

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
Under The Securities Act of 1933

Graco Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota 41-0285640
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
incorporation or organization)

4050 Olson Memorial Highway
Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422-5332
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Graco Inc.
Nonemployee Director Stock Option Plan
(Full title of the plan)

CT Corporation System Inc.
405 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401
(Name and address of agent for service)

(612) 333-4315
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed maximum offering price per share(1)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price(1)	Amount of registration fee
Common Stock (\$1.00 par value)	200,000 shares	\$18.00	\$3,600,000	\$1,241.38

(1) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(c), based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange on May 8, 1996.

PART II.
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents, which have been filed by Graco Inc. (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission, are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement, as of their respective dates:

(a) the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 1995;

(b) no other reports have been filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since the end of the fiscal year;

(c) the description of the Company's Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, contained in any registration statement or report filed under

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents the Company has filed pursuant to Sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, subsequent to the date hereof and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part hereof from the respective dates of filing of such documents.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

The validity of the Shares being registered hereby has been passed upon for the Company by Robert M. Mattison, Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Graco Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Mattison is an officer of the Company.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 302A.521 of the Minnesota Statutes requires, among other things, the indemnification of persons made or threatened to be made a party to a proceeding by reason of acts or omissions performed in their official capacity as an officer, director, employee or agent of the corporation against judgments, penalties and fines (including attorneys' fees) if such person is not otherwise indemnified, acted in good faith, received no improper benefit, believed that such conduct was in the best interests of the corporation, and, in the case of criminal proceedings, had no reason to believe the conduct was unlawful. In addition, Section 302A.521, subd. 3, requires payment by the corporation, upon written request, of reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition in certain instances. A decision as to required indemnification is made by a disinterested majority of the Board of Directors present at a meeting at which a disinterested quorum is present, or by a designated committee of the Board, by special legal counsel, by the shareholders or by a court. The bylaws of the Company provide that the Company shall indemnify such person, for such liabilities, in such manner, under such circumstances, and to such extent as permitted by Section 302A.521, as now enacted or hereafter amended. This indemnification may include indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933.

Item 8. Exhibits.

- 4.1 Restated Articles of Incorporation of Graco Inc.
(incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the
Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended
December 29, 1995)
- 5.1 Opinion of Robert M. Mattison, Vice President, General
Counsel and Secretary of Graco Inc., regarding legality
- 23.1 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors
- 23.2 Consent of Robert M. Mattison, Vice President, General Counsel
and Secretary of Graco Inc. (included in Exhibit 5.1 above)
- 24.1 Power of Attorney

Item 9. Undertakings.

A. Post-Effective Amendments.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

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

- (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3)
of the Securities Act of 1933;
- (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or
events arising after the effective date of the
registration statement (or the most recent post-
effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in
the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the
information set forth in the registration statement;
- (iii) To include any material information with
respect to the plan of distribution not
previously disclosed in the registration statement or
any material change to such information in the
registration statement;

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

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the
Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to
be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein,
and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the
initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective
amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the
termination of the offering.

B. Subsequent Documents Incorporated by Reference.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

C. Claims for Indemnification.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or other controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

EXHIBIT INDEX

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May 10, 1996

Graco Inc.
4050 Olson Memorial Highway
Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422-5332

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a member of the bar of the State of Minnesota and Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Graco Inc. (the "Company"). Reference is made to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 that the Company intends to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, for the purpose of registering 200,000 shares of Common Stock, \$1.00 par value, of the Company, to be issued to nonemployee directors pursuant to the Graco Inc. Nonemployee Director Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"). I have examined such documents and have reviewed such questions of law as I have considered necessary and appropriate for the purposes of this opinion.

I am of the opinion that the shares of Common Stock to be issued upon exercise of stock options granted pursuant to the Plan, will be legally issued, fully paid and nonassessable, provided (i) the value received by the Company is at least equal to the par value of the shares of Common Stock and (ii) the Registration Statement shall have become effective under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

I consent to the use of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert M. Mattison

Robert M. Mattison
Vice President, General Counsel
and Secretary

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of Graco Inc. on Form S-8 of our report dated January 23, 1996, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Graco Inc. for the year ended December 29, 1995.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Deloitte & Touche LLP
Minneapolis, Minnesota
May 9, 1996

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints George Aristides his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent with full powers of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to execute a Registration Statement on Form S-8 to be filed under the Securities Act of 1933 for the registration of 200,000 shares of Common Stock of Graco Inc. under the Graco Inc. Nonemployee Director Stock Option Plan and any and all post-effective amendments thereto, and to file such registration statement, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent, full power and authority to do and perform to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Dated: May 8, 1996

/s/ George Aristides
George Aristides

/s/ Ronald O. Baukol
Ronald O. Baukol

/s/ David A. Koch
David A. Koch

/s/ Joe R. Lee
Joe R. Lee

/s/ Richard D. McFarland
Richard D. McFarland

/s/ Lee R. Mitau
Lee R. Mitau

/s/ Martha A.M. Morfitt
Martha A.M. Morfitt

/s/ Dale R. Olseth
Dale R. Olseth

/s/ Charles M. Osborne
Charles M. Osborne

/s/ William G. Van Dyke
William G. Van Dyke