

# **Corporate Governance and Nominations Committee Charter**

### **Purpose of Committee**

The purpose of the Corporate Governance and Nominations Committee (the "*Committee*") of the Board of Directors (the "*Board*") of Thomas Weisel Partners Group, Inc. (the "*Company*") is to recommend individuals to the Board for nomination, election or appointment as members of the Board and its committees, consistent with the criteria included in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, to oversee the evaluation of the performance of the Board and the Company's Chief Executive Officer (the "*CEO*"), and to take a leadership role in shaping the corporate governance of the Company, including developing, recommending to the Board and reviewing on an ongoing basis the corporate governance principles and practices that should apply to the Company.

#### **Committee Membership**

Except as otherwise permitted by Rule 4350©(4) of the Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. ("*Nasdaq*"), the Committee shall consist solely of "independent directors" ("*Independent Directors*"), i.e., those directors who neither are officers or employees of the Company or its subsidiaries nor have a relationship which, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director, and who are otherwise "independent" under the rules of Nasdaq.

The initial members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board. Candidates to fill subsequent vacancies in the Committee shall be appointed by the Board based on nominations by the Committee. Members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Board and for such term or terms as the Board may determine.

## **Committee Structure and Operations**

The Board shall designate one member of the Committee as its chairperson. The Committee shall meet periodically as deemed desirable or appropriate by the Committee or its chairperson.

The Committee may invite such members of management and other persons to its meetings as it may deem desirable or appropriate. The Committee shall report regularly to the Board summarizing the Committee's actions and any significant issues considered by the Committee.

#### **Committee Duties and Responsibilities**

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the Committee:

- 1. To identify individuals qualified to become Board members, to recommend to the Board the nominees to stand for election as directors at the annual meeting of stockholders or, if applicable, at a special meeting of stockholders, and in each case to provide to the Board the Committee's assessment of whether each such individual or nominee would be an Independent Director. In the case of a vacancy in the office of a director (including a vacancy created by an increase in the size of the Board), the Committee shall recommend to the Board an individual to fill such vacancy through appointment by the Board. In recommending candidates, the Committee shall place primary emphasis on the criteria set forth under "Selection of Directors Nominations and Appointments" in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines and may take into consideration such other factors as it deems appropriate. The Committee shall consider all candidates recommended by the Company's stockholders in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Company's annual proxy statement. The Committee may consider candidates proposed by management, but is not required to do so.
- 2. To develop, recommend to the Board and review periodically as it deems appropriate, but at least annually, the standards to be applied by the Board in making determinations as to whether a director should be deemed an Independent Director, and to recommend to the Board any modifications to these standards that the Committee deems desirable.

- 3. To identify Board members qualified to fill vacancies on any committee of the Board (including the Committee), to recommend that the Board appoint the identified member or members to the respective committee and to recommend to the Board any member of a committee that should be removed from such committee. In recommending a candidate for committee membership or removal from a committee, the Committee shall take into consideration the criteria set forth under "Selection of Directors Nominations and Appointments" in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, the factors set forth in the charter of the committee, if any, and any other factors that it deems appropriate and that are not inconsistent with the criteria set forth in the Corporate Governance Guidelines or any factors set forth in the committee charter, including without limitation the consistency of the candidate's experience with the goals of the committee and the interplay of the candidate's experience with the experience of other committee members. In recommending a candidate for Audit Committee membership, the Committee shall provide to the Board the Committee's assessment of whether such candidate would be independent and would be an "audit committee financial expert," in each case, as defined by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 4. To review the continuation on the Board of any director who has tendered a letter of proposed retirement or resignation from the Board and to recommend to the Board whether, in light of all the circumstances, the Board should accept such proposed retirement or resignation or request that the director continue to serve.
- 5. To make recommendations to the Board from time to time as to changes that the Committee believes to be desirable in the size of the Board or any committee thereof.
- 6. To make recommendations to the Board from time to time as to the establishment of any new committees of the Board that the Committee believes to be necessary or desirable.
- 7. To annually conduct an evaluation of the performance of the Board and, through its chairperson, to communicate this evaluation to the full Board. The performance evaluation shall be conducted in such manner as the Committee deems appropriate.
- 8. To review periodically the form and amounts of director compensation and make recommendations to the Board with respect thereto.
- 9. To annually conduct an evaluation of the performance of the CEO and, through its chairperson, to communicate this evaluation to the CEO and the chairperson of the Compensation Committee. The performance evaluation shall be conducted in such manner as the Committee deems appropriate.
- 10. To review and concur in the CEO's management succession plan at least annually.
- 11. To develop and recommend to the Board a set of corporate governance principles and practices applicable to the Company and, at least once a year, to review those principles and practices and recommend to the Board any revisions the Committee deems necessary or desirable.
- 12. To review, at least once a year, the Company's Code of Conduct and Ethics and recommend to the Board any revisions the Committee deems necessary or desirable.
- 13. To prepare and issue the evaluation required under "Committee Performance Evaluation" below.
- 14. To assist management in the preparation of the disclosure in the Company's annual proxy statement regarding the operations of the Committee.
- 15. To discharge any other duties or responsibilities delegated to the Committee by the Board from time to time.

#### **Committee Performance Evaluation**

The Committee shall prepare and provide to the Board an annual performance evaluation of the Committee, which evaluation shall compare the performance of the Committee with the requirements of this charter. The performance evaluation shall also include a review of the adequacy of this charter and shall recommend to the Board any revisions the Committee deems necessary or desirable, although the Board shall have the sole authority to amend this charter. The performance evaluation shall be conducted in such manner as the Committee deems appropriate.

#### **Delegation to Subcommittee**

The Committee may, in its discretion, delegate all or a portion of its duties and responsibilities to a subcommittee of the Committee.

## **Resources and Authority of the Committee**

The Committee shall have the resources and authority appropriate to discharge its duties and responsibilities, including the authority to select, retain, terminate, and approve the fees and other retention terms of special counsel or other experts or consultants, as it deems appropriate, without seeking approval of the Board or management. With respect to consultants or search firms used to identify director candidates and compensation consultants retained to assist in the evaluation of director compensation, this authority shall be vested solely in the Committee.

Effective as of January 10, 2006