

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

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

SPARTAN MOTORS, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing party:

(4) Date filed:



Spartan Motors, Inc.

1000 Reynolds Rd. - Charlotte, MI 48813 - USA
Telephone 517.543.6400 - Facsimile 517.543.5403
Web Page - www.spartanmotors.com

Fellow Shareholders:

Spartan Motors, Inc. had a record setting year in 2008, and I want to thank you for participating as a shareholder in our success. I also want to share an update on our business and provide you with information about your dividend payment.

In Feb. 2009, our board of directors declared total cash dividends of \$0.13 for 2009, including the regular cash dividend of \$0.10 per share of common stock and a special dividend of \$0.03 per share of common stock.

The first regular dividend payment of \$0.05 per share is payable on May 15, 2009 to shareholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2009. The second regular dividend payment of \$0.05 per share is payable on Dec. 16, 2009 to shareholders of record at the close of business on Nov. 16, 2009. The special dividend payment of \$0.03 per share is payable on May 15, 2009 to shareholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2009.

Spartan is paying a special dividend in recognition of our total financial performance for the year ended 2008. We reported a 23.8 percent year-over-year increase in revenues and a 74.3 percent increase in net earnings in 2008. This was our best year in company history - an achievement we are proud of, especially given the difficult conditions in the overall economy.

We hope you view the special dividend and reauthorization of the regular dividend as an indication of the board's confidence in our strategic direction moving into the future, as well as affirmation of our financial strength and solid balance sheet.

We are on solid ground financially with minimal debt, an open line of credit, strong cash generation and operations scaled to meet current demand. Our focus as a company is on cash flow and cash conservation, applying lean principles to ensure our operations are efficient and focusing on short payback periods for any new investments. We also expect to remain profitable through all of 2009, which is one of the most important indicators of our financial strength. We are also introducing new products into current markets, developing new markets and focused on capturing market share.

Though we are obviously cautious in how we operate the business given the economic recession, we believe there are specific attributes that set Spartan above other companies today. Our diversified, multiple-market model allows us to focus resources on whichever market has the most favorable business cycle. We are also customer-centric in our markets, yet lean in scale, allowing us to prosper in good times and bad. Lastly, we have agility in our

markets, operations and strategic approach to take rapid advantage of emerging and many times sizable product and market opportunities.

Our strategic plan is based on a customer-centric organization, operating lean, creating innovation in our markets, building brand leadership, maximizing the value we deliver in our products' lifecycles, while creating a strategic, global presence.

In summary, we are pleased to share our profits with our shareholders through both regular and special dividends, and I want to thank you for the confidence you have placed in us through your investment.

Your board and management team remain enthusiastic about the potential for Spartan Motors over both the short- and long-term, and we are committed to serving the best interests of all shareholders. We thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

John Sztykiel
President and CEO
Spartan Motors, Inc.