

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

LEGGETT & PLATT, INCORPORATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

MISSOURI NO. 1--LEGGETT ROAD 44-0324630

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

CARTHAGE, MISSOURI 64836 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

(417) 358-8131

JOHN A. LYCKMAN, ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL, LEGGETT & PLATT, INCORPORATED

NO. 1--LEGGETT ROAD, CARTHAGE, MISSOURI 64836, (417) 358-8131

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to public: From time to time after this Registration Statement becomes effective on dates, at times and on terms not currently determined.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share (1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (1)	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, \$.01 par value and attached Preferred Stock Purchase Rights	1,761,764 shares	\$ 26.25	\$46,246,305	\$15,947

(1) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457, based upon the average of the high and low prices of Registrant's Common Stock on August 13, 1996 on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape of \$26.25.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or

dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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PROSPECTUS

1,761,764 Shares

LEGGETT & PLATT, INCORPORATED
COMMON STOCK

(AND PREFERRED STOCK PURCHASE RIGHTS ATTACHED TO THE COMMON STOCK)

The shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value, (the "Common Stock") of Leggett & Platt, Incorporated, a Missouri corporation (the "Company") offered hereby (the "Shares") are being sold for the account of and by the persons named under the caption "Selling Shareholders." The Selling Shareholders have advised the Company that the Shares may be sold from time to time in transactions on the New York Stock Exchange or Pacific Stock Exchange or in negotiated transactions, in each case at prices satisfactory to the Seller or may be pledged or donated to persons who in their capacity as pledgees or donees, respectively, may sell the shares in similar transactions. See "Plan of Distribution."

The Company will receive no part of the proceeds from the sale of the Shares. The Selling Shareholders will pay all applicable stock transfer taxes, transfer fees and brokerage commissions, and related fees and expenses, but the Company will bear the cost of preparing the Registration Statement and Prospectus and all filing, legal and accounting fees incurred in connection with registration of the Shares under the federal securities laws.

The Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and Pacific Stock Exchange (symbol: LEG). On August 13, 1996 the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange, Composite Transactions was \$26.25 per share.

THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

No dealer, salesperson or other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations not contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and, if given or made, such other information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Company, any Selling Shareholder or any other person. Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor any sale made herein shall, under the circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Company since the date hereof. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy the securities offered hereby to any person or by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation may not lawfully be made.

The date of this Prospectus is August 15, 1996

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company is subject to the information requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith files reports, proxy statements, and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). Such reports, proxy statements and other information can be inspected and copied at the offices of the Commission at Room 1024, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20549 and at the Commission's Regional Offices at Northwestern Atrium Center, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511; 75 Park Place, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10007; and 5757 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 East, Los Angeles, California 90036-3648. Copies of such material can also be obtained from the Public Reference Section of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20549 at prescribed rates. Reports, proxy statements and other information concerning the Company can be inspected and copied at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York and at the office of the Pacific Stock Exchange Incorporated, Listings Department, 115 Sansone Street, Suite 1104, San Francisco, California 94104. This Prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the Registration Statement filed by the Company with respect to the offering made hereby. Copies of such Registration Statement are available from the Commission.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The following documents have been previously filed by the Company with the Commission and are incorporated by reference into this Prospectus:

- (1) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1995, except for (i) Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and (ii) the financial statements included as part of Item 14.
- (2) Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 1996 and June 30, 1996.
- (3) Current Reports on Form 8-K dated May 6, 1996, May 24, 1996 and August 15, 1996.
- (4) The description of the Company's common stock contained in Form 8-A dated June 5, 1979, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.
- (5) The description of the Company's Preferred Stock Purchase Rights contained in Form 8-A dated February 15, 1989, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All reports and definitive proxy statements filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act subsequent to the date of this Prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering to be made hereunder shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing such documents, except that in no event shall any information included in any such document in response to item 402(i), (k) or (l) of Regulation S-K be deemed to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

The Company will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this Prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated herein or in the Registration Statement by reference (other than exhibits to such documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents). All requests for such information should be directed to the Company's executive offices at No. 1 Leggett Road, Carthage, Missouri 64836, Attention: Investor Relations, (417) 358-8131.

THE COMPANY

The Company was incorporated in 1901 as the successor to a partnership formed in 1883 in Carthage, Missouri. That partnership was a pioneer in the manufacture and sale of steel coil bedsprings. The Company's principal executive offices are located at No. 1--Leggett Road, Carthage, Missouri 64836, telephone (417) 358-8131. Unless otherwise indicated the term "Company" includes Leggett & Platt, Incorporated and its majority-owned subsidiaries.

The Company is a manufacturer. It makes a variety of engineered products which are sold to several thousand customers. The Company's products include a broad line of components that are primarily sold to companies which manufacture finished furniture and bedding. Components are items used by furnishings manufacturers to construct their finished products. Examples of components manufactured by the Company include innerspring and boxspring units for mattresses and boxsprings; foam, textile, fiber and other cushioning materials for bedding and furniture; springs and seating suspensions for furniture; steel mechanisms for reclining chairs, sleeper sofas and other types of motion furniture; chair controls, aluminum, steel and plastic bases for office furniture; non-fashion fabrics and other furniture supplies; aluminum die castings for gas barbeque grills and other furnishings.

The Company also makes some finished furnishings products. Examples include bed frames, daybeds, bunk beds, headboards, electric beds, carpet underlay, metal and wire displays, shelving and other commercial fixtures. These finished products are sold to manufacturers that also buy the Company's components or to wholesalers, retailers and others.

Outside the furnishings area, the Company produces and sells a number of components and other products used in many different home, industrial and commercial applications. Examples of these diversified products include industrial wire, steel tubing, automotive seat suspension systems, aluminum ingot, industrial fabrics, mechanical springs, machinery and parts for manufacturing equipment, foam products and injection molded plastic products.

The Company's products are made primarily from steel rod, wire and other types of steel, textile fibers, woven and non-woven fabrics, aluminum, wood, foam chemicals and plastics. Some of these raw materials such as steel wire, steel tubing, aluminum ingot, shredded textile fibers and cut-to-size dimension lumber are manufactured by the Company.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The Company will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the Shares by the Selling Shareholders.

SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

The following information has been provided to the Company by the persons listed below as the Selling Shareholders (the "Selling Shareholders") including the number of shares of the Common Stock to be beneficially owned by each Selling Shareholder and the number of shares of the Common Stock being offered for the account of such Selling Shareholder pursuant to this Prospectus.

Name of Selling Shareholders	Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering	Shares Offered Hereby	After Completion of This Offering
Bob L. Gaddy	679,011 (1)	679,011 (1)	-0-
Jeffrey Lane Gaddy Trust	44,183	44,183	-0-
Lora Dean Gaddy Trust	44,183	44,183	-0-
Chelsea Jaclyn Gaddy Trust	32,454	32,454	-0-
Linda A. Gaddy Trust	32,454	32,454	-0-
James D. Starkey	254,478	254,478	-0-
Alice L. Walton	235,754	235,754	-0-
J. Scott Bull	204,415	204,415	-0-
Richard M. Ardemagni, as Trustee	142,527	142,527	-0-
Richard M. Ardemagni	40,444	40,444	-0-
Jim D. Alford	60,524	60,524	-0-
Terry C. Bellora	47,655	47,655	-0-
Carolyn B. Madison	44,858	44,858	-0-
National Bank of Commerce of El Dorado, Arkansas, as Trustee	8,744	8,744	-0-
Howard N. Higgins	7,934	7,934	-0-
Dan F. Jones	7,620	7,620	-0-
Tom D. Doty	6,361	6,361	-0-
Bobby M. Winters	4,271	4,271	-0-
David C. Watson	4,187	4,187	-0-
J. Dale Randall	4,167	4,167	-0-
Douglas W. Brown	3,319	3,319	-0-

Zealand B. Thigpen, III
Roy L. Cecil

3,833
1,662

3,833
1,662

-0-
-0-

(1) Includes all of the 153,274 shares owned by the trusts set out above. Mr. Gaddy disclaims any beneficial interest in such shares.

Each of the Selling Shareholders received the Shares offered hereby in connection with the merger (the "Merger") of L&P Acquisition Company-7, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, into Pace Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Holdings"), which was consummated on May 13, 1996. As a result of this transaction, Holdings became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company.

Bob L. Gaddy is a director and executive officer of the Company.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Shares may be sold from time to time by the Selling Shareholders or their pledgees, distributees or donees. Such sales may be made on one or more exchanges or in negotiated transactions not on an exchange at prices and on terms then prevailing or at prices related to the then current market price or at negotiated prices. The Shares may be sold in one or more of the following types of transactions:

(a) a block trade in which the broker or dealer so engaged will attempt to sell the Shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction; and (b) ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker solicits purchasers. In effecting sales, brokers or dealers may arrange for other brokers or dealers to participate. Brokers or dealers will receive commissions or discounts in amounts to be negotiated immediately prior to the sale which amounts will not be greater than that normally paid in connection with ordinary trading transactions.

The Shares may also be publicly offered through agents, underwriters or dealers. In such event the Selling Shareholders may enter into agreements with respect to any such offering. Such underwriters, dealers or agents may receive compensation in the form of underwriting discounts, concessions or commissions from the Selling Shareholders and any such underwriters, dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of Shares may be deemed to be underwriters, and any profit on the sale of the Shares by them and any discounts, commissions or concessions received by them may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions, under the Securities Act of 1933.

In order to comply with the securities laws of certain states, sales of the Shares to the public in such states may be made only through broker-dealers who are registered or licensed in such states. Sales of the Shares must also be made by the Selling Shareholders in compliance with other applicable state securities laws and regulations.

In addition, any securities covered by this Prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than pursuant to this Prospectus.

CAPITAL STOCK

The Company's authorized capital stock consists of 300,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value, 1,000,000 shares of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock and 99,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock without par value. As of August 12, 1996, there were 89,668,508 shares of Common Stock and no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

A description of the Common Stock is contained in the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A, dated June 5, 1979, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description, which is incorporated by reference. A description of the Preferred Stock Purchase Rights is contained in the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A, dated February 15, 1989, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description, which is also incorporated by reference.

LEGAL OPINIONS

Ernest C. Jett, Vice President and Managing Director of the Legal Department of the Company, has rendered an opinion concerning the validity of the Shares and certain other legal matters. Mr. Jett is a full-time employee of the Company. On August 12, 1996, Mr. Jett beneficially owned 49,786 shares of Common Stock and held options to purchase an additional 21,489 shares of Common Stock.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to the current report on Form 8-K dated August 15, 1996, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of Price Waterhouse LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

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LEGGETT & PLATT, INCORPORATED

1,761,764 Shares
Common Stock
\$.01 Par Value

(and Preferred Stock Purchase Rights
attached to the Common Stock)

PROSPECTUS

August 15, 1996

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PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

ITEM 14. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

The following table sets forth the estimated expenses of the Company in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered, exclusive of those expenses to be borne by the Selling Shareholders.

SEC registration fee.....	\$15,947
Accounting fees and expenses.....	3,000
Legal fees and expenses.....	3,000
Printing of documents.....	3,000
Miscellaneous.....	1,000

Total.....	\$25,947
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ITEM 15. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Under the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation and Missouri corporation laws, each of the present and former directors and officers of the Company may be entitled to indemnification under certain circumstances from certain liabilities, claims and expenses arising from any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding (including any such action, suit or proceeding arising under the Securities Act of 1933), to which they are made a party by reason of the fact that he is or was a director or officer of the Company.

The Company insures its directors and officers against certain liabilities and has insurance against certain payments which it may be obliged to make to such persons under the indemnification provisions of its Restated Articles of Incorporation.

ITEM 16. EXHIBITS

- 5 Opinion of Ernest C. Jett, Vice President and Managing Director of the Legal Department for the Registrant
- 23(a) Consent of Price Waterhouse LLP
- 23(b) Consent of Ernest C. Jett, Vice President and Managing Director of the Legal Department for the Registrant (contained in opinion filed as Exhibit 5 hereto)

ITEM 17. UNDERTAKINGS

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(a)

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any Prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the Prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (i) and (ii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(e) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes to deliver or cause to be delivered with the Prospectus, to each person to whom the Prospectus is sent or given, the latest annual report to security holders that is incorporated by reference in the Prospectus and furnished pursuant to and meeting the requirements of Rule 14a-3 or Rule 14c-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and, where interim financial information required to be presented by Article 3 of Regulation S-X are not set forth in the Prospectus, to deliver, or cause to be delivered to each person to whom the Prospectus is sent or given, the latest quarterly report that is specifically incorporated by reference in the Prospectus to provide such interim financial information.

(h) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the provisions described under Item 15 above, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Carthage, State of Missouri, on the 15th day of August, 1996.

LEGGETT & PLATT, INCORPORATED

By: /s/ HARRY M. CORNELL, JR.

 Harry M. Cornell, Jr.
 Chairman of the Board and
 Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Harry M. Cornell, Jr., Felix E. Wright, Robert A. Jefferies, Jr. and Michael A. Glauber, and each of them, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement and all documents relating thereto, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing necessary or advisable to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature -----	Title -----	Date ----
 (a) PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER:		
/s/ HARRY M. CORNELL, JR. ----- Harry M. Cornell, Jr.	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Director	August 15, 1996
 (b) PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER:		
/s/ MICHAEL A. GLAUBER ----- Michael A. Glauber	Senior Vice President, Finance & Administration	August 15, 1996
 (c) PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER:		
/s/ ALLAN J. ROSS ----- Allan J. Ross	Vice President - Accounting	August 15, 1996

(c) DIRECTORS:

/s/ RAYMOND F. BENTELE ----- Raymond F. Bentele	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ ROBERT TED ENLOE, III ----- Robert Ted Enloe, III	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ RICHARD T. FISHER ----- Richard T. Fisher	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ BOB L. GADDY ----- Bob L. Gaddy	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ DAVID S. HAFFNER ----- David S. Haffner	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ ROBERT A. JEFFERIES, JR. ----- Robert A. Jefferies, Jr.	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ ALEXANDER M. LEVINE ----- Alexander M. Levine	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ DUANE W. POTTER ----- Duane W. Potter	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ MAURICE E. PURNELL, JR. ----- Maurice E. Purnell, Jr.	Director	August 15, 1996
/s/ FELIX E. WRIGHT ----- Felix E. Wright	Director	August 15, 1996

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number -----	Description -----
5	Opinion of Ernest C. Jett, Vice President and Managing Director of the Legal Department for the Registrant
23(a)	Consent of Price Waterhouse LLP
23(b)	Consent of Ernest C. Jett, Vice President and Managing Director of the Legal Department for the Registrant (contained in Opinion)

August 15, 1996

Leggett & Platt, Incorporated
No. 1--Leggett Road
Carthage, MO 64836

Re: Form S-3 Registration Statement

Gentlemen:

As Vice President and Managing Director of the Legal Department for Leggett & Platt, Incorporated (the "Company"), I have acted on its behalf in connection with the preparation and filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission of a Registration Statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Registration Statement") relating to 1,761,764 shares of the Company's Common Stock, \$.01 par value (the "Shares"), and the Preferred Stock Purchase Rights (the "Rights") attached to the Shares, to be sold by the Selling Shareholders described therein.

In this connection, I have examined the following documents:

- (i) Copy of the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company;
- (ii) Copies of the Bylaws of the Company, as amended to date;
- (iii) Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and Shareholders of the Company; and
- (iv) The Registration Statement and all exhibits thereto.

I have also examined such other documents as I deemed necessary to the expression of the opinion contained herein.

Based upon the foregoing, I am of the opinion that:

- (1) The Company has been duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Missouri.
- (2) The Company has an authorized capitalization as set forth in the Registration Statement;
- (3) The issuance by the Company of the Shares and the Rights to the Selling Shareholders was duly and validly authorized by necessary corporate action;
- (4) The Shares and the Rights to be sold by the Selling Shareholders pursuant to the Registration Statement are validly issued and fully paid and nonassessable.

I hereby consent to the use of my name in the Registration Statement and in the related Prospectus and to the use of this opinion as Exhibit 5 to the Registration Statement.

Sincerely,

LEGGETT & PLATT, INCORPORATED

/s/ Ernest C. Jett
Ernest C. Jett
Vice President
Managing Director, Legal Department

ECJ/lab

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Prospectus constituting part of this Registration Statement on Form S-3 of our report dated February 8, 1996, except for Note A which is as of May 13, 1996, appearing on page 20 of Leggett & Platt, Incorporated and Subsidiaries' current report on Form 8-K dated August 15, 1996. We also consent to the references to us under the heading "Experts" in such Prospectus.

/s/ PRICE WATERHOUSE LLP

St. Louis, MO