

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHOCOLATE FACTORY INC
Form 8-K
May 19, 2009

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 8-K
CURRENT REPORT**

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

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

Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Colorado
*(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)*

0-14749
*(Commission
File Number)*

84-0910696
*(IRS Employer
Identification No.)*

265 Turner Drive

Durango, Colorado 81303

(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (970) 259-0554

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))
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Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On May 19, 2009, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Inc. (the Company) and Computershare Trust Company, N.A. (the Rights Agent), entered into an Amended and Restated Rights Agreement (the Rights Agreement) which amended and restated the existing Rights Agreement between the Company and the Rights Agent (formerly known as American Securities Transfer & Trust, Inc.) dated May 28, 1999 (the Existing Rights Plan). In connection with the Existing Rights Plan, the Company's Board of Directors previously declared a dividend of one right to purchase one one-hundredth of a share of the Company's Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$0.10 per share, for each share of common stock, par value \$0.03 per share (Common Stock), of the Company that was outstanding as of the close of business on May 28, 1999.

The following summary of the principal terms of the Rights Agreement is a general description only. It does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Rights Agreement. A copy of the Rights Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

On May 18, 2009, the Board of Directors of the Company authorized and declared a dividend of one Right (a Right) for each outstanding share of Common Stock of the Company (the Common Shares). The dividend is payable on May 19, 2009 (the Record Date) to the holders of record of the Common Shares at the close of business on that date. In addition, the Company has authorized the issuance of one Right with respect to each share of Common Stock that shall become outstanding between the Record Date and the earliest of the Distribution Date, the Redemption Date and the Final Expiration Date (as such terms are hereinafter defined). When exercisable each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from the Company one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$0.10 per share, of the Company (the Preferred Shares), at a price of \$30 per one one-thousandth of a Preferred Share (the Purchase Price), subject to adjustment. The description and terms of the Rights are set forth in the Rights Agreement.

Until the earlier to occur of (i) 10 days following a public announcement that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons (an Acquiring Person) has acquired beneficial ownership of 15 percent or more of the outstanding Common Shares and (ii) 10 business days (or such later date as may be determined by action of the Board of Directors of the Company prior to such time as any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement of, or first public announcement of an intention to commence, a tender offer or exchange offer the consummation of which would result in the beneficial ownership by a person or group of affiliated or associated persons of 15 percent or more of the outstanding Common Shares (the earlier of such dates being herein referred to as the Distribution Date), the Rights will be evidenced, with respect to any of the Common Share certificates outstanding as of the Record Date, by such Common Share certificate with a copy of a Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Shares (Summary of Rights), in substantially the form attached to the Rights Agreement as Exhibit C, attached thereto. No person who is the beneficial owner of 15 percent or more of the Common Shares of the Company on the date of the Rights Agreement shall be deemed to be an Acquiring Person unless and until such person becomes the beneficial owner of any additional Common Shares of the Company and, immediately after the acquisition of such additional shares, is the beneficial owner of 15 percent or more of the Common Shares of the Company.

The Rights Agreement provides that, until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), the Rights will be transferred with and only with the Common Shares. Until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), new Common Share certificates issued after the Record Date, upon transfer or new issuance of Common Shares, will contain a notation incorporating the Rights Agreement by reference. Until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), the surrender for transfer of any certificates for Common Shares outstanding on or after the Record Date, even without such notation or a copy of the Summary of Rights being attached thereto, will also constitute the transfer of the Rights associated with the Common Shares represented by such certificate. As soon as practicable following the Distribution Date, separate certificates evidencing the Rights (Right Certificates) will be mailed to holders of record of the Common Shares as of the close of business on the Distribution Date and such separate Right Certificates alone will evidence the Rights.

The Rights are not exercisable until the Distribution Date. The Rights will expire on May 19, 2019 (the Final Expiration Date), unless the Final Expiration Date is extended or unless the Rights are earlier redeemed or exchanged by the Company, in each case, as described below.

The Purchase Price payable, and the number of Preferred Shares or other securities or property issuable, upon exercise of the Rights are subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution (i) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination or reclassification of, the Preferred Shares, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Preferred Shares of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for or purchase Preferred Shares at a price, or securities convertible into Preferred Shares with a conversion price, less than the then current market price of the Preferred Shares or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Preferred Shares of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding regular periodic cash dividends paid out of earnings or retained earnings or dividends payable in Preferred Shares) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above).

The number of outstanding Rights and the number of one one-thousandths of a Preferred Share issuable upon exercise of each Right are also subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split of the Common Shares or a stock dividend on the Common Shares payable in Common Shares or subdivisions, consolidations or combinations of the Common Shares occurring, in any such case, prior to the Distribution Date.

Preferred Shares purchasable upon exercise of the Rights will not be subject to redemption by the Company. Each Preferred Share will be entitled to a minimum preferential quarterly dividend payment of \$.01 per share but will be entitled to an aggregate dividend of 1,000 multiplied times the dividend declared per Common Share. In the event of liquidation, the holder of the Preferred Shares will be entitled to a minimum preferential liquidation payment of \$1.00 per share but will be entitled to an aggregate payment of 1,000 multiplied times the payment made per Common Share. Each Preferred Share will have 1,000 votes, voting together with the Common Shares. Finally, in the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which Common Shares are exchanged, each Preferred Share will be entitled to receive 1,000 multiplied times the amount received per Common Share. These rights are protected by customary antidilution provisions.

Because of the nature of the Preferred Shares dividend, liquidation and voting rights, the value of the one one-thousandth interest in a Preferred Share purchasable upon exercise of each Right should approximate the value of one Common Share.

In the event that any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person, proper provision shall be made so that each holder of a Right, other than Rights beneficially owned by the Acquiring Person (which will thereafter be null and void and nontransferable), will thereafter have the right to receive upon exercise that number of Common Shares of the Company having a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right. In the event that the Company is acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction or 50 percent or more of its consolidated assets or earning power are sold after a person or group of affiliated or associated persons has become an Acquiring Person, proper provision will be made so that each holder of a Right will thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise thereof at the then current exercise price of the Right, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company which at the time of such transaction will have a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right.

At any time after any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person and prior to the acquisition by such person or group of 50 percent or more of the outstanding Common Shares, the Board of Directors of the Company may exchange the Rights (other than Rights owned by such person or group which will have become null and void and nontransferable), in whole or in part, at an exchange ratio of one Common Share, or one one-thousandth of a Preferred Share (or of a share of a class or series of the Company's preferred stock having equivalent rights, preferences and privileges), per Right (subject to adjustment).

With certain exceptions, no adjustment in the Purchase Price will be required until cumulative adjustments require an adjustment of at least one percent in such Purchase Price. The Company may, but shall not be required to, issue fractions of a Preferred Share (other than one one-thousandth of a Preferred Share or any integral multiple thereof, which may, at the election of the Company, be evidenced by depositary receipts) and in lieu thereof, an adjustment in cash will be made based on the market price of the Preferred Shares on the last trading day prior to the date of exercise.

At any time prior to the close of business on the tenth day following a public announcement that an Acquiring Person has become such an Acquiring Person, the Board of Directors of the Company may redeem the Rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$.01 per Right (the Redemption Price). The redemption of the Rights may be made effective at such time, on such basis and with such conditions as the Board of Directors in its sole discretion may establish. The time at which the Rights are redeemed by the Company is herein referred to as the Redemption Date. Immediately upon any redemption of the Rights, the right to exercise the Rights will terminate and the only right thereafter of the holders of Rights will be to receive the Redemption Price.

At any time prior to the Distribution Date and subject to the last sentence of this paragraph, the terms of the Rights may be amended by the Board of Directors of the Company without the consent of the holders of the Rights, including without limitation an amendment to lower certain thresholds described above to not less than the greater of (i) the sum of 0.001 percent and the largest percentage of the outstanding Common Shares then known by the Company to be beneficially owned

by any person or group of affiliated or associated persons and (ii) 10 percent. From and after the Distribution Date and subject to applicable law, the terms of the Rights may be amended by the Board of Directors of the Company without the consent of the holders of the Rights to, among other things, make any other provisions in regard to matters under the Rights Agreement that the Company may deem necessary or desirable and that shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Rights (other than an Acquiring Person or an affiliate or associate of an Acquiring Person). The terms of the Rights may not be amended to (i) reduce the Redemption Price (except as required by antidilution provisions) or (ii) provide for an earlier Final Expiration Date.

Until a Right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of the Company, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends.

The Preferred Shares shall rank, with respect to the payment of dividends and as to distributions of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, junior to all other series of preferred stock of the Company, unless the Board of Directors of the Company shall specifically determine otherwise in fixing the powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional and other special rights of the shares of any such other series and the qualifications, limitations and restrictions thereof.

As of May 18, 2009, there were 5,992,858 Common Shares issued and outstanding, and an aggregate of an additional 242,928 Common Shares reserved for issuance under the Company's employee stock option plans and non-employee director stock option plan. One Right will be distributed to holders of the Common Stock for each Common Share owned of record by them on May 18, 2009. One Right will be issued with respect to each Common Share that shall become outstanding between the Record Date and the earliest of the Distribution Date, the Redemption Date and the Final Expiration Date. In certain circumstances, the Company may issue Rights with respect to Common Shares issued following the Distribution Date and prior to the earlier of the Redemption Date and the Final Expiration Date. The Company's Board of Directors has initially reserved for issuance upon exercise of the Rights 50,000 Preferred Shares, which number is subject to adjustment from time to time in accordance with the Rights Agreement.

The Rights approved by the Board of Directors are designed to protect and maximize the value of the outstanding equity interests in the Company in the event of an unsolicited attempt by an acquirer to take over the Company in a manner or on terms not approved by the Board of Directors. Takeover attempts frequently include coercive tactics to deprive the Board of Directors and the Company's shareholders of any real opportunity to determine the destiny of the Company. The Rights have been declared by the Board of Directors in order to deter such tactics, including a gradual accumulation of shares in the open market of 15% or greater position to be followed by a merger or a partial or two-tier tender offer that does not treat all shareholders equally. These tactics unfairly pressure shareholders, squeeze them out of their investment without giving them any real choice and deprive them of the full value of their shares.

The Rights are not intended to prevent a takeover of the Company and will not do so. Subject to the restrictions described above, the Rights may be redeemed by the Company at \$0.01 per Right at any time prior to the Distribution Date. Accordingly, the Rights should not interfere with any merger or business combination approved by the Board of Directors.

However, the Rights may have the effect of rendering more difficult or discouraging an acquisition of the Company deemed undesirable by the Board of Directors. The Rights may cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire the Company on terms or in a manner not approved by the Board of Directors, except pursuant to an offer conditioned upon the negation, purchase or redemption of the Rights.

Issuance of the Rights does not in any way weaken the financial strength of the Company or interfere with its business plans. The issuance of the Rights themselves has no dilutive effect, will not affect reported earnings per share, should not be taxable to the Company or to its shareholders, and will not change the way in which the Company's shares are presently traded. The Board of Directors believes that the Rights represent a sound and reasonable means of addressing the complex issues of corporate policy created by the current takeover environment.

Item 3.03 Material Modification to Rights of Security Holders.

The information set forth in Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated into this Item 3.03 by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Item Exhibit

4.1 Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of May 19, 2009, between Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Inc. and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent, which includes as Exhibit A the Statement of Rights and Preferences of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, as Exhibit B the Form of Rights Certificate and as Exhibit C the Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Shares. (1)

(1) Incorporated by reference to the corresponding exhibit to Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 19, 2009.

SIGNATURE

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 thereunto duly authorized.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHOCOLATE FACTORY,
INC.

Date: May 19, 2009

By: /s/ Bryan J. Merryman
Bryan J. Merryman, Chief
Operating Officer,
Chief Financial Officer,
Treasurer and Director

8

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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