

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 12, 2001

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ACTUANT CORPORATION
(f/k/a APPLIED POWER INC.)
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

WISCONSIN
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

39-168610
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

6100 North Baker Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

53209
(Zip Code)

ACTUANT CORPORATION
2001 OUTSIDE DIRECTORS' STOCK OPTION PLAN
(Full title of the plan)

ANDREW G. LAMPEREUR
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Actuant Corporation
6100 North Baker Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209
(Name and address of agent for service)

Copy to:
ANTHONY W. ASMUTH III, ESQ.
Quarles & Brady LLP
411 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

(414) 352-4160
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

Title of Securities to be registered fee <S>	Amount to be registered (1) <C>	Proposed maximum offering price per share <C>	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price (2) <C>	Amount of registration <C>
Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.20 \$314.46 per share,	350,000	(2)	\$1,257,813	

</TABLE>

- Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"), this Registration Statement also relates to such indeterminate number of additional shares of Class A Common Stock of the Registrant as may be issuable as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions, as described in the Plan.
- Pursuant to Rule 457(h), estimated solely for the purpose of computing the registration fee, based upon \$3.59375 per share, which is the average of the high and low sales prices of the Class A Common Stock reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape on January 9, 2001.

PART I

Information specified in Part I of Form S-8 (Items 1 and 2) will be sent or given to Plan participants as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) under the Securities Act of 1933.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents have been previously filed by Actuant Corporation (f/k/a Applied Power Inc.) (the "Registrant") (Commission File No. 1-11288) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and are incorporated herein by reference:

- . The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2000.
- . The Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 12, 1998, including specifically the description of the Common Stock in Item 5 thereof, which updates and supersedes the description of the Common Stock contained in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on August 11, 1987, as previously updated by the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 28, 1991; and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.
- . The Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 30, 2000, filed on January 5, 2001.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment 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 herein and to be a part hereof from their respective dates of filing.

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 hereof 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 modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part hereof.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable. See filings listed in Item 3 above.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

The legality of the securities registered hereunder will be passed upon for the Registrant by Quarles & Brady LLP, the Registrant's legal counsel. The Registrant's Secretary, Anthony W. Asmuth III, is a partner of Quarles & Brady LLP and owns shares in the Registrant.

Item 6. Indemnification of Officers and Directors.

The Registrant is incorporated under the Wisconsin Business Corporation Law ("WBCL"). Under Section 180.0851(1) of the WBCL, the Registrant is required to indemnify a director or officer, to the extent such person is successful on the merits or otherwise in the defense of a proceeding, for all reasonable expenses incurred in the proceeding if such person was a party because he or she was a director or officer of the Registrant. In all other cases, the Registrant is required by Section 180.0851(2) of the WBCL to indemnify a director or officer against liability incurred in a proceeding to which such person was a party

because he or she was an officer or director of the Registrant, unless it is determined that he or she breached or failed to perform a duty owed to the Registrant and the breach or failure to perform constitutes: (i) a wilful failure to deal fairly with the Registrant or its shareholders in connection with a matter in which the director or officer has a material conflict of interest; (ii) a violation of criminal law, unless the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was lawful or no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful; (iii) a transaction from which the director or officer derived an improper personal profit; or (iv) wilful misconduct. Section 180.0851(1) of the WBCL provides that, subject to certain limitations, the mandatory indemnification provisions do not preclude any additional right to indemnification or allowance of expenses that a director or officer may have under the Registrant's articles of incorporation, bylaws, a written agreement or a resolution of the Board of Directors or shareholders.

Section 180.0859 of the WBCL provides that it is the public policy of the State of Wisconsin to require or permit indemnification, allowance of expenses and insurance to the extent required or permitted under Sections 180.0850 to 180.0858 of the WBCL for any liability incurred in connection with a proceeding involving a federal or state statute, rule or regulation regulating the offer, sale or purchase of securities.

Section 180.0828 of the WBCL provides that, with certain exceptions, a director is not liable to a corporation, its shareholders, or any person asserting rights on behalf of the corporation or its shareholders, for damages, settlements, fees, fines, penalties or other monetary liabilities arising from a breach of, or failure to perform, any duty resulting solely from his or her status as a director, unless the person asserting liability proves that the breach or failure to perform constitutes any of the four exceptions to mandatory indemnification under Section 180.0851(2) referred to above.

Under Section 180.0833 of the WBCL, directors of the Registrant against whom claims are asserted with respect to the declaration of an improper dividend or other distribution to shareholders to which they assented are entitled to contribution from other directors who assented to such distribution and from shareholders who knowingly accepted the improper distribution, as provided therein.

Article VII of the Registrant's Bylaws contains provisions that generally parallel the indemnification provisions of the WBCL and cover certain procedural matters not dealt with in the WBCL. Directors and officers of the Registrant are also covered by directors' and officers' liability insurance under which they are insured (subject to certain exceptions and limitations specified in the policy) against expenses and liabilities arising out of the proceedings to which they are parties by reason of being or having been directors or officers.

Item 7. Exemption from the Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

See Exhibit Index following Signatures page in this Registration Statement, which Exhibit Index is incorporated herein by reference.

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:

(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

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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) 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 the effective Registration Statement;

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

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference 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.

(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 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to 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.

(h) Reference is made to the indemnification provisions described in Item 6 of this Registration Statement.

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

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-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin, on January 12, 2001.

ACTUANT CORPORATION (f/k/a APPLIED POWER INC.)

By: /s/ ANDREW G. LAMPEREUR

Andrew G. Lampereur
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer of the Registrant)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints, Robert C. Arzbaecher, Andrew G. Lampereur and Anthony W. Asmuth III, and each of them, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, 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 other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission and any other regulatory authority, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents 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 attorneys-in-fact and agents may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue thereof.

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 date indicated.*

Signature	Title
-----	-----
/s/ RICHARD G. SIM	Chairman of the Board, Director

Richard G. Sim	
/s/ ROBERT C. ARZBAECHER	President and Chief Executive

 Robert C. Arzbaecher Officer, Director
 (Principal Executive Officer of the
 Registrant)

/s/ ANDREW G. LAMPEREUR Vice President and Chief Financial

Andrew G. Lampereur Officer
 (Principal Financial Officer of the
 Registrant)

/s/ DAWN M. DOERING Corporate Controller

 Dawn M. Doering (Principal Accounting Officer of the
 Registrant)

/s/ H. RICHARD CROWTHER Director

 H. Richard Crowther

/s/ RICHARD A. KASHNOW Director

 Richard A. Kashnow

/s/ BRUCE S. CHELBERG Director

 Bruce S. Chelberg

/s/ WILLIAM P. SOVEY Director

 William P. Sovey

/s/ GUSTAV H.P. BOEL Director

 Gustav H.P. Boel

*Each of these signatures is affixed as of January 12, 2001.

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ACTUANT CORPORATION
 (f/k/a APPLIED POWER INC.)
 (the "Registrant")
 (Commission File No. 1-11288)

EXHIBIT INDEX
 TO
 FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

<TABLE>
 <CAPTION>

Exhibit Number	Description	Incorporated Herein By Reference To	Filed Herewith
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<C>	<S>	<C>	<C>
4.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant (dated as of February 13, 1998)	Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-46469)	
4.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant (effective as of January 8, 1997)	Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 1997	
4.3	Amendment of Bylaws	Exhibit 3.3 to the Registrant's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2000	
5.1	Opinion of Quarles & Brady LLP as to the legality of the securities to be issued		X
23.1	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP		X
23.2	Consent of Quarles & Brady LLP		Contained in opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1
24.1	Powers of Attorney		Signatures page to this Registration Statement
99.1	Actuant Corporation 2001 Outside Directors' Stock Option Plan	Exhibit C to the Registrant's Proxy Statement and Schedule 14A filed on December 4, 2000.	

</TABLE>

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January 12, 2001

Actuant Corporation
6100 North Baker Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209

Re: Actuant Corporation 2001 Outside Directors' Stock Option Plan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are providing this opinion in connection with the Registration Statement of Actuant Corporation (the "Company") on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") to be filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), with respect to the proposed sale of up to 350,000 shares of Class A Common Stock, par value \$.20 per share, of the Company (the "Shares") pursuant to the Company's 2001 Outside Directors' Stock Option Plan (the "Plan").

We have examined: (i) the Registration Statement; (ii) the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws, each as amended to date; (iii) the Plan; (iv) the corporate proceedings relating to the authorization for the sale of Shares pursuant to the Plan; and (v) such other documents and records and such matters of law as we have deemed necessary in order to render this opinion.

On the basis of the foregoing, we advise you that, in our opinion:

1. The Company is a corporation duly incorporated and validly existing under the laws of the State of Wisconsin.
2. The Shares to be sold from time to time pursuant to the Plan which are original issuance shares, when issued and paid for as contemplated by the Registration Statement and Plan, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable by the Company, subject to the personal liability which may be imposed on shareholders by Section 180.0622(2) (b) of the Wisconsin Business Corporation Law, as judicially interpreted, for debts owing to employees for services performed, but not exceeding six months service in any one case. Although Section 180.0622(2) (b) provides that such personal liability of shareholders shall be "to an amount equal to the par value of the shares owned by them respectively, and to the consideration for which their shares without par value was issued," the Wisconsin Supreme Court, by a split decision without a written opinion, has affirmed a judgment holding shareholders of a corporation liable under the substantially identical predecessor statute in effect prior to January 1, 1991 (Section 180.40(6)) for unpaid employee wages to an amount equal to the consideration for which their par value shares were issued rather than the shares' lower stated par value. *Local 257 of Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union v. Wilson Street East Dinner Playhouse, Inc.*, 126 Wis. 2d 284, 375 N.W.2d 664 (1985) (affirming the 1983 decision of the Circuit Court for Dane County, Wisconsin, in Case No. 82-CV-0023) (subsequently overturned for other reasons).

Actuant Corporation
January 12, 2001
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The Company's Secretary, Anthony W. Asmuth III, is a partner of Quarles & Brady LLP, which serves as counsel to the Company and owns certain shares of the Company.

This opinion is furnished by us, as counsel to the Company, and is solely for your benefit and is not to be relied upon by any other person, firm or entity or in respect of any other matter.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are "experts" within the meaning of Section 11 of the Act, or that we come within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the Act.

Very truly yours,

QUARLES & BRADY LLP

/s/ Quarles & Brady LLP

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

We hereby consent to incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of our report dated September 27, 2000 relating to the financial statements, which appears in Actuant Corporation's (f/k/a Applied Power Inc.) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2000. We also consent to the incorporation by reference of our report dated September 27, 2000 relating to the financial statement schedule, which appears in such Annual Report on Form 10-K.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
January 11, 2001