

FORTUNE BRANDS INC
Form S-8
May 10, 2004

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 10, 2004.

Registration No. 333-[_____]

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

Form S-8

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT
Under
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

FORTUNE BRANDS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
**(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)**

13-3295276
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

300 Tower Parkway, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Fortune Brands, Inc.
2003 Long-Term Incentive Plan
(Full Title of the Plan)

MARK A. ROCHE, ESQ
**Senior Vice President, General Counsel and
Secretary**
FORTUNE BRANDS, INC
300 Tower Parkway
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069
(Name and address of agent for service)

Copy to:
EDWARD P. SMITH, ESQ.
CHADBOURNE & PARKE LLP
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112

Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service: (847) 484-4400

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered**	Proposed maximum offering price per share***	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price***	Amount of registration fee
Common Stock, par value \$3.125 per share, and Preferred Share Purchase Rights*.....	12,000,000 shares	\$75.74	\$ 908,880,000	\$ 115,156.00

* The Preferred Share Purchase Rights are attached to and trade with the Common Stock. The value, if any, attributed to such Rights is reflected in the market price of the Common Stock.

** There are also registered hereunder such indeterminate number of additional shares as may become subject to awards under the Plan as a result of the antidilution provisions contained therein.

*** Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), on the basis of the average of the high and low per share market price (\$76.25 and \$75.23, respectively) of the Common Stock on May 5, 2004, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Transactions.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The prospectus, containing information required by Part I of Form S-8 and related to this Registration Statement, is omitted from this Registration Statement in accordance with the Note to Part I of Form S-8. The prospectus will also be used in connection with the offer and sale of shares of Fortune Brands common stock registered under the Registration Statements on Form S-8 of Fortune Brands bearing Registration Nos. 333-95909 for the Fortune Brands, Inc. 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan and 33-58865 and 33-39855 for the Fortune Brands, Inc. 1990 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

This Registration Statement includes a reoffer prospectus, prepared in accordance with the requirements of Form S-3 (the Reoffer Prospectus), which may be used for the offer and sale by certain officers and directors of Fortune Brands who may be deemed to be affiliates of Fortune Brands, as that term is defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, of securities registered hereunder.

The Reoffer Prospectus is also being filed as part of Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-87260) for the Fortune Brands, Inc. 2002 Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan and Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-103734) for the Fortune Brands Retirement Savings Plan.

Fortune Brands changed its name from American Brands, Inc. to Fortune Brands, Inc. on May 30, 1997.

Fortune Brands, Inc.

Common Stock

This prospectus relates to offers and sales by certain of our officers and directors (also called Selling Stockholders) who may be deemed to be affiliates of Fortune Brands, Inc., as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, of shares of our common stock that have been or may be acquired by such persons upon exercise of nonqualified stock options granted pursuant to our 2002 Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan (the 2002 Director Plan) or our prior Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan (the 1997 Director Plan and, together with the 2002 Director Plan, the Director Plans), or upon the exercise of incentive stock options or nonqualified stock options granted pursuant to our 2003 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the 2003 Plan), our 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the 1999 Plan), our 1990 Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended (the 1990 Plan), our 1986 Stock Option Plan, as amended, or our 1981 Stock Option Plan, as amended (collectively called the Employee Plans), or upon the exercise of stock appreciation rights granted under the Employee Plans in respect of options, or pursuant to performance awards or restricted stock or other stock-based awards, or dividend equivalents earned thereon, under the 2003 Plan, the 1999 Plan or the 1990 Plan, or that have been or may be acquired by or for the account of such persons pursuant to our Retirement Savings Plan (formerly called the Defined Contribution Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc. and Participating Operating Companies) as a result of employee or employer contributions under such plan. The shares that may be so acquired by such persons pursuant to the Director Plans and the Employee Plans are called the award shares for purposes of this prospectus and the shares that have been or may be so acquired by such persons pursuant to the Retirement Savings Plan are herein referred to as the retirement savings plan shares.

The accompanying annual supplement to this prospectus sets forth who the Selling Stockholders are and the number of award shares and retirement plan shares covered by this prospectus.

Shares covered by this prospectus may be offered and sold from time to time by or on behalf of the Selling Stockholders through brokers on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise at the prices prevailing at the time of such sales. No specified brokers or dealers have been designated by the Selling Stockholders and no agreement has been entered into in respect of brokerage commissions or for the exclusive or coordinated sale of any securities which may be offered pursuant to this prospectus. The net proceeds to the Selling Stockholders will be the proceeds received by them upon such sales, less brokerage commissions, if any. We will pay all expenses of preparing and reproducing this prospectus, but will not receive any of the proceeds from sales by any of the Selling Stockholders.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities, or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

May 10, 2004

THE COMPANY

We are a holding company with subsidiaries engaged in various businesses. Our subsidiaries manufacture and sell leading consumer branded products in the following industries: home and hardware, spirits and wine, golf equipment and office products.

We are a legal entity separate and distinct from our subsidiaries. Our rights and the rights of our creditors (including holders of debt securities) and stockholders to participate in any distribution of the assets or earnings of any subsidiary is subject to the claims of creditors of the subsidiary, except to the extent that our claims as a creditor of our subsidiaries may be recognized. Our claims may be subordinate to certain claims of others. Our principal source of unconsolidated revenues and funds is dividends and other payments from our subsidiaries. Our principal subsidiaries currently are not limited by long-term debt or other agreements in their abilities to pay cash dividends or to make other distributions with respect to their capital stock or other payments to us.

Our principal executive offices are currently located at 300 Tower Parkway, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069, and our telephone number is (847) 484-4400.

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

Edgar Filing: FORTUNE BRANDS INC - Form S-8

See the annual supplement for current information regarding the Selling Stockholders, the shares of our common stock beneficially owned by them, the award shares and retirement savings plan shares offered by them with this prospectus and the shares of our common stock to be beneficially owned by them after completion of the offering. The address of each of the Selling Stockholders is Fortune Brands, Inc., 300 Tower Parkway, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule incorporated in this prospectus by reference to Fortune Brands, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, have been so incorporated in reliance on the reports of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We provide annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information to the SEC, which the SEC maintains in the SEC's File No. 1-9076. You can read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference rooms in Washington, D.C., New York, New York and Chicago, Illinois. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus, and later information filed with the SEC will update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 until the offering by the Selling Stockholders is completed:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004;

Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 24, 2004;

3

The description of our common stock, par value \$3.125 per share, and preferred stock, without par value, set forth under the headings Description of Fortune Brands Capital Stock and Comparative Rights of Shareholders on pages 94-105 of our Proxy Statement for the 1997 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Fortune Brands, Inc.; and

The description of our preferred share purchase rights, set forth on Form 8-A dated December 22, 1997.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost other than for exhibits of such filings, by writing to or telephoning us at the following address (or by visiting our web site at <http://www.fortunebrands.com>):

FORTUNE BRANDS, INC.
Office of the Secretary
300 Tower Parkway
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069
(Telephone number (847) 484-4400)

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-8 under the Securities Act of 1933. This prospectus omits certain information contained in the registration statement, as permitted by SEC rules. You may obtain copies of the registration statement, including exhibits, as noted in the paragraph above.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or the prospectus supplement. We have authorized no one to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or the prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of the document.

The Delaware General Corporation Law and our By-laws provide for indemnification of our officers and directors, who are also covered by certain insurance policies that we maintain. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, may be permitted to directors, officers or persons that control us pursuant to the foregoing provisions, we have been informed that in the opinion of

the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

4

2004 SUPPLEMENT
To Prospectus for Offers and
Sales of Common Stock of
Fortune Brands, Inc.
By Certain Selling Stockholders

This Supplement dated May 10, 2004 to the Prospectus dated May 10, 2004 relating to offers and sales of award shares and retirement plan shares by certain Selling Stockholders of Fortune Brands, Inc. contains certain current information that may change from year to year. The Supplement will be updated annually and will be delivered to each Selling Stockholder. Each current supplement should be kept with the Prospectus in the Selling Stockholder's important papers. Selling Stockholders who receive the May 10, 2004 Prospectus will not be sent additional copies of the Prospectus in subsequent years unless the information in the Prospectus is required to be amended or unless a Selling Stockholder requests an additional copy by writing to Fortune Brands, Inc., Legal Department, 300 Tower Parkway, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069. Capitalized terms used in this supplement have the meanings set forth in the Prospectus.

Date. The date of this supplement is May 10, 2004.

Information Regarding Selling Stockholders and Award Shares and Retirement Plan Shares Covered by the Prospectus. The Prospectus covers 2,959,422 award shares that have been or may be acquired by the Selling Stockholders upon exercise or pursuant to the following awards held as of February 2, 2004:

- o incentive stock options or nonqualified stock options granted pursuant to the Employee Plans and the Director Plans, or
- o stock appreciation rights granted under the Employee Plans in respect of options under the 1999 Plan and the 1990 Plan, or
- o performance awards, awards of restricted stock or other stock-based awards, and dividend equivalents earned thereon, under the 2003 Plan, the 1999 Plan and the 1990 Plan.

The Prospectus also covers 13,043 Retirement Savings Plan Shares that have been acquired pursuant to the Retirement Savings Plan and are held on February 2, 2004 by the Trustee of the Retirement Savings Plan.

There are set forth in the following table opposite the name of each of the Selling Stockholders:

-
1. Under the heading "Shares of common stock beneficially owned",
- o the shares of our common stock beneficially owned by the Selling Stockholder on February 2, 2004 (except, as stated in Note (c) after the table, beneficial ownership is disclaimed as to certain shares), including shares of our common stock (if any) of which the Selling Stockholder had the right on such date to acquire beneficial ownership pursuant to the exercise on or before April 2, 2004 of options that we have granted, plus
 - o the number (if any) of shares of our common stock held on February 2, 2004 by the Trustee of the Retirement Savings Plan that is equivalent as of that date to the Selling Stockholder's undivided proportionate beneficial interest in all such shares;

Edgar Filing: FORTUNE BRANDS INC - Form S-8

2. Under the heading "Retirement Savings Plan Shares", the number (if any) of shares of our common stock held on February 2, 2004 by the Trustee of the Retirement Savings Plan that is equivalent as of that date to the Selling Stockholder's undivided proportionate beneficial interest in all such shares and offered by the Prospectus;
3. Under the heading "Award shares acquired or which may be acquired and offered", the shares of our common stock that
 - o have been acquired by the Selling Stockholder pursuant to performance awards, awards of restricted stock or other stock-based awards, and dividend equivalents earned thereon, if any, or upon the exercise of options and stock appreciation rights, or
 - o may be acquired by the Selling Stockholder pursuant to performance awards or other stock-based awards, and dividend equivalents earned thereon, if any, or upon the exercise of options and stock appreciation rights outstanding as of February 2, 2004, and
 - o may be offered or sold by the Selling Stockholder using the Prospectus.
4. Under the heading "Shares of common stock to be owned after completion of the offering", the shares of our common stock to be beneficially owned by the Selling Stockholder after completion of the offering, based on the number of shares owned on February 2, 2004.

Certain options granted pursuant to the Employee Plans and the Director Plans may be transferred to a member of a Selling Stockholder's immediate family or to a trust for the benefit of such immediate family members. The names of such transferees and the number of award shares that may be offered by them under the Prospectus will be included in a supplement when such information becomes known. The information as to security holdings is based on information that we receive from the Selling Stockholders, from our Compensation and Stock Option Committee, our Nominating and Corporate

2

Governance Committee and our Corporate Employee Benefits Committee, and from the Trustee of the Retirement Savings Plan, and has been adjusted to reflect (1) the spin-off of Gallaher Group Plc, effective May 30, 1997 and (2) two-for-one stock splits in the form of 100% stock dividends, at a rate of one additional share of our common stock for each share of common stock issued, effective September 10, 1986 and October 9, 1990, respectively. Shares of our common stock have attached thereto certain preferred stock purchase rights that we distributed as a dividend on December 24, 1997.

Selling Stockholder	Present principal positions or offices with us or affiliates*	(1) Shares of common stock beneficially owned (a)(b)(c)	(2) Retirement Savings Plan Shares (a)	(3) Award shares acquired or which may be acquired and offered (b)(d)	(4) Shares of common stock to be owned after completion of offering (c)
Patricia O. Ewers.....	Director	22,731	0	17,717	5,014
Thomas C. Hays.....	Director	410,720	4,011	384,774	21,935
Pierre E. Leroy.....	Director	100	0	1,458	100
Gordon R. Lohman.....	Director	19,217	0	17,717	1,500
Eugene A. Renna.....	Director	14,465	0	9,545	4,920
J. Christopher Reyes.....	Director	7,192	0	3,542	3,650
Anne M. Tatlock.....	Director	22,949	0	17,717	5,232
David M. Thomas.....	Director	11,725	0	9,375	2,350
Norman H. Wesley.....	Director; Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	723,748	0	1,281,747	2,000
Peter M. Wilson.....	Director	19,872	0	14,500	5,372
Mark Hausberg.....	Senior Vice President-Finance and	146,236	1,136	222,600	0

Edgar Filing: FORTUNE BRANDS INC - Form S-8

Selling Stockholder	Present principal positions or offices with us or affiliates*	(1) Shares of common stock beneficially owned (a)(b)(c)	(2) Retirement Savings Plan Shares (a)	(3) Award shares acquired or which may be acquired and offered (b)(d)	(4) Shares of common stock to be owned after completion of offering (c)
Nadine A. Heidrich.....	Vice President and Corporate Controller	14,400	0	57,900	0
Christopher J. Klein.....	Senior Vice President-Strategy and Corporate Development	2,916	0	104,916	0
Craig P. Omtvedt.....	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	198,713	2,473	460,489	0

3

Selling Stockholder	Present principal positions or offices with us or affiliates*	(1) Shares of common stock beneficially owned (a)(b)(c)	(2) Retirement Savings Plan Shares (a)	(3) Award shares acquired or which may be acquired and offered (b)(d)	(4) Shares of common stock to be owned after completion of offering (c)
Mark A. Roche.....	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	193,598	5,423	355,425	0

* Positions are those with us, unless otherwise indicated. Each of the Selling Stockholders has been a director or officer of our company or one of our subsidiaries for the past three years, except for Mr. Leroy, who has been a director since September 30, 2003, Mr. Reyes, who has been a director since December 10, 2002, Ms. Heidrich, who has been Vice President and Corporate Controller since September 12, 2001, and Mr. Klein, who has been Senior Vice President - Strategy and Corporate Development since April 29, 2003.

(a) The numbers of shares attributable to contributions by our company under the Retirement Savings Plan included in the numbers shown in Columns (1) and (2) are as follows: Thomas C. Hays, 1,087; Mark Hausberg, 1,136; Craig P. Omtvedt, 1,275; Mark A. Roche, 3,639. The number of shares attributable to employee contributions under such Plan included in the numbers shown in Columns (1) and (2) are as follows: Thomas C. Hays, 2,924; Craig P. Omtvedt, 1,198; and Mark A. Roche, 1,784.

(b) The numbers of shares of which the Selling Stockholders had the right to acquire beneficial ownership pursuant to the exercise on or before April 2, 2004 of options that we granted included in the numbers shown in Columns (1) and (3) are as follows: Patricia O. Ewers, 17,717; Thomas C. Hays, 342,000; Gordon R. Lohman, 17,717; Eugene A. Renna, 5,000; J. Christopher Reyes, 3,542; Anne M. Tatlock, 17,717; David M. Thomas, 9,375; Norman H. Wesley, 603,801; Peter M. Wilson, 14,500; Mark Hausberg, 124,271; Nadine A. Heidrich, 13,900; Craig P. Omtvedt, 154,007; and Mark A. Roche, 148,944. Inclusion of such shares does not constitute an admission by any Selling Stockholder that such person is the beneficial owner of such shares.

(c) To the best of our knowledge, each Selling Stockholder has sole voting and investment power with respect to shares shown after such person's name in Columns (1), (2) and (4) above, other than with respect to the shares listed in Note (b) above and except as follows: Mr. Hays shares voting and investment power as a co-trustee of various family trusts with respect to 9,907 shares and with respect to which shares he disclaims beneficial ownership and Mr. Hays has no voting or investment power with respect to 54,802 shares held in trust for the benefit of his wife and with respect to which

shares he disclaims beneficial ownership. The Trustee of the Retirement Savings Plan has agreed to vote the shares it holds in the Trust in accordance with instructions received from members of the Plan and shares as to which instructions are not received are voted by the Trustee proportionally in the same manner as shares as to which it has received instructions.

(d) The numbers of shares in Column (3) include shares covered by performance awards granted under the 2003 Plan and the 1999 Plan if the maximum performance goals to which such awards relate are met for the performance periods 2002-2004, 2003-2005 and 2004-2006. The number of shares of Common Stock so covered are as follows: Norman H. Wesley, 180,000; Mark Hausberg, 19,500; Nadine A. Heidrich, 13,500; Christopher J. Klein, 42,000; Craig P. Omtvedt, 74,250; Mark A. Roche, 47,250. Inclusion of such shares does not constitute an admission by any Selling Stockholder that such person is the beneficial owner of such shares.

Market Price. The closing price per share of our common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Transactions on May 5, 2004 was \$75.95.

Documents Incorporated by Reference. For further current information about us and our subsidiaries, see (a) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, which incorporates by reference certain information, including our Consolidated Financial Statements contained in our 2003 Annual Report to Shareholders and certain other information from our Proxy Statement for the 2004 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, (b) our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 and (c) our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 24, 2004. Each of these documents is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed by Registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) are specifically incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof:

- (i) Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), which incorporates by reference certain information, including the Company's 2003 consolidated financial statements contained in its 2003 Annual Report to Stockholders;
- (ii) Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004;
- (iii) all other reports filed by Registrant pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since December 31, 2003;
- (iv) the description of Registrant's Common Stock, par value \$3.125 per share, set forth under the headings Description of Fortune Brands Capital Stock and Comparative Rights of Shareholders on pages 94-105 of Registrant's Proxy Statement for the 1997 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Fortune Brands, Inc.; and
- (v) the description of Registrant's Preferred Share Purchase Rights, set forth on Form 8-A dated December 22, 1997.

All documents subsequently filed by Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute part of this Registration Statement.

II-1

Item 4. Description of Securities.

This Item is not applicable as Registrant's Common Stock is registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

This Item is not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of Delaware provides in part as follows:

(a) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

(b) A corporation shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such

II-2

person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

Edgar Filing: FORTUNE BRANDS INC - Form S-8

(c) To the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

(d) Any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of this section (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. Such determination shall be made, with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination, (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, or (3) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

(e) Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this section. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by former directors and officers or other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the corporation deems appropriate.

(f) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of this section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

(g) A corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under this section.

II-3

(h) For purposes of this section, references to the corporation shall include, in addition to the resulting corporation, any constituent corporation (including any constituent of a constituent) absorbed in a consolidation or merger which, if its separate existence had continued, would have had power and authority to indemnify its directors, officers, and employees or agents, so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such constituent corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such constituent corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under this section with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such constituent corporation if its separate existence had continued.

(i) For purposes of this section, references to other enterprises shall include employee benefit plans; references to fines shall include any excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to any employee benefit plan; and references to serving at the request of the corporation shall include any service as a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation which imposes duties on, or involves services by, such director, officer, employee, or agent with respect to an employee benefit plan, its participants or beneficiaries; and a person who acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of an employee benefit plan shall be deemed to have acted in a manner not opposed to the best interests of the corporation as referred to in this section.

(j) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this section shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

(k) The Court of Chancery is hereby vested with exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all actions for advancement of expenses or indemnification brought under this section or under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise. The Court of Chancery may summarily determine a corporation's obligation to advance expenses (including attorney's fees).

Article XIII of Registrant's by-laws provides as follows:

Section 1. (A) Each person (an indemnitee) who was or is made or threatened to be made a party to or was or is involved (as a witness or otherwise) in any action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (hereinafter a proceeding), by reason of the fact that he or she or a person of whom he or she is the legal representative was or is a director, officer or employee of the Company or was or is

serving at the request of the Company as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, whether the basis of such proceeding was or is alleged action in an official capacity as a director, officer, employee or agent or in any other capacity while serving as a director, officer, employee or agent, shall be

II-4

indemnified and held harmless by the Company to the fullest extent permitted by the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware as the same exists or may hereafter be amended (but, in the case of any such amendment, only to the extent that such amendment permits the Company to provide broader indemnification rights than said law permitted the Company to provide prior to such amendment), against all expense, liability and loss (including attorneys' fees and retainers therefor, judgments, fines, excise taxes or penalties under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such person in connection therewith and such indemnification shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of his or her heirs, executors and administrators; provided, however, that except as provided in Section 3 of this Article XIII with respect to proceedings seeking to enforce rights to indemnification, the Company shall indemnify any such person seeking indemnification in connection with a proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such person only if such proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of Directors of the Company.

(B) The right to indemnification conferred in this Article XIII is and shall be a contract right. The right to indemnification conferred in this Article XIII shall include the right to be paid by the Company the expenses (including attorneys' fees and retainers therefor) reasonably incurred in connection with any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition, such advances to be paid by the Company within 20 days after the receipt by the Company of a statement or statements from the indemnitee requesting such advance or advances from time to time; provided, however, that if the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware requires, the payment of such expenses incurred by a director or officer in his or her capacity as a director or officer (and not in any other capacity in which service was or is rendered by such person while a director or officer, including, without limitation, service to an employee benefit plan) in advance of the final disposition of a proceeding, shall be made only upon delivery to the Company of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer, to repay all amounts so advanced if it shall ultimately be determined that such director or officer is not entitled to be indemnified under this Article XIII or otherwise.

Section 2. (A) To obtain indemnification under this Article XIII, an indemnitee shall submit to the Company a written request, including therein or therewith such documentation and information as is reasonably available to the indemnitee and is reasonably necessary to determine whether and to what extent the indemnitee is entitled to indemnification. Upon written request by an indemnitee for indemnification pursuant to the first sentence of this Section 2(A), a determination, if required by applicable law, with respect to the indemnitee's entitlement thereto shall be made as follows: (1) if requested by the indemnitee, by Independent Counsel (as hereinafter defined), or (2) if no request is made by the indemnitee for a determination by Independent Counsel, (a) by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of Disinterested Directors (as hereinafter defined), or (b) if a quorum of the Board of Directors consisting of Disinterested Directors is not obtainable or, even if obtainable, such quorum of Disinterested Directors so directs, by Independent Counsel in a written opinion to the Board of Directors, a copy of which shall be delivered to the indemnitee, or (c) by the

II-5

stockholders of the Company. In the event the determination of entitlement to indemnification is to be made by Independent Counsel at the request of the indemnitee, the Independent Counsel shall be selected by the indemnitee unless the indemnitee shall request that such selection be made by the Board of Directors, in which event the Independent Counsel shall be selected by the Board of Directors. If it is so determined that the indemnitee is entitled to indemnification, payment to the indemnitee shall be made within 10 days after such determination.

(B) In making a determination with respect to entitlement to indemnification hereunder, the person, persons or entity making such determination shall presume that the indemnitee is entitled to indemnification under this Article XIII, and the Company shall have the burden of proof to overcome that presumption in connection with the making by any person, persons or entity of any determination contrary to that presumption.

Section 3. (A) If a claim under Section 1 of this Article XIII is not paid in full by the Company within 30 days after a written claim pursuant to Section 2(A) of this Article XIII has been received by the Company, or if an advance is not made within 20 days after a request therefor pursuant to Section 1(B) of this Article XIII has been received by the Company, the indemnitee may at any time thereafter bring suit (or, at the indemnitee's option, an arbitration proceeding before a single arbitrator pursuant to the rules of the American Arbitration Association) against the Company to recover the unpaid amount of the claim or the advance and, if successful in whole or in part, the indemnitee shall be entitled to be paid also the expense of prosecuting such claim. It shall be a defense to any such suit or proceeding (other than a suit or proceeding brought to enforce a claim for expenses incurred in connection with any proceeding in advance of its final disposition where the required undertaking, if any is required, has been tendered to the Company) that the indemnitee has not met the standards of conduct which make it permissible under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware for the Company to indemnify the indemnitee for the amount claimed or that such indemnification otherwise is not permitted under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, but the burden of proving such defense shall be on the Company.

(B) Neither the failure of the Company (including its Board of Directors, Independent Counsel or stockholders) to have made a determination prior to the commencement of such action that indemnification of the indemnitee is proper in the circumstances because he or she has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, nor an actual determination by the Company (including its board of directors, Independent Counsel or stockholders) that the indemnitee has not met such applicable standard of conduct, shall be a defense to the action or create a presumption that the indemnitee has not met the applicable standard of conduct.

(C) If a determination shall have been made pursuant to Section 2(A) of this Article XIII that the indemnitee is entitled to indemnification, the Company shall be bound by such determination in any judicial proceeding or arbitration commenced pursuant to paragraph (A) of this Section 3.

II-6

(D) The Company shall be precluded from asserting in any judicial proceeding or arbitration commenced pursuant to paragraph (A) of this Section 3 that the procedures and presumptions of this Article XIII are not valid, binding and enforceable and shall stipulate in any such court or before any such arbitrator that the Company is bound by all the provisions of this Article XIII.

Section 4. The right to indemnification and the payment of expenses incurred in connection with a proceeding in advance of its final disposition conferred in this Article XIII shall not be exclusive of any other right which any person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, provision of the Certificate of Incorporation, By-laws, agreement, vote of stockholders or Disinterested Directors or otherwise.

Section 5. The Company may maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any director, officer, employee or agent of the Company or another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any expense, liability or loss, whether or not the Company would have the power to indemnify such person against such expense, liability or loss under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. To the extent that the Company maintains any policy or policies providing such insurance, each such director, officer or employee, and each such agent to which rights to indemnification have been granted as provided in Section 6 of this Article XIII, shall be covered by such policy or policies in accordance with its or their terms to the maximum extent of the coverage thereunder for any such director, officer, employee or agent.

Section 6. The Company may, to the extent authorized from time to time by the Board of Directors, grant rights to indemnification, and rights to be paid by the Company the expenses incurred in connection with any proceeding in advance of its final disposition, to any agent of the Company to the fullest extent of the provisions of this Article XIII with respect to the indemnification and advancement of expenses of directors, officers and employees of the Company.

Section 7. If any provision or provisions of this Article XIII shall be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable for any reason whatsoever: (A) the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Article XIII (including without limitation, each portion of any Section of this Article XIII containing any such provision held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, that is not itself invalid, illegal or unenforceable) shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby; and (B) to the fullest extent possible, the provisions of this Article XIII (including, without limitation, each portion of any Section of this Article XIII containing any such provision held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable) shall be construed so as to give effect to the intent manifested by the provision held invalid, illegal or unenforceable.

"Section 8. For purposes of this Article XIII:

(A) **Disinterested Director** means a director of the Company who is not and was not a party to the matter in respect of which indemnification is sought by the indemnitee.

II-7

(B) **Independent Counsel** means a law firm, or a member of a law firm, that is experienced in matters of corporation law and neither presently is, nor in the past five years has been, retained to represent: (1) the Company or the indemnitee in any matter material to either such party, or (2) any other party to the matter giving rise to a claim for indemnification. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the term **Independent Counsel** shall not include any person who, under the applicable standards of professional conduct then prevailing, would have a conflict of interest in representing either the Company or the indemnitee in an action to determine the indemnitee's rights under this Article XIII.

Section 9. Any notice, request or other communication required or permitted to be given to the Company under this Article XIII shall be in writing and either delivered in person or sent by telecopy, telex, telegram or certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the Secretary of the Company and shall be effective only upon receipt by the Secretary.

Registrant has procured insurance protecting it under its obligation to indemnify officers and directors against certain types of liabilities (including certain liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933) that may be incurred by them in the performance of their duties and affording protection to such officers and directors in certain areas to which the corporate indemnity does not extend, all within specified limits and subject to specified deductions.

In addition, Registrant and certain other persons may be entitled under agreements entered into with agents or underwriters to indemnification by such agents or underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or to contribution with respect to payments which Registrant or such persons may be required to make in respect thereof.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

This Item is not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

- 4a1 - Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Registrant is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3(i) to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Registrant for the Fiscal Year ended December 31, 1998.

- 4b1 - By-laws, as amended, of Registrant are incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3(ii)b to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Registrant dated November 12, 2003.

- 4c1 - 1990 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc. (as Amended and Restated as of January 1, 1994) is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10a to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Registrant dated August 11, 1994 maintained in Commission File No. 1-9076.

- 4c2 - Amendment to 1990 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc. constituting Exhibit 4c1 hereto is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10a1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Registrant dated November 11, 1997.

- 4c3 - Amendment to 1990 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc. constituting Exhibits 4c1 and 4c2 hereto is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10a1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Registrant dated November 13, 2001.

- 4d1 - 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc. is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10a1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Registrant dated August 14, 2003.

- 4e1 - 2003 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc.

II-8

Edgar Filing: FORTUNE BRANDS INC - Form S-8

- 4e2 - Amendment to 2003 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc.

- 4f1 - Rights Agreement dated as of November 19, 1997 between Registrant and First Chicago Trust Company of New York, as Rights Agent, is incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4a to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Registrant dated December 2, 1997.

- 5 - Opinion of Chadbourne & Parke LLP, counsel to Registrant, covering shares of Registrant's Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options or stock appreciation rights or pursuant to other awards under the 2003 Long-Term Incentive Plan of Fortune Brands, Inc.

- 15 - Letter from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, as to certain unaudited financial information.

- 23a1 - Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants.

- 23b1 - Consent of Chadbourne & Parke LLP, counsel to Registrant, is contained in their opinion letter as Exhibit 5 to this Registration Statement.

- 23c1 - Consent of Chadbourne & Parke LLP, counsel to Registrant.

- 24 - Power of Attorney authorizing certain persons to sign this Registration Statement on behalf of certain directors and officers of Registrant.

II-9

Item 9. Undertakings.

Registrant hereby undertakes:

- (a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:
 - (i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

 - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that clauses (i) and (ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those clauses is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of Registrant in the successful defense of any

II-10

action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

II-11

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the Village of Lincolnshire, State of Illinois on this 10th day of May, 2004.

FORTUNE BRANDS, INC.

By /s/ MARK A. ROCHE
(Mark A. Roche, Senior Vice President,
General Counsel and Secretary)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on this 10th day of May, 2004.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
NORMAN H. WESLEY* _____ (Norman H. Wesley)	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)
CRAIG P. OMTVEDT* _____ (Craig P. Omtvedt)	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer)
NADINE A. HEIDRICH* _____ (Nadine A. Heidrich)	Vice President and Corporate Controller (principal accounting officer)
PATRICIA O. EWERS* _____ (Patricia O. Ewers)	Director
THOMAS C. HAYS* _____ (Thomas C. Hays)	Director
PIERRE E. LEROY* _____ (Pierre E. Leroy)	Director

II-12

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
GORDON R. LOHMAN* _____ (Gordon R. Lohman)	Director

Signature

Title

EUGENE A. RENNA*

Director

(Eugene A. Renna)

J. CHRISTOPHER REYES*

Director

(J. Christopher Reyes)

ANNE M. TATLOCK*

Director

(Anne M. Tatlock)

DAVID M. THOMAS*

Director

(David M. Thomas)

PETER M. WILSON*

Director

(Peter M. Wilson)

*By: /s/ A. ROBERT COLBY
(A. Robert Colby, Attorney-in-Fact)