

MERCADOLIBRE INC

Form 8-K

July 21, 2009

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): July 15, 2009

MercadoLibre, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of  
incorporation)

001-33647  
(Commission File  
Number)

98-0212790  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

Tronador 4890, 8th Floor  
Buenos Aires, C1 430DNN, Argentina  
(Address and zip code of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 011-54-11-5352-8000

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240-14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Executive Compensation Program

On July 15, 2009, the board of directors (the “Board”) of MercadoLibre, Inc. (the “Company”), upon the recommendation of the compensation committee of the Board, finalized the Company’s executive compensation program for 2009 by (i) establishing the performance criteria applicable to determine eligibility for annual cash bonuses for 2009 and (ii) adopting the 2009 Long Term Retention Plan (the “2009 LTRP”).

The following table includes the 2009 base salary, annual cash bonus range and 2009 LTRP target bonus of each named executive officer(1):

	Annual Salary (2)	2009 Annual Bonus Range	Target 2009 LTRP Bonus (3)
Marcos Galperín President and Chief Executive Officer	\$ 210,600	\$ 145,800 - \$ 243,000	\$ 406,740
Hernán Kazah Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	\$ 210,600	\$ 145,800 - \$ 243,000	\$ 203,375
Stelleo Tolda Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer	\$ 210,600	\$ 145,800 - \$ 243,000	\$ 203,374
Osvaldo Gimenez Senior Vice President — Payments	\$ 156,000	\$ 48,000 - \$ 96,000	\$ 74,842

(1) In light of his resignation effective as of April 1, 2009, the table does not include Mr. Nicolas Szekasy, who was included as a “named executive officer” in the Company’s Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

(2) Effective January 1, 2009.

(3) See the section entitled “2009 LTRP” below for a detailed discussion of the payment methodology under the 2009 LTRP.

Annual Cash Bonuses

A portion of each executive’s annual bonus is based upon the Company’s achievement of the following performance objectives (the “General Company Performance Objectives”):

- net revenues minus bad debt, defined as the Company’s net revenues for 2009, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, less the portion of the Company’s net revenues that are uncollectible and after adjustments for unusual items;
- net income, defined as the Company’s net income in 2009, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and after adjustments for unusual items; and
- free cash flow, defined as the net increase in the Company’s cash and cash equivalents and short-term and long-term investments in 2009 and after adjustments for unusual items.

In addition to the General Company Performance Objectives, a portion of each executive’s annual bonus is based upon individual performance as determined by qualitative assessments carried out on the executive officer (each, an

“Individual Qualitative Assessment”).

For Mr. Gimenez, in addition to the General Company Performance Objectives and the Individual Qualitative Assessment, a portion of his bonus will be based upon the 2009 net revenues of the Company’s MercadoPago business.

As in 2008, to determine each executive’s 2009 annual bonus, each performance metric is determined by multiplying the percentage of each objective actually achieved by the weight of each element. Each such metric is then added together to equal an executive’s total performance tally. The following table describes the components of each named executive officer’s 2009 annual bonus and the percentage weight of each element:

2009 Annual Bonus Components

	MercadoLibre net revenues minus bad debt	MercadoLibre net income	MercadoLibre free cash flow	MercadoPago net revenues	Individual performance
Marcos Galperín	47.5%	23.75%	23.75%	—	5%
Hernán Kazah	42.5%	21.25%	21.25%	—	15%
Stelleo Tolda	42.5%	21.25%	21.25%	—	15%
Oswaldo Gimenez	33.75%	16.875%	16.875%	17.5%	15%

For an executive officer to be eligible to receive any bonus in 2009, the following conditions must be satisfied (the “Minimum Eligibility Conditions”):

- the Company must achieve at least 80% of the target General Company Performance Objectives in 2009;
- the subject executive officer must score at least 80% on his Individual Qualitative Assessment; and
- the executive’s total performance tally must equal at least 80%.

In addition, Mr. Gimenez will not be entitled to receive a bonus for 2009 if the MercadoPago business does not achieve at least 70% of target net revenues.

Once the Minimum Eligibility Conditions are met, each executive officer’s annual bonus equals a percentage of his annual base salary within the dollar ranges described above, based upon his total performance tally, consistent with the Company’s 2008 annual cash bonus program. For example, when an officer’s performance tally equals 80%, the officer would receive the minimum bonus according to his seniority, or 69% of base salary in the case of Messrs. Galperín, Kazah and Tolda, and 31% of base salary in the case of Mr. Gimenez. If the performance tally equals 90%, then the officer would receive the mid-point of the bonus range according to his seniority, or 92% of base salary in the case of Messrs. Galperín, Kazah and Tolda, and 46% of base salary in the case of Mr. Gimenez. If the performance tally equals 100% or higher, the officer would receive the maximum annual bonus detailed above, or 115% of base salary in the cases of Messrs. Galperín, Kazah and Tolda, and 62% of base salary in the cases of Mr. Gimenez. Actual annual bonus amounts are based on a number of monthly salaries thus percentages are approximate.

2009 LTRP

In order to receive an award under the 2009 LTRP, the executive must satisfy the Minimum Eligibility Conditions applicable to determine eligibility for annual cash bonuses. If these Minimum Eligibility Conditions are satisfied, the executive officer will, subject to his continued employment as of each applicable payment date, receive the full amount of his 2009 LTRP bonus described in the above table, payable as follows:

- the officer will receive a fixed cash payment equal to 6.25% of his or her 2009 LTRP bonus once a year for a period of eight years starting in 2010 (the “Annual Fixed Payment”);
- on each date the Company pays the Annual Fixed Payment to an officer, he or she will also receive a cash payment equal to the product of (i) 6.25% of the applicable 2009 LTRP bonus and (ii) the quotient of (a) divided by (b), where (a), the numerator, equals the Applicable Year Stock Price (as defined below) and (b), the denominator, equals the 2008 Stock Price (as defined below). For purposes of the 2009 LTRP, the “2008 Stock Price” shall equal \$13.81 (the average closing price of the Company’s common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market during the final 60 trading days of 2008) and the “Applicable Year Stock Price” shall equal the average closing price of the Company’s common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market during the final 60 trading days of the year preceding the applicable payment date.

The maximum amount of each executive officer’s 2009 LTRP bonus will depend on the Company’s stock price for the last 60 days of the applicable fiscal year. To the extent the Company’s stock price exceeds \$13.81 for one or more applicable periods, the total amount of the executive’s 2009 LTRP bonus will exceed the amount in the above table. To the extent the Company’s stock price is less than \$13.81 for one or more applicable periods, the total amount of the executive’s 2009 LTRP bonus will be less than the amount in the above table.

For full details of the 2009 LTRP, please see the copy of the plan filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this current report, the contents of which are incorporated by reference herein. The Company has also filed a copy of the 2008 Long Term Retention Plan as Exhibit 10.2 to this current report.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

10.1 2009 Long Term Retention Plan

10.2 2008 Long Term Retention Plan

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

MERCADOLIBRE, INC.  
(Registrant)

Date: July 21, 2009

By: /s/ Hernán Kazah  
Hernán Kazah  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer