

SYSCO CORP

Form S-8

November 17, 2010

As filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on November 17, 2010

Registration Statement No. _____

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

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

SYSCO CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

74-1648137
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1390 Enclave Parkway
Houston, Texas 77077-2099
(Address, including zip code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Sysco Corporation Amended and Restated 1974 Employees' Stock Purchase Plan
(Full Title of Plan)

Michael C. Nichols
Senior Vice President, Administration, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
1390 Enclave Parkway
Houston, Texas 77077-2099
(281) 584-1390
(Name and address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code,
of agent for service)

Copy to:

B. Joseph Alley, Jr., Esq.
Arnall Golden Gregory LLP
171 17th Street, NW
Suite 2100
Atlanta, Georgia 30363-1031
(404) 873-8500

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Indicate by a check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer”, “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
 Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Calculation of Registration Fee

| Title of securities to be registered | Amount to be Registered(1) | Proposed maximum offering price per share(2) | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price(2) | Amount of registration fee |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$1.00 par value | 5,000,000 Shares | \$28.725 | \$143,625,000 | \$10,241 |

- (1) Includes an indeterminate number of additional shares that may be issued to adjust the number of shares issued pursuant to the plan described herein as the result of any future stock split, stock dividend or similar adjustment of Registrant’s outstanding Common Stock.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, based upon the average of the high and low price of the Registrant's Common Stock on November 11, 2010 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference.

The following documents are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement:

- (a) Sysco's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 3, 2010;
- (b) Sysco's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 2, 2010;
- (c) Sysco's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 31, 2010, September 22, 2010, October 27, 2010 and November 15, 2010;
- (d) The description of Sysco's common stock contained in Sysco's registration statement on Form 8-A filed under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description, including Sysco's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 26, 2000; and
- (e) All documents subsequently filed by Sysco pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, before filing a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement that indicates that all of the shares of common stock offered have been sold or which deregisters all of such shares the remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document, which is, or is deemed to be, incorporated by reference, herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Certain legal matters in connection with the common stock covered by this Registration Statement are being passed upon for Sysco by Arnall Golden Gregory LLP, Atlanta, Georgia. Jonathan Golden, the sole stockholder of Jonathan Golden P.C. (a partner of Arnall Golden Gregory LLP), is a director of Sysco. As of November 16, 2010, attorneys with Arnall Golden Gregory LLP involved in the preparation of this Registration Statement beneficially owned an aggregate of approximately 87,047 shares of Sysco's common stock.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Charter and Bylaws. Sysco's Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws provide for indemnification of Sysco's directors and officers against all expense, liability and loss reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding arising by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of the Registrant, to the fullest extent permitted by

Delaware General Corporation Law (except that, generally, indemnification is not available for proceedings brought by the director or officer). This indemnification extends also to directors or officers who serve as agents for any entity at Sysco's request, including, for example, persons who serve as agents for Sysco's employee benefit plans. In addition, Sysco's Certificate of Incorporation includes a provision eliminating, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, the personal liability of directors for monetary damages for breaches of fiduciary duty. Sysco may also advance expenses incurred by a director or officer in defending a proceeding before the final disposition of the proceeding so long as the officer or director undertakes to repay the advanced amounts in the event it is ultimately determined that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified. Sysco's Bylaws provide that rights to indemnification and advancement of expenses are deemed to have fully vested at the time the indemnitee assumes his or her position with Sysco.

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Delaware Law. Delaware General Corporation Law currently requires Sysco to indemnify a director or officer for all expenses incurred by him or her (including attorney's fees) when he or she is successful (on the merits or otherwise) in defense of any proceeding brought by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or officer of Sysco. In addition, with respect to all proceedings other than proceedings by or in the right of the corporation, Delaware law allows Sysco to indemnify a director or officer against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement, even if the director or officer is not successful on the merits, if he or she:

- acted in good faith;
- acted in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation; and
 - in the case of a criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

Sysco may indemnify directors and officers with respect to proceedings brought by or in the right of the corporation to the same extent as with respect to other proceedings, except that if the director or officer is held liable to Sysco in the proceeding, then Sysco may not indemnify the director or officer unless a court determines that even though he or she was held liable to Sysco, the officer or director is nonetheless fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification.

Except for indemnification mandated by law or ordered by a court, Sysco may not indemnify an officer or director without a formal determination that the required criteria have been met. The determination must be made by a majority of the disinterested directors (or a committee appointed by them), independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or the stockholders.

Sysco shall advance expenses incurred by a current officer or director in defending a proceeding to which indemnification is applicable before the final disposition of the proceeding, if the officer or director undertakes to repay the advanced amounts in the event it is ultimately determined that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified. Sysco shall advance expenses to former officers and directors with respect to such proceedings and may not require such an undertaking.

Plan Provisions and Other Contractual Arrangements. Certain of Sysco's employee benefit plans provide indemnification of directors and other agents against certain claims arising from administration of such plans.

D&O Insurance. Sysco maintains liability insurance for its directors and officers covering, subject to certain exceptions, any actual or alleged negligent act, error, omission, misstatement, misleading statement, neglect or breach of duty by such directors or officers, individually or collectively, in the discharge of their duties in their capacity as directors and officers of Sysco.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Exhibit
No.

4.1 Restated Certificate of Incorporation dated April 29, 1985, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3(a) to Sysco's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 28, 1997).

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Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation dated November 9, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3(d) to Sysco's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 1, 2000).

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- 4.3 Certificate of Amendment to Restated Certificate of Incorporation dated December 9, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3(e) to Sysco's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 27, 2003).
- 4.4 Form of Amended Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3(c) to Sysco's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 29, 1996).
- 4.5 Amended and Restated Bylaws of Sysco Corporation dated July 18, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.5 to Sysco's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 23, 2008).
- 5* Opinion of Arnall Golden Gregory LLP regarding legality of securities being registered
- 15* Letter from Ernst & Young LLP re: Unaudited Financial Statements
- 23.1* Consent of Arnall Golden Gregory LLP (included as part of Exhibit 5 hereto)
- 23.2* Consent of Ernst & Young LLP
- 24* Power of Attorney (included on signature page).
- 99 Sysco Corporation Amended and Restated 1974 Employees' Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Annex A in Sysco's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 29, 2010).

* Filed herewith.

Item 9. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes as follows:

(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 (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) shall not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Act, 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.

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(4) 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 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to 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.

(5) 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 provisions described in Item 6, 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 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.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Houston, State of Texas on November 17, 2010.

SYSCO CORPORATION

By: /s/ William J. DeLaney
 William J. DeLaney
 Chief Executive Officer

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints William J. DeLaney and Michael C. Nichols and each of them, his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place, and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his or her substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE, FINANCIAL & ACCOUNTING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

| Name | Title | Date |
|--|---|-------------------|
| /s/ William J. DeLaney William J. DeLaney | President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer) | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Robert C. Kreidler Robert C. Kreidler | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ G. Mitch Elmer G. Mitch Elmer | Senior Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer) | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ John M. Cassaday John M. Cassaday | Director | |

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| | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| /s/ Judith B. Craven Judith B. Craven | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Manny A. Fernandez Manny A. Fernandez | Non-Executive Chairman of the Board | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Larry C. Glasscock. Larry C. Glasscock | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Jonathan Golden Jonathan Golden | Director | November 17, 2010 |

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| | | |
|--|----------|----------------------|
| /s/ Joseph A. Hafner, Jr. Joseph A. Hafner, Jr. | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Hans-Joachim Koerber Ph.D. Hans-Joachim Koerber Ph.D. | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Nancy S. Newcomb Nancy S. Newcomb | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Phyllis S. Sewell Phyllis S. Sewell | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Richard G. Tilghman Richard G. Tilghman | Director | November 17, 2010 |
| /s/ Jackie M. Ward Jackie M. Ward | Director | November 17, 2010 |

