

Shares 846,486
Beneficially 6 Shared Voting Power
**
Owned By Each -0-
Reporting 7 Sole Dispositive Power
**
Person 5,322,431
With 8 Shared Dispositive Power
-0-

9 Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
5,322,431

10 Check Box if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain
Shares*
NOT APPLICABLE

11 Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row 9
5.0%

12 Type of Reporting Person*

IA

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!
**Any shares reported in Items 5 and 6 are also
reported in Item 7.

SCHEDULE 13G
PAGE 3 OF 5

Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:

Reference is made to page 1 of this Schedule 13G

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

4410 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Item 2(a) Name of Person(s) Filing:

(1) T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. ("Price
Associates")

(2) _____

Attached as Exhibit A is a copy of an agreement between
the Persons Filing (as specified hereinabove) that this
Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of each of them.

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:

100 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Item 2(c) Citizenship or Place of Organization:

(1) Maryland

(2) _____

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Reference is made to page 1 of this Schedule 13G

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number: 093671105

Item 3 The person filing this Schedule 13G is an:

X Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the

Investment Advisers Act of 1940

_____ Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the
Investment Company Act of 1940

Item 4 Reference is made to Items 5-11 on page 2 of this
Schedule 13G.

SCHEDULE 13G
PAGE 4 OF 5

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

X Not Applicable.

_____ This statement is being filed to report the fact that, as
of the date of this report, the reporting person(s) has
(have) ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five
percent of the class of securities.

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another
Person

- (1) Price Associates does not serve as custodian of the
assets of any of its clients; accordingly, in each
instance only the client or the client's custodian or
trustee bank has the right to receive dividends paid
with respect to, and proceeds from the sale of, such
securities.

The ultimate power to direct the receipt of dividends
paid with respect to, and the proceeds from the sale
of, such securities, is vested in the individual and
institutional clients which Price Associates serves as
investment adviser. Any and all discretionary
authority which has been delegated to Price Associates
may be revoked in whole or in part at any time.

Except as may be indicated if this is a joint filing
with one of the registered investment companies
sponsored by Price Associates which it also serves as
investment adviser ("T. Rowe Price Funds"), not more
than 5% of the class of such securities is owned by
any one client subject to the investment advice of
Price Associates.

- (2) With respect to securities owned by any one of the T.
Rowe Price Funds, only State Street Bank and Trust
Company, as custodian for each of such Funds, has the
right to receive dividends paid with respect to, and
proceeds from the sale of, such securities. No other
person is known to have such right, except that the
shareholders of each such Fund participate
proportionately in any dividends and distributions so
paid.

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which
Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent
Holding Company.

Not Applicable.

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not Applicable.

SCHEDULE 13G
PAGE 5 OF 5

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not Applicable.

Item 10 Certification.

By signing below I (we) certify that, to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect. T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. hereby declares and affirms that the filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that Price Associates is the beneficial owner of the securities referred to, which beneficial ownership is expressly denied.

Signature.

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

Dated: February 12, 1998

T. ROWE PRICE ASSOCIATES, INC.

By: _____
Henry H. Hopkins, Managing Director

Note: This Schedule 13G, including all exhibits, must be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and a copy hereof must be sent to the issuer by registered or certified mail and to the principal national securities exchange on which the security is listed not later than February 14th following the calendar year covered by the statement or within the time specified in Rule 13d-1(b) (2), if applicable.

12/31/97