GENERAL ELECTRIC CO Form S-8 POS May 14, 2004

OuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 14, 2004

Registration No. 333-74415

United States Securities and Exchange Commission

Washington, D.C. 20549

Post-Effective Amendment No. 9

to

Form S-8

Registration Statement Under The Securities Act of 1933

General Electric Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

14-0689340 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

3135 Easton Turnpike
Fairfield, Connecticut 06828
(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

Various Existing and Future GE or Affiliate Benefit and Compensation Plans

(Full titles of the Plans)

Michael R. McAlevey Chief Corporate and Securities Counsel 3135 Easton Turnpike Fairfield, Connecticut 06828 (Name and address of agent for service)

(203) 373-2967

(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Amendment No. 9

This Amendment No. 9 to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 is being filed for the purpose of adding signatures for new plans offering GE common stock and plan interests to employees of GE affiliates and of withdrawing the General Electric Railcar Services Corporation Hourly Employees Savings Plan as a registrant under this registration statement. This Amendment No. 9 incorporates by this reference the contents of the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File no. 333-74415) filed on March 15, 1999 (the "Original Filing"), Amendment No. 1 (filed March 17, 2000), Amendment No. 2 (filed July 13, 2000), Amendment No. 3 (filed October 13, 2000), Amendment No. 4 (filed October 19, 2001), Amendment No. 5 (filed February 14, 2002), Amendment No. 6 (filed June 28, 2002), Amendment No. 7 (filed August 29, 2002) and Amendment No. 8 (filed August 6, 2003), each to the extent not inconsistent with this Amendment No. 9.

With this filing, the following plans are covered by this Registration Statement, each with the respective number of shares allocated from the aggregate amount originally registered, as adjusted for the 3-for-1 stock split effective April 27, 2000:

Plan Name	Date Added	Post-Split Shares Allocated
General Electric Company Directors' Compensation Plan	3/15/99	150,000
GE Automation Services, Inc. Affiliate 401(k) Savings Plan (formerly, GE Industrial Systems	0,10,75	120,000
Solutions 401(k) Savings Plan)	3/15/99	600,000
Japan Employees' Share Purchase Program	3/15/99	300,000
Total Control Products, Inc. 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan	3/17/00	300,000
Advanced Services, Inc. Employee Savings and Retirement Plan	7/13/00	300,000
Client Business Services, Inc. Retirement Income and Savings Plan	10/13/00	300,000
Harmon Industries, Inc. 1990 Incentive Stock Option Plan, and Harmon Industries, Inc. 1996		
Long-Term Incentive Plan	10/13/00	370,000
SES Americom Retirement and Savings Plan	10/19/01	50,000
IGE Engines Holdings Limited Share Incentive Plan	6/28/02	270,000
ITI 401(k) Plan	8/29/02	50,000
Smallworldwide Executive Share Option Scheme, and Smallworldwide Limited Share Option		
Scheme 1996	8/06/03	204,000
Amersham Health Employee Savings Plan	5/14/04	150,000
Amersham Executive Share Option Scheme 1993	5/14/04	53,000
Amersham Biosciences Employee Savings Plan	5/14/04	150,000
Amersham North America Stock Option Plan 2000	5/14/04	19,000
Amersham Share Option Scheme 1992	5/14/04	263,000
Heller Financial, Inc. Savings and Profit Sharing Plan	5/14/04	50,000
Unallocated	n/a	3,021,000
Total Registered		6,600,000
2		

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

General Electric Company (the "Company") by this reference hereby incorporates into this Registration Statement the following documents filed by the Company:

- 1. The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.
- 2. The Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed by the Company on March 30, 2004, as amended by Form 8-K/A, filed by the Company on April 19, 2004.
- All reports filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, since the end of the fiscal year covered by the Company's latest annual report.
- The description of the Company's Common Stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-104526).
- 5. The Annual Reports on Form 11-K of those plans obligated to file such reports, for the most recent year.

In addition, all documents filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then 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.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

The Company's Corporate Counsel, Robert E. Healing, has passed upon the validity of the shares of GE common stock to be issued under the plans identified above. Mr. Healing beneficially owns or has rights to acquire an aggregate of less than 0.01% of the Company's common stock

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Incorporated by reference to the Original Filing.

Item 8. Exhibits.

See Exhibit Index.

The registrant will submit or has submitted the qualified plans registered hereby, and any amendments thereto, to the Internal Revenue Service in a timely manner and has made or will make all changes required by the IRS in order to qualify the plans.

Item 9. Undertakings.

Incorporated by reference to the Original Filing.

Signatures

The Registrant. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all the requirements for filing this Amendment No. 9 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 Town of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, on May 14, 2004.

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

By: /s/ JEFFREY R. IMMELT*

Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Director

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 date indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ JEFFREY R. IMMELT*	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive	
Jeffrey R. Immelt	Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	May 14, 2004
/s/ KEITH S. SHERIN*	Senior Vice President Finance, Chief	
Keith S. Sherin	Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	May 14, 2004
/s/ PHILIP D. AMEEN*	Vice President and Comptroller	May 14, 2004
Philip D. Ameen	(Principal Accounting Officer)	1124 1 1, 2001
/s/ JAMES I. CASH, JR.*	—— Director	May 14, 2004
James I. Cash, Jr.	210000	171ay 11, 2001
/s/ DENNIS D. DAMMERMAN*	—— Director	May 14, 2004
Dennis D. Dammerman	Director	May 14, 2004
/s/ ANN M. FUDGE*	—— Director	May 14, 2004
Ann M. Fudge	—— Director	May 14, 2004
	4	

/s/ CLAUDIO X. GONZALEZ*	— Director	May 14, 2004
Claudio X. Gonzalez	— Director	May 14, 2004
/s/ ANDREA JUNG*	Director	May 14, 2004
Andrea Jung /s/ ALAN G. LAFLEY*		
Alan G. Lafley	Director	May 14, 2004
/s/ KENNETH G. LANGONE*	Director	May 14, 2004
Kenneth G. Langone		May 11, 2001
/s/ RALPH S. LARSEN*	Director	May 14, 2004
Ralph S. Larsen /s/ ROCHELLE B. LAZARUS*		
Rochelle B. Lazarus	Director	May 14, 2004
/s/ SAM NUNN*	Director	May 14, 2004
Sam Nunn		May 14, 2004
/s/ ROGER S. PENSKE*	Director	May 14, 2004
Roger S. Penske /s/ ROBERT J. SWIERINGA*		
Robert J. Swieringa	Director	May 14, 2004
/s/ DOUGLAS A. WARNER III*		
Douglas A. Warner III	Director	May 14, 2004
/s/ ROBERT C. WRIGHT*	- Director	May 14, 2004
Robert C. Wright* 5		May 11, 2001

*By: /s/ MICHAEL R. MCALEVEY

May 14, 2004

Michael R. McAlevey Attorney in Fact

The Plans. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this Amendment No. 9 to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, on May 14, 2004.

GE Automation Services, Inc. Affiliate 401(k) Savings Plan (formerly GE Industrial Systems Solutions 401(k) Savings Plan)

Total Control Products, Inc. 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan

Advanced Services, Inc. Employee Savings and Retirement Plan

Client Business Services, Inc. Retirement Income and Savings Plan

SES Americom Retirement and Savings Plan

IGE Engines Holdings Limited Share Incentive Plan

ITI 401(k) Plan

Amersham Health Employee Savings Plan

Amersham Biosciences Employee Savings Plan

By: /s/ ELIZA W. FRASER

Eliza W. Fraser Attorney-in-Fact

Heller Financial, Inc. Savings and Profit Sharing Plan

6

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 4:	Restated Certificate of Incorporation and By-laws of the Registrant, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form8-K dated April 27, 2000*		
Exhibit 5	Opinion of Robert E. Healing*		
Exhibit 23(a):	Consent of KPMG LLP**		
Exhibit 23(b):	Consent of Robert E. Healing (included in Exhibit 5)*		
Exhibit 23(c):	Consent of Spence, Marston, Bunch, Morris & Co.**		
Exhibit 24(a):	Power of Attorney of certain Officers and Directors of GE relating to Affiliate Benefit Plans, filed as Exhibit 23(a) to Amendment No. 8*		
Exhibit 24(b)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to GE Automation Services, Inc. Affiliate 401(k) Savings Plan (formerly, GE Industrial Systems Solutions 401(k) Plan), filed as Exhibit 23(b) to Amendment No. 8*		
Exhibit 24(c)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to Total Control Products, Inc. 401(k) and Profit Sharing Plan, filed as Exhibit 24(c) to Amendment No. 1*		
Exhibit 24(d)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to Advanced Services, Inc. Employee Savings and Retirement Plan, filed as Exhibit 24(e) to Amendment No. 2*		
Exhibit 24(e)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to Client Business Services, Inc., Retirement Income and Savings Plan, filed as Exhibit 24(f) to Amendment No. 3*		
Exhibit 24(f)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to SES Americom Retirement and Savings Plan, filed as Exhibit 24(g) to Amendment No. 4*		
Exhibit 24(g)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to the IGE Engines Holdings Limited Share Incentive Plan, filed as Exhibit 24(i) to Amendment No. 6*		
Exhibit 24(h)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to the ITI 401(k) Plan, filed as Exhibit 24(j) to Amendment No. 7*		
Exhibit 24(i)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to the Amersham Health Employee Savings Plan**		
Exhibit 24(j)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to the Amersham Biosciences Employee Savings Plan**		
Exhibit 24(k)	Power of Attorney of Plan Fiduciary relating to the Heller Financial, Inc. Savings and Profit Sharing Plan**		
* Filed r	previously		
**			
T:1. J .	la stancia de la bassaciale		

Filed electronically herewith.

QuickLinks

Amendment No. 9

PART II INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Item 9. Undertakings.

Signatures

Exhibit Index