

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

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

AVID TECHNOLOGY INC.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, Par Value \$.01 Per Share

(Title of Class of Securities)

05367P100

(CUSIP Number)

Gregory D. Hitchan
Blum Capital Partners, L.P.
909 Montgomery Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94133
(415) 434-1111

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person
Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

April 13, 2006

(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition which is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of Rule 13d-1(b)(3) or (4), check the following box ☐.

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON BLUM CAPITAL PARTNERS, L.P.

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON 94-3205364

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) ☒
(b) ☒

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. SOURCE OF FUNDS* See Item 3

5. CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED
PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e) ☐

6. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION California

7. SOLE VOTING POWER -0-

NUMBER OF
SHARES 8. SHARED VOTING POWER 2,700,000**

BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY EACH
PERSON WITH 9. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-

10. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

2,700,000**

11. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,700,000**

12. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES

[]

13. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)

6.4%**

14. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

PN, IA

** See Item 5

*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

RICHARD C. BLUM & ASSOCIATES, INC.

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

94-2967812

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

(a) [x]

(b) [x]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. SOURCE OF FUNDS*

See Item 3

5. CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e)

[]

6. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

California

7. SOLE VOTING POWER

-0-

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY EACH
PERSON WITH

8. SHARED VOTING POWER

2,700,000**

9. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

-0-

10. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

2,700,000**

11. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,700,000**

12. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES

[]

13. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)

6.4%**

14. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

CO

** See Item 5

*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

BLUM STRATEGIC GP III, L.L.C.

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

04-3809436

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) [x]
(b) [x]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. SOURCE OF FUNDS* See Item 3

5. CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED
PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e) []

6. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware

7. SOLE VOTING POWER -0-

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY EACH
PERSON WITH

8. SHARED VOTING POWER 2,700,000**

9. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-

10. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 2,700,000**

11. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,700,000**

12. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES []

13. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 6.4%**

14. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 00 (Limited Liability Company)

** See Item 5

*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON BLUM STRATEGIC GP III, L.P.

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON 02-0742606

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) [x]
(b) [x]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. SOURCE OF FUNDS* See Item 3

5. CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED
PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e) []

6. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware

7. SOLE VOTING POWER -0-

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY EACH
PERSON WITH

8. SHARED VOTING POWER 2,700,000**

9. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-

10. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 2,700,000**

11. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,700,000**

12. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES

CERTAIN SHARES

[]

13. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)

6.4%**

14. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

PN

** See Item 5

*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

SADDLEPOINT PARTNERS GP, L.L.C.

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

83-0424234

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

(a) [x]

(b) [x]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. SOURCE OF FUNDS*

See Item 3

5. CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED
PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e)

[]

6. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

7. SOLE VOTING POWER

-0-

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY EACH
PERSON WITH

8. SHARED VOTING POWER

2,700,000**

9. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

-0-

10. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

2,700,000**

11. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,700,000**

12. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES

[]

13. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)

6.4%**

14. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

00 (Limited Liability Company)

** See Item 5

*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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Item 1. Security and Issuer

This Schedule 13D relates to shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share (the "Common Stock") of Avid Technology, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Issuer"). The principal executive office and mailing address of the Issuer is One Park West, Tewksbury, MA 01876.

Item 2. Identity and Background

This Schedule 13D is being filed by Blum Capital Partners, L.P., a

California limited partnership, ("Blum L.P."); Richard C. Blum & Associates, Inc., a California corporation ("RCBA Inc."); Blum Strategic GP III, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("Blum GP III"); Blum Strategic GP III, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Blum GP III LP"); and Saddlepoint Partners GP, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("Saddlepoint GP") (collectively, the "Reporting Persons").

Blum L.P. is a California limited partnership whose principal business is acting as general partner for investment partnerships and providing investment advisory services. Blum L.P. is an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The sole general partner of Blum L.P. is RCBA Inc.

The principal business office address of Blum L.P. and RCBA Inc. is 909 Montgomery Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California 94133. The names of the executive officers and directors of RCBA Inc., their addresses, citizenship and principal occupations are as follows:

Name and Office Held	Business Address	Citizenship	Principal Occupation or Employment
Richard C. Blum President, Chairman & Director	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	President & Chairman, Blum L.P.
Nils Colin Lind Managing Partner & Director	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	Norway	Managing Partner, Blum L.P.
John H. Park Partner	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, Blum L.P.
Gregory L. Jackson Partner	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, Blum L.P.
Jeffrey A. Cozad Partner	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, Blum L.P.
Jose S. Medeiros Partner	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	Brazil	Partner, Blum L.P.

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Name and Office Held	Business Address	Citizen- ship	Principal Occupation or Employment
Marc T. Scholvinck Partner, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant Secretary & Director	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner & Chief Financial Officer, Blum L.P.
Gregory D. Hitchan Partner, General Counsel & Secretary	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, General Counsel & Secretary, Blum L.P.

Blum GP III is a Delaware limited liability company whose principal business is acting as the general partner of Blum GP III LP, a Delaware limited partnership, whose principal business is acting as the general partner of Blum Strategic Partners III, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Blum Strategic III") whose principal office is 909 Montgomery Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California 94133.

The principal business office address of Blum GP III and Blum GP III LP is 909 Montgomery Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California 94133. The names of the managing members and members of Blum GP III, their addresses, citizenship and principal occupations are as follows:

Name and	Business	Citizen-	Principal Occupation
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Office Held	Address	Ship	or Employment
Richard C. Blum Managing Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	President & Chairman, Blum L.P.
Nils Colin Lind Managing Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	Norway	Managing Partner, Blum L.P.
John H. Park Managing Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, Blum L.P.
Gregory L. Jackson Managing Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, Blum L.P.
Jeffrey A. Cozad Managing Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, Blum L.P.
Jose S. Medeiros Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	Brazil	Partner, Blum L.P.

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Name and Office Held	Business Address	Citizen- ship	Principal Occupation or Employment
Marc T. Scholvinck Member	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner & Chief Financial Officer, Blum L.P.
Gregory D. Hitchan Member & General Counsel	909 Montgomery St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94133	USA	Partner, General Counsel & Secretary, Blum L.P.

Saddlepoint GP is a Delaware limited liability company whose principal business is acting as the general partner of Saddlepoint Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Saddlepoint LP"), and Saddlepoint Partners (Cayman), L.P., a Cayman Islands exempted limited partnership ("Saddlepoint (Cayman) LP"). The principal business office address of Saddlepoint GP, Saddlepoint LP and Saddlepoint (Cayman) LP is 909 Montgomery Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California 94133. Blum L.P. is the managing member of Saddlepoint GP. RCBA Inc. is the sole general partner of Blum L.P. The principal business office for Blum L.P. and RCBA Inc. and the names of the executive officers and directors of RCBA Inc. and their addresses, citizenship and principal occupations are disclosed above.

To the best knowledge of the Reporting Persons, none of the entities or persons identified in this Item 2 has, during the past five years, been convicted of any criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations or similar misdemeanors), nor been a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction and as a result of such proceeding was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

Item 3. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Considerations

The source of funds for the purchases of securities was the working capital of Blum L.P.'s limited partnerships and investment advisory clients, the partnership for which Blum GP III LP serves as the sole general partner and the partnerships for which Saddlepoint GP serves as the general partner.

Item 4. Purpose of Transaction

The purpose of the acquisition of the Common Stock is for investment, and the acquisitions of the Common Stock were made in the ordinary course of business and were not made for the purpose of acquiring control of the Issuer.

Although no Reporting Person has any specific plan or proposal to acquire or dispose of the Common Stock, consistent with its investment purpose, each Reporting Person at any time and from time to time may acquire additional Common Stock or dispose of any or all of its Common Stock depending upon an ongoing evaluation of the investment in the Common Stock, prevailing market conditions, other investment opportunities, liquidity requirements of the Reporting Persons and/or other investment considerations.

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Also, consistent with the investment purpose, the Reporting Persons may engage in communications with one or more shareholders of the Issuer, one or more officers of the Issuer and/or one or more members of the board of directors of the Issuer and/or one or more representatives of the Issuer regarding the Issuer, including but not limited to its operations. The Reporting Persons may discuss ideas that, if effected may result in any of the following: the acquisition by persons of additional Common Stock of the Issuer, an extraordinary corporate transaction involving the Issuer, and/or changes in the board of directors or management of the Issuer.

Except to the extent the foregoing may be deemed a plan or proposal, none of the Reporting Persons has any plans or proposals which relate to, or could result in, any of the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) through (j), inclusive, of the instructions to Item 4 of Schedule 13D. The Reporting Persons may, at any time and from time to time, review or reconsider their position and/or change their purpose and/or formulate plans or proposals with respect thereto.

Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

(a), (b) According to the Issuer's Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 7, 2006, there were 42,126,287 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding as of February 14, 2006. Based on such information, after taking into account the transactions described in Item 5(c) below, the Reporting Persons report beneficial ownership of the following shares of Common Stock: (i) 1,117,626 shares of Common Stock held by Blum L.P. and RCBA Inc. on behalf of the limited partnerships for which Blum L.P. serves as the general partner, or on behalf of an entity for which Blum L.P. serves as investment advisor, which represents 2.7% of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock; (ii) 1,416,574 shares of the Common Stock held by Blum GP III which serves as general partner of Blum GP III LP which, in turn, serves as the general partner of Blum Strategic III, which represents 3.4% of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock; (iii) 95,600 shares of the Common Stock held by Saddlepoint GP on behalf of a partnership for which it serves as the general partner, which represents 0.2% of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock; and (iv) 35,100 shares of the Common Stock that are legally owned by The Nuclear Decommissioning Trust of Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. ("Dominion Connecticut"), which represents 0.1% of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock and 35,100 shares of the Common Stock that are legally owned by Virginia Electric and Power Company Qualified Nuclear Decommissioning Trust ("Virginia Electric"), which represents 0.1% of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock (collectively, the "Investment Advisory Clients"), with respect to which Blum L.P. has voting and investment power. Each Investment Advisory Client has entered into an investment management agreement with Blum L.P., but neither Investment Advisory Client has any contract, arrangement or understanding with the other Investment Advisory Client, or any other Reporting Person, with respect to the acquisition, ownership, disposition or voting of any shares of the Common Stock. Each Investment Advisory Client disclaims membership in a group with any Reporting Person or with the other Investment Advisory Client, and each disclaims beneficial ownership of any shares beneficially owned by the Reporting Persons other than for their own account.

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Voting and investment power concerning the above shares are held solely by Blum L.P., Blum GP III and Saddlepoint GP. The Reporting Persons therefore may be deemed to be members in a group, in which case the group would be deemed to have beneficial ownership of an aggregate of 2,700,000 shares of the Common Stock, which is 6.4% of the outstanding Common Stock. As the sole general partner of

Blum L.P., RCBA Inc. is deemed the beneficial owner of the securities over which Blum L.P. has voting and investment power. The filing of this Schedule shall not be construed as an admission that any of the shareholders, directors or executive officers of RCBA Inc. or the managing members and members of Blum GP III, Blum GP III LP and Saddlepoint GP, is, for any purpose, the beneficial owner of any of the securities that are beneficially owned by RCBA Inc., Blum GP III LP, Blum GP III or Saddlepoint GP.

c) During the last 60 days, the Reporting Persons purchased the following shares of Common Stock in the open market:

Entity	Trade Date	Shares	Price/Share
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Investment partnerships for	03-24-06	1,400	44.0246
which Blum L.P. serves as the	03-24-06	3,800	44.0774
general partner and on behalf	03-27-06	14,400	44.0127
of an entity for which Blum L.P.	03-27-06	4,000	44.0359
serves as investment advisor.	03-27-06	7,500	44.0857
	03-28-06	18,400	43.8444
	03-28-06	2,800	43.8492
	03-28-06	1,900	43.9878
	03-28-06	4,000	44.0000
	03-29-06	5,700	43.3337
	03-29-06	13,800	43.3985
	03-30-06	3,300	42.9647
	03-30-06	2,300	43.3900
	03-31-06	2,100	43.2899
	04-06-06	5,900	43.5013
	04-07-06	68,900	43.2786
	04-07-06	13,800	43.2995
	04-10-06	23,600	43.3954
	04-10-06	51,526	43.4798
	04-11-06	32,600	43.4342
	04-11-06	9,500	43.4994
	04-12-06	110,200	37.0315
	04-12-06	83,000	37.0456
	04-12-06	99,400	37.0664
	04-13-06	93,600	36.9876
	04-13-06	103,700	36.9945
	04-13-06	186,400	37.0198
	04-17-06	40,000	36.6487
	04-17-06	43,800	36.9457
	04-17-06	66,300	36.9999

Entity	Trade Date	Shares	Price/Share
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
For Blum Strategic III for	03-24-06	10,400	44.0246
which Blum GP III LP	03-24-06	27,300	44.0774
serves as the general partner	03-27-06	107,100	44.0127
and for Blum GP III which	03-27-06	29,100	44.0359
serves as the general	03-27-06	56,700	44.0857
partner for Blum GP III LP.	03-28-06	140,100	43.8444
	03-28-06	21,500	43.8492

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Entity	Trade Date	Shares	Price/Share
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
For Blum Strategic III for	03-28-06	13,600	43.9878
which Blum GP III LP	03-28-06	30,100	44.0000
serves as the general partner	03-29-06	42,900	43.3337
and for Blum GP III which	03-29-06	105,000	43.3985
serves as the general	03-30-06	25,500	42.9647
partner for Blum GP III LP.	03-30-06	17,000	43.3900
	03-31-06	16,652	43.2899
	04-06-06	41,870	43.5013
	04-07-06	60,400	43.2995
	04-12-06	19,500	37.0315
	04-12-06	493,452	37.0456
	04-13-06	158,400	37.0198

Entity	Trade Date	Shares	Price/Share
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
The partnership for which	03-24-06	200	44.0246
Saddlepoint GP serves as	03-24-06	700	44.0774
general partner.	03-27-06	2,500	44.0127

03-27-06	700	44.0359
03-27-06	1,400	44.0857
03-28-06	3,300	43.8444
03-28-06	500	43.8492
03-28-06	300	43.9878
03-28-06	700	44.0000
03-29-06	1,000	43.3337
03-29-06	2,500	43.3985
03-30-06	600	42.9647
03-30-06	400	43.3900
03-31-06	400	43.2899
04-06-06	1,200	43.5013
04-07-06	13,600	43.2786
04-07-06	2,700	43.2995
04-10-06	5,300	43.4798
04-12-06	500	37.0315
04-12-06	13,100	37.0456
04-13-06	36,000	37.0198
04-17-06	8,000	36.6487

Entity	Trade Date	Shares	Price/Share
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
The Investment Advisory	03-24-06	200	44.0774
Clients for which Blum L.P.	03-27-06	1,000	44.0127
serves as investment advisor.	03-27-06	200	44.0359
	03-27-06	400	44.0857
	03-28-06	1,200	43.8444
	03-28-06	200	43.8492
	03-28-06	200	43.9878
	03-28-06	200	44.0000
	03-29-06	400	43.3337
	03-29-06	800	43.3985
	03-30-06	200	42.9647
	03-30-06	200	43.3900
	03-31-06	200	43.2899
	04-06-06	400	43.5013
	04-07-06	4,000	43.2786
	04-07-06	800	43.2995
	04-10-06	1,400	43.3954

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Entity	Trade Date	Shares	Price/Share
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
The Investment Advisory	04-10-06	3,200	43.4798
Clients for which Blum L.P.	04-11-06	2,400	43.4342
serves as investment advisor.	04-11-06	600	43.4994
	04-12-06	3,600	37.0315
	04-12-06	4,000	37.0456
	04-12-06	7,600	37.0664
	04-13-06	6,400	36.9876
	04-13-06	7,800	36.9945
	04-13-06	11,000	37.0198
	04-17-06	2,000	36.6487
	04-17-06	6,200	36.9457
	04-17-06	3,400	36.9999

(d) and (e) Not applicable.

Item 6. Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings or Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer

None of the Reporting Persons or, to the best knowledge of the Reporting Persons, the other persons named in Item 2, is a party to any contract, arrangement, understanding or relationship with respect to any securities of the Issuer, including but not limited to the transfer or voting of any securities of the Issuer, finder's fees, joint ventures, loan or option arrangements, puts or calls, guarantees of profits, division of profits or loss, or the giving or withholding of proxies, except as noted above, Blum L.P. has voting and investment power of the shares held by it for the benefit of The Investment Advisory Clients.

Item 7. Material to be Filed as Exhibits

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SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of our knowledge and belief, the undersigned certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: April 24, 2006

RICHARD C. BLUM & ASSOCIATES, INC.

BLUM CAPITAL PARTNERS, L.P.

By: Richard C. Blum & Associates, Inc.
Its General Partner

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan
Partner, General Counsel and
Secretary

Gregory D. Hitchan
Partner, General Counsel and
Secretary

BLUM STRATEGIC GP III, L.L.C.

BLUM STRATEGIC GP III, L.P.

By: Blum Strategic GP III, L.L.C.
Its General Partner

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan
Member and General Counsel

Gregory D. Hitchan
Member and General Counsel

SADDLEPOINT PARTNERS GP, L.L.C.

By: Blum Capital Partners, L.P.
Its Managing Member

By: Richard C. Blum & Associates, Inc.
Its General Partner

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan
Partner, General Counsel and Secretary

CUSIP NO. 05367P100

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Exhibit A
JOINT FILING UNDERTAKING

The undersigned, being duly authorized thereunto, hereby execute this agreement as an exhibit to this Schedule 13D to evidence the agreement of the below-named parties, in accordance with the rules promulgated pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, to file this Schedule jointly on behalf of each such party.

Dated: April 24, 2006

RICHARD C. BLUM & ASSOCIATES, INC.

BLUM CAPITAL PARTNERS, L.P.

By: Richard C. Blum & Associates, Inc.
Its General Partner

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan

Partner, General Counsel and
Secretary

Partner, General Counsel and
Secretary

BLUM STRATEGIC GP III, L.L.C.

BLUM STRATEGIC GP III, L.P.
By: Blum Strategic GP III, L.L.C.
Its General Partner

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan
Member and General Counsel

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan
Member and General Counsel

SADDLEPOINT PARTNERS GP, L.L.C.
By: Blum Capital Partners, L.P.
Its Managing Member
By: Richard C. Blum & Associates, Inc.
Its General Partner

By: /s/ Gregory D. Hitchan

Gregory D. Hitchan
Partner, General Counsel and Secretary