



## Ten CEOs Could Gain Nearly \$230 Million Total from 2009 Stock Option Mega-Grants

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**Portland, Maine; July 15, 2010** – A new report from The Corporate Library, an independent corporate governance research firm, found that ten CEOs who received [stock option mega-grants](#) in 2009 gained nearly \$230 million total in paper profits as of May 24, 2010. A mega-grant is any single grant of at least 500,000 stock options. The report examined trends in stock option mega-grants and took a critical look at the reasons companies give for granting them.

“While significant paper profits have been seen already, they are much smaller than the profits that could be made if stock prices rebounded to the high for the 12 months ending May 24, 2010,” said Research Associate Michelle Lamb, co-author of the report. “In this scenario, the average potential profit is more than \$36 million.”

The companies that granted the ten largest stock option mega-grants in 2009 are:

- Sirius XM Radio, Inc.
- MoneyGram International, Inc.
- Oracle Corporation
- Tenet Healthcare Corporation
- Ford Motor Company
- Standard Pacific Corp.
- Nabors Industries Ltd.
- Move, Inc.
- Sprint Nextel Corporation
- Starbucks Corporation (Download a free analysis of the [Starbucks stock option mega-grants.](#))

The report, also co-authored by Research Associate Greg Ruel, is titled “[The Corporate Library's 2010 Mega-Grants Survey.](#)” It is available for \$25 from The Corporate Library's online store.

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### About The Corporate Library

Since 1999, The Corporate Library has been the leading independent research firm providing corporate governance research, advisory and risk analysis solutions. The Corporate Library rates companies in the Russell 3000, S&P 1500 and TSX60 on a proprietary set of governance risk factors, allowing businesses to evaluate governance as an element of investment and other risk. Informed by this philosophy and armed with its extensive Board Analyst<sup>®</sup> database and other risk assessment tools, The Corporate Library also offers portfolio risk assessment and environmental, social and governance (ESG) research services. Additionally, The Corporate Library's team of industry-leading corporate governance analysts provide shareholder proposal and engagement advisory services to institutional investors. An April 2010 study of investment applications for The Corporate Library's governance risk ratings showed outperformance of 275 annualized basis points in 2003-2010 for a hypothetical portfolio constructed using governance screens. More

information on The Corporate Library and its suite of corporate governance data and analysis products can be found at [www.thecorporatelibrary.com](http://www.thecorporatelibrary.com).

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