

BROOKS AUTOMATION INC

Form S-3

October 07, 2003

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 7, 2003

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

Form S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Brooks Automation, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
*(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)*

04-3040660
*(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)*

15 Elizabeth Drive
Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824
(978) 262-2400
*(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number,
Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)*

Robert J. Therrien
Chief Executive Officer
BROOKS AUTOMATION, INC.
15 Elizabeth Drive,
Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824
(978) 262-2400
*(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number,
Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)*

Copies to:

Thomas S. Grilk
Sr. Vice President and General Counsel
Brooks Automation, Inc.
15 Elizabeth Drive,
Chelmsford, MA 01824
(978) 262-2400

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Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP
One Financial Center
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(617) 856-8200

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125 High Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 248-7000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

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If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box.

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Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered(1)	Amount to Be Registered(2)(5)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit(3)(4)(5)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(3)(6)	Amount Of Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share and related preferred share purchase rights(7)				
Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share				
Debt Securities				
Total:	\$200,000,000		\$200,000,000	\$16,180

- (1) This registration statement also covers such indeterminate amount of securities as may be issued in exchange for or upon conversion of, as the case may be, the securities registered hereunder.
- (2) An indeterminate number of or aggregate principal amount of the securities is being registered as may at various times be issued at indeterminate prices, with an aggregate public offering price not to exceed \$200,000,000 or the equivalent thereof in one or more currencies or, if any debt securities are issued at any original issuance discount, such greater principal amount as shall result in an aggregate initial offering price of \$200,000,000.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the amount of the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and exclusive of accrued interest, if any.
- (4) The proposed maximum offering price per unit will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with, and at the time of, the issuance of the securities registered hereunder.
- (5) Not specified as to each class of securities to be registered pursuant to General Instruction II.D of Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933.
- (6) Includes consideration to be received by us for registered securities that are issuable upon exercise, conversion or exchange of other registered securities.
- (7) Pursuant to a Rights Agreement entered into in 1997, as amended, one right is deemed to be delivered with each share of common stock issued by the Registrant. Such presently indeterminable number of rights are also registered by this Registration Statement as may be issued in the event of a merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, stock dividend, stock split or other similar change in common stock. The rights are not separately transferable apart from the common stock, nor are they exercisable until the occurrence of certain events. Accordingly, no independent value has been attributed to the rights.

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until this registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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The information contained in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED OCTOBER 7, 2003

PROSPECTUS

Brooks Automation, Inc.

\$200,000,000

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Senior Debt Securities

Senior Subordinated Debt Securities

Subordinated Debt Securities

This prospectus relates to common stock, preferred stock, senior debt securities, senior subordinated debt securities and subordinated debt securities that we may sell from time to time in one or more offerings up to an aggregate initial public offering price of \$200,000,000 (or its equivalent in foreign or composite currencies) on terms to be determined at the time of sale. We will provide specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to offer and sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement for those securities.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol BRKS. Each prospectus supplement to this prospectus will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing on any national securities exchange or The Nasdaq Stock Market of the securities covered by such prospectus supplement.

These securities may be sold directly by us, through dealers or agents designated from time to time, to or through underwriters or through a combination of these methods. See Plan of Distribution in this prospectus. We may also describe the plan of distribution for any particular offering of these securities in any applicable prospectus supplement. If any agents, underwriters or dealers are involved in the sale of any securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, we will disclose their names and the nature of our arrangements with them in a prospectus supplement. The net proceeds we expect to receive from any such sale will also be included in a prospectus supplement.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See Risk Factors on page 1 of this prospectus. We may also include specific risk factors in an applicable prospectus supplement under the heading Risk Factors. You should review that section of the prospectus supplement for a discussion of matters that investors in our securities should consider.

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

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2003.

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YOU SHOULD RELY ONLY ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS, ANY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT OR ANY DOCUMENT INCORPORATED HEREIN OR THEREIN TO WHICH WE HAVE REFERRED YOU. WE HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE ELSE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION THAT IS DIFFERENT. THIS PROSPECTUS AND ANY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT MAY BE USED ONLY WHERE IT IS LEGAL TO SELL THESE SECURITIES. THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS OR ANY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT IS CURRENT ONLY AS OF THE DATE ON THE FRONT OF THESE DOCUMENTS.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total public offering price of \$200,000,000 (or its equivalent in foreign or composite currencies). This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the securities being offered and the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information" carefully before making an investment decision.

Unless the context otherwise requires, in this prospectus, Brooks, the Company, we, us and our refer to Brooks Automation, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

ABOUT BROOKS

We are a leading supplier of automation products and solutions primarily serving the worldwide semiconductor chip market. We supply hardware, software and services to both chip manufacturers and original equipment manufacturers who make process equipment for semiconductor manufacturing. We are a technology and market leader with offerings ranging from best-in-class hardware and software modules to fully integrated systems and world class services. Although our core business addresses the increasingly complex automation requirements of the global semiconductor industry, we are also focused on providing automation solutions for a number of related industries, including flat panel display manufacturing, data storage and other complex manufacturing.

We are a Delaware corporation and were incorporated in 1989. Our principal offices are located at 15 Elizabeth Drive, Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824 and our telephone number is (978) 262-2400.

Our corporate website address is *www.brooks.com*. We make available on our website free of charge a link to our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports as soon as practicable after we electronically file such material with the SEC. The information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

RISK FACTORS

The prospectus supplement applicable to each type or series of securities we offer will contain a discussion of the risks applicable to an investment in Brooks and to the particular types of securities that we are offering under that prospectus supplement. Prior to making a decision about investing in our securities, you should carefully consider the specific factors discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" in the applicable prospectus supplement, together with all of the other information contained or incorporated by reference in the prospectus supplement or appearing or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You should also consider the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Factors that May Affect Future Results" included in our latest Annual Report on Form 10-K and any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and which may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement includes and incorporates by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and

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Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 with respect to our financial condition, results of operations, plans, objectives, future performance and business, which are usually identified by the use of words such as will, may, anticipates, believes, estimates, expects, plans, predicts, continues, intends, should, would, or similar expressions. We intend for these forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and are including this statement for purposes of complying with these safe harbor provisions.

These forward-looking statements reflect our current views and expectations about our plans, strategies and prospects, which are based on the information currently available and on current assumptions.

We cannot give any guarantee that these plans, intentions or expectations will be achieved. Investors are cautioned that all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those factors described under the heading Risk Factors and any risk factors contained in any prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein. Factors that could cause our actual results to differ from those reflected in forward-looking statements relating to our operations and business include:

trends affecting the semiconductor industry, our financial condition or results of operations;

the effectiveness of our restructuring activities and cost reduction measures;

the availability of qualified personnel;

the effectiveness of new product introductions and manufacturing;

market acceptance of new products;

competition in the industry;

the loss of one or more of our significant customers;

the ability to satisfy demand for our products;

the availability of key components for our products;

foreign interest and exchange rate fluctuations;

the ability to protect our intellectual property;

future acquisitions;

international, national, regional and local economic and political changes;

general economic conditions; and

other risks and uncertainties, including those set forth or incorporated in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, and those detailed from time to time in our filings with the SEC.

You should read this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents that we incorporate by reference herein and therein completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We may not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

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Unless we tell you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of these securities for general corporate purposes, which may include repayment or refinancing of existing indebtedness, investments, capital expenditures, acquisitions, repurchase of our capital stock and for any

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other purposes that we may specify in any prospectus supplement. We may also invest the net proceeds temporarily in short-term securities until we use them for their stated purpose.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

Our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is as follows:

	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2003	Fiscal Year Ended September 30,				
		2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)	9.1	(2)	(2)

- (1) These ratios are calculated by dividing (a) earnings before income taxes plus fixed charges less minority interests less preferred dividend requirements by (b) fixed charges. Fixed charges include interest expense, the portion of interest expense under operating leases we deem to be representative of the interest factor, and preferred dividend requirements. As of the date of this prospectus, we had one share of preferred stock outstanding, referred to as special voting preferred stock. This special voting preferred stock was issued in connection with our acquisition of PRI Automation, Inc. in May 2002, and relates to PRI's former Canadian exchangeable shareholders. The holder of this share of special voting preferred stock is not entitled to receive any dividends. No other shares of preferred stock are outstanding. Preferred dividend requirements prior to July 2001 relate to accretion of preferred stock issued by Progressive Technologies Inc. prior to its acquisition by us. This acquisition was accounted for as a pooling of interest. The ratio of earnings to fixed charges is equal to the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred dividends for each of these periods.
- (2) For the nine months ended June 30, 2003 and in fiscal 2002, 2001, 1999 and 1998, earnings before income taxes plus fixed charges less minority interests less preferred dividend requirements were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$131.3 million, \$627.1 million, \$36.2 million, \$11.3 million and \$29.8 million, respectively.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following description of our capital stock, together with the additional information included in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the material terms and provisions of these types of securities but is not complete. You should read our certificate of incorporation, as amended, our bylaws, as amended, our rights plan (as described below) and the certificate of designation relating to any particular series of preferred stock before you purchase any of our capital stock or securities convertible into shares of our capital stock because those documents and not this description set forth the terms of our capital stock.

We will describe in a prospectus supplement the specific terms of any capital stock we may offer pursuant to this prospectus. If indicated in a prospectus supplement, the terms of such capital stock may differ from the terms described below.

Authorized Capital Stock

We have 101,000,000 shares of capital stock authorized under our certificate of incorporation, consisting of 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share.

The authorized shares of common stock and preferred stock are available for issuance without further action by our stockholders, unless such action is required by applicable law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded. If the approval of our stockholders is not so required, our board of directors may determine not to seek stockholder approval.

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Common Stock

As of October 3, 2003, we had 37,277,219 shares of common stock outstanding, held of record by approximately 1,057 stockholders. Our common stockholders are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted on by stockholders. They are entitled to receive dividends, if any, as declared by our board of directors from legally available funds. Dividends may not be paid on common stock unless all accrued dividends on preferred stock, if any, have been paid or declared and set aside. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets available for distribution to the stockholders, subject to prior distribution rights of our preferred stock, if any, then outstanding. Our common stock has no preemptive or other subscription rights, and there are no conversion rights or redemption or sinking fund provisions with respect to such shares. Our common stockholders do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors. All of the outstanding shares of our common stock are fully paid and nonassessable.

Preferred Stock

As of October 3, 2003, we had one share of preferred stock outstanding, referred to as special voting preferred stock. This special voting preferred stock was issued in connection with our acquisition of PRI Automation, Inc. in May 2002, and relates to PRI's former Canadian exchangeable shareholders. The holder of this share of special voting preferred stock is not entitled receive any dividends but affords PRI's former Canadian exchangeable shareholders the liquidation rights and voting rights as they would have if they held shares of our common stock.

In addition, our rights plan provides for the issuance of shares of junior participating preferred stock under the circumstances specified in the rights plan. See Certain Anti-Takeover Provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rights Plan and Delaware General Corporation Law Rights Plan below for a more detailed description of the Rights Agreement.

Our board of directors, without further stockholder approval (except as may be required by applicable law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded) has the authority to issue shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions thereof, including:

dividend rights;

dividend rates;

conversion rights;

voting rights;

terms of redemption;

redemption prices;

liquidation preferences; and

the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of such series.

If our board of directors elects to exercise this authority, the rights and privileges of holders of shares of our common stock could be made subject to the rights and privileges of such series of preferred stock.

Although our board of directors has no intention at the present time of doing so, it could issue a series of preferred stock that could, depending on the terms of such series, impede the completion of a merger, tender offer or other takeover attempt.

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Certain Anti-Takeover Provisions in Our Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rights Plan and Delaware General Corporation Law

The following is a summary of certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation, bylaws, rights plan and Delaware law. This summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our certificate of incorporation, bylaws, rights plan and the corporate law of Delaware.

Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Our certificate of incorporation includes several other provisions in addition to our preferred stock which may have the effect of preventing changes in our management. These provisions may make an unfriendly tender offer, proxy contest, merger or other change in control of us more difficult. These provisions are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of our board of directors and in the policies formulated by our board of directors and to discourage certain types of transactions that may involve a change in control. These provisions are also designed to reduce our vulnerability to unsolicited acquisition proposals and to discourage certain tactics that may be used in proxy fights. These provisions, however, could have the effect of discouraging others from making tender offers for the shares of our common stock and, as a consequence, they also may inhibit fluctuations in the market price of the shares of our common stock which could result from actual or rumored takeover attempts.

Our certificate of incorporation contains a so-called anti-greenmail provision. This provision is intended to discourage speculators who accumulate beneficial ownership of a significant block of stock of a company and then, under the threat of making a tender offer or instigating a proxy contest or some other corporate disruption, succeed in extracting from the company a premium price to repurchase the shares acquired by the speculator. This tactic has become known as greenmail. The anti-greenmail provision prohibits us from purchasing any shares of our common stock from a related person, who has beneficially owned such common stock or right to purchase such common stock for less than two years prior to the date of such purchase, at a per share price in excess of the fair market value at the time of the purchase unless the purchase is approved by the holders of two-thirds of the outstanding shares of our common stock, excluding any votes cast by the related person. The term related person means any person who acquires more than five percent of our voting stock. Shareholder approval is not required for such purchases when the offer is made available on the same terms to all holders of shares of our common stock or when the purchases are effected on the open market.

Our certificate of incorporation also provides that all stockholder action must be effected at a duly called meeting and not by written consent, and that certain stockholder proposals may only be approved by the holders of 80% of the shares of stock entitled to vote on the proposal. In addition, our bylaws do not permit our stockholders to call a special meeting of stockholders.

The authority of the our board of directors to issue authorized but unissued shares of our common stock might be considered as having the effect of discouraging an attempt by another person or entity to effect a takeover or otherwise gain control of us, since the issuance of additional shares of our common stock would dilute the voting power of our common stock then outstanding.

Rights Plan

Our board of directors has adopted a rights plan. As a result, we issued one purchase right for each outstanding share of common stock. One purchase right will be issued for each additional share of common stock that we issue. The rights become exercisable if, without the prior approval of our board of directors, a person or group acquires 15% or more of our outstanding common stock or commences or announces a tender or exchange offer which would result in such ownership. Each right that becomes exercisable entitles the registered holder to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of our junior participating preferred stock at a purchase price of \$135 per one-thousandth of a share, subject to adjustment.

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If, after the rights become exercisable, we were to be acquired through a merger or other business combination transaction or 50% or more of our assets or earning power were sold, each right would permit the holder to purchase, for the purchase price, common stock of the surviving company having a market value of twice the purchase price.

The rights expire on July 31, 2007, unless earlier redeemed or exchanged by us. The purchase price payable and the shares of preferred stock issuable upon exercise of the rights are subject to adjustment as described in the rights plan. In addition, our board of directors retains the authority to redeem, at \$0.001 per right, the rights at any time prior to the acquisition by a person or group of 15% or more of our outstanding common stock.

Section 203 of Delaware Law

We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. Section 203 prohibits publicly held Delaware corporations from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, unless the business combination is approved in a prescribed manner. A business combination includes mergers, asset sales and other transactions resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. Generally, an interested stockholder is a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns or was, within the three year period immediately prior to the date on which it is sought to be determined whether such person is an interested stockholder, an owner of 15% or more of a corporation's voting stock. These provisions could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of our company or reducing the price that certain investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is EquiServe LP.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

General

The debt securities that we may issue will constitute debentures, notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of Brooks, to be issued in one or more series, which may include senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities and senior subordinated debt securities. The particular terms of any series of debt securities we offer, including the extent to which the general terms set forth below may be applicable to a particular series, will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to such series.

In this description of debt securities, the terms Brooks, we, us and our refer to Brooks Automation, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries, except for purposes of financial data determined on a consolidated basis. Debt securities that we may issue will be issued under the indenture between us and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee. This prospectus refers to U.S. Bank National Association as the trustee. We have filed the form of the indenture as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. If we enter into any indenture supplement, we will file a copy of that supplement with the SEC.

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION IS A SUMMARY OF THE MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF THE INDENTURE. IT DOES NOT RESTATE THE INDENTURE IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE INDENTURE IS GOVERNED BY THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939. THE TERMS OF THE DEBT SECURITIES INCLUDE THOSE STATED IN THE INDENTURE AND THOSE MADE PART OF THE INDENTURE BY REFERENCE TO THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT. WE URGE YOU TO READ THE INDENTURE BECAUSE IT, AND NOT THIS DESCRIPTION, DEFINES YOUR RIGHTS AS A HOLDER OF THE DEBT SECURITIES.

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The indenture contains no covenant or provision which affords debt holders protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction.

Unless otherwise set forth in an indenture supplement and described in a prospectus supplement, our subsidiaries will have no direct obligation to pay amounts due on the debt securities. The debt securities effectively will be subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. The indenture permits us and our subsidiaries to incur substantial amounts of additional indebtedness and other liabilities. Any rights of Brooks and our creditors, including the holders of debt securities, to participate in the assets of any of our subsidiaries upon any liquidation or reorganization of any such subsidiary will be subject to the prior claims of that subsidiary's creditors, including trade creditors, and the holders of any preferred stock of that subsidiary.

Information You Will Find in the Prospectus Supplement

The indenture provides that we may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series and that we may denominate the debt securities and make them payable in foreign currencies. The indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities that can be issued thereunder. The prospectus supplement for a series of debt securities will provide information relating to the terms of the series of debt securities being offered, which may include:

the title and denominations of the debt securities of the series;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series;

the date or dates on which the principal and premium, if any, with respect to the debt securities of the series are payable or the method of determination thereof;

the interest rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) on the debt securities of the series (if any), the dates from which interest shall accrue or the method of determining such rate or rates;

the interest payment dates for the series of debt securities or the method by which such date will be determined, the terms of any deferral of interest and any right of ours to extend the interest payments periods;

the place or places where the principal and interest on the series of debt securities will be payable;

the price and terms and conditions upon which debt securities of the series may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at our option or otherwise;

our obligation, if any, to redeem, purchase, or repay debt securities of the series pursuant to any sinking fund or at the option of the holders and the price and terms and conditions of any such redemption, purchase, or repayment;

if other than denominations of \$1,000, the denominations in which the debt securities may be issued;

the terms, if any, upon which the debt securities of the series may be convertible into or exchanged for other securities, including, among other things, the initial conversion or exchange price or rate and the conversion or exchange period;

if the amount of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to the debt securities of the series may be determined with reference to an index or formula, the manner in which such amounts will be determined;

if the amount of principal payable at the stated maturity date of the debt securities will not be determinable prior to the stated maturity date, the manner in which such amount will be determined;

any changes or additions to the provisions of the indenture dealing with defeasance, including any additional covenants that may be subject to our covenant defeasance option;

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the currency or currencies in which payment of the principal and premium, if any, and interest with respect to debt securities of the series will be payable;

the portion of the principal amount of debt securities of the series which will be payable upon declaration of acceleration or provable in bankruptcy;

whether the debt securities of the series will be secured or guaranteed and, if so, on what terms;

any addition to or change in the events of default with respect to the debt securities of the series and any change in the right of the trustee or the holders to declare acceleration;

the terms and conditions, if any, upon which a global security may be exchanged for other individual debt securities in definitive registered form;

any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars;

the applicability of, and any addition to or change in, the covenants currently set forth in the indenture or in the terms relating to permitted consolidations, mergers, or sales of assets;

the subordination, if any, of the debt securities of the series and terms of the subordination;

with regard to debt securities of a series that does not bear interest, the dates for certain required reports to the trustee; and

any other terms of the debt securities of the series which are not prohibited by the indenture.

Holders of debt securities may present debt securities for exchange in the manner, at the places, and subject to the restrictions set forth in the debt securities and the prospectus supplement. Holders of registered debt securities may present debt securities for transfer in the manner, at the places, and subject to the restrictions set forth in the debt securities and the prospectus supplement. We will provide these services without charge, other than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith, but subject to the limitations provided in the indenture, and any board resolution or the applicable indenture supplement establishing such debt securities. Debt securities in bearer form and the coupons, if any, appertaining thereto will be transferable by delivery.

Senior Debt

We may issue senior debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our senior debt. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable indenture supplement or any board resolution establishing such debt securities and described in a prospectus supplement, the senior debt securities will be senior unsecured obligations, ranking equally with all of our existing and future senior unsecured debt. The senior debt securities will be senior to all of our subordinated debt and junior to any secured debt we may incur as to the assets securing such debt.

Subordinated Debt

We may issue subordinated debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our subordinated debt. These subordinated debt securities will be subordinate and junior in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the indenture and the applicable indenture supplement, to all of our senior indebtedness as defined in any indenture supplement.

In general, the holders of all senior indebtedness are entitled to receive payment of the full amount unpaid on senior indebtedness before the holders of any of the subordinated debt securities or coupons are entitled to receive a payment on account of the principal or interest on the indebtedness evidenced by the subordinated debt securities upon the occurrence of certain events. These events include:

any insolvency, bankruptcy, receivership, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or other similar proceedings which concern us or a substantial part of our property;

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except as provided in the indenture, any default on the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest on or other monetary amounts due and payable on any senior indebtedness has not been paid within the applicable grace period; and

any other default on senior indebtedness occurs and the maturity of such senior indebtedness is accelerated in accordance with its terms, and unless either (a) such default shall have been cured or waived and any such acceleration shall have been rescinded or (b) such senior indebtedness shall have been paid in full.

If this prospectus is being delivered in connection with a series of subordinated debt securities, the accompanying prospectus supplement or the information incorporated by reference will set forth the approximate amount of senior indebtedness outstanding as of the end of the most recent fiscal quarter.

Senior Subordinated Debt

We may issue senior subordinated debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our senior subordinated debt. These senior subordinated debt securities will be, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the indenture, subordinate and junior in right of payment to all of our senior indebtedness and senior to our other subordinated debt. See the discussions above under Senior Debt and Subordinated Debt for a more detailed explanation of our senior and subordinated indebtedness.

Interest Rate

Debt securities that bear interest will do so at a fixed rate or a floating rate. We may sell, at a discount below the stated principal amount, any debt securities which bear no interest or which bear interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below the prevailing market rate. The relevant prospectus supplement will describe the special U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to:

any discounted debt securities; and

any debt securities issued at par which are treated as having been issued at a discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Registered Global Securities

We may issue registered debt securities of a series in the form of one or more fully registered global securities. We will deposit the registered global security with a depositary or with a nominee for a depositary identified in the prospectus supplement relating to such series. The global security or global securities will represent and will be in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the aggregate principal amount of outstanding registered debt securities of the series to be represented by the registered global security or securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred, except as a whole in three cases:

by the depositary for the registered global security to a nominee of the depositary;

by a nominee of the depositary to the depositary or another nominee of the depositary; and

by the depositary or any nominee to a successor of the depositary or a nominee of the successor.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the specific terms of the depositary arrangement concerning any portion of that series of debt securities to be represented by a registered global security.

We anticipate that the following provisions will generally apply to all depositary arrangements:

Upon the issuance of a registered global security, the depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the registered

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global security to the accounts of persons that have accounts with the depository. These persons are referred to as participants. Any underwriters, agents or debtors participating in the distribution of debt securities represented by the registered global security will designate the accounts to be credited. Only participants or persons that hold interests through participants will be able to beneficially own interests in a registered global security. The depository for a global security will maintain records of beneficial ownership interests in a registered global security for participants. Participants or persons that hold through participants will maintain records of beneficial ownership interests in a global security for persons other than participants. These records will be the only means to transfer beneficial ownership in a registered global security.

The laws of some states may require that specified purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the securities in definitive form. These laws may limit the ability of those persons to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in global securities.

So long as the depository, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a registered global security, the depository or its nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the registered global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security:

may not have the debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of debt securities represented by a registered global security in definitive form; and

will not be considered the owners or holders of debt securities represented by a registered global security under the indenture.

Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depository for the registered global security and, if the person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which the person owns its interests, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture applicable to the registered global security.

We understand that, under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders, or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security desires to give or take any action which a holder is entitled to give or take under the indenture, the depository for the registered global security would authorize the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take the action, and the participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through the participants to give or take the action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

Payment of Interest on and Principal of Registered Global Securities

We will make principal, premium, if any, and interest payments on debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depository or its nominee to the depository or its nominee as the registered owner of the registered global security. None of Brooks, the trustee, or any paying agent for debt securities represented by a registered global security will have any responsibility or liability for:

any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in such registered global security;

maintaining, supervising, or reviewing any records relating to beneficial ownership interests;

the payments to beneficial owners of the global security of amounts paid to the depository or its nominee; or

any other matter relating to the actions and practices of the depository, its nominee or any of its participants.

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We expect that the depository, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium or interest in respect of the global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their beneficial interests in the principal amount of a registered global security as shown on the depository's records. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security held through participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices. This is currently the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers registered in street name. Such payments will be the responsibility of participants.

Exchange of Registered Global Securities

We may issue debt securities in definitive form in exchange for the registered global security if both of the following occur:

the depository for any debt securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depository or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act; and

we do not appoint a successor depository within 90 days.

In addition, we may, at any time, determine not to have any of the debt securities of a series represented by one or more registered global securities. In this event, we will issue debt securities of that series in definitive form in exchange for all of the registered global security or securities representing those debt securities.

Covenants By Brooks

The indenture includes covenants by us, including among other things that we will make all payments of principal and interest at the times and places required. The board resolution or supplemental indenture with respect to each series of debt securities may contain additional covenants, including covenants which could restrict our right and our subsidiaries' right to incur additional indebtedness or liens and to take certain actions with respect to their respective businesses and assets.

Events of Default

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following will be events of default under the indenture with respect to each series of debt securities issued under the indenture:

failure to pay when due any interest on any debt security of that series, continued for 30 days;

failure to pay when due principal of, or premium, if any, on, any debt security of that series;

default in the payment of any sinking fund installment with respect to any debt security of that series when due and payable;

failure to comply with the restrictive covenant prohibiting us from engaging in certain consolidations, mergers, or transfers of all or substantially all of our assets;

failure to perform any other covenant or agreement of ours under the indenture or the supplemental indenture with respect to that series or the debt securities of that series, continued for 60 days after written notice to us by the trustee or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series to which the covenant or agreement relates;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us;

indebtedness in excess of \$20 million is not paid within any applicable grace period after final maturity or is accelerated by the holders of such indebtedness because of a default, and such default remains uncured or such acceleration is not rescinded for 15 days after the date on which we receive written notice from the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series to which the indebtedness relates; and

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any other event of default specified in any supplemental indenture under which such series of debt securities are issued.

Except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us and except as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, if any event of default shall occur and be continuing with respect to any series of debt securities under the indenture, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of such series may accelerate the maturity of all debt securities of such series. Upon certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us, the principal, premium, if any, and interest on all debt securities of each series shall be immediately due and payable.

After any such acceleration, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of each affected series of debt securities may waive all defaults with respect to such series and rescind and annul such acceleration if all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal, have been cured, waived or otherwise remedied and the rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree already rendered.

No holder of any debt securities of any series will have any right to institute any proceeding with respect to the indenture or for any remedy under the indenture, unless such holder shall have previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default and the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the relevant series shall have made written request and offered indemnity satisfactory to the trustee to institute such proceeding as trustee, and the trustee shall not have received from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series a direction inconsistent with such request and shall have failed to institute such proceeding within 60 days. However, such limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of a debt security for enforcement of payment of the principal of and premium, if any, or interest on such debt security on or after the respective due dates expressed in such debt security.

Supplemental Indentures

We and the trustee may, at any time and from time to time, without notice to or consent of any holders of debt securities, enter into one or more indentures supplemental to the indenture, to, among other things:

add guarantees to or secure any series of debt securities;

provide for the succession of another person pursuant to the provisions of the indenture relating to consolidations, mergers and sales of assets and the assumption by such successor of our covenants, agreements, and obligations, or to otherwise comply with the provisions of the indenture relating to consolidations, mergers, and sales of assets;

surrender any right or power conferred upon us under the indenture or to add to our covenants further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions for the protection of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;

cure any ambiguity or to correct or supplement any provision contained in the indenture, in any supplemental indenture or in any debt securities that may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision contained therein;

modify or amend the indenture in such a manner as to permit the qualification of the indenture or any supplemental indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;

add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture to change or eliminate any restriction on the payment of principal or premium with respect to debt securities so long as any such action does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities of any series in any material respect;

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in the case of subordinated debt securities, make any change in the provisions relating to subordination that would limit or terminate the benefits available to any holder of senior indebtedness under such provisions (but only if such holder of senior indebtedness consents to such a change);

add to, change, or eliminate any of the provisions of the indenture with respect to one or more series of debt securities, so long as any such addition, change or elimination not otherwise permitted under the indenture shall not apply to any debt securities of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision;

evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor or separate trustee;

establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series; and

make any change that does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities in any material respect.

With the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of debt securities of each series affected by such supplemental indenture (voting as one class), we and the trustee may enter into one or more supplemental indentures for the purpose of adding any provisions to or changing in any manner or eliminating any of the provisions of the indenture or modifying in any manner the rights of the holders of debt securities of each such series.

Notwithstanding our rights and the rights of the trustee to enter into one or more supplemental indentures with the consent of the holders of debt securities of the affected series as described above, no such supplemental indenture shall, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of the affected series, among other things:

extend the final maturity of the principal of, or any installment of interest on, any debt securities;

reduce the principal amount of any debt securities or the rate of interest on any debt securities;

change the currency in which any debt securities are payable;

release any security interest that may have been granted with respect to such debt securities;

impair the right of the holders to conduct a proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee;

reduce the percentage in principal amount of any series of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment;

reduce any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt securities or change the time at which any debt security may be redeemed;
or

make any change that adversely affects the relative rights of holders of subordinated debt securities with respect to senior debt securities.

Satisfaction and Discharge of the Indenture; Defeasance

To the extent set forth in a supplemental indenture with respect to any series of debt securities, we, at our election, may discharge the indenture and the indenture shall generally cease to be of any further effect with respect to that series of debt securities if (a) we have delivered to the trustee for cancellation all debt securities of that series (with certain limited exceptions) or (b) all debt securities of that series not previously delivered to the trustee for cancellation shall have become due and payable, or are by their terms to become due and payable within one year or are to be called for redemption within one year, and we have deposited with the trustee the entire amount sufficient to pay at maturity or upon redemption all such debt securities.

In addition, we have a legal defeasance option (pursuant to which we may terminate, with respect to the debt securities of particular series, all of our obligations under such debt securities and the indenture with respect to such debt securities) and a covenant defeasance option (pursuant to which we may

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terminate, with respect to the debt securities of a particular series, our obligations with respect to such debt securities under certain specified covenants contained in the indenture). If we exercise our legal defeasance option with respect to a series of debt securities, payment of such debt securities may not be accelerated because of an event of default. If we exercise our covenant defeasance option with respect to a series of debt securities, payment of such debt securities may not be accelerated because of an event of default related to the specified covenants.

We may exercise our legal defeasance option or our covenant defeasance option with respect to the debt securities of a series only if we irrevocably deposit in trust with the trustee cash or U.S. government obligations (as defined in the indenture) for the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to such debt securities to maturity or redemption, as the case may be. In addition, to exercise either of our defeasance options, we must comply with certain other conditions, including the delivery to the trustee of an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of debt securities of such series will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance had not occurred (and, in the case of legal defeasance only, such opinion of counsel must be based on a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or a change in applicable U.S. federal income tax law occurring subsequent to the indenture).

The trustee will hold in trust the cash or U.S. government obligations deposited with it as described above and will apply the deposited cash and the proceeds from deposited U.S. government obligations to the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to the debt securities of the defeased series. In the case of subordinated debt securities, the cash and U.S. government obligations held in trust will not be subject to the subordination provisions of the indenture.

Mergers, Consolidations and Certain Sales of Assets

We may not

consolidate with or merge into any other person or entity or permit any other person or entity to consolidate with or merge into us in a transaction in which we are not the surviving entity, or

transfer, lease or dispose of all or substantially all of our assets to any other person or entity

unless:

the resulting, surviving or transferee entity shall be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia and such resulting, surviving or transferee entity shall expressly assume, by supplemental indenture, executed and delivered in form satisfactory to the trustee, all of our obligations under the debt securities and the indenture;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction (and treating any indebtedness which becomes an obligation of the resulting, surviving or transferee entity as a result of such transaction as having been incurred by such entity at the time of such transaction), no default or event of default would occur or be continuing; and

we shall have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that such consolidation, merger or transfer and such supplemental indenture (if any) comply with the indenture.

Governing Law

The indenture and the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

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No Personal Liability of Directors, Officers, Employees and Stockholders

No director, officer, incorporator or stockholder of Brooks, as such, shall have any liability for any obligations of Brooks under the debt securities or the indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation, solely by reason of its status as director, officer, incorporator or stockholder of Brooks. By accepting a debt security, each holder waives and releases all such liability, but only such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the debt securities. Nevertheless, such waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it has been the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

Any debt securities offered by Brooks may be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our equity or other securities. The terms and conditions of such conversion or exchange will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms may include, among others, the following:

the conversion or exchange price;

the conversion or exchange period;

provisions regarding our ability or that of the holder to convert or exchange the debt securities;

events requiring adjustment to the conversion or exchange price; and

provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of our redemption of such debt securities.

Concerning the Trustee

The indenture provides that there may be more than one trustee with respect to one or more series of debt securities. If there are different trustees for different series of debt securities, each trustee will be a trustee of a trust under a supplemental indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee under such indenture. Except as otherwise indicated in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, any action permitted to be taken by a trustee may be taken by the trustee only with respect to the one or more series of debt securities for which it is the trustee under an indenture. Any trustee under the indenture or a supplemental indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities. All payments of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, and all registration, transfer, exchange authentication and delivery (including authentication and delivery on original issuance of the debt securities) of, the debt securities of a series will be effected by the trustee with respect to such series at an office designated by the trustee in New York, New York.

The indenture contains limitations on the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of Brooks, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee may engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest relating to any duties with respect to the debt securities it must eliminate the conflict or resign as trustee.

The initial trustee is one of a number of banks with which we and our subsidiaries may maintain ordinary banking relationships and with which we and our subsidiaries may maintain credit facilities.

Limitations on Issuance of Bearer Debt Securities

Debt securities in bearer form are subject to special U.S. federal income tax requirements. Except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. federal income tax regulations, an issuance of debt securities in bearer form may result in adverse tax consequences to us and to the holders of such debt securities if offered, sold, or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a U.S. person. Investors should consult the relevant prospectus supplement in the event that bearer debt securities are issued for special procedures and restrictions that will apply to such an offering.

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PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities being offered pursuant to this prospectus directly to purchasers, to or through underwriters, through dealers or agents, or through a combination of such methods. The prospectus supplement with respect to the securities being offered will set forth the terms of the offering of those securities, including the names of the underwriters, dealers or agents, if any, the purchase price, the net proceeds to us, any underwriting discounts and other items constituting underwriters' compensation, the initial public offering price, any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers and any securities exchanges on which such securities may be listed.

If underwriters are used in an offering, we will execute an underwriting agreement with such underwriters and will specify the name of each underwriter and the terms of the transaction (including any underwriting discounts and other terms constituting compensation of the underwriters and any dealers) in a prospectus supplement. The securities may be offered to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or directly by one or more investment banking firms or others, as designated. If an underwriting syndicate is used, the managing underwriter(s) will be specified on the cover of the prospectus supplement. If underwriters are used in the sale, the offered securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own accounts and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time. Unless otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the offered securities will be subject to conditions precedent and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the offered securities if any are purchased.

We may grant to the underwriters options to purchase additional securities to cover over-allotments, if any, at the public offering price, with additional underwriting commissions or discounts, as may be set forth in a related prospectus supplement. The terms of any over-allotment option will be set forth in the prospectus supplement for those securities.

If any underwriters are involved in the offer and sale, they will be permitted to engage in transactions that maintain or otherwise affect the price of the securities. These transactions may include over-allotment transactions, purchases to cover short positions created by the underwriter in connection with the offering and the imposition of penalty bids. If an underwriter creates a short position in the securities in connection with the offering, i.e., if it sells more securities than set forth on the cover page of the applicable prospectus supplement, the underwriter may reduce that short position by purchasing the securities in the open market. In general, purchases of a security to reduce a short position could cause the price of the security to be higher than it might be in the absence of such purchases. As noted above, underwriters may also choose to impose penalty bids on other underwriters and/or selling group members. This means that if underwriters purchase securities on the open market to reduce their short position or to stabilize the price of the securities, they may reclaim the amount of the selling concession from those underwriters and/or selling group members who sold such securities as part of the offering.

Neither we nor any underwriter make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of such securities. In addition, neither we nor any underwriter make any representation that such underwriter will engage in such transactions or that such transactions, once commenced, will be discontinued without notice.

If dealers are used in an offering, we will sell the securities to the dealers as principals. The dealers then may resell the securities to the public at varying prices which they determine at the time of resale. We may solicit offers to purchase the securities directly and we may sell the securities directly to institutional or other investors, who may be deemed to be an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any resales of those securities. The names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction will be specified in a prospectus supplement.

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The securities may be sold directly by us or through agents we designate from time to time at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. If agents are used in an offering, the names of the agents and the terms of the agency will be specified in a prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, the agents will act on a best-efforts basis for the period of their appointment.

Dealers and agents named in a prospectus supplement may be deemed to be underwriters (within the meaning of the Securities Act) of the securities described therein. In addition, we may sell the securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any resales thereof.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled to indemnification by us against specific civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments which the underwriters or agents may be required to make in respect thereof, under underwriting or other agreements. The terms of any indemnification provisions will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. Certain underwriters, dealers or agents and their associates may engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

If so indicated in a prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by institutional investors to purchase securities pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery on a future date. We may enter contracts with commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutional investors. The obligations of any institutional investor will be subject to those conditions described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The underwriters and other agents will not be responsible for the validity or performance of such contracts. The prospectus supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

Each series of securities will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market (other than our common stock, which is traded on Nasdaq). Any underwriters to whom securities are sold by us for public offering and sale may make a market in the securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. The securities, other than the common stock, may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange or eligible for quotation and trading on Nasdaq or other automated quotation system.

In order to comply with the securities laws of some states, if applicable, the securities offered hereby will be sold in those jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in some states securities may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and complied with.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriter(s), dealer(s) or agents by Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault, LLP, Boston, Massachusetts.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2002 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information filed by us at the SEC's public reference rooms at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can request copies of these documents by writing to the SEC and paying a fee for the copying cost. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about the operation of the public reference rooms. Our SEC filings are also available at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, you can read and copy our SEC filings at the office of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. at 1735 K Street, Washington, D.C. 20006.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act in connection with this prospectus. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement. We have omitted certain parts of the registration statement in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information you should refer to the registration statement. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete and, in each instance, you should refer to the copy of such contract or document filed as an exhibit to or incorporated by reference in the registration statement. Each statement as to the contents of such contract or document is qualified in all respects by such reference. You may obtain copies of the registration statement from the SEC's principal office in Washington, D.C. upon payment of the fees prescribed by the SEC, or you may examine the registration statement without charge at the offices of the SEC described above.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information that 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 an important part of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference in this prospectus the following documents:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, including those portions incorporated by reference therein from our definitive proxy materials on Schedule 14A as filed with the SEC on January 21, 2003;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended December 31, 2002, March 31, 2003, and June 30, 2003;

our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 24, 2003;

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on January 27, 1995;

the description of our preferred share rights that is contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on August 7, 1997; and

the description of our preferred share rights that is contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A/A, filed with the SEC on June 4, 2002.

Current Reports on Form 8-K containing only Regulation FD or Regulation G disclosure furnished under Item 9 or 12 of Form 8-K are not incorporated herein by reference.

All documents and reports filed by us with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than Current Reports on Form 8-K containing only Regulation FD or Regulation G disclosure furnished under Item 9 or 12 of Form 8-K, unless otherwise indicated therein) after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering made hereby shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus 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 prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein or in any prospectus supplement modifies or supersedes such

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statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide, without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated herein by reference other than exhibits, unless such exhibits specifically are incorporated by reference into such documents or this document. Requests for such documents should be addressed in writing or by telephone to:

Brooks Automation, Inc.

15 Elizabeth Drive
Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824
Attention: Investor Relations
(978) 262-5799

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any document to which we have referred you. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with information that is different. This prospectus and any prospectus supplement may be used only where it is legal to sell these securities. The information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is current only as of the date on the front of these documents.

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution**

The following table sets forth the costs and expenses, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, payable by the registrant in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered hereunder.

SEC Registration Fee	\$ 16,180
Nasdaq National Market Listing Fee	\$ 45,000*
Printing Expenses	\$ 25,000*
Trustee Fees and Expenses	\$ 10,000*
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$ 10,500*
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$ 50,000*
Miscellaneous	\$ 20,000*
Total	\$ 176,680*

* Estimated pursuant to Item 511 of Regulation S-K

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Article 9 of the registrant's Certificate of Incorporation eliminates the personal liability of directors to the registrant or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty to the extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law. Article VII of the registrant's Bylaws provides that the registrant shall indemnify its officers and directors to the extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law. Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law authorizes a corporation to indemnify directors, officers, employees or agents of the corporation if such party acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the corporation and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reason to believe his conduct was unlawful, as determined in accordance with the Delaware General Corporation Law. Section 145 further provides that indemnification shall be provided with respect to reimbursement of expenses incurred in defending any action, suit or proceeding if the party in question is successful on the merits or otherwise. The registrant has also entered into indemnification agreements with each of its directors. The indemnification agreements are intended to provide the maximum protection permitted by Delaware law with respect to indemnification of directors. The registrant may also enter into similar agreements with certain of its officers who are not also directors. The effect of these provisions is to permit indemnification by the registrant for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The registrant also maintains directors and officers liability insurance.

Item 16. Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Title	Reference
1.01	Form of Underwriting Agreement.	Filed herewith
2.01	Agreement and Plan of Merger dated September 21, 1998 relating to the combination of FASTech Integration, Inc. with the Company.	A*
2.02	Stock for Cash Purchase Agreement dated March 31, 1999 relating to the acquisition of Hanyon Tech. Co., Ltd. by the Company.	B*
2.03	Assets for Cash Purchase Agreement dated June 23, 1999 relating to the acquisition of substantially all the assets of Domain Manufacturing Corporation and its Subsidiary Domain Manufacturing SARL by the Company.	C*

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Exhibit Number	Title	Reference
2.04	Agreement and Plan of Merger dated July 7, 1999 relating to the combination of Smart Machines Inc. with the Company.	D*
2.05	Master Purchase Agreement dated September 9, 1999 relating to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of the Infab Division of Jenoptik by the Company.	E*
2.06	Agreement and Plan of Merger dated January 6, 2000 relating to the combination of AutoSimulations, Inc. and Auto-Soft Corporation with the Company.	F*
2.07	Interests for Stock Purchase Agreement dated May 5, 2000 relating to the acquisition of Irvine Optical Company LLC by the Company, as amended.	G*
2.08	Stock Purchase Agreement dated as of February 16, 2001 relating to the acquisition of SEMY Engineering, Inc. by the Company.	H*
2.09	Asset Purchase Agreement dated June 26, 2001 relating to the acquisition of assets of the e-diagnostic infrastructure of KLA-Tencor Corporation and its subsidiary KLA-Tencor Technologies Corporation.	I*
2.10	Agreement and Plan of Merger dated June 27, 2001 relating to the combination of Progressive Technologies Inc. with the Company.	J*
2.11	Asset Purchase Agreement dated October 5, 2001 relating to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of General Precision, Inc. and GPI-Mostek, Inc. by the Company.	K*
2.12	Share Purchase Agreement dated October 9, 2001 relating to the acquisition of Tec-Sem AG by the Company.	L*
2.13	Amended and Restated Agreement and Plan of Merger relating to the acquisition of PRI Automation, Inc. by the Company.	M*
2.14	Combination Agreement dated as of November 24, 1998 between PRI Automation, Inc., 1325949 Ontario Inc. and Promis Systems Corporation Ltd.	N*
2.15	Share Sale-, Purchase- and Transfer Agreement dated July 3, 2002 relating to the acquisition of Hermos Informatik GmbH.	O*
4.01	Specimen Certificate for shares of the Company's common stock.	P*
4.02	Description of Capital Stock (contained in the Certificate of Incorporation of the Company).	Q*
4.03	Rights Agreement dated July 23, 1997.	R*
4.04	Amendment No. 1 to Rights Agreement between the Company and Bank Boston, N.A. as Rights Agent.	S*
4.05	Registration Rights Agreement dated January 6, 2000.	S*
4.06	Shareholder Agreement dated January 6, 2000 by and among the Company, Daifuku America Corporation and Daifuku Co., Ltd. relating to the acquisition of the businesses of Auto-Soft Corporation and AutoSimulations, Inc. from Daifuku America Corporation by the Company.	F*
4.07	Stockholder Agreement dated September 30, 1999 by and among the Company, Jenoptik AG, M+W Zander Holding GmbH and Robert J. Therrien relating to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of the Infab Division of Jenoptik AG by the Company.	E*
4.08	Indenture dated as of May 23, 2001 between the Company and State Street Bank and Trust Company (as Trustee).	T*

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Exhibit Number	Title	Reference
4.09	Registration Rights Agreement dated May 23, 2001 among the Company and Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation and SG Cowen Securities Corporation (as representatives of several purchasers).	T*
4.10	Form of 4.75% Convertible Subordinated Note of the Company in the principal amount of \$175,000,000 dated as of May 23, 2001.	T*
4.11	Stock Purchase Agreement dated June 20, 2001 relating to the acquisition of CCS Technology, Inc. by the Company.	U*
4.12	Asset Purchase Agreement dated February 15, 2002 relating to the Agreement dated February 15, 2002 relating to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Intelligent Automation Systems, Inc. and IAS Products, Inc. by the Company.	V*
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4.14	Asset Purchase Agreement by and among Brooks Automation, Inc., NexStar Corporation and Zygo Corporation dated December 13, 2001.	X*
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4.16	Certificate of Designation of Special Voting Preferred Stock	Z*
4.17	Form of Indenture between the Company and U.S. Bank, as trustee relating to the issuance from time to time in one or more series of debentures, notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness.	Filed herewith
4.18	Form of Debt Security.	**
4.19	Form of Debt.	**
4.20	Form of Certificate of Designation for the Preferred Stock (together with Preferred Stock Certificate).	**
5.01	Opinion of Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP.	Filed herewith
12.01	Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges.	Filed herewith
23.01	Consent of Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP (contained in Exhibit 5.01).	Filed herewith
23.02	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (Independent accountants for the Company).	Filed herewith
24.01	Power of Attorney (included on signature page of this registration statement).	Filed herewith
25.01	Statement of Eligibility on Form T-1 under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, of U.S. Bank, as trustee under the Indenture.	Filed herewith

A. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-4 (Registration No. 333-64037) filed on September 23, 1998.

B. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 1999.

C. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on July 14, 1999.

D. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on September 15, 1999, and amended on September 29, 2000.

E. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on October 15, 1999.

F. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on January 19, 2000 and amended on February 14, 2000.

G. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-42620) filed on July 31, 2000.

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- H. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on March 1, 2001.
- I. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on July 9, 2001.
- J. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on July 24, 2001.
- K. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on October 19, 2001 as amended on April 4, 2002.
- L. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on October 22, 2001.
- M. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-4 (Registration No. 333-75490) filed on April 4, 2002.
- N. Incorporated by reference to PRI Automation, Inc.'s registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-69721) filed on December 24, 1998.
- O. Incorporated by reference to Company's current reports on Form 8-K filed on July 30, 2002.
- P. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-88320) filed May 15, 2002.
- Q. Incorporated by reference to the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed on May 15, 2000 for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2000.
- R. Incorporated by reference to Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on August 7, 1997.
- S. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form 10-K filed for the annual period ended September 30, 2001.
- T. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on May 29, 2001.
- U. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-67432) filed on August 13, 2001.
- V. Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed on March 1, 2002.
- W. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form 8-A/ A filed on June 4, 2002.
- X. Incorporated by reference to the Company's annual report on Form 10-K filed December 13, 2001 for the annual period ended September 30, 2001, as amended on April 2002.
- Y. Incorporated by reference to PRI Automation, Inc.'s annual report on Form 10-K filed on December 30, 2000 for the annual period ended September 30, 2000.
- Z. Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-87194) filed on May 13, 2002.

* In accordance with Rule 411 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, reference is made to the documents previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which documents are hereby incorporated by reference.

** To be subsequently filed by an amendment to the registration statement or by a Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 17. Undertakings

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant, pursuant to Item 15 above or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933, and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate

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jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

The undersigned registrant hereby further undertakes:

(1) 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 of 1933; (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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in this registration statement; and (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 such clauses is contained in periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated herein by reference.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, 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.

(3) 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.

(4) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 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.

(5) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(6) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus 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.

(7) To file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Act.

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement on Form S-3 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Chelmsford, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the 6th day of October, 2003.

BROOKS AUTOMATION, INC.

BY: /s/ ROBERT J. THERRIEN

Robert J. Therrien,
Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Robert J. Therrien and Robert W. Woodbury, and each of them, with the power to act without the other, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution for him or in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign any and all amendments or post-effective amendments to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, and in connection with any registration of additional securities pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, to sign any abbreviated registration statements and any and all amendments thereto, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, in each case, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or their or his substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
<hr/> /s/ ROBERT J. THERRIEN <hr/>	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director	October 6, 2003
Robert J. Therrien		
<hr/> /s/ EDWARD C. GRADY <hr/>	President, Chief Operating Officer and Director	October 6, 2003
Edward C. Grady		
<hr/> /s/ ROBERT W. WOODBURY <hr/>	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	October 6, 2003
Robert W. Woodbury		
<hr/> /s/ ROGER D. EMERICK <hr/>	Director	October 7, 2003
Roger D. Emerick		

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Signature	Title	Date
<hr/> /s/ AMIN J. KHOURY <hr/> Amin J. Khoury	Director	October 7, 2003
<hr/> /s/ JUERGEN GIESSMANN <hr/> Juergen Giessmann	Director	October 7, 2003
<hr/> /s/ JOSEPH R. MARTIN <hr/> Joseph R. Martin	Director	October 6, 2003

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