

Edgar Filing: AUGUST TECHNOLOGY CORP - Form SC 13G

AUGUST TECHNOLOGY CORP  
Form SC 13G  
July 08, 2005

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
-----

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. \_\_)\*

August Technology Corporation  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)

05106U105

(CUSIP Number)

June 28, 2005

(Date of event which requires filing of this statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this  
Schedule 13G is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

-----  
\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting  
person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of  
securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would  
alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be  
deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act  
of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the  
Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the  
Notes).

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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 2 of 21 Pages

- (1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

Ramius Capital Group, LLC

- (2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*

(a)

(b)

- (3) SEC USE ONLY

- (4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
OWNED BY 1,289,954

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
REPORTING 0

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954

- (9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
1,289,954

- (10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*\*

- (11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
7.17%

- (12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
IA

\*\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 3 of 21 Pages

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(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

RCG Ambrose Master Fund, Ltd.

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*  
(a)  [X]  
(b)  [ ]

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Cayman Islands

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
OWNED BY 1,289,954

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
REPORTING 0

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954

(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
1,289,954

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*\*  
[ ]

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
7.17%

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
CO

\*\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 4 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

RCG Halifax Fund, Ltd.

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(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*  
(a)  [X]  
(b)  [ ]

-----  
(3) SEC USE ONLY  
-----

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Cayman Islands  
-----

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
OWNED BY 1,289,954  
-----

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
REPORTING 0  
-----

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954  
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(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
1,289,954  
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(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*\*

[ ]  
-----

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
7.17%  
-----

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
CO  
-----

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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 5 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS  
  
Ramius Master Fund, Ltd.  
-----

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*  
(a)  [X]  
(b)  [ ]  
-----

(3) SEC USE ONLY

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-----  
(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Cayman Islands  
-----  
NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0  
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BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
1,289,954  
-----  
OWNED BY  
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[ ]  
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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 6 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS  
Ramus Securities, L.L.C.  
-----  
(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*  
(a) [X]  
(b) [ ]  
-----  
(3) SEC USE ONLY  
-----  
(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware  
-----

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NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

---

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
1,289,954

OWNED BY

---

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
0

REPORTING

---

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954

---

(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
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1,289,954

---

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*\* [ ]

---

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
7.17%

---

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
BD

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\*\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 7 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS  
Ramius Advisors, LLC

---

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*  
(a) [X]  
(b) [ ]

---

(3) SEC USE ONLY

---

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware

---

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

---

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER

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1,289,954

OWNED BY \_\_\_\_\_

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
0

REPORTING \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954

(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
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1,289,954

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
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[ ]

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
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7.17%

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
OO

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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 8 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

C4S & Co., L.L.C.

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*

(a) [X]

(b) [ ]

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
1,289,954

OWNED BY \_\_\_\_\_

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

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0

REPORTING

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954

(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
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1,289,954

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[ ]

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7.17%

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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 9 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

Peter A. Cohen

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*

(a) [X]

(b) [ ]

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
OWNED BY 1,289,954

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
REPORTING 0

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954



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(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
1,289,954

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*\*

[ ]

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
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7.17%

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
IN

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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 10 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

Morgan B. Stark

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*

(a) [X]

(b) [ ]

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

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SHARES 0

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1,289,954

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1,289,954

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(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
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[ ]

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED  
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7.17%

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CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 11 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

Thomas W. Strauss

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*

(a) [X]  
(b) [ ]

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

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1,289,954

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES \*\*

[ ]

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED

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BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
7.17%

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
IN

\*\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 12 of 21 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS

Jeffrey M. Solomon

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP \*\*

(a)

(b)

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES 0

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
1,289,954

OWNED BY

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
0

REPORTING

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
1,289,954

(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
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1,289,954

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT  
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7.17%

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON \*\*  
IN

\*\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 13 of 21 Pages

Item 1.

(a) Name of Issuer

August Technology Corporation, a Minnesota Corporation (the "Company").

(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices

4900 West 78th Street  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55545

Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing

Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office

Item 2(c). Citizenship

Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Delaware

RCG Ambrose Master Fund, Ltd.  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Cayman Islands

RCG Halifax Fund, Ltd.  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Cayman Islands

Ramius Master Fund, Ltd.  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Cayman Islands

Ramius Securities, L.L.C.  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Delaware

Ramius Advisors, LLC  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Delaware

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C4S & Co., L.L.C.  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: Delaware

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 14 of 21 Pages

Peter A. Cohen  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: United States

Morgan B. Stark  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: United States

Thomas W. Strauss  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: United States

Jeffrey M. Solomon  
c/o Ramius Capital Group, LLC  
666 Third Avenue, 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10017  
Citizenship: United States

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities

Common Stock, no par value ("Common Stock")

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number

05106U105

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o);
- (b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
- (c)  Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
- (d)  Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8);
- (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);

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- (f)  An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g)  A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h)  A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 15 of 21 Pages

- (i)  A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
- (j)  Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c), check this box.

### Item 4. Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

#### (a) Amount beneficially owned:

As of the date hereof, each Reporting Person may be deemed the beneficial owner of (i) 732,624 shares of Common Stock owned by RCG Ambrose Master Fund, Ltd., a Cayman Islands company ("Ambrose"), (ii) 161,391 shares of Common Stock owned by RCG Halifax Fund, Ltd., a Cayman Islands company ("Halifax"), (iii) 164,782 shares of Common Stock owned by Ramius Master Fund, Ltd., a Cayman Islands company ("Ramius Master Fund") and (iv) 231,157 shares of Common Stock owned by Ramius Securities, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("Ramius Securities").

Note: Ramius Capital Group, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Ramius Capital") is the investment advisor of Ambrose and Halifax and has the power to direct some of the affairs of Ambrose and Halifax, including decisions respecting the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of shares of the Common Stock. Ramius Advisors, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Ramius Advisors") is the investment advisor of Ramius Master Fund and has the power to direct some of the affairs of Ramius Master Fund, including decisions respecting the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of share of the Common stock. Ramius Capital is the managing member of Ramius Advisors. Ramius Securities is a broker dealer affiliated with Ramius Capital. C4S & Co., L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("C4S"), is the managing member of Ramius Capital and in that capacity directs its operations. Peter A. Cohen ("Mr. Cohen"), Morgan B. Stark ("Mr. Stark"), Thomas W. Strauss ("Mr. Strauss") and Jeffrey M. Solomon ("Mr. Solomon") are the managing members of C4S and in that capacity direct its operations. The foregoing should not be construed in and of itself as an admission by any Reporting Person as to beneficial ownership of any shares of Common Stock owned by another Reporting Person. In addition, each of Mr. Cohen, Mr. Stark, Mr. Strauss and Mr. Solomon disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock owned by Ambrose, Halifax, Ramius Master Fund and Ramius Securities and the filing of this statement shall not be construed as an admission that any such person is the beneficial owner of any such securities.

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(b) Percent of class:

Approximately 7.17% as of the date of this filing. (Based on the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2005, there were 17,980,484 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of May 3, 2005.)

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 16 of 21 Pages

0

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote

1,289,954 shares of Common Stock.

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

0

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

1,289,954 shares of Common Stock.

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

Not applicable.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Not applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company

Not applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

See Exhibit I.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification

By signing below each of the undersigned certifies that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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Exhibits:

Exhibit I: Joint Filing Agreement, dated as of July 8, 2005, by and among Ramius Capital, Ambrose, Halifax, Ramius Master Fund, Ramius Securities, Ramius Advisors, C4S, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Stark, Mr. Strauss and Mr. Solomon.

Exhibit II: Power of attorney for Peter A. Cohen, Morgan B. Stark, Thomas W. Strauss and Jeffrey M. Solomon dated March 11, 2005.

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 17 of 21 Pages

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of its knowledge and belief, each of the undersigned certifies that the information with respect to it set forth in this statement is true, complete, and correct.

Dated: July 8, 2005

RAMIUS CAPITAL GROUP, LLC

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RCG AMBROSE MASTER FUND, LTD.

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
its Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RCG HALIFAX FUND, LTD.

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RAMIUS MASTER FUND, LTD.

By: Ramius Advisors, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Managing Member

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RAMIUS SECURITIES, L.L.C.

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
its Managing Member

RAMIUS ADVISORS, LLC

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Managing Member

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member



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By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 18 of 21 Pages

C4S & CO., L.L.C.

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

Jeffrey M. Solomon,  
as Attorney-in-Fact for  
Peter A. Cohen

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

Jeffrey M. Solomon,  
as Attorney-in-Fact for  
Morgan B. Stark

Jeffrey M. Solomon,  
as Attorney-in-Fact for  
Thomas W. Strauss

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----

Jeffrey M. Solomon

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 19 of 21 Pages

EXHIBIT I

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

In accordance with Rule 13d-1(k)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the undersigned hereby agree to the joint filing with each other of the attached statement on Schedule 13G, and all amendments thereto, and that such statement and all amendments thereto, is made on behalf of each of them.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned hereby executed this agreement on July 8, 2005.

RAMIUS CAPITAL GROUP, LLC

RCG AMBROSE MASTER FUND, LTD.

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
its Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

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RCG HALIFAX FUND, LTD.

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RAMIUS SECURITIES, L.L.C.

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
its Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RAMIUS MASTER FUND, LTD.

By: Ramius Advisors, LLC,  
its Investment Advisor

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Managing Member

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member  
  
By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

RAMIUS ADVISORS, LLC

By: Ramius Capital Group, LLC,  
its Managing Member

By: C4S & Co., L.L.C.,  
as Managing Member

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 20 of 21 Pages

C4S & CO., L.L.C.

By: /s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Name: Jeffrey M. Solomon  
Title: Managing Member

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
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Jeffrey M. Solomon,  
as Attorney-in-Fact for  
Morgan B. Stark

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
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Jeffrey M. Solomon

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Jeffrey M. Solomon,  
as Attorney-in-Fact for  
Peter A. Cohen

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
-----  
Jeffrey M. Solomon,  
as Attorney-in-Fact for  
Thomas W. Strauss

CUSIP No. 05106U105

13G

Page 21 of 21 Pages

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned hereby appoints Peter A. Cohen, Morgan B. Stark, Thomas W. Strauss and Jeffrey M. Solomon, or any of them, his true and lawful attorney-in fact and agent to execute and file with the Securities and Exchange Commission any Schedule 13D, Schedule 13G, any amendments thereto and any related documentation which may be required to be filed in his individual capacity as a result of the undersigned's beneficial ownership of, or participation in a group with respect to, securities directly or indirectly beneficially owned by Ramius Capital Group, LLC or any of its affiliates, and granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing which he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. The authority of Peter A. Cohen, Morgan B. Stark, Thomas W. Strauss and Jeffrey M. Solomon, or any of them, under this Power of Attorney shall continue with respect to the undersigned until the undersigned is no longer required to file Schedule 13Ds or Schedule 13Gs unless revoked earlier in writing.

Date: March 11, 2005

/s/ Peter A. Cohen  
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Peter A. Cohen

/s/ Morgan B. Stark  
-----  
Morgan B. Stark

/s/ Thomas W. Strauss  
-----  
Thomas W. Strauss

/s/ Jeffrey M. Solomon  
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Jeffrey M. Solomon