
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) December 8, 1994

KIRBY CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada

1-7615

74-1884980

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

(Commission
File Number)

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

1775 St. James Place, Suite 300, Houston, Texas

77056-3453

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (713) 629-9370

ITEM 5.

OTHER EVENTS

The Registrant files herewith those exhibits listed in Item 7(c) below.

ITEM 7(C).

EXHIBITS

The following exhibits are furnished in accordance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K.

- 1.1 Distribution Agreement, dated December 2, 1994, by and among Kirby Corporation and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Salomon Brothers Inc and Wertheim Schroder & Co. Inc.
- 4.1 Form of Fixed Rate Global Note.
- 4.2 Form of Floating Rate Global Note.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

KIRBY CORPORATION
(Registrant)

Date: December 8, 1994

By: /s/ Brian K. Harrington
Brian K. Harrington
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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KIRBY CORPORATION
Medium-Term Notes Due
9 Months or More from Date of Issue

DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

December 2, 1994

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith
Incorporated
World Financial Center
North Tower, 10th Floor
New York, New York 10281-1310

Salomon Brothers Inc
Seven World Trade Center
New York, New York 10048

Wertheim Schroder & Co. Incorporated
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019-6016

Dear Sirs:

Kirby Corporation, a Nevada corporation (the "Company"), confirms its agreement with Merrill Lynch & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Salomon Brothers Inc and Wertheim Schroder & Co. Inc. (individually, an "Agent", and collectively, the "Agents") with respect to the issue and sale by the Company of its Medium-Term Notes described herein (the "Notes"). The Notes are to be issued pursuant to an indenture (the "Indenture") dated as of December 2, 1994 between the Company and Texas Commerce Bank National Association, as trustee (the "Trustee"). As of the date hereof, the Company has authorized the issuance and sale of up to U.S. \$250,000,000 aggregate principal amount (or its equivalent, based upon the applicable exchange rate at the time of issuance, in such foreign or composite currencies as the Company shall designate at the time of issuance) of Notes to or through the Agents pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. It is understood, however, that the Company may from time to time authorize the issuance of additional Notes and that such additional Notes may be sold to or through the Agents pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, all as though the issuance of such Notes were authorized as of the date hereof.

This Agreement provides both for the sale of Notes by the Company to the Agents as principal for resale to investors and other purchasers and for the sale of Notes by the Company directly to investors (as may from time to time be agreed to by the Company and the Agents), in which case each Agent will act as an agent of the Company in soliciting Note purchases.

The Company has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") a registration statement on Form S-3 (No. 33-56195) for the registration of debt securities, including the Notes under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act") and the offering thereof from time to time in accordance with Rule 415 of the rules and regulations of the SEC under the 1933 Act (the "1933 Act Regulations"). Such registration statement has been declared effective by the SEC and the Indenture has been qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (the "1939 Act"). Such registration statement (and any further registration statements that may be filed by the Company for the purpose of registering additional Notes and in connection with which this Agreement is included or incorporated by reference as an exhibit) and the prospectus constituting a part thereof and any prospectus supplements relating to the Notes, including all documents incorporated therein by reference, as from time to time amended or supplemented by the filing of documents pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "1934 Act") or the 1933 Act or otherwise, are referred to herein as the "Registration Statement" and the "Prospectus", respectively, except that if any revised prospectus shall be provided to the Agent by the Company for use in connection with the offering of the Notes, whether or not such revised prospectus is required to be filed by the Company pursuant to Rule 424(b) of the 1933 Act Regulations, the term "Prospectus" shall refer to such revised prospectus from and after the time it is first provided to the Agent for such use.

SECTION 1. Appointment as Agent.

(a) Appointment. Subject to the terms and conditions stated herein and subject to the reservation by the Company of the right to sell Notes directly on its own behalf, the Company hereby agrees that Notes will be sold to or through the Agents. Each Agent is authorized to engage the services of any other broker or dealer in connection with the offer or sale of the Notes purchased by the Agent as principal for resale to others but is not authorized to appoint sub-agents. In connection with sales by an Agent of Notes purchased by such Agent as principal to other brokers or dealers, the Agent may allow any portion of the discount it has received in connection with such purchase from the Company to such brokers or dealers. In performing its obligations under this Agreement, regardless of whether it is soliciting offers to purchase the Notes from the Company as its agent or purchasing Notes from the Company as principal, each Agent is acting individually and not jointly. The Company will not engage any other person or party (a "new agent") to solicit purchases of the Notes, except that the Company may accept an offer to purchase Notes through a new agent other than an Agent hereunder, provided that (x) the Company shall not have solicited such offer, (y) the Company and such new agent shall have executed an agreement with respect to such purchase having terms and conditions (including, without limitation, commission rates) substantially the same as those that would apply to such purchase under this Agreement if such new agent were an Agent (which may be accomplished by incorporating by reference in such agreement the terms and conditions of this Agreement) and (z) the Company shall notify the Agents prior to the execution of any such agreement and shall provide the Agents with a copy of such agreement promptly following the execution thereof.

(b) Sale of Notes. The Company shall not sell or approve the solicitation of purchases of Notes in excess of the amount that shall be authorized by the Company from time to time or in excess of the principal amount of Notes registered pursuant to the Registration Statement. The Agents shall have no responsibility for maintaining records with respect to the aggregate principal amount of Notes sold, or of otherwise monitoring the availability of Notes for sale, under the Registration Statement.

(c) Purchases as Principal. The Agents shall not have any obligation to purchase Notes from the Company as principal, but an Agent may agree from time to time to purchase Notes as principal. Any such purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal shall be made in accordance with Section 3(a) hereof.

(d) Solicitations as Agent. If agreed upon by an Agent and the Company, the Agent, acting solely as agent for the Company and not as principal, will solicit purchases of the Notes. Each Agent will communicate to the Company, orally, each offer to purchase Notes solicited by such Agent on an agency basis, other than those offers rejected by the Agent. Any Agent shall have the right, in its discretion reasonably exercised, to reject any proposed purchase of Notes, as a whole or in part, and any such rejection shall not be deemed a breach of such Agent's agreement contained herein. The Company may accept or reject any proposed purchase of Notes, in whole or in part. Each Agent shall make reasonable efforts to assist the Company in obtaining performance by each purchaser whose offer to purchase Notes has been solicited by such Agent and accepted by the Company. No Agent shall have any liability to the Company in the event any such agency purchase is not consummated for any reason. If the Company shall default on its obligation to deliver Notes to a purchaser whose offer it has accepted, the Company shall (i) hold the Agents harmless against any loss, claim or damage arising from or as a result of such default by the Company and (ii) notwithstanding such default, pay to the applicable Agent any commission to which it would be entitled in connection with such sale.

(e) Reliance. The Company and the Agents agree that any Notes purchased by the Agents shall be purchased, and any Notes the placement of which the Agents arranges shall be placed by the Agents, in reliance on the representations, warranties, covenants and agreements of the Company contained herein and on the terms and conditions and in the manner provided herein.

SECTION 2. Representations and Warranties.

(a) Representations and Warranties. The Company represents and warrants to each of the Agents as of the date hereon as of the date of each acceptance by the Company of an offer for the purchase of Notes (whether to an Agent as principal or through an Agent as agent), as of the date of each delivery of Notes (whether to an Agent as principal or through an Agent as agent) (the date of each such delivery to the Agent as principal being hereafter referred to as a "Settlement Date"), and as of any time that the Registration Statement or the Prospectus shall be amended or supplemented or there is filed with the SEC any document incorporated by reference into the Prospectus (each of the times referenced above being referred to herein as a "Representation Date") as follows:

(i) Due Incorporation and Qualification. The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the state of its incorporation with corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus; the Company is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason

of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure to so qualify and be in good standing would not have a material adverse effect on the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise.

(ii) Subsidiaries. Each subsidiary of the Company that is a significant subsidiary (each, a "Significant Subsidiary") as defined in Rule 405 of Regulation C of the 1933 Act Regulations has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation, has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure to so qualify and be in good standing would not have a material adverse effect on the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise; and all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of each Significant Subsidiary has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and non-assessable and, other than with respect to Universal Insurance Company ("Universal") and Boliver Terminal Company ("Boliver") and except for directors' qualifying shares, is owned by the Company, directly or through subsidiaries, free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance, claim or equity. The Company owns, directly or through subsidiaries, the percentage of the voting common stock of Universal that is most recently specified in the Company's filings pursuant to the 1934 Act and 100% of the non-voting common stock and preferred stock of Universal, in each case free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, claim or encumbrance except for rights of Universal to purchase or redeem the voting common stock, non-voting common stock and preferred stock of Universal owned by the Company pursuant to the terms of a Shareholders' Agreement, dated as of September 24, 1992, among the Company, Universal and Eastern America Financial Group, Inc. (the "Universal Shareholders' Agreement"). The Universal Shareholders Agreement has not been amended or terminated since September 24, 1992.

(iii) Registration Statement and Prospectus. At the time the Registration Statement became effective, the Registration Statement complied, and as of each applicable Representation Date will comply, in all material respects with the requirements of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations and the 1939 Act and the rules and regulations of the SEC promulgated thereunder. The Registration Statement, at the time it became effective, did not, and at each time thereafter at which any amendment to the Registration Statement becomes effective or any Annual Report on Form 10-K is filed by the Company with the SEC and as of each Representation Date, will not, contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. The Prospectus, as of the date hereof does not and as of each Representation Date will not, include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not

misleading; provided, however, that the representations and warranties in this subsection shall not apply to statements in or omissions from the Registration Statement or Prospectus made in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished to the Company in writing by the Agents expressly for use in the Registration Statement or Prospectus.

(iv) Incorporated Documents. The documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, at the time they were or hereafter are filed with the SEC, complied or when so filed will comply, as the case may be, in all material respects with the requirements of the 1934 Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the "1934 Act Regulations"), and, when read together and with the other information in the Prospectus, did not and will not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were or are made, not misleading.

(v) Accountants. The accountants who certified the financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus are independent public accountants within the meaning of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations.

(vi) Financial Statements. The financial statements and any supporting schedules of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus present fairly the consolidated financial position of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries as of the dates indicated and the consolidated results of their operations for the periods specified; and, except as stated therein, said financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States applied on a consistent basis; and the supporting schedules included in the Registration Statement present fairly the information required to be stated therein.

(vii) Authorization and Validity of this Agreement, the Indenture and the Notes. This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and, upon execution and delivery by the Agents, will be a valid and legally binding agreement of the Company enforceable with its terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally or by general equity principles; the Indenture has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and, upon execution and delivery by the Trustee, will be a valid and legally binding obligation of the Company enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally or by general equity principles, and except further as enforcement thereof may be limited by (i) requirements that a claim with respect to any Notes denominated other than in U.S. dollars (or a foreign currency or currency unit judgment in respect of such claim) be converted into U.S. dollars at a rate of exchange prevailing on a date determined pursuant to applicable

law or (ii) governmental authority to limit, delay or prohibit the making of payments outside the United States; the Notes have been duly and validly authorized for issuance, offer and sale pursuant to this Agreement and, when issued, authenticated and delivered pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and the Indenture against payment of the consideration therefor specified in the Prospectus or agreed upon pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, the Notes will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company enforceable in accordance with their terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally or by general equity principles, and except further as enforcement thereof may be limited by (i) requirements that a claim with respect to any Notes denominated other than in U.S. dollars (or a foreign currency or currency unit judgment in respect of such claim) be converted into U.S. dollars at a rate or exchange prevailing on a date determined pursuant to applicable law or (ii) governmental authority to limit, delay or prohibit the making of payments outside the United States; the Notes and the Indenture will be substantially in the form heretofore delivered to the Agent and conform in all material respects to all statements relating thereto contained in the Prospectus; and each holder of Notes will be entitled to the benefits of the Indenture.

(viii) Material Changes or Material Transactions. Since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, except as may otherwise be stated or incorporated by reference therein or contemplated thereby, (a) there has been no material adverse change in the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business and (b) there have been no transactions entered into by the Company or any of its subsidiaries that are material to the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise other than those in the ordinary course of business.

(ix) No Defaults: Regulatory Approvals. Neither the Company nor any of its Significant Subsidiaries is in violation of its charter or in default in any material respect in the performance or observance of any material obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any contract, indenture, mortgage, loan agreement, note, lease or other instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of them or their material properties may be bound; the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Indenture and the consummation of the transactions contemplated herein and therein have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action and will not conflict with or constitute a breach of, or default under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any material property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries pursuant to, any material contract, indenture, mortgage, loan agreement, note, lease or other instrument to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which it or any of them may be bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any such subsidiary is subject, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the charter or bylaws of the Company or any law, administrative regulation or administrative or court order or decree; and no consent,

approval, authorization, order or decree of any court or governmental agency or body is required for the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or in connection with the sale of Notes hereunder, except such as have been obtained or rendered, as the case may be, or as may be required under state securities ("Blue Sky") laws and except where the failure to obtain such consent, approval, authorization, order or decree would not have a material adverse effect on the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise.

(x) Legal Proceedings; Contracts. Except as may be set forth in the Registration Statement there is no action, suit or proceeding before or by any court or governmental agency or body, domestic or foreign, now pending, or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened against or affecting, the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries, that might, in the opinion of the Company, result in any material adverse change in the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, or might materially and adversely affect the consummation of this Agreement or the Indenture or any transaction contemplated hereby or thereby; and there are no contracts or documents of the Company or any of its subsidiaries that are required to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement by the 1933 Act or by the 1933 Act Regulations that have not been so filed.

(xi) Licenses. The Company owns or possesses or has obtained all governmental licenses, permits, consents, orders, approvals and other authorizations necessary to lease or own, as the case may be, and to operate its properties and to carry on its business as presently conducted where its ownership or lease of substantial properties or the conduct of its business requires such ownership or possession or the obtaining of such governmental licenses, permits, consents, orders, approvals and other authorizations and where the failure to do so would materially and adversely affect the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise.

(xii) Each of the Company and the Significant Subsidiaries legally owns its properties and assets free and clear of all pledges, liens, security interests, claims, encumbrances or restrictions, except such as are reflected in the Prospectus or as are not materially significant in relation to the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise.

(xiii) None of the Company or its Significant Subsidiaries are in violation of any applicable law, rule, regulation, judgment, order or decree of any government, governmental body or agency or court to which it may be subject except for violations which could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise.

(xiv) Investment Company Act. The Company is not required to be registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act").

(xv) Doing Business with Cuba. The Company has complied and will comply with the provisions of Florida H.B. 1771, codified as Section 517.075 of the Florida Statutes, 1987, as amended, and all regulations promulgated thereunder relating to issuers doing business in Cuba.

(xvi) Commodity Exchange Act. The Notes, when issued, authenticated and delivered pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and the Indenture, will be excluded or exempted under the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act.

(b) Additional Certifications. Any certificate signed by any officer of the Company and delivered to an Agent or to counsel for the Agents in connection with an offering of Notes through an Agent as agent or the sale of Notes to an Agent as principal shall be deemed a representation and warranty by the Company to such Agent as to the matters covered thereby on the date of such certificate and at each Representation Date subsequent thereto.

SECTION 3. Purchases as Principal; Solicitations as Agent.

(a) Purchases as Principal. Unless otherwise agreed by an Agent and the Company, Notes shall be purchased by each of the Agents as principal. Such purchases shall be made in accordance with terms agreed upon by such Agent and the Company (which terms, unless otherwise agreed, shall be agreed upon orally, with written confirmation prepared by such Agent and mailed to the Company). An Agent's commitment to purchase Notes as principal shall be deemed to have been made on the basis of the representations and warranties of the Company herein contained and shall be subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth. Each purchase of Notes, unless otherwise agreed, shall be at a discount from the principal amount of each such Note equivalent to the applicable commission set forth in Schedule A hereto. An Agent may engage the services of any other broker or dealer in connection with the resale of the Notes purchased as principal and may allow any portion of the discount received in connection with such purchases from the Company to such brokers and dealers. At the time of each purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal, such Agent shall specify the requirements for the stand-off agreement, officer's certificate, opinion of counsel and comfort letter pursuant to Sections 4(k), 7(b), 7(c) and 7(d) hereof.

(b) Solicitations as Agent. On the basis of the representations and warranties herein contained, but subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, when agreed by the Company and an Agent, such Agent, as an agent of the Company, will use its reasonable efforts to solicit offers to purchase the Notes upon the terms and conditions set forth herein and in the Prospectus. All Notes sold through an Agent as agent will be sold at 100% of their principal amount unless otherwise agreed to by the Company and such Agent.

The Company reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to suspend solicitation of purchases of the Notes through an Agent, as agent, commencing at any time for any period of

time or permanently. Upon receipt of instructions from the Company, an Agent will forthwith suspend solicitation of purchases from the Company until such time as the Company has advised such Agent that such solicitation may be resumed.

The Company agrees to pay each Agent a commission, in the form of a discount, equal to the applicable percentage of the principal amount of each Note sold by the Company as a result of a solicitation made by such Agent as set forth in Schedule A hereto.

(c) Administrative Procedures. The purchase price, interest rate or formula, maturity date and other terms of the Notes (as applicable) specified in Exhibit A hereto shall be agreed upon by the Company and the Agents and set forth in a pricing supplement to the Prospectus to be prepared in connection with each sale of Notes. Except as may be otherwise provided in such supplement to the Prospectus, the Notes will be issued in denominations of U.S. \$1,000 or any larger amount that is an integral multiple of U.S. \$1,000. Administrative procedures with respect to the sale of Notes shall be agreed upon from time to time by the Agents, the Company and the Trustee (the "Procedures"). The Agents and the Company agree to perform the respective duties and obligations specifically provided to be performed by them in the Procedures.

SECTION 4. Covenants of the Company.

The Company covenants with the Agents as follows:

(a) Notice of Certain Events. The Company will notify each Agent immediately of (i) the effectiveness of any amendment to the Registration Statement, (ii) the transmittal to the SEC for filing of any supplement to the Prospectus or any document to be filed pursuant to the 1934 Act that will be incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, (iii) the receipt of any comments from the SEC with respect to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, (iv) any request by the SEC for any amendment to the Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement to the Prospectus or for additional information, and (v) the issuance by the SEC of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or the initiation of any proceedings for that purpose. The Company will make every reasonable effort to prevent the issuance of any stop order and, if any stop order is issued, to obtain the lifting thereof at the earliest possible moment.

(b) Notice of Certain Proposed Filings. The Company will give each Agent advance notice of its intention to file any amendment to the Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement to the Prospectus (other than an amendment or supplement providing solely for a change in the interest rates of Notes), whether by the filing of documents pursuant to the 1934 Act, the 1933 Act or otherwise, and will furnish such Agent with copies of any such amendment or supplement or other documents proposed to be filed in advance of such proposed filing.

(c) Copies of the Registration Statement and the Prospectus. The Company will deliver to each of the Agents as many signed and conformed copies of the Registration Statement (as originally filed) and of each amendment thereto (including exhibits filed therewith or

incorporated by reference therein and documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus) as an Agent may reasonably request. The Company will furnish to each of the Agents as many copies of the Prospectus (as amended or supplemented) as an Agent shall reasonably request so long as such Agent is required to deliver a Prospectus in connection with sales or solicitations of offers to purchase the Notes.

(d) Preparation of Pricing Supplements. The Company will prepare, with respect to any Notes to be sold through or to an Agent pursuant to this Agreement, a Pricing Supplement with respect to such Notes in a form previously approved by the Agents and will file such Pricing Supplement pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2) under the 1933 Act not later than the close of business of the SEC on the fifth business day after the date on which such Pricing Supplement is first used.

(e) Revisions of Prospectus--Material Changes. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (l) of this Section, if at any time during the term of this Agreement any event shall occur or condition exist as a result of which it is necessary, in the reasonable opinion of counsel for the Agents or counsel for the Company, to further amend or supplement the Prospectus in order that the Prospectus will not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein not misleading in the light of the circumstances existing at the time the Prospectus is delivered to a purchaser, or if it shall be necessary, in the reasonable opinion of either such counsel, to amend or supplement the Registration Statement or the Prospectus in order to comply with the requirements of the 1933 Act or the 1933 Act Regulations, immediate notice shall be given, and confirmed in writing, to each Agent to cease the solicitation of offers to purchase the Notes in such Agent's capacity as agent and to cease sales of any Notes that such Agent may then own as principal, and the Company will promptly amend the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, whether by filing documents pursuant to the 1934 Act, the 1933 Act or otherwise, as may be necessary to correct such untrue statement or omission or to make the Registration Statement and Prospectus comply with such requirements.

(f) Prospectus Revisions--Periodic Financial Information. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (l) of this Section, on or prior to the date on which there shall be released to the general public interim financial statement information related to the Company with respect to each of the first three quarters of any fiscal year or preliminary financial statement information with respect to any fiscal year, the Company shall furnish such information to the Agents, confirmed in writing, and shall cause the Prospectus to be amended or supplemented to include or incorporate by reference financial information with respect thereto and corresponding information for the comparable period of the preceding fiscal year, as well as such other information and explanations as shall be necessary for an understanding thereof or as shall be required by the 1933 Act or the 1933 Act Regulations.

(g) Prospectus Revisions--Audited Financial Information. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (l) of this Section, on or prior to the date on which there shall be released to the general public financial information included in or derived from the audited financial statements of the Company for the preceding fiscal year, the Company shall cause the

Registration Statement and the Prospectus to be amended, whether by the filing of documents pursuant to the 1934 Act, the 1933 Act or otherwise, to include or incorporate by reference such audited financial statements and the report or reports, and consent or consents to such inclusion or incorporation by reference, of the independent accountants with respect thereto, as well as such other information and explanations as shall be necessary for an understanding of such financial statements or as shall be required by the 1933 Act or the 1933 Act Regulations.

(h) Earnings Statements. The Company will make generally available to its security holders as soon as practicable, but not later than 90 days after the close of the period covered thereby, an earnings statement (in form complying with the provisions of Rule 158 under the 1933 Act) covering each twelve month period beginning, in each case, not later than the first day of the Company's fiscal quarter next following the "effective date" (as defined in such Rule 158) of the Registration Statement with respect to each sale of Notes.

(i) Blue Sky Qualifications. The Company will endeavor, in cooperation with the Agents to qualify the Notes for offering and sale under the applicable securities laws of such states and other jurisdictions of the United States as the Agents may designate, and will maintain such qualifications in effect for as long as may be required for the distribution of the Notes; provided, however, that the Company shall not be obligated to file any general consent to service of process or to qualify as a foreign corporation in any jurisdiction in which it is not so qualified. The Company will file such statements and reports as may be required by the laws of each jurisdiction in which the Notes have been qualified as above provided. The Company will promptly advise the Agents of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the suspension of the qualification of the Notes for sale in any such state or jurisdiction or the initiating or threatening of any proceeding for such Purpose.

(j) 1934 Act Filings. The Company, during the period when the Prospectus is required to be delivered under the 1933 Act, will file promptly all documents required to be filed with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the 1934 Act.

(k) Stand-Off Agreement. If specified by any Agent in connection with a purchase by it of Notes as principal, between the date of the agreement to purchase such Notes and the Settlement Date with respect to such purchase, the Company will not, without such Agent's prior written consent, offer or sell, or enter into any agreement to sell, any debt securities of the Company (other than the Notes that are to be sold pursuant to such agreement and commercial paper in the ordinary course of business).

(l) Suspension of Certain Obligations. The Company shall not be required to comply with the provisions of subsections (e), (f) or (g) of this Section during any period from the time (i) the Agents shall have suspended solicitation of purchases of the Notes in their capacity as agent pursuant to a request from the Company and (ii) the Agents shall not then hold any Notes purchased as principal pursuant hereto, until the time the Company shall determine that solicitation of purchases of the Notes should be resumed or the Agents shall subsequently purchase Notes from the Company as principal.

SECTION 5. Conditions of Obligations.

The obligations of each of the Agents to purchase Notes as principal and to solicit offers to purchase the Notes as agent of the Company, and the obligations of any purchasers of the Notes sold through an Agent as agent, will be subject to the accuracy of the representations and warranties on the part of the Company herein and to the accuracy of the statements of the Company's officers made in any certificate furnished pursuant to the provisions hereof, to the performance and observance by the Company of all its covenants and agreements herein contained and to the following additional conditions precedent:

(a) Legal Opinions. On the date hereof, each of the Agents shall have received the following legal opinions, dated as of the date hereof and in form and substance satisfactory to the Agents:

(1) Opinion of Company Counsel. The opinion of Jenkens & Gilchrist, a Professional Corporation, counsel to the Company, to the effect that:

(i) The Company is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Nevada.

(ii) The Company has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties as described in the Registration Statement.

(iii) Each Significant Subsidiary of the Company is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation, has corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties as described in the Registration Statement; all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of each such Significant Subsidiary has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and non-assessable, and, other than with respect to Universal and Boliver except for directors' qualifying shares, is owned by the Company either directly or through subsidiaries; the Company owns, directly or through subsidiaries, the percentage of voting common stock of Universal that is most recently specified in the Company's filings with the SEC pursuant to the 1934 Act and 100% of the non-voting common stock and preferred stock of Universal, free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, claim or encumbrance except for rights of Universal to purchase or redeem the voting common stock, non-voting common stock and preferred stock of Universal owned by the Company pursuant to the terms the Universal Shareholders' Agreement.

(iv) This Agreement has been duly and validly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.

(v) The Indenture has been duly and validly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and (assuming the Indenture has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Trustee) constitutes a legal, valid and binding agreement of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization,

moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally, or by general equity principles, and except further as enforcement thereof may be limited by (A) requirements that a claim with respect to any Notes denominated other than in U.S. dollars (or a foreign currency or foreign currency unit judgment in respect of such claim) be converted into United States dollars at a rate of exchange prevailing on a date determined pursuant to applicable law or (B) governmental authority to limit, delay or prohibit the making of payments in foreign currency or currency units or payments outside the United States.

(vi) The Notes, in the form(s) certified by the Company as of the date hereof, have been duly authorized for issuance, offer and sale pursuant to this Agreement and, when issued, authenticated and delivered pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and the Indenture against payment of the consideration therefor, will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting enforcement of creditors' rights generally or by general equity principles, and except further as enforcement thereof may be limited by (A) requirements that a claim with respect to any Notes denominated other than in U.S. dollars (or a foreign currency or foreign currency unit judgment in respect of such claim) be converted into United States dollars at a rate of exchange prevailing on a date determined pursuant to applicable law or (B) governmental authority to limit, delay or prohibit the making of payments in foreign currency or currency units or payments outside the United States; and each holder of Notes will be entitled to the benefits of the Indenture.

(vii) The statements in the Prospectus under the captions "Description of Debt Securities" and "Description of Notes", insofar as they purport to summarize certain provisions of documents specifically referred to therein, are accurate summaries of such provisions in all material respects.

(viii) The Indenture is qualified under the 1939 Act.

(ix) The Registration Statement is effective under the 1933 Act and, to such counsel's knowledge, no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued under the 1933 Act or proceedings therefor initiated or threatened by the SEC.

(x) At the time the Registration Statement became effective, the Registration Statement complied as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the 1933 Act, the 1939 Act and the regulations under each of those Acts.

(xi) To such counsel's knowledge, there are no legal or governmental proceedings pending or threatened with respect to the Company that are required to be disclosed in the Prospectus, other than those disclosed therein.

(xii) To such counsel's knowledge, neither the Company nor any of its Significant Subsidiaries is in violation of its charter. The execution and delivery of this Agreement and of the Indenture, and the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated herein and therein have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action on the part of the Company and will not conflict with or constitute a breach of, or default under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any property or assets of the Company or any of its Significant Subsidiaries pursuant to, any contract, indenture, mortgage, loan agreement, note, lease or other instrument that has been included as an exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1993, and to which the Company or any such subsidiary is a party or by which it or any of them may be bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any such subsidiary is subject, or any law, administrative regulation or administrative or court decree known to such counsel to be applicable to the Company of any court or governmental agency, authority or body or any arbitrator having jurisdiction over the Company; nor will such actions result in any violation of the provisions of the charter or bylaws of the Company.

(xiii) To the best of such counsel's knowledge, there are no contracts, indentures, mortgages, loan agreements, notes, leases or other instruments or documents required to be described or referred to in the Registration Statement or to be filed as exhibits thereto other than those described or referred to therein or filed or incorporated by reference as exhibits therefor and the descriptions thereof or references thereto are correct.

(xiv) No consent, approval, authorization, order or decree of any court or governmental agency or body (including the SEC) is required for the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or in connection with the sale of Notes hereunder, except such as have been obtained or rendered, as the case may be, or as may be required under state securities laws.

(xv) The Notes, in the forms certified by the Company as of the date hereof, when issued, authenticated and delivered pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement and the Indenture, will be excluded or exempted from the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act, assuming the accuracy of any certificates of factual matters furnished by the Agent or the Company in connection with the issuance thereof.

(xvi) Each document filed pursuant to the 1934 Act and incorporated by reference in the Prospectus complied when filed as to form in all material respects with the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations thereunder.

(xvii) The information contained in the Prospectus under the captions "Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations" and the information incorporated by reference in the Prospectus under the captions "Item 1. Business - Business and Properties - Marine Transportation - Governmental Regulations", "Item 1. Business - Business and Properties - Marine Transportation - Environmental Regulations" and "Item 3. Legal Proceedings" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1993, to the extent that it constitutes matters of law or legal conclusions, has been reviewed by such counsel and is correct in all material respects.

(2) Opinion of Counsel to the Agents. The opinion of counsel to the Agents, covering the matters referred to in subparagraph (1) under the subheadings (i) and (iv) to (x), inclusive, above.

(3) In giving their opinions required by subsection (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this Section, counsel to the Company and counsel to the Agents shall each additionally state that nothing has come to their attention that would lead them to believe that the Registration Statement, at the time it became effective or, if an amendment to the Registration Statement or an Annual Report on Form 10-K has been filed by the Company with the SEC subsequent to the effectiveness of the Registration Statement then at the time such amendment became effective or at the time of the most recent such filing, as the case may be, or at the date hereof, contained or contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein not misleading or that the Prospectus, as amended or supplemented at the date hereof, or (if such opinion is being delivered in connection with the purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal pursuant to Section 7(c) hereof) at the date of any agreement by such Agent to purchase Notes as principal and at the Settlement Date with respect thereto, as the case may be, included or includes an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

(b) Officer's Certificate. At the date hereof each Agent shall have received a certificate of the President or Vice President and the chief financial or chief accounting officer of the Company, dated as of the date hereof, to the effect that (i) since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus or since the date of any agreement by an Agent to purchase Notes as principal, there has not been any material adverse change in the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, (ii) the other representations and warranties of the Company contained in Section 2 hereof are true and correct with the same force and effect as though expressly made at and as of the date of such certificate, (iii) the Company has performed or complied with all agreements and satisfied all conditions on its part to be performed or satisfied at or prior to the date of such certificate, and (iv) that no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued and no proceedings for that purpose have been initiated or threatened by the SEC.

(c) Comfort Letter. At the date hereof, each Agent shall have received a letter from KPMG Peat Marwick, the Company's independent public accountants, dated as of the date hereof and in form and substance satisfactory to the Agent, to the effect that:

(i) They are independent public accountants with respect to the Company and its subsidiaries within the meaning of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations.

(ii) In their opinion, the consolidated financial statements and supporting schedule(s) of the Company and its subsidiaries audited by them and incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the 1933 Act and the related rules and regulations with respect to registration statements on Form S-3.

(iii) They have performed specified procedures, not constituting an audit, including a reading of the latest available interim financial statements of the Company and its indicated subsidiaries, a reading of the minute books of the Company and such subsidiaries since the end of the most recent fiscal year with respect to which an audit report has been issued, inquiries of and discussions with certain officials of the Company and such subsidiaries responsible for financial and accounting matters with respect to the unaudited consolidated financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and Prospectus and the latest available interim unaudited financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries, and such other inquiries and procedures as may be specified in such letter, and on the basis of such inquiries and procedures nothing came to their attention that caused them to believe that: (A) the unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and Prospectus do not comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations or were not fairly presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States applied on a basis substantially consistent with that of the audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference therein, or (b) at a specified date not more than five days prior to the date of such letter, there was any change in the consolidated capital stock or any increase in consolidated long-term debt of the Company and its subsidiaries or any decrease in the consolidated net assets of the Company and its subsidiaries, in each case as compared with the amounts shown on the most recent consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiaries included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and Prospectus or, during the period from the date of such balance sheet to a specified date not more than five days prior to the date of such letter, there were any decreases, as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year in consolidated revenues or net income of the Company and its subsidiaries, except in each such case as set forth in or contemplated by the Registration

Statement and Prospectus or except for such exceptions enumerated in such letter as shall have been agreed to by the Agents and the Company.

(iv) In addition to the examination referred to in their report included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, and the limited procedures referred to in clause (iii) above, they have carried out certain other specified procedures, not constituting an audit, with respect to certain amounts, percentages and financial information which are included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and Prospectus and which are specified by the Agents, and have found such amounts, percentages and financial information to be in agreement with the relevant accounting financial and other records of the Company and its subsidiaries identified in such letter.

(d) Other Documents. On the date hereof and on each Settlement Date, counsel to the Agents shall have been furnished with such documents and opinions as such counsel may reasonably require for the purpose of enabling such counsel to pass upon the issuance and sale of Notes as herein contemplated and related proceedings, or in order to evidence the accuracy and completeness of any of the representations and warranties, or the fulfillment of any of the conditions, herein contained; and all proceedings taken by the Company in connection with the issuance and sale of Notes as herein contemplated shall be satisfactory in form and substance to the Agents and to counsel to the Agents.

If any condition specified in this Section 5 shall not have been fulfilled when and as required to be fulfilled, this Agreement (or, at the option of an Agent, any applicable agreement by such Agent to purchase Notes as principal) may be terminated by an Agent by notice to the Company at any time and any such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party, except that the covenant regarding provision of an earnings statement set forth in Section 4(h) hereof, the provisions concerning payment of expenses under Section 10 hereof, the indemnity and contribution agreement set forth in Sections 8 and 9 hereof, the provisions concerning the representations, warranties and agreements to survive delivery of Section 11 hereof, the provisions relating to governing law set forth in Section 14 and the provisions set forth under "Parties" of Section 15 hereof shall remain in effect.

SECTION 6. Delivery of and Payment for Notes Sold through the Agents.

Delivery of Notes sold through an Agent as agent shall be made by the Company to such Agent for the account of any purchaser only against payment therefor in immediately available funds. In the event that a purchaser shall fail either to accept delivery of or to make payment for a Note on the date fixed for settlement, the Agent intending to have sold such Note to such Purchaser shall promptly notify the Company and deliver the Note to the Company, and, if such Agent has theretofore paid the Company for such Note, the Company will promptly return such funds to such Agent. If such failure occurred for any reason other than default by such Agent in the performance of its obligations hereunder, the Company will reimburse such Agent on an equitable basis for its loss of the use of the funds for the period such funds were credited to the Company's account.

SECTION 7. Additional Covenants of the Company.

The Company covenants and agrees with the each of Agents that:

(a) Reaffirmation of Representations and Warranties. Each acceptance by an Agent of an offer for the purchase of Notes (whether to such Agent as principal or through such Agent as agent), and each delivery of Notes to an Agent (whether to such Agent as principal or through such Agent as agent), shall be deemed to be an affirmation that the representations and warranties of the Company contained in this Agreement and in any certificate theretofore delivered to such Agent pursuant hereto are true and correct at the time of such acceptance or sale, as the case may be, and an undertaking that such representations and warranties will be true and correct at the time of delivery to the purchaser or its agent or to such Agent, of the Note or Notes relating to such acceptance or sale, as the case may be, as though made at and as of each such time (and it is understood that such representations and warranties shall relate to the Registration Statement and Prospectus as amended and supplemented to each such time).

(b) Subsequent Delivery of Certificates. Each time that (i) the Registration Statement or the Prospectus shall be amended or supplemented (other than by an amendment or supplement providing solely for a change in the interest rates of Notes or similar changes), (ii) there is filed with the SEC any document incorporated by reference into the Prospectus (other than any Current Report on Form 8-K relating exclusively to the issuance of debt securities under the Registration Statement other than the Notes, unless the Agents shall otherwise specify), (iii) (if required in connection with the purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal) the Company sells Notes to such Agent as principal, or (iv) if the Company issues and sells Notes in a form not previously certified to the Agents by the Company, the Company shall furnish or cause to be furnished to each Agent, at the Agent's request, a certificate dated the date of filing with the SEC of such supplement or document, the date of effectiveness of such amendment, or the date of such sale, as the case may be, in form satisfactory to the Agents to the effect that the statements contained in the certificate referred to in Section 5(b) hereof which were last furnished to the Agents are true and correct at the time of such amendment, supplement filing or sale, as the case may be, as though made at and as of such time (except that such statements shall be deemed to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to such time) or, in lieu of such certificate, a certificate of the same tenor as the certificate referred to in said Section 5(b), modified as necessary to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to the time of delivery of such certificate.

(c) Subsequent Delivery of Legal Opinions. Each time that (i) the Registration Statement or the Prospectus shall be amended or supplemented (other than by an amendment or supplement providing solely for a change in the interest rates of the Notes or similar changes or solely for the inclusion of additional financial information, (ii) there is filed with the SEC any document incorporated by reference into the Prospectus (other than any Current Report on Form 8-K, unless the Agents shall otherwise specify), (iii) (if required in connection with the purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal) the Company sells Notes to such Agent as principal, or (iv) if the Company issues and sells Notes in a form not previously certified to the Agent by the

Company, the Company shall furnish or cause to be furnished to each Agent, at the Agent's request, and to counsel to the Agents, a written opinion of Jenkens & Gilchrist, a Professional Corporation, Counsel to the Company, or other counsel satisfactory to the Agents dated the date of filing with the SEC of such supplement or document, the date of effectiveness of such amendment, or the date of such sale, as the case may be, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agents, of the same tenor as the opinion referred to in Section 5(a)(1) hereof but modified, as necessary, to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to the time of delivery of such opinion; or, in lieu of such opinion, counsel last furnishing such opinion to the Agents shall furnish the Agents with a letter to the effect that the Agents may rely on such last opinion to the same extent as though it was dated the date of such letter authorizing reliance (except that statements in such last opinion shall be deemed to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended and supplemented to the time of delivery of such letter authorizing reliance).

(d) Subsequent Delivery of Comfort Letters. Each time that (i) the Registration Statement or the Prospectus shall be amended or supplemented to include additional financial information or there is filed with the SEC any document incorporated by reference into the Prospectus which contains additional financial information or (ii) (if required in connection with the purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal) the Company sells Notes to such Agent as principal, the Company shall cause KPMG Peat Marwick to furnish each Agent, at such Agent's request, a letter, dated the date of effectiveness of such amendment, supplement or document with the SEC, or the date of such sale, as the case may be, in form satisfactory to such Agent, of the same tenor as the portions of the letter referred to in clauses (i) and (ii) of Section 5(c) hereof but modified to relate to the Registration Statement and Prospectus, as amended and supplemented to the date of such letter, and of the same general tenor as the portions of the letter referred to in clauses (iii) and (iv) of said Section 5(c) with such changes as may be necessary to reflect changes in the financial statements and other information derived from the accounting records of the Company.

SECTION 8. Indemnification.

(a) Indemnification of the Agents. The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each Agent and each person, if any, who controls an Agent within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act as follows:

(i) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever, as incurred, arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact included in the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, unless such untrue statement or omission or such alleged untrue statement or omission was made in reliance upon and in conformity with written information

furnished to the Company by the Agents expressly for use in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus;

(ii) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever, as incurred, to the extent of the aggregate amount paid in settlement of any litigation, or investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or of any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission, or any such alleged untrue statement or omission, if such settlement is effected with the written consent of the Company; and

(iii) against any and all expenses (including the fees and disbursements of counsel chosen by the Agent) reasonably incurred in investigating, preparing or defending against any litigation, or investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission, or any such alleged untrue statement or omission, to the extent that any such expense is not paid under (i) or (ii) above.

(b) Indemnification of Company. Each Agent agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its directors, each of its officers who signed the Registration Statement, and each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense described in the indemnity contained in subsection (a) of this Section, as incurred, but only with respect to untrue statements or omissions, or alleged untrue statements or omissions, made in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto) or the Prospectus (or any amendment, or supplement thereto) in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by such Agent expressly for use in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto) or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto).

(c) General. Each indemnified party shall give prompt notice to each indemnifying party of any action commenced against it in respect of which indemnity may be sought hereunder, but failure to so notify an indemnifying party shall not relieve such indemnifying party from any liability which it may have otherwise than on account of this indemnity agreement. An indemnifying party may participate at its own expense in the defense of such action. In no event shall the indemnifying parties be liable for the fees and expenses of more than one counsel (in addition to any local counsel) for all indemnified parties in connection with any one action or separate but similar or related actions in the same jurisdiction arising out of the same general allegations or circumstances.

SECTION 9. Contribution.

In order to provide for just and equitable contribution in circumstances in which the indemnity agreement provided for in Section 8 hereof is for any reason held to be unavailable to or insufficient to hold harmless the indemnified parties although applicable in accordance with its terms, the Company and each Agent shall contribute to the aggregate losses, liabilities, claims, damages and expenses of the nature contemplated by said indemnity agreement incurred

by the Company and each Agent, as incurred, in such proportions that each such Agent is responsible for that portion represented by the percentage that the total commissions and underwriting discounts received by such Agent to the date of such liability bears to the total sales price from the sale of Notes sold to or through such Agent to the date of such liability, and the Company is responsible for the balance; provided, however, that no person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the 1933 Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. For purposes of this Section, each person, if any, who controls an Agent within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act shall have the same rights to contribution as such Agent, and each director of the Company, each officer of the Company who signed the Registration Statement, and each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act shall have the same rights to contribution as the Company.

SECTION 10. Payment of Expenses.

The Company will pay all expenses incident to the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, including:

- (a) The preparation and filing of the Registration Statement and any amendments thereto and the Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto;
- (b) The preparation, filing and reproduction of this Agreement;
- (c) The preparation, printing, issuance and delivery of the Notes, including any fees and expenses relating to the use of book-entry notes;
- (d) The fees and disbursements of the Company's accountants and counsel, of the Trustee and its counsel, and of any Calculation Agent or Exchange Rate Agent;
- (e) The reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel to the Agents incurred in connection with the establishment of the program relating to the Notes and incurred from time to time in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby;
- (f) The qualification of the Notes under state securities laws in accordance with the provisions of Section 4(i) hereof including filing fees and the reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel for the Agents in connection therewith and in connection with the preparation of any Blue Sky Survey and any Legal Investment Survey;
- (g) The printing and delivery to the Agents in quantities as hereinabove stated of copies of the Registration Statement and any amendments thereto, and of the Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto, and the delivery by the Agents of the Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto in connection with solicitations or confirmations of sales of the Notes;

- (h) The preparation, printing, reproducing and delivery to the Agents of copies of the Indenture and all supplements and amendments thereto;
- (i) Any fees charged by rating agencies for the rating of the Notes;
- (j) The fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the Notes on any securities exchange;
- (k) The fees and expenses, if any, incurred with respect to any filing with the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.;
- (l) Any advertising and other out-of-pocket expenses of the Agents incurred with the approval of the Company;
- (m) The cost of providing, any CUSIP or other identification numbers for the Notes; and
- (n) The fees and expenses of any Depository (as defined in the Indenture) and any nominees thereof in connection with the Notes.

SECTION 11. Representations, Warranties and Agreements to Survive Delivery.

All representations, warranties and agreements contained in this Agreement or in certificates of officers of the Company submitted pursuant hereto or thereto, shall remain operative and in full force and effect, regardless of any investigation made by or on behalf of the Agents or any controlling person of any of the Agents, or by or on behalf of the Company, and shall survive each delivery of and payment for any of the Notes.

SECTION 12. Termination.

(a) Termination of this Agreement. This Agreement (excluding any agreement hereunder by an Agent to purchase Notes as principal) may be terminated for any reason, at any time by either the Company or an Agent upon the giving of 30 days' written notice of such termination to the other party hereto; provided, however, if such terminating party is an Agent, such termination shall be effective only with respect to such terminating party.

(b) Termination of Agreement to Purchase Notes as Principal. An Agent may terminate any agreement hereunder by such Agent to purchase Notes as principal, immediately upon notice to the Company, at any time prior to the Settlement Date relating thereto (i) if there has been, since the date of such agreement or since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement, any material adverse change in the business or financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, or (ii) if there shall have occurred any material adverse change in the financial markets in the United States or any outbreak or escalation of hostilities or other national or international calamity or crisis the effect of which is such as to

make it, in the judgment of such Agent, impracticable to market the Notes or enforce contracts for the sale of the Notes, or (iii) if trading in any securities of the Company has been suspended by the SEC or a national securities exchange, or if trading generally on either the American Stock Exchange or the New York Stock Exchange shall have been suspended, or minimum or maximum prices for trading have been fixed, or maximum ranges for prices for securities have been required, by either of said exchanges or by order of the SEC or any other governmental authority, or if a banking moratorium shall have been declared by either Federal, New York or Texas authorities or if a banking moratorium shall have been declared by the relevant authorities in the country or countries of origin of any foreign currency or currencies in which the Notes are denominated or payable, or (iv) if the rating assigned by any nationally recognized securities rating agency to any debt securities of the Company as of the date of any applicable principal purchase shall have been lowered since that date or if such rating agency shall have publicly announced that it has under surveillance or review, with possible negative implications, its rating of any debt securities of the Company, or (v) if there shall have come to such Agent's attention any facts that would cause such Agent to believe that the Prospectus, at the time it was required to be delivered to a purchaser of Notes, included an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances existing at the time of such delivery, not misleading.

(c) General. In the event of any such termination, neither party will have any liability to the other party hereto, except that (i) an Agent shall be entitled to any commission earned in accordance with the third paragraph of Section 3(b) hereof (ii) if at the time of termination (a) the Agent shall own any Notes purchased by it as principal with the intention of reselling them or (b) an offer to purchase any of the Notes has been accepted by the Company but the time of delivery to the purchaser or his agent of the Note or Notes relating thereto has not occurred, the covenants set forth in Sections 4 and 7 hereof shall remain in effect until such Notes are so resold or delivered, as the case may be, and (iii) the covenant set forth in Section 4(h) hereof the provisions of Section 10 hereof the indemnity and contribution agreements set forth in Sections 8 and 9 hereof, and the provisions of Sections 11, 14 and 15 hereof shall remain in effect.

SECTION 13. Notices.

Unless otherwise provided herein, all notices required under the terms and provisions hereof shall be in writing, either delivered by hand, by mail or by telex, telecopier or telegram, and any such notice shall be effective when received at the address specified below.

If to the Company:

Kirby Corporation
1775 St. James Place, Suite 300
Houston, Texas 77056
Attention: Brian K. Harrington

with a copy to:

Jenkins & Gilchrist, a Professional Corporation
1445 Ross Avenue
Suite 3200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2799
Attention: Henry Gilchrist

If to an Agent:

Merrill Lynch & Co.
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated
North Tower - 10th Floor
World Financial Center
New York, New York 10281-1310
Attention: MTN Product Management
Fax: (212) 449-2234

Salomon Brothers Inc
Seven World Trade Center
New York, New York 10048
Attention: Medium-Term Note Group
Fax: (212) 783-2274

Wertheim Schroder & Co. Incorporated
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019-6016
Attention: Capital Markets/Fixed Income
Fax: (212) 492-7031

with a copy to:

Andrews & Kurth L.L.P.
4200 Texas Commerce Tower
Houston, Texas 77002
Attention: Thomas P. Mason

or at such other address as such party may designate from time to time by notice duly given in accordance with the terms of this Section 13.

SECTION 14. Governing Law; Forum.

THIS AGREEMENT AND ALL THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK APPLICABLE TO AGREEMENTS MADE AND TO BE PERFORMED IN SUCH STATE. ANY SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING BROUGHT BY THE COMPANY AGAINST AN AGENT IN CONNECTION WITH OR ARISING UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE BROUGHT SOLELY IN THE STATE OR FEDERAL COURT OF APPROPRIATE JURISDICTION LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN, THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the each of the Agents and the Company and their respective successors. Nothing expressed or mentioned in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to give any person, firm or corporation, other than the parties hereto and their respective successors and the controlling persons and officers and directors referred to in Sections 8 and 9 and their heirs and legal representatives, any legal or equitable right remedy or claim under or in respect of this Agreement or any provision herein contained. This Agreement and all conditions and provisions hereof are intended to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the parties hereto and respective successors and said controlling persons and officers and directors and their heirs and legal representatives, and for the benefit of no other person, firm or corporation. No purchaser of Notes shall be deemed to be a successor by reason merely of such purchase.

If the foregoing is in accordance with the Agents' understanding of our agreement, please sign and return to the Company a counterpart hereof, whereupon this instrument along with all counterparts will become a binding agreement between the Agents and the Company in accordance with its terms.

Very truly yours,

KIRBY CORPORATION

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

Accepted:

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH
INCORPORATED

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

SALOMON BROTHERS INC

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

WERTHEIM SCHRODER & CO. INCORPORATED

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

EXHIBIT A

The following terms, if applicable, shall be agreed to by the Agents and the Company in connection with each sale of Notes:

Principal Amount: \$ _____
(or principal amount of foreign currency)

Interest Rate:

If Fixed Rate Note, Interest Rate:

If Floating Rate Note:

Interest Rate Basis:
Initial Interest Rate:
Spread or Spread Multiplier, if any:
Interest Reset Date(s):
Interest Payment Date(s):
Index Maturity:
Maximum Interest Rate, if any:
Minimum Interest Rate, if any:
Interest Reset Period:
Interest Payment Period:
Calculation Agent:

If Redeemable:

Initial Redemption Date:
Initial Redemption Percentage:
Annual Redemption Percentage Reduction:

If Repayable:

Optional Repayment Date(s):

Date of Maturity:

Purchase Price: _____%

Settlement Date and Time:

Currency of Denomination:

Denominations (if currency is other than U.S. dollar):

Currency of Payment:

Additional Terms:

Also, in connection with the purchase of Notes by an Agent as principal, agreement as to whether the following will be required:

- Officer's Certificate pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Distribution Agreement.
- Legal Opinion pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Distribution Agreement.
- Comfort Letter pursuant to Section 7(d) of the Distribution Agreement.
- Stand-off Agreement pursuant to Section 4(k) of the Distribution Agreement.

SCHEDULE A

As compensation for the services of the Agents hereunder, the Company shall pay it, on a discount basis, a commission for the sale of each Note equal to the principal amount of such Note multiplied by the appropriate percentage set forth below:

MATURITY RANGES	PERCENT OF PRINCIPAL AMOUNT
From 9 months to less than 1 year . . . . .	.125%
From 1 year to less than 18 months . . . . .	.150
From 18 months to less than 2 years . . . . .	.200
From 2 years to less than 3 years . . . . .	.250
From 3 years to less than 4 years . . . . .	.350
From 4 years to less than 5 years . . . . .	.450
From 5 years to less than 6 years . . . . .	.500
From 6 years to less than 7 years . . . . .	.550
From 7 years to less than 10 years . . . . .	.600
From 10 years to less than 15 years . . . . .	.625
From 15 years to less than 20 years . . . . .	.700
From 20 years to less than 30 years . . . . .	.750
Greater than 30 years	*

* As agreed to at the time of sale by the Company and an Agent acting as principal or agent with respect to such sale.

FIXED RATE GLOBAL MEDIUM-TERM NOTE

Unless this certificate is presented by an authorized representative of The Depository Trust Company, a New York corporation ("DTC"), to Issuer or its agent for registration of transfer, exchange, or payment, and any certificate issued is registered in the name of Cede & Co. or in such other name as is requested by an authorized representative of DTC (and any payment is made to Cede & Co. or to such other entity as is requested by an authorized representative of DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE, OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL inasmuch as the registered owner hereof, Cede & Co., has an interest herein.

No. FX____ CUSIP No. _____ PRINCIPAL OR FACE REGISTERED AMOUNT \$_____

KIRBY CORPORATION
MEDIUM-TERM NOTE
(Fixed Rate)

* * * () CHECK IF AN INDEXED NOTE * * *
IF CHECKED, CALCULATION AGENT: _____

If this is an Indexed Note, references herein to "principal" shall be deemed to be the face amount hereof, except that the amount payable upon Maturity of this Note shall be determined in accordance with the formula or formulas set forth below or in an attached Addendum hereto.

ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE: INTEREST RATE: STATED MATURITY DATE:

INTEREST PAYMENT DATES:

INITIAL REDEMPTION
DATE:

INITIAL REDEMPTION
PERCENTAGE:

ANNUAL REDEMPTION
PERCENTAGE REDUCTION:

OPTIONAL REPAYMENT DATE(S):

DAY COUNT CONVENTION

- 30/360 FOR THE PERIOD FROM TO .
- ACTUAL/360 FOR THE PERIOD FROM TO .
- ACTUAL/ACTUAL FOR THE PERIOD FROM TO .

ADDENDUM ATTACHED:

- Yes
- No

ORIGINAL ISSUE DISCOUNT:

- Yes
- No

Total Amount of OID:
Yield to Maturity:
Initial Accrual Period:

OTHER PROVISIONS:

Kirby Corporation, a Nevada corporation ("Issuer" or the "Company," which terms include any successor corporation under the Indenture hereinafter referred to), for value received, hereby promises to pay to CEDE & CO., or registered assigns, the principal sum of _____ DOLLARS, or if this is an Indexed Note, the principal amount as determined in accordance with the terms set forth under "Other Provisions" above and/or in the Addendum attached hereto, on the Stated Maturity Date specified above (except to the extent redeemed or repaid prior to the Stated Maturity Date), and to pay interest on the principal or face amount as set forth above at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, until the principal hereof is paid or duly made available for payment. Reference herein to "this Note", "hereof", "herein" and comparable terms shall include an Addendum hereto if an Addendum is specified above.

The Company will pay interest on each Interest Payment Date specified above, commencing on the first Interest Payment Date next succeeding the Original Issue Date specified above, and on the Stated Maturity Date or any Redemption Date or Optional Repayment Date (if specified as repayable at the option of the Holder in an attached Addendum) (the date of each such Stated Maturity Date, Redemption Date and Optional Repayment Date and the date on which principal or an installment of principal is due and payable by declaration of acceleration pursuant to the Indenture being referred to hereinafter as a "Maturity" with respect to principal payable on such date); provided, however, that if the Original Issue Date is between a Regular Record Date (as defined below) and the next succeeding Interest Payment Date, interest payments will commence on the Interest Payment Date immediately following the next succeeding Regular Record Date. Except as provided above, interest payments will be made on the Interest Payment Dates shown above. Unless otherwise specified above, the "Regular Record Date" shall be the date 15 calendar days (whether or not a Business Day) prior to the applicable Interest Payment Date. Interest on this Note will accrue from and including the most recent Interest Payment Date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for or, if no interest has been paid, from the Original Issue Date specified above, to, but excluding such Interest Payment Date. If the Maturity or an Interest Payment Date falls on a day which is not a Business Day as defined below, the payment due on such Maturity or Interest Payment Date will be paid on the next succeeding Business Day with the same force and effect as if made on such Maturity or Interest Payment Date, as the case may be, and no interest shall accrue with respect to such payment for the period from and after such Maturity or Interest Payment Date. The interest so payable and punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment Date will as provided in the Indenture be paid to the Person in whose name this Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such Interest Payment Date. Any such interest which is payable, but not punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment Date (herein called "Defaulted Interest"), shall forthwith cease to be payable to the registered Holder on such Regular Record Date, and may be paid to the Person in whose name this Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Paying Agent, notice whereof shall be given to the Holder of this Note not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or may be paid at any time in any other lawful manner, all as more fully provided in the Indenture.

Payment of the principal of and interest on this Note will be made at the office or agency of the Company maintained by the Company for such purpose, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts; provided, however, that at the option of the Company, payment of interest may be made by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the Security Register; and provided, further, that upon the request of the Holder hereof, if the principal amount of this Note is \$10,000,000 or more, such Holder will be entitled to receive interest payments by wire transfer of immediately available funds if appropriate wire transfer instructions have been received in writing by the office or agency of the Company maintained by the Company for such purpose not less than 15 days prior to such Interest Payment Date.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by or on behalf of Texas Commerce Bank National Association, the Trustee for this Note under the Indenture, or its successor thereunder, by the manual signature of one of its authorized officers, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

This Note is one of a duly authorized series of Securities (hereinafter called the "Securities") of the Company designated as its Medium-Term Notes (the "Notes"). The Notes are issued and to be issued under an Indenture dated as of December 2, 1994 (herein called the "Indenture") between the Company and Texas Commerce Bank National Association, to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Notes and the terms upon which the Notes are to be authenticated and delivered. The terms of individual Notes may vary with respect to interest rates or interest rate formulas, issue dates, maturity, redemption, repayment, currency of payment and otherwise.

Except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, the Notes will be issued in global form only registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company (the "Depository") or its nominee. The Notes will not be issued in definitive form, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, and ownership of the Notes shall be maintained in book entry form by the Depository for the accounts of participating organizations of the Depository.

This Note is not subject to any sinking fund and, unless otherwise provided above in accordance with the provisions of the following paragraphs, is not redeemable or repayable prior to the Stated Maturity Date.

If so provided above, this Note may be redeemed by the Company on any date on and after the Initial Redemption Date, if any, specified above. If no Initial Redemption Date is set forth above, this Note may not be redeemed prior to the Stated Maturity Date. On and after the Initial Redemption Date, if any, this Note may be redeemed at any time in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 (provided that any remaining principal hereof shall be at least \$1,000) at the option of the Company at the applicable Redemption Price (as defined below), together with accrued interest hereon at the applicable rate payable to the date of redemption (each such date, a "Redemption Date"), on written notice given not

more than 60 nor less than 30 days prior to the Redemption Date. In the event of redemption of this Note in part only, a new Note for the unredeemed portion hereof shall be issued in the name of the Holder hereof upon the surrender hereof.

Unless otherwise specified above, the "Redemption Price" shall initially be the Initial Redemption Percentage, specified above, of the principal amount of this Note to be redeemed and shall decline at each anniversary of the Initial Redemption Date, shown above, by the Annual Redemption Percentage Reduction, if any, specified above hereof, of the principal amount to be redeemed until the Redemption Price is 100% of such principal amount.

Unless otherwise specified in an Addendum attached hereto, this Note is not subject to repayment at the option of the Holder. If this Note shall be repayable at the option of the Holder as specified in an attached Addendum hereto, unless otherwise specified in such Addendum, on any Optional Repayment Date, this Note shall be repayable in whole or in part in increments of \$1,000 (provided that any remaining principal hereof shall be at least \$1,000) at the option of the Holder hereof at a repayment price equal to 100% of the principal amount to be repaid, together with interest thereon payable to the date of repayment. If specified as repayable at the option of the Holder in such Addendum, for this Note to be repaid in whole or in part at the option of the Holder hereof, this Note must be received, with the form entitled "Option to Elect Repayment" below duly completed, by the Paying Agent at its principal office, or such address which the Company shall from time to time notify the Holders of the Notes, not more than 60 nor less than 30 days prior to the related Optional Repayment Date. Exercise of such repayment option by the Holder hereof shall be irrevocable.

Unless otherwise specified above, the "Interest Payment Dates" for the Fixed Rate Notes will be April 15 and October 15 of each year and the Maturity Date. Unless otherwise specified above, interest on Fixed Rate Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

If any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date of a Fixed Rate Note falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the required payment of principal, premium, if any, and/or interest will be made on the next succeeding Business Day as if made on the date such payment was due, and no interest will accrue on such payment for the period from and after such Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date, as the case may be, to the date of such payment on the next succeeding Business Day.

As used herein, "Business Day" means any day other than a Saturday or Sunday or any other day on which banks in The City of New York are generally authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in the Indenture, for purposes of determining the rights of a Holder of a Note for which the principal thereof is determined by reference to the price or prices of specified commodities or stocks, interest rate indices, interest or exchange rate swap indices, the exchange rate of one or more

specified currencies (including a composite currency such as the European Currency Unit) relative to an indexed currency or such other price, exchange rate or other financial index or indices as specified above (an "Indexed Note"), in respect of voting for or against amendments to the Indenture and modifications and the waiver of rights thereunder, the principal amount of any such Indexed Note shall be deemed to be equal to the face amount thereof upon issuance. The method for determining the amount of principal payable at Maturity on an Indexed Note will be specified in an attached Addendum.

Any provision contained herein with respect to the calculation of the rate of interest applicable to this Note, its payment dates or any other matter relating hereto may be modified as specified in an Addendum relating hereto if so specified above, and references herein to "as specified above" or similar language of like import shall also be references to any such Addendum.

If an Event of Default with respect to the Notes shall occur and be continuing, the principal of all the Notes may be declared due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Securities of each series to be affected thereby at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the a majority of the Holders of the aggregate principal amount of the Outstanding Securities of each series affected thereby. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Securities of each series at the time Outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all the Securities of such series, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Note shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon all future Holders of this Note and of any Note issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange herefor or in lieu hereof whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Note.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note at the time, place and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the transfer of this Note may be registered on the Security Register of the Company, upon surrender of this Note for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and the Security Registrar duly executed by, the Holder hereof or by its attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon one or more new Notes of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the Notes are exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Notes as requested by the Holder surrendering the same.

No service charge shall be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to due presentment of this Note for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Note is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Note be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

The Indenture and the Notes shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

All terms used in this Note which are defined in the Indenture shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed, manually or in facsimile, and an imprint or facsimile of its corporate seal to be imprinted hereon.

(FACSIMILE OF SEAL)

KIRBY CORPORATION

By: _____
Title: _____

Attest:

By: _____

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This is one of the series of Debt Securities issued under the within mentioned Indenture.

TEXAS COMMERCE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
as Trustee

By _____
As Authenticating Agent

By _____
Authorized Signatory

OPTION TO ELECT REPAYMENT

The undersigned hereby irrevocably request(s) and instruct(s) the Company to repay this Note (or portion hereof specified below) pursuant to its terms at a price equal to the principal amount hereof together with interest to the repayment date, to the undersigned, at _____

(Please print or typewrite name and address of the undersigned)

For this Note to be repaid, the Paying Agent must receive at its principal office, or at such other place or places of which the Company shall from time to time notify the Holder of this Note, not more than 60 nor less than 30 days prior to an Optional Repayment Date, if any, shown on the face of this Note, this Note with this "Option to Elect Repayment" form duly completed.

If less than the entire principal amount of this Note is to be repaid, specify the portion hereof (which shall be increments of \$1,000) which the Holder elects to have repaid and specify the denomination or denominations (which shall be \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof) of the Notes to be issued to the Holder for the portion of this Note not being repaid (in the absence of any such specification, one such Note will be issued for the portion not being repaid).

\$ _____

Date: _____

NOTICE: The signature on this Option to Elect Repayment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of this Note in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatever.

ASSIGNMENT/TRANSFER FORM

FOR VALUE RECEIVED the undersigned registered Holder hereby sell(s), assign(s) and transfer(s) unto (insert Taxpayer Identification No.)

(Please print or typewrite name and address including postal zip code of assignee)

the within Note and all rights thereunder, hereby irrevocably constituting and appointing

attorney to transfer said Note on the books of the Company with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: _____

NOTICE: The signature of the registered Holder to this assignment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of the within instrument in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatsoever.

ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations, when used in the inscription on the face of this instrument, shall be construed as though they were written out in full according to applicable laws or regulations.

TEN COM--as tenants in common

UNIF GIFT MIN ACT--.....Custodian.....
(Cust) (Minor)

Under Uniform Gifts to Minors Act
.....
(State)

TEN ENT--as tenants by the entireties

JT TEN--as joint tenants with right of survivorship
and not as tenants in common

Additional abbreviations may also be used though not in the above list.

FLOATING RATE GLOBAL MEDIUM-TERM NOTE

Unless this certificate is presented by an authorized representative of The Depository Trust Company, a New York corporation ("DTC"), to Issuer or its agent for registration of transfer, exchange, or payment, and any certificate issued is registered in the name of Cede & Co. or in such other name as is requested by an authorized representative of DTC (and any payment is made to Cede & Co. or to such other entity as is requested by an authorized representative of DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE, OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL inasmuch as the registered owner hereof, Cede & Co., has an interest herein.

REGISTERED CUSIP No. _____ PRINCIPAL OR FACE AMOUNT
No. FLR___ \$_____

KIRBY CORPORATION
MEDIUM-TERM NOTE
(Floating Rate)

* * * () CHECK IF AN INDEXED NOTE * * *

If this is an Indexed Note, references herein to "principal" shall be deemed to be the face amount hereof, except that the amount payable upon Maturity of this Note shall be determined in accordance with the formula or formulas set forth below or in an attached Addendum hereto.

INTEREST RATE BASIS: ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE: STATED MATURITY DATE:

INDEX MATURITY: INITIAL INTEREST RATE: INTEREST PAYMENT PERIOD:

SPREAD: INITIAL INTEREST RESET DATE: INTEREST PAYMENT DATES:

SPREAD MULTIPLIER: INTEREST RATE RESET PERIOD: INTEREST RESET DATES:

MAXIMUM INTEREST RATE: MINIMUM INTEREST RATE: IF INTEREST RATE BASIS IS CMT RATE:

DESIGNATED CMT MATURITY INDEX: _____ year(s).

DESIGNATED CMT TELERATE PAGE: () 7055 () 7052 IF 7052: () WEEK () MONTH

INITIAL REDEMPTION PERCENTAGE: ANNUAL REDEMPTION PERCENTAGE REDUCTION: OPTIONAL REPAYMENT DATE(S):

CALCULATION AGENT BASIS IS LIBOR: IF INTEREST RATE INDEX CURRENCY: _____

DESIGNATED LIBOR PAGE: () Reuters Page: _____ () Telerate Page: _____

INTEREST CALCULATION: () Regular Floating Rate Note () Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Fixed Rate Commencement Date: Fixed Interest Rate: () Inverse Floating Rate Note Fixed Interest Rate: DAY COUNT CONVENTION () Actual/360 for the period from to . () Actual/Actual for the period from to . () 30/360 for the period from to .

ADDENDUM ATTACHED: () Yes () No ORIGINAL ISSUE DISCOUNT () Yes () No Total Amount of OID: Yield to Maturity: Initial Accrual Period:

OTHER PROVISIONS:

Kirby Corporation, a Nevada corporation ("Issuer" or the "Company," which terms include any successor corporation under the Indenture hereinafter referred to), for value received, hereby promises to pay to CEDE & CO., or registered assigns, the principal sum of _____ DOLLARS, if this is an Indexed Note, the principal amount as determined in accordance with the terms set forth under "Other Provisions" above and/or in the Addendum attached hereto, on the Stated Maturity Date specified above (except to the extent redeemed or repaid prior to the Stated Maturity Date), and to pay interest on the principal or face amount hereof as set forth above, at a rate per annum equal to the Initial Interest Rate specified above until the Initial Interest Reset Date specified above and thereafter at a rate per annum determined in accordance with the provisions hereof and any Addendum relating hereto depending upon the Interest Rate Basis or Bases, if any, and such other terms specified above, until the principal hereof is paid or duly made available for payment. Reference herein to "this Note", "hereof", "herein" and comparable terms shall include an Addendum hereto if an Addendum is specified above.

The Company will pay interest monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually or such other period as specified above under "Interest Payment Period", on each Interest Payment Date specified above, commencing on the first Interest Payment Date specified above next succeeding the Original Issue Date specified above, and on the Stated Maturity Date or any Redemption Date or Optional Repayment Date (if specified as repayable at the option of the Holder in an attached Addendum) (the date of each such Stated Maturity Date, Redemption Date and Optional Repayment Date and the date on which principal or an installment of principal is due and payable by declaration of acceleration pursuant to the Indenture being referred to hereinafter as a "Maturity" with respect to principal payable on such date); provided, however, that if the Original Issue Date is between a Regular Record Date (as defined below) and the next succeeding Interest Payment Date, interest payments will commence on the Interest Payment Date immediately following the next succeeding Regular Record Date; and provided further, that if an Interest Payment Date (other than an Interest Payment Date at Maturity) would fall on a day that is not a Business Day (as defined below), such Interest Payment Date shall be the following day that is a Business Day, except that in the case the Interest Rate Basis is LIBOR, as indicated above, if such next Business Day falls in the next calendar month, such Interest Payment Date shall be the next preceding day that is a Business Day. Except as provided above, interest payments will be made on the Interest Payment Dates shown above. Unless otherwise specified above, the "Regular Record Date" shall be the date 15 calendar days (whether or not a Business Day) prior to the applicable Interest Payment Date. Interest on this Note will accrue from and including the Original Issue Date specified above, at the rates determined from time to time as specified herein, until the principal hereof has been paid or made available for payment. If the Maturity falls on a day which is not a Business Day as defined below, the payment due on such Maturity will be paid on the next succeeding Business Day with the same force and effect as if made on such Maturity and no interest shall accrue with respect to such payment for the period from and after such Maturity. The interest so payable and punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment Date will as provided in the Indenture be paid to the Person in whose name this Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such Interest Payment Date. Any such interest which is payable, but not punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment

Date (herein called "Defaulted Interest"), shall forthwith cease to be payable to the registered Holder on such Regular Record Date, and may be paid to the Person in whose name this Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Paying Agent, notice whereof shall be given to the Holder of this Note not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or may be paid at any time in any other lawful manner, all as more fully provided in the Indenture.

Payment of the principal of and interest on this Note will be made at the office or agency of the Company maintained by the Company for such purpose, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts; provided, however, that at the option of the Company, payment of interest may be made by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the Security Register; and provided, further, that upon request of the Holder hereof, if the principal amount of this Note is \$10,000,000 or more, such Holder will be entitled to receive interest payments by wire transfer of immediately available funds if appropriate wire transfer instructions have been received in writing by the office or agency of the Company maintained by the Company for such purpose not less than 15 days prior to such Interest Payment Date.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by or on behalf of Texas Commerce Bank National Association, the Trustee with respect to the Notes under the Indenture, or its successor thereunder, by the manual signature of one of its authorized officers, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

This Note is one of a duly authorized series of Securities (hereinafter called the "Securities") of the Company designated as its Medium-Term Notes (the "Notes"). The Notes are issued and to be issued under an Indenture dated as of December 2, 1994 (herein called the "Indenture") between the Company and Texas Commerce Bank National Association, which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Notes and the terms upon which the Notes are to be authenticated and delivered. The terms of individual Notes may vary with respect to interest rates or interest rate formulas, issue dates, maturity, redemption, repayment, currency of payment and otherwise.

Except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, the Notes will be issued in global form only registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company (the "Depository") or its nominee. The Notes will not be issued in definitive form, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, and ownership of the Notes shall be maintained in book entry form by the Depository for the accounts of participating organizations of the Depository.

This Note is not subject to any sinking fund and, unless otherwise provided above in accordance with the provisions of the following paragraphs, is not redeemable or repayable prior to the Stated Maturity Date.

If so provided above, this Note may be redeemed by the Company on any date on and after the Initial Redemption Date, if any, specified above. If no Initial Redemption Date is set

forth above, this Note may not be redeemed prior to the Stated Maturity Date. On and after the Initial Redemption Date, if any, this Note may be redeemed at any time in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$1,000 (provided that any remaining principal hereof shall be at least \$1,000) at the option of the Company at the applicable Redemption Price (as defined below) together with accrued interest hereon at the applicable rate payable to the date of redemption (each such date, a "Redemption Date"), on written notice given not more than 60 nor less than 30 days prior to the Redemption Date. In the event of redemption of this Note in part only, a new Note for the unredeemed portion hereof shall be issued in the name of the Holder hereof upon the surrender hereof.

Unless otherwise specified above, the "Redemption Price" shall initially be the Initial Redemption Percentage, specified above, of the principal amount of this Note to be redeemed and shall decline at each anniversary of the Initial Redemption Date, shown above, by the Annual Redemption Percentage Reduction, if any, specified on the face hereof, of the principal amount to be redeemed until the Redemption Price is 100% of such principal amount.

Unless otherwise specified in an Addendum attached hereto, this Note is not subject to repayment at the option of the Holder. If this Note shall be repayable at the option of the Holder as specified in an attached Addendum hereto, unless otherwise specified in such Addendum, on any Optional Repayment Date, this Note shall be repayable in whole or in part in increments of \$1,000 (provided that any remaining principal hereof shall be at least \$1,000) at the option of the Holder hereof at a repayment price equal to 100% of the principal amount to be repaid, together with interest thereon payable to the date of repayment. If specified as repayable at the option of the Holder in such Addendum, for this Note to be repaid in whole or in part at the option of the Holder hereof, this Note must be received, with the form entitled "Option to Elect Repayment" below duly completed, by the Paying Agent at its principal office, or such address which the Company shall from time to time notify the Holders of the Notes, not more than 60 nor less than 30 days prior to the related Optional Repayment Date. Exercise of such repayment option by the Holder hereof shall be irrevocable.

The interest rate borne by this Note shall be determined as follows:

1. If this Note is designated as a Regular Floating Rate Note above, then, except as described below, this Note shall bear interest at the rate determined by reference to the applicable Interest Rate Basis shown above (i) plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, and/or (ii) multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any, specified and applied in the manner described above. Commencing on the Initial Interest Reset Date, the rate at which interest on this Note is payable shall be reset as of each Interest Reset Date specified above; provided, however, that the interest rate in effect for the period from the Original Issue Date to the Initial Interest Reset Date will be the Initial Interest Rate.

2. If this Note is designated as a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note above, then, except as described below, this Note shall bear interest at the rate determined by reference to the applicable Interest Rate Basis shown above (i) plus or minus the

applicable Spread, if any, and/or (ii) multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any, specified and applied in the manner described above. Commencing on the Initial Interest Reset Date, the rate at which interest on this Note is payable shall be reset as of each Interest Reset Date specified above; provided, however, that (i) the interest rate in effect for the period from the Original Issue Date to the Initial Interest Reset Date shall be the Initial Interest Rate; and (ii) unless specified above, the interest rate in effect commencing on, and including, the Fixed Rate Commencement Date to the Maturity shall be the Fixed Interest Rate, if such a rate is specified above, or if no such Fixed Interest Rate is so specified, the interest rate in effect hereon on the day immediately preceding the Fixed Rate Commencement Date.

3. If this Note is designated as an Inverse Floating Rate Note above, then, except as described below, this Note will bear interest equal to the Fixed Interest Rate indicated above minus the rate determined by reference to the applicable Interest Rate Basis shown above (i) plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, and/or (ii) multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any, specified and applied in the manner described above; provided, however, that the interest rate hereon will not be less than zero percent. Commencing on the Initial Interest Reset Date, the rate at which interest on this Note is payable shall be reset as of each Interest Rate Reset Date specified above; provided, however, that the interest rate in effect for the period from the Original Issue Date to the Initial Interest Reset Date shall be the Initial Interest Rate.

4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if this Note is designated above as having an Addendum attached, the Note shall bear interest in accordance with the terms described in such Addendum. If interest on this Note is to be calculated in accordance with the terms of an attached Addendum, unless otherwise specified in such Addendum, commencing on the Initial Interest Reset Date, the rate at which interest on this Note is payable shall be reset as of each Interest Rate Reset Date specified above; provided, however, that the interest rate in effect for the period from the Original Issue Date to the Initial Interest Reset Date shall be the Initial Interest Rate.

Except as provided above, the interest rate in effect on each day shall be (a) if such day is an Interest Reset Date, the interest rate determined on the Interest Determination Date (as defined below) immediately preceding such Interest Reset Date or (b) if such day is not an Interest Reset Date, the interest rate determined on the Interest Determination Date immediately preceding the next preceding Interest Reset Date. Each Interest Rate Basis shall be the rate determined in accordance with the applicable provision below. If any Interest Reset Date (which term includes the term Initial Interest Reset Date unless the context otherwise requires) would otherwise be a day that is not a Business Day, such Interest Reset Date shall be postponed to the next succeeding day that is a Business Day, except that if an Interest Rate Basis specified on the face hereof is LIBOR and such next Business Day falls in the next succeeding calendar month, such Interest Reset Date shall be the next preceding Business Day.

Unless otherwise specified above, interest payable on this Note on any Interest Payment Date shall be the amount of interest accrued from and including the next preceding Interest

Payment Date in respect of which interest has been paid (or from and including the Original Issue Date specified above, if no interest has been paid), to but excluding the related Interest Payment Date; provided, however, that the interest payments on Maturity will include interest accrued to but excluding such Maturity. Unless otherwise specified above, Notes calculated on an Actual/360 basis and Actual/Actual basis (as specified above), accrued interest for each Interest Calculation Period will be calculated by multiplying (i) the face amount hereof, (ii) the applicable interest rate, and (iii) the actual number of days in the related Interest Calculation Period, and dividing the resulting product by 360 or 365, as applicable (or, with respect to an Actual/Actual basis Floating Rate Note, if any portion of the related Interest Calculation Period falls in a leap year, the product of (i) and (ii) above will be multiplied by the sum of (X) the actual number of days in that portion of the related Interest Calculation Period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (Y) the actual number of days in that portion of such Interest Calculation Period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365). For Notes calculated on a 30/360 basis (as specified above), accrued interest for an Interest Calculation Period will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months, irrespective of how many days are actually in such Interest Calculation Period. Unless otherwise specified above and/or in an attached Addendum hereto, if this Note accrues interest on a 30/360 basis, if any Interest Payment Date or the date of Maturity falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the related payment of principal or interest will be made on the next succeeding Business Day as if made on the date such payment was due, and no interest will accrue on the amount so payable for the period from and after such Interest Payment Date or Maturity, as the case may be. As used herein, "Interest Calculation Period" means with respect to any period, the period from and including the most recent Interest Reset Date (or from and including the original issue date in the case of the first Interest Reset Date) to but excluding the next succeeding Interest Reset Date for which accrued interest is being calculated. Unless otherwise specified above interest with respect to Notes for which the interest rate is calculated with reference to two or more Interest Rate Bases will be calculated in the same manner as if only one of the applicable Interest Rate Bases applied.

Unless otherwise specified above, the "Interest Determination Date" with respect to the CD Rate, the CMT Rate, the Commercial Paper Rate, the Federal Funds Rate, and the Prime Rate will be the second Business Day preceding each Interest Reset Date; the "Interest Determination Date" with respect to LIBOR shall be the second London Business Day (as defined below) preceding each Interest Reset Date; the "Interest Determination Date" with respect to the Treasury Rate will be the day in the week in which the related Interest Reset Date falls on which day Treasury bills (as defined below) normally would be auctioned (Treasury bills are normally sold at auction on Monday of each week, unless that day is a legal holiday, in which case the auction is normally held on the following Tuesday, except that such auction may be held on the preceding Friday); provided, however, that if, as a result of a legal holiday, an auction is held on the Friday of the week preceding the related Interest Reset Date, the related Interest Determination Date shall be such preceding Friday; and provided, further, that if an auction shall fall on any Interest Reset Date, then the Interest Reset Date shall instead be the first Business Day following such auction. If the interest rate of this Note is determined with reference to two or more Interest Rate Bases, the Interest Determination Date pertaining to this Note will be the first Business Day which is at least two Business Days prior to such Interest

Reset Date on which each Interest Rate Basis shall be determinable. Each Interest Rate Basis shall be determined and compared on such date, and the applicable interest rate shall take effect on the related Interest Reset Date.

Unless otherwise specified above, the "Calculation Date" pertaining to any Interest Determination Date will be the earlier of (i) the tenth calendar day after such Interest Determination Date or, if such day is not a Business Day, the next succeeding Business Day, or (ii) the Business Day preceding the applicable Interest Payment Date or date of Maturity, as the case may be. All calculations on this Note shall be made by the Calculation Agent specified above or such successor thereto as is duly appointed by the Company.

All percentages resulting from any calculation on this Note will be rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards (e.g., 9.876545% (or .09876545) would be rounded to 9.87655% (or .0987655)), and all dollar amounts used in or resulting from such calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent (with one-half cent being rounded upward).

As used herein, "Business Day" means any day other than a Saturday or Sunday or any other day on which banks in The City of New York are generally authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close and, if the applicable Interest Rate Basis shown above is LIBOR, is also a London Business Day.

As used herein, "London Business Day" means any day (a) if the Index Currency specified above is other than the European Currency Unit ("ECU"), on which dealings in deposits in such Index Currency are transacted in the London interbank market or (b) if the Index Currency specified above is the ECU, that is not designated as an ECU Non-Settlement Day by the ECU Banking Association in Paris or otherwise generally regarded in the ECU interbank market as a day on which payments on ECUs shall not be made.

Determination of CD Rate. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is the CD Rate, as indicated above, the CD Rate shall be determined on the applicable Interest Determination Date (a "CD Rate Interest Determination Date"), as the rate on such date for negotiable certificates of deposit having the Index Maturity specified above as published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in "Statistical Release H.15(519), Selected Interest Rates" or any successor publication ("H.15(519)"), under the heading "CDs (Secondary Market)", or, if not so published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, the rate on such CD Rate Interest Determination Date for negotiable certificates of deposit of the Index Maturity specified above as published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in its statistical release "Composite 3:30 P.M. Quotations for U.S. Government Securities" or any successor publication ("Composite Quotations") under the heading "Certificates of Deposit". If such rate is not yet published in either H.15(519) or the Composite Quotations by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date, then the CD Rate on such CD Rate Interest Determination Date will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the secondary market offered rates as of 10:00 A.M.,

New York City time, on such CD Rate Interest Determination Date of three leading non-bank dealers in negotiable U.S. dollar certificates of deposit in The City of New York selected by the Calculation Agent for negotiable certificates of deposit of major United States money market banks in the market for negotiable certificates of deposit with a remaining maturity closest to the Index Maturity designated above in an amount that is representative for a single transaction in that market at that time; provided, however, that if the dealers selected as aforesaid by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as set forth above, the CD Rate determined on such CD Rate Interest Determination Date shall be the CD Rate in effect on such CD Rate Interest Determination Date.

CMT Rate Notes. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is the CMT Rate the CMT Rate shall be determined on the related Interest Determination Date (a "CMT Rate Interest Determination Date"), as the rate displayed on the Designated CMT Telerate Page under the caption ". . . Treasury Constant Maturities. . . Federal Reserve Board Release H.15 . . . Mondays Approximately 3:45 P.M.," under the column for the Designated CMT Maturity Index for (i) if the Designated CMT Telerate Page is 7055, the rate on such CMT Rate Interest Determination Date and (ii) if the Designated CMT Telerate Page is 7052, the week or the month, as applicable, ended immediately preceding the week in which the related CMT Rate Interest Determination Date occurs. If such rate is no longer displayed on the relevant page, or if not displayed by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, then the CMT Rate for such CMT Rate Interest Determination Date will be such Treasury Constant Maturity rate for the Designated CMT Maturity Index as published in the relevant H.15(519). If such rate is no longer published, or if not published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, then the CMT Rate for such CMT Rate Interest Determination Date will be such Treasury Constant Maturity rate for the Designated CMT Maturity Index (or other United States Treasury rate for the Designated CMT Maturity Index) for the CMT Rate Interest Determination Date with respect to such Interest Reset Date as may then be published by either the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or the United States Department of the Treasury that the Calculation Agent determines to be comparable to the rate formerly displayed on the Designated CMT Telerate Page and published in the relevant H.15(519). If such information is not provided by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, then the CMT Rate for the CMT Rate Interest Determination Date will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be a yield to maturity, based on the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the secondary market closing offer side prices as of approximately 3:30 P.M. (New York City time) on the CMT Rate Interest Determination Date reported, according to their written records, by three leading primary United States government securities dealers (each, a "Reference Dealer") in The City of New York selected by the Calculation Agent (from five such Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent and eliminating the highest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the highest) and the lowest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest)), for the most recently issued direct noncallable fixed rate obligations of the United States ("Treasury Note") with an original maturity of approximately the Designated CMT Maturity Index and a remaining term to maturity of not less than such Designated CMT Maturity Index minus one year. If the Calculation Agent cannot obtain three such Treasury Note quotations, the CMT Rate for such CMT Interest Determination Date will

be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be a yield to maturity based on the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the secondary market offer side prices as of approximately 3:30 P.M. (New York City time) on the CMT Rate Interest Determination Date of three Reference Dealers in The City of New York (from five such Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent and eliminating the highest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the highest) and the lowest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest)), for Treasury Notes with an original maturity of the number of years that is the next highest to the Designated CMT Maturity Index and a remaining term to maturity closest to the Designated CMT Maturity Index and in an amount of at least \$100 million. If three or four (and not five) of such Reference Dealers are quoting as described above, then the CMT Rate will be based on the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the offer prices obtained and neither the highest nor lowest of such quotes will be eliminated; provided however, that if fewer than three Reference Dealers as selected as aforesaid by the Calculation Agent are quoting as described herein, the CMT Rate will be the CMT Rate in effect on such CMT Rate Interest Determination Date. If two Treasury Notes with an original maturity as described in the third preceding sentence, have remaining terms to maturity equally close to the Designated CMT Maturity Index, the quotes for the CMT Rate Note with the shorter remaining term to maturity will be used.

"Designated CMT Telerate Page" means the display on the Dow Jones Telerate Service on the page designated above (or any other page as may replace such page on that service for the purpose of displaying Treasury Constant Maturities as reported in H.15(519)), for the purpose of displaying Treasury Constant Maturities as reported in H.15(519). If no such page is specified above, the Designated CMT Telerate Page shall be 7052, for the most recent week.

"Designated CMT Maturity Index" means the original period to maturity of the U.S. Treasury securities (either 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 20, or 30 years) specified above with respect to which the CMT Rate will be calculated. If no such maturity is specified above, the Designated CMT Maturity Index shall be 2 years.

Determination of Commercial Paper Rate. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is the Commercial Paper Rate, as indicated above, the Commercial Paper Rate shall be determined on the applicable Interest Determination Date (a "Commercial Paper Rate Interest Determination Date"), as the Money Market Yield (as defined below) on such date of the rate for commercial paper having the Index Maturity specified above as published in H.15(519), under the heading "Commercial Paper". In the event such rate is not published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, then the Commercial Paper Rate shall be the Money Market Yield on such Commercial Paper Rate Interest Determination Date of the rate for commercial paper having the Index Maturity shown above as published in Composite Quotations under the heading "Commercial Paper" (with an Index Maturity of one month or three months being deemed to be equivalent to an Index Maturity of 30 days or 90 days, respectively). If by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date such rate is not yet published in either H.15(519) or Composite Quotations, then the Commercial Paper Rate for such

Commercial Paper Rate Interest Determination Date shall be as calculated by the Calculation Agent and shall be the Money Market Yield of the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the offered rates at approximately 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on such Commercial Paper Rate Interest Determination Date of three leading dealers of commercial paper in The City of New York selected by the Calculation Agent for commercial paper having the Index Maturity specified above placed for an industrial issuer whose bond rating is "AA," or the equivalent, from a nationally recognized securities rating agency; provided, however, that if the dealers selected as aforesaid by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as mentioned in this sentence, the Commercial Paper Rate determined on such Commercial Paper Rate Interest Determination Date shall be the rate in effect on such Commercial Paper Rate Interest Determination Date.

"Money Market Yield" shall be a yield (expressed as a percentage rounded upwards to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point) calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{Money Market Yield} = \frac{D \times 360}{360 - (D \times M)} \times 100$$

where "D" refers to the applicable per annum rate for commercial paper quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal and "M" refers to the actual number of days in the interest period for which interest is being calculated.

Determination of Federal Funds Rate. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is the Federal Funds Rate, as indicated above, the Federal Funds Rate shall be determined on the applicable Interest Determination Date (a "Federal Funds Rate Interest Determination Date"), as the rate on that date for Federal Funds as published in H.15(519) under the heading "Federal Funds (Effective)" or, if not so published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, the rate on such Federal Funds Rate Interest Determination Date, as published in Composite Quotations under the heading "Federal Funds/Effective Rate." If such rate is not yet published in either H.15(519) or Composite Quotations by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, the Federal Funds Rate for such Federal Funds Rate Interest Determination Date shall be calculated by the Calculation Agent and shall be the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the rates for the last transaction in overnight United States dollar Federal funds arranged by three leading brokers of Federal funds transactions in The City of New York selected by the Calculation Agent prior to 9:00 A.M., New York City time on such Federal Funds Rate Interest Determination Date; provided, however, that if the brokers selected as aforesaid by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as mentioned in this sentence, the Federal Funds Rate determined on such Federal Funds Rate Interest Determination Date shall be the Federal Funds Rate in effect on such Federal Funds Rate Interest Determination Date.

Determination of LIBOR. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is LIBOR, as indicated above, LIBOR will be determined on the applicable Interest Determination Date (a "LIBOR Interest Determination Date"), and will be, either: (a) if "LIBOR Reuters" is specified above, the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the offered rates (unless the specified Designated LIBOR Page by its terms provides only for a single rate, in which case such single rate shall be used) for deposits in the Index Currency having the Index Maturity designated above, commencing on the second London Business Day immediately following that LIBOR Interest Determination Date, that appear on the Designated LIBOR Page specified above as of 11:00 A.M. London time, on that LIBOR Interest Determination Date, if at least two such offered rates appear (unless, as aforesaid, only a single rate is required) on such Designated LIBOR Page, or (b) if "LIBOR Telerate" is specified above, the rate for deposits in the Index Currency having the Index Maturity designated above commencing on the second London Business Day immediately following that LIBOR Interest Determination Date, that appears on the Designated LIBOR Page specified above as of 11:00 A.M. London time, on that LIBOR Interest Determination Date. If, as described in the immediately preceding sentence, fewer than two offered rates appear, or no rate appears, LIBOR in respect of the related LIBOR Interest Determination Date will be determined as if the parties had specified the rate described in the immediately succeeding paragraph.

With respect to a LIBOR Interest Determination Date on which fewer than two offered rates appear, or no rate appears, as the case may be, the Calculation Agent shall request the principal London offices of each of four major reference banks in the London interbank market, as selected by the Calculation Agent, to provide the Calculation Agent with its offered quotation for deposits in the Index Currency for the period of the Index Maturity shown above, commencing on the second London Business Day immediately following such LIBOR Interest Determination Date, to prime banks in the London interbank market at approximately 11:00 A.M., London time, on such LIBOR Interest Determination Date and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in the Index Currency in such market at such time. If at least two such quotations are provided, LIBOR determined on such LIBOR Interest Determination Date shall be the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of such quotations as determined by the Calculation Agent. If fewer than two quotations are provided, LIBOR determined on such LIBOR Interest Determination Date shall be calculated by the Calculation Agent as the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the rates quoted at approximately 11:00 A.M. (or such other time specified above under "OTHER PROVISIONS") in the applicable Principal Financial Center(s), on such LIBOR Interest Determination Date by three major banks in such Principal Financial Center(s) selected by the Calculation Agent for loans in the Index Currency to leading European banks having the Index Maturity specified above and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in the Index Currency in such market at such time; provided, however, that if the banks selected as aforesaid by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as mentioned in this sentence, LIBOR determined on such LIBOR Interest Determination Date shall be LIBOR in effect on such LIBOR Interest Determination Date.

"Index Currency" means the currency (including composite currencies) specified above as the currency for which LIBOR shall be calculated. If no such currency is specified above, the Index Currency shall be U.S. dollars.

"Designated LIBOR Page" means either (a) if "LIBOR Reuters" is designated above, the display on the Reuters Monitor Money Rates Service on the page designated above (or such other page as may replace such designated page on that service for the purpose of displaying London interbank offered rates of major banks) for the related Index Currency for the purpose of displaying the London interbank rates of major banks for the applicable Index Currency, or (b) if "LIBOR Telerate" is designated above, the display on the Dow Jones Telerate Service on the page designated above (or such other page as may replace such designated page on that service or such other service or services as may be nominated by the British Bankers' Association for the purpose of displaying London interbank offered rates for the related Index Currency) for the purpose of displaying the London interbank rates of major banks for the applicable Index Currency. If neither LIBOR Reuters nor LIBOR Telerate is specified above, LIBOR for the applicable Index Currency will be determined as if LIBOR Telerate (and, in the case U.S. dollars is the Index Currency, page 3750) had been specified.

"Principal Financial Center" will generally be the capital city of the country of the specified index Currency, except that with respect to United States dollars, Deutsche Marks, Dutch Guilders, Italian Lire, Swiss Francs and ECUs, the Principal Financial Center shall be the City of New York, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Milan, Zurich and Luxembourg, respectively.

Determination of Prime Rate. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is the Prime Rate, as indicated above, the Prime Rate shall be determined on the applicable Interest Determination Date (a "Prime Rate Interest Determination Date") as the rate on such date as such rate is published in H.15(519) under the heading "Bank Prime Loan." If such rate is not published prior to 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, then the Prime Rate shall be the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the rates of interest publicly announced by each bank that appears on the Reuters Screen NYMF Page as such bank's prime rate or base lending rate as in effect for that Prime Rate Interest Determination Date. If fewer than four such rates but more than one such rate appear on the Reuters Screen NYMF Page for such Prime Rate Interest Determination Date, the Prime Rate shall be the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the prime rates quoted on the basis of the actual number of days in the year divided by a 360-day year as of the close of business on such Prime Rate Interest Determination Date by four major money center banks in The City of New York selected by the Calculation Agent. If fewer than two such rates appear on the Reuters Screen NYMF Page, the Prime Rate will be determined by the Calculation Agent on the basis of the rates furnished in The City of New York by three substitute banks or trust companies organized and doing business under the laws of the United States, or any state thereof, having total equity capital of at least \$500 million and being subject to supervision or examination by Federal or state authority, selected by the Calculation Agent to provide such rate or rates; provided, however, that if the banks or trust companies selected as aforesaid are not quoting as

mentioned in this sentence, the Prime Rate for such Prime Rate Interest Determination Date will be the Prime Rate in effect on such Prime Rate Interest Determination Date.

"Reuters Screen NYMF Page" means the display designated as page "NYMF" on the Reuters Monitor Money Rates Service (or such other page as may replace the NYMF page on that service for the purpose of displaying prime rates or base lending rates of major United States banks).

Determination of Treasury Rate. If an Interest Rate Basis for this Note is the Treasury Rate, as specified above, the Treasury Rate shall be determined on the applicable Interest Determination Date (a "Treasury Rate Interest Determination Date") as the rate applicable to the most recent auction of direct obligations of the United States ("Treasury bills") having the Index Maturity specified above, as such rate is published in H.15(519) under the heading "U.S. Government Securities -- Treasury Bills -- auction average (investment)" or, if not so published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the related Calculation Date, the auction average rate (expressed as a bond equivalent yield on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily basis) as otherwise announced by the United States Department of the Treasury. In the event that the results of the auction of Treasury bills having the Index Maturity specified above are not reported as provided by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on such Calculation Date, or if no such auction is held in a particular week, then the Treasury Rate hereon shall be the rate published in H.15(519) under the heading "U.S. Government Securities--Treasury Bills--Secondary Market" (expressed as a bond equivalent yield on the basis of a 365 or 366 day year, as applicable, on a daily basis), or if not published by 3:00 P.M. New York City time on the related Calculation Date, the Treasury Rate will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and shall be a yield to maturity (expressed as a bond equivalent yield on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily basis) of the arithmetic mean (rounded to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards) of the secondary market bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on such Treasury Rate Interest Determination Date of three leading primary United States government securities dealers as selected by the Calculation Agent for the issue of Treasury bills with a remaining Maturity closest to the Index maturity specified above; provided, however, that if the dealers selected as aforesaid by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as mentioned in this sentence, the Treasury Rate will be the Treasury Rate in effect on such Treasury Rate Interest Determination Date.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in the Indenture, for purposes of determining the rights of a Holder of a Note for which the principal thereof is determined by reference to the price or prices of specified commodities or stocks, interest rate indices, interest or exchange rate swap indices, the exchange rate of one or more specified currencies (including a composite currency such as the European Currency Unit) relative to an indexed currency or such other price, exchange rate or other financial index or indices as specified above (an "Indexed Note"), in respect of voting for or against amendments to the Indenture and modifications and the waiver of rights thereunder, the principal amount of any such Indexed Note shall be deemed to be equal to the face amount thereof upon issuance. The

method for determining the amount of principal payable at Maturity on an Indexed Note will be specified in an attached Addendum.

Any provision contained herein with respect to the determination of an Interest Rate Basis, the specification of Interest Rate Basis, calculation of the Interest Rate applicable to this Note, its payment dates or any other matter relating hereto may be modified as specified in an Addendum relating hereto if so specified above, and references herein to "as specified above" or similar language of like import shall also be references to any such Addendum.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the interest rate hereon shall not be greater than the Maximum Interest Rate, if any, or less than the Minimum Interest Rate, if any, specified above. The Calculation Agent shall calculate the interest rate hereon in accordance with the foregoing on or before each Calculation Date. The interest rate on this Note will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York law, as the same may be modified by United States law of general application.

At the request of the Holder hereof, the Calculation Agent shall provide to the Holder hereof the interest rate hereon then in effect and, if determined, the interest rate which shall become effective as of the next Interest Reset Date.

If an Event of Default with respect to the Notes shall occur and be continuing, the principal of all the Notes may be declared due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Securities of each series to be affected thereby at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the majority of the Holders of the aggregate principal amount of the Outstanding Securities of each series affected thereby. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Securities of each series at the time Outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all the Securities of such series, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Note shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon all future Holders of this Note and of any Note issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange herefor or in lieu hereof whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Note.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note at the time, place and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the transfer of this Note may be registered on the Security Register of the Company, upon surrender

of this Note for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and the Security Registrar duly executed by, the Holder hereof or by its attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon one or more new Notes of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the Notes are exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Notes as requested by the Holder surrendering the same.

No service charge shall be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to due presentment of this Note for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Note is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Note be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

The Indenture and the Notes shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

All terms used in this Note which are defined in the Indenture shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed, manually or in facsimile, and an imprint or facsimile of its corporate seal to be imprinted hereon.

(FACSIMILE OF SEAL)

KIRBY CORPORATION

By: _____
Title: _____

Attest:

By: _____

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This is one of the series of Debt Securities issued under the within mentioned Indenture.

TEXAS COMMERCE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
as Trustee

By _____
As Authenticating Agent

By _____
Authorized Signatory

OPTION TO ELECT REPAYMENT

The undersigned hereby irrevocably request(s) and instruct(s) the Company to repay this Note (or portion hereof specified below) pursuant to its terms at a price equal to the principal amount hereof together with interest to the repayment date, to the undersigned, at

(Please print or typewrite name and address of the undersigned)

For this Note to be repaid, the Paying Agent must receive at its principal office, or at such other place or places of which the Company shall from time to time notify the Holder of this Note, not more than 60 nor less than 30 days prior to an Optional Repayment Date, if any, shown on the face of this Note, this Note with this "Option to Elect Repayment" form duly completed.

If less than the entire principal amount of this Note is to be repaid, specify the portion hereof (which shall be increments of \$1,000) which the Holder elects to have repaid and specify the denomination or denominations (which shall be \$1,000 or an integral multiple thereof) of the Notes to be issued to the Holder for the portion of this Note not being repaid (in the absence of any such specification, one such Note will be issued for the portion not being repaid).

\$ _____

Date: _____

NOTICE: The signature on this Option to Elect Repayment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of this Note in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatever.

ASSIGNMENT/TRANSFER FORM

FOR VALUE RECEIVED the undersigned registered Holder hereby sell(s), assign(s) and transfer(s) unto (insert Taxpayer Identification No.) _____

(Please print or typewrite name and address including postal zip code of assignee)

the within Note and all rights thereunder, hereby irrevocably constituting and appointing _____ attorney to transfer said Note on the books of the Company with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: _____

NOTICE: The signature of the registered Holder to this assignment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of the within instrument in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatsoever.

ADDENDUM TO KIRBY CORPORATION
MEDIUM-TERM NOTES