 548(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code (as hereinafter defined).

Upon an Event of Default, any Noteholder may, at its sole election and without notice, proceed directly and at once against any Guarantor to seek and enforce payment of, and to collect and recover, the Guarantied Obligations, or any portion thereof, without first proceeding against the Company, any other Guarantor or any other Person or against any security for the Guarantied Obligations or for the liability of any such other Person or the Guarantor hereunder. Each Noteholder shall have the exclusive right to determine the application of payments and credits, if any, to such Noteholder from each Guarantor, the Company or from any other Person on account of the Guarantied Obligations or otherwise. This Guaranty and all covenants and agreements of each Guarantor contained herein shall continue in full force and effect and shall not be discharged until such a time as all of the Guarantied Obligations shall be indefeasibly paid in full in cash.

2B. Obligations Unconditional. The obligations of each Guarantor under this Guaranty shall be continuing, absolute and unconditional, irrespective of (i) the invalidity or unenforceability of the Note Purchase Agreement, the Notes or any other agreements, documents, certificates and instruments now or hereafter executed or delivered by the Company or any other Guarantor or any other Person in connection with the Note Purchase Agreement or any provision thereof; (ii) the absence of any attempt by any Noteholder to collect the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof from the Company, any other Guarantor or any other Person or other action to enforce the same; (iii) any failure by any Noteholder to acquire, perfect or maintain any security interest or lien in, or take any steps to preserve its rights to, any security for the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof or for the liability of any Guarantor hereunder or the liability of the Company, any other Guarantor or any other Person or any or all of the Guarantied Obligations; (iv) any defense arising by reason of any disability (other than a defense of payment, unless the payment on which such defense is based was or is subsequently invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, otherwise avoided and/or required to be repaid to the Company or a Guarantor, as the case may be, or the estate of any such party, a trustee, receiver or any other Person under any bankruptcy law, state or federal law, common law or equitable cause, in which case there shall be no defense of payment with respect to such payment) of the Company or any other Person liable on the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof; (v) any Noteholder's election, in any proceeding instituted under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. ss.101 et seq.) (the "Bankruptcy Code"), of the application of Section 1111(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code; (vi) any borrowing or grant of a security interest to any Noteholder by the Company as debtor-in-possession, or extension of credit, under Section 364 of the Bankruptcy Code; (vii) the disallowance or avoidance of all or any portion of any Noteholder's claim(s) for repayment of the Guarantied Obligations under the

Bankruptcy Code or any similar state law or the avoidance, invalidity or unenforceability of any Lien securing the Guarantied Obligations or the liability of any Guarantor hereunder or of the Company or any other guarantor of all or any part of the Guarantied Obligations; (viii) any amendment to, waiver or modification of, or consent, extension, indulgence or other action or inaction under or in respect of the Note Purchase Agreement, the Notes or any other agreements, documents, certificates and instruments now or hereafter executed or delivered by the Company or any Guarantor or any other guarantor in connection with the Note Purchase Agreement (including, without limitation, any increase in the interest rate on the Notes); (ix) any change in any provision of any applicable law or regulation; to the extent the same may be waived under any such applicable law or regulation; (x) any order, judgment, writ, award or decree of any court, arbitrator or governmental authority, domestic or foreign, binding on or affecting any Guarantor, the Company or any other guarantor or any of their assets; (xi) the certificate of incorporation or articles of organization (as the case may be), or the by-laws or limited liability company agreement (as the case may be) of any Guarantor or the Company or any other guarantor; (xii) any mortgage, indenture, lease, contract, or other agreement (including without limitation any agreement with stockholders), instrument or undertaking to which any Guarantor or the Company is a party or which purports to be binding on or affect any such Person or any of its assets; (xiii) any bankruptcy, insolvency, readjustment, composition, liquidation or similar proceeding with respect to the Company, any Guarantor or any other guarantor of all or any portion of any Guarantied Obligations or any such Person's property and any failure by any Noteholder to file or enforce a claim against the Company, any Guarantor or any such other Person in any such proceeding; (xiv) any failure on the part of the Company for any reason to comply with or perform any of the terms of any other agreement with any Guarantor; or (xv) any other circumstance which might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge or defense of a guarantor (other than a defense of payment, unless the payment on which such defense is based was or is subsequently invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, otherwise avoided and/or required to be repaid to the Company or a Guarantor, as the case may be, or the estate of any such party, a trustee, receiver or any other Person under any bankruptcy law, state or federal law, common law or equitable cause, in which case there shall be no defense of payment with respect to such payment).

2C. Obligations Unimpaired. Each Guarantor agrees that each Noteholder is authorized, without demand or notice, which demand and notice are hereby waived, and without discharging or otherwise affecting the obligations of any Guarantor hereunder (which shall remain absolute and unconditional notwithstanding any such action or omission to act), from time to time to (i) renew, extend, accelerate or otherwise change the time for payment of, or other terms relating to, the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof, or otherwise modify, amend or change the terms of the Note Purchase Agreement, the Notes or any other agreements, documents, certificates and instruments now or hereafter executed or delivered by the Company or any Guarantor in connection with the Note Purchase Agreement; (ii) accept partial payments on the Guarantied Obligations; (iii) take and hold security for the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof or any other liabilities of the Company, the obligations of any Guarantor under this Guaranty and the obligations under any other guaranties and sureties of all or any of the Guarantied Obligations, and exchange, enforce, waive, release, sell, transfer, assign, abandon, fail to perfect, subordinate or otherwise deal with any such security; (iv) apply such security and direct the order or manner of sale thereof as any Noteholder may determine in its sole discretion; (v) settle, release, compromise, collect or otherwise liquidate the Guarantied Obligations or any

portion thereof and any security therefor or guaranty thereof in any manner; (vi) extend additional loans, credit and financial accommodations to the Company and otherwise create additional Guarantied Obligations; (vii) waive strict compliance with the terms of the Note Purchase Agreement, the Notes or any other agreements, documents, certificates and instruments now or hereafter executed or delivered by the Company or any Guarantor in connection with the Note Purchase Agreement and otherwise forbear from asserting any Noteholder's rights and remedies thereunder; (viii) take and hold additional guaranties or sureties and enforce or forbear from enforcing any guaranty or surety of any other guarantor or surety of the Guarantied Obligations, any portion thereof or release or otherwise take any action (or omit to take any action) with respect to any such guarantor or surety; (ix) assign this Guaranty in part or in whole in connection with any assignment of the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof; (x) exercise or refrain from exercising any of its rights against the Company or any Guarantor; and (xi) apply any sums, by whomsoever paid or however realized, to the payment of the Guarantied Obligations as any Noteholder in its sole discretion may determine.

- 2D. Waivers of Guarantors. Each Guarantor waives for the benefit of the Noteholders:
- (i) any right to require any Noteholder, as a condition of payment or performance by such Guarantor or otherwise to (a) proceed against the Company, any other Guarantor, any other guarantor of the Guarantied Obligations or any other Person, (b) proceed against or exhaust any security given to or held by any Noteholder in connection with the Guarantied Obligations or any other guaranty, or (c) pursue any other remedy available to any Noteholder whatsoever;
- (ii) any defense arising by reason of (a) the incapacity, lack of authority or any disability of the Company, including, without limitation, any defense based on or arising out of the lack of validity or the unenforceability of the Guarantied Obligations or any agreement or instrument relating thereto (other than a defense of payment, unless the payment on which such defense is based was or is subsequently invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, otherwise avoided and/or required to be repaid to the Company or a Guarantor, as the case may be, or the estate of any such party, a trustee, receiver or any other Person under any bankruptcy law, state or federal law, common law or equitable cause, in which case there shall be no defense of payment with respect to such payment), (b) the cessation of the liability of the Company from any cause other than indefeasible payment in full of the Guarantied Obligations in cash or (c) any act or omission of any Noteholder or any other Person which directly or indirectly, by operation of law or otherwise, results in or aids the discharge or release of the Company or any security given to or held by any Noteholder in connection with the Guarantied Obligations or any other guaranty;
- (iii) any defense based upon any Noteholder's errors or omissions in the administration of the Guarantied Obligations;
- (iv) (a) any principles or provisions of law, statutory or otherwise, which are or might be in conflict with the terms of this Guaranty and any legal or equitable discharge of such Guarantor's obligations thereunder except to the extent any such principle, provision or discharge may not be waived under applicable law, (b) the benefit of any statute of limitations affecting the Guarantied Obligations or such Guarantor's liability hereunder or the enforcement

- hereof, (c) any rights to set-offs, recoupments and counterclaims, and (d) promptness, diligence and any requirement that any Noteholder protect, maintain, secure, perfect or insure any Lien or any property subject thereto;
- (v) notices (a) of nonperformance or dishonor, (b) of acceptance of this Guaranty by any Noteholder or by any Guarantor, (c) of default in respect of the Guarantied Obligations or any other guaranty, (d) of the existence, creation or incurrence of new or additional indebtedness, arising either from additional loans extended to the Company or otherwise, (e) that the principal amount, or any portion thereof, and/or any interest on any document or instrument evidencing all or any part of the Guarantied Obligations is due, (f) of any and all proceedings to collect from the Company, any Guarantor or any other guarantor of all or any part of the Guarantied Obligations, or from anyone else, (g) of exchange, sale, surrender or other handling of any security or collateral given to any Noteholder to secure payment of the Guarantied Obligations or any guaranty therefor, (h) of renewal, extension or modification of any of the Guarantied Obligations, (i) of assignment, sale or other transfer of any Note to a permitted transferee thereof, or (j) of any of the matters referred to in paragraph 2B and any right to consent to any thereof;
- (vi) presentment, demand for payment or performance and protest and notice of protest with respect to the Guarantied Obligations or any guaranty with respect thereto; and
- (vii) any defenses or benefits that may be derived from or afforded by law which limit the liability of or exonerate guarantors or sureties, or which may conflict with the terms of this Guaranty.

Each Guarantor agrees that no Noteholder shall be under any obligation to marshall any assets in favor of such Guarantor or against or in payment of any or all of the Guarantied Obligations.

No Guarantor will exercise any rights which it may have acquired by way of subrogation under this Guaranty, by any payment made hereunder or otherwise, or accept any payment on account of such subrogation rights, or any rights of reimbursement or indemnity or contribution or any rights or recourse to any security for the Guarantied Obligations or this Guaranty unless at the time of such Guarantor's exercise of any such right there shall have been performed and indefeasibly paid in full in cash all of the Guarantied Obligations.

2E. Revival. Each Guarantor agrees that, if any payment made by the Company or any other Person is applied to the Guarantied Obligations and is at any time annulled, set aside, rescinded, invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential or otherwise required to be refunded or repaid, or the proceeds of any security are required to be returned by any Noteholder to the Company, its estate, trustee, receiver or any other Person, including, without limitation, any Guarantor, under any bankruptcy law, state or federal law, common law or equitable cause, then, to the extent of such payment or repayment, such Guarantor's liability hereunder (and any lien, security interest or other collateral securing such liability) shall be and remain in full force and effect, as fully as if such payment had never been made, or, if prior thereto this Guaranty shall have been canceled or surrendered (and if any lien, security interest or other collateral securing such Guarantor's liability hereunder shall have been released or terminated by virtue of such cancellation or surrender), this Guaranty (and such lien, security

interest or other collateral) shall be reinstated and returned in full force and effect, and such prior cancellation or surrender shall not diminish, release, discharge, impair or otherwise affect the obligations of such Guarantor in respect of the amount of such payment (or any lien, security interest or other collateral securing such obligation).

- 2F. Obligation to Keep Informed. Each Guarantor shall be responsible for keeping itself informed of the financial condition of the Company and any other Persons primarily or secondarily liable on the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof, and of all other circumstances bearing upon the risk of nonpayment of the Guarantied Obligations or any portion thereof, and each Guarantor agrees that no Noteholder shall have any duty to advise such Guarantor of information known to such Noteholder regarding such condition or any such circumstance. If any Noteholder, in its discretion, undertakes at any time or from time to time to provide any such information to any Guarantor, such Noteholder shall not be under any obligation (i) to undertake any investigation, whether or not a part of its regular business routine, (ii) to disclose any information which such Noteholder wishes to maintain confidential, or (iii) to make any other or future disclosures of such information or any other information to any Guarantor.
- 2G. Bankruptcy. If any Event of Default specified in clauses (ii) or (iv) of Section 11(g) or Section 11(h) of the Note Purchase Agreement shall occur and be continuing, then each Guarantor agrees to immediately pay to the Noteholders the full outstanding amount of the Guarantied Obligations without notice.

No waiver by any Guarantor in this Guaranty shall, in and of itself, be deemed a waiver by the Company of any right of, or benefit afforded to, the Company under the Note Purchase Agreement.

#### 3. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

Each Guarantor represents, covenants and warrants as follows:

- 3A. Organization. Such Guarantor is a corporation or limited liability company (as the case may be) duly organized and existing in good standing under the laws of the state of its organization and is qualified to do business and in good standing in every jurisdiction where the ownership of its property or the nature of the business conducted by it makes such qualification necessary and in which the failure to be so qualified or licensed could be reasonably likely to have a Material Adverse Effect.
- 3B. Power and Authority. Such Guarantor has all requisite power to conduct its business as currently conducted and as currently proposed to be conducted. Such Guarantor has all requisite power to execute, deliver and perform its obligations under this Guaranty. The execution, delivery and performance of this Guaranty have been duly authorized by all requisite action and this Guaranty has been duly executed and delivered by authorized officers of such Guarantor and is the valid obligation of such Guarantor, legally binding upon and enforceable against such Guarantor in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by (i) bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally and (ii) general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law).

- 3C. Conflicting Agreements and Other Matters. The execution and delivery of this Guaranty and the fulfillment of or the compliance with the terms and provisions hereof will not conflict with, or result in a breach of the terms, conditions or provisions of, or constitute a default under, or result in any violation of, or result in the creation of any Lien upon any of the properties or assets of such Guarantor or any of its Subsidiaries pursuant to, the certificate of incorporation or articles of organization (as the case may be), the by-laws or limited liability company agreement (as the case may be) of such Guarantor or any of its Subsidiaries, any award of any arbitrator or any agreement (including any agreement with stockholders or holders of membership interests (as the case may be) of such Guarantor or Persons with direct or indirect ownership interests in stockholders or holders of membership interests (as the case may be) of such Guarantor), instrument, order, judgment, decree, statute, law, rule or regulation to which such Guarantor or any of its Subsidiaries is subject. Neither such Guarantor nor any of its Subsidiaries is a party to, or otherwise subject to any provision contained in, any instrument evidencing any Indebtedness of such Guarantor or such Subsidiary any agreement relating thereto or any other contract or agreement (including its charter) which limits the amount of, or otherwise imposes restrictions on the incurring of, obligations of such Guarantor of the type to be evidenced by this Guaranty.
- 3D. ERISA. The execution and delivery of this Guaranty will be exempt from, or will not involve any transaction which is subject to, the prohibitions of section 406 of ERISA and will not involve any transaction in connection with which a penalty could be imposed under section 502(i) of ERISA or a tax could be imposed pursuant to section 4975 of the Code.
- 3E. Governmental Consent. Neither the nature of such Guarantor or of any Subsidiary of such Guarantor nor any of their respective businesses or properties, nor any relationship between such Guarantor or any Subsidiary of such Guarantor and any other Person, nor any circumstance in connection with the execution, delivery and performance of this Guaranty, is such as to require any authorization, consent, approval, exemption or other action by or notice to or filing with any court or administrative or governmental body (including, without limitation, notifications required by the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, but excluding routine filings after the date of this Guaranty with the Securities and Exchange Commission and/or state Blue Sky authorities).
- 3F. Regulatory Status. Neither such Guarantor nor any Subsidiary of the Guarantor is (i) an "investment company" or a company "controlled" by an "investment company" within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, (ii) a "holding company" or a "subsidiary company" or an "affiliate" of a "holding company" or a "subsidiary company" of a "holding company", within the meaning of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended, or (iii) a "public utility" within the meaning of the Federal Power Act, as amended.

## 4. MISCELLANEOUS.

4A. Successors, Assigns and Participants. This Guaranty shall be binding upon each Guarantor and its successors and assigns and shall inure to the benefit of each Noteholder and its successors, transferees and assigns; all references herein to a Guarantor shall be deemed to include its successors and assigns, and all references herein to any Noteholder shall

be deemed to include its successors and assigns. This Guaranty shall be enforceable by each Noteholder and any of such Noteholder's successors, assigns and participants, and any such successors and assigns shall have the same rights and benefits with respect to each Guarantor under this Guaranty as such Noteholder hereunder.

- 4B. Consent to Amendments. This Guaranty may be amended, and a Guarantor may take any action herein prohibited, or omit to perform any act herein required to be performed by it, if such Guarantor shall obtain the written consent to such amendment, action or omission to act, of the Required Holder(s) of the Notes, except that, without the written consent of all of the holders of the Notes, (i) no amendment to or waiver of the provisions of this Guaranty shall change or affect the provisions of this paragraph 4B insofar as such provisions relate to proportions of the principal amount of the Notes, or the rights of any individual holder of the Notes, required with respect to any consent, (ii) no Guarantor shall be released from this Guaranty, and (iii) no amendment, consent or waiver with respect to paragraph 2A or the definition of "Guarantied Obligations" (except to add additional obligations of the Company) shall be effective. Each Noteholder at the time or thereafter outstanding shall be bound by any consent authorized by this paragraph 4B, whether or not the Note held by such Noteholder shall have been marked to indicate such consent, but any Notes issued thereafter may bear a notation referring to any such consent. No course of dealing between any Guarantor and any Noteholder nor any delay in exercising any rights hereunder or under any Note shall operate as a waiver of any rights of any Noteholder. As used herein, the term "this Guaranty" and references thereto shall mean this Guaranty as it may from time to time be amended or supplemented. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Guaranty may be amended by the addition of additional Guarantors, as required pursuant to the Note Purchase Agreement.
- 4C. Survival of Representations and Warranties; Entire Agreement. All representations and warranties contained herein or made in writing by or on behalf of each Guarantor in connection herewith shall survive the execution and delivery of this Guaranty, the transfer by any Noteholder of any Note or portion thereof or interest therein and the payment of any Note, and may be relied upon by any permitted transferee thereof, regardless of any investigation made at any time by or on behalf of any Noteholder or any permitted transferee thereof. Subject to the preceding sentence, this Guaranty embodies the entire agreement and understanding between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating to the subject matter hereof.
- 4D. Notices. All written communications provided for hereunder shall be sent by first class mail or telegraphic notice or nationwide overnight delivery service (with charges prepaid) or by hand delivery or telecopy and addressed:
  - (i) in the case of each Guarantor, to:

c/o Oil-Dri Corporation of America 410 North Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois, 60611 Attention: Chief Financial Officer

Phone: (312) 706-3209 Fax: (312) 706-1223

- (ii) in the case of any Noteholder, to the address specified for notices to such Noteholder under the Note Purchase Agreement;
- or, in either case, at such other address as shall be designated by such Person in a written notice to the other parties hereto.
- 4E. Descriptive Headings. The descriptive headings of the several paragraphs of this Guaranty are inserted for convenience only and do not constitute a part of this Guaranty.
- 4F. Satisfaction Requirement. If any agreement, certificate or other writing, or any action taken or to be taken, is by the terms of this Guaranty required to be satisfactory to any Noteholder or the Required Holder(s) of the Notes, the determination of such satisfaction shall be made by such Noteholder or such Required Holder(s), as the case may be, in the sole and exclusive judgment (exercised in good faith) of the Person or Persons making such determination.
- 4G. Governing Law. THIS GUARANTY SHALL BE CONSTRUED AND ENFORCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, AND THE RIGHTS OF THE PARTIES SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, THE LAW OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS (EXCLUDING ANY CONFLICTS OF LAW RULES WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE CAUSE THIS GUARANTY TO BE CONSTRUED OR ENFORCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, OR THE RIGHTS OF THE PARTIES TO BE GOVERNED BY, THE LAWS OF ANY OTHER JURISDICTION).
- 4H. Counterparts. This Guaranty may be executed simultaneously in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be an original and constitute one and the same agreement. It shall not be necessary in making proof of this Guaranty to produce or account for more than one such counterpart. Delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page hereto by facsimile shall be effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart of this Guaranty.
- 4I. SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION. ANY LEGAL ACTION OR PROCEEDING WITH RESPECT TO THIS GUARANTY OR THE OTHER TRANSACTION DOCUMENTS MAY BE BROUGHT IN THE COURTS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, OR OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS AND, BY EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THIS GUARANTY, EACH GUARANTOR HEREBY IRREVOCABLY ACCEPTS, UNCONDITIONALLY, THE JURISDICTION OF THE AFORESAID COURTS WITH RESPECT TO ANY SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING. EACH GUARANTOR FURTHER IRREVOCABLY CONSENTS TO THE SERVICE OF PROCESS OUT OF ANY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED COURTS IN ANY SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING BY THE MAILING OF COPIES THEREOF BY REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, TO IT AT ITS ADDRESS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH 4D(i), SUCH SERVICE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON RECEIPT. EACH GUARANTOR AGREES THAT A FINAL AND NON-APPEALABLE JUDGMENT IN ANY SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING SHALL BE CONCLUSIVE AND MAY BE ENFORCED IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTION BY SUIT ON SUCH JUDGMENT OR IN ANY OTHER MANNER PROVIDED BY LAW. NOTHING HEREIN SHALL AFFECT THE RIGHT OF ANY HOLDER TO SERVE PROCESS IN ANY OTHER MANNER

PERMITTED BY LAW OR TO COMMENCE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS OR OTHERWISE PROCEED AGAINST ANY GUARANTOR IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTION. EACH GUARANTOR HERBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ANY OBJECTION WHICH IT MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER HAVE TO THE LAYING OF VENUE OF ANY OF THE AFORESAID ACTIONS OR PROCEEDINGS ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS GUARANTY BROUGHT IN ANY OF THE AFORESAID COURTS AND HERBY FURTHER IRREVOCABLY WAIVES AND AGREES NOT TO PLEAD OR CLAIM IN ANY SUCH COURT THAT ANY SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING BROUGHT IN ANY SUCH COURT HAS BEEN BROUGHT IN AN INCONVENIENT FORUM.

- 4J. Independence of Covenants. All covenants hereunder shall be given independent effect so that if a particular action or condition is prohibited by any one of such covenants, the fact that it would be permitted by an exception to, or otherwise be in compliance within the limitations of, another covenant shall not avoid the occurrence of a Default or an Event of Default if such action is taken or such condition exists.
- 4K. Severability. Any provision of this Guaranty which is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof, and any such prohibition or unenforceability in any jurisdiction shall not invalidate or render unenforceable such provision in any other jurisdiction.

[signature page follows]

[NAME OF GUARANTOR SUBSIDIARY]

By:				
Title:	 	 	 	 