

VEECO INSTRUMENTS INC
Filed by
**WELLS BETTY JE TRUSTEE OF WELLS FAMILY
TRUST**

FORM SC 13D
(Statement of Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 06/08/98

Address	TERMINAL DRIVE PLAINVIEW, NY 11803
Telephone	516 677-0200
CIK	0000103145
Symbol	VECO
SIC Code	3559 - Special Industry Machinery, Not Elsewhere Classified
Industry	Semiconductors
Sector	Technology
Fiscal Year	12/31

VEECO INSTRUMENTS INC

FORM SC 13D (Statement of Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 6/8/1998

Address	TERMINAL DR PLAINVIEW, New York 11803
Telephone	516-349-8300
CIK	0000103145
Industry	Semiconductors
Sector	Technology
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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13D
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
(AMENDMENT NO.)*

VEECO INSTRUMENTS INC.

(NAME OF ISSUER)

COMMON STOCK
(TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES)

922417-100
(CUSIP NUMBER)

BETTY J. E. WELLS
P.O. BOX 6075
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93160
(805) 964-0879
(NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON
AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS)

COPIES TO:

RORY A. GREISS, ESQ.
KAYE, SCHOLER, FIERMAN, HAYS & HANDLER, LLP
425 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022
(212) 836-8000

MAY 29, 1998
(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 that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of Sections 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box [].

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of this schedule, including all exhibits. See Section 13d-7 (b) for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

Page 1 of 8 Pages.

Exhibit Index on page 8.

*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).

Page 2 of 8 Pages.

Exhibit Index on page 8.

SCHEDULE 13D

CUSIP NO. 922 417-100

Page 3 of 8 Pages

	NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS
1	
	Betty J.E. Wells, as an individual and as Trustee of the Wells Family Trust

	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (a) / / (b) / /
2	

	SEC USE ONLY
3	

	SOURCE OF FUNDS (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
4	
	OO

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

	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
6	
	USA

NUMBER OF	SOLE VOTING POWER
SHARES	7 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock

BENEFICIALLY	SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY	8 -0-

EACH	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
REPORTING	9 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock

PERSON	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
WITH	10 -0-

	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
11	1,323,531 shares of Common Stock

	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) / /
12	

	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
13	Approximately 9.1% (based on 8,966,243 shares outstanding on May 11, 1998 and an additional 5,583,721 shares issued on May 29, 1998)

	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
14	
	IN

ITEM 1. SECURITY AND ISSUER

The securities to which this Statement on Schedule 13D relates are the shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share (the "Common Stock"), of Veeco Instruments Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Issuer"). The address of the principal executive offices of the Issuer is Terminal Drive, Plainview, NY 11803.

ITEM 2. IDENTITY AND BACKGROUND

This Statement on Schedule 13D is being filed by Betty J.E. Wells (the "Reporting Person"), as an individual and as Trustee of the Wells Family Trust (the "Trust"). Ms. Wells is the trustee and the sole beneficiary of the Trust and the Trust is revocable at any time by Ms. Wells. Ms. Wells' address is P.O. Box 6075, Santa Barbara, California 93160. Ms. Wells has not, during the last 5 years, been convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations or similar misdemeanors) or 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. Ms. Wells is a citizen of the United States.

ITEM 3. SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF FUNDS OR OTHER CONSIDERATION

The Reporting Person acquired her shares of Common Stock pursuant to an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of February 28, 1998, as amended (the "Merger Agreement"), among the Issuer, Digital Instruments, Inc., a California corporation ("Digital"), and the securityholders of Digital. Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, Digital merged with and into the Issuer (the "Merger"), with the Issuer being the surviving corporation. The Reporting Person held 12,325 shares of common stock of Digital through the Trust, which were converted, pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, into the right to receive 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock of the Issuer.

ITEM 4. PURPOSE OF TRANSACTION

The Reporting Person acquired her shares of Common Stock for investment purposes only. The Reporting Person has no present plans or proposals that relate to or would result in: (a) the acquisition by any person of additional securities of the Issuer, or the disposition of securities of the Issuer; (b) an extraordinary corporate transaction, such as a merger, reorganization or liquidation, involving the Issuer or any of its subsidiaries; (c) a sale or transfer of a material amount of assets of the Issuer or of any of its subsidiaries; (d) any change in the present board of directors or management of the Issuer, including any plans or proposals to change the number or term of such directors or to fill any existing vacancies on such board; (e) any material change in the present capitalization or dividend policy of the Issuer; (f) any other material change in the Issuer's business or corporate structure; (g) changes in the Issuer's charter, by-laws or instruments

corresponding thereto or other actions that may impede the acquisition of control of the Issuer by any person; (h) causing a class of securities of the Issuer to be delisted from a national securities exchange or to cease to be authorized to be quoted in an inter-dealer quotation system of a registered national securities association; (i) a class of equity securities of the Issuer becoming eligible for termination of registration pursuant to Section 12(g)(4) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; or (j) any action similar to any of those enumerated above.

ITEM 5. INTEREST IN SECURITIES OF THE ISSUER

(a) The Reporting Person may be deemed to beneficially own 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock, representing approximately 9.1% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock (based on the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of May 11, 1998 and the number of shares of Common Stock issued in the Merger).

(b) The Reporting Person holds the sole power to vote or to direct the vote and to dispose or to direct the disposition of the 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock.

(c) During the past sixty (60) days, the Reporting Person has received 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock in exchange for 12,325 shares of common stock of Digital pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement.

Except as set forth above, the Reporting Person does not beneficially own any shares of Common Stock and has not effected any transaction in shares of Common Stock during the preceding 60 days.

(d) To the best knowledge of the Reporting Person, no person has the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock.

(e) Not applicable.

ITEM 6. CONTRACTS, ARRANGEMENTS, UNDERSTANDINGS OR RELATIONSHIPS WITH RESPECT TO THE COMMON STOCK OF THE ISSUER

1. AFFILIATES AGREEMENT. As of May 8, 1998, the Reporting Person entered into an Affiliates Agreement (the "Affiliates Agreement") with the Issuer pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement. Pursuant to the Affiliates Agreement, the Reporting Person has agreed not to sell, exchange, transfer, pledge, dispose of or otherwise reduce her risk relative to the shares of Common Stock or any part thereof until such time as financial results covering at least 30 days of the combined operations of the Issuer and Digital after the effective date of the Merger have been, within the meaning of Accounting Series Release No. 130 ("Release No. 130"), as amended, of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), filed by the Issuer with the SEC or published by the Issuer in a public filing or issuance that includes combined sales and

income of the Issuer and Digital. The Reporting Person has further agreed that she has no present plan or intent to engage in a sale, exchange, transfer, pledge, disposition or any other transaction that results in a reduction in the risk of ownership with respect to more than 50% of the 1,323,531 shares of Common Stock. The Affiliates Agreement contains certain other terms with respect to maintaining compliance with Release No. 130 and with the federal securities laws. (See Exhibit 1.)

2. REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT. As of May 29, 1998, the Reporting Person and the other former shareholders of Digital, entered into a Registration Rights Agreement (the "Registration Rights Agreement") with the Issuer which provides the Reporting Person and such former Digital shareholders with certain registration rights for the shares of Common Stock received by them pursuant to the Merger Agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement, under certain circumstances the Reporting Person, together with other former shareholders of Digital, may cause the Issuer to register their shares of Common Stock with the SEC for public sale thereof. The Reporting Person also received "piggyback" registration rights pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement. (See Exhibit 2.)

ITEM 7. MATERIAL TO BE FILED AS EXHIBITS

1. Affiliates Agreement, dated as of May 8, 1998, between Betty Elings Wells and the Issuer.
2. Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of May 29, 1998, among the Issuer, Betty Elings Wells and the other shareholders set forth on the signature pages thereto.

SIGNATURE

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

Dated as of June 4, 1998

/s/ Betty J.E. Wells

*Betty J.E. Wells, as an individual
and as Trustee of The Wells
Family Trust*

Page 7 of 8 Pages.

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT

PAGE NO. IN
SEQUENTIAL
NUMBERING SYSTEM

1. Affiliates Agreement, dated as of May 8, 1998,
between Betty Elings Wells and the Issuer.
2. Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of May 29,
1998, among the Issuer, Betty Elings Wells and the other
shareholders set forth on the signature pages thereto.

Page 8 of 8 Pages.

AFFILIATES AGREEMENT

THIS AFFILIATES AGREEMENT (the "Affiliates Agreement") is entered into as of the 8th day of May, 1998 between Veeco Instruments Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Acquiror"), and the undersigned shareholder (the "Shareholder") of Digital Instruments, Inc. a California corporation ("Target").

RECITALS

A. Target and Acquiror have entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated February 28, 1998 (the "Merger Agreement"), pursuant to which Target will be merged into Acquiror (the "Merger").

B. Upon the consummation of the Merger and in connection therewith, the undersigned Shareholder will become the owner of shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share, of Acquiror (the "Acquiror Shares").

C. The parties to the Merger Agreement intend to cause the Merger to be accounted for as a pooling of interests pursuant to APB Opinion No. 16, Staff Accounting Series Releases No. 130, 135 and 146 and Staff Accounting Bulletins Topic Two.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual agreements, provisions and covenants set forth in the Merger Agreement and in this Affiliates Agreement, it is hereby agreed as follows:

1. The undersigned Shareholder hereby agrees that:

(a) The undersigned Shareholder may be deemed to be (but does not hereby admit to be) an "affiliate" of Target within the meaning of Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Accounting Series Release No. 130, as amended, of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") ("Release No. 130").

(b) The undersigned Shareholder will not sell, exchange, transfer, pledge, dispose of or otherwise reduce the undersigned Shareholder's risk relative to the Acquiror Shares or any part thereof until such time after the Effective Time of the Merger as financial results covering at least thirty (30) days of the combined operations of Acquiror and Target after the Effective Time of the Merger have been, within the meaning of said Release No. 130, filed by Acquiror with the SEC or published by Acquiror in an Annual Report on Form 10-K, a Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, a Current Report on Form 8-K, a quarterly earnings report, a press release or other public issuance that includes combined sales and income of Target and Acquiror. Acquiror agrees to notify the undersigned Shareholder promptly upon making such filing or publication. The undersigned will not, during the thirty (30) day period prior to the Effective

Time of the Merger as determined in Acquiror's reasonable discretion, sell, exchange, transfer, pledge, dispose of or otherwise reduce the undersigned Shareholder's risk relative to the Acquiror Shares or any part thereof (including any disposition, within such period, of Shareholder's shares of Target Common Stock).

(c) The undersigned Shareholder has, and as of the Effective Time of the Merger will have, no present plan or intent (a "Plan") to engage in a sale, exchange, transfer, pledge, disposition or any other transaction (including a distribution by a partnership to its partners or by a corporation to its shareholders) that results in a reduction in the risk of ownership (collectively, a "Sale") with respect to more than fifty percent (50%) of the shares of Acquiror Common Stock to be acquired by the undersigned Shareholder upon consummation of the Merger. The undersigned Shareholder is not aware of, or participating in, any Plan on the part of Target's shareholders to engage in Sales of the shares of Acquiror Common Stock to be issued in the Merger such that the aggregate fair market value, as of the Effective Time of the Merger, of the shares subject to such Sales would exceed fifty percent (50%) of the aggregate fair market value of all shares of outstanding Target Common Stock immediately prior to the Merger. A Sale of Acquiror Common Stock shall be considered to have occurred pursuant to a Plan if such Sale occurs in a transaction that is in contemplation of, or related or pursuant to, the Merger Agreement (a "Related Transaction"). In addition, shares of Target Common Stock

(i) exchanged for cash in lieu of fractional shares of Acquiror Common Stock and

(ii) with respect to which a Sale occurred in a Related Transaction prior to the Merger shall be considered to have been shares of outstanding Target Common Stock that were exchanged for Acquiror Common Stock in the Merger and then disposed of pursuant to a Plan. If any of the undersigned Shareholder's representations in this subsection (c) ceases to be true at any time prior to the Effective Time of the Merger, the undersigned Shareholder shall deliver to each of Target and Acquiror, prior to the Effective Time of the Merger, a written statement to that effect. Except as otherwise set forth in APPENDIX A, the undersigned Shareholder has not engaged in a sale of any shares of Target Common Stock since January 1, 1996. The undersigned Shareholder understands and acknowledges that Target, Acquiror and their respective shareholders, as well as legal counsel to Target and Acquiror, are entitled to rely on (i) the truth and accuracy of the undersigned Shareholder's representations contained therein and

(ii) the undersigned Shareholder's performance of the obligations set forth herein.

(d) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Section 1, the undersigned Shareholder agrees not to offer, sell, exchange, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of any of the Acquiror Shares unless at that time the time period set forth in paragraph (b) of this Section 1 has expired and either:

(i) such transaction is permitted pursuant to the provisions of Rule 145(d) under the Securities Act;

(ii) counsel representing the undersigned Shareholder, satisfactory to Acquiror, shall have advised Acquiror in a written opinion letter satisfactory to Acquiror and Acquiror's counsel, and upon which Acquiror and its counsel may rely, that no

registration under the Securities Act is required in connection with the proposed sale, transfer or other disposition;

(iii) a registration statement under the Securities Act covering the Acquiror Shares proposed to be sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of, describing the manner and terms of the proposed sale, transfer or other disposition, and containing a current prospectus, is filed with the SEC and made effective under the Securities Act; or

(iv) an authorized representative of the SEC shall have rendered written advice to the undersigned Shareholder (sought by the undersigned Shareholder or counsel to the undersigned Shareholder, with a copy thereof and of all other related communications delivered to Acquiror) to the effect that the SEC will take no action, or that the staff of the SEC will not recommend that the SEC take action, with respect to the proposed offer, sale, exchange, transfer, pledge or other disposition if consummated.

(e) All certificates representing the Acquiror Shares deliverable to the undersigned Shareholder pursuant to the Merger Agreement and in connection with the Merger and any certificates subsequently issued with respect thereto or in substitution therefor shall, unless one or more of the alternative conditions set forth in the subparagraphs of paragraph (d) of this Section 1 shall have occurred, bear a legend substantially as follows:

"The shares represented by this certificate may not be offered, sold, exchanged, transferred, pledged or otherwise disposed of except in accordance with the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the other conditions specified in that certain Affiliates Agreement, dated as of May 8, 1998, between Acquiror and Betty Elings Wells, a copy of which Affiliates Agreement may be inspected by the holder of this certificate at the offices of Acquiror, or Acquiror will furnish, without charge, a copy thereof to the holder of this certificate upon written request therefor."

Acquiror, at its discretion, may cause stop transfer orders to be placed with its transfer agent with respect to the certificates for the Acquiror Shares but not as to the certificates for any part of the Acquiror Shares as to which said legend is no longer appropriate when one or more of the alternative conditions set forth in the subparagraphs of paragraph (d) of this Section 1 shall have occurred.

(f) The undersigned Shareholder will observe and comply with the Securities Act and the General Rules and Regulations thereunder, as now in effect and as from time to time amended and including those hereafter enacted or promulgated, in connection with any offer, sale, exchange, transfer, pledge or other disposition of the Acquiror Shares or any part thereof.

(g) The undersigned Shareholder undertakes and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Acquiror, Target, and each of their respective current and future officers and directors and each person, if any, who now or hereafter controls or may control Acquiror or Target within the meaning of the Securities Act (an "Indemnified Person") from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, causes of action, losses, costs, damages, liabilities and expenses ("Claims") based upon, arising out of or resulting from any breach or nonfulfillment of any undertaking, covenant or agreement made by the undersigned Shareholder in subsection (b), (c), (d) or (f) of this Section 1, or caused by or attributable to the undersigned Shareholder, or the undersigned Shareholder's agents or employees, or representatives, brokers, dealers and/or underwriters insofar as they are acting on behalf of and in accordance with the instruction of or with the knowledge of the undersigned Shareholder, in connection with or relating to any offer, sale, pledge, transfer or other disposition of any of the Acquiror Shares by or on behalf of the undersigned Shareholder, which claim or claims result from any breach or nonfulfillment as set forth above. The indemnification set forth herein shall be in addition to any liability that the undersigned Shareholder may otherwise have to the Indemnified Persons.

(h) Promptly after receiving definitive notice of any Claim in respect of which an Indemnified Person may seek indemnification under this Affiliates Agreement, such Indemnified Person shall submit notice thereof to the undersigned Shareholder. The omission by the Indemnified Person so to notify the undersigned Shareholder of any such Claim shall not relieve the undersigned Shareholder from any liability the undersigned Shareholder may have hereunder except to the extent that (i) such liability was caused or increased by such omission, or (ii) the ability of the undersigned Shareholder to reduce or defend against such liability was adversely affected by such omission. The omission of the Indemnified Person so to notify the undersigned Shareholder of any such Claim shall not relieve the undersigned Shareholder from any liability the undersigned Shareholder may have otherwise than hereunder. The Indemnified Persons and the undersigned Shareholder shall cooperate with and assist one another in the defense of any Claim and any action, suit or proceeding arising in connection therewith.

2. **REPORTS.** From and after the Effective Time of the Merger and for so long as necessary in order to permit the undersigned Shareholder to sell the Acquiror Shares pursuant to Rule 145 and, to the extent applicable, Rule 144 under the Securities Act, Acquiror will file on a timely basis all reports required to be filed by it pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, referred to in paragraph (c)(1) of Rule 144 under the Securities Act (or, if applicable, Acquiror will make publicly available the information regarding itself referred to in paragraph (c)(2) of Rule 144), in order to permit the undersigned Shareholder to sell, pursuant to the terms and conditions of Rule 145 and the applicable provisions of Rule 144, the Acquiror Shares.

3. **WAIVER.** No waiver by any party hereto of any condition or of any breach of any provision of this Affiliates Agreement shall be effective unless in writing.

4. **NOTICES.** All notices, requests, demands or other communications that are required or may be given pursuant to the terms of this Affiliates Agreement shall be in writing and shall

be deemed to have been duly given if delivered by hand or mailed by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, as follows:

(a) If to the Shareholder, at the address set forth below the Shareholder's signature at the end hereof.

(b) If to Acquiror, Target or the other Indemnified Persons:

Veeco Instruments Inc. Terminal Drive
Plainview, New York 11803 Attention: Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Facsimile No.: (516) 349-9079 Telephone No.: (516) 349-8300

with a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:

Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler, LLP 425 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022 Attention: Rory Greiss, Esq.

Facsimile No.: (212) 836-7152
Telephone No.: (212) 836-8261

and

Digital Instruments, Inc. 112 Robin Hill Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93117 Attention: Virgil Elings and Richard Clark, Esq.

Tel: (805)-967-1400
Fax: (805)-967-7717

or to such other address as any party hereto or any Indemnified Person may designate for itself by notice given as herein provided.

5. COUNTERPARTS. For the convenience of the parties hereto, this Affiliates Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same document.

6. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS. This Affiliates Agreement shall be enforceable by, and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon, the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns. Moreover, this Affiliates Agreement shall be enforceable by, and shall inure to the benefit of, the Indemnified Persons and their respective successors and assigns. As

used herein, the term "successors and assigns" shall mean, where the context so permits, heirs, executors, administrators, trustees and successor trustees, and personal and other representatives.

7. GOVERNING LAW. This Affiliates Agreement shall be governed by and construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

8. EFFECTIVENESS; SEVERABILITY. This Affiliates Agreement shall become effective at the Effective Time of the Merger. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines that any provision of this Affiliates Agreement is unenforceable or enforceable only if limited in time and/or scope, this Affiliates Agreement shall continue in full force and effect with such provision stricken or so limited.

9. EFFECT OF HEADINGS. The section headings herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Affiliates Agreement.

10. DEFINITIONS. All capitalized terms used herein shall have the meaning defined in the Merger Agreement, unless otherwise defined herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Affiliates Agreement to be executed as of the date first above written.

ACQUIROR SHAREHOLDER

By: /s/ Edward H. Braun	/s/ Betty Elings Wells
-----	-----
Edward H. Braun	(Signature)
Chairman, President and	
Chief Executive Officer	Betty Elings Wells

	(Print Name)
	P.O. Box 6075
	Santa Barbara, CA 93160

	(Print Address)
	805-964-0879

	(Print Telephone Number)

REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT

REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT, dated as of May 29, 1998, among Veeco Instruments Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and the shareholders set forth on the signature pages hereto (collectively, the "Shareholders").

WHEREAS, the Company, Digital Instruments, Inc., a California corporation ("Digital") and the Shareholders have entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of February 28, 1998, as amended (the "Merger Agreement"), pursuant to which Digital will merge with and into the Company with the result that the Company will be the surviving corporation (the "Merger"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the Merger, the Shareholders' common shares of Digital, will be converted into the right to receive shares of the Company's common stock; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the Merger and pursuant to the Merger Agreement, the Company has agreed to provide the Shareholders with certain registration rights as set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

The following terms, as used in this Agreement, have the following respective meanings:

"PERSON" means any natural person, corporation, limited partnership, general partnership, a limited liability company, joint stock company, joint venture, association, company, trust, bank, trust company, land trust, business trust or other organization, whether or not a legal entity, and any government agency or political subdivision thereof.

"REGISTRABLE SECURITIES" means (i) all or any Shares received by the Shareholders in connection with the Merger (all such Shares, the "Merger Shares"), and (ii) any Shares issued as a dividend or distribution or issuable upon the conversion or exercise of any warrant, right or other security which is issued as a dividend or other distribution with respect to, or in exchange for or in replacement of, the Merger Shares.

"SHARES" means shares of the Company's Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share.

"SECURITIES ACT" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

ARTICLE II

REGISTRATION RIGHTS

2.1 DEMAND REGISTRATION. (a) If on any occasion after the first anniversary of the date hereof one or more of the holders of Registrable Securities notifies the Company in writing that he or they wish to offer or cause to be offered for public sale a portion of the Registrable Securities at least equal to 30% of any and all Registrable Securities then outstanding, the Company will so notify all holders of Registrable Securities. Upon written request (the "Shareholder Request") of any holder of Registrable Securities given within 30 days after the receipt by such holder from the Company of such notification, the Company, subject to its obligations under the Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of December 6, 1994 among the Company and the investors and management shareholders named therein and the Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of June 25, 1997 between the Company and John Hayes, James C. Wyant and Louise Wyant (collectively, the "Prior Registration Rights Agreements"), agrees promptly to prepare and file a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") to register under the Securities Act all Registrable Securities requested to be registered by the requesting holder and to use its best efforts to have such registration statement declared effective as promptly as practicable (but in any event within 90 days after receipt of the last properly given Shareholder Request) as would permit or facilitate the sale and distribution of such holder's Registrable Securities as are specified in such Shareholder Request. Except as provided in Section 2.6 hereof, the Company shall not be required to effect more than one registration pursuant to this Section 2.1.

(b) A Shareholder Request shall state the number of Registrable Securities requested to be registered and the intended method of disposition thereof.

2.2 INCIDENTAL REGISTRATION. (a) If at any time after the date hereof the Company proposes to register any equity securities under the Securities Act for sale to the public (other than pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-4 or Form S-8 (or any successor forms) or any other forms not available for registering Registrable Securities for sale to the public or any shelf registration effected pursuant to the Prior Registration Rights Agreements), either for the Company's account or for the account of others, the Company shall, not less than 30 nor more than 90 days prior to the proposed date of filing of a registration statement under the Securities Act, give written notice to all holders of Registrable Securities of its intention to do so. Upon the written request of any holder of Registrable Securities given within 30 days after transmittal by the Company of such notice, the Company, subject to its obligations under the

Prior Registration Rights Agreements, will use its best efforts to cause the Registrable Securities requested to be registered to be so registered under the Securities Act. A request pursuant to this Section 2.2(a) shall state the number of Registrable Securities requested to be registered and the intended method of disposition thereof. The rights granted in this Section 2.2(a) shall apply in each case where the Company proposes to register equity securities regardless of whether such rights may have been exercised previously.

(b) Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to require the Company to proceed with any registration of its securities pursuant to Section 2.2 after giving the notice provided in paragraph (a) above.

2.3 LIMITATION ON REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT. (a) The Company shall have the right to postpone for up to 75 days any registration required pursuant to Section 2.1 hereof if the Company determines in good faith (and so certifies to the Shareholders) that the filing of such registration statement would require the disclosure of non-public material information the disclosure of which would have a material adverse effect on the Company or would otherwise adversely affect any proposal or plan by the Company or any of its subsidiaries to engage in any acquisition of assets (other than in the ordinary course of business) or any merger, consolidation, tender offer or similar transaction (provided, however, that the Company may not exercise its right to so delay a registration pursuant to Section 2.1 hereof more than once in any twelve-month period).

(b) The Company shall not be obligated or required to effect any registration pursuant to Section 2.1(a) hereof during the period commencing on the date falling thirty (30) days prior to the Company's estimated date of filing of, and ending on the date one hundred eighty (180) days following the effective date of, any registration statement pertaining to any underwritten registration initiated by the Company, for the account of the Company, if the Shareholder Request shall have been received by the Company after the Company shall have advised holders of Registrable Securities that the Company is contemplating commencing an underwritten registration initiated by the Company; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Company will use reasonable efforts to cause any such registration statement to be filed and to become effective as expeditiously as shall be reasonably possible.

2.4 REGISTRATION PROCEDURES. If and whenever the Company is required by the provisions of this Article II to use its best efforts to effect the registration of any securities under the Securities Act, the Company will within the time periods provided herein:

(a) prepare and file with the Commission a registration statement with respect to such securities and use its best efforts to cause such registration statement to become and remain effective for a period of time required for the disposition of such securities by the holders thereof;

(b) prepare and file with the Commission such amendments and supplements to such registration statement and the prospectus used in connection therewith as may be necessary to keep such registration statement effective and to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act with respect to the sale or other disposition of all securities covered by such registration statement until the earlier of such time as all of such securities have been disposed of and the date which is ninety (90) days after the date of initial effectiveness of such registration statement;

(c) furnish to each seller and to each duly authorized underwriter of each seller such number of authorized copies of a prospectus, including copies of a preliminary prospectus, in conformity with the requirements of the Securities Act, and such other documents as such seller or underwriter may reasonably request in order to facilitate the public sale or other disposition of the securities owned by such seller;

(d) use its best efforts to register or qualify the securities covered by such registration statement under such securities or blue sky laws of such jurisdictions as each seller shall request, and do any and all other acts and things which may be necessary under such securities or blue sky laws to enable such seller to consummate the public sale or other disposition in such jurisdictions of the securities to be sold by such seller, except that the Company shall not for any such purpose be required to qualify to do business in any jurisdiction wherein it is not qualified or to file any general consent to service of process in any such jurisdiction;

(e) before filing the registration statement or prospectus or amendments or supplements thereto or any other documents related thereto, furnish to counsel selected by the holders of Registrable Securities included in such registration statement copies of all such documents proposed to be filed, all of which shall be subject to the reasonable approval of such counsel;

(f) furnish, at the request of any seller, (1) to the underwriters, on the date that such seller's securities are delivered to the underwriters for sale pursuant to such registration, an opinion of the independent counsel representing the Company for the purposes of such registration addressed to such underwriters and to such seller, in such form and content as the underwriters and such seller may reasonably request, or (2) if such securities are not being sold through underwriters, then to the sellers, on the date that the registration statement with respect to such securities becomes effective, an opinion, dated such date, of the independent counsel representing the Company for the purposes of such registration in such form and content as such seller may reasonably request; and in the case of clauses (1) and (2) above, a letter dated such date, from the independent certified public accountants of the Company addressed to the underwriters, if any, and if such securities are not being sold through underwriters, then to the sellers and, if such accountants refuse to deliver such letter to such sellers, then to the Company, stating that they are independent certified public accountants within the meaning of the Securities Act and that, in the opinion of such accountants, the financial statements and other financial data

of the Company included in the registration statement or the prospectus, or any amendment or supplement thereto, comply as to form in all material respects with the applicable accounting requirements of the Securities Act and covering such other matters as are customarily covered in accountant's "comfort" letters;

(g) enter into customary agreements (including an underwriting agreement in customary form) and take such other actions as are reasonably required in order to expedite or facilitate the disposition of such securities;

(h) provide and cause to be maintained a transfer agent and registrar for all Registrable Securities covered by such registration statement from and after a date not later than the effective date of such registration statement;

(i) notify the holders of Registrable Securities included in such registration statement, at any time when a prospectus relating thereto covered by such registration statement is required to be delivered under the Securities Act, of the happening of any event as a result of which the prospectus included in such registration statement, as then in effect, includes an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading in the light of the circumstances then existing and, at the request of such holders properly prepare and furnish to such holders a reasonable number of copies of a supplement to or an amendment of such prospectus as may be necessary so that, as thereafter delivered to purchasers of such securities, such prospectus shall not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made;

(j) use its best efforts to list all Registrable Securities covered by such registration statement on any securities exchange on which the Shares are then listed; and

(k) otherwise use its best efforts to comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Commission, and make available to its security holders, as soon as reasonably practicable, but not later than 18 months after the effective date of the registration statement, an earnings statement covering the period of at least 12 months beginning with the first full calendar month after the effective date of such registration statement, which earnings statement shall satisfy the provisions of Section 11(a) of the Securities Act.

2.5 EXPENSES. All expenses incurred in effecting the registrations provided for in this Article II (excluding underwriters' discounts and commissions, which shall be borne pro rata by those holders for whom Registrable Securities are being registered and, other than as provided in the last sentence of this Section 2.5, fees of counsel to the holders of Registrable Securities), including without limitation all registration and filing fees (including all expenses incident to filing with the NASD Regulation, Inc. and any securities exchange), printing expenses, fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company, fees of the Company's

independent auditors and accountants, expenses of any audits incident to or required by any such registration and expenses of complying with the securities or blue sky laws of any jurisdictions pursuant to subsection 2.4(d) hereof, shall be paid by the Company. In addition, the Company shall pay the fees and disbursements of one counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Company for the holders of Registrable Securities for performance of the normal and customary functions of counsel for selling shareholders in each registration provided for in this Article II.

2.6 MARKETING RESTRICTIONS. (a) If (i) any holder(s) of Registrable Securities wish(es) to register any Registrable Securities in a registration made pursuant to Section 2.1 hereof, (ii) the offering proposed to be made by such holder or holders is to be an underwritten public offering, (iii) the Company or one or more holders of securities other than Registrable Securities to whom the Company has granted registration rights wish to register securities in such registration and (iv) the managing underwriters of such public offering furnish a written opinion that the total amount of securities to be included in such offering would exceed the maximum amount of securities (as specified in such opinion) which can be marketed in such offering at a price which such holders of Registrable Securities are prepared to sell and without materially and adversely affecting such offering; then the rights of holders of Registrable Securities, the Company and the holders of other securities with registration rights to participate in such offering shall be in the following order of priority:

FIRST: The holders of Registrable Securities (as defined herein) and holders of Registrable Securities (as defined in the Prior Registration Rights Agreements) having the right to include such securities in such registration shall be entitled to participate in proportion to the number of Registrable Securities (as defined herein and in the Prior Registration Rights Agreements) requested to be registered by each such holder; and then

SECOND: The Company and all holders of securities other than Registrable Securities (as defined herein and in the Prior Registration Rights Agreements) having the right to include such securities in such registration shall be entitled to participate pro rata among themselves in accordance with the number of securities requested to be registered by the Company and each such holder;

and no securities (issued or unissued) other than those registered and included in the underwritten offering shall be offered for sale or other disposition by the Company in a transaction which would require registration under the Securities Act (including any additional offering which is to be registered pursuant to Section 2.1) until the expiration of 180 days after the effective date of the registration statement requested pursuant to this Article II or such shorter period as may be acceptable to the holders of Registrable Securities participating in such underwritten offering.

(b) In the event the holders of Registrable Securities requesting registration pursuant to Section 2.1 hereof are unable to register and sell in such registration in the aggregate at least 75% of the Registrable Securities so requested to be registered by reason of

the operation of the priority rules set forth in paragraph (a) of this Section 2.6, the Company shall be required to effect an additional registration pursuant to Section 2.1 upon the request of holders of Registrable Securities made in accordance with such Section 2.1; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, (i) the Company shall not be required to effect more than one additional registration pursuant to this Section 2.6(b), (ii) the Company shall not be required to effect an additional registration pursuant to this Section 2.6(b) unless the aggregate number of Registrable Securities to be registered in connection therewith is greater than 750,000 and (iii) the Company shall not be required to effect an additional registration pursuant to this Section 2.6(b) within a period of six months after the effective date of the prior registration effected pursuant to Section 2.1.

(c) If (i) any holder of Registrable Securities requests registration of Registrable Securities under Section 2.2, (ii) the offering proposed to be made is to be an underwritten public offering and (iii) the managing underwriters of such public offering furnish a written opinion that the total amount of securities to be included in such offering would exceed the maximum amount of securities (as specified in such opinion) which can be marketed at a price reasonably related to the then current market value of such securities and without materially and adversely affecting such offering; then the rights of the Company and the holders of Registrable Securities and other securities having the right to include such securities in such registration to participate in such offering shall be in the following order of priority:

FIRST: The Company shall be entitled to participate in accordance with the number of securities requested to be registered by the Company; and then

SECOND: Subject to the rights of the holders of Registrable Securities (as defined in the Prior Registration Rights Agreements), all holders of securities, including holders of Registrable Securities (as defined herein), having the right to include such securities in such registration shall be entitled to participate pro rata among themselves in accordance with the number of securities requested to be registered by each such holder;

and no securities (issued or unissued) other than those registered and included in the underwritten offering shall be offered for sale or other disposition by the holders of Registrable Securities in a transaction which would require registration under the Securities Act (including any additional offering which is to be registered pursuant to Section 2.1) until the expiration of 180 days after the effective date of the registration statement in which Registrable Securities were included pursuant to Section 2.2 or such shorter period as may be acceptable to the Company.

2.7 TIME LIMITATIONS; TERMINATION OF RIGHTS. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Article II, the rights to registration shall terminate as to any particular Registrable Securities when (i) such Registrable Securities shall have been effectively registered under the Securities Act and sold by the holder thereof in accordance with such registration, (ii) such Registrable Securities shall have been sold in compliance with Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act or (iii) written opinions from counsel reasonably acceptable to the Company and the holder of such Registrable Securities, to the effect that such Registrable Securities may

be sold without registration under the Securities Act or applicable state law and without restriction as to the volume and timing of such sales, shall have been received from either counsel to the Company or counsel to the holders thereof.

2.8 COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 144. At the request of any holder of Registrable Securities who proposes to sell Registrable Securities in compliance with Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act, assuming that at such time the provisions of such Rule are applicable to such holder and, in the event such holder is or could be deemed to be an "affiliate" of the Company within the meaning of the Securities Act, and the Company is then required to file reports under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), the Company shall (a) forthwith furnish to such holder a written statement as to its compliance with the filing requirements of the Commission as set forth in such Rule, as such Rule may be amended from time to time, and (b) make such additional filings of reports with the Commission as will enable the holder to make sales of Registrable Securities pursuant to such Rule. At all times during which this Agreement is effective, the Company shall file with the Commission and, if applicable, The NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. ("NASDAQ"), in a timely manner, all reports and other documents required to be filed by the Company, (i) with the Commission pursuant to the Exchange Act, and (ii) with NASDAQ pursuant to its rules and regulations.

2.9 COMPANY'S INDEMNIFICATION. In the event of any registration under the Securities Act of any Registrable Securities pursuant to this Article II, the Company hereby agrees to execute an agreement with any underwriter participating in the offering thereof containing such underwriter's standard representations and indemnification provisions and to indemnify and hold harmless each holder disposing of Registrable Securities, each Person, if any, who controls such holder within the meaning of the Securities Act and each other Person (including each underwriter and each Person who controls such underwriter) who participates in the offering of Registrable Securities, against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, to which such holder, controlling person or participating person may become subject under the Securities Act or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or proceedings in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in any registration statement under which the Registrable Securities are registered under the Securities Act, in any preliminary prospectus or final prospectus contained therein, or in any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, and will reimburse each such holder, controlling person and participating person for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with investigating or defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability or proceeding; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Company will not be liable in any case to any such holder, controlling person or participating person to the extent that any loss, claim, damage or liability results from any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission made in such registration statement, preliminary or final prospectus or amendment or supplement in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the

Company by an instrument duly executed by such holder or any other person who participates as an underwriter in the offering or sale of such securities, in either case, specifically stating that it is for use in the preparation thereof or controlling or participating person, as the case may be, specifically for use in the preparation thereof. Such indemnity shall remain in full force and effect regardless of any investigation made by or on behalf of any holder disposing of Registrable Securities or any such underwriter or controlling person and shall survive the transfer of such securities by such holder and the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

2.10 INDEMNIFICATION BY HOLDER. As a condition of the Company's obligation under this Article II to effect any registration under the Securities Act, there shall be delivered to the Company an agreement or agreements duly executed by each holder for whom Registrable Securities are to be so registered, whereby such holder agrees to indemnify and hold harmless (in the same manner as set forth in Section 2.9 above) the Company, each person referred to in clause

(1), (2) or (3) of Section 11(a) of the Securities Act in respect of the registration statement and each other person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of the Securities Act, with respect to any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in the registration statement under which the Registrable Securities are to be registered under the Securities Act, in any preliminary prospectus or final prospectus contained therein or in any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, which, in each case, is made in or omitted from the registration statement, preliminary or final prospectus or amendment or supplement in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by an instrument duly executed by such holder specifically for use in the preparation thereof; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the indemnification obligations of each such holder shall be limited to the net proceeds received by such holder from the sale of Registrable Securities pursuant to such registration. Such indemnity shall remain in full force and effect regardless of any investigation made by or on behalf of the Company or any person indemnified by virtue of this Section 2.10 and shall survive the transfer of such securities by such holder and the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

(b) At the request of the managing underwriter in connection with any underwritten offering of the Company's securities, each holder for whom Registrable Securities are being registered shall enter into an indemnity agreement in customary form with such underwriter.

2.11 CONTRIBUTION. If the indemnification provided for in Section 2.9 or 2.10 from the indemnifying party is unavailable to an indemnified party hereunder, or is insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party, in respect of any losses, claims, damages, liabilities or expenses referred to therein, then the indemnifying party, in lieu of indemnifying such indemnified party, shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of such losses, claims, damages, liabilities or expenses in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative fault of the indemnifying party and indemnified parties in connection with

the actions which resulted in such losses, claims, damages, liabilities or expenses, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative fault of such indemnifying party and indemnified parties shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether any action in question, including any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or omission or alleged omission to state a material fact, has been made by, or relates to information supplied by, such indemnifying party or indemnified parties, and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such untrue statement or omission. The amount paid or payable by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages, liabilities and expenses referred to above shall be deemed to include any legal or other fees or expenses reasonably incurred by such party in connection with any investigation or proceeding.

The parties hereto agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 2.11 were determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation which does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to in the immediately preceding paragraph. No Person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any indemnifying party who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation.

2.12 NOTIFICATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN ACTIONS. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under this Article II of oral or written notice of a claim or the commencement of any proceeding against it, such indemnified party shall, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against an indemnifying party under such Article, give written notice to the indemnifying party of the commencement thereof, but the failure so to notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve it of any liability that it may have to any indemnified party except to the extent the indemnifying party demonstrates that the defense of such action is prejudiced thereby. In case any such proceeding shall be brought against an indemnified party and it shall give notice to the indemnifying party of the commencement thereof, the indemnifying party shall be entitled to participate therein and, to the extent that it shall wish (unless the indemnifying party is also a party to such proceeding and the indemnified party determines in good faith that joint representation would be inappropriate) to assume the defense thereof with counsel reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party and, after notice from the indemnifying party to such indemnified party of its election so to assume the defense thereof, the indemnifying party shall not be liable to such indemnified party under such Article for any fees of other counsel or any other expenses with respect to the defense of such proceeding, in each case, subsequently incurred by such indemnified party in connection with the defense thereof. If an indemnifying party assumes the defense of such proceeding, (a) no compromise or settlement thereof may be effected by the indemnifying party without the indemnified party's reasonable consent unless (i) there is no finding or admission of any violation of law or any violation of the rights of any Person and no effect on any other claims that may be made against the indemnified party and (ii) the sole relief provided is monetary damages that are paid in full by the indemnifying party and (b) the indemnifying party shall have no liability with respect to any compromise or settlement thereof effected without its consent. If notice is given to an indemnifying party of the commencement of any proceeding and it does not, within fifteen (15) business days after the

indemnified party's notice is given, give notice to the indemnified party of its election to assume the defense thereof, the indemnifying party shall be bound by any determination made in such action or any compromise or settlement thereof effected by the indemnified party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if an indemnified party determines in good faith that there is a reasonable probability that a proceeding may adversely affect it or its affiliates other than as a result of monetary damages, such indemnified party may, by notice to the indemnifying party, assume the exclusive right to defend, compromise or settle such proceeding, but the indemnifying party shall not be bound by any determination of a proceeding so defended or any compromise or settlement thereof effected without its consent (which shall not be unreasonably withheld). All indemnification obligations of the parties hereto shall survive any termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 2.7 hereof.

2.13 UNDERWRITING REQUIREMENTS. (a) In the event of an underwritten offering of the Company's securities, each holder for whom Registrable Securities are being registered pursuant to Section 2.1 or Section 2.2 hereof shall, as a condition to inclusion of such Registrable Securities in such registration, execute and deliver to the underwriter(s) an underwriting agreement in customary form. The underwriter(s) shall be selected (i) by the holders requesting registration of Registrable Securities, in the case of a registration pursuant to Section 2.1 (which underwriters shall be acceptable to the Company) or (ii) by the Company, in the case of a registration pursuant to Section 2.2.

(b) At the request of the managing underwriter in connection with any underwritten offering of the Company's securities, the holders for whom Registrable Securities are being registered shall enter into customary "lock-up" agreements pursuant to which each such holder will agree to not effect any sale or distribution of Registrable Securities for a period of no more than 180 days beginning on the effective date of any such registration (except as part of such registration).

2.14 FURNISH INFORMATION. It shall be a condition precedent to the obligations of the Company to take any action pursuant to Article II that the holders requesting registration of Registrable Securities furnish to the Company such information regarding them, the Registrable Securities held by them and the intended method of disposition of such securities as the Company shall reasonably request and as shall be required in connection with the action to be taken by the Company.

ARTICLE III

BENEFITS OF AGREEMENT

3.1 PERMITTED TRANSFERS. The registration rights granted herein may only be transferred to a transferee who acquires Registrable Securities from any Shareholder and is (i) the spouse or member of the immediate family of a Shareholder; (ii) a trust for the benefit of a

Shareholder or any member of such Shareholder's immediate family; or (iii) a corporation, partnership or other entity the only owners of which are one or more Shareholders and members of their immediate families; provided that any transferring Shareholder gives written notice at the time of such transfer to the Company stating the name and address of the transferee and identifying the Registrable Securities so transferred, accompanied by a signature page to this Agreement pursuant to which such transferee agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions hereof.

ARTICLE IV

MISCELLANEOUS

4.1 NO INCONSISTENT AGREEMENTS. The Company will not, at any time after the effective date of this Agreement, enter into, and is not now a party to or otherwise bound by, any agreement or contract (whether written or oral) with respect to any of its securities which is inconsistent in any respect with the registration rights granted by the Company pursuant to this Agreement; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the rights of the holders of Registrable Securities hereunder are subject to the rights of holders of Registrable Securities (as defined in the Prior Registration Rights Agreements to the extent provided in the Prior Registration Rights Agreements).

4.2 NO OTHER GRANT OF REGISTRATION RIGHTS. The Company will not at any time grant to any other persons any rights with respect to the registration of any securities of the Company which have priority over or are inconsistent with the registration rights granted by the Company pursuant to this Agreement.

4.3 NOTICES. Notices and other communications provided for herein shall be in writing and shall be given in the manner and with the effect provided in the Merger Agreement. Such notices and communications shall be addressed if to a holder of Registrable Securities, to its address as shown on the transfer records of the Company, unless such holder shall notify the Company that notices and communications should be sent to a different address (or facsimile number), in which case notices and communications shall be sent to the address (or such facsimile number) specified by such holder.

4.4 WAIVERS; AMENDMENTS. No failure or delay of any holder of Registrable Securities in exercising any power or right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right or power, or any abandonment or discontinuance of steps to enforce such a right or power, preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right or power. The rights and remedies of such holder are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies which it would otherwise have. The provisions of this Agreement may be amended, modified or waived only by an agreement in writing and any such waiver shall be effective only in the specific instance and for the purpose for which given. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no amendment, modification or waiver of any provision of this

Agreement shall be effective against a holder of Registrable Securities unless

(a) agreed to in writing by such holder or (b) agreed to in writing by such holder's predecessor in interest and notation thereof is set forth on the certificate evidencing such holder's Registrable Securities as the case may be. No notice or demand on the Company in any case shall entitle the Company to any other or further notice or demand in similar or other circumstances.

4.5 GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Delaware without giving effect to the conflicts of law principles thereof.

4.6 COVENANTS TO BIND SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS. All the covenants, stipulations, promises and agreements in this Agreement made by or on behalf of the Company shall bind its successors and assigns, whether so expressed or not.

4.7 SEVERABILITY. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions contained herein and therein shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby. The parties shall endeavor in good faith negotiations to replace the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions with valid provisions the economic effect of which comes as close as possible to that of the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions.

4.8 SECTION HEADINGS. The section headings used herein are for convenience of reference only, are not part of this Agreement and are not to affect the construction of or be taken into consideration in interpreting this Agreement.

4.9 EXPENSES. Except as expressly otherwise provided herein, each party shall bear its own expenses incurred in connection with the preparation, execution and performance of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby, including all fees and expenses of agents, representatives, counsel and accountants.

4.10 COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement, and shall become effective when one or more counterparts have been signed by each of the parties and delivered to the other parties, it being understood that all parties need not sign the same counterpart.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each party hereto has caused this Agreement to be duly executed, all as of the day and year above written.

VEECO INSTRUMENTS INC.

By: /s/ Edward H. Braun

Name:

Title:

/s/ Virgil Elings

VIRGIL ELINGS

/s/ Betty Elings Wells

BETTY ELINGS-WELLS

/s/ Jeffrey Elings

JEFFREY ELINGS

/s/ Michael Elings

MICHAEL ELINGS

/s/ John Gurley

JOHN GURLEY

/s/ Mathew Longmire

/s/ Pamela Wrobel Longmire

MATHEW LONGMIRE AND
PAMELA WROBEL LONGMIRE,
husband and wife, as community
property

/s/ Peter Maivald

PETER MAIVALD

/s/ Mark Rodgers

MARK ROGERS

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