

ORTHOFIX INTERNATIONAL N V
Form DFAN14A
December 10, 2008

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

SCHEDULE 14A
(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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 x

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 Under Rule 14a-12

ORTHOFIX INTERNATIONAL N.V.
(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

RAMIUS VALUE AND OPPORTUNITY MASTER FUND LTD
RAMIUS ENTERPRISE MASTER FUND LTD
RAMIUS ADVISORS, LLC
RCG STARBOARD ADVISORS, LLC
RAMIUS LLC
C4S & CO., L.L.C.
PETER A. COHEN
MORGAN B. STARK
JEFFREY M. SOLOMON
THOMAS W. STRAUSS
J. MICHAEL EGAN
PETER A. FELD
STEVEN J. LEE
CHARLES T. ORSATTI

(Name of Persons(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:

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.. 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:

Press Release

Source: Ramius LLC

Ramius Value and Opportunity Master Fund Ltd, an affiliate of Ramius LLC (“Ramius”), together with the other participants named herein, has made a preliminary filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) of a solicitation statement and an accompanying WHITE request form to be used to solicit written requests from shareholders of Orthofix International N.V., a limited liability company organized under the laws of the Netherlands Antilles (the “Company”), to call a special general meeting of the Company for the purpose of seeking to remove and replace certain directors of the Company.

Item 1: On December 10, 2008, Ramius issued the following press release:

Ramius Files Preliminary Consent Solicitation Statement Seeking
to Call a Special Meeting of Orthofix Shareholders
Wednesday December 10, 8:17 am ET

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Ramius LLC (“Ramius”) today announced that it has filed a Preliminary Consent Solicitation Statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission to solicit written requests from shareholders of Orthofix International N.V. (“Orthofix” or the “Company”) (Nasdaq: OFIX - News), to call a special general meeting for the purpose of making substantial changes to the composition of Orthofix’s board of directors. Ramius is the beneficial owner of approximately 4.8% of the Company’s outstanding common shares.

Ramius proposes to remove James F. Gero, Peter Hewet, Alan Milinazzo and Walter P. Von Wartburg from the Company’s ten-member board of directors and replace them with four new directors who have the appropriate skills and fortitude to implement changes that will benefit all Orthofix shareholders. Ramius’ four nominees form an experienced team that intends to focus on unlocking value for the benefit of all Orthofix shareholders.

“We are dissatisfied with the performance of Orthofix’s current Board and have serious concerns regarding the future performance and financial stability of the Company under its direction,” stated Jeffrey C. Smith, a Partner at Ramius. “By requesting a special general meeting, we – along with our fellow shareholders – will have the opportunity to elect new directors who are committed to work with the remaining Board members to act in the best interests of all shareholders.”

Mr. Smith added, “We continue to urge the current Board of Orthofix to take immediate action to increase shareholder value by exploring the sale or disposition of Blackstone Medical and taking prompt action to reduce corporate overhead expenses and decrease the Company’s debt load.”

Ramius’ director nominees are:

J. Michael Egan Mr. Egan has served as the Chief Executive Officer of Steadman Hawkins Research Foundation, an orthopedic research organization, since November 2006. From April 1996 through May 2004, Mr. Egan served as the President and CEO of Bluebird Development, LLC, a financial partnership with Kobayashi Pharmaceutical Company, an Osaka, Japan-based major distributor of medical devices in Asia. Mr. Egan currently serves on the Board of Cardica, Inc., a designer, manufacturer and marketer of proprietary automated anastomotic systems used by surgeons to perform coronary artery bypass surgery, and served as its Chairman from August 2000 until January 2007. Mr. Egan also serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors at iBalance Medical, a privately held medical device company, and is a director of several other privately held companies.

Peter A. Feld Mr. Feld is a Managing Director of Ramius LLC, a position he has held since November 2008. Prior to becoming a Managing Director, Mr. Feld served as a Director at Ramius LLC from February 2007 to

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November 2008. Mr. Feld joined Ramius LLC as an Associate in February 2005. From June 2001 to July 2004, Mr. Feld was an investment banking analyst at Banc of America Securities, LLC, the investment banking arm of Bank of America Corporation, a bank and financial holding company. Mr. Feld currently serves on the Board of Directors of CPI Corp. (NYSE: CPY - News), a leading portrait studio operator in North America.

Steven J. Lee Mr. Lee has served as the President of SL Consultant Inc., a private investment firm and hedge fund specializing in growing companies in the medical and high technology fields, since 2002. Mr. Lee was the Founder, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of PolyMedica Corporation, a leading provider of diabetes care, from 1990 until August 2002, the time of his retirement from PolyMedica. Previously, Mr. Lee was President and a director of Shawmut National Ventures. Prior to that, from 1984 to 1986, Mr. Lee served as President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of RepliGen Corporation, a biotechnology company focused on the development of novel therapeutics for neurological disorders. Mr. Lee currently serves on the Board of Directors of Kensey Nash Corporation (Nasdaq:KNSY - News), a medical device company known for innovative product development and unique technology in the fields of resorbable biomaterials used in a wide variety of medical procedures and endovascular devices and Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, a railroad company with routes and operations in Maine, New Brunswick, Quebec and Vermont, and on the Advisory Board of Capital Resource Partners, an investment fund specializing in combined debt and equity structures that provide creative financing alternatives for middle-market firms.

Charles T. Orsatti Mr. Orsatti has served as the Managing Partner of Fairfield Capital Partners, Inc., a private equity fund with investments in securities, commercial real estate and business equity investments, since 1995. From 1998 to 2004, he was the Managing Member of Orsatti and Partners, LLC (formerly, J.P. Morgan Fairfield Partners, LLC), a private equity firm. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Orsatti was a senior consultant to Chase Capital Partners (CCP), a predecessor of J.P. Morgan Partners, LLC. He had previously served as an advisor and business consultant to CCP since 1987. Until 1995, Mr. Orsatti was the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Fairfield Medical Products Corporation, a worldwide manufacturer of critical care products sold to hospitals and alternative care facilities. Mr. Orsatti currently serves on the Board of Directors of AngioDynamics, Inc. (Nasdaq:ANGO - News), a global provider of solutions for musculoskeletal and vascular health specializing in rehabilitation and regeneration products for the non-operative orthopedic, spine and vascular markets and SRI Surgical Express, Inc. (Nasdaq:STRC - News), a provider of operating room, supply chain and central sterilization management solutions to hospitals and surgery centers across the United States. Mr. Orsatti previously served as the Chairman of dj Orthopedics, Inc., a global orthopedic sports medicine company specializing in the design, manufacture and marketing of surgical and non-surgical products and services that repair, regenerate and rehabilitate soft tissue and bone, help protect against injury and treat osteoarthritis of the knee, until shortly after its initial public offering in 2001 and remained a Director until November 2007 when dj Orthopedics was sold to affiliates of The Blackstone Group for \$1.5 billion. Mr. Orsatti was also the managing partner responsible for sourcing and executing the transaction that ultimately formed dj Orthopedics in 1999. Mr. Orsatti has also held executive positions with British Oxygen Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Coloplast, A/S Denmark and Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Innisfree M&A Incorporated, which has been retained to solicit consents on behalf of Ramius, has established a toll-free number for investors to call if they would like more information. Orthofix shareholders are invited to call (877) 800-5884 and give your name and contact information so that you may be contacted when the solicitation begins.

About Ramius LLC

Ramius LLC is a registered investment advisor that manages assets in a variety of alternative investment strategies. Ramius LLC is headquartered in New York with offices located in London, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Munich, and Vienna.

CERTAIN INFORMATION CONCERNING PARTICIPANTS

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Ramius Value and Opportunity Master Fund Ltd (“Value and Opportunity Master Fund”), together with the other participants named herein, has made a preliminary filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) of a solicitation statement and an accompanying WHITE request form to be used to solicit written requests from shareholders of Orthofix International N.V., a limited liability company organized under the laws of the Netherlands Antilles (the “Company”), to call a special general meeting of the Company for the purpose of seeking to remove and replace certain directors of the Company.

If successful in their solicitation of written requests to call the special general meeting, the participants intend to file and disseminate a separate proxy statement and proxy card relating to proposals to be voted upon at the special general meeting.

VALUE AND OPPORTUNITY MASTER FUND ADVISES ALL SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY TO READ THE SOLICITATION STATEMENT AND ANY OTHER SOLICITATION MATERIALS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. SUCH SOLICITATION MATERIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE ON THE SEC'S WEB SITE AT [HTTP://WWW.SEC.GOV](http://www.sec.gov). IN ADDITION, THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SOLICITATION WILL PROVIDE COPIES OF THE SOLICITATION STATEMENT WITHOUT CHARGE UPON REQUEST. REQUESTS FOR COPIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE PARTICIPANTS' SOLICITOR.

The participants in the proxy solicitation are Value and Opportunity Master Fund, Ramius Enterprise Master Fund Ltd ("Enterprise Master Fund"), Ramius Advisors, LLC ("Ramius Advisors"), RCG Starboard Advisors, LLC ("RCG Starboard Advisors"), Ramius LLC ("Ramius"), C4S & Co., L.L.C. ("C4S"), Peter A. Cohen ("Mr. Cohen"), Morgan B. Stark ("Mr. Stark"), Thomas W. Strauss ("Mr. Strauss"), Jeffrey M. Solomon ("Mr. Solomon"), Peter A. Feld ("Mr. Feld"), J. Michael Egan ("Mr. Egan"), Steven J. Lee ("Mr. Lee") and Charles T. Orsatti ("Mr. Orsatti").

As of the date of this filing, Value and Opportunity Master Fund beneficially owns 722,177 shares of Common Stock of the Company. RCG Starboard Advisors, as the investment manager of Value and Opportunity Master Fund, is deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 722,177 shares of Common Stock of the Company owned by Value and Opportunity Master Fund.

As of the date of this filing, Enterprise Master Fund beneficially owns 93,103 shares of Common Stock of the Company. Ramius Advisors, as the investment advisor of Enterprise Master Fund, is deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 93,103 shares of Common Stock of the Company owned by Enterprise Master Fund.

Ramius, as the sole member of each of RCG Starboard Advisors and Ramius Advisors, C4S, as the managing member of Ramius, and Messrs. Cohen, Stark, Strauss and Solomon, as the managing members of C4S, are each deemed to be the beneficial owners of the 722,177 shares of Common Stock of the Company owned by Value and Opportunity Master Fund and the 93,103 shares of Common Stock of the Company owned by Enterprise Master Fund. Messrs. Cohen, Stark, Strauss and Solomon share voting and dispositive power with respect to the shares of Common Stock of the Company owned by Value and Opportunity Master Fund and Enterprise Master Fund by virtue of their shared authority to vote and dispose of such shares of Common Stock.

As of the date of this filing, none of Messrs. Feld, Egan, Lee or Orsatti directly own any shares of Common Stock of the Company.

As members of a "group" for the purposes of Rule 13d-5(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, each of the participants in this solicitation is deemed to beneficially own the shares of Common Stock of the Company beneficially owned in the aggregate by the other participants. Each of the participants in this proxy solicitation disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares of Common Stock except to the extent of his or its pecuniary interest therein.

Contact:

Media & Shareholders:

Sard Verbinnen & Co.

Dan Gagnier or Renée Soto, 212-687-8080

Source: Ramius LLC