

Flaherty James E  
 Form 3  
 December 29, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
 Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Flaherty James E		(Month/Day/Year)	CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS INC [CSII]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	12/29/2008	
651 CAMPUS DRIVE			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)			(Check all applicable)	
ST. PAUL,Â MNÂ 55112			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			Chief Administrative Officer / Mbr of 13(d) grp owng > 10%	

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	45,500	D	Â

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (1)	02/16/2009	Common Stock	20,000	\$ 6	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (1)	11/15/2009	Common Stock	7,500	\$ 6	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (1)	06/30/2010	Common Stock	25,000	\$ 8	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (1)	11/07/2010	Common Stock	12,000	\$ 8	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (2)	12/18/2016	Common Stock	14,500	\$ 5.71	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (3)	04/17/2017	Common Stock	39,000	\$ 5.71	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (4)	08/06/2017	Common Stock	35,000	\$ 5.11	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	Â (5)	12/11/2017	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 7.86	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Flaherty James E 651 CAMPUS DRIVE ST. PAUL, MN 55112	Â	Â	Â Chief Administrative Officer	Mbr of 13(d) grp owng > 10%

## Signatures

/s/ Carlye S. Landin as Attorney-in-Fact for James E. Flaherty pursuant to Power of Attorney filed herewith.

12/29/2008

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Fully exercisable.

(2) Exercisable: 4,833 on 12/19/07 and 12/19/08 and 4,834 on 12/19/09.

(3) Exercisable in three equal installments of 13,000 on 4/18/08, 4/18/09 and 4/18/10.

(4) Exercisable: 11,667 on 8/7/08 and 8/7/09 and 11,666 on 8/7/10.

(5) Exercisable: 25,000 on the first anniversary of the closing of the Company's merger with Replidyne, Inc. and 25,000 on the second anniversary of the merger.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

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