

NEWS CORP
Form S-8
July 13, 2005

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 13, 2005

Registration No. 333-_____

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Under

The Securities Act of 1933

NEWS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

26-0075658
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1211 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036

(212) 852-7000

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

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Lawrence A. Jacobs, Esq.

News Corporation

1211 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036

(212) 852-7000

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

NEWS CORPORATION 2005 LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN

NEWS CORPORATION 2004 STOCK OPTION PLAN

NEWS CORPORATION 2004 REPLACEMENT STOCK OPTION PLAN

(Full title of the plan)

Copy of communications to:

Amy Bowerman Freed, Esq.

Hogan & Hartson L.L.P.

875 Third Avenue

New York, New York 10022

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered	Proposed		Amount of registration fee (1)
		maximum offering price per share (1)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	
Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (2)	165,000,000	\$15.86	\$2,616,900,000	\$308,010(3)
	130,907,941(4)	\$19.89	\$2,603,758,947	\$329,897(4)

- (1) Estimated pursuant to Rule 457 under the Securities Act of 1933 solely for purposes of calculating the amount of the registration fee, based on the average of the high and low sales prices of the News Corporation Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, on July 7, 2005, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange with respect to 165,000,000 shares issuable under the 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

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Pursuant to Rule 429 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement is deemed to be a post-effective amendment to News Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-120778) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 24, 2004.

- (2) Includes Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock Purchase Rights attached thereto, for which no separate fee is payable pursuant to Rule 457(i). Also includes options, stock appreciation rights, restricted shares and restricted share units to acquire the Class A Common Stock issuable pursuant to the 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan.
- (3) Of the \$308,010 payable hereunder, \$126,454 was previously paid by News Corporation in connection with its Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-120778) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 24, 2004. In accordance with Rule 457, the portion of the filing fee associated with the unsold securities included in the prior registration statement, \$126,454, which pertains to 56,292,059 shares of News Corporation Class A Common Stock, was previously paid and is being used to offset the filing fee payable hereunder.
- (4) Pursuant to Rule 429 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement includes 130,907,941 shares of News Corporation Class A Common Stock previously registered by News Corporation on its Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-120778) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 24, 2004. In connection with such previously registered shares, News Corporation paid an aggregate registration fee of \$329,897.

Pursuant to Rule 429 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the prospectus relating to the securities registered under this Registration Statement also relates to News Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-120778) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 24, 2004.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

The documents containing information specified by Part I of this Form S-8 registration statement (the Registration Statement) have been or will be sent or given to participants in the 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the Plan), the 2004 Stock Option Plan and the 2004 Replacement Stock Option Plan, as specified in Rule 428(b)(1) promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). Such documents are not being filed with the SEC but constitute (along with the documents incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement pursuant to Item 3 of Part II hereof) a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

The documents listed below are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement:

- (a) News Corporation's (the Registrant or the Company) Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 24, 2004, as amended, reporting results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, filed pursuant to Sec. 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act) and its Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 12, 2004;
- (b) The Registrant's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2004 filed with the SEC on February 4, 2005 and for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2005 filed with the SEC on May 5, 2005;
- (c) The Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 3, 2004, December 23, 2004, January 10, 2005, January 27, 2005, February 2, 2005, February 3, 2005, February 8, 2005, February 22, 2005, February 23, 2005, March 3, 2005, March 4, 2005 (Form 8-K/A), March 11, 2005, March 14, 2005, March 21, 2005, March 22, 2005, May 5, 2005, May 18, 2005, June 13, 2005, June 16, 2005, June 17, 2005, June 20, 2005, June 21, 2005, June 22, 2005, June 23, 2005, June 24, 2005 and July 7, 2005;
- (d) The Registrant's definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on May 25, 2005; and
- (e) The description of the Registrant's Class A Common Stock set forth in the Form 6-K/A filed by News Holdings Limited (the predecessor corporation to the Registrant) with the SEC on September 16, 2004* and updated on the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on November 12, 2004, as amended, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such descriptions.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant or by the Plan with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters the securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

* The description of the securities of the Registrant appears in the Form 6-K/A filed by its predecessor, News Holdings Limited, rather than on a registration statement filed under Section 12 of the Exchange Act as permitted by the Staff of the SEC. Pursuant to a No-Action Letter dated November 3, 2004, the SEC determined that the reorganization of News Holdings Limited, which resulted in the creation of a new holding company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, the Registrant, constituted a succession for purposes of Rule 12g-3(a) under the Exchange Act. Consequently, the securities of the Registrant issued to the holders of the securities of the Registrant's predecessor, News Holdings Limited, which were previously registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act, are deemed to be registered under the same paragraph of Section 12 of the Exchange Act and were not required to be filed under a new registration statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

Not applicable.

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Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Under Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (DGCL), a corporation may indemnify its directors, officers, employees and agents, and its former directors, officers, employees and agents, and those who serve at the corporation's request in such capacities with another enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), as well as judgments, fines and settlements in nonderivative lawsuits, actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding in which they or any of them were or are made parties or are threatened to be made parties by reason of their serving or having served in such capacity. The DGCL provides, however, that such person must have acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation and, in the case of a criminal action, such person must have had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. In addition, the DGCL does not permit indemnification in an action or suit by or in the right of the corporation, where such person has been adjudged liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that a court determines that such person fairly and reasonably is entitled to indemnity for costs the court deems proper in light of liability adjudication. Indemnity is mandatory to the extent that a claim, issue or matter has been successfully defended.

Article IX of the Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, as amended (the Restated Certificate of Incorporation) provides that a director shall not be liable to the Company or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except to the extent such exemption from liability or limitation thereof is not permitted under the DGCL as it exists or may be amended. The Restated Certificate of Incorporation further provides that any amendment, modification or repeal of Article IX shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director of the Company in respect of any act or omission occurring prior to the time of any such amendment, modification or repeal.

Article VII of the Amended and Restated By-laws of the Company (the Amended and Restated By-laws) provides that each person who was or is made a party to, or who is otherwise involved in, any action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of the Company or any of its direct or indirect subsidiaries, or is or was serving at the request of the Company as a director or officer of any other enterprise (an indemnitee), whether the basis of any such proceeding is alleged action in an official capacity as a director or in any other capacity while serving as a director, shall be indemnified and held harmless to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL, as it exists or may be amended, against all expense, liability and loss (including attorneys' fees, judgments and fines) reasonably incurred. Except with respect to proceedings to enforce rights to indemnification, the Company shall indemnify any such indemnitee in connection with a proceeding initiated by such indemnitee only if such proceeding is authorized by the Board. The Company may, to the extent authorized by the Board, grant indemnification rights and rights to the advancement of expenses to any officer, employee or agent of the Company to the fullest extent of Article VII of the Amended and Restated By-laws and as permitted by the DGCL with respect to the indemnification and advancement of expenses to directors.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits

The Exhibits required to be filed as part of this Registration Statement are listed in the attached index to Exhibits.

Item 9. Undertakings

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(1) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end

of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement.

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-8 and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

- (b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.
- (c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(2) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes to deliver or cause to be delivered with the prospectus, to each person to whom the prospectus is sent or given, the latest annual report to security holders that is incorporated by reference in the prospectus and furnished pursuant to and meeting the requirements of Rule 14a-3 or Rule 14c-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and, where interim financial information required to be presented by Article 3 of Regulation S-X are not set forth in the prospectus, to deliver, or cause to be delivered to each person to whom the prospectus is sent or given, the latest quarterly report that is specifically incorporated by reference in the prospectus to provide such interim financial information.

(4) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

/s/ Peter Chernin

Director

July 13, 2005

Peter Chernin

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<i>/s/ Lachlan K. Murdoch</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Lachlan K. Murdoch		
<i>/s/ Arthur M. Siskind</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Arthur M. Siskind		
<i>/s/ Peter Barnes</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Peter Barnes		
<i>/s/ Kenneth E. Cowley</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Kenneth E. Cowley		
<i>/s/ Viet Dinh</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Viet Dinh		
<i>/s/ Roderick I. Eddington</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Roderick I. Eddington		
<i>/s/ Andrew S.B. Knight</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Andrew S.B. Knight		
<i>/s/ Thomas J. Perkins</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Thomas J. Perkins		
<i>/s/ Stanley S. Shuman</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
Stanley S. Shuman		
<i>/s/ John L. Thornton</i>	Director	July 13, 2005
John L. Thornton		

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.1	Specimen Certificate for Shares of Class A Common Stock of News Corporation ¹
4.2	Rights Agreement, by and between News Corporation, Inc. and Computershare Investor Services, LLC, as Rights Agent, dated as of November 8, 2004 ²
4.3	Amendment No. 1 to Rights Agreement, by and between News Corporation and Computershare Investor Services, LLC ³
5	Opinion of Hogan & Hartson L.L.P. ⁴
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP regarding News Corporation ⁴
23.2	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP regarding Fox Entertainment Group, Inc. ⁴
23.3	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP regarding Gemstar-TV Guide International, Inc. ⁴
24	Power of Attorney (included in the Registration Statement under Signatures)
99.1	News Corporation 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan ⁵
99.2	News Corporation 2004 Stock Option Plan ⁶
99.3	News Corporation 2004 Replacement Stock Option Plan ⁷

¹ Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant filed with the SEC on November 12, 2004.

² Incorporated by reference to Exhibit B to Report on Form 6-K of the Registrant filed with the SEC on November 8, 2004.

³ Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.39 of the Current Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant filed with the SEC on November 24, 2004.

⁴ Filed herewith.

⁵ Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant filed with the SEC on July 7, 2005.

⁶ Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 of the Current Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant filed with the SEC on November 24, 2004.

⁷ Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 of the Current Report on Form 8-K of the Registrant filed with the SEC on November 24, 2004.