

December 18, 2006

## Surveying the Field Equity in Silicon Valley

By **SCOTT THURM**  
December 18, 2006; Page B3

**The news:** Total equity grants to executives at the 150 largest companies in Silicon Valley have increased slightly so far this year compared with last year, according to an analysis by Equilar Inc. The report covers grants of stock options, restricted stock and stock-appreciation rights from Jan. 1 through Nov. 30 each year.



**The subtle shifts:** Executives received fewer options, but more restricted stock and restricted-stock units, Equilar found. The restricted-stock grants still accounted for fewer than 20% of total grants, however. The shift mirrors a national trend, as options have fallen out of favor because of concerns they encourage executives to manipulate financial results.

**The big kahunas:** CEOs got a bigger share of the pie. Total shares granted to CEOs grew 22%, while grants to other executives fell 8%.

**The biggest kahunas:** Three CEOs got "mega grants" of options: Larry Ellison of Oracle, seven million; Terry Semel of Yahoo, six million; and Dennis McKenna of


Silicon Graphics, 5.37 million. Excluding those three, the median grant to a Silicon Valley CEO declined 26%, to 185,000 options, from 250,000.

Write to Scott Thurm at [scott.thurm@wsj.com](mailto:scott.thurm@wsj.com)<sup>1</sup>

**URL for this article:**  
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB116639936522652936.html>

**Hyperlinks in this Article:**  
(1) <mailto:scott.thurm@wsj.com>

### DOW JONES REPRINTS

 This copy is for your personal, non-commercial use only. To order presentation-ready copies for distribution to your colleagues, clients or customers, use the Order Reprints tool at the bottom of any article or visit: [www.djreprints.com](http://www.djreprints.com).

- See a sample reprint in PDF format.
- Order a reprint of this article now.

Copyright 2006 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved

This copy is for your personal, non-commercial use only. Distribution and use of this material are governed by our [Subscriber Agreement](#) and by copyright law. For non-personal use or to order multiple copies, please contact Dow Jones Reprints at 1-800-843-0008 or visit [www.djreprints.com](http://www.djreprints.com).

