

## THE HAWTHORNE GROUP

500 Greentree Commons  
381 Mansfield Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
(412) 928-7700  
(412) 928-7715 (Fax)

EBSA/PUBLIC DISCLOSURE  
2009 SEP -1 AM 7: 22

August 20, 2009

Top Hat Plan Exemption  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Room N-1513  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20210

**Re: Top Hat Plan Statement**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter serves as a statement under Department of Labor Regulation Section 2520.104-23.  
The information required is as follows:

1. **Name and Address of Employer:** The Hawthorne Group, Inc.  
381 Mansfield Ave, Ste. 500  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
2. **Employer Identification Number:** 25-1538225
3. **Declaration:** The Hawthorne Group Inc. adopted a nonqualified deferred compensation plan for John F. Hensler. The plan is primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for a select group of management or highly compensated employees. Benefits are paid as needed solely from The Hawthorne Group Inc.'s general assets.
4. **Number of Top Hat Plans Maintained:** 1
5. **Number of Employees Participating in Top Hat Plans:** 1

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

The Hawthorne Group, Inc.

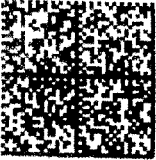
By: Harry Powers, Jr.

Title: Chairman

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CHERIN & MELLOTT, LLC

*U.S. Steel Tower  
600 Grant Street, 44<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219*

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**ECKERT  
SEAMANS**