Flaherty James E Form 3 December 29, 2008

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

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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS INC [CSII] Flaherty James E (Month/Day/Year) 12/29/2008 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 651 CAMPUS DRIVE (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Director 10% Owner _X_ Form filed by One Reporting _X__ Officer _X_ Other Person ST. PAUL, MNÂ 55112 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One Chief Administrative Officer / Reporting Person Mbr of 13(d) grp owng > 10%(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities 3. 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial (Instr. 4) Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Common Stock 45,500 D Â Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

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

currently valid OMB control number.

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

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

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

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

12/29/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Fully exercisable.
- (2) Exercisable: 4,833 on 12/19/07 and 12/19/08 and 4,834 on 12/19/09.
- (3) Exercisable in three equal installments of 13,000 on 4/18/08, 4/18/09 and 4/18/10.
- (4) Exercisable: 11,667 on 8/7/08 and 8/7/09 and 11,666 on 8/7/10.
- (5) Exercisable: 25,000 on the first anniversary of the closing of the Company's merger with Replidyne, Inc. and 25,000 on the second anniversary of the merger.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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