DUPONT E I DE NEMOURS & CO Form DEF 14A March 20, 2009

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant b Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- b Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- b No fee required.
- o Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (3) Per unit or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
 - (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
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0	which Form	s box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the or Schedule and the date of its filing. mount Previously Paid:
	(2) Fo	orm, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
	(3) Fi	ling Party:
	(4) Da	ate Filed:

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Annual Meeting April 29, 2009

March 20, 2009

Dear Stockholder:

You are invited to attend the Company s 2009 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. local time in the DuPont Theatre, DuPont Building, Wilmington, Delaware.

The enclosed Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement provide information about the governance of our Company and describe the various matters to be acted upon during the meeting. In addition, there will be a report on the state of the Company s business and an opportunity for you to express your views on subjects related to the Company s operations.

To make it easier for you to vote your shares, you have the choice of voting over the Internet, by telephone, or by completing and returning the enclosed proxy card. The proxy card describes your voting options in more detail.

This year, we are excited to implement the Securities and Exchange Commission s Notice and Access rules, allowing us to deliver proxy materials via the Internet. These rules give the Company a lower cost way to furnish stockholders with their proxy materials. On March 20, we began mailing to certain stockholders of record a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials with instructions on how to access the proxy materials via the Internet (or request a paper copy) and how to vote online.

If you are a registered stockholder or if you hold DuPont Common Stock through a Company savings plan, your admission ticket for the Annual Meeting is included on your proxy card. A registered stockholder may also use the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials, received in the mail, as his or her admission ticket. If you hold shares in a brokerage account, please refer to page 1 of the Proxy Statement for information on how to attend the meeting. If you need special assistance, please contact the DuPont Stockholder Relations Office at 302-774-3034.

The past year was a time of unprecedented challenge and change. In the face of global economic developments, the people of DuPont relied on the core values and business strengths of our market-driven science Company. We responded by focusing on the things within our control, emphasizing speed and agility. We continued to advance the products in our R&D pipeline, made gains in productivity, and stayed close to our customers to understand their needs and concerns in the current economic turmoil.

The Annual Meeting gives us an opportunity to review our progress. We appreciate your ownership of DuPont, and I hope you will be able to join us on April 29.

Sincerely,

C. O. Holliday, Jr.

E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company

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March 20, 2009

To the Holders of Common Stock of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY will be held on Wednesday, **April 29, 2009**, at 10:30 a.m. local time, in the DuPont Theatre in the DuPont Building, 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware. The meeting will be held to consider and act upon the election of directors, the ratification of the Company s independent registered public accounting firm, one stockholder proposal described in the Proxy Statement and such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Holders of record of DuPont Common Stock at the close of business on March 4, 2009, are entitled to vote at the meeting.

This notice and the accompanying proxy materials are sent to you by order of the Board of Directors.

Mary E. Bowler Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE STOCKHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON APRIL 29, 2009

The Notice and Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K are available at www.proxyvote.com

The DuPont 2008 Annual Review will also be available at the above website.

Stockholders may request their proxy materials be delivered to them electronically in 2010 by visiting http://enroll.icsdelivery.com/dd.

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Proxy Statement

The enclosed proxy materials are being sent to shareholders at the request of the Board of Directors of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company to encourage you to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 29, 2009. This Proxy Statement contains information on matters that will be presented at the meeting and is provided to assist you in voting your shares.

The Company s 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K, containing management s discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations of the Company and the audited financial statements, and this Proxy Statement were distributed together beginning March 20, 2009.

General Information

Who May Vote

All holders of record of DuPont Common Stock as of the close of business on March 4, 2009 (the record date) are entitled to vote at the meeting. Each share of stock is entitled to one vote. As of the record date, 903,499,428 shares of DuPont Common Stock were outstanding. A majority of the shares voted in person or by proxy is required for the approval of each of the proposals described in this Proxy Statement. Abstentions and broker nonvotes are not counted in the vote. At least a majority of the holders of shares of DuPont Common Stock as of the record date must be present either in person or by proxy at the meeting in order for a quorum to be present.

How to Vote

Even if you plan to attend the meeting you are encouraged to vote by proxy. You may vote by proxy in one of the following ways:

By Internet at the address listed on the Proxy Card or Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials (Proxy Notice).

By telephone using the toll-free number listed on the Proxy Card or Proxy Notice.

By returning the enclosed Proxy Card (signed and dated) in the envelope provided.

When you vote by proxy, your shares will be voted according to your instructions. If you sign your proxy card but do not specify how you want your shares to be voted, they will be voted as the Board of Directors recommends. You can change or revoke your proxy by Internet, telephone or mail at any time before the polls close at the Annual Meeting.

How to Attend the Annual Meeting

If you are a registered shareholder or if you hold stock through one of the savings plans listed below, your admission ticket is attached to your proxy card. A registered shareholder may also use the Proxy Notice as his or her admission ticket. You will need to bring your admission ticket, along with picture identification, to the meeting. If you own shares in street name, please bring your most recent brokerage statement, along with picture identification, to the meeting. The Company will use your brokerage statement to verify your ownership of DuPont Common Stock and admit you to the meeting.

Please note that cameras, sound or video recording equipment, or other similar equipment, electronic devices, large bags or packages will not be permitted in the DuPont Theatre.

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Shares Held In Savings Plans

If you participate in one of the following plans, your voting instruction card will include the shares you hold in the plan:

DuPont 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan DuPont Powder Coatings USA Profit Sharing Plan DuPont Retirement Savings Plan Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. Savings Plan Solae Savings Investment Plan Thrift Plan for Employees of Sentinel Transportation, LLC

The plan trustees will vote according to the instructions received on your proxy. If proxies for shares in savings plans are not received by Internet, telephone or mail, those shares will be voted by the trustees as directed by the plan sponsor or by an independent fiduciary selected by the plan sponsor.

Proxy Statement Proposals

At each annual meeting stockholders are asked to elect directors to serve on the Board of Directors and to ratify the appointment of the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for the year. Other proposals may be submitted by the Board of Directors or stockholders to be included in the proxy statement. To be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Annual Meeting Proxy Statement, stockholder proposals must be received by the Company no later than November 20, 2009.

For any proposal that is not submitted for inclusion in next year s proxy statement, but is instead sought to be considered as timely and presented directly at the 2010 Annual Meeting, Securities and Exchange Commission rules permit management to vote proxies in its discretion if the Company: (1) receives notice of the proposal before the close of business on February 3, 2010 and advises stockholders in the 2010 Annual Meeting Proxy Statement about the nature of the matter and how management intends to vote on such matter; or (2) does not receive notice of the proposal prior to the close of business on February 3, 2010.

Stockholder Nominations for Election of Directors

The Corporate Governance Committee recommends nominees to the Board of Directors for election as directors at each annual meeting. The Committee will consider nominations submitted by stockholders of record and received by the Corporate Secretary by the first Monday in December. Nominations must include a statement by the nominee indicating a willingness to serve if elected and disclosing principal occupations or employment for the past five years.

Proxy Committee

The Proxy Committee is composed of directors of the Company who vote as instructed the shares of DuPont Common Stock for which they receive proxies. Proxies also confer upon the Proxy Committee discretionary authority to vote the shares on any matter which was not known to the Board of Directors a reasonable time before solicitation of proxies, but which is properly presented for action at the meeting.

Solicitation of Proxies

The Company will pay all costs relating to the solicitation of proxies. Innisfree M&A Incorporated has been retained to assist in soliciting proxies at a cost of \$10,000 plus reasonable expenses. Proxies may be solicited by officers,

directors and employees of the Company personally, by mail, or by telephone or other electronic means. The Company will also reimburse brokers, custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for reasonable expenses in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners of DuPont Common Stock.

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Secrecy in Voting

As a matter of policy, proxies, ballots and voting tabulations that identify individual stockholders are held confidential by the Company. Such documents are available for examination only by the independent tabulation agents, the independent inspectors of election and certain employees associated with tabulation of the vote. The identity of the vote of any stockholder is not disclosed except as may be necessary to meet legal requirements.

Governance of the Company

Strong corporate governance is an integral part of the Company s core values, supporting the Company s sustainable growth mission. DuPont is committed to having sound corporate governance principles and practices. Please visit the Company s website at www.dupont.com, under the Investor Center caption, for the Board s Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board-approved Charters for the Audit, Compensation and Corporate Governance Committees and related information. These Guidelines and Charters may also be obtained free of charge by writing to the Corporate Secretary.

DUPONT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES

These Guidelines serve as an important framework for the Board's corporate governance practices and to assist the Board in carrying out its responsibilities effectively. The Board reviews these Guidelines periodically and may modify them as appropriate to reflect the evolution of its governance practices.

The Board

Responsibility

The Board has an active responsibility for broad corporate policy and overall performance of the Company through oversight of management and stewardship of the Company to enhance the long-term value of the Company for its stockholders and the vitality of the Company for its other stakeholders.

Role

In carrying out its responsibility, the Board has specific functions, in addition to the general oversight of management and the Company s business performance, including providing input and perspective in evaluating alternative strategic initiatives; reviewing and, where appropriate, approving fundamental financial and business strategies and major corporate actions; ensuring processes are in place to maintain the integrity of the Company; evaluating and compensating the CEO; and planning for CEO succession and monitoring succession planning for other key positions.

Duties

Directors are expected to expend sufficient time, energy and attention to assure diligent performance of their responsibility. Directors are expected to attend meetings of the Board, its Committees on which they serve, and the Annual Meeting of Stockholders; review materials distributed in advance of the meetings; and make themselves available for periodic updates and briefings with management via telephone or one-on-one meetings.

Leadership

The positions of Chair of the Board and CEO are held by the same person, except in specific circumstances.

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<u>Independence</u>

A majority of the Board are independent directors in accordance with the standards of independence of the New York Stock Exchange and as described in the Guidelines. See pages 6-7. The Corporate Governance Committee as well as the Board annually reviews relationships that directors may have with the Company to make a determination of whether there are any material relationships that would preclude a director being independent.

Qualifications

Directors are selected for their integrity and character; sound, independent judgment; breadth of experience, insight and knowledge; and business acumen. Leadership skills, scientific or technology expertise, familiarity with issues affecting global businesses in diverse industries, prior government service, and diversity are among the relevant criteria, which will vary over time depending on the needs of the Board. The Corporate Governance Committee considers candidates for potential nomination to recommend for approval by the full Board.

The Board does not limit the number of other public company boards that a director may serve on. However, the Corporate Governance Committee considers the number of boards a director sits on. Directors are encouraged to limit the number of other public company boards to take into account their time and effectiveness and are expected to advise the Chair in advance of serving on another board.

When a director s principal responsibilities or business association changes significantly, the director will tender his or her resignation to the Chair for consideration by the Corporate Governance Committee of the continued appropriateness for Board service.

No director may stand for reelection to the Board after reaching age 72. An employee director retires from the Board when retiring from employment with the Company, with the exception of the former CEO. The Board may in unusual circumstances and for a limited period ask a director to stand for re-election after the prescribed retirement date.

Election

In accordance with the Company s Bylaws, if none of our stockholders provides the Company with notice of an intention to nominate one or more candidates to compete with the Board s nominees in an election of directors, a nominee must receive more votes cast for than against his or her election or re-election in order to be elected or re-elected to the Board. The Board expects a director to tender his or her resignation if he or she fails to receive the required number of votes for re-election. The Board shall nominate for election or re-election as director only candidates who agree to tender, promptly following the annual meeting at which they are elected or re-elected as a director, irrevocable resignations that will be effective upon (i) the failure to receive the required vote at the next annual meeting at which they face re-election and (ii) Board acceptance of such resignation in accordance with the procedures specified in these Guidelines. In addition, the Board shall fill director vacancies and newly created directorships only with candidates who agree to tender, promptly following their appointment to the Board, the same resignation tendered by other directors in accordance with these Guidelines.

In the event an incumbent director fails to receive the required vote for re-election, the Corporate Governance Committee (or other committee designated by the Board) (Committee) shall make a recommendation to the Board as to whether to accept or reject the resignation of the incumbent director. The Board shall act on the resignation, taking into account the recommendation of the Committee, and publicly disclose its decision within ninety (90) days following certification of the election results. The Committee in making its recommendation and the Board in making its decision may consider all facts and circumstances they consider relevant or appropriate in reaching their determinations. The Board expects any director whose resignation is under consideration pursuant to these Guidelines

to abstain from participating in the Committee recommendation or the action of the Board regarding whether to accept the resignation.

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Orientation and Continuing Education

New directors participate in an orientation process to become familiar with the Company and its strategic plans and businesses, significant financial matters, core values including ethics, compliance programs, corporate governance practices and other key policies and practices through a review of background materials, meetings with senior executives and visits to Company facilities. The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for providing guidance on directors continuing education.

Compensation

The Board believes that compensation for outside directors should be competitive. DuPont Common Stock is a key component with payment of a portion of director compensation as DuPont stock, options or similar form of equity-based compensation, combined with stock ownership guidelines requiring all outside directors to hold DuPont stock equal to at least two times the annual retainer within five years. The Compensation Committee reviews periodically the level and form of director compensation and, if appropriate, proposes changes for consideration by the full Board.

Annual Self-Evaluation

The Board and each Committee make an annual self-evaluation of its performance with a particular focus on overall effectiveness. The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing the self-evaluation process.

Access to Management and Advisors

Directors have access to the Company s management and, in addition, are encouraged to visit the Company s facilities. As necessary and appropriate, the Board and its Committees may retain outside legal, financial or other advisors.

Board Meetings

Selection of Agenda Items

The Chair establishes the agenda for Board meetings, in conjunction with Chairs of the Committees. Directors are encouraged to suggest items for inclusion on the agenda and may raise subjects not specifically on the agenda.

Attendance of Senior Executives

The Board welcomes regular attendance of senior executives to be available to participate in discussions. Presentation of matters to be considered by the Board are generally made by the responsible executive.

Executive Sessions

Regularly scheduled Board meetings include a session of all directors and the CEO. In addition, the Board meets in regularly scheduled executive sessions without the participation of the CEO or other senior executives. The Presiding Director is generally the Chair of the Corporate Governance Committee, unless there is a matter within the responsibility of another Committee, such as CEO evaluation and compensation, when the Chair of that Committee presides.

Leadership Assessment

Succession Planning

The Board plans for succession to the position of CEO. The Compensation Committee oversees the succession planning process. To assist the Board, the CEO periodically provides the Board with an assessment of senior executives and their potential to succeed to the position of CEO, as well as perspective on potential candidates from outside the Company. The Board has available on a continuing basis the CEO s recommendation should he/she be unexpectedly unable to serve. The CEO also provides the Board with an assessment of potential successors to key positions.

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CEO Evaluation and Compensation

Through an annual process overseen and coordinated by the Compensation Committee, independent directors evaluate the CEO s performance and set the CEO s compensation.

* * *

<u>Guidelines for Determining the Independence</u> <u>of DuPont Directors</u>

It is the expectation and practice of the Board that, in their roles as members of the Board, all members will exercise their independent judgment diligently and in good faith, and in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders as a whole, notwithstanding any member s other activities or affiliations.

However, in addition, the Board has determined that a majority of its members should be independent in that they are free of any material relationship with the Company or Company management, whether directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a material relationship with the Company. In furtherance of this objective, the Board has adopted the following Guidelines for determining whether a member is considered independent.

The Board will re-examine the independence of each of its members once per year and again if a member soutside affiliations change substantially during the year.

For purposes of these Guidelines, members of his/her immediate family and similar phrases will mean a person s spouse, parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, siblings, mothers-and fathers-in-law, sons- and daughters-in law, brothers- and sisters-in-law, and anyone (other than an employee) who shares the person s home. The Company means the Company and all of its consolidated subsidiaries.

- 1. Regardless of other circumstances, a Board member will not be deemed independent if he/she does not meet the independence standards adopted by the New York Stock Exchange (see below), or any applicable legal requirement.
- 2. Except in special circumstances, as determined by a majority of the independent members of the Board, the following relationships will be considered not to be material relationships that would affect a Board member s independence:
 - (a) If the Board member is an executive officer or employee, or any member of his/her immediate family is an executive officer, of a bank to which the Company is indebted, and the total amount of the indebtedness does not exceed one percent of the total assets of the bank for any of the past three years.
 - (b) If the Board member or any member of his/her immediate family serves as an officer, director or trustee of a charitable or educational organization, and contributions by the Company do not exceed the greater of \$1,000,000 or two percent of such organization s annual consolidated gross revenues, including annual charitable contributions, for any of the past three years.
- 3. If a Board member has a relationship that exceeds the thresholds described in Section 2 above, or another significant relationship with the Company or its management that is not described in Section 2 above, then the Board will determine by a majority of the independent members whether that member s relationship would affect the Board member s independence.

- 4. The Board will consider all relevant facts and circumstances in determining independence.
- 5. Any determinations of independence made pursuant to Section 3 above will be disclosed in the Company s annual meeting proxy statement.

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Current New York Stock Exchange standards state that a director will not be independent:

- (a) If the Board member is, or has been within the last three years, an employee or any member of his/her immediate family is, or has been within the last three years, an executive officer of the Company;
- (b) If the Board member (i) is a current partner or employee of a firm that is the Company s internal or external auditor; (ii) has an immediate family member who is a current partner of such a firm; (iii) has an immediate family member who is a current employee of such a firm and personally works on the listed company s audit; or (iv) was, or has an immediate family member who was, within the last three years, a partner or employee of such a firm and personally worked on the Company s audit within that time;
- (c) If the Board member or any member of his/her immediate family is, or in the last three years has been, employed as an executive officer of another company where the Company s present executive officers at the same time serve/served on that company s compensation committee;
- (d) If the Board member is a current employee, or if any member of his/her family is a current executive officer, of another company that makes payments to, or receives payments from, the Company for property or services which exceed the greater of \$1,000,000 or two percent of the other company s annual consolidated gross revenues for any of the last three years; or
- (e) If the Board member, or a member of his/her immediate family, has received more than one hundred and twenty thousand dollars (US \$120,000) in direct compensation from the Company (other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service which are not contingent in any way on continued service) during any twelve-month period within the last three years.

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Committees of the Board

Audit Committee

Responsibilities include:

- n Employs the Company s independent registered public accounting firm, subject to stockholder ratification, to audit the Company s Consolidated Financial Statements.
- n Pre-approves all services performed by the Company s independent registered public accounting firm.
- n Provides oversight on the external reporting process and the adequacy of the Company s internal controls.
- n Reviews the scope of the audit activities of the independent registered public accounting firm and the Company s internal auditors and appraises audit efforts of both.
- n Reviews services provided by the Company s independent registered public accounting firm and other disclosed relationships as they bear on the independence of the Company s independent registered public accounting firm.
- n Establishes procedures for the receipt, retention and resolution of complaints regarding accounting, internal controls or auditing matters.

All members of the Audit Committee are independent directors under the Board s Corporate Governance Guidelines and applicable regulatory and listing standards. The Board has determined that all members of the Audit Committee (C. J. Crawford, J. T. Dillon, E. I. du Pont, M. A. Hewson and L. D. Juliber) are audit committee financial experts within the meaning of applicable Securities and Exchange Commission rules.

See the Audit Committee Report on page 12. The Audit Committee Charter is available on the Company's website (www.dupont.com) under Investor Center, Corporate Governance.

A Summary of the Audit Committee Policy on Pre-approval of Services Performed by the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm is included as part of Proposal 2 Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm in this Proxy Statement.

Compensation Committee

Responsibilities include:

- n Establishes executive compensation policy consistent with corporate objectives and stockholder interests.
- n Oversees process for evaluating performance of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) against Board- approved goals and objectives and recommends to the Board compensation for the CEO.
- n Reviews and approves grants under the Company s compensation plans.
- n Works with management to develop the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A).
- n Oversees succession planning process for the CEO and key leadership.

All members of the Compensation Committee are independent directors under the Board s Corporate Governance Guidelines and applicable regulatory and listing standards. See the Compensation Committee Report on page 22. See also the CD&A beginning on page 23. The Compensation Committee Charter is available on the Company s website (www.dupont.com) under Investor Center, Corporate Governance.

Corporate Governance Committee

Responsibilities include:

- n Recommends to the Board nominees for election to the Board of Directors.
- n Reviews principles, policies and procedures affecting directors and the Board s operation and effectiveness.
- n Oversees evaluation of the Board and its effectiveness.

All members of the Corporate Governance Committee are independent directors under the Board s Corporate Governance Guidelines and applicable regulatory and listing standards.

The Corporate Governance Charter is available on the Company s website (www.dupont.com) under Investor Center, Corporate Governance. A description of the Director Nomination Process is attached at Appendix A.

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Environmental Responsibilities include:

Policy n Reviews the Company s environmental policies and practices.Committee n Provides support for the Company s sustainable growth mission.

Science and Responsibilities include:

Technology n Monitors state of science and technology capabilities within the Company.

Committee n Oversees the development of key technologies essential to the long-term success of the

Company.

Strategic Responsibilities include:

Direction n Reviews the strategic direction of the Company s major business segments.

Committee n Reviews significant trends in technology and their anticipated impact on the Company.

Committee Membership

The following chart shows the current committee membership and the number of meetings that each committee held in 2008.

Director		Compensation Committee	nGovernance	Environmenta Policy Committee	Science l and Technology Committee	
Richard H. Brown Robert A. Brown		X	С	X	X	X
Bertrand P. Collomb Curtis J. Crawford	X	X	X	X	С	
Alexander M. Cutler John T. Dillon	X	X C				X
Eleuthère I. du Pont	X	X				