# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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#### **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 19, 2009

## MORNINGSTAR, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Illinois

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

000-51280

(Commission File Number)

File Number) Identification No.)

22 West Washington Street

36-3297908

(I.R.S. Employer

60602

(Zip Code)

Chicago, Illinois (Address of principal executive offices)

(312) 696-6000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:			
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)		
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)		
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))		

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

# Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

On May 19, 2009, Morningstar, Inc.'s (Morningstar) shareholders approved the Morningstar, Inc. Incentive Plan (the Incentive Plan). The Incentive Plan is a cash-based incentive program that rewards employees for meeting and exceeding annual performance goals approved by the Compensation Committee. The Incentive Plan was established in 2005 and last amended and restated effective January 1, 2009 to comply with Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (Section 162(m)).

The material terms of the Incentive Plan are outlined below and should be reviewed along with the full text of the Incentive Plan, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1.

#### **Eligibility**

Only regular full-time and part-time employees are eligible to participate in the Incentive Plan. There are approximately 2,375 individuals who are eligible to participate in the Incentive Plan.

#### Administration, Amendments, and Termination

The Incentive Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee. The Incentive Plan may be amended or terminated by the Board or Compensation Committee. However, amendments will not be effective without the prior approval of our shareholders if their approval is necessary to qualify amounts paid under the Incentive Plan as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) or any other applicable law or regulation. No amendment may apply to potential bonuses with respect to a performance period that began before the effective date of the amendment.

#### **Performance Goals**

Under the Incentive Plan, participants are eligible to receive annual bonuses based on achieving certain performance goals for each calendar year. With respect to executive officers, the Compensation Committee establishes the performance goals under the Incentive Plan within ninety days after the beginning of each year, provided that the outcome of the performance goals must be substantially uncertain at the time they are established. Performance goals for executive officers are stated as specific amounts of, or specific changes in, one or more financial measures determined by the Compensation Committee. Performance goals may also include operational goals such as: productivity, safety, other strategic objectives, and individual performance. The performance goals need not be the same for different performance periods and for any performance period may be stated: (a) as goals for the company, for one or more subsidiaries, business units, divisions, organizational units, or for any combination of the foregoing; (b) on an absolute basis or relative to the performance of other companies or of a specified index or indexes, or be based on any combination of the foregoing; and (c) separately for one or more participants or business units, or in any combination of the two.

The Compensation Committee must use any one or more of the following financial measures to establish performance goals for executive officers: earnings before interest and taxes; earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization; net earnings; operating earnings or income; earnings growth; net income (absolute or compared with growth rates); net income per share; cash flow, including operating cash flow, free cash flow, discounted cash flow return on investment, and cash flow in excess of cost of capital; earnings per share; return on shareholders' equity (absolute or compared with a peer group); stock price (absolute or compared with a peer group); absolute and/or relative return on capital; absolute and/or relative return on assets; economic value added (income in excess of cost of capital); customer satisfaction; expense reduction; ratio of operating expense to operating revenue; gross revenue or revenue by pre-defined business segment (absolute or compared with growth rates for competitors); revenue backlog; margins realized on delivered services; total shareholder return; debt-to-capital ratio; or market share.

The Compensation Committee may specify any reasonable definition of the financial measures it uses. The definitions may provide for reasonable adjustments and may include or exclude items, including but not limited to: realized investment gains and losses; extraordinary, unusual, or non-recurring items; gains or losses on the sale of assets; changes in accounting principles or the application thereof; currency fluctuations, acquisitions, divestitures, or necessary financing activities; recapitalizations, including stock splits and dividends; expenses for restructuring or productivity initiatives; and other non-operating items.

At the time the Compensation Committee establishes the performance goals, it also establishes a formula or standard for calculating the amount of the bonus payable to each executive officer. The bonus of a "covered employee" (generally, the chief executive officer and the three most highly compensated officers, other than the chief financial officer) may be decreased, but not increased, in the Compensation Committee's discretion. In no event can a bonus payable to a covered employee for any year exceed \$5.0 million.

#### **Bonus Determination**

Within a reasonable time after the end of each year, the Compensation Committee determines, and with respect to covered employees certifies in writing, whether the performance goals established for the year have been met and the extent to which the performance goals may have been exceeded, if applicable. If the Compensation Committee determines, and with respect to covered employees certifies in writing, the performance goals established for the previous year have been satisfied, the Compensation Committee determines the amount of the bonuses payable by the company.

#### **Payment of Bonus**

The company determines bonus payments, which are made in cash, as soon as practicable after the Compensation Committee determines the bonus amount. Bonus amounts may be expressed as individual bonuses or as one or more bonus pools, all or a portion of which may be allocated as individual bonuses to individuals employed in one or more business units. Except for participants on a leave of absence of less than three months, participants must be continuously employed by the company for the entire performance period to receive a bonus. If a participant is on a leave of absence for three months or longer, the Compensation Committee will determine whether the leave of absence constitutes a break in continuous employment. Further, if a participant is on a leave of absence on the last day of the performance period, the Compensation Committee may require that the participant return to active employment with the company at the end of the leave of absence as a condition to receiving the bonus payment. The Compensation Committee has the discretion to award pro-rata bonuses for participants who are not employed for an entire year.

#### **Deferral of Bonus**

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Subject to the Compensation Committee's approval, participants may elect to defer payment of a bonus by making a deferral election in accordance with applicable law. The Compensation Committee does not allow participants to defer payment of a bonus at this time.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

**Exhibits:** 

Include the following information:

Exhibit No. Description 10.1 Morningstar, Inc. Incentive Plan, as amended and restated effective January 1, 2009.

#### **SIGNATURES**

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

MORNINGSTAR, INC.

Date: May 20, 2009 By: /s/ Richard E. Robbins

Name: Richard E. Robbins

Title: General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

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### EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description				
10.1	Morningstar, Inc. Incentive Plan, as amended and restated effective January 1, 2009.				
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#### **MORNINGSTAR, INC. INCENTIVE PLAN**

(As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2009)

#### ARTICLE 1

#### **Statement of Purpose**

The compensation policies of Morningstar, Inc. (the "Company") are intended to support the Company's overall objective of enhancing Shareholder value. In furtherance of this philosophy, the Company has designed this Morningstar, Inc. Incentive Plan (the "Plan") to provide incentives for business performance, reward contributions towards goals consistent with the Company's business strategy, and enable the Company to attract and retain highly qualified Employees. The Plan was originally effective January 1, 2005 and was then amended and restated on May 22, 2007, effective as of January 1, 2007. The Plan, as amended and restated herein, is effective January 1, 2009. Where applicable, the Bonuses payable under the Plan are intended to qualify as "performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

#### **Definitions**

The terms used in this Plan include the feminine as well as the masculine gender and the plural as well as the singular, as the context in which they are used requires. The following terms, unless the context requires otherwise, are defined as follows:

- 2.1 "Affiliate" means any parent, subsidiary or other entity that is (directly or indirectly) controlled by, or controls, the Company.
- 2.2 **"Board"** means the Morningstar, Inc. Board of Directors.
- 2.3 "Bonus" means the incentive compensation determined under Section 4.4 of the Plan payable in cash.
- 2.4 "Bonus Bank" means a bookkeeping account maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 4.6(b) of the Plan.
- 2.5 **"Bonus Pool"** means an amount that may be established for the Company or a Business Unit, all or a portion of which may be allocated among the Eligible Employees of the Company or such Business Unit.
- 2.6 "Business Unit" means an organizational unit of business within the Company, as identified by the Company.
- 2.7 "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- 2.8 "Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Board or any successor committee with responsibility for compensation, or any subcommittee, as long as the

number of Committee members and their qualifications shall at all times be sufficient to meet the applicable requirements for "outside directors" under Section 162(m) and the regulations thereunder and the independence requirements of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules or any other applicable exchange on which Morningstar, Inc.'s common equity is at the time listed, in each case as in effect from time to time.

- 2.9 "Company" means Morningstar, Inc. and any of its Subsidiaries that adopt this Plan or that have Employees who are participants under this Plan.
- 2.10 "Covered Employee" means an Executive Officer who is a "covered employee" for purposes of Section 162(m).
- 2.11 **"Disability**" means permanent and total disability as defined in the Company's long term disability plan, or if no such plan is then in effect, as defined in Code Section 22(e)(3).
- 2.12 **"Employee"** means any person employed on a full-time or part-time basis by the Company or an Affiliate in a common law employee-employer relationship. A Participant shall not cease to be an Employee for purposes of this Plan in the case of (i) any leave of absence approved by the Company, or (ii) transfers between locations of the Company or among the Company, its Subsidiaries or any successor.
- 2.13 "Executive Officer" means an Employee who is an "executive officer" as defined in Rule 3b-7 promulgated under the Exchange Act.
- 2.14 **"Exchange Act"** means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- 2.15 "Participant" means an Executive Officer or Employee as described in Article 3 of this Plan.
- 2.16 **"Performance Period"** means the period for which a Bonus may be paid. Unless otherwise specified by the Committee, the Performance Period shall be a calendar year, beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31 of any year. The first Performance Period under the Plan, as amended and restated herein, shall be the calendar year 2009. Any bonus attributable to calendar year 2008 or any prior year shall be governed by the terms of the Plan, as in effect prior to this amendment and restatement effective January 1, 2009. No Bonus shall be payable under this Plan for a Performance Period beginning on or after January 1, 2009 until the Plan has been approved by the Company's shareholders.
- 2.17 **"Plan"**, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise, means the Morningstar, Inc. Incentive Plan, as stated herein and as may be amended from time to time.
- 2.18 "SEC" means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 2.19 "Section 162(m)" means Code Section 162(m) and regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of the Treasury.

#### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **Participation**

An Executive Officer or other Employee of the Company designated by the Committee individually or by classification shall be a Participant in this Plan and shall continue to be a Participant until any Bonus he may receive has been paid or forfeited under the terms of this Plan. The amount of a Participant's Bonus, if any, will be governed by Article 4.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

#### **Incentive Bonuses**

- Objective Performance Goals. The Committee shall establish written, objective performance goals for a Performance Period not later than 90 days after the beginning of the Performance Period (but not after more than 25% of the Performance Period has elapsed); provided that the outcome is substantially uncertain at the time the Committee establishes the Performance Goal. The objective performance goals shall be stated as specific amounts of, or specific changes in, one or more of the financial measures described in Section 4.2. Objective performance goals may also include operational goals such as: productivity, safety, other strategic objectives and individual performance goals. The objective performance goals need not be the same for different Performance Periods and for any Performance Period may be stated: (a) as goals for Morningstar, Inc., for one or more of its Subsidiaries, Business Units, divisions, organizational units, or for any combination of the foregoing; (b) on an absolute basis or relative to the performance of other companies or of a specified index or indices, or be based on any combination of the foregoing; and (c) separately for one or more Participants or Business Units, or in any combination of the two.
- Financial Measures. The Committee shall use any one or more of the following financial measures to establish objective performance goals under Section 4.1: earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT); earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA); net earnings; operating earnings or income; earnings growth; net income (absolute or competitive growth rates comparative); net income per share; cash flow, including operating cash flow, free cash flow, discounted cash flow return on investment, and cash flow in excess of cost of capital; earnings per share; return on shareholders' equity (absolute or peer-group comparative); stock price (absolute or peer-group comparative); absolute and/or relative return on common shareholders' equity; absolute and/or relative return on assets; economic value added (income in excess of cost of capital); customer satisfaction; expense reduction; ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues; gross revenue or revenue by predefined business segment (absolute or competitive growth rates comparative); revenue backlog; margins realized on delivered services; total Shareholder return; dept-to-capital ratio or market share. The Committee may specify any reasonable definition of the financial measures it uses. Such definitions may provide for reasonable adjustments and may include or exclude items, including but not limited to: realized

investment gains and losses; extraordinary, unusual or non-recurring items; gains or losses on the sale of assets; changes in accounting principles or the application thereof; currency fluctuations, acquisitions, divestitures, or necessary financing activities; recapitalizations, including stock splits and dividends; expenses for restructuring or productivity initiatives; and other non-operating items.

- 4.3 **Performance Evaluation.** Within a reasonable time after the close of a Performance Period, the Committee shall determine, and with respect to Executive Officers certify in writing, whether the objective performance goals established for that Performance Period have been met by the respective Company, Business Unit, Executive Officers, Employees or otherwise subject to such performance goals, and the extent to which such performance goals may have been exceeded.
- 4.4 **Bonus.** If the Committee has determined, and with respect to Executive Officers certified in writing, that objective performance goals established for a Performance Period have been satisfied, the Committee will determine in its discretion the amount of bonuses payable by the Company. Bonus amounts determined by the Committee may be expressed as individual Bonuses payable to a Participant or as one or more Bonus Pools, all or a portion of which may be allocated as individual Bonuses to Participants employed in one or more Business Units. Such allocation may be made by the Committee or, to the extent permitted by applicable law, rule or regulation, by the senior executive of such Business Unit (or his or her designee) or other individuals as may be designated by the Committee.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan to the contrary, the Committee shall determine any Bonus payable to a Covered Employee in a manner intended to satisfy the performance-based compensation exception under Code Section 162(m). As such, at the time the Committee establishes the objective performance goals for a Performance Period pursuant to Section 4.1, it shall establish a formula or standard for computing the amount of the Bonus payable to each Executive Officer, which Bonus, in the case of a Covered Employee, may be decreased, but may not be increased, in the Committee's discretion. If such Bonus is to be derived from the amount allocated to one or more Bonus Pools, then: (i) the percentage of each such Bonus Pool that may be allocated to each Covered Employee must be stated as a specified share of such Bonus Pool or stated as a formula determining such share of the Bonus Pool(s); (ii) the total of such specified shares may not exceed 100% of the relevant Bonus Pool; and (iii) any discretion exercised by the Committee to decrease the Bonus payable to any Employee under a Bonus Pool may not result in an increase of the Bonus payable to any other Covered Employee under such Bonus Pool or any other Bonus Pool that may be established for such Performance Period. In no event may a Bonus payable to a Covered Employee for any Performance Period exceed \$5,000,000.

#### 4.5 **Eligibility for Payments.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this Section 4.5, a Participant will be eligible to receive his or her Bonus only if the Participant is employed by the Company continuously from the first day of the Performance Period up to and including the last day of the Performance Period.

- (b) Under Section 4.5(a), a leave of absence that lasts less than three months and that is approved in accordance with applicable Company policies is not a break in continuous employment. In the case of a leave of absence of three months or longer: (1) the Committee shall determine whether the leave of absence constitutes a break in continuous employment, and (2) if a Participant is on a leave of absence on the last day of the Performance Period, the Committee may require that the Participant return to active employment with the Company at the end of the leave of absence as a condition of receiving the Bonus or payment. Any determination as to a Participant's eligibility for a Bonus or payment under this Section 4.5(b) may be deferred for a reasonable period after such Participant's return to active employment.
- (c) The Committee may determine, in its sole discretion, that a Bonus will be payable pro-rata for a Participant who either becomes an Employee during the Performance Period or terminates his or her employment with the Company during the Performance Period due to death or Disability.

#### 4.6 Payment, Bonus Bank or Deferral of the Bonus.

- (a) As soon as practicable after the amount of a Participant's Bonus is determined under Section 4.4, the Company shall pay the portion of the Bonus to the Participant that is not otherwise put in the Bonus Bank or deferred under this Section 4.6. Payments under the Plan shall be made on or before the date that is 2-½ months after the end of the calendar year which includes the end of the Performance Period. The Company shall deduct from any Bonus, any applicable Federal, state and local income and employment taxes, and any other amounts that the Company is otherwise required to deduct. Any payment attributable to a deceased Participant shall be made to the beneficiary designated in the Company's qualified 401(k) plan or, if no beneficiary is so designated, to his or her spouse or, if none, to his or her estate.
- (b) The Committee or, to the extent permitted by applicable law, rule or regulation, the senior executive of a Business Unit (or his or her designee) or other individuals as may be designated by the Committee, may determine that any portion of a Participant's Bonus for a Performance Period shall be held in a Bonus Bank. Any Bonus held in a Bonus Bank shall become payable, in whole or in part, only upon the satisfaction of objective performance goals identified and established by the Committee for the following Performance Period. If such objective performance goals are met in the following Performance Period, all or a portion of the Bonus held in a Bonus Bank on behalf of such Participant shall be payable under Section 4.6(a), with interest at a risk-free rate as determined by the Committee. If such objective performance goals are not met in the following Performance Period, any Bonus held in a Bonus Bank on behalf of such Participant will be forfeited unless otherwise determined by the Committee in its discretion. This Section 4.6(b) shall apply to any Bonus for calendar year 2008 that is held in a Bonus Bank and is contingent upon satisfaction of the objective performance goals for the Performance Period beginning January 1, 2009.
- (c) Subject to the Committee's approval and applicable law, Participants may request that payments of a Bonus be deferred under a deferred compensation arrangement maintained by the Company by making a deferral election prior to or, as permitted,

during the Performance Period pursuant to such rules and procedures as the Committee may establish from time to time with respect to such arrangement.

#### ARTICLE 5

#### Administration

- 5.1 <u>General Administration and Delegation of Authority.</u> This Plan shall be administered by the Committee, subject to such requirements for review and approval by the Board as the Board may establish. As permitted by applicable law and the Company, the Committee may delegate any of its duties and authority under the Plan.
- 5.2 <u>Administrative Rules.</u> The Committee shall have full power and authority to adopt, amend and rescind administrative guidelines, rules and regulations pertaining to this Plan and to interpret this Plan and rule on any questions respecting any of its provisions, terms and conditions.
- 5.3 Committee Members Not Eligible. No member of the Committee shall be eligible to participate in this Plan.
- 5.4 <u>Committee Members Not Liable.</u> The Committee and each of its members shall be entitled to rely upon certificates of appropriate officers of the Company with respect to financial and statistical data in order to determine if the objective performance goals for a Performance Period have been met. Neither the Committee nor any member shall be liable for any action or determination made in good faith with respect to this Plan or any Bonus paid hereunder.
- 5.5 **Decisions Binding.** All decisions, actions and interpretations of the Committee concerning this Plan shall be final and binding on Morningstar, Inc. and its Subsidiaries and their respective boards of directors, and on all Participants and other persons claiming rights under this Plan.

#### ARTICLE 6

#### **Amendments; Termination**

This Plan may be amended or terminated by the Board or the Committee. All amendments to this Plan, including an amendment to terminate this Plan, shall be in writing. An amendment to this Plan shall not be effective without the prior approval of the shareholders of Morningstar, Inc. if such approval is necessary to qualify Bonuses as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), or otherwise under Treasury or SEC regulations, the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules or any other applicable exchange or any other applicable law or regulations. Unless otherwise expressly provided by the Board or the Committee, no amendment to this Plan shall apply to potential Bonuses with respect to a Performance Period that began before the effective date of such amendment.

#### **ARTICLE 7**

#### **Other Provisions**

- 7.1 **Bonuses Not Assignable**. No Bonus or any right thereto shall be assignable or transferable by a Participant except by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. Any other attempted assignment or alienation shall be void and of no force or effect.
- Participant's Rights. The right of any Participant to receive any Bonus granted or allocated to such Participant pursuant to the provisions of this Plan shall be an unsecured claim against the general assets of the Company. This Plan shall not create, nor be construed in any manner as having created, any right by a Participant to any Bonus or portion of a Bonus Pool for a Performance Period because of a Participant's participation in this Plan for any prior Performance Period or employment during such Performance Period. The application of the Plan to one Participant shall not create, nor be construed in any manner as having created, any right by another Participant to similar or uniform treatment under the Plan.
- 7.3 **Termination of Employment.** The Company retains the right to terminate the employment of any Participant or other Employee at any time for any reason or no reason, and a Bonus is not, and shall not be construed in any manner to be, a waiver of such right.
- 7.4 **Exclusion from Benefits.** Bonuses under this Plan shall not constitute compensation for the purpose of determining participation or benefits under any other plan of the Company unless specifically included as compensation in such plan.
- 7.5 <u>Successors.</u> Any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of Morningstar, Inc.'s business or assets, shall assume Morningstar, Inc.'s liabilities under this Plan and perform any duties and responsibilities in the same manner and to the same extent that Morningstar, Inc. would be required to perform if no such succession had taken place.
- 7.6 <u>Law Governing Construction.</u> The construction and administration of this Plan and all questions pertaining thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois, except to the extent that such law is preempted by Federal law.
- 7.7 **Headings Not a Part Hereto.** Any headings preceding the text of the several Articles, Sections, subsections, or paragraphs hereof are inserted solely for convenience of reference and shall not constitute a part of this Plan, nor shall they affect its meaning, construction or effect.
- 7.8 Severability of Provisions. If any provision of this Plan is determined to be void by any court of competent jurisdiction, this Plan shall continue to operate and, for the purposes of the jurisdiction of the court only, shall be deemed not to include the provision determined to be void.

- 7.9 Offsets. The Company shall have the right to offset from any Bonus payable hereunder any amount that the Participant owes to the Company or any Affiliate without the consent of the Participant (or his Beneficiary, in the event of the Participant's death).
- 7.10 **Dispute Resolution.** Notwithstanding any employee agreement in effect between a Participant and the Company or any Affiliate, if a Participant or Beneficiary brings a claim that relates to benefits under this Plan, regardless of the basis of the claim (including but not limited to, actions under Title VII, wrongful discharge, breach of employment agreement, etc.), such claim shall be settled by final binding arbitration in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") and judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Arbitration must be initiated by serving or mailing a written notice of the complaint to the other party describing the facts and claims for each claim. Written notice shall be provided within one year (365 days) after the day the complaining party first knew or should have known of the events giving rise to the complaint, unless the applicable statute of limitation provides for a longer period of time. If the complaint is not properly submitted within the appropriate time frame, all rights and claims that the complaining party has or may have against the other party shall be waived and void. Notice will be deemed given according to the date of any postmark or the date of time of any personal delivery. Each party may be represented in the arbitration by an attorney or other representative selected by the party. The Company or Affiliate shall be responsible for its own costs, the AAA filing fee and all other fees, costs and expenses of the arbitrator and AAA for administering the arbitration. The claimant shall be responsible for his attorney's or representative's fees, if any. However, if any party prevails on a statutory claim which allows the prevailing party costs and/or attorneys' fees, the arbitrator may award costs and reasonable attorneys' fees as provided by such statute.
- 7.11 Section 409A. All Bonuses paid hereunder, including those held in a Bonus Bank contingent upon satisfaction of performance criteria for a subsequent Performance Period, are intended to be "short-term deferrals" that are exempt from Section 409A of the Code and the applicable regulations and guidance thereunder. The Plan shall be administered and interpreted consistently with such intent.