

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

CONMED CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

New York
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)
16-0977505
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

525 French Road
Utica, New York 13502-5994
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan
(Full Title of the Plan)

Daniel S. Jonas, Esq.
CONMED Corporation
525 French Road
Utica, New York 13502-5994
(315) 797-8375
(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Agent for Service)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated filer
Smaller reporting company

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share(2)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share, issued under CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan	1,000,000	\$21.54	\$21,540,000	\$1,201.94

- (1) This Registration Statement also relates to an indeterminate number of additional shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to anti-dilution and adjustment provisions of the CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- (2) Calculated solely for the purpose of determining the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h) based upon the average of the high and low prices reported on the Nasdaq Stock Market on October 29, 2009, \$21.54 per share.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(A) PROSPECTUS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As permitted by Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this registration statement omits the information specified in Part I of Form S-8. The documents containing the information specified in Part I will be delivered to the participants in the plans covered by this registration statement as required by Rule 428(b). Such documents are not being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") as part of this registration statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 of the Securities Act.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents By Reference

The following documents filed by CONMED Corporation (the "Registrant"), pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") (File No. 0-16093), are hereby incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement:

- (a) The annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008;
- (b) The quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2009, June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2009; and
- (c) The description of the Registrant's Common Stock which is contained in its Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed on August 5, 1987 pursuant to the Exchange Act.

All documents filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this Registration Statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein (or in any other subsequently filed document which also is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein) modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

The validity of the Common Stock registered hereby, shares of which are issuable by the Registrant pursuant to the CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan, is being passed on by Daniel S. Jonas, Vice President-Legal Affairs and General Counsel of the Registrant, who as an executive officer of the Registrant is a beneficiary under the CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Section 722 of the New York Business Corporation Law (the "BCL") provides that a corporation may indemnify an officer or director, in the case of third party actions, against judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses and, in the case of derivative actions, against amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, if the director or officer "acted, in good faith, for a purpose which he reasonably believed to be in . . . the best interests of the corporation" and, in the case of criminal actions, in addition, "had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful." Statutory indemnification may not be provided in derivative actions in respect of a threatened action, or a pending action which is settled or otherwise disposed of, or any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation, unless and only to the extent that the court in which the action was brought, or, if no action was brought, any court of competent jurisdiction,

determines upon application that, in view of all the circumstances of the case, the person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such portion of the settlement and expenses as the court deems proper.

As contemplated by BCL Section 721, the Registrant's By-laws, as amended on December 26, 1990, provide a broader basis for indemnification in accordance with and as permitted by BCL Article 7.

Section 6.6 of the By-Laws of the Registrant (referred to in the By-Laws as the "Corporation") provides as follows:

"Section 6.6. Indemnification. The Corporation shall indemnify each person made or threatened to be made a party to any action or proceeding, whether civil or criminal, by reason of the fact that such person or such person's testator or intestate is or was a director or officer of the Corporation, or serves or served at the request of the Corporation, any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise in any capacity, against judgments, fines, penalties, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with such action or proceeding, or any appeal therein, provided that no such indemnification shall be made if a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to such person establishes that his or her acts were committed in bad faith or were the result of active and deliberate dishonesty and were material to the cause of action so adjudicated, or that he or she personally gained in fact a financial profit or other advantage to which he or she was not legally entitled, and provided further that no such indemnification shall be required with respect to any settlement or other nonadjudicated disposition of any threatened or pending action or proceeding unless the Corporation has given its prior consent to such settlement or other disposition.

The Corporation may advance or promptly reimburse upon request any person entitled to indemnification hereunder for all expenses, including attorneys' fees, reasonably incurred in defending any action or proceeding in advance of the final disposition thereof upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amount if such person is ultimately found not to be entitled to indemnification or, where indemnification is granted, to the extent the expenses so advanced or reimbursed exceed the amount to which such person is entitled, provided, however, that such person shall cooperate in good faith with any request by the Corporation that common counsel be utilized by the parties to an action or proceeding who are similarly situated unless to do so would be inappropriate due to actual or potential differing interests between or among such parties.

Anything in these by-laws to the contrary notwithstanding, no elimination of this by-law, and no amendment of this by-law adversely affecting the right of any person to indemnification or advancement of expenses hereunder shall be effective until the 60th day following notice to such person of such action, and no elimination of or amendment to this by-law shall deprive any person of his or her rights hereunder arising out of alleged or actual occurrences, acts or failures to act prior to such 60th day.

The Corporation shall not, except by elimination or amendment of this by-law in a manner consistent with the preceding paragraph, take any corporate action or enter into any agreement which prohibits, or otherwise limits the rights of any person to, indemnification in accordance with the provisions of this by-law. The indemnification of any person provided by this by-law shall continue after such person has ceased to be a director, officer or employee of the Corporation and shall inure to the benefit of such person's heirs, executors, administrators and legal representatives.

The Corporation is authorized to enter into agreements with any of its directors, officers or employees extending rights to indemnification and advancement of expenses to such person to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law as it currently exists, but the failure to enter into any such agreement, shall not affect or limit the rights of such person pursuant to this by-law, it being expressly recognized hereby that all directors, officers and employees of the Corporation, by serving as such after the adoption hereof, are acting in reliance hereon and that the Corporation is estopped to contend otherwise.

In case any provision in this by-law shall be determined at any time to be unenforceable in any respect, the other provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby, and the affected provision shall be given the fullest possible enforcement in the circumstances, it being the intention of the

Corporation to afford indemnification and advancement of expenses to its directors, officers and employees, acting in such capacities or in the other capacities mentioned herein, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

For purposes of this by-law, the Corporation shall be deemed to have requested a person to serve an employee benefit plan where the performance by such person of his or her duties to the Corporation also imposes duties on, or otherwise involves services by, such person to the plan or participants or beneficiaries of the plan, and excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to an employee benefit plan pursuant to applicable law shall be considered indemnifiable expenses. For purposes of this by-law, the term "Corporation" shall include any legal successor to the Corporation, including any corporation which acquires all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation in one or more transactions."

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits

Exhibit

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.1	Amended and Restated By-Laws -- incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2007.
4.2	1999 Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of CONMED Corporation -- incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999.
4.3	Composite Version of the CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan.
5	Opinion of Daniel S. Jonas, Vice President-Legal Affairs & General Counsel of CONMED Corporation, with respect to the securities being registered hereunder.
23.1	Consent of Daniel S. Jonas (included in the opinion filed as Exhibit 5 hereto).
23.2	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
24	Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page of the Registration Statement).

Item 9. Undertakings

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement 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;

(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; and

(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.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes 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.

(c) 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 the foregoing provisions, 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 insurance and 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 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.

SIGNATURES OF CONMED CORPORATION

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Utica, State of New York on this 30th day of October, 2009.

CONMED Corporation

By: /s/ Daniel S. Jonas, Esq.

Name: Daniel S. Jonas, Esq.
Title: Vice President-Legal Affairs &
General Counsel

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that each individual whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Daniel S. Jonas his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent with full power of substitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto, and all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and 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 attorney-in-fact and agent or his substitute or 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 indicated capacities on this 30th day of October, 2009.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ Eugene R. Corasanti</u> Eugene R. Corasanti	Chairman of the Board of Directors
<u>/s/ Joseph J. Corasanti</u> Joseph J. Corasanti	President, Chief Executive and Director
<u>/s/ Robert D. Shallish</u> Robert D. Shallish	Vice President - Finance and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)
<u>/s/ Luke A. Pomilio</u> Luke A. Pomilio	Vice President - Corporate Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)
<u>/s/ Bruce F. Daniels</u> Bruce F. Daniels	Director
<u>/s/ Jo Ann Golden</u> Jo Ann Golden	Director
<u>/s/ Stephen M. Mandia</u> Stephen M. Mandia	Director
<u>/s/ Stuart J. Schwartz</u> Stuart J. Schwartz	Director
<u>/s/ Mark E. Tryniski</u> Mark E. Tryniski	Director

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**CONMED CORPORATION
AMENDED AND RESTATED 1999 LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN**

Article 1. PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan of CONMED Corporation (the “Plan”) is to promote the long term financial interests of CONMED Corporation (the “Company”), including its growth and performance, by encouraging employees of the Company and its subsidiaries and consultants who provide important services to the Company and its subsidiaries to acquire an ownership position in the Company, enhancing the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries to attract and retain employees and consultants of outstanding ability, and providing employees and consultants with an interest in the Company parallel to that of the Company’s stockholders. To achieve these purposes, the Company may grant Awards of options, restricted shares, restricted share units, stock appreciation rights, performance shares, performance share units and other equity-based awards to key employees and consultants selected by the Compensation Committee, all in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Plan.

The Plan was originally adopted by the Board of Directors of CONMED Corporation on March 3, 1999 as The CONMED Corporation 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan, and was approved by the stockholders of CONMED Corporation on May 18, 1999. The Plan expired on December 31, 2008, and was further amended and restated effective as of February 24, 2009.

The amendments made to the Plan shall affect only Awards granted on or after the “Effective Date” (as hereinafter defined). Awards granted prior to the Effective Date shall be governed by the terms of the Plan and Award Agreements as in effect prior to the Effective Date. The terms of the Amended and Restated Plan are not intended to affect the interpretation of the terms of the Plan as they existed prior to the Effective Date.

Article 2. DEFINITIONS. The following definitions are applicable to the Plan:

- 2.1 “Award” shall mean an award determined in accordance with the terms of the Plan.
- 2.2 “Award Agreement” shall mean the agreement evidencing an Award as described in Section 12.1 of the Plan.
- 2.3 “Board of Directors” shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.
- 2.4 “Committee” shall mean the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, or such other committee of the Board as the Board may select from time to time to administer the Plan pursuant to Section 4. The Committee shall be composed of not less than two directors of the Company. The Board of Directors may also appoint one or more directors as alternate members of the Committee. No officer or employee of the Company or of any subsidiary shall be a member or alternate member of the Committee. The Committee shall at all times be comprised solely of “outside directors” within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code and in such a manner as to satisfy the “non-employee” director standard contained in Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act.
- 2.5 “Common Stock” shall mean the common stock, par value \$.01 per share, of the Company.
- 2.6 “Covered Employee” means, at the time of an Award (or such other time as required or permitted by Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code) (i) the Company’s Chief Executive Officer (or an individual acting in such capacity), (ii) any employee of the Company or its subsidiaries who, in the discretion of the

Committee for purposes of determining those employees who are “covered employees” under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, is likely to be among the four other highest compensated officers of the Company for the year in which an Award is made or payable, and (iii) any other employee of the Company or its subsidiaries designated by the Committee in its discretion.

- 2.7 “Effective Date” means the date the Plan is approved by the stockholders of CONMED Corporation.
- 2.8 “Exchange Act” shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- 2.9 “Fair Market Value” shall mean, per share of Common Stock, the closing price of the Common Stock on the Nasdaq Stock Market or, if applicable, principal securities exchange on which the shares of Common Stock are then traded, or, if not traded, the price set by the Committee.
- 2.10 “Internal Revenue Code” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- 2.11 “Participant” shall mean an employee of the Company or any subsidiary or a consultant who is party to a consulting agreement with the Company or any subsidiary, in each case who is selected by the Committee to participate in the Plan.

Article 3. SHARES SUBJECT TO THE PLAN.

- 3.1 Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 17 of the Plan, the number of shares of Common Stock which shall be available for the grant of Awards under the Plan shall be equal to the number of shares available for grant under the 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan, plus an additional 1,000,000 shares. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, in no event shall more than 600,000 shares of Common Stock (subject to adjustment as provided in Section 17 of this Plan) be available in the aggregate for the issuance of Common Stock pursuant to performance shares, performance share units, restricted shares, restricted share units and other equity-based awards granted under the Plan. The shares of Common Stock issued under the Plan may be authorized and unissued shares, treasury shares or shares acquired in the open market specifically for distribution under the Plan, as the Company may from time to time determine. The maximum number of shares with respect to which stock options or stock appreciation rights may be granted to an individual in any calendar year is 200,000 shares of Common Stock. The maximum number of shares of Common Stock with respect to which restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares performance share units or other equity-based awards that, in each case, are intended to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code may be granted to an individual grantee in any calendar year is 200,000 shares of Common Stock (or, to the extent that such Award is paid in cash, the maximum dollar amount of any such Award is the equivalent cash value of such number of shares of Common Stock at the closing price on the last trading day of the performance period), subject to adjustment pursuant to Section 17. For purposes of the immediately preceding sentence, “trading day” shall mean a day in which the shares of Common Stock are traded on the Nasdaq Stock Market or, if applicable, the principal securities exchange on which the shares of Common Stock are then traded.
- 3.2 If any Award under the Plan, in whole or in part, expires unexercised, is forfeited or otherwise terminates or is canceled without the delivery of shares of Common Stock, if shares of Common Stock are surrendered or withheld from any Award to satisfy a Participant’s income tax or other withholding obligations, or if shares of Common Stock owned by the Participant are tendered to pay for the exercise of a stock option under the Plan, then those shares covered by such expired, forfeited, terminated or canceled Awards or the number of shares equal to the number of shares surrendered or withheld in respect thereof shall again become available to be delivered pursuant to Awards granted under the Plan. Any shares of Common Stock (a) delivered by the Company, (b) with respect to which Awards are made by the Company and (c) with respect to which the Company becomes obligated to make Awards, in each case through the assumption of, or in substitution for, outstanding awards previously granted by an acquired entity, shall not be counted against the shares of Common Stock available for Awards under this Plan. Shares of Common Stock which may be delivered pursuant to Awards may be authorized but unissued Common Stock or authorized and issued Common Stock held in the Company’s treasury or otherwise acquired for the purposes of the Plan.

Article 4. ADMINISTRATION.

- 4.1 The Plan shall be administered by the Committee. A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, and the acts of a majority shall be the acts of the Committee. Any determination of the Committee may be made, without a meeting, by a writing or writings signed by all of the members of the Committee. In addition, the Committee may authorize any one or more of their number or any officer of the Company to execute and deliver documents on behalf of the Committee and the Committee may delegate to one or more employees, agents or officers of the Company, or to one or more third party consultants, accountants, lawyers or other advisors, such ministerial duties related to the operation of the Plan as it may deem appropriate.
- 4.2 Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Committee (or its delegate, within limits established by the Committee, with respect to non-Covered Employees and employees who are not subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act) shall have the authority in its sole discretion to (i) exercise all of the powers granted to it under the Plan (including but not limited to, selection of the Participants, determination of the type, size and terms of Awards to be made to Participants, determination of the shares, share units or other equity-based awards subject to Awards, the restrictions, conditions and contingencies to be applicable in the case of specific Awards, and the time or times at which Awards shall be exercisable or at which restrictions, conditions and contingencies shall lapse), (ii) construe, interpret, and implement the Plan and all Award Agreements, (iii) establish, prescribe, amend and rescind any rules and regulations relating to the Plan, including rules governing its own operations, (iv) determine the terms and provisions of any agreements entered into hereunder, (v) make all other determinations necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan, (vi) correct any defect, supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan or in any Award in the manner and to the extent it shall deem desirable to carry it into effect, (vii) amend any outstanding Award Agreement to accelerate the time or times at which the Award becomes vested, unrestricted or may be exercised, or, to the extent permitted under applicable tax laws, to waive or amend any goals, restrictions or conditions set forth in such Award Agreement, or reflect a change in the grantee's circumstances (e.g., a change to part time employment status) and (viii) determine whether, to what extent and under what circumstances and method or methods (1) Awards may be (A) settled in cash, shares of Common Stock, other securities, other Awards or other property, (B) exercised or (C) canceled, forfeited or suspended (including, without limitation, canceling underwater options without payment to the grantee), (2) shares of Common Stock, other securities, other Awards or other property and other amounts payable with respect to an Award may be deferred either automatically or at the election of the grantee thereof or of the Committee and (3) Awards may be settled by the Company, any of its subsidiaries or affiliates or any of its or their designees. Other than as provided in Section 17, the Committee shall not be permitted to reduce the exercise price of an Option (or reduce the reference price of a stock appreciation right) after such Award has been granted).
- 4.3 Actions of the Committee may be taken by the vote of a majority of its members present at a meeting (which may be held telephonically). Any action may be taken by a written instrument signed by a majority of the Committee members, and action so taken shall be fully as effective as if it had been taken by a vote at a meeting. The determination of the Committee on all matters relating to the Plan or any Award Agreement shall be final, binding and conclusive. The Committee may allocate among its members and delegate to any person who is not a member of the Committee any of its administrative responsibilities.
- 4.4 No Liability. No member of the Board of Directors or the Committee or any employee of the Company or its subsidiaries or affiliates (each such person, a "Covered Person") shall have any liability to any person (including any grantee) for any action taken or omitted to be taken or any determination made in good faith with respect to the Plan or any Award. Each Covered Person shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Company against and from (a) any loss, cost, liability or expense (including attorneys' fees) that may be imposed upon or incurred by such Covered Person in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding to which such Covered Person may be a party or in which such Covered Person may be involved by reason of any action taken or omitted to be taken under the Plan or any Award Agreement and (b) any and all amounts paid by such Covered Person, with the Company's approval, in settlement thereof, or paid by such Covered Person in satisfaction of any judgment in any such action, suit or proceeding against such Covered Person, provided that the Company shall have the right, at its own expense, to assume and defend

any such action, suit or proceeding and, once the Company gives notice of its intent to assume the defense, the Company shall have sole control over such defense with counsel of the Company's choice. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be available to a Covered Person to the extent that a court of competent jurisdiction in a final judgment or other final adjudication, in either case not subject to further appeal, determines that the acts or omissions of such Covered Person giving rise to the indemnification claim resulted from such Covered Person's bad faith, fraud or willful criminal act or omission. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights of indemnification to which Covered Persons may be entitled under the Company's Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws, as a matter of law, or otherwise, or any other power that the Company may have to indemnify such persons or hold them harmless.

Article 5. ELIGIBILITY. All employees of the Company and its subsidiaries and consultants who are parties to consultancy agreements with the Company or any subsidiary, in each case who have demonstrated significant management potential or who have the capacity for contributing in a substantial measure to the successful performance of the Company, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion, are eligible to be Participants in the Plan. In addition, the Committee may from time to time deem other employees of the Company or its subsidiaries or consultants eligible to participate in the Plan to receive awards of nonstatutory stock options. The granting of any Award to a Participant shall not entitle that Participant to, nor disqualify that Participant from, participation in any other grant of an Award.

Article 6. AWARDS. Awards under the Plan may consist of: (i) stock options (either incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code or nonstatutory stock options), (ii) performance shares, (iii) performance share units, (iii) stock appreciation rights, (iv) restricted shares, (v) restricted share units and (vi) other equity-based Awards which the Committee determines to be consistent with the purpose of the Plan and the interests of the Company. Awards of performance shares, performance share units, restricted shares, restricted share units and other equity-based awards may provide the Participant with dividends or dividend equivalents and voting rights prior to vesting (whether based on a period of time or based on attainment of specified performance conditions); provided, however, that such dividends or dividend equivalents shall be paid or provided in a manner compliant with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code ("Section 409A").

Article 7. STOCK OPTIONS. The Award Agreement pursuant to which any incentive stock option is granted shall specify that the option granted thereby shall be treated as an incentive stock option. The Award Agreement pursuant to which any nonstatutory stock option is granted shall specify that the option granted thereby shall not be treated as an incentive stock option. The Committee shall establish the option price at the time each stock option is granted, which price shall not be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of the Common Stock on the date of grant. Stock options shall be exercisable for such period as specified by the Committee, but in no event may options be exercisable for a period of more than ten years after their date of grant. The option price of each share as to which a stock option is exercised shall be paid in full at the time of such exercise. Such payment shall be made in cash, by tender of shares of Common Stock owned by the Participant valued at Fair Market Value as of the date of exercise, subject to such guidelines for the tender of Common Stock as the Committee may establish, in such other consideration as the Committee deems appropriate, or by a combination of cash, shares of Common Stock and such other consideration. The Committee, in its sole discretion, may grant to a Participant the right to transfer Common Stock acquired upon the exercise of a part of a stock option in payment of the exercise price payable upon immediate exercise of a further part of the stock option.

Article 8. PERFORMANCE AWARDS.

8.1 Performance Shares and Performance Share Units. Performance shares may be granted in the form of actual shares of Common Stock or as performance share units having a value equal to an identical number of shares of Common Stock. In the event that a stock certificate is issued in respect of performance shares, such certificate shall be registered in the name of the Participant but shall be held by the Company until the time the performance shares are earned. The performance conditions and the length of the performance period shall be determined by the Committee in accordance with Section 8.2 below, and shall be reflected in the Award Agreement pursuant to which the performance shares or performance share units are granted. The

Committee shall determine in its sole discretion whether performance share units shall be paid in cash, Common Stock, or a combination of cash and Common Stock.

- 8.2 **Performance Goals.** The Committee may establish performance goals with respect to any Award using one or more of the following objectives: (a) market share (including, without limitation, the market share of trading volume in certain types of securities), (b) earnings, (c) earnings per share, (d) operating profit, (e) operating margin, (f) return on equity, (g) return on assets, (h) total return to stockholders, (i) technology improvements, (j) return on investment capital, (k) revenue growth, (l) cash flow, (m) reliability, (n) revenue growth (o) quality objectives and (p) such other objectives or performance measures as the Committee may select. In addition, Awards may be subject to comparisons of the performance of other companies, such performance to be measured by one or more of the foregoing business criteria. If an Award of performance shares or performance share units is made on such basis, the Committee shall establish the relevant performance conditions within 90 days after the commencement of the performance period (or such later date as may be required or permitted by Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code). The Committee may, in its discretion, reduce or eliminate the amount of payment with respect to an Award of performance shares or performance share units to a Covered Employee, notwithstanding the achievement of a specified performance condition. An Award of performance shares or performance share units to a Participant who is a Covered Employee shall (unless the Committee determines otherwise) provide that in the event of the Participant's termination of employment prior to the end of the performance period for any reason, such Award will be payable only (A) if the applicable performance conditions are achieved and (B) to the extent, if any, as the Committee shall determine.

Article 9. STOCK APPRECIATION RIGHTS. Stock Appreciation Rights ("SARs") may be granted either alone or in connection with a stock option, as the Committee determines and as reflected in the Award Agreement pursuant to which such SAR is granted. A SAR granted in connection with an incentive stock option may be granted only when the incentive stock option is granted. A SAR granted in connection with a nonstatutory stock option may be granted either when the related nonstatutory stock option is granted or at any time thereafter, including, in the case of any nonstatutory stock option resulting from the conversion of an incentive stock option to a nonstatutory stock option, simultaneously with or after the conversion. A Participant electing to exercise a SAR shall deliver written notice to the Company of the election identifying the SAR and, if applicable, the related option with respect to which the SAR was granted to the Participant, and specifying the number of whole shares of Common Stock with respect to which the Participant is exercising the SAR. Upon exercise of the SAR, if applicable, the related option shall be deemed to be surrendered to the extent that the SAR is exercised. SARs may be exercised only (i) on a date when the Fair Market Value of a share Common Stock exceeds the exercise price stated in the Award Agreement or, if applicable, the Award Agreement for the stock option related to that SAR and (ii) in compliance with any restrictions that may be set forth in the Award Agreement pursuant to which the SAR was granted. The amount payable upon exercise of a SAR may be paid by the Company in cash, or, if the Committee shall determine in its sole discretion, in shares of Common Stock (taken at their Fair Market Value at the time of exercise of the SAR) or in a combination of cash and shares of Common Stock; provided, however, that if the SAR is granted in connection with a stock option, in no event shall the total number of shares of Common Stock that may be paid to a Participant pursuant to the exercise of a SAR exceed the total number of shares of Common Stock subject to the related stock option. A SAR shall terminate and may no longer be exercised upon the first to occur of (a) if applicable, exercise or termination of the related stock option or (b) any termination date specified in the Award Agreement pursuant to which the SAR is granted. In addition, the Committee may, in its sole discretion at any time before the occurrence of a Change of Control, amend, suspend or terminate any SAR theretofore granted under the Plan without the holder's consent; provided that, in the case of amendment, no provision of the SAR, as amended, shall be in conflict with any provision of the Plan. If the SAR is granted in connection with a stock option, the amendment, suspension or termination of any such SAR by the Committee as described in the immediately preceding sentence shall not affect the holder's rights in any related stock option.

Article 10. RESTRICTED SHARES and RESTRICTED SHARE UNITS. Restricted stock may be granted in the form of actual shares of Common Stock or restricted share units having a value equal to an identical number of shares of Common Stock. In the event that a stock certificate is issued in respect of

restricted stock, such certificate shall be registered in the name of the Participant but shall be held by the Company until the end of the restricted period. The employment conditions and the length of the period for vesting of restricted stock or restricted stock units shall be reflected in the Award Agreement pursuant to which such restricted stock or restricted share units are granted. The Committee shall determine in its sole discretion whether restricted share units shall be paid in cash, Common Stock, or a combination of cash and Common Stock.

Article 11. OTHER EQUITY-BASED AWARDS. The Committee may grant other types of equity-based Awards (including the grant or offer for sale of unrestricted shares of Common Stock and performance shares) in such amounts and subject to such terms and conditions, as the Committee shall determine. Such Awards may entail the transfer of actual shares of Common Stock to Plan participants, or payment in cash or otherwise of amounts based on the value of shares of Common Stock. The terms of such other equity-based awards shall be reflected in Award Agreement pursuant to which such other equity-based award is granted.

Article 12. AWARDS UNDER THE PLAN

12.1 Award Agreements. Each Award under the Plan shall be evidenced by an agreement setting forth the terms and conditions, as determined by the Committee, which shall apply to such Award, in addition to the terms and conditions specified in the Plan. The Committee may grant Awards in tandem with or in substitution for any other Award or Awards granted under this Plan or any award granted under any other plan of the Company. By accepting an Award pursuant to the Plan, a grantee thereby agrees that the Award shall be subject to all of the terms and provisions of the Plan and the applicable Award Agreement.

12.2 Rights as a Stockholder. The Award Agreement shall specify whether (and under what circumstances) the grantee of an Award (or other person having rights pursuant to an Award) shall have any of the rights of a stockholder of the Company with respect to shares of Common Stock subject to an Award. Except as otherwise provided in Section 17, no adjustments shall be made for dividends or distributions (whether ordinary or extraordinary, and whether in cash, Common Stock, other securities or other property) on, or other events relating to, shares of Common Stock subject to an Award for which the record date is prior to the date such shares are delivered.

Article 13. CHANGE IN CONTROL.

13.1 In the event of a Change in Control, as hereinafter defined, (i) the restrictions applicable to all shares of restricted stock and restricted share units shall lapse and such shares and share units shall be deemed fully vested, (ii) all restricted stock granted in the form of share units shall be paid in cash, (iii) all performance shares granted in the form of shares of Common Stock or performance share units shall be deemed to be earned in full, (iv) all performance shares granted in the form of share units shall be paid in cash, and (v) each a stock option and SAR that is not exercisable in full shall be deemed fully vested. The amount of any cash payment in respect of a restricted share unit or performance share unit shall be equal to: (A) in the event the Change in Control is the result of a tender offer or exchange offer for Common Stock, the final offer price per share paid for the Common Stock or (B) in the event the Change in Control is the result of any other occurrence, the aggregate per share value of Common Stock as determined by the Committee at such time. The Committee may, in its discretion, include such further provisions and limitations in any agreement documenting such Awards as it may deem equitable and in the best interests of the Company.

13.2 A "Change in Control" shall mean the occurrence of any one of the following events: (i) any "person" (as such term is defined in Section 3(a)(9) of the Exchange Act and as used in Sections 13(d)(3) and 14(d)(2) of the Exchange Act) is or becomes a "beneficial owner" (as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing 25% or more of the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities eligible to vote for the election of the Board of Directors (the "Company Voting Securities"); provided, however, that the event described in this paragraph (i) shall not be deemed to be a Change in Control by virtue of any of the following acquisitions: (A) by the Company or any of its subsidiaries, (B) by any employee benefit plan sponsored or maintained by the Company or any of its subsidiaries, (C) by any underwriter temporarily holding securities pursuant to an offering of such securities,

or (D) pursuant to a Non-Control Transaction (as defined in clause (iii) below), (ii) during any period of not more than two years, individuals who constitute the Board of Directors of the Company as of the beginning of the period (the “Incumbent Directors”) cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the Board of Directors, provided that any person becoming a director subsequent to the beginning of the period; whose election or nomination for election was approved by a vote (either by a specific vote or by approval of the proxy statement of the Company in which such person is named as a nominee for director, without objection to such nomination) of at least three-quarters of the Incumbent Directors who remain on the Board of Directors, including those directors whose election or nomination for election was previously so approved, shall also be deemed to be an Incumbent Director; provided, however, that no individual initially elected or nominated as a director of the Company as a result of an actual or threatened election contest with respect to directors or any other actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents by or on behalf of any person other than the Board of Directors shall be deemed to be an Incumbent Director; (iii) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, share exchange or similar form of corporate reorganization of the Company (or any such type of transaction involving the Company or any of its subsidiaries that requires the approval of the Company’s stockholders, whether for the transaction or the issuance of securities in the transaction or otherwise) (a “Business Combination”), unless immediately following such Business Combination: (a) more than 60% of the total voting power of the corporation resulting from such Business Combination (including, without limitation, any corporation which directly or indirectly has beneficial ownership of 100% of the Company Voting Securities) eligible to elect directors of such corporation is represented by shares that were Company Voting Securities immediately prior to such Business Combination (either by remaining outstanding or being converted), and such voting power is in substantially the same proportion as the voting power of such Company Voting Securities immediately prior to the Business Combination, (b) no person (other than any holding company resulting from such Business Combination, any employee benefit plan sponsored or maintained by the Company (or the corporation resulting from such Business Combination)) immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination becomes the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of 25% or more of the total voting power of the outstanding voting securities eligible to elect directors of the corporation resulting from such Business Combination, and (c) at least a majority of the members of the board of directors of the corporation resulting from such Business Combination were Incumbent Directors at the time of the approval of the execution of the initial agreement providing for such Business Combination (any Business Combination which satisfies the conditions in clauses (a), (b) and (c) is referred to hereunder as a “Non-Control Transaction”); or (iv) the stockholders of the Company approve a plan of complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company or the sale of all or substantially all of its assets. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Change in Control of the Company shall not be deemed to occur solely because any person acquires beneficial ownership of more than 25% of the Company Voting Securities as a result of the acquisition of Company Voting Securities by the Company which reduces the number of Company Voting Securities outstanding; provided, that if after such acquisition by the Company such person becomes the beneficial owner of additional Company Voting Securities that increases the percentage of outstanding Company Voting Securities beneficially owned by such person, a Change in Control of the Company shall then occur.

Article 14. WITHHOLDING. The Company shall have the right to deduct from any payment to be made pursuant to the Plan the amount of any taxes required by law to be withheld therefrom, or to require a Participant to pay to the Company such amount required to be withheld prior to the issuance or delivery of any shares of Common Stock or the payment of cash under the Plan. The Committee may, in its discretion, permit a Participant to elect to satisfy such withholding obligation by having the Company retain the number of shares of Common Stock whose Fair Market Value equals the amount required to be withheld. Any fraction of a share of Common Stock required to satisfy such obligation shall be disregarded and the amount due shall instead be paid in cash to the Participant.

Article 15. NONTRANSFERABILITY. No Award shall be assignable or transferable, and no right or interest of any Participant shall be subject to any lien, obligation or liability of the Participant, except by will or the laws of descent and distribution. Notwithstanding the immediately preceding sentence, the Committee may, subject to the terms and conditions it may specify, permit a Participant to transfer any nonstatutory stock options granted to him pursuant to the Plan to one or more of his immediate family members or to trusts established in whole or in part for the benefit of the Participant and/or one or more of such immediate family

members. During the lifetime of the Participant, a nonstatutory stock option shall be exercisable only by the Participant or by the immediate family member or trust to whom such stock option has been transferred pursuant to the immediately preceding sentence. For purposes of the Plan, (i) the term "immediate family" shall mean the Participant's spouse and issue (including adopted and step children) and (ii) the phrase "immediate family members and trusts established in whole or in part for the benefit of the Participant and/or one or more of such immediate family members" shall be further limited, if necessary, so that neither the transfer of a nonstatutory stock option to such immediate family member or trust, nor the ability of a Participant to make such a transfer shall have adverse consequences to the Company or the Participant by reason of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Article 16. NO RIGHT TO EMPLOYMENT OR CONSULTANCY. No person shall have any claim or right to be granted an Award, and the grant of an Award shall not be construed as giving a Participant the right to be retained in the employ of the Company or any subsidiary or retained as a consultant with the Company or any subsidiary. Further, the Company and its subsidiaries expressly reserve the right at any time to dismiss a Participant free from any liability, or any claim under the Plan, except as provided herein or in any agreement entered into hereunder. Any obligation of the Company under the Plan to make any payment at any future date merely constitutes the unsecured promise of the Company to make such payment from its general assets in accordance with the Plan, and no Participant shall have any interest in, or lien or prior claim upon, any property of the Company or any subsidiary by reason of that obligation.

Article 17. ADJUSTMENT OF AND CHANGES IN COMMON STOCK.

17.1 The Committee shall adjust the number of shares of Common Stock authorized pursuant to Section 3.1 and shall adjust the terms of any outstanding Awards (including, without limitation, the number of shares of Common Stock covered by each outstanding Award, the type of property to which the Award relates (including whether such Award may be terminated and settled by payment of cash) and the exercise or strike price of any Award), in such manner as it deems appropriate to prevent the enlargement or dilution of rights, or otherwise deems it appropriate, for any increase or decrease in the number of issued shares of Common Stock (or issuance of shares of stock other than shares of Common Stock) resulting from a recapitalization, stock-split, reverse stock split, stock dividend, spin-off, split-up, combination or reclassification or exchange of the shares of Common Stock, merger, consolidation, rights offering, separation, reorganization or any other change in corporate structure or event the Committee determines in its sole discretion affects the capitalization of the Company, including any extraordinary dividend or distribution. After any adjustment made pursuant to this Section 17.1, the number of shares of Common Stock subject to each outstanding Award shall be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number, as determined by the Committee and consistent with the requirements of applicable tax law. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, any adjustments, modifications or changes of any kind made pursuant to this Section 17.1 shall be made in a manner compliant with Section 409A.

17.2 Except as provided in Section 3.1 or under the terms of any applicable Award Agreement, there shall be no limit on the number or the value of shares of Common Stock that may be subject to Awards to any individual under the Plan.

17.3 There shall be no limit on the amount of cash, securities (other than shares of Common Stock as provided in Section 3.1, as adjusted by 17.1) or other property that may be delivered pursuant to any Award.

Article 18. AMENDMENT. The Board of Directors may amend, suspend or terminate the Plan or any portion thereof at any time, provided that no amendment shall be made without stockholder approval if such approval is necessary in order for the Plan to continue to comply with Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act, and that such amendments shall be effected in a manner compliant with applicable tax law and subject to Section 23 of the Plan.

Article 19. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION. The Plan was originally effective as of January 1, 1999 and this Amended and Restated Plan is effective as of the Effective Date. Subject to earlier termination pursuant to Section 18 of the Plan or by the action of the Board of Directors, the Plan shall remain in effect

until December 31, 2018.

Article 20. PURCHASE FOR INVESTMENT. Each person acquiring Common Stock pursuant to any Award may be required by the Company to furnish a representation that he or she is acquiring the Common Stock so acquired as an investment and not with a view to distribution thereof if the Company, in its sole discretion, determines that such representation is required to ensure that a resale or other disposition of the Common Stock would not involve a violation of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or of applicable blue sky laws. Any investment representation so furnished shall no longer be applicable at any time such representation is no longer necessary for such purposes.

Article 21. AWARDS IN SUBSTITUTION FOR AWARDS GRANTED BY OTHER COMPANIES. Awards may be granted under the Plan in substitution for awards held by employees of a company who become employees of the Company or any subsidiary as a result of the merger or consolidation of the employer company with the Company or any subsidiary, or the acquisition by the Company or any subsidiary of the assets of the employer company, or the acquisition by the Company or any subsidiary of stock of the employer company as a result of which it becomes a subsidiary. The terms, provisions, and benefits of the substitute Awards so granted may vary from the terms, provisions, and benefits set forth in or authorized by the Plan to such extent as the Committee at the time of the grant may deem appropriate to conform, in whole or in part, to the terms, provisions, and benefits of the awards in substitution for which they are granted.

Article 22. GOVERNING LAW. The provisions of the Plan shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

Article 23. SECTION 409A. It is the Company's intent that the Plan and Awards granted hereunder comply with or be exempt from the requirements of Section 409A and that agreements evidencing Awards be administered and interpreted accordingly. If and to the extent that any payment or benefit under this Plan is determined by the Company to constitute "non-qualified deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A and is payable to a Participant by reason of the Participant's termination of employment, then (a) such payment or benefit shall be made or provided to the Participant only upon a "separation from service" as defined for purposes of Section 409A under applicable regulations and (b) if the Participant is a "specified employee" (within the meaning of Section 409A and as determined by the Company), such payment or benefit shall be made or provided on the date that is six months and one day after the date of the Participant's separation from service (or earlier death). Any amount not paid in respect of the six-month period specified in the preceding sentence will be paid to the Participant in a lump sum on the date that is six months and one day after the Participant's separation from service (or earlier death). Each payment made under the Plan shall be deemed to be a separate payment for purposes of Section 409A. If and to the extent that any Award is determined by the Company to constitute "non-qualified deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A and such Award is payable to a Participant upon a Change in Control, then no payment shall be made pursuant to such Award unless such Change in Control constitutes a "change in the ownership of the corporation", "a change in effective control of the corporation", or "a change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the assets of the corporation" within the meaning of Section 409A; provided that if such Change in Control does not constitute a "change in the ownership of the corporation", "a change in effective control of the corporation", or "a change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the assets of the corporation" within the meaning of Section 409A, then the Award shall still fully vest upon such Change in Control, but shall be payable upon the original schedule contained in the Award. If and to the extent that any Award is determined by the Company to constitute "non-qualified deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A and such Award is payable to a Participant upon disability, then no payment shall be made pursuant to such Award unless such disability constitutes "disability" within the meaning of Section 409A; provided that if such disability does not constitute "disability" within the meaning of Section 409A, then the Award shall still fully vest upon such disability, but shall be payable upon the original schedule contained in the Award. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section 1, the provisions of this Section 23 shall be effective as of January 1, 2009 and shall apply to all Awards under the Plan regardless of when granted and regardless of whether the Plan is approved by the stockholders of CONMED Corporation. Neither the Company nor its affiliates shall have any liability to any Participant, Participant's spouse or other beneficiary of any Participant's spouse or other beneficiary of any Participant or otherwise if the Plan or any amounts paid or payable hereunder are subject to the additional tax and penalties under Section 409A.

November 3, 2009

CONMED Corporation
525 French Road
Utica, New York 13502-5944

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

In connection with the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), by CONMED Corporation, a New York corporation (the "Company"), of 1,000,000 shares of the Company's Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share (the "Shares"), I have examined such corporate records, certificates and other documents and such questions of law as I have considered necessary or appropriate for the purposes of this opinion. The Shares are to be issued pursuant to the CONMED Corporation Amended and Restated 1999 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "Plan").

Upon the basis of such examination, I advise you that, in my opinion, the Shares have been duly authorized and when the Registration Statement has become effective under the Act and the Shares have been duly issued as provided in the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

In rendering the foregoing opinion, I have, with your approval, relied as to certain matters on information obtained from officers of the Company and other sources believed by me to be responsible, and I have assumed that the signatures on all documents examined by me are genuine, assumptions which I have not independently verified.

I hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement relating to the Shares. In giving such consent, I do not thereby admit that I am in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Daniel S. Jonas
Daniel S. Jonas
Vice President - Legal Affairs
General Counsel

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of our report dated February 24, 2009, relating to the consolidated financial statements, financial statement schedule and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in CONMED Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Albany, New York
November 3, 2009
