CHASE CORP Form 10-K November 14, 2008

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended August 31, 2008

Commission File Number: 1-9852

CHASE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts

11-1797126

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation of organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

26 Summer Street, Bridgewater, Massachusetts 02324

(Address of Principal Executive Offices, Including Zip Code)

(508) 279-1789

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Securities registered pursuant to section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class:

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered

Common Stock (\$0.10 Par Value)

NYSE Alternext US

Securities registered pursuant to section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer (as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act). YES o NO ý

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. YES o NO \acute{y}

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months, and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES \circ NO o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. ý

Indicate by checkmark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated Accelerated Non-accelerated Smaller reporting filer o filer ý filer o company o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by checkmark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). YES o NO ý

The aggregate market value of the common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant, as of February 29, 2008 (the last business day of the registrant's second quarter of fiscal 2008), was approximately \$141,703,000.

As of October 31, 2008, the Company had outstanding 8,532,033 shares of common stock, \$.10 par value, which is its only class of common stock.

Documents Incorporated By Reference:

Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which is expected to be filed within 120 days after the registrant's fiscal year ended August 31, 2008, are incorporated by reference into Part III hereof.

CHASE CORPORATION

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For the Year Ended August 31, 2008

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PART I

ITEM 1 BUSINESS

Primary Operating Divisions and Facilities and Industry Segment

Chase Corporation (the "Company" or "Chase") is a global manufacturer of tapes, laminates, sealants, coatings for high reliability applications, and provider of contract assembly services for the electronics industry. The Company's strategy is to maximize its core businesses and brands while seeking future opportunities through strategic acquisitions. The Company is organized into two operating segments with multiple facilities. All plant locations are part of the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment with the exception of Chase EMS, which is part of the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment. A summary of the Company's operating structure as of August 31, 2008 is as follows:

Primary Manufacturing Location Background/History SPECIALIZED MANUFACTURING SEGMENT

Key Products & Services

| Randolph, MA | This was one of the Company's first operating facilities and has been producing products for the | Electrical cable insulation tapes using the brand name Chase & Sons® and related products such as Chase BLH ₂ OCK®, a water blocking compound sold to the wire and cable industry. |
|--------------|---|--|
| | wire and cable industry for more than fifty years. | Insulating and conducting materials for the manufacture of electrical and telephone wire and cable, electrical splicing, and terminating and repair tapes, which are marketed to wire and cable manufacturers and public utilities. |
| Webster, MA | The Company began operating this facility, which manufactures tape and related products, in | Specialty tapes and related products for the electronic and telecommunications industries using the brand name Chase & Sons®. |
| | In December 2003, the Company acquired the assets of PaperTyger, LLC ("PaperTyger"). The PaperTyger product lines are also manufactured at this facility. | PaperTyger® is a trademark for laminated durable papers sold to the envelope converting and commercial printing industries. The Company's PaperTyger products are marketed under the names PaperTyger, NaturalWhite and SuperWhite. PaperTyger DEFENDER is an innovative laminated paper with an inner security barrier used in personal and mail-stream privacy protection. PaperTyger Green offers a fully biodegradable, tear-resistant envelope paper a first in the global market for durable papers. |
| Paterson, NJ | In February 2003, Chase Facile, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, acquired certain assets of Facile, Inc., located in Paterson, New Jersey. | Flexible composites and laminates for the wire & cable, aerospace and industrial laminate markets including Insulfab®, an insulation material used in the aerospace industry. |

| Primary Manufacturing Location Taylorsville, NC | Background/History In January 2004, the Company purchased certain manufacturing equipment and began operations at this facility. | Key Products & Services Flexible packaging for industrial and retail use. Slit film for the building wire market and for telecommunication cable. |
|---|--|--|
| Pittsburgh, PA | The HumiSeal business and product lines were acquired in the early 1970's. The Royston business was acquired in the early 1970's. In April 2005, the Company acquired certain assets of E-Poxy Engineered Materials. Additionally, in September 2006, the Company acquired all of the capital stock of Capital Services Joint Systems. Both of these acquisitions were combined to form the Expansion Joints product line which is now manufactured in Pittsburgh. | Protective conformal coatings under the brand name HumiSeal®, moisture protective electronic coatings sold to the electronics industry. Protective pipe coating tapes and other protectants for valves, regulators, casings, joints, metals, concrete, and wood which are sold under the brand name Royston®, to oil companies, gas utilities, and pipeline companies. Rosphalt50®, is a polymer additive that provides long term cost effective solutions in many applications such as waterproofing of approaches and bridges, ramps, race tracks, airports and specialty road applications. Waterproofing sealants, expansion joints and accessories for the transportation, industrial and architectural markets. |
| Evanston, IL | In November 2001, the Company acquired substantially all of the assets of Tapecoat, a division of T.C. Manufacturing Inc. | Manufacturer of technologically advanced products, including the brand Tapecoat®, for demanding anti-corrosion applications in the gas, oil and marine pipeline market segments, as well as tapes and membranes for roofing and other construction related applications. |

Primary Manufacturing Location

Camberley, Surrey, England

Background/History

In October 2005, the Company acquired all of the capital stock of Concoat Holdings Ltd. and its subsidiaries. In 2006 Concoat was renamed HumiSeal Europe.

In March 2007, the Company expanded its international presence with the formation of HumiSeal Europe SARL in France. In conjunction with establishing the new company, certain assets were acquired from Metronelec SARL, a former distributor of HumiSeal products.

Key Products & Services

Protective conformal coatings under the brand name HumiSeal®, moisture protective electronic coatings sold to the electronics industry.

HumiSeal Europe SARL operates a sales/technical service office and warehouse near Paris. This business works closely with the HumiSeal operation in Camberley, Surrey, England allowing direct sales and service to the French market.

Rye, East Sussex, England

On September 1, 2007, the Company purchased certain product lines and a related manufacturing facility in Rye, East Sussex, England through its wholly owned subsidiary, Chase Protective Coatings Ltd. Manufacturer of waterproofing and corrosion protection systems for oil, gas and water pipelines and a supplier to Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. This facility joins Chase's North American based Tapecoat® and Royston® brands to broaden the protective coatings product line and better address increasing global demand.

Newburyport, MA

In July 1999, the Company acquired Northeast Quality Products, Co. Inc., ("NEQP"). Specialty printer producing custom pressure sensitive labels.

ELECTRONIC MANUFACTURING SERVICES SEGMENT

Winchester, MA

In May 1999, the Company acquired RWA, Inc. ("RWA"). In fiscal 2005, this division moved to Winchester, MA from Melrose, MA and is doing business as Chase EMS. Assembly and turnkey contract manufacturing services including printed circuit board and electromechanical assembly services to the electronics industry operating principally in the United States.

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Other Business Developments

Chase Protective Coatings Ltd.

On September 1, 2007, Chase Corporation purchased certain product lines and a related manufacturing facility in Rye, East Sussex, England through its wholly owned subsidiary, Chase Protective Coatings Ltd. For over 35 years, this business has been a leading manufacturer of waterproofing and corrosion protection systems for oil, gas and water pipelines and has been a major supplier to Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. This new acquisition joins Chase's North American based Tapecoat® and Royston® brands to broaden the protective coatings product line and better address increasing global demand.

The purchase price for this acquisition was £738,936 (US \$1,489,769 at the time of the acquisition) and was financed out of cash flow from the Company's operations. The effective date for this acquisition was September 1, 2007 and the results of this acquisition have been included in the Company's financial statements since then.

Products and Markets

The Company's principal products are specialty tapes, laminates, sealants and coatings that are sold by Company salespeople, manufacturers' representatives and distributors. In the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment, these products consist of:

- insulating and conducting materials for the manufacture of electrical and telephone wire and cable, electrical splicing, and terminating and repair tapes, which are marketed to wire and cable manufacturers;
- (ii)
 protective pipe coating tapes and other protectants for valves, regulators, casings, joints, metals, concrete and wood, which
 are sold to oil companies, gas utilities and pipeline companies;
- (iii) protectants for highway bridge deck metal supported surfaces, which are sold to municipal transportation authorities;
- (iv) moisture protective coatings, which are sold to the electronics industry;
- (v) laminated durable papers, including laminated paper with an inner security barrier used in personal and mail-stream privacy protection, which are sold primarily to the envelope converting and commercial printing industries;
- (vi) flexible composites and laminates for the wire & cable, aerospace, packaging and industrial laminate markets, and
- (vii)expansion and control joint systems designed for roads, bridges, stadiums and airport runways.

In addition, the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment provides circuit board assembly and contract manufacturing services to electronic goods manufacturers.

There is some seasonality with the Company's product offerings sold into the construction market as increased demand is often experienced when temperatures are warmer (April through October) with less demand occurring when temperatures are colder (typically the second fiscal quarter). The Company has introduced no new products or segments requiring an investment of a material amount of the Company's assets during fiscal year 2008.

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Employees

As of October 31, 2008, the Company employed approximately 381 people (including union employees). The Company believes that its relationship with its employees is good.

Backlog, Customers and Competition

As of October 31, 2008, the backlog of orders believed to be firm was approximately \$16,369,000 of which \$7,476,000 was related to the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment. This compared with a total of \$16,647,000 as of October 31, 2007 of which \$7,468,000 was associated with the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment. The backlog of orders in the Specialized Manufacturing segment has some seasonality due to the construction season. During fiscal 2008, 2007 and 2006, no customer accounted for more than 10% of sales. No material portion of the Company's business is subject to renegotiation or termination of profits or contracts at the election of the United States Federal Government.

There are other companies that manufacture or sell products and services similar to those made and sold by the Company. Many of those companies are larger and have greater financial resources than the Company. The Company competes principally on the basis of technical performance, service reliability, quality and price.

Raw Materials

The Company obtains raw materials from a wide variety of suppliers with alternative sources of most essential materials available within reasonable lead times.

Patents, Trademarks, Licenses, Franchises and Concessions

The Company owns the following trademarks: HumiSeal®, a trademark for moisture protective coatings sold to the electronics industry; Chase & Sons® and Chase Facile®, trademarks for barrier and insulating tapes sold to the wire and cable industry; Chase BLH₂OCK®, a trademark for a water blocking compound sold to the wire and cable industry; Rosphalt 50®, a trademark for an asphalt additive used predominantly on bridge decks for waterproofing protection; Insulfab®, a trademark for insulation material used in the aerospace industry; PaperTyger®, a trademark for laminated durable papers sold to the envelope converting and commercial printing industries, Tapecoat®, a trademark for corrosion preventative surface coatings and primers; Royston®, a trademark for corrosion inhibiting coating composition for use on pipes; and Eva-Pox® and Ceva®, trademarks for epoxy pastes/gels/mortars and elastomeric concrete used in the construction industry. The Company has no other material trademarks, licenses, franchises, or concessions. The Company holds various patents but believes that, at this time, they are not material to the success of the business.

Working Capital and Research and Development

There are no special practices followed by the Company relating to working capital. Approximately \$1,698,000, \$1,965,000, and \$1,860,000 was spent for Company-sponsored research and development during fiscal 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively. Research and development decreased by approximately \$267,000 in fiscal 2008 compared to 2007 primarily due to diligent cost management practices and efficiency improvements.

Available Information

The Company maintains a website at www.chasecorp.com. The Company makes available, free of charge, on its website its Annual Report on Form 10-K, as soon as reasonably practicable after

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such report is electronically filed with the SEC. Additionally, the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports, filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, are available *free of charge* at the SEC's website at *www.sec.gov*. Information contained on the Company's website is not part of, or incorporated by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Financial Information About Segments and Geographic Areas

Please see Notes 11 and 12 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements for financial information about the Company's industry segments and domestic and foreign operations for each of the last three fiscal years.

ITEM 1A RISK FACTORS

The following risk factors should be read carefully in connection with evaluating the Company's business and the forward-looking information contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Any of the following risks could materially adversely affect the Company's business, operations, industry or financial position or its future financial performance. While the Company believes it has identified and discussed below the key risk factors affecting its business, there may be additional risks and uncertainties that are not presently known or that are not currently believed to be significant that may adversely affect its business, operations, industry, financial position and financial performance in the future.

The Company currently operates in a mature market where increases or decreases in market share could be significant.

The Company's sales and net income are largely dependent on recurring sales from a consistent and established customer base. Organic growth opportunities are minimal; however, the Company has and will continue to use strategic acquisitions as a means to build and grow the business. In this business environment, increases or decreases in market share could have a material effect on the Company's business condition or results of operation. The Company faces intense competition from a diverse range of competitors, including operating divisions of companies much larger and with far greater resources than the Company. If the Company is unable to maintain its market share, its business could suffer.

The Company's business strategy includes the pursuit of strategic acquisitions, which may not be successful if they happen at all.

From time to time, the Company engages in discussions with potential target companies concerning potential acquisitions. In executing its acquisition strategy, the Company may be unable to identify suitable acquisition candidates. In addition, the Company may face competition from other companies for acquisition candidates, making it more difficult to acquire suitable companies on favorable terms.

Even if the Company does identify a suitable acquisition target and is able to negotiate and close a transaction, the integration of an acquired business into the Company's operations involves numerous risks, including potential difficulties in integrating an acquired company's product line with the Company's own; the diversion of the Company's resources and management's attention from other business concerns; the potential loss of key employees; risks associated with entering a new geographical or product market; and the day-to-day management of a larger and more diverse combined company.

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The Company may not realize the synergies, operating efficiencies, market position or revenue growth it anticipates from acquisitions and its failure to effectively manage the above risks and other problems associated with acquisitions could have a material adverse effect on its business, growth prospects and financial performance.

General economic factors, domestically and internationally, may adversely affect the Company's financial performance through increased raw material costs or other expenses and by making access to capital more difficult.

The cumulative effect of higher interest rates, energy costs, inflation, levels of unemployment, healthcare costs, unsettled financial markets, and other economic factors could adversely affect the Company's financial condition by increasing its manufacturing costs and other expenses at the same time that its customers may be scaling back demand for the Company's products. Prices of certain commodity products, including oil and petroleum-based products, are historically volatile and are subject to fluctuations arising from changes in domestic and international supply and demand, labor costs, competition, market speculation, government regulations and periodic delays in delivery. Rapid and significant changes in commodity prices may affect the Company's sales and profit margins. These factors can also increase the Company's merchandise costs and/or selling, general and administrative expenses, and otherwise adversely affect the Company's operations and results. Recent turmoil in the credit markets may limit the Company's ability to access debt capital for use in acquisitions or other purposes on advantageous terms or at all. If the Company is unable to manage its expenses in response to general economic conditions and margin pressures, or if it is unable to obtain capital for strategic acquisitions or other needs, then its results of operations would be negatively affected.

Fluctuations in the supply and prices of raw materials may negatively impact the Company's financial results.

The Company obtains the raw materials needed to manufacture its products from a number of suppliers. Many of these raw materials are petroleum-based derivatives. Under normal market conditions, these materials are generally available on the open market and from a variety of producers. From time to time, however, the prices and availability of these raw materials fluctuate, which could impair the Company's ability to procure necessary materials, or increase the cost of manufacturing its products. If the prices of raw materials increase, and the Company is unable to pass these increases on to its customers, the Company could experience reduced profit margins.

The Company is dependent on key personnel.

The Company depends significantly on its executive officers including Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Peter R. Chase, and on other key employees. The loss of the services of any of these key employees could have a material impact on the Company's business and results of operations. In addition, the Company's acquisition strategy will require that it attract, motivate and retain additional skilled and experienced personnel. The inability to satisfy such requirements could have a negative impact on the Company's ability to remain competitive in the future.

If the Company cannot successfully manage the unique challenges presented by international markets, it may not be successful in expanding its international operations.

The Company's strategy includes expansion of its operations in existing and new international markets by selective acquisitions and strategic alliances. The Company's ability to successfully execute its strategy in international markets is affected by many of the same operational risks it faces in expanding its U.S. operations. In addition, the Company's international expansion may be adversely affected by its ability to identify and gain access to local suppliers as well as by local

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laws and customs, legal and regulatory constraints, political and economic conditions and currency regulations of the countries or regions in which it currently operates or intends to operate in the future. Risks inherent in its international operations also include, among others, the costs and difficulties of managing international operations, adverse tax consequences and greater difficulty in enforcing intellectual property rights. Additionally, foreign currency exchange rates and fluctuations may have an impact on the Company's future costs or on future cash flows from its international operations.

The Company's results of operations could be adversely affected by uncertain economic and political conditions and the effects of these conditions on its customers' businesses and levels of business activity.

Global economic and political conditions can affect the businesses of the Company's customers and the markets they serve. A severe or prolonged economic downturn or a negative or uncertain political climate could adversely affect the levels of business activity of the Company's customers and the industries they serve, including the housing, construction, transportation infrastructure and electronics manufacturing industries. This may reduce demand for the Company's products or depress pricing of those products, either of which may have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations. Changes in global economic conditions could also shift demand to products for which the Company does not have competitive advantages, and this could negatively affect the amount of business that the Company is able to obtain. In addition, if the Company is unable to successfully anticipate changing economic and political conditions, it may be unable to effectively plan for and respond to those changes, and the Company's business could be negatively affected.

Changes in accounting standards and subjective assumptions, estimates and judgments by management related to complex accounting matters could significantly affect the Company's financial results.

Generally accepted accounting principles and related accounting pronouncements, implementation guidelines and interpretations with regard to a wide range of matters that are relevant to the Company's business, such as revenue recognition, asset impairment, inventories, pensions valuation and tax matters, are highly complex and involve many subjective assumptions, estimates and judgments. Changes in these rules or their interpretation or changes in underlying assumptions, estimates or judgments could significantly change the Company's reported or expected financial performance or financial condition. In addition, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 141R which will have an impact on the Company's accounting for future business combinations. The effect will be dependent upon acquisitions completed by the Company after August 31, 2009.

Failure of the Company's internal control over financial reporting could limit its ability to report financial results accurately and timely.

The Company's management team is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Internal control over financial reporting includes: maintaining records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the Company's transactions; providing reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for preparation of the financial statements; providing reasonable assurance that the Company's receipts and expenditures of its assets are made in accordance with management authorization; and providing reasonable assurance that unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition

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of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements would be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of the Company's financial statements would be prevented or detected. Any failure to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting could limit the Company's ability to report its financial results accurately and timely or to detect and prevent fraud.

ITEM 1B UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None

ITEM 2 PROPERTIES

The Company owns office and manufacturing properties and leases office and manufacturing space as outlined in the table below. All properties are used by the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment except for Corporate and the Chase EMS division. The Chase EMS property is used by the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment.

| Location | Square Feet | Operating Segment | Owned/ Leased | Principal Use |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Bridgewater, MA | 5,200 | Corporate | Owned | Corporate headquarters and executive office |
| West Bridgewater, MA | 35,700 | Corporate | Owned | Space leased to Sunburst under a 36-month lease agreement currently expiring in November 2009 |
| Randolph, MA | 77,500 | Specialized Manufacturing | Owned | Manufacture of electrical protective coatings and tape products |
| Webster, MA | 25,000 | Specialized Manufacturing | Owned | Manufacture of tape and related products for the electronic and telecommunications industries, as well as laminated durable papers |
| Paterson, NJ | 40,000 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Manufacture of tape and related products for the electronic and telecommunications industries |
| Taylorsville, NC | 50,000 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Manufacture of flexible packaging for industrial and retail use |
| Taylorsville, NC | 2,500 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Storage warehouse |
| Cranston, RI | 500 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Sales office |
| Taunton, MA | 5,200 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Research and development, and technical center |
| Pittsburgh, PA | 44,000 | Specialized Manufacturing | Owned | Manufacture and sale of protective coatings and tape products |
| O'Hara Township, PA | 109,000 | Specialized Manufacturing | Owned | Manufacture and sale of expansion joints and accessories* |
| Evanston, IL | 100,000 | Specialized Manufacturing | Owned | Manufacture and sale of protective coatings and tape products |
| Albany, NY | 2,250 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Sales office |
| Newburyport, MA | 15,000 | | Leased | |

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| | | Specialized Manufacturing | | Manufacture and sale of custom pressure-sensitive labels |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|--|
| Camberley, Surrey, England | 6,700 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Manufacture and sales of protective electronic coatings |
| Rye, East Sussex, England | 36,600 | Specialized Manufacturing | Owned | Manufacture and sales of protective coatings and tape products |
| Paris, France | 1,350 | Specialized Manufacturing | Leased | Sales/technical service office and warehouse allowing direct sales and service to the French market. |
| Winchester, MA | 25,000 | Electronic Manufacturing | Leased | Manufacturing and sales for the Electronic Manufacturing Services segment |

*

The Company is currently renovating its facility in O'Hara Township in order to increase production capacity and improve efficiencies for existing product lines as well as provide space to integrate future acquisitions. It is expected that renovations will continue through fiscal 2009.

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The above facilities range in age from new to about 100 years, are generally in good condition and, in the opinion of management, adequate and suitable for present operations. The Company also owns equipment and machinery that is in good repair and, in the opinion of management, adequate and suitable for present operations. The Company could significantly add to its capacity by increasing shift operations. Availability of machine hours through additional shifts would provide expansion of current product volume without significant additional capital investment.

ITEM 3 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, the Company is involved in litigation incidental to the conduct of its business. The Company is not party to any lawsuit or proceeding that, in management's opinion, is likely to seriously harm the Company's business, results of operations, financial conditions or cash flows.

The Company is one of over 100 defendants in a personal injury lawsuit, pending in Ohio, which alleges personal injury from exposure to asbestos contained in certain Chase products. The plaintiff in the case issued discovery requests to Chase in August 2005, to which Chase timely responded in September 2005. The trial had initially been scheduled to begin on April 30, 2007. However, that date was postponed and no new trial date has been set. As of October 2008, there have been no new developments as this Ohio lawsuit has been inactive with respect to Chase.

ITEM 4 SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

There were no matters submitted to a vote of the Company's security holders during the fourth quarter of the Company's fiscal year ended August 31, 2008.

ITEM 4A EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

The following table sets forth information concerning the Company's Executive Officers as of August 31, 2008. Each officer of the Company is selected by the Company's Board of Directors and holds office until his successor is elected and qualified.

| Name | Age | Offices Held and Business Experience during the Past Five Years |
|------------------|-----|--|
| Peter R. Chase | 60 | Chairman of the Board of the Company since February 2007, and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since September 1993. |
| Adam P. Chase | 36 | President of the Company since January 2008, Chief Operating Officer of the Company since February 2007, Vice President Operations February 2006 through February 2007, and Vice President Chase Coating & Laminating Division March 2003 through February 2007. |
| Kenneth L. Dumas | 37 | Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company since February 2007, Director of Finance February 2006 through January 2007, Corporate Controller January 2004 through January 2007, Assistant Corporate Controller April 2003 through January 2004. |
| Terry M. Jones | 47 | Vice President Business Development and Chief Marketing Officer since February 2007, Vice President Marketing and Business Development February 2006 through February 2007, and Vice President Specialty Coatings Division August 2002 through February 2007. |

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Effective September 1, 2008, Chase Corporation promoted Gregory A. Pelagio to the position of Vice President Engineering. Mr. Pelagio, age 64, has been with the company since 1990 and has most recently served as Vice President and General Manager of Pittsburgh operations since 1993. In his new position, Mr. Pelagio will lead the Engineering effort for the entire Company, as well as continue to oversee all Pittsburgh operations. He will report directly to the President and Chief Operating Officer, Adam P. Chase.

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PART II

ITEM 5 MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

The Company's common stock is traded on the NYSE Alternext US (formerly the American Stock Exchange) under the symbol CCF. As of October 31, 2008, there were 457 shareholders of record of the Company's Common Stock and approximately 3,199 beneficial shareholders who held shares in nominee name and the closing price of Chase Corporation's common stock was \$14.58 per share as reported by the NYSE Alternext US.

The following table sets forth the high and low daily sales prices for the Company's common stock as reported by the NYSE Alternext US for each quarter in the fiscal years ended August 31, 2008 and 2007:

| | Fiscal | 2008 | Fiscal 2007 | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|--|
| | High | Low | High | Low | |
| First Quarter | \$22.00 | \$16.75 | \$11.50 | \$ 8.40 | |
| Second Quarter | 29.04 | 19.00 | 17.00 | 11.35 | |
| Third Quarter | 24.95 | 16.05 | 17.52 | 12.12 | |
| Fourth Quarter | 19.77 | 14.79 | 20.85 | 14.40 | |

The Company paid a cash dividend per common share of \$0.35, \$0.25, and \$0.20 for the years ended August 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The cash dividend for each fiscal year is paid subsequent to year end. Certain of the Company's borrowing facilities contain financial covenants which may have the effect of limiting the amount of dividends that the Company can pay.

Comparative Stock Performance

The following line graph compares the yearly percentage change in the Company's cumulative total shareholder return on the Common Stock for the last five fiscal years with the cumulative total return on the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index ("the S&P 500 Index"), and a composite peer index that is weighted by market equity capitalization (the "Peer Group Index"). The companies included in the Peer Group Index are American Biltrite Inc., Material Sciences Corporation, Intertape Polymer Group Inc., Quaker Chemical Corporation and Flamemaster Corp. Cumulative total returns are calculated assuming that \$100 was invested on August 31, 2003 in each of the Common Stock, the S&P 500 Index and the Peer Group Index, and that all dividends were reinvested.

Comparison of 5 Year Cumulative Total Return Assumes Initial Investment of \$100

| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Chase Corp | \$100 | \$138 | \$122 | \$145 | \$305 | \$310 |
| S&P 500 | \$100 | \$110 | \$121 | \$129 | \$146 | \$127 |
| Peer Group | \$100 | \$114 | \$105 | \$ 94 | \$ 79 | \$ 81 |
| _ | 15 | | | | | |

ITEM 6 SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected financial data should be read in conjunction with "Item7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Item 8 Financial Statements and Supplementary Data".

| | Fiscal Years Ended August 31, | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------|-----|----------|----|----------|-----|--------|-----|--------|
| | | 2008 | | 2007 | | 2006 | 2 | 005 | 2 | 004 |
| | | (in tho | usa | ınds, ex | ce | pt per s | hai | e amo | un | ts) |
| Statement of Operations Data | | | | | _ | _ | | | | |
| Revenues | \$ | 132,478 | \$ | 127,460 | \$ | 108,442 | \$9 | 1,389 | \$8 | 37,084 |
| Income before minority interest | | 12,374 | | 10,193 | | 6,114 | | 4,849 | | 5,101 |
| Income (loss) from unconsolidated joint | | | | | | | | | | |
| venture | | | | | | | | 22 | | 26 |
| Loss on impairment of unconsolidated | | | | | | | | | | |
| joint venture | | | | | | | | (83) | | (500) |
| Net income | | 12,374 | | 10,193 | | 6,114 | | 4,788 | | 4,627 |
| Net income per common share basic | \$ | 1.50 | \$ | 1.26 | \$ | 0.79 | \$ | 0.63 | \$ | 0.61 |
| Net income per common share diluted | \$ | 1.43 | \$ | 1.22 | \$ | 0.77 | \$ | 0.61 | \$ | 0.58 |
| Balance Sheet Data | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total assets | \$ | 90,297 | \$ | 83,965 | \$ | 78,837 | \$6 | 3,927 | \$5 | 59,257 |
| Long-term debt and capital leases | | | | 3,823 | | 10,288 | | 9,569 | | 8,343 |
| Total stockholders' equity | | 66,186 | | 56,212 | | 46,074 | 3 | 88,840 | 3 | 36,980 |
| Cash dividends per common share(1) | \$ | 0.35 | \$ | 0.25 | \$ | 0.20 | \$ | 0.175 | \$ | 0.175 |

⁽¹⁾ Single annual dividend payments declared and paid subsequent to fiscal year end.

Note: Information related to the Company's acquisitions and dispositions can be found in the Overview and Recent Developments sections of "Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

ITEM 7 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion provides an analysis of the Company's financial condition and results of operations and should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Selected Relationships within the Consolidated Statements of Operations

| | Years Ended August 31, | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------|------|---------|----|---------|--|
| | | 2008 | 2007 | | | 2006 | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | | | | |
| Revenue | \$ | 132,478 | \$ | 127,460 | \$ | 108,442 | |
| Net Income | \$ | 12,374 | \$ | 10,193 | \$ | 6,114 | |
| Increase in revenue from prior year | | | | | | | |
| Amount | \$ | 5,018 | \$ | 19,018 | \$ | 17,053 | |
| Percentage | | 4% | | 18% | | 19% | |
| Increase in net income from prior year | | | | | | | |
| Amount | \$ | 2,181 | \$ | 4,079 | \$ | 1,326 | |
| Percentage | | 21% | | 67% | | 28% | |
| Percentage of revenue: | | | | | | | |
| Revenue | | 100% | | 100% | | 100% | |
| Expenses: | | | | | | | |
| Cost of products and services sold | | 68% | | 69% | | 72% | |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | | 18 | | 18 | | 19 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Income before income taxes | | 14 | | 13 | | 9 | |
| Income taxes | | 5 | | 5 | | 3 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Net income | | 9% | | 8% | | 6% | |

Recent Developments

In September 2007, Chase purchased certain product lines and a related manufacturing facility in Rye, East Sussex, England through its wholly owned subsidiary, Chase Protective Coatings Ltd. For over 35 years, this business has been a leading manufacturer of waterproofing and corrosion protection systems for oil, gas and water pipelines and has been a major supplier to Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. This new acquisition joins Chase's North American based Tapecoat® and Royston® brands to broaden the protective coatings product line and better address increasing global demand. Results from these acquired operations are reflected in the Company's consolidated fiscal 2008 financial statements and not in previous years.

Overview

The continued strength of the Company's key brands, strategic acquisitions, favorable product mix and diligent cost management practices were the primary contributors to healthy revenue and increased profit in fiscal 2008 despite being faced with the ongoing challenges of the housing market decline and rising raw material costs. A strong finish to fiscal 2008 was highlighted by the record quarterly highs for revenues and net income in the fourth quarter. The Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment revenue growth was primarily attributable to the operations acquired by HumiSeal Europe SARL in March 2007 and Chase Protective Coatings Ltd. in September 2007. Increased sales of pipeline and conformal coatings products were offset by decreases seen in building wire and cable and construction products.

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The Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment achieved record revenues in fiscal 2008 as the demand for contract manufacturing services from existing customers remained strong throughout the year. This segment continues to benefit from management's recent emphasis on expanding its customer base in order to utilize investments made in capital equipment over the past few years. Although the Company's operating results from this segment have been positive, rising manufacturing costs and ongoing pressure from key customers to keep sale prices low continue to negatively impact margins.

In fiscal 2009, the Company will focus on addressing the future impacts of the uncertainties presented by the current global economy by paying close attention to the overall demand for its eight core product lines and continuing with its emphasis of maintaining a diversified product mix. The Company expects that the current housing market decline and continued pressure on gross margins, including uncertainties related to raw material costs, will be challenges during the upcoming fiscal year. Additionally, management will continue with its ongoing efforts to reduce costs through strategic consolidation within its own organization while at the same time providing capacity for growth. The Company is essentially debt-free with substantial borrowing capacity for expected acquisition opportunities and plant expansion needs.

The Company has two reportable segments summarized below:

| G | D 1 47. | Manufacturing Focus and |
|------------------|----------------------|--|
| Segment | Product Lines | Products |
| Specialized | Wire and Cable | Produces protective coatings and tape |
| Manufacturing | Electronic Coatings | products including insulating and |
| Segment | Transportation | conducting materials for wire and cable |
| | Pipeline | manufacturers, protective coatings for |
| | Construction | pipeline applications, moisture protective |
| | Packaging and | coatings for electronics, high performance |
| | Industrial | polymeric asphalt additives, expansion and |
| | Digital and Print | control joint systems for use in the |
| | Media | transportation and architectural markets, |
| | | and custom pressure sensitive labels. |
| Electronic | Contract Electronic | Provides assembly and turnkey contract |
| Manufacturing | Manufacturing | manufacturing services including printed |
| Services Segment | Services | circuit board and electromechanical |
| | | assembly services to the electronics |
| | | industry operating principally in the United |
| | | States. |
| | | 18 |

Results of Operations

Revenues and Operating Profit by Segment are as follows (dollars in thousands)

| | |] I | ncome Before ncome axes and | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| | | | linority | % of |
| | Revenue | | nterest | Revenue |
| Fiscal 2008 | | | | |
| Specialized Manufacturing | \$ 113,177 | \$ | 22,434 | 20% |
| Electronic Manufacturing Services | 19,301 | | 2,138 | 11 |
| | \$ 132,478 | | 24,572 | 19 |
| Less corporate and common costs | | | (5,288) | |
| Income before income taxes | | \$ | 19,284 | |
| Fiscal 2007 | | | | |
| Specialized Manufacturing | \$ 109,195 | \$ | 20,094 | 18% |
| Electronic Manufacturing Services | 18,265 | | 2,040 | 11 |
| | \$ 127,460 | | 22,134 | 17 |
| Less corporate and common costs | | | (5,955) | |
| Income before income taxes | | \$ | 16,179 | |
| Fiscal 2006 | | | | |
| Specialized Manufacturing | \$ 95,418 | \$ | 14,960 | 16% |
| Electronic Manufacturing Services | 13,024 | | 1,072 | 8 |
| | \$ 108,442 | | 16,032 | 15 |
| Less corporate and common costs | | | (7,068) | |
| Income before income taxes | | \$ | 8,964 | |

Total Revenues

Total revenues for fiscal 2008 increased \$5.0 million or 4% to \$132.5 million from \$127.5 million in the prior year. Revenues in the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment increased \$4.0 million or 4% to \$113.2 million for the year ended August 31, 2008 compared to \$109.2 million for fiscal 2007. The increase in revenues from the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment in fiscal 2008 is primarily due to increased sales related to the following: (a) the operations acquired by HumiSeal Europe SARL in March 2007 and Chase Protective Coatings Ltd. in September 2007 which combined have accounted for the majority of the \$5,546,000 increased revenue from the Company's European Operations; (b) increased sales of \$1,578,000 from the Pipeline product line; (c) increased sales of \$1,616,000 from the Electronic Coatings product line; and (d) increased sales of \$926,000 from a large, nonrecurring construction project that was completed in the fiscal year. These increases were partially offset by the following: (a) decreased sales of \$2,477,000 in the Wire & Cable market primarily due to decreased demand for building wire, insulation and identification tapes; (b) decreased sales of \$1,549,000 in the Transportation and Packaging & Industrial product lines; and (c) decreased sales of \$945,000 in the Construction product line primarily due to the reduction in Rosphalt 50® project sales which experienced record levels in fiscal 2007.

The Electronic Manufacturing Services segment achieved record revenues in fiscal 2008 which increased \$1.0 million or 5% to \$19.3 million compared to \$18.3 million in fiscal 2007. This increase

was primarily due to increased order activity from existing customers as well as several new customers added during the current fiscal year. This segment continues to face ongoing pressure as its key customers assess their inventory levels and closely monitor their own customer demands.

Royalty and commissions in the Specialized Manufacturing segment remained relatively flat at \$1.8 million for the years ended August 31, 2008 and 2007.

Export sales from domestic operations to unaffiliated third parties were \$15.8 million, \$14.0 million, and \$14.1 million for the years ended August 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The increase in export sales in fiscal 2008 was primarily due to strong demand for the Company's HumiSeal product offerings in Asia. The Company does not anticipate any material change to export sales during fiscal 2009.

Total revenues for fiscal 2007 increased \$19.1 million or 18% to \$127.5 million from \$108.4 million in fiscal 2006. Revenues in the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment increased \$13.8 million or 14% to \$109.2 million for the year ended August 31, 2007 compared to \$95.4 million for fiscal 2006. The increase in revenues from the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment in fiscal 2007 was primarily due to increased sales in the following product markets: (a) \$7.3 million from Construction products due to increased highway projects including Rosphalt 50® as well as sales from the Capital Services acquisition, (b) \$2.9 million from the Company's European operations including \$1.6 million related to the establishment of HumiSeal SARL, (c) \$2.4 million from Pipeline products, and (d) \$1.4 million from Electronic Coatings.

The Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment revenues increased \$5.3 million or 41% to \$18.3 million for the year ended August 31, 2007 compared to \$13.0 million for fiscal 2006. This increase was primarily due to increased order activity from existing customers as well as higher volume due to several new customers added in the latter half of fiscal 2006 that the Company began shipping to in fiscal 2007. Additionally, the softness in the assembly market seen in fiscal 2005 and the early part of fiscal 2006 rebounded contributing to overall demand.

Royalty and commissions in the Specialized Manufacturing segment increased \$510,000 or 40% for the year ended August 31, 2007 compared to fiscal 2006. Of this increase, \$370,000 was attributable to increased activity during fiscal 2007 from the Company's Asian licensee.

Cost of Products and Services Sold

Cost of products and services sold increased \$1.8 million or 2% to \$89.7 million for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2008 compared to \$87.9 million in fiscal 2007. As a percentage of revenues, cost of products and services sold decreased to 68% in fiscal 2008 compared to 69% for fiscal 2007.

The following table summarizes the relative percentages of revenues for costs of products and services sold for both of the Company's reporting segments:

| | Fi | Fiscal Years | |
|------------------------------------|------|--------------|------|
| | | Ended | |
| | A | ugust 31, | |
| Cost of products and services sold | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Specialized Manufacturing | 65% | 67% | 70% |
| Electronic Manufacturing Services | 82% | 82% | 84% |
| Total | 68% | 69% | 72% |

Cost of products and services sold in the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2008 were \$73.8 million compared to \$72.9 million in fiscal 2007. The dollar value increase in cost of products and services sold in this segment during fiscal 2008 was primarily attributable to increased revenues offset by management's emphasis on leveraging

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the Company's fixed costs and improving manufacturing efficiencies. The decrease in cost of products and services sold as a percentage of revenues in this segment during fiscal 2008 was a direct result of a favorable product mix coupled with continued focus and scrutiny on material purchases that have helped stabilize margins on many of the Company's key product lines.

Cost of products and services sold in the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment were \$15.9 million for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2008 compared to \$15.0 million in fiscal 2007. The increase in dollar value of cost of products and services sold in the Company's Electronic Manufacturing segment was a direct result of increased revenues and manufacturing costs in fiscal 2008. As a percentage of revenues, cost of products and services sold in this segment remained flat in fiscal 2008 and 2007. This reflects increasing manufacturing costs and competitive pricing pressures placed on this segment by many of its key customers in fiscal 2008, offset by the Company's ability to leverage its fixed overhead costs on a higher revenue base.

In fiscal 2007, cost of products and services sold increased \$10.3 million or 13% to \$87.9 million compared to \$77.6 million in the prior fiscal year. Cost of products and services sold in the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2007 were \$72.9 million compared to \$66.6 million in fiscal 2006. The dollar value increase in this segment was a direct result of increased revenues during 2007. As a percentage of revenues, cost of products and services sold in this segment decreased in fiscal 2007 as compared to fiscal 2006. In spite of increases and fluctuations in the price of raw materials, some changes in product mix, management's focus on improving manufacturing efficiencies and leveraging the Company's fixed costs coupled with an emphasis on strategic purchases helped maintain solid margins on most of the Company's key product lines.

Cost of products and services sold in the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment were \$15.0 million in fiscal 2007 compared to \$11.0 million in fiscal 2006. The dollar value increase in cost of products and services sold was also a direct result of higher revenues during fiscal 2007. The decrease in cost of products and services sold as a percentage of revenues in this segment reflects the Company's ability to leverage its fixed overhead costs on a higher revenue base and offset the increasing raw material costs experienced by this business segment.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$1.5 million or 7% to \$23.9 million during fiscal 2008 compared to \$22.4 million in fiscal 2007. As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses remained flat at 18% for the years ended August 31, 2008 and 2007. The dollar increase in fiscal 2008 relates primarily to increased employee head count due to acquisitions along with rising employee-related benefits, including health care costs, and increased stock based compensation costs of approximately \$778,000 related to the Company's long term incentive plan. These cost increases in fiscal 2008 were partially offset by a decrease of approximately \$300,000 in costs related to professional services required for compliance with the internal control reporting requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act compared to fiscal 2007 which was the Company's initial year of compliance.

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$1.8 million or 9% to \$22.4 million during fiscal 2007 compared to \$20.6 million in fiscal 2006. As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses were 18% for the year ended August 31, 2007 compared to 19% for the year ended August 31, 2006. The dollar increase in fiscal 2007 included approximately \$1 million of additional expenses incurred related to professional services required for compliance with the internal control reporting requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Due to the increased market value of the Company's publicly held common stock, the deadline for complying with the internal control provisions of Sarbanes-Oxley was accelerated as the Company

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became an accelerated filer under SEC regulations beginning with the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2007. The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses was also in part due to increased accrued incentive compensation for the management and employee incentive plan as well as increased sales commissions due to the Company's strong results. These selling, general and administrative expense increases observed during fiscal 2007 were partially offset by a decrease in the non-cash stock based compensation expense of \$434,000 to \$1,301,000 in fiscal 2007 compared to \$1,735,000 in fiscal 2006. The percentage decrease in fiscal 2007 compared to fiscal 2006 can be attributed to the Company's increased revenue base and ongoing efforts to leverage its fixed costs wherever possible.

Bad debt expense, net of recoveries, decreased \$215,000 to \$53,000 in fiscal 2008 compared to \$268,000 in fiscal 2007 and \$167,000 in fiscal 2006. The decrease in fiscal 2008 was a direct result of management's strict adherence to its established credit policies as well as closely monitoring the accounts receivable function and taking a proactive approach to the collections process. The increase in fiscal 2007 relates to a product dispute with a customer in the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment and financial difficulties for two customers in the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment.

Loss on Impairment of Goodwill

In fiscal 2007, the Company concluded the carrying amount of goodwill for the NEQP division was not fully recoverable and an impairment charge of \$311,000 was recorded as of May 31, 2007. Goodwill related to NEQP, having a pre-impairment book value of \$660,000, was written down to its estimated fair value of \$349,000. The Company continues to assess the realizability of this asset under appropriate generally accepted accounting principles, including the continued annual impairment test, which is completed each August in conjunction with the Company's fiscal year end.

Interest Expense

Interest expense was \$40,000 in fiscal 2008 compared to \$900,000 and \$1,018,000 in fiscal 2007 and 2006, respectively. The decrease in interest expense over the past two fiscal years is a direct result of a reduction in the Company's overall debt balances through principal payments from operating cash flow and an overall decrease in interest rates.

Other Income

Other income increased \$236,000 to \$477,000 in fiscal 2008 compared to \$241,000 and \$183,000 in fiscal 2007 and 2006, respectively. Other income includes bank interest earned by the Company's HumiSeal Europe division and monthly rental income of \$14,875 on property (building and land) owned by the Company and leased to Sunburst Electronic Manufacturing Solutions, Inc. under a thirty-six month rental agreement commencing on December 1, 2006 and expiring on November 30, 2009. The fiscal year 2008 increase over the prior year periods consists primarily of bank interest and exchange gains earned by the Company's HumiSeal Europe division. The fiscal year 2007 increase in other income consists primarily of a \$3,000 increase in monthly rental fees per the new rental agreement and bank interest earned by the Company's HumiSeal Europe division.

Income Taxes

The effective tax rate for fiscal 2008 was 35.8% compared to 37.0% and 32.0% in fiscal 2007 and 2006, respectively. In all three years, the Company has received the benefit of the domestic production deduction and foreign rate differential. The effective tax rate of 35.8% for fiscal 2008

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compares favorably to the prior year due to an increase in the applicable domestic production deduction for the year. The effective tax rate of 32% in fiscal 2006 reflects a benefit of \$635,000. Excluding this tax benefit, the revised effective tax rate in fiscal 2006 would have been approximately 38.0% compared to 35.8% in fiscal year 2008 and 37.0% in fiscal year 2007. This tax benefit was the result of the Company's conclusion in fiscal 2006 that it was more likely than not that the deferred tax asset in the form of capital loss carryforwards totaling \$1.7 million would be realized prior to its expiration beginning in fiscal 2009 as a result of the anticipated sale of real property currently owned by the Company. Accordingly, the valuation allowance previously recorded against this deferred tax asset was reversed in the quarter ending November 30, 2005 resulting in a tax benefit of \$635,000 which was reflected in the fiscal 2006 results. The gain on the sale of this property will be recorded for both financial reporting and tax purposes in the period in which title is transferred from the Company to the buyer of the property.

Net Income

Net income in fiscal 2008 increased \$2.2 million or 22% to \$12.4 million compared to \$10.2 million in fiscal 2007. The increase in net income in the current year is primarily due to increased revenue growth in the Company's core product lines coupled with favorable product mix and the Company's ability to leverage its fixed costs and properly manage increasing raw material costs. As discussed previously, fiscal 2007 net income was negatively impacted by higher expenses incurred related to the Company's first year of compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the loss on impairment of goodwill from NEQP.

Net income in fiscal 2007 increased \$4.1 million or 67% to \$10.2 million compared to \$6.1 million in fiscal 2006. The increase in net income in fiscal 2007 was primarily due to increased revenue growth in the Company's core product lines coupled with the Company's ability to leverage its fixed costs. These increases in fiscal 2007 were partially offset by approximately \$1 million of expenses incurred related to the Company's first year of compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Additionally, fiscal 2006 net income was lower as a result of charges recorded during that year related to the loss on impairment of goodwill from NEQP of \$457,000, stock based compensation of \$1,735,000 and deferred compensation expense of \$814,000 compared to a loss on impairment of goodwill of \$311,000 and stock based compensation of \$1,301,000 in fiscal 2007.

Liquidity and Sources of Capital

The Company's cash balance increased \$1,473,000 to \$3,917,000 at August 31, 2008 from \$2,444,000 at August 31, 2007. The increased cash balance at August 31, 2008 was a result of cash flow generated during the year, after a portion was used to repay all outstanding balances on the Company's existing debt. Management continues to review its current cash balances denominated in foreign currency in light of current tax guidelines and potential acquisitions. The cash balances of \$2,444,000 and \$2,416,000 at August 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively were a result of cash flow generated during the year being held for pending acquisitions which closed subsequent to year end.

Cash flow provided by operations was \$15,546,000 for the year ended August 31, 2008 compared to \$14,705,000 in fiscal 2007 and \$10,348,000 in fiscal 2006. Cash provided by operations during fiscal 2008 was primarily due to operating income and increased accounts payable offset by purchases of raw materials. Cash provided by operations during fiscal 2007 was primarily due to operating income and decreased inventory balances offset by increased accounts receivable balances. Cash provided by operations during fiscal 2006 was primarily due to operating income offset by increased inventory and accounts receivable balances which were higher due to an increase in sales volume.

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The ratio of current assets to current liabilities remained flat at 2.3 as of August 31, 2008 and 2007. Increases in the Company's cash balance, accounts receivable and inventory, due to increased demand and overall sales volume, along with a decrease in the current portion of long-term debt were offset by related increases in accounts payable and accrued expenses.

Cash flow used in investing activities was \$5,779,000 for the year ended August 31, 2008 compared to \$7,750,000 in fiscal 2007 and \$8,752,000 in fiscal 2006. During fiscal 2008, cash flow used in investing activities was primarily due to \$1,490,000 paid for the assets acquired by Chase Protective Coatings Ltd., purchases related to the build out of the Company's manufacturing facility in Pittsburgh of approximately \$934,000, contingent payments related to recent acquisitions of \$1,041,000, and cash paid for purchases of machinery and equipment at the Company's other manufacturing locations. During fiscal 2007, cash flow used in investing activities was primarily due to the acquisition of Capital Services, the acquisition of certain assets from Metronelec SARL, and cash paid for purchases of property, plant and equipment. During fiscal 2006, cash flow used in investing activities was primarily due to purchases of property, plant and equipment and the acquisition of the Concoat business, offset by cash received from the settlement of cash surrender value life insurance policies.

Cash flow used in financing activities was \$7,909,000 for the year ended August 31, 2008 compared to \$7,049,000 in fiscal 2007 and \$159,000 in fiscal 2006. During fiscal 2008, cash flow used in financing activities reflected the annual dividend payment and the Company's ability to use excess cash generated from operating results to pay off existing long-term debt, including \$4,033,000 to pay the total outstanding balances of the term notes used to finance the Company's acquisitions of Concoat Holdings Limited (acquired in October 2005) and Capital Services of New York, Inc. (acquired in September 2006). During fiscal 2007, cash flow used in financing activities was primarily due to the Company's ability to use excess cash generated from operating results to pay off existing long-term debt and the annual dividend payment, partially offset by the excess tax benefit from the exercise of employee stock options. During fiscal 2006, cash flow used in financing activities was primarily due to the new term loan used to fund the Company's acquisition of Concoat, offset by (a) payments made on the term loan and the Company's line of credit arrangement; (b) payments of minimum taxes on stock grants and stock options; and (c) payment of the annual dividend.

On October 15, 2007, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.25 per share (totaling \$2,068,000) to shareholders of record on October 31, 2007 payable on December 3, 2007.

On October 14, 2008, the Company announced a cash dividend of \$0.35 per share (totaling approximately \$2,900,000) to shareholders of record on October 31, 2008 and payable on December 4, 2008.

The Company continues to have long-term unsecured credit available up to a maximum amount of \$10 million at the bank's base lending rate or, at the option of the Company, at the effective 30-Day London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 1.25 percent. As of August 31, 2008, the entire amount of \$10 million was available for use under this credit facility. The Company plans to use this availability to help finance its cash needs, including acquisitions, in fiscal 2009 and future periods.

As of October 31, 2008, the entire amount of \$10 million available for use under this credit facility remained available.

Under the terms of the Company's credit facility, the Company must comply with certain debt covenants related to (a) the ratio of total liabilities to tangible net worth and (b) the ratio of operating cash flow to debt service on a rolling twelve month basis. The Company was in

compliance with its debt covenants as of August 31, 2008. The credit facility currently has a maturity date of March 31, 2011.

Contractual Obligations

The following table summarizes the Company's contractual cash obligations at August 31, 2008 and the effect such obligations are expected to have on its liquidity and cash flow in future periods.

| | | Paym | ents Due | Paym | ents Due | Paym | ents Due | Pay | yments |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| Contractual Obligations | Total | Less th | an 1 Year | 1-3 | Years | 4-5 | Years | After | 5 Years |
| Operating leases | \$ 2,387,000 | \$ | 743,000 | \$ | 681,000 | \$ | 464,000 | \$ | 499,000 |
| Purchase Obligations | 2,586,000 | | 2,026,000 | | 560,000 | | | | |
| Other Long-Term Liabilities(1) | 10,313,000 | | 327,000 | | 1,255,000 | | 6,295,000 | | 2,436,000 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Total(2) | \$15,286,000 | \$ | 3,096,000 | \$ | 2,496,000 | \$ | 6,759,000 | \$ | 2,935,000 |

- (1)
 Other Long-Term Liabilities represent the expected payments for the Company's obligations for pension and other post-retirement benefits. See Note 9 "Benefits and Pension Plans" to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.
- The Company may be required to make payments related to its unrecognized tax benefits. However, due to the uncertainty of the timing of future cash flows associated with these unrecognized tax benefits, the Company is unable to make reasonably reliable estimates of the period of cash settlement, if any, with the respective taxing authorities. Accordingly, unrecognized tax benefits of \$752,000 as of August 31, 2008 have been excluded from the contractual obligations table above. See Note 7 "Income Taxes" to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

The Company currently has an ongoing capital project that is related to the build out of its new manufacturing facility in greater Pittsburgh, PA. It also plans on adding additional machinery and equipment as needed to increase capacity or to enhance operating efficiencies in its other manufacturing plants. Additionally, the Company may consider the acquisitions of companies or other assets in fiscal 2009 which are complementary to its business. The Company believes that its existing resources, including its primary credit facility, together with cash generated from operations and additional bank borrowings, will be sufficient to fund its cash flow requirements through at least the next twelve months. However, there can be no assurances that additional borrowings will be available at favorable terms, if at all.

To the extent that interest rates increase in future periods, the Company will assess the impact of these higher interest rates on the financial and cash flow projections of its potential acquisitions.

The Company does not have any significant off balance sheet arrangements.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 provides guidance regarding the recognition and measurement of tax positions and the related reporting and disclosure requirements. The Company adopted FIN 48 during the first quarter of fiscal 2008. See Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Report.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("FAS 157"). The provisions of FAS 157 define fair value, establish a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expand disclosures about fair value measurements.

The provisions of FAS 157 are effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-2 ("FSP 157-2") which defers the effective date of FAS 157 for non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually). FSP 157-2 will apply to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the impact the provisions of FAS 157 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue 06-4, "Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements." In accordance with EITF Issue 06-4, an agreement by the employer to share a portion of the proceeds of a life insurance policy with the employee during the post retirement period is a postretirement benefit arrangement that must be accounted for under FASB Statement No. 106, Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions (FAS 106), or APB Opinion No. 12, Omnibus Opinion 1967 (APB 12). EITF Issue 06-4 becomes effective in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 (fiscal year beginning September 1, 2008). The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact EITF Issue 06-4 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities including an amendment of FAS No. 115", ("FAS 159"). FAS 159 allows measurement at fair value of eligible financial assets and liabilities that are not otherwise measured at fair value. If the fair value option for an eligible item is elected, unrealized gains and losses on that item shall be reported in current earnings at each subsequent reporting date. FAS 159 also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to draw comparison between the different measurements attributes a company elects for similar types of assets and liabilities. FAS 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company is assessing the impact, if any, the adoption of FAS 159 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In March 2007, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue 06-10, "Accounting for the Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefits Aspects of Collateral Assignment Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements." In accordance with EITF Issue 06-10, an employer should recognize a liability for the postretirement benefit related to a collateral assignment split-dollar life insurance arrangement in accordance with either FASB Statement No. 106, Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions (FAS 106), or APB Opinion 12, Omnibus Opinion 1967 (APB 12). EITF Issue 06-10 becomes effective in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 (fiscal year beginning September 1, 2008). The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact EITF Issue 06-10 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), "Business Combinations" ("FAS 141R"), which replaces FAS 141. FAS 141R establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer in a business combination recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any controlling interest; recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase; and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. FAS 141R is to be applied prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after an entity's fiscal year that begins after December 15, 2008. Earlier adoption is prohibited. The Company expects that FAS 141R will have an impact on accounting for business combinations once adopted, but the effect is dependent upon acquisitions at that time.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51 ("FAS 160").

FAS 160 establishes accounting and reporting standards that require the ownership interest in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent be clearly identified and presented in the consolidated balance sheets within equity, but separate from the parent's equity; the amount of consolidated net income attributable to the parent and the noncontrolling interest be clearly identified and presented on the face of the consolidated statement of earnings; and changes in a parent's ownership interest while the parent retains its controlling financial interest in its subsidiary be accounted for consistently. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. Earlier adoption is prohibited. The Company does not expect the adoption of this standard to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

Critical Accounting Policies, Judgments, and Estimates

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") requires companies to provide additional disclosure and commentary on their most critical accounting policies. The SEC has defined the most critical accounting policies as the ones that are most important to the portrayal of a company's financial condition and operating results, and require management to make its most significant estimates and judgments in the preparation of its consolidated financial statements. The Company's critical accounting policies are described below.

Accounts Receivable

The Company evaluates the collectibility of accounts receivable balances based on a combination of factors. In cases where the Company is aware of circumstances that may impair a specific customer's ability to meet its financial obligations to it, a specific allowance against amounts due to the Company is recorded, and thereby reduces the net recognized receivable to the amount the Company reasonably believes will be collected. For all other customers, the Company recognizes allowances for doubtful accounts based on the length of time the receivables are past due, industry and geographic concentrations, the current business environment and its historical experience. If the financial condition of the Company's customers deteriorates or if economic conditions worsen, additional allowances may be required in the future, which could have an adverse impact on the future operating results of the Company.

Inventories

The Company values inventory at the lower of cost or market using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. Management assesses the recoverability of inventory based on types and levels of inventory held, forecasted demand and changes in technology. These assessments require management judgments and estimates, and valuation adjustments for excess and obsolete inventory may be recorded based on these assessments. The Company estimates excess and obsolescence exposures based upon assumptions about future demand, product transitions, and market conditions and records reserves to reduce inventories to their estimated net realizable value. The failure to accurately forecast demand may lead to additional excess and obsolete inventory and future charges.

Goodwill, Intangible Assets, and Other Long-Lived Assets

Long-lived assets consist of goodwill, identifiable intangible assets, trademarks, patents and agreements and property, plant, and equipment. Intangible assets and property, plant, and equipment, excluding goodwill, are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful life. The Company reviews long-lived assets and all intangible assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. Goodwill is also reviewed at least annually for impairment. Factors which the Company considers important and that could trigger an impairment review include significant

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underperformance relative to expected historical or projected future operating results, and significant negative industry or economic trends. The Company determines whether an impairment has occurred based on gross expected future cash flows, and measures the amount of the impairment based on the related future discounted cash flows. The cash flow estimates used to determine impairment, if any, contain management's best estimates, using appropriate and customary assumptions and projections at the time. (See notes to consolidated financial statements.)

The estimates of expected cash flows require the Company to make significant judgments regarding future periods that are subject to some factors outside of the Company's control. Changes in these estimates can result in significant revisions to the carrying value of these assets and may result in material charges to the results of operations.

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, performance of its obligation is complete, its price to the buyer is fixed or determinable, and the Company is reasonably assured of collecting. This is typically at the time of shipment. If a loss is anticipated on any contract, a provision for the entire loss is made immediately. Revenue recognition involves judgments and assessments of expected returns, and the likelihood of nonpayment due to insolvent customers. The Company analyzes various factors, including a review of specific customer contracts and shipment terms, historical experience, creditworthiness of customers and current market and economic conditions in determining when to recognize revenue. Changes in judgments on these factors could impact the timing and amount of revenue recognized with a resulting impact on the timing and amount of associated income. Commissions are recognized when earned and payments are received from the manufacturers represented. Royalty revenue is recognized based on licensee production statements received from the authorized manufacturers. Billed shipping and handling fees are recorded as sales revenue with the associated costs recorded as costs of products and services sold.

Contingent Income Tax Liabilities

The Company is subject to routine income tax audits that occur periodically in the normal course of business. The Company's contingent income tax liabilities are estimated based on the methodology prescribed in FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48"), which was adopted as of the beginning of fiscal 2008. FIN 48 prescribes a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. The Company's liabilities related to uncertain tax positions require an assessment of the probability of the income-tax-related exposures and settlements and are influenced by its historical audit experiences with various state and federal taxing authorities as well as by current income tax trends. If circumstances change, the Company may be required to record adjustments that could be material to its reported financial condition and results of operations. See Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Report for more information on the adoption of FIN 48.

Deferred Income Taxes

The Company evaluates the need for a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized. The Company has considered future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the need for a valuation allowance. Should the Company determine that it would not be able to realize all or part of its net deferred tax asset in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would be charged to income in the period such determination was made.

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Pension Benefits

The Company sponsors a non-contributory defined benefit pension plan covering substantially all employees of certain divisions of the Company. In calculating its retirement plan obligations and related expense, the Company makes various assumptions and estimates. These assumptions include discount rates, benefits earned, expected return on plan assets, mortality rates, and other factors. While management believes that the assumptions used are appropriate, differences in actual experience or changes in assumptions may affect the Company's pension obligations and future expense.

Impact of Inflation

Inflation has not had a significant long-term impact on earnings. In the event of significant inflation, the Company's efforts to recover cost increases would be hampered as a result of the competitive nature of the industries in which it operates.

Forward-Looking Information

From time to time, the Company may publish, verbally or in written form, forward-looking statements relating to such matters as anticipated financial performance, business prospects, technological developments, new products, research and development activities and similar matters. In fact, this Form 10-K (or any other periodic reporting documents required by the 1934 Act) may contain forward-looking statements reflecting the current views of the Company concerning potential or anticipated future events or developments. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "Act") provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements. The Company cautions investors that any forward-looking statements made by the Company are not guarantees of future performance and that a variety of factors could cause the Company's actual results and experience to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the Company's forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties which may affect the operations, performance, development and results of the Company's business include, but are not limited to, the following: uncertainties relating to economic conditions; uncertainties relating to customer plans and commitments; the pricing and availability of equipment, materials and inventories; the impact of acquisitions on the Company's business and results of operations; technological developments; performance issues with suppliers and subcontractors; the ability of the Company to renew its existing credit facilities or to obtain new or additional financing as needed; economic growth; delays in testing of new products; rapid technology changes and the highly competitive environment in which the Company operates. These risks and uncertainties also include those risks outlined under Item 1A (Risk Factors) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date the statement was made.

ITEM 7A QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company limits the amount of credit exposure to any one issuer. At August 31, 2008, other than the Company's restricted investments (which are restricted for use in a non-qualified retirement savings plan for certain key employees and members of the Board of Directors), all of the Company's funds were either in demand deposit accounts or investment instruments that meet high credit quality standards such as money market funds, government securities, or commercial paper.

The Company's domestic operations have limited currency exposure since substantially all invoices are denominated in U.S. dollars. However, the Company's European operations are subject to currency exchange fluctuations. The Company continues to review its policies and procedures to reduce this exposure while maintaining the benefit from these operations and sales to other

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European customers. Historically, the Company has maintained minimal cash balances outside the U.S. As of August 31, 2008, the Company had cash balances in the United Kingdom for its HumiSeal Europe Ltd and Chase Protective Coatings divisions denominated primarily in pounds sterling and equal to US \$1,109,000 and cash balances in France for its HumiSeal Europe SARL division denominated primarily in euros and equal to US \$533,000. Management will continue to review its current cash balances denominated in foreign currency in light of current tax guidelines and potential acquisitions.

The Company incurred a foreign currency translation loss, net of tax for the year ended August 31, 2008 in the amount of \$1,357,000 related to its European operations which is recorded in other comprehensive income (loss) within the Company's Statement of Stockholders' Equity. The Company does not have or utilize any derivative financial instruments.

ITEM 8 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The following Consolidated Financial Statements of Chase Corporation are filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K:

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements:

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| <u>Firm PricewaterhouseCoopers LL</u> P | 32 |
| Consolidated Balance Sheets as of August 31, 2008 and 2007 | 33 |
| Consolidated Statements of Operations for each of the three fiscal years in the | 2.4 |
| period ended August 31, 2008 Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for each of the three fiscal years | 34 |
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| Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the three fiscal years in the | |
| period ended August 31, 2008 | 36 |
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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Chase Corporation:

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Chase Corporation and its subsidiaries at August 31, 2008 and 2007, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended August 31, 2008 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of August 31, 2008, based on criteria established in Internal Control Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in Item 9A, "Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting," Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements and on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audits (which were integrated audits in 2008 and 2007). We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company changed the manner in which it accounts for uncertain tax positions effective August 31, 2008. In addition, as discussed in Note 9 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company changed the manner in which it accounts for its defined benefit pension plans effective August 31, 2007.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Boston, MA November 13, 2008

CHASE CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| | August 31, 2008 2007 | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------|--|
| ASSETS | 2000 | 2007 | |
| Current Assets: | | | |
| Cash & cash equivalents | \$ 3,917,018 | \$ 2,443,750 | |
| Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of | φ 3,717,010 | Ψ 2,443,730 | |
| \$446,840 and \$579,536 | 18,968,989 | 17,653,982 | |
| Inventories | 16,460,923 | 15,135,773 | |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 767,187 | 753,818 | |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,309,801 | 729,885 | |
| 2 ctorred mediate tartes | 1,000,001 | 727,000 | |
| Total current assets | 41,423,918 | 36,717,208 | |
| Total current assets | 41,423,910 | 30,717,208 | |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 21,904,742 | 19,758,276 | |
| Other Assets | 21,904,742 | 19,730,270 | |
| Goodwill | 15,131,187 | 14,575,640 | |
| Intangible assets, less accumulated amortization of \$4,112,600 and | 15,151,167 | 14,575,040 | |
| \$3,134,274 | 5,874,505 | 7,063,178 | |
| Cash surrender value of life insurance | 5,111,099 | 4,588,600 | |
| Restricted investments | 825,282 | 1,187,488 | |
| Other assets | 26,009 | 74,519 | |
| Other assets | 20,007 | 7 1,317 | |
| | \$ 90,296,742 | \$ 83,964,909 | |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 7,695,539 | \$ 7,135,266 | |
| Accrued payroll and other compensation | 3,649,271 | 2,857,524 | |
| Accrued stock based compensation | 1,676,076 | 246,315 | |
| Accrued expenses | 3,743,726 | 2,618,142 | |
| Accrued income taxes | 1,099,569 | 1,092,766 | |
| Current portion of long-term debt | | 2,210,000 | |
| | | | |
| Total current liabilities | 17,864,181 | 16,160,013 | |
| Long-term debt, less current portion | 17,001,101 | 3,822,500 | |
| Deferred compensation | 2,259,617 | 3,489,763 | |
| Accumulated Pension Obligation | 3,350,998 | 3,271,901 | |
| Accrued expenses | .,, | 254,052 | |
| Deferred income taxes | 635,842 | 754,718 | |
| | ,- | , | |
| Commitments and Contingencies (Notes 6, 8 and 17) | | | |
| Stockholders' Equity | | | |
| First Serial Preferred Stock, \$1.00 par value: Authorized 100,000 | | | |
| shares; none issued | | | |
| Common stock, \$.10 par value: Authorized 20,000,000 shares at | | | |
| August 31, 2008 and 10,000,000 shares at August 31, 2007; | | | |
| 8,396,162 shares at August 31, 2008 and 8,219,350 shares at | | | |
| August 31, 2007 issued and outstanding | 839,616 | 821,935 | |
| Additional paid-in capital | 4,276,872 | 2,680,170 | |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | (1,132,129) | 583,799 | |
| Retained earnings | 62,201,745 | 52,126,058 | |
| Retained Earnings | 02,201,743 | 32,120,038 | |

Total stockholders' equity 66,186,104 56,211,962

Total liabilities and stockholders' equity

\$ 90,296,742 \$ 83,964,909

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

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CHASE CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

| | Years Ended August 31, | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | |
| Revenue | | | | |
| Sales | \$130,703,284 | \$125,668,071 | \$107,160,497 | |
| Royalty and commissions | 1,774,470 | 1,791,543 | 1,281,868 | |
| | | | | |
| | 132,477,754 | 127,459,614 | 108,442,365 | |
| | | | | |
| Costs and Expenses | | | | |
| Cost of products and services sold | 89,680,358 | 87,889,639 | 77,608,493 | |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 23,950,867 | 22,420,919 | 20,578,741 | |
| Loss on impairment of goodwill | | 311,000 | 457,000 | |
| | | | | |
| Operating income | 18,846,529 | 16,838,056 | 9,798,131 | |
| | | | | |
| Interest expense | (39,854) | (899,745) | (1,017,654) | |
| Other income | 477,150 | 240,745 | 183,594 | |
| | | | | |
| Income before income taxes | 19,283,825 | 16,179,056 | 8,964,071 | |
| | | | | |
| Income taxes | 6,910,225 | 5,986,252 | 2,850,082 | |
| | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 12,373,600 | \$ 10,192,804 | \$ 6,113,989 | |
| | | | | |
| Net income per common and common equivalent | | | | |
| shares | Φ 1.50 | Φ 1.26 | Φ 0.70 | |
| Basic | \$ 1.50 \$ 1.43 | \$ 1.26 | \$ 0.79 | |
| Diluted Weighted average shares outstanding | \$ 1.43 | \$ 1.22 | \$ 0.77 | |
| Weighted average shares outstanding Basic | 8,248,296 | 9 090 770 | 7 770 222 | |
| Diluted | 8,646,545 | 8,080,770 8,354,375 | 7,770,332 7,967,214 | |
| See accompanying notes to the co | | | 7,907,214 | |
| see accompanying notes to the c | onsonuateu milanc | iai statements. | | |

CHASE CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

| | Common | | AdditionalCo Paid-In | Income | Retained | Total StockholdersCo | - |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| D.1 | Shares | Amount | Capital | (loss) | Earnings | Equity | Income |
| Balance at August 31, 2005 | 7,637,330 | \$763,732 | \$ (201,431) \$ | \$ (489,043) | \$38,766,677 | \$ 38,839,935 | |
| Management stock grant | 197,040 | 19,704 | 1,407,851 | | | 1,427,555 | |
| Exercise of stock options | 52,144 | 5,214 | 268,543 | | | 273,757 | |
| Tax benefit from exercise of stock | ŕ | · | · | | | , | |
| options | | | 36,795 | | | 36,795 | |
| Common stock received for payment of stock option exercises | (23,394) | (2,340) | (170,186) | | | (172,526) | |
| Common stock received to pay statutory minimum withholding taxes on | (23,374) | (2,540) | (170,100) | | | (172,320) | |
| common stock | (76,528) | (7,652) | (555,298) | | | (562,950) | |
| Board of Directors stock grant | 12,254 | 1,226 | 91,292 | | | 92,518 | |
| Cash dividend paid, \$0.175 per share | | | | | (1,358,251) |) (1,358,251) | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | | | | 813,901 | | 813,901 | 813,901 |
| Net unrealized gain on marketable securities, net of tax | | | | 013,701 | | 013,701 | 010,701 |
| of \$31,562 | | | | 10,389 | | 10,389 | 10,389 |
| Increase in minimum pension liability, net | | | | | | | |
| of tax of \$372,426 | | | | 558,640 | | 558,640 | 558,640 |
| Net income | | | | | 6,113,989 | 6,113,989 | 6,113,989 |
| Comprehensive income | | | | | | ; | \$ 7,496,919 |
| | | | | | | | |

Balance at August 31,

2006 7,798,846 \$779,884 \$ 877,566 \$ 893,887 \$43,522,415 \$46,073,752

| Exercise of stock options | 732 640 | \$ 73.264 | \$ 3,939,298 | | | 4,012,562 | |
|--|-------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Common stock | 732,010 | Ψ 73,201 | Ψ 3,737,270 | | | 1,012,302 | |
| received for payment | | | | | | | |
| of stock option exercises | (234 984) | (23 498) | (3,056,089) | 1 | | (3,079,587) | |
| Common stock | (234,704) | (23,170) | (3,030,007) | | | (3,077,307) | |
| retained to pay | | | | | | | |
| statutory minimum withholding taxes on | | | | | | | |
| common stock | (92,132) | (9,213) | (1,435,639) |) | | (1,444,852) | |
| Tax benefit from | | | , | | | , , , , , , , | |
| exercise of stock | | | | | | | |
| options and restricted stock units | | | 2,242,599 | | | 2,242,599 | |
| Common stock grant | | | , , | | | , , | |
| pursuant to fully | | | | | | | |
| vested restricted stock units | 14,980 | 1,498 | 112,435 | | | 113,933 | |
| Cash dividend paid, | 11,500 | 1,170 | 112,133 | | | 113,733 | |
| \$0.20 per share | | | | | (1,589,161) | (1,589,161) | |
| FAS 158 pension adjustment, net of tax | | | | | | | |
| of \$632,563 | | | | (993,563) | | (993,563) | (993,563) |
| Foreign currency | | | | | | | |
| translation adjustment | | | | 715,874 | | 715,874 | 715,874 |
| Net unrealized loss | | | | 713,074 | | 713,074 | 713,074 |
| on marketable | | | | | | | |
| securities, net of tax of \$20,627 | | | | (32,399) | | (32,399) | (32,399) |
| Net income | | | | | 10,192,804 | 10,192,804 | 10,192,804 |
| | | | | | | | , , |
| Comprehensive | | | | | | | ¢ 0.002.716 |
| income | | | | | | | \$ 9,882,716 |
| Balance at August 31, | | | | | | | |
| 2007 | \$8,219,350 | \$821,935 | \$ 2,680,170 | \$ 583,799 \$ | 52,126,058 | \$ 56,211,962 | |
| Change in accounting | | | | | | | |
| for income tax | | | | | | | |
| uncertainties pursuant to adoption | | | | | | | |
| of FIN 48 | | | | \$ | (230,198) | \$ (230,198) | |
| Restricted stock | | | | | | | |
| grants Amortization of | 53,227 | \$ 5,323 | \$ (5,323) |) | | | |
| restricted stock grants | | | 341,024 | | | 341,024 | |
| Stock grants | 400 | 40 | 7,600 | | | 7,640 | |
| Exercise of stock | 41.500 | 4.150 | 220,225 | | | 224.275 | |
| options | 41,500 | 4,150 | 220,225 | | | 224,375 | |

| Common stock received for payment | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| of stock option | | | | | | | |
| exercises | (1,091) | (109) | (20,891) | | | (21,000) | |
| Tax benefit from | | | | | | | |
| exercise of stock | | | | | | | |
| options and restricted | | | | | | | |
| stock units | | | 814,805 | | | 814,805 | |
| Common stock | | | | | | | |
| issuance pursuant to | | | | | | | |
| fully vested restricted | 100.600 | 12.000 | 1 0 6 1 0 0 2 | | | 1 0 - 1 0 1 0 | |
| stock units | 130,603 | 13,060 | 1,061,882 | | | 1,074,942 | |
| Common stock | | | | | | | |
| retained to pay | | | | | | | |
| statutory minimum | | | | | | | |
| withholding taxes on common stock | (47,827) | (4,783) | (822,620) | | | (827,403) | |
| Cash dividend paid, | (47,827) | (4,763) | (822,020) | | | (627,403) | |
| \$0.25 per share | | | | | (2,067,715) | (2,067,715) | |
| FAS 158 pension | | | | | (2,007,713) | (2,007,713) | |
| adjustment, net of tax | | | | | | | |
| of \$170,988 | | | | (268,569) | | (268,569) | (268,569) |
| Foreign currency | | | | (| | ()) | (|
| translation | | | | | | | |
| adjustment, net of tax | | | | | | | |
| of \$164,162 | | | | (1,357,102) | | (1,357,102) | (1,357,102) |
| Net unrealized loss | | | | | | | |
| on marketable | | | | | | | |
| securities, net of tax | | | | | | | |
| of \$57,463 | | | | (90,257) | | (90,257) | (90,257) |
| Net income | | | | | 12,373,600 | 12,373,600 | 12,373,600 |
| Comprehensive | | | | | | | |
| income | | | | | | | \$ 10,657,672 |

Balance at August 31,

2008 \$8,396,162 \$839,616 \$4,276,872 \$(1,132,129) \$62,201,745 \$66,186,104

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW

| | Years Ended August 31, | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING | | | | |
| ACTIVITIES | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 12,373,600 | \$ 10,192,804 | \$ 6,113,989 | |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net | | | | |
| cash provided by operating activities | | | | |
| Loss (Gain) on disposal/sale of assets | 3,986 | 35 | (600) | |
| Loss on impairment of goodwill | | 311,000 | 457,000 | |
| Gain on settlement of life insurance policies | | | (404,833) | |
| Depreciation | 2,668,198 | 2,530,296 | 2,159,820 | |
| Amortization | 1,144,872 | 970,954 | 702,193 | |
| Provision for losses on trade receivables | 52,503 | 268,127 | 167,474 | |
| Stock based compensation | 2,078,490 | 1,300,847 | 1,734,597 | |
| Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock | | | | |
| options | (814,805) | (2,242,599) | (36,795) | |
| Deferred taxes | (344,883) | (1,502,051) | (629,151) | |
| Increase (decrease) from changes in assets | | | | |
| and liabilities | | | | |
| Accounts receivable | (1,444,748) | (1,876,456) | (2,268,227) | |
| Inventories | (1,074,771) | 1,857,357 | (2,559,232) | |
| Prepaid expenses & other assets | (28,336) | (94,966) | 1,156,100 | |
| Accounts payable | 192,310 | (976,777) | 1,649,827 | |
| Accrued expenses | 1,660,816 | 1,873,007 | 27,175 | |
| Accrued income taxes | 497,789 | 2,115,421 | 1,132,089 | |
| Deferred compensation | (1,419,105) | (21,734) | 946,446 | |
| • | | | | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 15,545,916 | 14,705,265 | 10,347,872 | |
| | | | | |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING | | | | |
| ACTIVITIES | | | | |
| Purchases of property, plant and equipment | (3,062,640) | (3,697,747) | (1,786,427) | |
| Purchases of intangible assets | | (5,999) | 3,275 | |
| Contingent purchase price for acquisition | (1,040,781) | (366,538) | (165,683) | |
| Payments for acquisitions, net of cash acquired | (1,489,769) | (3,308,514) | (8,023,507) | |
| Proceeds from sale of equipment | 16,694 | 2,900 | 600 | |
| Investment in restricted investments, net of | | | | |
| withdrawals | 271,949 | 135,118 | (19,159) | |
| Proceeds from settlement of CSV life insurance | | | Ì | |
| policies | | | 1,787,540 | |
| Distributions from cost based investment | 48,095 | 5,016 | 1,575 | |
| Payments for cash surrender value life | | | | |
| insurance, net of valuation decrease | (522,499) | (513,981) | (549,736) | |
| , | , , , , , | (- ;) | (, , , , , , , | |

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| Net cash used in investing activities | (5,778,951) | (7,749,745) | (8,751,522) |
|--|---|--------------|--------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING | | | |
| ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Borrowings on long-term debt | 25,039,606 | 34,593,870 | 31,985,683 |
| Payments of principal on debt | (31,072,106) | (41,784,549) | (30,361,322) |
| Dividend paid | (2,067,715) | (1,589,161) | (1,358,251) |
| Proceeds from exercise of common stock | | | |
| options | 203,375 | 932,975 | 101,231 |
| Payments of statutory minimum taxes on stock | | | |
| options and restricted stock | (827,403) | (1,444,852) | (562,950) |
| Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock | ` ' | , | , , , |
| options | 814,805 | 2,242,599 | 36,795 |
| | • | | ŕ |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (7,909,438) | (7,049,118) | (158,814) |
| 8 | (, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | (1)-1,-1 | (/- / |
| INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH | 1,857,527 | (93,598) | 1,437,536 |
| Effect of foreign exchange rates on cash | (384,259) | 121,251 | 131,560 |
| CASH, BEGINNING OF PERIOD | 2,443,750 | 2,416,097 | 847,001 |
| | ,,, | , 10,021 | , , , , , , |
| CASH, END OF PERIOD | \$ 3,917,018 | \$ 2,443,750 | \$ 2,416,097 |

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies of Chase Corporation (the "Company") and its subsidiaries are as follows:

Products and Markets

The Company's principal products are specialty tapes, laminates, sealants and coatings that are sold by Company salespeople, manufacturers' representatives and distributors. In the Company's Specialized Manufacturing segment, these products consist of:

- (i)
 insulating and conducting materials for the manufacture of electrical and telephone wire and cable, electrical splicing, and
 terminating and repair tapes, which are marketed to wire and cable manufacturers;
- (ii) protective pipe coating tapes and other protectants for valves, regulators, casings, joints, metals, concrete and wood, which are sold to oil companies, gas utilities and pipeline companies;
- (iii) protectants for highway bridge deck metal supported surfaces, which are sold to municipal transportation authorities;
- (iv) moisture protective coatings, which are sold to the electronics industry;
- (v) laminated durable papers, including laminated paper with an inner security barrier used in personal and mail-stream privacy protection, which are sold primarily to the envelope converting and commercial printing industries;
- (vi) flexible composites and laminates for the wire & cable, aerospace, packaging and industrial laminate markets, and
- (vii) expansion and control joint systems designed for roads, bridges, stadiums and airport runways.

In addition, the Company's Electronic Manufacturing Services segment provides circuit board assembly and contract manufacturing services to electronic goods manufacturers.

Basis of Presentation

The financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. Investments in unconsolidated companies which are at least 20% owned are carried under the equity method since acquisition or investment. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. The Company uses the U.S. dollar as the functional currency for financial reporting.

Certain amounts reported in prior fiscal years have been reclassified to conform with the presentation adopted in the current fiscal year. The Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity has been revised for 2007 to include the FAS 158 pension adjustment, net of tax, as a component of Comprehensive Income.

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CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist primarily of demand deposits accounts or investment instruments that meet high credit quality standards such as money market funds, government securities, or commercial paper. The Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less from date of purchase to be cash equivalents. As of August 31, 2008, the Company had cash balances in the United Kingdom for its HumiSeal Europe Ltd and Chase Protective Coatings divisions denominated primarily in pounds sterling and equal to US \$1,109,000 and cash balances in France for its HumiSeal Europe SARL division denominated primarily in euros and equal to US \$533,000.

Accounts Receivable

The Company evaluates the collectibility of accounts receivable balances based on a combination of factors. In cases where the Company is aware of circumstances that may impair a specific customer's ability to meet its financial obligations to it, a specific allowance against amounts due to the Company is recorded, and thereby reduces the net recognized receivable to the amount the Company reasonably believes will be collected. For all other customers, the Company recognizes allowances for doubtful accounts based on the length of time the receivables are past due, industry and geographic concentrations, the current business environment and its historical experience. Receivables are written off against these reserves in the period they are determined to be uncollectible.

Inventories

The Company values inventory at the lower of cost or market using the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. Management assesses the recoverability of inventory based on types and levels of inventory held, forecasted demand and changes in technology. These assessments require management judgments and estimates, and valuation adjustments for excess and obsolete inventory may be recorded based on these assessments. The Company estimates excess and obsolescence exposures based upon assumptions about future demand, product transitions, and market conditions and records reserves to reduce inventories to their estimated net realizable value. The failure to accurately forecast demand may lead to additional excess and obsolete inventory and future charges.

Goodwill

The Company accounts for goodwill in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." The Company evaluates the possible impairment of goodwill annually each fourth quarter, and whenever events or circumstances indicate the carrying value of the goodwill may not be recoverable. The Company evaluates the potential impairment of goodwill by comparing the fair value of the reporting unit to its carrying value,

CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

including goodwill. If the fair value is less than the carrying value, the Company measures the amount of such impairment by comparing the implied fair value of the goodwill to its carrying value.

Intangible Assets

Intangible assets consist of patents, agreements, formulas, trade names, customer relationships and trademarks. The Company capitalizes costs related to patent applications and technology agreements. The costs of these assets are amortized using the straight-line method over the lesser of the useful life of the asset or its statutory life. Capitalized costs are periodically reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost and depreciated using the straight-line method over the assets' estimated useful lives. Expenditures for maintenance repairs and minor renewals are charged to expense as incurred. Betterments and major renewals are capitalized. Upon retirement or other disposition of assets, related allowances for depreciation and amortization are eliminated from the accounts and any resulting gain or loss is included in the determination of income or loss. The estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

Buildings 20 to 40 years Machinery and equipment 3 to 10 years

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the lesser of the useful life or the term of the lease.

Restricted Investments and Deferred Compensation

The Company has a non-qualified deferred savings plan which covers its Board of Directors and selected employees. Participants may elect to defer a portion of their compensation for payment in a future tax year. The plan is funded by trusteed assets that are restricted to the payment of deferred compensation or satisfaction of the Company's general creditors. The Company's restricted investments and corresponding deferred compensation liability under the plan were \$825,282 and \$1,187,488 at August 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The Company accounts for the restricted investments as available for sale by recording unrealized gains or losses in other comprehensive income as a component of stockholders' equity.

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, performance of its obligation is complete, its price to the buyer is fixed or determinable, and the Company is reasonably assured of collecting. This is typically at the time of shipment. If a loss is anticipated on any contract, a provision for the entire loss is made immediately. Revenue recognition involves judgments and assessments of expected returns, and the likelihood of nonpayment due to insolvent customers. The Company analyzes various factors, including a review of specific customer contracts and shipment terms, historical experience, creditworthiness of customers and current market and economic conditions in determining when to recognize revenue. Changes in judgments on these factors could impact the timing and amount of revenue recognized with a resulting impact on the timing and amount of associated income.

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CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Commissions are recognized when earned and payments are received from the manufacturers represented. Royalty revenue is recognized based on licensee production statements received from the authorized manufacturers. Billed shipping and handling fees are recorded as sales revenue with the associated costs recorded as costs of products and services sold.

Research and Product Development Costs

Research and product development costs are expensed as incurred and include primarily engineering salaries, overhead and materials used in connection with research and development projects. Research and development expense amounted to \$1,697,737, \$1,964,538 and \$1,860,203 for the years ended August 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

Pension Plan

The Company accounts for its pension plan following the requirements of SFAS No. 158, "Employers' Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans" ("SFAS No. 158"). SFAS No. 158 requires an employer to: (a) recognize in its statement of financial position the funded status of a benefit plan; (b) measure defined benefit plan assets and obligations as of the end of the employer's fiscal year (with limited exceptions); and (c) recognize as a component of other comprehensive income, net of tax, the gains or losses and prior service costs or credits that arise but are not recognized as components of net periodic benefit costs pursuant to prior existing guidance.

Stock Based Compensation

On September 1, 2005 the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment," ("SFAS 123(R)") which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors including employee stock options and employee stock purchases related to the Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("employee stock purchases") based on estimated fair values. SFAS 123(R) supersedes the Company's previous accounting under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" ("APB 25") beginning in fiscal 2006. In March 2005, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 ("SAB 107") relating to SFAS 123(R). In December 2007, the SEC issued SAB 110 which allows the continued use of the simplified method as described in SAB 107, as the Company has concluded that its historical share option exercise experience does not provide a reasonable basis for estimating expected term. The Company has applied the provisions of SAB 107 and SAB 110 since its adoption of SFAS 123(R). The Company has calculated the historical windfall tax pool using the short cut method as described in SFAS 123(R).

Stock-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS 123(R) for the fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006 was \$2,078,490, \$1,300,847 and \$1,734,595 respectively, related to grants of restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock options.

The fair value of options granted was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions for the year ended

CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

August 31, 2008. There were no options granted during the fiscal years ending August 31, 2007 and 2006.

| | 2008 |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Expected Dividend yield | 2.0% |
| Expected life | 7.5 years |
| Expected volatility | 28.0% |
| Risk-free interest rate | 3.9% |

Translation of Foreign Currency

The financial position and results of operations of the Company's HumiSeal Europe Ltd and Chase Protective Coatings divisions are measured using the UK pound sterling as the functional currency and the financial position and results of operations of the Company's HumiSeal Europe SARL division in France are measured using euros as the functional currency. Revenues and expenses of these divisions have been translated at average exchange rates. Assets and liabilities have been translated at the year-end exchange rates. Translation gains and losses are being deferred as a separate component of shareholders' equity.

Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes under the asset and liability method. Under this method, a deferred tax asset or liability is determined based upon the differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities as measured by the enacted tax rates that will be in effect when these differences reverse. Tax credits are recorded as a reduction in income taxes. Valuation allowances are provided if, based upon the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

The Company estimates contingent income tax liabilities based on the methodology prescribed in Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48"). See Note 7 for more information on the Company's income taxes and FIN 48.

Net Income Per Share

Basic net income per share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per share is computed using the weighted average number of common and diluted common equivalent shares outstanding during the period. Dilutive common equivalent shares consist of stock options and restricted stock units.

Employee equity share options, nonvested shares, and similar equity instruments granted by the Company are treated as potential common shares outstanding in computing diluted earnings per share. Diluted shares outstanding include the dilutive effect of in-the-money options which is calculated based on the average share price for each fiscal period using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the amount the employee must pay for exercising stock options, the amount of compensation cost for future service that the Company has not yet recognized, and the amount of tax benefits that would be recorded in additional paid-in capital when the award becomes deductible are assumed to be used to repurchase shares.

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CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income is defined as the change in equity of a business enterprise during a period from transactions and other events and circumstances from non-owner sources, including foreign currency translation adjustments, unrealized gains and losses on marketable securities and adjustments related to the SFAS 158 pension liability.

Segments

The Company operates in two business segments, a Specialized Manufacturing segment consisting of specialty tapes, laminates, sealants and coatings, and an Electronic Manufacturing Services segment. Specialized Manufacturing products include insulating and conducting materials for wire and cable manufacturers, protective coatings for pipeline applications, moisture protective coatings for electronics, high performance polymeric asphalt additives, and custom pressure sensitive labels. Electronic Manufacturing Services include printed circuit board and electromechanical assembly services for the electronics industry.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 provides guidance regarding the recognition and measurement of tax positions and the related reporting and disclosure requirements. The Company adopted FIN 48 during the first quarter of fiscal 2008. See Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Report.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("FAS 157"). The provisions of FAS 157 define fair value, establish a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expand disclosures about fair value measurements. The provisions of FAS 157 are effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position 157-2 ("FSP 157-2") which defers the effective date of FAS 157 for non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually). FSP 157-2 will apply to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the impact the provisions of FAS 157 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue 06-4, "Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements." In accordance with EITF Issue 06-4, an agreement by the employer to share a portion of the proceeds of a life insurance policy with the employee during the post retirement period is a postretirement benefit arrangement that must be accounted for under FASB Statement No. 106, Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions (FAS 106), or APB Opinion No. 12, Omnibus Opinion 1967 (APB 12). EITF Issue 06-4 becomes effective in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 (fiscal year beginning September 1, 2008). The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact EITF Issue 06-4 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities including an amendment of FAS No. 115", ("FAS 159"). FAS 159 allows measurement at fair value of eligible financial assets and liabilities that are not otherwise measured at fair value. If the fair value option for an eligible item is elected, unrealized gains and losses on

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CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

that item shall be reported in current earnings at each subsequent reporting date. FAS 159 also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to draw comparison between the different measurements attributes a company elects for similar types of assets and liabilities. FAS 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company is assessing the impact, if any, the adoption of FAS 159 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In March 2007, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue 06-10, "Accounting for the Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefits Aspects of Collateral Assignment Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements." In accordance with EITF Issue 06-10, an employer should recognize a liability for the postretirement benefit related to a collateral assignment split-dollar life insurance arrangement in accordance with either FASB Statement No. 106, Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions (FAS 106), or APB Opinion 12, Omnibus Opinion 1967 (APB 12). EITF Issue 06-10 becomes effective in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 (fiscal year beginning September 1, 2008). The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact EITF Issue 06-10 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), "Business Combinations" ("FAS 141R"), which replaces FAS 141. FAS 141R establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer in a business combination recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any controlling interest; recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase; and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. FAS 141R is to be applied prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after an entity's fiscal year that begins after December 15, 2008. Earlier adoption is prohibited. The Company expects that FAS 141R will have an impact on accounting for business combinations once adopted, but the effect is dependent upon acquisitions at that time.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51 ("FAS 160"). FAS 160 establishes accounting and reporting standards that require the ownership interest in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent be clearly identified and presented in the consolidated balance sheets within equity, but separate from the parent's equity; the amount of consolidated net income attributable to the parent and the noncontrolling interest be clearly identified and presented on the face of the consolidated statement of earnings; and changes in a parent's ownership interest while the parent retains its controlling financial interest in its subsidiary be accounted for consistently. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. Earlier adoption is prohibited. The Company does not expect the adoption of this standard to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

CHASE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Note 2 Inventories

Inventories consist of the following as of August 31, 2008 and 2007:

| | Augus | st 31, 2008 | Augus | st 31, 2007 |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| Raw materials | \$ | 8,984,695 | \$ | 8,245,933 |
| Finished and in process | | 7,476,228 | | 6,889,840 |
| Total Inventories | \$ | 16,460,923 | \$ | 15,135,773 |

Note 3 Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consist of the following as of August 31, 2008 and 2007:

| | Augu | st 31, 2008 | Augu | st 31, 2007 |
|------------------------------------|------|--------------|------|--------------|
| Property, Plant and Equipment | | | | |
| Land and improvements | \$ | 2,575,105 | \$ | 1,730,820 |
| Buildings | | 8,062,791 | | 7,796,174 |
| Machinery and equipment | | 31,000,197 | | 29,208,722 |
| Leasehold improvements | | 1,857,025 | | 1,849,501 |
| Construction in progress | | 3,490,766 | | 1,975,830 |
| | | | | |
| | | 46,985,884 | | 42,561,047 |
| Accumulated depreciation | | (25,081,142) | | (22,802,771) |
| | | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | \$ | 21,904,742 | \$ | 19,758,276 |

The majority of construction in progress relates to the Company's facility in O'Hara Township, PA which continues to be renovated in order to increase production capacity and improve efficiencies for existing product lines as well as provide space to integrate future acquisitions.

Note 4 Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The purchase price allocation for certain assets acquired by the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, Chase Protective Coatings Ltd. was completed in the quarter ended August 31, 2008 (see Note 14).

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

The changes in the carrying value of goodwill, by reportable segment, are as follows:

| | | | Elec | ctronic | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------------|
| | Spe | cialized | Manu | facturing | | |
| | _ | facturing | Se | rvices | Cor | solidated |
| Balance at August 31, 2006 | \$ | 6,984,435 | \$ | 5,998,888 | \$ | 12,983,323 |
| Acquisition of Paper | | | | | | |
| Tyger additional earnout | | 290,967 | | | | 290,967 |
| Acquisition of E-poxy Engineered | | | | | | |
| Materials additional earnout | | 75,571 | | | | 75,571 |
| Acquisition of Capital Services | | | | | | |
| Joint Systems | | 788,982 | | | | 788,982 |
| Acquisition of Metronelec assets | | 439,321 | | | | 439,321 |
| FX translation adjustment | | 308,476 | | | | 308,476 |
| Loss on impairment of NEQP | | (311,000) | | | | (311,000) |
| | | | | | | |
| Balance at August 31, 2007 | \$ | 8,576,752 | \$ | 5,998,888 | \$ | 14,575,640 |
| Acquisition of E-poxy Engineered | | | | | | |
| Materials additional earnout | | 382,755 | | | | 382,755 |
| Acquisition of Paper | | | | | | |
| Tyger additional earnout | | 479,882 | | | | 479,882 |
| Acquisition of Metronelec | | | | | | |
| assets additional earnout | | 184,422 | | | | 184,422 |
| FX translation adjustment | | (491,512) | | | | (491,512) |
| | | | | | | |
| Balance at August 31, 2008 | \$ | 9,132,299 | \$ | 5,998,888 | \$ | 15,131,187 |

The Company evaluates the possible impairment of goodwill annually each fourth quarter and whenever events or circumstances indicate the carrying value of goodwill may not be recoverable.

In the quarter ended May 31, 2007, based on the decrease in sales activity in the current year and the completion of the fiscal year 2008 budget, management determined that the carrying value of goodwill associated with the Company's Northeast Quality Products (NEQP) division may not be recoverable. Accordingly, the Company performed a goodwill impairment analysis. Based on the present value of future cash flows utilizing projected results for the balance of fiscal year 2007 and projections for future years based on the fiscal year 2008 budgeting process, the goodwill impairment analysis yielded results that would not support the current book value of the goodwill associated with this division. As a result of this analysis and consistent with results from the impairment review performed during fiscal 2006, the Company concluded the carrying amount of goodwill for the NEQP division was not fully recoverable and an additional impairment charge of \$311,000 was recorded as of May 31, 2007. Goodwill related to NEQP, having a pre-impairment book value of \$659,927, was written down to its estimated fair value of \$348,927 in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

As of August 31, 2008, the Company had a total goodwill balance of \$15,131,187 related to its acquisitions, of which \$8,805,231 is deductible for income taxes.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Intangible assets subject to amortization consist of the following at August 31, 2008 and 2007:

| | Weighted-Average | | | Net |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| | Amortization | Gross Carrying | Accumulated | Carrying |
| | Period | Value | Amortization | Value |
| August 31, 2008 | | | | |
| Patents and agreements | 12.5 years | 2,280,827 | 1,893,566 | 387,261 |
| Formulas | 9.2 years | 1,261,235 | 431,204 | 830,031 |
| Trade names | 3.8 years | 281,294 | 204,269 | 77,025 |
| Customer lists and relationships | 10.4 years | 6,152,134 | 1,583,561 | 4,568,573 |
| August 31, 2007 | | | | |
| Patents and agreements | 12.7 years | 2,243,678 | 1,660,166 | 583,512 |
| Formulas | 9.2 years | 1,261,235 | 279,647 | 981,588 |
| Trade names | 3.8 years | 281,294 | 136,056 | 145,238 |
| Customer lists and relationships | 10.7 years | 6,399,630 | 1,058,405 | 5,341,225 |

In addition to the intangible assets summarized above, the Company also has corporate trademarks with an indefinite life and a carrying value of \$11,615 at August 31, 2008 and 2007.

Aggregate amortization expense related to intangible assets for the years ended August 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 was \$1,144,872, \$970,954 and \$702,193, respectively. Estimated amortization expense for each of the five succeeding fiscal years is as follows:

| Years ending August 31, | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 2009 | \$1,032,895 |
| 2010 | 915,309 |
| 2011 | 775,566 |
| 2012 | 754,987 |
| 2013 | 638,099 |

\$4,116,856

Note 5 Cash Surrender Value of Life Insurance

Life insurance is provided under split dollar life insurance agreements whereby the Company will recover the premiums paid from the proceeds of the policies. The Company recognizes an offset to expense for the growth in the cash surrender value of the policies.

The Company recognizes cash surrender value of life insurance policies, net of loans of \$5,000 at August 31, 2008 and 2007, secured by the policies, with the following carriers at August 31, 2008 and 2007.

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| John Hancock | \$2,612,231 | \$2,236,109 |
| Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company | 817,415 | 763,102 |
| Metropolitan Life Insurance | 1,601,922 | 1,509,858 |
| Other life insurance carriers | 79,531 | 79,531 |
| | \$5,111,099 | \$4,588,600 |

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Subject to periodic review, the Company intends to maintain these policies through the lives or retirement of the insureds.

Note 6 Long-Term Debt and Notes Payable to Bank

Long-term debt consists of the following at August 31, 2008 and 2007: