

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

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

**ACTUANT CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

**39-0168610**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**13000 West Silver Spring Drive  
Butler, Wisconsin 53007**  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 3241, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201  
(Address and Zipcode of Principal Executive Offices)

**ACTUANT CORPORATION 2010 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**  
(Full title of the plan)

**Andrew G. Lampereur**  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Actuant Corporation  
13000 West Silver Spring Drive  
Butler, Wisconsin 53007

*Copy to:*  
**Helen R. Friedli, P.C.**  
**Eric Orsic**  
McDermott Will & Emery LLP  
227 West Monroe Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

(Name and address of agent for service)

**(414) 352-4160**  
(Telephone number, including area code, 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

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be registered <sup>(1)</sup>	Proposed maximum offering price per share <sup>(2)</sup>	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price <sup>(2)</sup>	Amount of registration fee
Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.20 per share	400,000 shares	\$19.01	\$7,604,000	\$542.17

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Securities Act"), this registration statement also covers an indeterminate amount of additional shares which may be issued if the anti-dilution and adjustment provisions of the plan become operative.
- (2) Pursuant to Rule 457(h), estimated solely for the purpose of computing the registration fee, based upon \$19.01 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 on January 6, 2010.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Item 1. Plan Information.

Not required to be filed in this registration statement.

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information

Not required to be filed in this registration statement.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents are incorporated by reference into this registration statement:

(a) The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2009 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") on October 28, 2009;

(b) The Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended November 30, 2009 filed with the Commission on January 8, 2010; and

(c) The description of the Class A Common Stock contained in the Registrant's registration statement on Form 8-A/A filed with the Commission on January 15, 2009; and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

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 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 (such documents, and the documents enumerated above, being hereinafter referred to as "Incorporated Documents"); provided, however, that the documents enumerated above or subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act in each year during which the offering made by this registration statement is in effect prior to the filing with the Commission of the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K covering such year shall not be Incorporated Documents or be incorporated by reference in this registration statement or be a part hereof from and after the filing of such Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Any statement contained in an Incorporated Document 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 Incorporated Document 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 legality of the securities registered hereunder will be passed upon for the Registrant by McDermott Will & Emery LLP, the Registrant's legal counsel. The Registrant's Secretary, Helen R. Friedli, is a partner of McDermott Will & Emery LLP.

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 willful 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 his or her conduct was lawful or no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; (iii) a transaction from which the director or officer derived an improper personal profit; or (iv) willful misconduct. Section 180.0858(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 VIII 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 proceedings to which they are parties by reason of being or having been directors or officers.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Reference is made to the Exhibit Index.

Item 9. Undertakings.

1. The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

- (a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement 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.
- (b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

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- (c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (d) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:
- (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
  - (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;
  - (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and
  - (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.
2. The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
3. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act 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 Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by 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 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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ACTUANT CORPORATION  
EXHIBIT INDEX  
TO  
FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.1(a)	Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of Actuant Corporation (filed as Exhibit 4.9 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended February 28, 2001 and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1(b)	Amendment to Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (filed as Exhibit 3.1(b) to the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2003 and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1(c)	Amendment to Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2004 and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1(d)	Amendment to Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed July 18, 2006 and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1(e)	Amendment to Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation.
4.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws, as last amended effective October 18, 2007 (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on October 23, 2007 and incorporated herein by reference).
5.1	Opinion (including consent) of McDermott Will & Emery LLP as to the legality of the securities to be issued.
23.1	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.
24.1	Powers of Attorney (set forth on signature page).
99.1	Actuant Corporation 2010 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (filed as Exhibit B to the definitive proxy statement dated December 4, 2009 relating to the Company's annual meeting of shareholders held on January 12, 2010 and incorporated herein by reference).

Sec. 180 1006  
Wis. Stats

State of Wisconsin  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
Division of Corporate & Consumer Services

[GRAPHIC]

**ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT – STOCK, FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION**

A. The present corporate name (prior to any change effected by this amendment) is:

Actuant Corporation

Text of Amendment *(Refer to the existing articles of incorporation and the instructions on the reverse of this form. Determine those items to be changed and set forth the number identifying the paragraph in the articles of incorporation being changed and how the amended paragraph is to read.)*

RESOLVED, THAT the articles of incorporation be amended as follows:

Section 3.1(a) of Article III of the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation be amended to read as follows:

“(a) Class A Common Stock, 168,000,000 shares of Class A Common Stock, having a par value of \$.20 per share.”

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
FILED  
JUL 13 2006  
DEPARTMENT OF  
FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS

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**FILING FEE - \$40.00** See instructions, suggestions and procedures on following pages.

Use of this form is voluntary.

B. Amendment(s) adopted by the Board of Directors on January 12, 2010.

(Indicate the method of adoption by checking  the appropriate choice below.)

In accordance with sec. 180.1002, Wis. Stats. (By the Board of Directors)

OR

In accordance with sec. 180.1003, Wis. Stats. (By the Board of Directors and Shareholders)

OR

In accordance with sec. 180.1005, Wis. Stats. (By Incorporators or Board of Directors, before issuance of shares)

C. Executed on January 12, 2010  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ Robert C. Arzbaecher

(Signature)

Title:  President  Secretary  
or other officer title \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert C. Arzbaecher

(Printed name)

This document was drafted by Samuel Schlessinger, McDermott Will & Emery  
(Name the individual who drafted the document)

**INSTRUCTIONS** (Ref. sec. 180.1006 Wis. Stats. for document content)

Submit one original and one exact copy to Dept. of Financial Institutions, P O Box 7846, Madison WI, 53707-7846, together with a **FILING FEE of \$40.00** payable to the department. Filing fee is **non-refundable**. (If sent by Express or Priority U.S. mail, address to 345 W. Washington Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Madison WI, 53703). The original must include an original manual signature, per sec. 180.0120(3)(c), Wis. Stats. **NOTICE:** This form may be used to accomplish a filing required or permitted by statute to be made with the department. Information requested may be used for secondary purposes. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Corporate & Consumer Services at 608-261-7577. Hearing-impaired may call 608-266-8818 for TDY.

ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT – Stock, For-Profit Corporation

▲ Your **return address** and **phone number** during the day:

INSTRUCTIONS (Continued)

- A. State the name of the corporation (before any change effected by this amendment) and the text of the amendment(s). The text should recite the resolution adopted (e.g., “Resolved, that Article 1 of the articles of incorporation be amended to read: ..... (enter the amended article). If an amendment provides for an exchange, reclassification or cancellation of issued shares, state the provisions for implementing the amendment if not contained in the amendment itself.
- B. Enter the date of adoption of the amendment(s). If there is more than one amendment, identify the date of adoption of each. Mark (X) one of the three choices to indicate the method of adoption of the amendment(s).
- By Board of Directors – Refer to sec. 180.1002 for specific information on the character of amendments that may be adopted by the Board of Directors without shareholder action.
- By Board of Directors and Shareholders – Amendments proposed by the Board of Directors and adopted by shareholder approval. Voting requirements differ with circumstances and provisions in the articles of incorporation. See sec. 180.1003, Wis. Stats., for specific information.
- By Incorporators or Board of Directors – Before issuance of shares – See sec. 180.1005, Wis. Stats., for conditions attached to the adoption of an amendment approved by a vote or consent of less than 2/3rds of the shares subscribed for.
- C. Enter the date of execution and the name and title of the person signing the document. The document must be signed by one of the following: An officer of the corporation (or incorporator if directors have not been elected), or a court-appointed receiver, trustee or fiduciary. A director is not empowered to sign.

If the document is executed in Wisconsin, sec. 182.01(3) provides that it shall not be filed unless the name of the person (individual) who drafted it is printed, typewritten or stamped thereon in a legible manner. If the document is not executed in Wisconsin, enter that remark.

**FILING FEE - \$40.00.**

[Letterhead of McDermott Will & Emery LLP]

January 12, 2010

Actuant Corporation  
13000 West Silver Spring Drive  
Butler, Wisconsin 53007

Re: Actuant Corporation 2010 Employee Stock Purchase 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 400,000 shares of Class A Common Stock, par value \$.20 per share, of the Company (the "Shares") pursuant to the Company's 2010 Employee Stock Purchase 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 and (iv) the corporate proceedings relating to the authorization for the issuance of the Shares pursuant to the Plan.

In addition to the examination outlined above, we have conferred with various officers of the Company and have ascertained or verified, to our satisfaction, such additional facts as we deemed necessary or appropriate for the purposes of this opinion. In our examination, we have assumed the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to the original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies, the genuineness of all signatures on documents reviewed by us and the legal capacity of natural persons.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that all corporate proceedings necessary for the authorization, issuance and delivery of the Shares under the Plan have been duly taken and, upon issuance pursuant to the terms of the Plan, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable by the Company, subject to the personal liability which may be imposed on shareholders by former Section 180.0622(2)(b) of the Wisconsin Business Corporation Law, as judicially interpreted, for debts incurred prior to June 14, 2006 (for debts incurred on or after such date, Section 180.0622(2)(b) has been repealed) owing to employees for services performed, but not exceeding six months service in any one case.

The Company's Secretary, Helen R. Friedli, is a partner of McDermott Will & Emery LLP, which serves as counsel to the Company.

This opinion is furnished to you solely for your benefit in connection with the filing of the Registration Statement and is not to be used, circulated, quoted or otherwise referred to for any other purpose without our prior written consent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we hereby consent to the references to our firm in the Registration Statement and to the filing of this opinion by the Company as an Exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving this consent, we do not hereby admit that we come within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ McDermott Will & Emery LLP

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 October 28, 2009 relating to the financial statements, financial statement schedule and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in Actuant Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2009.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Milwaukee, WI  
January 12, 2010