GRIFFON CORP Form 3 October 09, 2008

FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement **GRIFFON CORP [GFF]** À GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP (Month/Day/Year) **INC** 09/29/2008 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 85 BROAD ST (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Director __X__ 10% Owner Form filed by One Reporting Officer Other Person NEW YORK, NYÂ 10004 (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Common Stock 10,000,000 I See footnotes (1) (2) Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

currently valid OMB control number.

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| | | Title | Security | Direct (D) | |

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Date Expiration Amount or or Indirect
Exercisable Date Number of (I)
Shares (Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | | Relationships | | | | |
|--|----------|---------------|---------|-------|--|--|
| 1 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC 85 BROAD ST NEW YORK, NY 10004 | | ÂΧ | Â | Â | | |
| GOLDMAN SACHS & CO 85 BROAD STREET NEW YORK, NY 10004 | Â | ÂΧ | Â | Â | | |
| GS Direct, L.L.C. 85 BROAD STREET NEW YORK, NY 10004 | Â | ÂX | Â | Â | | |

Signatures

/s/ Yvette Kosic, Attorney-in-fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

/s/ Yvette Kosic,

Attorney-in-fact 10/09/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

/s/ Yvette Kosic, Attorney-in-fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) This statement is being filed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. ("GS Group"), Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs") and GS Direct, L.L.C. ("GS Direct", and together with GS Group and Goldman Sachs, the "Reporting Persons").
 - GS Group and Goldman Sachs may be deemed to beneficially own indirectly, in the aggregate, 10,000,000 shares of of common stock, par value \$0.25 per share (the "Common Stock"), of Griffon Corporation, beneficially owned directly by GS Direct. Goldman Sachs and
- (2) GS Direct are wholly-owned subsidiaries of GS Group. Goldman Sachs is the manager of GS Direct. The Reporting Persons each disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities reported herein except to the extent of their pecuniary interest therein. Goldman Sachs has net open short positions of 312,989 shares of Common Stock.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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