

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
|--|-----------|
| OMB Number:                                  | 3235-0104 |
| Estimated average burden hours per response: | 0.5       |

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>Cardinale Gerald J.</u><br><hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>85 BROAD STREET</u><br><hr/> (Street)<br><u>NEW YORK NY 10004</u><br><hr/> (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>09/29/2008</u> | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>GRIFFON CORP [ GFF ]</u>  |   |
|   |  | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner<br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)<br>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <u>Common Stock</u>             | <u>10,000,000</u>                                     | <u>I</u>   | <u>See footnotes<sup>(1)(2)</sup></u>                 |

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |                 | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|
|  | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date |   |  |  |   |

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The Reporting Person is a managing director of Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("Goldman Sachs"). Goldman Sachs is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. ("GS Group"). The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities reported herein except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, if any.
- GS Group and Goldman Sachs may be deemed to beneficially own indirectly, in the aggregate, 10,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.25 per share (the "Common Stock"), of Griffon Corporation, beneficially owned directly by GS Direct, L.L.C. ("GS Direct"). GS Direct is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GS Group. Goldman Sachs is the manager of GS Direct. GS Group, Goldman Sachs and GS Direct each disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities reported herein except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein. Goldman Sachs has net open short positions of 312,989 shares of Common Stock.

/s/ Yvette Kosic, Attorney-in-fact 10/09/2008

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.**

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned does hereby appoint Bruce A. Albert, Andrea DeMar, Yvette Kotic, Rachel Parrish, Kevin P. Treanor, Michael T. Seeley and Anthony DeRose (and any other employee of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. or one of its affiliates designated in writing by one of the attorneys-in-fact), his true and lawful attorneys, and each of them his true and lawful attorney, with power to act without the other, and with full power of substitution and resubstitution, to execute for him and in his name any Initial Statement of Beneficial Ownership of Securities on Form 3, any Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership on Form 4 and any Annual Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership on Form 5, or any similar or successor form, which may be required to be filed by him with the Securities and Exchange Commission and any and all instruments necessary or incidental therewith, hereby granting unto said attorneys and each of them full power and authority to do and perform in the name and on behalf of the undersigned, and in any and all capacities, every act and thing whatsoever required or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and approving the act of said attorneys and each of them.

This power of attorney shall not be affected by the subsequent disability or incompetence of the principal. This power of attorney shall remain in full force and effect until either revoked in writing by the undersigned or until such time as the person or persons to whom power of attorney has been hereby granted cease(s) to be an employee of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. or one of its affiliates.

In witness thereof the undersigned hereunto signed his name this 2nd day of October, 2008.

/s/ Gerald J. Cardinale  
-----  
Gerald J. Cardinale