

Registration No. 333-\_\_\_\_\_

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM S-8  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

SPX CORPORATION  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Delaware<br>(State or other<br>jurisdiction of<br>incorporation or<br>organization) | 3423<br>(Primary Standard Industrial<br>Classification Code Number) | 38-1016240<br>(I.R.S. Employer<br>Identification No.) |
|---|---|---|

700 Terrace Point Drive  
Muskegon, Michigan 49443-3301  
Telephone: (616) 724-5000  
(Address, including zip code, telephone number, including area code, of  
registrant's principal executive offices)

SPX CORPORATION EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN  
(Full title of the plan)

Christopher J. Kearney  
Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel  
SPX Corporation  
700 Terrace Point Drive  
Muskegon, Michigan 49443-3301  
Telephone: (616) 724-5000  
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including  
area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

George C. McKann, Esq.  
Gardner, Carton & Douglas  
321 North Clark Street, Suite 3200  
Chicago, Illinois 60610

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of<br>Securities to<br>be Registered   | Amount to be<br>Registered (1) | Proposed Maximum<br>Offering Price<br>Per Share | Proposed Maximum<br>Aggregate Offering<br>Price | Amount of<br>Registration<br>Fee |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Common Stock, par value<br>\$10 per share(2) | 50,000                         | \$58.8125                                       | \$2,940,625                                     | \$892                            |

(1) Together with an indeterminable number of additional securities in order to adjust the number of securities reserved for issuance pursuant to the plan as the result of a stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction affecting the Common Stock, pursuant to 17 C.F.R. Section 230.416.

(2) Estimated in accordance with Rule 457(c) and (h)(1), the proposed maximum offering price per share, proposed maximum aggregate offering price and the amount of the registration fee are based upon the average of the high and low prices reported on the New York Stock Exchange on October 17, 1997.

## SPX CORPORATION

## REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-8

## PART II

## ITEM 3. INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE.

There are hereby incorporated by reference in to this Registration Statement the following documents and information heretofore filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") by the Registrant:

1. The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1996;
2. The Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three month periods ended March 31, 1997 and June 30, 1997;
3. The Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K dated February 21, 1997 and April 25, 1997; and
4. The description of Registrant's Common Stock contained in the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1987, as stated in Article Fourth of the Registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation, which is attached as Exhibit No. 3 thereto.

In addition, each document filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date hereof, and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereunder have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold under this registration statement, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

## ITEM 4. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES.

Not applicable.

## ITEM 5. INTERESTS OF NAMED EXPERTS AND COUNSEL.

Peter H. Merlin, who is a director of the Company and a partner of Gardner, Carton & Douglas, which is delivering the opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement, beneficially owned 11,836 shares of the Company's Common Stock as of October 15, 1997.

## ITEM 6. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides that the Company may, and in some circumstances must, indemnify the directors and officers of the Company against liabilities and expenses incurred by any such person by reason of the fact that such person was serving in such capacity, subject to certain limitations and conditions therein set forth. Substantially similar provisions that require such indemnification are contained in Article Thirteenth of the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation. Article Thirteenth of the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation also contains provisions limiting the liability of the Company's directors in certain instances. In addition, the Company has purchased insurance as permitted by Delaware law on behalf of directors, officers, employees or agents, which may cover liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act").

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ITEM 7. EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION CLAIMED.

Not Applicable.

ITEM 8. INDEX TO EXHIBITS.

| Exhibit<br>Number | Description of Document   |
|-------------------|---|
| 4.1               | Rights Agreement dated as of June 25, 1996 between the Company and The Bank of New York, as Rights Agents, relating to Rights to purchase Preferred Stock under certain circumstances, incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on June 26, 1996. |
| 5.1               | Opinion of Gardner, Carton & Douglas regarding legality of securities   |
| 23.1              | Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP  |
| 23.2              | Consent of Gardner, Carton & Douglas (included in exhibit 5.1)  |
| 24.1              | Powers of Attorney (included on signature page)   |

ITEM 9. UNDERTAKINGS.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) 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;

(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)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

(b) The Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining 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 that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offering herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) 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 provisions described in Item 6 of this registration statement, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission 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 section, 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.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Muskegon, State of Michigan, on this 22nd day of October 1997.

SPX CORPORATION

By: /s/ Patrick J. O'Leary  
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Patrick J. O'Leary  
Vice President Finance, Treasurer  
and Chief Financial and  
Accounting Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints John B. Blystone, Christopher J. Kearney, James M. Sheridan or Patrick J. O'Leary, and each of them, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign, execute and file this Registration Statement and any or all amendments (including, without limitation, post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and all documents required to be filed with respect therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission or any regulatory authority, granting unto such attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith and about the premises in order to effectuate the same as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorneys-in-fact and agents or his or their substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on this 22nd day of October 1997.

/s/ John B. Blystone  
-----  
John B. Blystone  
Chairman, President and  
Chief Executive Officer  
Director

/s/ Patrick J. O'Leary  
-----  
Patrick J. O'Leary  
Vice President Finance  
Treasurer and Chief Financial  
Officer and Accounting Officer

/s/ J. Kermit Campbell  
-----  
J. Kermit Campbell  
Director

/s/ Sarah R. Coffin  
-----  
Sarah R. Coffin  
Director

/s/ Frank A. Ehmann  
-----  
Frank A. Ehmann  
Director

/s/ Edward D. Hopkins  
-----  
Edward D. Hopkins  
Director

/s/ Charles E. Johnson II  
-----  
Charles E. Johnson  
Director

/s/ Ronald L. Kerber  
-----  
Ronald L. Kerber  
Director

-----  
Peter H. Merlin  
Director

/s/ David P. Williams  
-----  
David P. Williams  
Director

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Gardner, Carton & Douglas  
321 North Clark Street, Suite 3400  
Chicago, Illinois 60610

October 22, 1997

SPX Corporation  
700 Terrace Point Drive  
Muskegon, Michigan 49443

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-8

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to SPX Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Corporation"), in connection with the filing of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 by the Corporation under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Registration Statement"), which Registration Statement registers 50,000 shares of Common Stock of the Corporation, par value \$10 per share (the "Common Stock"), reserved for issuance under the SPX Corporation Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "Plan"). In that capacity, we have reviewed the Certificate of Incorporation and By-laws of the Corporation, both as amended to date, the Registration Statement, the Plan, the originals or copies of corporate records reflecting the corporate action taken by the Corporation in connection with the approval of the Plan and the issuance of the Common Stock under the Plan and such other instruments as we have deemed necessary for the issuance of this opinion.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Common Stock to be offered under the Plan has been duly authorized by all requisite action on the part of the Corporation and, when issued in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Plan, will be legally issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

We consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Very truly yours,

GARDNER, CARTON & DOUGLAS

## CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

As independent public accountants, we hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Form S-8 of our report dated February 7, 1997 included in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996 and to all references to our Firm included in this registration statement.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP

Chicago, Illinois  
October 21, 1997