

U.S. Auto Parts Network, Inc.  
Form DEF 14A  
April 03, 2009

**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

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

**U.S. AUTO PARTS NETWORK, 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.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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(1) Amount previously paid:

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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

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(3) Filing Party:

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(4) Date Filed:

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**TO BE HELD MAY 5, 2009**

To the Stockholders of U.S. Auto Parts Network, Inc.:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the Annual Meeting ) of U.S. Auto Parts Network, Inc., a Delaware corporation, will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. Pacific Time at the offices of the Company located at 17150 Margay Avenue, Carson, CA 90746 (Building 3), for the following purposes:

1. To elect three Class III directors to hold office for a term of three years or until their respective successors are elected and qualified. The nominees for election are Frederic W. Harman, Warren B. Phelps III, and Jeffrey Schwartz.
2. To approve the stock option exchange program, pursuant to which up to 1,486,464 options would be exchanged for up to 743,232 new options.
3. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009.

4. To transact any other business which may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on March 16, 2009 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. A list of stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be available for inspection at our principal executive offices and at the Annual Meeting.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. Whether or not you plan to attend, please sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid and addressed envelope. If your shares are held in street name (i.e., your shares are held in the name of a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee), you should receive from that institution an instruction form for voting in lieu of a proxy card. Should you receive more than one proxy card or voting instruction form because your shares are held in multiple accounts or registered in different names or addresses, please sign, date and return each proxy card or voting instruction form to ensure that all of your shares are voted. You may revoke your proxy at any time prior to the Annual Meeting. If you attend the Annual Meeting and vote by ballot, your proxy will be revoked automatically and only your vote at the Annual Meeting will be counted.

By Order of the Board of Directors

April 3, 2009

Shane Evangelist  
Chief Executive Officer

**YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF SHARES YOU OWN. PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED PROXY STATEMENT CAREFULLY, COMPLETE, SIGN AND DATE THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE AND RETURN IT IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.**

**U.S. AUTO PARTS NETWORK, INC.**

**17150 South Margay Avenue**

**Carson, California 90746**

**PROXY STATEMENT**

These proxy materials and the enclosed proxy card are being furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of U.S. Auto Parts Network, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Company), to be voted at the 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 5, 2009 (the Annual Meeting) and at any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. The Annual Meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. Pacific Time at the offices of the Company located at 17150 Margay Avenue, Carson CA 90746 (Building 3). These proxy solicitation materials are expected to be mailed on or about April 3, 2009 to all stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

**Purpose of Meeting**

The specific proposals to be considered and acted upon at the Annual Meeting are summarized in the accompanying Notice of the Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the Notice) and are described in more detail in this proxy statement.

**Voting; Quorum**

The record date for determining those stockholders who are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting has been fixed as March 16, 2009. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the record date are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. Each stockholder is entitled to one vote for each share of our common stock held by such stockholder as of the record date. As of the record date, 29,846,757 shares of our common stock were outstanding and no shares of our preferred stock were outstanding.

The presence at the Annual Meeting, either in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. If a quorum is not present, the Annual Meeting will be adjourned until a quorum is obtained.

In the election of directors under Proposal One, the three nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes of our common stock, present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, will be elected. With regard to Proposals Two and Three, the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our common stock present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is being sought.

All votes will be tabulated by the inspector of election appointed for the Annual Meeting, who will separately tabulate affirmative and negative votes, abstentions and broker non-votes (i.e., shares held by a broker or nominee that are represented at the Annual Meeting, but with respect to which such broker or nominee is not instructed to vote on a particular proposal and does not have discretionary voting power). Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business. With regard to Proposal One, broker non-votes and votes marked withheld will not be counted toward the tabulation of votes cast on such proposal presented to the stockholders. With regard to Proposals Two and Three, abstentions will be counted toward the tabulation of votes cast on such proposal presented to the stockholders and will have the same effect as negative votes, whereas broker non-votes will not be counted for purposes of determining whether such proposal has been approved and will not have the effect of negative votes.

**Proxies**

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Please use the enclosed proxy card to vote by mail. If your shares are held in street name, then in lieu of a proxy card you should receive from that institution an instruction form for voting. Should you receive more than one proxy card or voting instruction form because your shares are held in multiple accounts or registered in different names or addresses, please be sure to complete, sign, date and return each proxy card or voting instruction form to ensure that all of your shares will be voted. Only proxy cards that have been signed, dated and timely returned will be counted in the quorum and voted.

If the enclosed proxy card is properly signed and returned to us, the shares represented thereby will be voted at the Annual Meeting in accordance with the instructions specified thereon. If the proxy does not specify how the shares represented thereby are to be voted, the proxy will be voted FOR the election of the directors proposed by the Board under Proposal One and FOR Proposals Two and Three.

The enclosed proxy also grants the proxy holders discretionary authority to vote on any other business that may properly come before the Annual Meeting. We have not been notified by any stockholder of his or her intent to present a stockholder proposal at the Annual Meeting.

If your shares are held in your name, you may revoke or change your vote at any time before the Annual Meeting by filing a notice of revocation or another signed proxy card with a later date with our corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices at 17150 South Margay Avenue, Carson, California 90746. If your shares are held in street name, you should contact the record holder to obtain instructions if you wish to revoke or change your vote before the Annual Meeting. If you attend the Annual Meeting and vote by ballot, any proxy that you submitted previously to vote the same shares will be revoked automatically and only your vote at the Annual Meeting will be counted. Please note, however, that if your shares are held in street name, your vote in person at the Annual Meeting will not be effective unless you have obtained and present a proxy issued in your name from the record holder. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy.

#### **Voting by Telephone or through the Internet**

If your shares are registered in the name of a bank or brokerage firm, you may be eligible to vote your shares by telephone or through the Internet. A large number of banks and brokerage firms provide eligible stockholders the opportunity to vote in this manner. If your bank or brokerage firm allows for this, your voting form will provide instructions for such alternative method of voting.

#### **Solicitation**

We will bear the entire cost of proxy solicitation, including the costs of preparing, assembling, printing and mailing this proxy statement, the proxy card and any additional solicitation material furnished to the stockholders. Copies of the solicitation materials will be furnished to brokerage houses, fiduciaries and custodians holding shares in their names that are beneficially owned by others so that they may forward this solicitation material to such beneficial owners. In addition, we may reimburse such persons for their reasonable expenses in forwarding the solicitation materials to the beneficial owners. The original solicitation of proxies by mail may be supplemented by a solicitation by personal contact, telephone, facsimile, email or any other means by our directors, officers or employees. No additional compensation will be paid to these individuals for any such services. In the discretion of management, we reserve the right to retain a professional firm of proxy solicitors to assist in the solicitation of proxies. Although we do not currently expect to retain such a firm, we estimate that the fees of such firm would range from \$5,000 to \$20,000 plus out-of-pocket expenses, all of which would be paid by us.

#### **Note with Respect to Forward-Looking Statements**

We have made certain forward-looking statements in this proxy statement that relate to expectations concerning matters that are not historical or current facts. These statements are forward looking statements for the purposes of the safe harbor provided by Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), and Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 (the Securities Act ). In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as anticipates, believes, could, estimates, expects, intends, may, plans, projects, should, will, would and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. Although we believe that such forward-looking statements are reasonable, there can be no assurance that such expectations will prove to be correct. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from such expectations, and you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by such language. Except as required by law, we do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**PROPOSAL ONE:**

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Our certificate of incorporation provides for a classified board of directors consisting of three classes of directors, each serving staggered three-year terms and each as nearly equal in number as possible as determined by our Board of Directors. As a result, a portion of our Board of Directors will be elected each year. Our Board of Directors currently consists of nine persons. Messrs. Harman, Phelps and Schwartz have been designated Class III directors whose terms expire at the Annual Meeting. Messrs. Evangelist and Nia, and Ms. Siminoff have been designated Class I directors whose terms expire at the 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Messrs. Berman, Khazani and Majteles have been designated Class II directors whose terms expire at the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The class whose term of office expires at the Annual Meeting currently consists of three directors. On the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, our Board of Directors selected and approved Frederic Harman, Warren Phelps and Jeffrey Schwartz as nominees for election in the class being elected at the Annual Meeting to serve for a term of three years, expiring at the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal. Each nominee for election is currently a member of our Board of Directors and has agreed to serve if elected. Management has no reason to believe that any of the nominees will be unavailable to serve. In the event any of the nominees named herein is unable to serve or declines to serve at the time of the Annual Meeting, the persons named in the enclosed proxy will exercise discretionary authority to vote for substitutes. Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders will vote the proxies received by them FOR the nominees named below.

**Stockholder Approval**

The three nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes of the outstanding shares of our common stock present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting shall be elected.

**Recommendation of Our Board of Directors**

**Our Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the Class III director nominees listed below.**

**Directors and Nominees**

The names of our directors and nominees, their ages and positions with us as of April 3, 2009, and biographical information about them, are as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Position(s)</b>
Robert J. Majteles (1)(2)	44	Chairman of the Board
Joshua L. Berman (2)	39	Director
Shane Evangelist (4)	35	Chief Executive Officer and Director
Fredric W. Harman	48	Director
Sol Khazani	51	Director
Mehran Nia	43	Director
Warren B. Phelps III (1)(3)	62	Director
Jeffrey A. Schwartz (1)(3)(4)	43	Director
Ellen F. Siminoff (1)(2)(3)	41	Director

- (1) Member of the Audit Committee.
- (2) Member of the Compensation Committee.



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- (3) Member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.
- (4) Member of the Strategic Committee.

***Class III Director Nominees***

**Fredric W. Harman** has been a director since March 2006. Mr. Harman is a Managing Partner of Oak Investment Partners, a venture capital firm, which he joined as a General Partner in 1994. From 1991 to 1994, Mr. Harman served as a General Partner of Morgan Stanley Venture Capital. Mr. Harman currently serves as a director of Limelight Networks, Inc., a leading provider of online content delivery network services, and several privately held companies. Mr. Harman holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in electrical engineering from Stanford University and an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School.

Mr. Harman was elected to serve as a member of our Board of Directors pursuant to a voting agreement entered into in March 2006 by and among us and certain of our stockholders. Pursuant to the voting agreement, Mr. Harman was selected as a representative of the holders of a majority of our Series A preferred stock. All of the outstanding shares of our Series A preferred stock were converted into shares of our common stock upon the completion of our initial public offering in February 2007. Mr. Harman will continue to serve as a director until his resignation or until his successor is duly elected by holders of our common stock.

**Warren B. Phelps III** has been a director since September 2007. From 2000 until his retirement in September 2006, Mr. Phelps served in several executive positions for Spirent Communications plc, a leading communications technology company, most recently as President of the Performance Analysis Broadband division. From 1996 to 2000, Mr. Phelps was at Netcom Systems, a provider of network test and measurement equipment, most recently as President and Chief Executive Officer. Prior to that, Mr. Phelps held executive positions, including Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, at MICOM Communications and in various financial management roles at Burroughs / Unisys Corporation. Mr. Phelps currently serves on the boards of directors of two privately held companies and on the Board of Trustees of St. Lawrence University. Mr. Phelps holds a B.S. degree from St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York and an M.B.A. from the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York.

**Jeffrey A. Schwartz** has been a director since October 2007. Since December 2008, he has served as Chairman and CEO of Lateral Media, Inc., a web publishing and performance marketing company. Prior to founding Lateral Media, Mr. Schwartz was founder, Chairman, and CEO of Vertical Passion Media, a media and marketing company focused on classified listings, content, and community in the motors category, from June 2007 through December 2008, and Chairman and CEO of AutoCentro, an automotive dealership group, from June 2006 to June 2007. From 2001 to April 2006, Mr. Schwartz served in various senior executive positions at Autobytel, including Vice Chairman, President, and CEO. Prior to Autobytel, Mr. Schwartz was President and CEO of Autoweb, another NASDAQ listed company, and Vice President, Corporate Affairs at The Walt Disney Company. Mr. Schwartz holds B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science from the University of Southern California.

***Directors Whose Terms Continue***

***Class I Directors Terms Expiring at the 2010 Annual Meeting***

**Shane Evangelist** has been our Chief Executive Officer and a director since October 2007. From August 2004 to September 2007, Mr. Evangelist served as Senior Vice President and General Manager of BLOCKBUSTER Online, a division of Blockbuster Inc., which he joined in 2001, where he was responsible for leading the creation, development and launch of Blockbuster's online movie rental service. Prior to that, from January 2001 to July 2004, Mr. Evangelist served as Vice President of Strategic Planning for Blockbuster Inc., with responsibility for strategy development, mergers and acquisitions, marketing and capital deployment. Prior to Blockbuster, Mr. Evangelist began his career at IBM as a business executive responsible for media and entertainment accounts. Mr. Evangelist holds a B.A. degree in Business Administration from the University of New Mexico and an M.B.A. from Southern Methodist University.

**Mehran Nia** is a co-founder of U.S. Auto Parts and has been a director since October 1995. Mr. Nia also served as our Chief Executive Officer and President from October 1995 to October 2007. From October 1995 to January 2001, Mr. Nia also served as our Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Nia holds a B.A. degree in biology from San Diego State University.

**Ellen F. Siminoff** has been a director since November 2006. Since March 2008, Ms. Siminoff has served as President and CEO of Shmoop, an educationally based website, and as the Chairman of Efficient Frontier, Inc., a provider of paid search engine marketing solutions since February 2008. From March 2004 to February 2008, Ms. Siminoff served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Efficient Frontier. Prior to that, from 1996 to 2002, Ms. Siminoff served in various capacities at Yahoo!, including as Senior Vice-President of Entertainment and Small Business and Senior Vice President of Corporate Development. Ms. Siminoff also serves on the boards of directors and advisors of Journal Communications, Inc., glu mobile, and several privately-held companies. Ms. Siminoff holds an A.B. degree in economics from Princeton University and an M.B.A. from Stanford University.

***Class II Directors Terms Expiring at the 2011 Annual Meeting***

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*Joshua L. Berman* has been a director since October 2007. Mr. Berman is a co-founder of MySpace.com, a leading online lifestyle portal, and has served as its Chief Operating Officer since January 2003. Prior to that, Mr. Berman co-founded and managed

two Internet companies, ResponseBase Marketing, where he held positions as the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer, and Xdrive Technologies, where he served as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President of Corporate Development. Mr. Berman has also worked as a management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers and as an international marketing manager and a senior financial analyst at Twentieth Century Fox. Mr. Berman is licensed as a certified public accountant and holds a B.A. degree in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an M.B.A. from the University of Southern California.

**Sol Khazani** is a co-founder of U.S. Auto Parts and has been a director since January 2001. Mr. Khazani also served as our Chairman of the Board from January 2001 to March 2007, as our Chief Financial Officer from January 2001 to April 2005 and as a Vice President from October 1995 to January 2001. Since 1995, Mr. Khazani has served as the Vice President of American Condenser, Inc., a company that he co-founded which manufactures air-conditioning condensers for automotive and industrial applications. Mr. Khazani holds a B.S. degree in accounting and an M.B.A. from National University in San Diego.

**Robert J. Majteles** has been a director since November 2006 and has been our Chairman of the Board since March 2007. Mr. Majteles is the Managing Member of Treehouse Capital, LLC, an investment firm. Mr. Majteles also serves on the boards of directors of Adept Technology, Inc., Macrovision Corporation, Unify Corporation, Comarco, Inc., and Merriman, Curhan & Ford. Mr. Majteles holds a B.A. degree in political science from Columbia University and a J.D. from Stanford Law School. Mr. Majteles is also Lecturer at the graduate and undergraduate levels at the University of California, Berkeley.

### **Family Relationships**

There are no family relationships among any of our directors, executive officers and director nominees.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### **Code of Ethics and Business Conduct**

Our Board of Directors has adopted a Code of Ethics and Business Conduct which applies to all directors, officers (including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions) and employees. The full text of our Code of Ethics and Business Conduct is available on the Investor Relations section of our website at [www.usautoparts.net](http://www.usautoparts.net). We intend to disclose future amendments to certain provisions of the Code of Ethics and Business Conduct, and any waivers of provisions of the Code of Ethics required to be disclosed under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ), at the same location on our website.

### **Director Independence**

The Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Berman, Majteles, Phelps and Schwartz and Ms. Siminoff each satisfies the requirements for independence under the listing standards of The NASDAQ Stock Market (the NASDAQ Rules ).

### **Board Committees and Meetings**

Our Board of Directors has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee, and a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Each committee has a written charter that is reviewed annually and revised as appropriate. A copy of each committee's charter is available on the Investor Relations section of our website at [www.usautoparts.net](http://www.usautoparts.net), which can be directly accessed at <http://investor.usautoparts.net/>.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, the Board of Directors and the various committees of the Board held the following number of meetings: Board of Directors 7; Audit Committee 7; Compensation Committee 7; and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee 2. During fiscal year 2008, no director attended fewer than 75% of the aggregate of the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors and total number of meetings of any committees of the Board, which he or she was required to attend.

**Audit Committee.** Our Audit Committee consists of Messrs. Majteles, Phelps and Schwartz and Ms. Siminoff. Mr. Phelps is the Chair of the Audit Committee. Our Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is independent under the NASDAQ Rules and Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ). Mr. Phelps qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in the rules and regulations established by the SEC. The functions of this committee include:

meeting with our management periodically to consider the adequacy of our internal controls and the objectivity of our financial reporting;

meeting with our independent auditors and with internal financial personnel regarding these matters;

pre-approving audit and non-audit services to be rendered by our independent auditors;

engaging and determining the compensation of our independent auditors and oversight of the work of our independent auditors;

reviewing our financial statements and periodic reports and discussing the statements and reports with our management and independent auditors, including any significant adjustments, management judgments and estimates, new accounting policies and disagreements with management;

establishing procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by us regarding accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters;

reviewing our financing plans and reporting recommendations to our full Board of Directors for approval and to authorize action; and

administering and discussing with management and our independent auditors our Code of Ethics.

Both our independent auditors and internal financial personnel regularly meet privately with the Audit Committee and have unrestricted access to this committee.

**Compensation Committee.** Our Compensation Committee consists of Messrs. Berman and Majteles, and Ms. Siminoff. Mr. Berman is the Chair of our Compensation Committee. Our Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Compensation Committee is independent under the NASDAQ Rules. The functions of this committee include:

reviewing and, as it deems appropriate, recommending to our Board of Directors, policies, practices and procedures relating to the compensation of our directors, officers and other managerial employees and the establishment and administration of our employee benefit plans;

exercising authority under our employee benefit plans;

reviewing and approving executive officer and director indemnification and insurance matters; and

advising and consulting with our officers regarding managerial personnel and development.

**Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.** Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consists of Ms. Siminoff and Messrs. Phelps and Schwartz. Ms. Siminoff is the Chair of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Our Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is independent under the NASDAQ Rules. The functions of this committee include:

identifying qualified candidates to become members of our Board of Directors;

selecting nominees for election of directors at the next annual meeting of stockholders (or special meeting of stockholders at which directors are to be elected);

selecting candidates to fill vacancies of our Board of Directors;

developing and recommending to our Board of Directors our corporate governance guidelines; and

overseeing the evaluation of our Board of Directors.

In connection with their recommendations regarding the size and composition of the Board, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviews the appropriate qualities and skills required of directors in the context of the then current make-up of the Board. This includes an assessment of each candidate's independence, personal and professional integrity, financial literacy or other professional or business experience relevant to an understanding of our business, ability to think and act independently and with sound judgment, and ability to serve our and its stockholders' long-term interests. These factors, and others as considered useful by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, are reviewed in the context of an assessment of the perceived needs of the Board at a particular point in time. As a result, the priorities and emphasis of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and of the Board may change from time to time to take into account changes in business and other trends, and the portfolio of skills and experience of current and prospective directors. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee leads the search for and selects, or recommends that the Board select, candidates for election to the Board. Consideration of new director candidates typically involves a series of committee discussions, review of information concerning candidates and interviews with selected candidates. Candidates for nomination to our Board typically have been suggested by other members of the Board or by our executive officers. From time to time, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may engage the services of a third-party search firm to identify director candidates.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider candidates for directors recommended by our stockholders who meet the eligibility requirements for submitting stockholder proposals for inclusion in our next proxy statement. This committee will evaluate such recommendations applying its regular nominee criteria. Eligible stockholders wishing to recommend a nominee must submit such recommendation in writing to the Chair, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, care of the corporate Secretary, by the deadline for stockholder proposals set forth in the prior year's proxy statement, specifying the following information: (a) the name and address of the nominee, (b) the name and address of the stockholder making the nomination, (c) a representation that the nominating stockholder is a stockholder of record of our stock entitled to vote at the next annual meeting and intends to appear in person or by proxy at such meeting to nominate the person specified in the notice, (d) the nominee's

qualifications for membership on the Board, (e) a resume of the candidate's business experience and educational background as well as all of the information that would be required in a proxy statement soliciting proxies for the election of the nominee as a director, (f) a description of all direct or indirect arrangements or understandings between the nominating stockholder and the nominee and any other person or persons (naming such person or persons) pursuant to whose request the nomination is being made by the stockholder, (g) all other companies to which the nominee is being recommended as a nominee for director, and (h) a signed consent of the nominee to cooperate with reasonable background checks and personal interviews, and to serve as a director, if elected. In connection with its evaluation, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may request additional information from the candidate or the recommending stockholder, and may request an interview with the candidate. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has the discretion to decide which individuals to recommend for nomination as directors.

No candidates for director nominations were submitted to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee by any stockholder in connection with the election of directors at the Annual Meeting. Each of the director nominees standing for election at this Annual Meeting is a current director of the company.

**Strategic Committee.** We also have a Strategic Committee, which consists of Messrs. Evangelist and Schwartz. Mr. Schwartz is the Chair of our Strategic Committee. The functions of this committee include:

assisting the Board and the Company's executive officers in evaluating potential expansion opportunities;

providing strategic direction and oversight to management in connection with expansion and implementation of new business opportunities; and

evaluating and providing direction to management regarding any strategic acquisitions of businesses, companies and/or assets.

**Annual Meeting Attendance**

We do not have a formal policy regarding attendance by members of our Board of Directors at annual meetings of stockholders; however, directors are encouraged to attend all such meetings. All of our directors attended our 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

**Stockholder Communications to the Board**

Our Board of Directors has implemented a process by which stockholders may send written communications directly to the attention of the Board, any committee of the Board or any individual Board member, care of our corporate Secretary at 17150 South Margay Avenue, Carson, California 90746. The name of any specific intended Board recipient should be noted in the communication. Our corporate Secretary will be primarily responsible for collecting, organizing and monitoring communications from stockholders and, where appropriate depending on the facts and circumstances outlined in the communication, providing copies of such communications to the intended recipients. Communications will be forwarded to directors if they relate to appropriate and substantive corporate or Board matters. Communications that are of a commercial or frivolous nature or otherwise inappropriate for the Board's consideration will not be forwarded to the Board.



**PROPOSAL TWO:**

**APPROVAL OF STOCK OPTION EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

**Overview of Proposal**

On March 10, 2009, our Compensation Committee approved, subject to stockholder approval, the exchange of certain outstanding stock options held by current employees ( Eligible Employees ), including executive officers other than the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer and Chief Technology Officer (collectively, the Excluded Officers ), for a smaller number of new options. The options included in the proposed program are those options that have an exercise price greater than \$4.90 per share, which approximates the 12-month high for our stock price as of the date of the proxy statement (the Eligible Options ). Participation in the program by Eligible Employees will be voluntary. Former employees, consultants, non-employee directors and Excluded Officers will not be eligible to participate in the program. The exchange ratio for the program is 2:1; that is, each Eligible Option will be exchanged for a new option to purchase one-half of the number shares of common stock that were purchasable under the Eligible Option. Our Chief Executive Officer elected in March 2009 to forfeit 250,000 of his outstanding options, but will not receive any replacement grants under this exchange program. After giving effect to this forfeiture, we do not believe this exchange program will generate a material incremental non-cash share based compensation expense from an accounting perspective, depending on the number of shares tendered and the stock price at the time of the exchange.

Stockholder approval of the option exchange program applies only to the stock option exchange program described in this proxy statement. If we were to implement a different stock option exchange program in the future, we would plan to seek stockholder approval for such other exchange program.

**Reasons for the Exchange Program**

Stock option grants are a critical component of our compensation philosophy, the focal point of which is to increase long-term stockholder value. We believe stock options help us achieve this objective in several important ways: by aligning the employees' interests with those of our stockholders; by motivating employees' performance toward our long term success; and, through grants of options as part of a reward and retention compensation philosophy, by encouraging our executives and employees who have received option grants to continue their employment with us.

Despite our work to right-size the Company during the past fiscal year, our stock price has declined, in part, due to an overall stock market downturn and macro-economic conditions. Presently, almost all of our outstanding stock options are underwater , meaning the exercise price of those options is greater than our current stock price. This means that the vast majority of our historically granted stock options have little or no perceived value to the employees who hold them and are therefore no longer effective as incentives to motivate and retain these employees.

Our Board of Directors believes that it is critical to our future success to revitalize the incentive value of our stock option program to retain employees and create in them a personal stake in the long term financial success of the Company. The Board believes that without the proper balance between the long term components of our compensation structure (i.e., equity awards) and its short term components (i.e., salary and bonus), key employees are not properly motivated to align their interests with those of the stockholders and work toward reward for their contributions based upon increases in share value. The Board also recognizes the competition, even in this economy, to attract and recruit top talent. The Board believes that it has a responsibility to address these issues and to properly incentivize our key employees. Consequently, the Board has proposed the option exchange program described below.

**Eligible Options**

The Eligible Options are those outstanding options granted to employees, other than the Excluded Officers, under our stock incentive plans that have an exercise price greater than \$4.90 per share. As of April 3, 2009, these options covered 1,486,464 shares and represented 23.5% of the Company's total outstanding stock options. The number of employees holding Eligible Options was 106. Of the total shares subject to Eligible Options, 306,000 shares or 20.6% are held by one of our named executive officers.

As of April 3, 2009, former and current employees and officers held outstanding stock options to purchase a total of 6,315,276 shares of common stock under our equity compensation plans. Substantially all of these options are currently underwater. A large number of these options are held by current employees and some have exercise prices as high as \$11.68 per share. Options with exercise prices of \$4.90 or less are being excluded from the proposed exchange program.

Of the Eligible Options, 680,364 were granted under our 2006 Equity Incentive Plan and 806,100 were granted under our 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan. No Eligible Options were granted under the 2007 New Employee Incentive Plan. The 2006 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan are qualified plans as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code.



## Exchange Ratios

In working with our Compensation Committee to develop a stock option exchange program pursuant to the Board's direction, the Company management hired Compensia, Inc., an independent compensation consultant, to assist the Compensation Committee in evaluating the value of the options relative to the replacement options. The exchange ratio was determined to be 2:1 after a thorough evaluation of the retention incentive of Black-Scholes and Monte Carlo option valuation methods versus a ratio that was slightly more advantageous but combined with a longer vesting period.

The exchange ratio will be 2:1; that is, each Eligible Option will be exchanged for a new option to purchase one-half of the number of shares of common stock that were purchasable under the Eligible Option, the option exchange which is a non-value for value exchange and will therefore generate some additional compensation expense (non-cash) to the Company, which is anticipated to be non-material.

Under the proposed exchange program, Eligible Employees will be given the opportunity to exchange their stock options that have an exercise price greater than \$4.90 per share for new stock options to purchase a fewer number of shares and an extended vesting period. The ratio of old options surrendered to new options granted will be 2:1. Assuming that all Eligible Employees fully participate in the exchange program, Eligible Options covering 1,486,464 shares would be surrendered and cancelled, while new options covering 743,232 shares would be issued, resulting in a net reduction of 743,232 shares subject to outstanding awards, or approximately 11.8% of all outstanding options.

The table below provides an example of the exchange of an Eligible Option based on the 2:1 exchange ratio:

	Options		New	Net
Original	to be	Exchange	Options	Reduction
Strike Price	Exchanged	Rate	Issued	in Overhang
\$5.81	75,000	2:1	37,500	37,500

## Program Participation

Because the decision whether to participate in the stock option exchange program is completely voluntary, we are not able to predict who or how many Eligible Employees will elect to participate, how many Eligible Options will be surrendered for exchange, or the number of new options that may be issued.

## Implementing the Stock Option Exchange Program

If stockholders approve the option exchange program, the program may be commenced at any time within six (6) months following stockholder approval, as determined by the Compensation Committee. Even if the stockholders approve the stock option exchange program, the Board of Directors will retain the authority, in its sole discretion, to terminate or postpone the program at any time prior to the closing of the actual exchange offer to Eligible Employees (described below), or to exclude certain Eligible Options or Eligible Employees from participating in the stock option exchange program due to tax, regulatory or accounting reasons or because the Board determines that their participation would be inadvisable or impractical.

Upon commencement of the option exchange program, Eligible Employees will be offered the opportunity to participate in the exchange under a Tender Offer Statement to be filed by us with the SEC and distributed to all Eligible Employees. Employees will be given at least twenty (20) business days in which to accept the offer of the new options in exchange for the surrender of their Eligible Options. The surrendered options will be cancelled on the first business day following this election period. The new options will be granted on the date of cancellation of the old options and will have an exercise price at least equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant of such new options. Surrendered options from the 2006 Equity Incentive Plan will terminate and not be returned to the plan for future grants. Surrendered options from the 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan will be returned to the plan and will be available for future grant under such plan.

If on the date that the exchange program commences, the holder of Eligible Options is no longer an employee of the Company for any reason (including layoff, termination, voluntary resignation, death or disability), that person will not be entitled to participate in the program. An employee who elects to participate in the program and tenders his or her options for exchange must also continue to be employed with the Company on the date of the new grant in order to receive the new options.

A vote by an Eligible Employee in favor of this proposal at the Annual Meeting does not constitute an election to participate in the exchange program.



### **Description of New Options Issued in Exchange**

*Exercise Price of New Options.* All new options issued in the exchange program will be granted with an exercise price at least equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant of the new options.

*Vesting of New Options.* New options granted in the exchange program will vest beginning one year from the date of grant of the new option. This means that Eligible Employees who elect to participate in the exchange program must complete an additional year of service to the Company before their new options would be exercisable, regardless of whether the old options surrendered were partially or wholly vested. All new options granted under the exchange program will vest 25% at the first anniversary of the date of the grant of the new option and in 36 equal installments thereafter.

*Term of New Options.* Each of the new options will have an expiration date that is ten years from the date of the Eligible Option grant.

*Other Conditions of New Options.* The new options will be granted under and subject to the terms and conditions of the Company's 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan. New option grants calculated according to the exchange ratio will be rounded down to the nearest whole share on a grant-by-grant basis. New options will not be issued for fractional shares.

### **U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences**

The exchange of options pursuant to the exchange program should be treated as a non-taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. No income should be recognized for U.S. federal income tax purposes by either the Company or participating employees upon the cancellation of surrendered options and the grant of new options in the exchange. All new options granted under the option exchange program will be non-qualified stock options for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

### **Accounting Impact**

The program will result in additional share-based compensation expense for the Company depending on the number of shares tendered and the stock price at the time of the exchange. The unamortized compensation expense from the surrendered options and incremental compensation expense associated with the new options granted under the exchange program will be recognized over the service period of the new options. If any portion of the new options granted is forfeited prior to the completion of the service condition due to termination of employment, the compensation cost for the forfeited portion of the award will not be recognized.

### **Potential Modification to Terms to Comply with Governmental Requirements**

The terms of the option exchange program will be described in a Tender Offer Statement that we plan to file with the SEC. Although we do not anticipate that the SEC would require us to modify the terms materially, it is possible that we will need to alter the terms of the option exchange to comply with potential SEC comments.

### **Effect on Stockholders**

The option exchange program is designed to provide renewed incentives and motivate Eligible Employees to continue to create stockholder value and reduce the number of shares currently subject to outstanding options, thereby avoiding the dilution in ownership that normally results from supplemental grants of new stock options. While we cannot predict which or how many employees will elect to participate in the exchange program, please see the Exchange Ratios section above for the approximate reduction of the number of shares underlying options outstanding assuming that 100% of Eligible Options are exchanged and replacement option grants are made in accordance with the exchange ratios set out above.

### **Stockholder Approval**

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock present or represented and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is being sought to approve the stock option exchange program.

### **Recommendation of Our Board of Directors**

**Our Board of Directors recommends that the stockholders vote FOR the approval of the stock option exchange program described above.**



**PROPOSAL THREE:****RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

The accounting firm of Ernst & Young LLP was engaged to serve as our independent auditors for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. The Audit Committee of our Board of Directors has selected that firm to continue in this capacity for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009. We are asking the stockholders to ratify the selection by the Audit Committee of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors to audit our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009 and to perform other appropriate services. Stockholder ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent auditors is not required by our bylaws or otherwise. In the event that the stockholders fail to ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will reconsider its selection. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee, in its sole discretion, may direct the appointment of a different independent accounting firm at any time during the year if the committee feels that such a change would be in our best interests and our stockholders.

A representative of Ernst & Young LLP is expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, and that representative will have the opportunity to make a brief presentation to the stockholders if he or she so desires and is expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

**Stockholder Approval**

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock present or represented and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is being sought to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009.

**Recommendation of Our Board of Directors**

**Our Board of Directors recommends that the stockholders vote FOR the ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009.**

**FEES PAID TO INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM****Principal Accountant Fees**

The following table sets forth the fees billed to us for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008 by Ernst & Young LLP ( E&Y ), our independent registered public accounting firm:

	2007	2008
Audit Fees	\$ 705,672	\$ 567,466
Tax Fees	19,907	82,053
All Other Fees	19,050	72,990
Total Fees	\$ 743,819	\$ 722,509

**Audit Fees.** Audit fees consisted of fees billed by E&Y for professional services rendered in connection with the audit and quarterly reviews of our consolidated financial statements. For each of 2007 and 2008, such fees included fees associated with the review of a registration statement on Form S-8.

**Tax Fees.** Tax fees consisted of tax advice and tax planning services and services related to the 2006 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) audit during 2008 billed by E&Y.

**All Other Fees.** All other fees for fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008 consisted principally of an accounting research subscription and services relating to our compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has determined that the provision by E&Y of the non-audit services described above is compatible with maintaining the independence of E&Y.





**Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit and Permissible Non-Audit Services**

All engagements for services by E&Y or other independent registered public accountants are subject to prior approval by the Audit Committee; however, de minimis non-audit services may instead be approved in accordance with applicable SEC rules. The Audit Committee approved all services provided by E&Y for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The following is the report of the Audit Committee with respect to the audited consolidated financial statements of U.S. Auto Parts Network, Inc. (the Company) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for that year.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 with the Company's management. The Audit Committee has discussed with the Company's independent auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, Communication With Audit Committees.

The Audit Committee has also received the written disclosures and the letter from Ernst & Young LLP required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant's communications with the Audit Committee, and has discussed with Ernst & Young LLP the independence of Ernst & Young LLP.

Based on the review and discussions referred to above in this report, the Audit Committee recommended to the Company's Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Submitted by the Audit Committee

of the Board of Directors:

Warren B. Phelps III  
Robert J. Majteles  
Jeffrey A. Schwartz  
Ellen F. Siminoff

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**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION**
**Executive Officers**

The table below sets forth certain information regarding our executive officers as of April 3, 2009.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Position(s)</b>
Shane Evangelist	35	Chief Executive Officer and Director
Theodore R. Sanders	54	Chief Financial Officer
Aaron E. Coleman	34	Executive Vice President of Operations and Chief Information Officer
Houman Akhavan	31	Vice President of Marketing
Charles Fischer	51	Senior Vice President of Purchasing

The following is certain biographical information regarding each of our executive officers. The biography of Mr. Evangelist appears earlier in this proxy statement. See Proposal One: Election of Directors.

**Theodore R. Sanders** has been our Chief Financial Officer since February 2009. Prior to that, from June 2007 to February 2009, he was the Chief Financial Officer of ViewSonic Corporation, and from 1997 to June 2007 Mr. Sanders served as Chief Financial Officer of public company PC Mall, Inc., a marketer of technology products with over \$1.2 billion in revenue. Prior to PC Mall, Mr. Sanders served in the roles of controller, Director of Finance and Director of Internal Audit for BAX Global, a subsidiary of The Pittston Company, a global business and security services company. Mr. Sanders started his career at Deloitte & Touche LLP and is a Certified Public Accountant. He holds a B.S. degree in Business Administration from Nichols College.

**Aaron E. Coleman** has been our Executive Vice President of Operations and Chief Information Officer since April 2008. From July 2007 to April 2008, Mr. Coleman served as Senior Vice President Online Systems at Blockbuster Inc., which he joined as Vice President Online Systems in March 2005. From April 2003 to March 2005, he was the Chief Technology Officer of Travelweb LLC, which is owned by priceline.com Incorporated, and was responsible for all aspects of Travelweb's technology, including the technology for Travelweb.com and over 40 affiliate websites, as well as the booking gateway for the merchant property processing for Orbitz and priceline.com. Mr. Coleman's prior experience also includes serving as Manager of the Customer Technology Infrastructure group at American Airlines. Mr. Coleman holds a B.A. degree in Business Administration from Gonzaga University.

**Houman Akhavan** has been our Vice President of Marketing since January 2006. Prior to that, from August 2004 to December 2005, Mr. Akhavan served as a consultant to U.S. Auto Parts. From February 2000 to July 2004, Mr. Akhavan served as the founder and Chief Strategy Officer of Edigitalweb, Inc., an online marketing and software development firm.

**Charles Fischer** has been our Senior Vice President of Purchasing since May 2008. Prior to that, from November 2004 to March 2008, Mr. Fischer served as Vice President, Supply Chain Management for Keystone Automotive Industries and was responsible for all aspects of Keystone's supply chain, including purchasing, inventory management and inbound logistics. From November 2003 to November 2004, Mr. Fischer was Director, Business Development for Modern Engineering, where he was responsible for developing, selling and implementing Logistics, Packaging and Engineering service projects to Automotive Industry clients. Mr. Fischer's experience also includes serving as Director, Automotive Consulting for Viewlocity Corporation and Vice President of Global Sourcing for Federal-Mogul Corporation.

Our executive officers are elected by our Board of Directors and serve at the discretion of our Board until their successors have been duly elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal.

**Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

The primary objective of our compensation policies and programs with respect to executive compensation is to serve our stockholders by attracting, retaining and motivating talented and qualified executives. We focus on providing a competitive compensation package which provides significant short and long-term incentives for the achievement of measurable corporate and individual performance objectives. We focus on, among other things, the following four elements in determining compensation:

*Competition.* Compensation should reflect the competitive marketplace, so that the Company can attract, retain, and motivate key executives of superior ability who are critical to our future success.

*Accountability for Business Performance.* Compensation should be tied in part to overall Company financial performance, so our executive officers are held accountable through their compensation both in salary, and long-term incentive compensation.

*Accountability for Individual Performance.* Compensation should be tied in part to the individual's performance to encourage and reflect individual contributions to the Company's performance.

*Alignment with Stockholder Interests.* Compensation should be tied in part to the Company's stock performance through the grant of stock awards which serve to align our executive officer's interests with those of our shareholders.

Decisions regarding executive compensation are the primary responsibility of our Compensation Committee, in consultation from time to time with the Board of Directors, management and compensation consultants retained by us. The Compensation Committee establishes and makes the final determinations regarding compensation of our executive officers based on a number of factors, including recommendations from management and survey data provided by our compensation consultants.

The components of our executive compensation program generally include (a) base salaries; (b) annual cash incentive opportunities; and (c) long-term equity incentive opportunities in the form of time-based stock options and performance-based stock options. In the future, such long-term equity opportunities may also include other types of equity instruments including, but not limited to, restricted stock or restricted stock units. Executives also participate in employee benefit programs available to the broader employee population. Our executive compensation program is intended to provide executives with overall levels of compensation that are competitive within the e-commerce industry, as well as within a broader spectrum of companies with comparable revenues and profitability.

In connection with our initial public offering in 2007, we retained an independent compensation consultant, Compensia, Inc., to assist us in establishing a compensation program which includes objective criteria and formalized policies with respect to the determination of compensation amounts for our executives. In determining the compensation policies and structure for 2008 and 2009, our Compensation Committee took into account the studies and benchmark data provided by Compensia, which included a proprietary technology and a proprietary general industry compensation survey, as well as a compensation survey by Watson Wyatt Worldwide, and compensation information from 14 similarly situated, U.S.-based, publicly-traded companies such as Autobyte, Blue Nile, Websense, VistaPrint, Magma Design Automation, among others.

For 2007 and 2008, for our executive officers, the Compensation Committee adopted a policy of setting total compensation at approximately the 50th to 75th percentile level of comparable companies (the Target Percentile Range). We paid our senior management through a mix of base salary, bonus and equity