Hill International, Inc. Form DEF 14A May 11, 2009 Table of Contents

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. ) Filed by the Registrant x Filed by a Party other than the Registrant " Check the appropriate box: Preliminary Proxy Statement Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) **Definitive Proxy Statement Definitive Additional Materials** Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12 HILL INTERNATIONAL, INC. (Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter) (Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant) Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box): No fee required.

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May 11, 2009

#### Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Hill International, Inc. (the Company ) which will be held at the principal executive offices of the Company, 303 Lippincott Centre, Marlton, New Jersey 08053, on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Details of the business to be conducted at the Annual Meeting are given in the attached Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement.

Whether or not you attend the Annual Meeting, it is important that your shares be represented and voted at the meeting. Therefore, I urge you to submit your proxy by signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed envelope. If you decide to attend the Annual Meeting, you will be able to vote in person, even if you have previously submitted your proxy.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express our appreciation for your continued interest in the affairs of the Company. I look forward to greeting as many of our fellow stockholders as possible.

Sincerely,

Irvin E. Richter

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

# Hill International, Inc.

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

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Hill International, Inc. (the Company ) will hold its Annual Meeting of Stockholders at 303 Lippincott Centre, Marlton, NJ 08053 on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. eastern time. We are holding the meeting for the following purposes:

- 1. to elect two members of the Board of Directors, whose terms are described in the proxy statement;
- 2. to approve the 2009 Non-Employee Director Stock Grant Plan;
- 3. to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. Only holders of record of common stock of the Company at the close of business on April 29, 2009 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. The vote of each stockholder is important to us. If you do not expect to attend the meeting in person and desire to have your shares represented and voted at the meeting, please fill in, sign, date and promptly return the enclosed proxy card in the accompanying envelope. No postage is necessary if mailed in the United States. Please see the instructions on your proxy card. If you do attend the meeting, you may revoke your proxy and vote in person.

By order of the Board of Directors,

William H. Dengler, Jr.

Secretary

Marlton, New Jersey

May 11, 2009

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#### PROXY STATEMENT

We are providing these proxy materials in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of Hill International, Inc. (Hill or the Company) of proxies to be voted at our Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, and at any meeting following adjournment or postponement of the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. eastern time, and it will be held at 303 Lippincott Centre, Marlton, NJ 08053. Stockholders will be admitted beginning at 12:00 p.m. eastern time. We are first mailing this proxy statement and proxy card (including voting instructions) on or about May 11, 2009, to persons who were stockholders at the close of business on April 29, 2009, the record date for the meeting.

#### VOTING

#### Who Can Vote?

You are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting all shares of the Company s common stock that you held as of the close of business on the record date. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote with respect to each matter properly brought before the meeting.

On April 29, 2009, there were 39,964,078 shares of common stock outstanding.

In accordance with Delaware law, a list of stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting will be available at the meeting.

#### Who Is the Record Holder?

You may own common stock either (1) directly in your name, in which case you are the record holder of such shares, or (2) indirectly through a broker, bank or other nominee, in which case such nominee is the record holder.

If your shares are registered directly in your name, we are sending these proxy materials directly to you. If the record holder of your shares is a nominee, you will receive proxy materials from such record holder.

# How Do I Vote?

If you are the record holder:

By Mail. If you choose to vote by mail, mark your proxy, date and sign it, and return it in the postage-paid envelope provided. Your vote by mail must be received by the close of business on June 9, 2009.

By Attending the Annual Meeting. If you attend the Annual Meeting, you can vote your shares in person. *If your stock is held by brokers, banks or other nominees:* 

If your common stock is held by a broker, bank or other nominee, you will receive instructions from such nominee that you must follow in order to have your shares voted.

If you plan to attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person, you will need to contact the broker, bank or other nominee to obtain evidence of your ownership of common stock on April 29, 2009.

If you hold your shares through a broker, your shares may be voted even if you do not vote or attend the Annual Meeting. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange, member brokers who do not receive instructions from beneficial owners will be allowed to vote on the election of Directors.

The method by which you vote will in no way limit your right to vote at the meeting if you later decide to attend in person.

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If your stock is held in the Hill International, Inc. 401(k)Retirement Savings Plan:

If you are or were an employee and hold shares in the 401(k) Plan, the proxy that you submit will provide your voting instructions to the plan trustee. However, you cannot vote your savings plan shares in person at the meeting. If you do not submit a proxy, the plan trustee will vote your plan shares in the same proportion as the shares for which the trustee receives voting instructions from other participants in the plan.

#### **How Many Votes Are Required?**

A quorum is required to transact business at the Annual Meeting. We will have a quorum and be able to conduct the business of the Annual Meeting if the holders of a majority of the shares entitled to vote are present at the meeting, either in person or by proxy.

If a quorum is present, a plurality of votes cast is required to elect Directors. Thus, a Director may be elected even if the Director receives less than a majority of the shares represented at the meeting. Proxies cannot be voted for a greater number of nominees than are named in this Proxy Statement.

All other matters to come before the Annual Meeting require the approval of a majority of the shares of common stock present, in person or by proxy, at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote.

#### **How Are Votes Counted?**

All shares that have been properly voted, and not revoked, will be voted at the Annual Meeting in accordance with the instructions given. If you sign and return your proxy card, but do not specify how you wish your shares to be voted, your shares represented by that proxy will be voted as recommended by the Board of Directors: for the nominees for Director.

Proxies marked as abstaining, and any proxies returned by brokers as non-votes on behalf of shares held in street name because beneficial owners discretion has been withheld as to one or more matters to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting, will be treated as present for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting. However, any shares not voted as a result of a marked abstention or a broker non-vote will not be counted as votes for or against a particular matter. Accordingly, marked abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of a vote.

#### How Can I Revoke My Proxy or Change My Vote?

You can revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised by timely delivery of a properly executed, later-dated proxy or by voting in person at the meeting.

#### Who Will Pay the Expenses of Proxy Distribution?

The Company will pay the expenses of the preparation of the proxy materials and the solicitation of proxies. Proxies may be solicited on behalf of the Company by Directors, officers or employees of the company, who will receive no additional compensation for soliciting, in person or by telephone, e-mail or facsimile or other electronic means. In accordance with the regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the New York Stock Exchange, we will reimburse brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their expenses incurred in sending proxies and proxy materials to beneficial owners of the Company s stock.

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#### ITEM 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (the Board ) is divided into three classes. One class is elected each year for a term of three years.

Two Directors will be elected at this Annual Meeting to serve for a three-year term expiring at our Annual Meeting in 2012. The Board has nominated Brian W. Clymer and Camille S. Andrews to serve for the term expiring in 2012. You can find information about Mr. Clymer and Ms. Andrews below.

The persons named in the proxy card will vote such proxy for the election of Mr. Clymer and Ms. Andrews unless you indicate that your vote should be withheld. If elected, each of Mr. Clymer and Ms. Andrews will continue in office until their successor has been duly elected and qualified, or until the earliest of their death, resignation, retirement or removal. Each of Mr. Clymer and Ms. Andrews has indicated to the Company that they will serve if elected. We do not anticipate that either Mr. Clymer or Ms. Andrews will be unable to stand for election, but, if that happens, your proxy will be voted in favor of another person nominated by the Board.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the election of Mr. Clymer and Ms. Andrews as Directors.

#### Nominees for Director Term Expiring in 2012

BRIAN W. CLYMER has been a Director of Hill since June 28, 2006. Mr. Clymer is Senior Vice President of External Affairs for Prudential Financial, Inc. where he has worked since July 1997. Prior to Prudential, he served as New Jersey State Treasurer under Governor Christine Todd Whitman from 1994 to 1997. Prior to that, Mr. Clymer was President and Chief Executive Officer of Railway System Design, Inc. and Vice President of its parent company, Gannett Fleming, Inc., an engineering design firm, from 1993 to 1994. From 1989 to 1993, he served under President George H.W. Bush as Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation s Federal Transit Administration. Mr. Clymer has served on numerous Boards of Directors, including the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, the New Jersey Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, the American Public Transportation Association, and Motor Coach Industries International, Inc., then a New York Stock Exchange-listed designer and manufacturer of buses and coaches. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Alliance for Action, the Prudential Financial, Inc. Political Action Committee, the Independent College Fund of New Jersey and Longport, Inc., an OTCBB-listed medical technology company. Mr. Clymer earned his B.S. in business and economics from Lehigh University. He is a Certified Public Accountant in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Age: 61.

CAMILLE S. ANDREWS is a new director nominee. Since 1998, Ms. Andrews has been an Associate Dean, and since 1996 she has been a member of the faculty, of Rutgers University School of Law at Camden. Since 2007, Ms. Andrews has also served as a Managing Director of and Counsel to Context Capital Partners, a private equity firm. Between 1986 and 1996, Ms. Andrews was a Partner with the law firm of Dilworth Paxson LLP, and between 2006 and 2008, she was Of Counsel to that firm. Ms. Andrews earned a B.A. *magna cum laude* in rhetoric and communication from the University of Pittsburgh and a J.D. *with honors* from Rutgers University School of Law at Camden. She is a member of several charitable boards, including the Walnut Street Theatre, ACYO Foundation and New Jersey Child Cares. Ms. Andrews is admitted to practice law in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Age: 49

### **Continuing Directors** Term Expiring in 2010

IRVIN E. RICHTER was Chairman of the Board of Directors of our predecessor company, Hill International, Inc., which is sometimes referred to hereinafter as Old Hill, from 1985 until June 28, 2006, and he was its Chief Executive Officer and a member of its Board of Directors since he founded Old Hill in 1976. On June 28, 2006, he was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. In

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2002, he was selected as a Fellow by the Construction Management Association of America ( CMAA ) for his contributions to the construction management industry. Mr. Richter holds a B.A. in government from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law at Camden and received Distinguished Alumnus Awards from both universities. Age: 64.

ERIC S. ROSENFELD was the Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President of Arpeggio Acquisition Corporation, a blank check company, from its inception until June 28, 2006. On June 28, 2006, after the merger of Arpeggio and Old Hill, he resigned those offices but remained a member of the Board of Directors of the Company. Mr. Rosenfeld has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Crescendo Partners, L.P., a New York based investment firm, since its formation in November 1998. Prior to forming Crescendo Partners, he held the position of Managing Director at CIBC Oppenheimer and its predecessor company Oppenheimer & Co., Inc for fourteen years. He was Chairman of the Board of Spar Aerospace Limited from 1999 through 2001. Mr. Rosenfeld is Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the strategic planning committee of CPI Aerostructures Inc., an American Stock Exchange-listed company engaged in the contract production of structural aircraft parts principally for the United States Air Force and other branches of the U.S. armed forces. He is Chairman of the Board of Computer Horizons Corp., an IT Services Company. He is also a director of Primoris Services Corporation, a NASDAQ listed specialty construction firm that went public by merging with Rhapsody Acquisition Corporation. Rhapsody was a blank check company of which Mr. Rosenfeld was Chairman, President and CEO. He is also a Director of Matrikon Inc, a Toronto Stock Exchange listed company that is a provider of industrial intelligence solutions and a Director of DALSA Corp., a Toronto Stock Exchange listed digital imaging and semiconductor firm. He is also a Director of Cott Corporation, a NYSE and Toronto Stock Exchange listed beverage company. Mr. Rosenfeld was a Director of Emergis Inc., a Toronto Stock Exchange-listed electronic commerce company until its recent acquisition by Telus. He was a Director of Sierra Systems Group Inc., a Toronto Stock Exchange-listed information technology, management consulting and systems integration firm until it was acquired in early 2007. He served as a Director of the Geac Computer Corporation Limited, a Toronto Stock Exchange and NASDAQ listed enterprise software company until it was sold in 2006. Mr. Rosenfeld served as a Director and head of the special committee of Pivotal Corporation, a Vancouver based customer relations management software company. Until its sale in 2004 to Kronos Incorporated, he was also a Director of AD OPT Technologies, Inc., a company based in Montreal that provides advanced workforce planning, scheduling and management solutions. Mr. Rosenfeld is a regular guest lecturer at Columbia Business School and he is a faculty member at the Directors College. He has served on numerous panels at Queen s University Business Law School Symposia, McGill Law School, the World Presidents Organization, the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association Conference and the Canadian Foundation for Investor Education. He has also been a regular guest host on CNBC. Mr. Rosenfeld received an MBA from Harvard University and an AB degree in economics from Brown University.

WILLIAM J. DOYLE has been a Director of Hill since June 28, 2006. Mr. Doyle has been retired from full-time employment since June 1999. From 1993 to 1999, he was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Paolin & Sweeney, Inc., an advertising and public relations firm. Before that, he was Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Old Hill from 1985 to 1992. Mr. Doyle has served as Chairman of the Delaware River Port Authority, as Chairman of the Philadelphia Area Transportation Corp., as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Tri-State Regional Port Development Corp., and as President of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Young Presidents Organization. He served on the Board of Directors of STV Group, Inc., then a Nasdaq-listed engineering, architecture and construction management firm, from 1993 to 2001. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the American Cinematheque, the Philadelphia College of Performing Arts, the American Public Transportation Association, and the CMAA. Age: 78.

# Continuing Directors Term Expiring in 2011

DAVID L. RICHTER was President and Chief Operating Officer of Old Hill from April 2004 until June 28, 2006, and he was a member of its Board of Directors from February 1998 until June 28, 2006. On June 28, 2006, he was appointed President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company and a member of our Board of

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Directors. He was President of Old Hill s Project Management Group from April 2001 to March 2004. Before that, Mr. Richter was Old Hill s Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary from August 1999 to March 2001 and Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary from April 1995 to August 1999. Prior to joining Old Hill, he was an attorney with the New York City law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP from 1992 to 1995. Mr. Richter is a member of the Young Presidents Organization, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Southern New Jersey Development Council and he was a member of the Board of Directors of the CMAA from 2001 to 2007. He earned a B.S. in management, a B.S.E. in civil engineering and a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Richter is a son of Irvin E. Richter. Age: 42.

ALAN S. FELLHEIMER has been a Director of Hill since June 28, 2006. He has been Chairman of the Philadelphia law firm of Fellheimer & Eichen LLP since January 1998. He was Chairman of the Board of the Pennsylvania Business Bank since he founded the state-chartered commercial bank in September 1998 until the bank was sold in November 2008. He also served as the bank s President and Chief Executive Officer from 1998 until 2006. From 1991 to 1998, Mr. Fellheimer was a Partner in the Philadelphia law firm of Fellheimer Eichen Braverman & Kaskey. During 1991, he was a Partner with the Philadelphia law firm of Spector Gadon & Rosen, P.C. From 1985 to 1990, Mr. Fellheimer was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Equimark Corp., then a New York Stock Exchange-listed bank holding company. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Gratz College, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Ballet, a member of the President s Advisory Board of Temple University and a member of the Dean s Advisory Board of the School of Social Policy & Practice of the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Fellheimer is a Trustee of the Law Foundation of Temple University and a Trustee of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, AYF&AM. Mr. Fellheimer earned his A.B. in liberal arts and his J.D. summa cum laude from Temple University. He is a member of the New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania bars. Age: 66.

#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law and the Company s By-laws, the Company s business, property and affairs are managed by or under the direction of the Board of Directors. Members of the Board are kept informed of the Company s business through discussions with the Chief Executive Officer and other officers, by reviewing materials provided to them and by participating in meetings of the Board and its committees. We currently have seven members on our Board.

During fiscal 2008 the Board held 13 meetings and the committees held a total of 12 meetings. Each incumbent Director attended more than 75% of the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors and the Board committees of which he was a member during the period he served as a Director in fiscal 2008. Although, we do not have a policy requiring all Directors to attend annual meetings of stockholders, we expect all Directors to attend, absent extenuating circumstances.

# **Director Independence**

Hill currently has, and it is anticipated that after the 2009 Annual Meeting Hill will have, five independent directors on a Board of seven members. They will be: Camille S. Andrews, Brian W. Clymer, William J. Doyle, Alan S. Fellheimer and Eric S. Rosenfeld. For a director to be considered independent, the Board must determine that the director does not have any direct or indirect material relationship with Hill. In making its determinations regarding director independence, the Board adheres to the independence requirements in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. In making an independence determination, the Board considers all relevant facts and circumstances regarding any transactions, relationships and arrangements between Hill and the director, and also between Hill and the company or organization with which the director is affiliated. However, except as noted below with regard to the Audit Committee, the Board has not adopted any categorical standards to assist it in making an independence determination. In evaluating the qualifications of directors for appointment to the Audit Committee, the Board also applies the separate SEC independence requirements applicable to such members

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which provide that they may not accept directly or indirectly any consulting, advisory or other compensatory fee from Hill or any of its subsidiaries other than their directors compensation.

The Company has determined that none of the persons identified in the immediately preceding paragraph has any material relationship with Hill, and all of them are independent because none of those persons, nor any member of his or her immediate family is, or has been within the last three years:

an executive officer or employee of Hill or any of its subsidiaries;

a partner or employee of Hill s independent registered accounting firm;

an executive officer of another company where any of Hill s present executive officers is or was, at the same time, serving on that company s compensation committee; or

a current executive officer or employee of a company that has made payments to, or received payments from, Hill for property or services which exceeded the greater of \$1 million or 2% of that company s consolidated revenues.

#### **Corporate Governance Guidelines**

The Corporate Governance Guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors, which include guidelines for determining director independence, are published on the Company s website at *www.hillintl.com*, in the Investor Relations section, and available in print to any stockholder upon request. That section of the website makes available all of the Company s corporate governance materials, including board committee charters. Those materials are also available in print to any stockholder upon request.

#### **Code of Ethics**

All directors, officers and employees of the Company must act ethically at all times and in accordance with the policies comprising Hill s Code of Ethics which is available on our website at www.hillintl.com, in the Investor Relations section, and available in print to any stockholder upon request. Any waiver or any implicit waiver from a provision of the Code of Ethics by Hill s chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief accounting officer or controller, or any amendment to the Code of Ethics must be approved by the Board and must be disclosed in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K or in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC. Hill s Audit Committee is responsible for applying the Code of Ethics to specific situations in which questions are presented to it and has the authority to interpret the Code of Ethics in any particular situation. If, after investigating any potential breach of the Code of Ethics reported to it, the Audit Committee determines (by majority decision) that a breach has occurred, it will inform the Board of Directors. Upon being notified that a breach has occurred, the Board (by majority decision) will take or authorize such disciplinary or preventive action as it deems appropriate, after consultation with the Audit Committee and/or the Company s General Counsel, up to and including dismissal or, in the event of criminal or other serious violations of law, notification of the SEC or other appropriate law enforcement authorities.

#### **Communicating Concerns to Directors**

The Company encourages all interested persons to communicate any concern that an officer, employee, director or representative of Hill has engaged in illegal or dishonest fraudulent activity, or has violated Hill s Code of Ethics. Such persons may report their concerns to the Board in one of the following ways: by mail sent to William H. Dengler, Jr., Corporate Secretary, at the Company s principal executive office: 303 Lippincott Centre, Marlton, NJ 08053; by telephone at (866) 352-2792; or by email addressed to hint@openboard.info. All such communications will be referred to Mr. Dengler who will circulate them to the members of the Board, or in the case of potential violations of the Code of Ethics, to the Chairman of the Audit Committee. If the communication is directed to a particular Director, Mr. Dengler will forward the communication to that Director. The Board does not screen stockholder communications.

#### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

Eric S. Rosenfeld, who is a member of our Compensation Committee, served as the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company from its inception until its merger with Old Hill on June 28, 2006. Mr. Rosenfeld did not receive any salary or Director s fees for his service to the Company in those capacities. William J. Doyle, who is also a member of our Compensation Committee, was an officer of Old Hill from 1979 until 1992.

#### COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During fiscal 2008, the Board of Directors had standing Audit, Compensation and Governance and Nominating Committees. The charter of each committee is available on our website at *www.hillintl.com*, in the Investor Relations section.

**Audit Committee**. During fiscal year 2008, the Audit Committee consisted of Brian W. Clymer (Chairman), William J. Doyle and Alan S. Fellheimer. Members of the Committee are non-management directors who, in the opinion of the Board, satisfy the independence criteria established by the Board and the standards of the SEC. The Company has determined that Brian W. Clymer qualifies as an audit committee financial expert, as defined by the rules of the SEC. For additional information regarding the experience and background of Mr. Clymer, see Item 1 Election of Directors above.

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by reviewing the financial reports and other financial information provided by Hill to its stockholders, the Securities and Exchange Commission and others, monitoring the Company s financial reporting processes and internal control systems, and retaining Hill s independent auditors and overseeing their audit activities. The Audit Committee reviews the independent auditors—qualifications and independence, as well as the Company—s compliance with its ethics policies and with applicable legal and regulatory requirements. The Audit Committee also reviews and approves any transactions between Hill and any related parties. During fiscal 2008, the Audit Committee met six times. The report of the Audit Committee is included in this proxy statement.

Compensation Committee. During fiscal 2008, the Compensation Committee consisted of Alan S. Fellheimer (Chairman), Brian W. Clymer, William J. Doyle and Eric S. Rosenfeld. The Compensation Committee oversees Hill s executive compensation programs. The Compensation Committee reviews and recommends to the Board for approval the compensation arrangements for all of the Company s executive officers. During fiscal 2008, the Compensation Committee met five times. The processes of the Compensation Committee are described below in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement, under the subsection Role of the Compensation Committee and Management.

Governance and Nominating Committee. During fiscal 2008, the Governance and Nominating Committee consisted of William J. Doyle (Chairman), Arnaud Ajdler and Alan S. Fellheimer. The Governance and Nominating Committee oversees matters relating to the evaluation and recommendation to the Board of the persons to be nominated for election as directors at any meeting of stockholders, and the persons to be appointed by the Board to fill any vacancy on the Board.

The Governance and Nominating Committee carefully considers all director candidates recommended by our stockholders, and the Governance and Nominating Committee does not and will not evaluate such candidate recommendations any differently from the way it evaluates other candidates. In its evaluation of each proposed candidate, the Governance and Nominating Committee considers many factors including, without limitation, the individual s experience, character, integrity, demonstrations of judgment and ability, and financial and other special expertise. Any stockholder who wishes to recommend an individual as a nominee for election to the Board should submit such recommendation in writing by mail to Hill International, Inc., 303 Lippincott Centre,

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Marlton, NJ 08053, Attn: Chairman of Governance and Nominating Committee, together with information regarding the experience, education and general background of the individual and a statement as to why the stockholder believes such individual to be an appropriate candidate for the Board of Directors of Hill. Such recommendation should be provided to Hill no later than 80 days prior to the anniversary of the date of the notice accompanying these proxy materials. During fiscal 2008, the Governance and Nominating Committee held one meeting.

#### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The discussion and analysis which follows pertains primarily to the following executives who, collectively, were Hill s named executive officers during 2008: Irvin E. Richter, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, David L. Richter, President and Chief Operating Officer, Raouf S. Ghali, President, Project Management Group (International), Frederic Z. Samelian, President, Construction Claims Group and John Fanelli III, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

**Overview.** Historically, Hill s compensation philosophy has been that it should provide a compensation program for its executive officers that is competitive with the companies Hill considers as its peers for executive employment compensation purposes and fosters executive retention in a manner that furthers Hill s mission of maximizing long-term stockholder value, client relationships, excellent financial performance, quality of service and employee satisfaction. That philosophy has heretofore been implemented by placing substantial reliance on the payment of executive salaries at the high end of the range of salary compensation received by executives with comparable job responsibilities at those peer companies, as well as the use of year-end bonuses and long term incentive compensation elements.

During 2009, the Compensation Committee will be considering whether various short and long term performance-based compensation components should be added to or substituted within the mix of elements comprising the overall compensation packages paid to Hill s executive officers.

**Performance.** The Company s policy is that the Compensation Committee and the Board will consider an executive officer s performance in determining his or her base salary. In addition, the Compensation Committee and the Board, in their discretion, may reward performance that has exceeded the particular expectations that were considered in fixing an executive officer s base salary, and may provide short-term incentives to executive officers to reward performance that exceeds particular expectations in cases where such performance would not otherwise be rewarded by other elements of Hill s compensation program. However, from a historical perspective, prior to becoming a public company in 2006, it was management s view that bonuses and bonus plans may cause some executives to focus on their individual performance, or their particular group s performance, and would not necessarily focus on what is in the best interest of the company, as a whole. In determining whether to make awards of annual bonuses to the named executive officers and to other executives, the Compensation Committee has taken note of management s historical view in that regard.

The Compensation Committee has not relied in the past on the use of mathematical formulas in considering whether an individual executive s performance merited recognition through an award of higher compensation or periodic bonuses. During 2009, the Compensation Committee will be considering whether to include awards of formula-based annual bonuses as components of the total compensation packages received by some of its executive officers.

**Alignment.** The Compensation Committee believes that alignment of the compensation of Hill s executive officers with the interests of Hill s stockholders through use of stock-based incentive compensation is one of the core principles of Hill s compensation philosophy. In light of the facts that Hill s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and its President and Chief Operating Officer hold in excess of 32% of Hill s outstanding shares of common stock, the Compensation Committee has historically been of the view that their interests were aligned

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with those of Hill s other stockholders, and that issuance of significant amounts of stock based compensation to those individuals would not necessarily result in an enhancement of the alignment of their interests with our stockholders interests. And, inasmuch as the compensation philosophy of Hill s management prior to the time when the privately owned Hill became a publicly owned company in June 2006 was substantially based on payment of executive salaries targeted at the high end of the range of salaries paid within Hill s industry, the Compensation Committee has heretofore placed less emphasis on the use of grants of long-term incentive compensation awards to the other named executive officers.

In keeping with the Compensation Committee s goal of aligning the compensation of Hill s executive officers with the interests of Hill s stockholders through use, among other things, of stock-based incentive compensation, the Compensation Committee has decided to make use of various performance based incentive compensation elements in connection with the determination of the total compensation of the named executive officers in 2009 and future years.

**Retention.** Retention of Hill s executive officers is one of the core objectives of Hill s compensation philosophy. Historically, the Compensation Committee has sought to attain that objective primarily through the payment of salaries that compared very favorably to the salaries paid to executives within the company s industry. During 2009, the Compensation Committee will begin considering how to redesign the named executive officers total compensation so that each compensation element may be used to enable Hill to retain the services of its executive officers, consistent with Hill s overall business strategy.

**Determining Compensation.** In setting each element of compensation, the Compensation Committee has historically made qualitative assessments of the contributions made by each named executive officer toward Hill s achievement of its overall business and financial performance. Such assessments have been employed by the Compensation Committee in determining which of the various compensation elements available to it should be included in each named executive officer s total compensation package, as well as the dollar amount thereof.

The Compensation Committee has not, in the past, used mathematical formulas or other formulas based on particular business segment performance or other measures of company performance to determine any element of Hill s compensation program or the total compensation program for any of the named executive officers. The reason for not using formulas to link its compensation determinations to any such measures is that the Compensation Committee has historically believed that it can most effectively reward, motivate, challenge and retain Hill s executive officers by taking into account all of the facts and circumstances of Hill s and the particular executive officer s performance and that the appropriate, specific weight for each of the factors and circumstances of performance generally would not be determinable in advance.

During 2009, the Compensation Committee has enlisted and will enlist the services of a compensation consultant to advise the committee with regard to the use of formula based compensation elements, and to make recommendations as to whether and if the committee s adoption of any of such elements might be appropriate.

**Employment Agreements.** Irvin E. Richter and David L. Richter have employment agreements with Hill, each of which is for a term expiring on June 27, 2009. These agreements provide that, in the event of the termination of either executive s employment by Hill without cause (as defined in the employment agreement), Hill will pay the executive a lump sum equal to the remaining balance of his base salary for the remainder of the term of the agreement, but in no event less than one year s base salary. Each agreement also provides for the continuation of certain benefits upon any such termination without cause, including continuation of health benefits for one year except where comparable health insurance is available from a subsequent employer. The Compensation Committee will enter into negotiations for new employment agreements with Irvin E. Richter and David L. Richter prior to the expiration of those agreements.

**Role of the Compensation Committee and Management.** As part of the executive compensation decisions made for Hill s fiscal 2008 year, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the President and Chief Operating Officer made recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding the levels of compensation

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for the named executive officers other than themselves, as well as for other executive officers of Hill. The Compensation Committee also received a compensation analysis regarding Hill s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and its President and Chief Operating Officer from Buck Consultants, a full-service human resources consulting company, after which point the Compensation Committee made its determinations and recommendations to the Board for the Board s approval of the compensation levels for the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the President and Chief Operating Officer, as well as the other named executive officers.

Role of Compensation Consultant. Buck Consultants reviewed Hill s cash and equity-based compensation for its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and for its President and Chief Operating Officer and provided the Compensation Committee with its analyses regarding the base salaries, total cash compensation and total direct compensation (total cash compensation plus long-term compensation) received by the chief executives and chief operating officers of the following group of companies: Diamond Management & Technology Consultants, Inc., Exponent, Inc., ICF International, Inc., GP Strategies Corp., Huron Consulting Group Inc., ENGlobal Corporation, VSE Corporation, LECG Corp. and CRA International, Inc.

By reason of the fact that the companies with whom Hill competes for construction management and project management business and for construction claims business tend to be significantly larger than Hill, the Compensation Committee and Buck Consultants concluded that those direct competitors would not be an appropriate group to use for purposes of analyzing the compensation paid to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the President and Chief Operating Officer. Accordingly, the group of companies identified above was selected on the basis of their size relative to Hill, and the presence within those companies and Hill of similar business model, cultural and philosophical elements. In terms of size measured by total annual revenues during the fiscal year reported most recently prior to the end of Hill s 2007 fiscal year, the companies within the selected comparator group ranged between \$168 million and \$653 million.

**Equity Grant Practices.** The exercise price of each stock option granted to the named executive officers, as well as to other officers of Hill, was the closing price of Hill s stock on the date of grant. Hill has not in the past and does not intend in the future to coordinate its grants of stock options with the release of material non-public information. Hill has not, as of the date of this proxy statement, adopted a policy covering compensatory equity grants. Hill does not have a policy on the re-pricing of its stock options, but has not previously re-priced any of its options.

**Share Ownership Guidelines.** Hill does not have a policy with respect to the ownership of its common stock by its named executive officers or other senior executives. As of the date of this report, all of the named executive officers own Company stock.

**Tax Deductibility of Compensation.** Hill does not have a policy with respect to compliance with the limitations imposed by Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which imposes a \$1 million limit on the amount that a public company may deduct as an expense for compensation paid to Hill s named executive officers.

#### Elements of Compensation.

**Base Salary.** Hill s base salaries are targeted at the high end of Hill s industry and are adjusted to recognize varying levels of responsibility, individual performance, business segment performance, and internal Company issues. The Compensation Committee reviews each executive officer s base salary on an annual basis. During 2008, Hill s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and its President and Chief Operating Officer were paid base salaries of \$1,000,000 and \$600,000, respectively. The range of salaries paid to the chief executive officers within the comparator group of companies ranged between \$333,000 and \$1,100,000. The range of salaries paid to the chief operating officers within the comparator group of companies ranged between \$300,000 and \$600,000.

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**Short-Term Incentive Awards.** The Compensation Committee and the Board, in their discretion, may establish short term incentives from time to time. Hill s objective in providing short term incentives is to reward performance that has exceeded specific expectations in circumstances where no other element of Hill s compensation program would otherwise reward such performance. During 2008, Hill s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and its President and Chief Operating Officer were awarded bonuses of \$500,000 and \$400,000, respectively. Thus, the total cash compensation paid to them in 2008 was \$1,500,000 and \$1,000,000, respectively. By comparison, the total cash compensation paid to the chief executive officers and the chief operating officers in the comparator group of companies ranged between \$333,000 and \$2,096,000 and between \$422,000 and \$924,000, respectively.

**Long-Term Stock-Based Incentive Compensation.** In 2007, the Compensation Committee made long term compensation awards to Hill s executive officers. The Compensation Committee decided to make no awards of stock or stock based incentive compensation to any of the named executive officers in 2008.

Other Compensation. Prior to our merger on June 28, 2006 with our predecessor entity, Old Hill, which was a closely held company, Old Hill provided perquisites, personal benefits and other forms of compensation to certain of its senior officers. Substantially all of the compensation of this nature was discontinued on June 28, 2006 with the effectiveness of the merger of Old Hill into Hill. At this time, the forms of other compensation that are provided to our named executive officers are generally available to all employees of Hill on a non-discriminatory basis. These elements of compensation include, without limitation, benefits packages typical for companies of our size and the option to be paid in cash for vacation, sick days and/or personal days not taken. In addition, Hill s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer has historically received payments for, among other things (i) membership in one country club, (ii) one automobile for his use, and (iii) certain life insurance premiums insuring his life. In 2008, the Compensation Committee recommended, and the Board approved, a payment of \$150,000 to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer to cover business related expenses in addition to the payments mentioned above.

Compensation for Non-Employee Directors in 2008. Non-employee Directors compensation is set by the Board at the recommendation of the Compensation Committee. Following the merger of the Company on June 28, 2006, the Compensation Committee recommended and the Board approved a compensation and benefit program for non-employee Directors. In developing its recommendations, the Compensation Committee was guided by the following goals: compensation should fairly pay Directors for work required in order to serve on the Board; compensation should align non-employee directors interests with the long term interests of stockholders; and the structure of the compensation should be easy for stockholders to understand. The Compensation Committee and the Board approved an annual compensation package for each non-employee director consisting of a \$30,000 director s fee in cash, five-year stock options exercisable for 5,000 shares of common stock of the Company, and stock grants of 6,000 shares of common stock of the Company. In addition, the chairman of the Compensation Committee and the chairman of the Governance and Nominating Committee each receive an annual committee chairman s fee of \$2,000 in cash, and the chairman of the Audit Committee receives an annual committee chairman s fee of \$4,500 in cash.

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#### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Compensation Committee has reviewed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and discussed that analysis with management. Based on its review and discussions with management, the committee recommended to Hill s Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2008 and its 2009 proxy statement. This report is provided by the following independent directors, who comprise the committee:

Alan S. Fellheimer (Chairman)

Brian W. Clymer

William J. Doyle

Eric S. Rosenfeld

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#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Hill s Executive Officers are, as follows:

Name	Age	Position
Irvin E. Richter	64	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
David L. Richter	42	President and Chief Operating Officer
Thomas J. Spearing III	42	President, Project Management Group (Americas)
Raouf S. Ghali	47	President, Project Management Group (International)
Frederic Z. Samelian	62	President, Construction Claims Group
John Fanelli III	54	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Ronald F. Emma	57	Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer
William H. Dengler, Jr.	42	Senior Vice President and General Counsel
Catherine H. Emma	49	Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer
Michael J. Petrisko	43	Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer
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Officers are not appointed for fixed terms. Biographical information for our current officers who are not also Directors follows:

THOMAS J. SPEARING III was appointed to the position of President, Project Management Group (Americas) on April 1, 2009. Between September 2007 and March 2009, he served as Hill s Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer. Prior to joining Hill, Mr. Spearing worked for more than ten years with STV Group, Inc., an engineering and construction management firm, most recently as Principal in charge of their Western Region. Before that, he was their Senior Vice President and Chief Strategic Growth Officer. Before joining that firm, he was a Vice President with Old Hill. He is a member of the American Public Transportation Association, the Women s Transportation Seminar, New Jersey Business & Industry Association, the Southern New Jersey Development Council, and the New Jersey Alliance for Action, among others. Mr. Spearing earned his B.B.A. in computer and information science from Temple University, his B.S. in construction management and his B.S. in civil engineering from Spring Garden College, and his M.S. in management from Rosemont College.

RAOUF S. GHALI has been President of our Project Management Group (International) since January 2005. Before that, he was our Senior Vice President in charge of project management operations in Europe and the Middle East from June 2001 to December 2004. Before that, Mr. Ghali was a Vice President with us from September 1993 to May 2001. Prior to joining us, he worked for Walt Disney Imagineering from 1988 to 1993. Mr. Ghali has a B.S. degree in business administration and economics and an M.S. in business organizational management from the University of LaVerne.

FREDERIC Z. SAMELIAN has been President of our Construction Claims Group since January 2005. Before that, he was a Senior Vice President with us from March 2003 until December 2004. Before that, Mr. Samelian was President of CONEX International, Inc., a construction dispute resolution firm, from April 2000 to March 2003. From March 2001 to February 2002, he was also an Executive Director with Greyhawk North America, Inc., a construction management and consulting firm. He was a Director with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP from September 1998 to March 2000, where he managed their construction claims consulting practice in Southern California. Before that, he had worked with Old Hill from October 1983 to August 1998 holding staff and executive positions including that of President and Chief Operating Officer from September 1996 to August 1998. Prior to Old Hill, he worked for Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation and The Kuljian Corporation. Mr. Samelian has a B.A. in international affairs from George Washington University and an M.B.A. from Southern Illinois University. He is a certified Project Management Professional (Project Management Institute) and a licensed General Building Contractor in California.

JOHN FANELLI III has been Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since September 2006. Before that, Mr. Fanelli was Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer of CDI Corp. from June 2005 until June 2006, and he was the Vice President and Corporate Controller of CDI Corporation (a subsidiary of CDI Corp.) from

October 2003 until June 2006. CDI Corp. is a New York Stock Exchange-listed professional services and outsourcing firm based in Philadelphia with expertise in engineering, technical services and information technology. From February 2003 until October 2003, Mr. Fanelli was a financial consultant to Berwind Corporation, an investment management company based in Philadelphia which owns a diversified portfolio of manufacturing and service businesses and real estate. Before that, Mr. Fanelli was employed for 18 years by Hunt Corporation, then a New York Stock Exchange-listed manufacturer and marketer of office products. At Hunt, he served as Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer from 1995 until February 2003, and before that as Director of Budgeting, Financial Analysis and Control, from 1985 to 1995. Before that, for eight years Mr. Fanelli was employed with Coopers & Lybrand in various accounting and auditing positions. Mr. Fanelli earned his B.S. in accounting from LaSalle University, and he is a Certified Public Accountant in Pennsylvania.

RONALD F. EMMA has been Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer since January 2007. Mr. Emma had been Hill s Senior Vice President of Finance from August 1999 to January 2007. Before that, he was Hill s Vice President of Finance since 1979. Before joining Hill, he was Assistant Controller of General Energy Resources, Inc., a mechanical contracting firm, and prior to that was a Staff Accountant with the accounting firm of Haskins & Sells. Mr. Emma has a B.S. in accounting from St. Joseph s University and is a Certified Public Accountant in New Jersey.

WILLIAM H. DENGLER, JR. has been Senior Vice President and General Counsel since March 2007. Mr. Dengler was previously Vice President and General Counsel from January 2002 to March 2007, and Corporate Counsel from April 2001 to December 2001. Mr. Dengler also serves as corporate secretary to Hill and its subsidiaries. Prior to joining Hill, Mr. Dengler served as Assistant Counsel to former New Jersey Governors Donald DiFrancesco and Christine Todd Whitman from September 1999 to April 2001. Mr. Dengler earned his B.A. in political science from Western Maryland College and his J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law at Camden. He is licensed to practice law in New Jersey, as well as before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

CATHERINE H. EMMA has been Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer since January 2007. Ms. Emma had been Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer from August 2005 to January 2007. Before that, she served as Hill s Vice President of Human Resources and Administration. Ms. Emma has been with Hill since 1982. She is certified by the Society for Human Resource Management as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) and has held professional memberships with Tri-State Human Resources, the Society for Human Resource Management and the BNA Human Resources Personnel Policies Forum. Ms. Emma is the wife of Ronald F. Emma.

MICHAEL J. PETRISKO has been Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer since January 2009. Before that, he was our Vice President and Chief Information Officer from May 2007 to December 2008. Before that, Mr. Petrisko was Director of Global IT Operations for AECOM Technology Corp. from September 2005 to May 2007 and Vice President and Chief Information Officer for DMJM Harris, Inc, a subsidiary of AECOM Technology Corp., a global architecture, engineering and construction management firm, from January 2002 to September 2005. Before that he was Director of Technical Services for Foster Wheeler Corporation, an engineering and construction services firm, from April 1999 to January 2002. Mr. Petrisko studied management information services at Thomas Edison State College and he is a member of the New Jersey Society of Information Management.

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# **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table contains summary information concerning the annual compensation for Hill s Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and its three other most highly compensated executive officers.

		Salary	Bonus	Stock Awards	Option Awards	All Other Compensation	Total
Name and Principal Position	Year	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Irvin E. Richter	2008	1,000,000	600,000			289,504	1,889,504
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	2007	900,000				186,551	1,086,551
	2006	850,000				212,358	1,062,358
John Fanelli III Senior VP and Chief Financial Officer <sup>(1)</sup>	2008 2007 2006	300,000 260,000 80,103			30,741 25,618	12,688 7,398	343,429 293,016 80,103
David L. Richter	2008	550,000	500,000	300,667	21,675	63,806	1,436,148
President and Chief Operating Officer	2007	500,000	400,000		23,465	61,059	984,524
	2006	450,000				88,646	538,646
Raouf S. Ghali President, Project Management Group (International)	2008 2007 2006	575,000 427,583 350,000	100,000 50,000	150,333	15,370 12,809	27,722 23,772 11,131	868,425 514,164 361,131
Frederic Z. Samelian	2008	450,000	50,000	150,333	15,370	29,472	695,175
President, Construction Claims Group	2007	400,000	50,000		12,809	23,016	485,825
	2006	330,000				10,746	340,746

# (1) Mr. Fanelli was appointed Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer on September 6, 2006.

#### **All Other Compensation**

Hill provides its named executives with additional benefits, reflected in the table below for 2008, that Hill believes are reasonable, competitive and consistent with the Company s overall executive compensation program.

					Medical		
Non-accountable	Life		Country	Unused	and	401(k)	
Expense Allowance	Insurance	Vehicle	Club	Vacation	Disability	Match	Total
(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	Other