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CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP
 Form N-Q
 October 23, 2008

United States
 Securities and Exchange Commission
 Washington, DC 20549

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF
 REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-00179

Central Securities Corporation
 (Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 820
 New York, N.Y. 10111
 (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number including area code: 212-698-2020

Date of fiscal year end: December 31
 Date of reporting period: September 30, 2008

Item 1. Schedule of Investments.

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION
 Statement of Investments
 September 30, 2008
 (Unaudited)

PORTFOLIO SECURITIES 89.9%
 STOCKS (COMMON UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE)

| Prin. Amt. or Shares ----- | | Value ----- |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------|
| | Banking and Finance 7.1% | |
| 825,475 | The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation..... | \$ 26,893,976 |
| 250,000 | Capital One Financial Corporation..... | 12,750,000 |
| 150,000 | Newstar Financial, Inc..... | 1,213,500 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 40,857,476 |
| | | ----- |
| | Business Services 0.3% | |
| 75,000 | Heritage-Crystal Clean Inc. (a)..... | 1,023,750 |
| 70,000 | RSC Holdings, Inc. (a)..... | 795,200 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 1,818,950 |
| | | ----- |
| | Communications 0.5% | |
| 1,100,000 | Arbinet-thexchange, Inc. (a)..... | 3,003,000 |
| | | ----- |
| | Electronics 19.9% | |
| 942,400 | Agilent Technologies, Inc. (a)..... | 27,951,584 |
| 390,000 | Analog Devices, Inc..... | 10,276,500 |
| 850,000 | Coherent, Inc. (a)..... | 30,217,500 |
| 630,000 | Flextronics International Inc. (a)..... | 4,460,400 |
| 809,600 | Intel Corporation..... | 15,163,808 |

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| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|
| 310,000 | Maxim Integrated Products, Inc..... | 5,611,000 |
| 350,000 | Motorola, Inc..... | 2,499,000 |
| 1,000,000 | Radisys Corporation (a)..... | 8,600,000 |
| 3,230,000 | Sonus Networks, Inc. (a)..... | 9,302,400 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 114,082,192 |
| | | ----- |
| | Energy 15.1% | |
| 300,000 | Berry Petroleum Company Class A..... | 11,619,000 |
| 10,000 | Cameco Corporation..... | 223,100 |
| 200,000 | Devon Energy Corporation..... | 18,240,000 |
| 1,900,000 | GeoMet, Inc. (a)..... | 10,336,000 |
| 670,000 | McMoRan Exploration Co. (a)..... | 15,838,800 |
| 363,300 | Murphy Oil Corporation..... | 23,302,062 |
| 300,000 | Nexen Inc..... | 6,969,000 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 86,527,962 |
| | | ----- |
| | Health Care 1.1% | |
| 100,000 | Abbott Laboratories..... | 5,758,000 |
| 260,000 | Vical Inc. (a)..... | 561,600 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 6,319,600 |
| | | ----- |
| | Information Technology Services 6.3% | |
| 1,730,800 | Convergys Corporation..... | 25,581,224 |
| 930,000 | Xerox Corporation..... | 10,722,900 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 36,304,124 |
| | | ----- |
| Prin. Amt. or Shares | | Value |
| ----- | | ----- |
| | Insurance 24.4% | |
| 10,000 | Erie Indemnity Co. Class A..... | \$ 422,700 |
| 70,000 | The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. Class A (b) (c) (d)..... | 140,000,000 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 140,422,700 |
| | | ----- |
| | Manufacturing 14.0% | |
| 870,000 | Brady Corporation Class A..... | 30,693,600 |
| 200,000 | Carlisle Companies Inc..... | 5,994,000 |
| 400,000 | Dover Corporation..... | 16,220,000 |
| 100,000 | General Electric Co..... | 2,550,000 |
| 100,000 | Precision Castparts Corporation..... | 7,878,000 |
| 300,000 | Roper Industries, Inc..... | 17,088,000 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 80,423,600 |
| | | ----- |
| | Retailing 1.2% | |
| 28,751 | AeroGroup International, Inc. (a) (c) (d)..... | 385,838 |
| 200,000 | Walgreen Co..... | 6,192,000 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 6,577,838 |
| | | ----- |
| | Total Portfolio Securities (cost \$270,965,985)..... | 516,337,442 |

SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS 10.2%

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| | | |
|------------|--|---------------|
| | Commercial Paper 3.8% | |
| 8,046,000 | Chevron Corporation 2.61% due 12/4/08..... | 8,008,809 |
| 13,788,000 | General Electric Capital Corp. 2.07% - 2.16% | |
| | due 10/1/08 - 12/4/08..... | 13,784,106 |
| | | ----- |
| | | 21,792,915 |
| | | ----- |
| | U.S. Government Agency Obligations 2.0% | |
| 11,656,000 | Federal Home Loan Bank 11.98% due 10/17/08..... | 11,645,846 |
| | | ----- |
| | U.S. Treasury Bills 3.3% | |
| 25,465,000 | U.S. Treasury Bills 0.25% - 1.76% | |
| | due 12/18/08 - 2/26/09..... | 25,347,637 |
| | | ----- |
| | Total Short-Term Investments | |
| | (cost \$58,786,398)..... | 58,786,398 |
| | | ----- |
| | Total Investments (cost \$329,752,383) (100.1%)... | 575,123,840 |
| | Cash, receivables and other assets | |
| | less liabilities (0.1%)..... | (522,345) |
| | | ----- |
| | Net Assets (100%)..... | \$574,601,495 |
| | | ===== |

- (a) Non-dividend paying.
- (b) Affiliate as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (c) Valued at estimated fair value.
- (d) Restricted security. See footnote 2.

See accompanying notes to statement of investments.

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION NOTES TO STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

1. Security Valuation - Securities are valued at the last sale price or, if unavailable, at the closing bid price. Corporate discount notes are valued at amortized cost, which approximates value. Securities for which no ready market exists are valued at estimated fair value by the Board of Directors.

As of September 30, 2008, the tax cost of investments was \$329,752,383. Net unrealized appreciation was \$245,371,457 consisting of gross unrealized appreciation and gross unrealized depreciation of \$276,722,569 and \$31,351,112, respectively.

2. Fair Value Measurements - Effective January 1, 2008, the Corporation adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 157, "Fair Value measurements" ("FAS 157"). FAS 157 establishes a disclosure framework which prioritizes and ranks the level of market price observability used in determining the fair value of investments as follows:

- o Level 1 - Fair value is determined based on market data obtained from independent sources; for example, quoted prices in active markets for identical investments. The Corporation's Level 1 investments consist of equity securities listed on a national securities exchange or NASDAQ National Market.

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- o Level 2 - Fair value is determined using other significant observable assumptions obtained from independent sources; for example, quoted prices for similar investments or the use of models or other valuation methodologies. The Corporation's Level 2 instruments consist of short-term investments, carried at amortized cost.
- o Level 3 - Fair value is determined using significant unobservable inputs including the Corporation's own assumptions based upon the best information available. Investments categorized as Level 3 include situations in which there is little, if any, market activity. The Corporation's Level 3 investments consist of The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. and Aerogroup International, Inc.

In certain cases, the inputs used to determine fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, an investment's level within the hierarchy is based on the least observable input that is significant to fair value. The inputs used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

The Corporation's investments as of September 30, 2008 are classified as follows:

| Valuation Inputs | Investments in Securities |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Level 1 | \$375,951,604 |
| Level 2 | 58,786,398 |
| Level 3 | 140,385,838 |
| | \$575,123,840 |
| | ===== |

The following is a reconciliation of assets in which significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) were used in determining fair value:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2007 | \$149,173,114 |
| Change in unrealized appreciation of investments | (8,787,276) |
| | \$140,385,838 |
| Balance at September 30, 2008 | ===== |

No Level 3 investments were purchased, sold or transferred to Level 1 or Level 2 during the nine months ended September 30, 2008.

3. Restricted Securities - The Corporation has from time to time invested in securities the resale of which is restricted. On September 30, 2008, such investments had an aggregate value of \$140,385,838, which was equal to 24.4% of the Corporation's net assets. Investments in restricted securities at September 30, 2008 were:

| Company | Shares | Security | Date Purchased | Cost |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------------------|----------------|-----------|
| AeroGroup International, Inc. | 28,751 | Common Stock | 6/14/05 | \$ 17,200 |
| The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. | 60,000 | Class A Common Stock | 12/15/82 | 1,500,000 |
| The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. | 10,000 | Class A Common Stock | 6/9/84 | 699,986 |

The Corporation does not have the right to demand registration of the restricted

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securities.

Item 2. Controls and Procedures.

(a) Disclosure Controls and Procedures. The Principal Executive and Financial Officers have concluded that the Registrant's Disclosure Controls and Procedures are effective based on their evaluation of the Disclosure Controls and Procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report.

(b) Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. During the last fiscal quarter, there was no significant change in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 3. Exhibits.

(a) Certifications.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

By: /s/ Wilmot H. Kidd

President

Date: October 22, 2008

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Wilmot H. Kidd

President

Date: October 22, 2008

By: /s/ Charles N. Edgerton

Vice President and Treasurer

Date: October 22, 2008