

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Amendment No.: 3\*

Name of Issuer: Crown Castle International Corp.

Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock

CUSIP Number: 22822710-4

Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement: 12/31/2008

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed.

- Rule 13d-1(b)  
 Rule 13d-1(c)  
 Rule 13d-1(d)

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No.: 22822710-4

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON  
Janus Capital Management LLC  
EIN #75-3019302

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP  
a.   
b.

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:

5. SOLE VOTING POWER  
33,940,199\*\*

6. SHARED VOTING POWER  
191,756\*\*

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
33,940,199\*\*

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
191,756\*\*

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING

PERSON  
34,131,955\*\*

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)

11.8%\*\*

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

IA, HC

\*\* See Item 4 of this filing

Item 1.

(a). Name of Issuer: Crown Castle International Corp. ("Crown  
Castle")

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

1220 Augusta Drive, Suite 500  
Houston, TX 77057

Item 2.

(a)-(c). Name, Principal Business Address, and Citizenship of  
Persons

Filing:

(1) Janus Capital Management LLC ("Janus Capital")  
151 Detroit Street  
Denver, Colorado 80206  
Citizenship: Delaware

(d). Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock

(e). CUSIP Number: 22822710-4

Item 3.

This statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1 (b) or 13d-2(b) and  
the person  
filing, Janus Capital, is an investment adviser in accordance with  
Section 240.13d-1(b)(ii)(E) as well as a parent holding  
company/control person in accordance with Section 240.13d-  
1(b)(ii)(G). See Item 4 for additional information.

Item 4. Ownership

The information in items 1 and 5 through 11 on the cover page(s)  
on Schedule 13G  
is hereby incorporated by reference.

Janus Capital has a direct 89.9% ownership stake in INTECH  
Investment Management ("INTECH") and a direct 78.4% ownership  
stake in Perkins Investment Management LLC("Perkins"). Due to the  
above ownership structure, holdings for Janus Capital, Perkins and  
INTECH are aggregated for purposes of this filing. Janus Capital,  
Perkins and INTECH are registered investment advisers, each  
furnishing investment advice to various investment companies  
registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940  
and to individual and institutional clients (collectively referred  
to herein as "Managed Portfolios").

As a result of its role as investment adviser or sub-adviser to  
the Managed Portfolios, Janus Capital may be deemed to be the  
beneficial owner of 33,940,199  
shares or 11.8% of the shares outstanding of Crown Castle Common  
Stock held by such Managed Portfolios. However, Janus Capital  
does not have the right to receive any dividends from, or the  
proceeds from the sale of, the securities held in the Managed  
Portfolios and disclaims any ownership associated with such  
rights.

As a result of its role as investment adviser or sub-adviser to  
the Managed Portfolios, Perkins may be deemed to be the beneficial

owner of 156 shares or 0.0% of the shares outstanding of Crown Castle Common Stock held by such Managed Portfolios. However, Perkins does not have the right to receive any dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the securities held in the Managed Portfolios and disclaims any ownership associated with such rights.

As a result of its role as investment adviser or sub-adviser to the Managed Portfolios, INTECH may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of 191,600 shares or 0.0% of the shares outstanding of Crown Castle Common Stock held by such Managed Portfolios. However, INTECH does not have the right to receive any dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the securities held in the Managed Portfolios and disclaims any ownership associated with such rights.

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

Not applicable.

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

The Managed Portfolios, set forth in Item 4 above, have the right to receive all dividends from, and the proceeds from the sale of, the securities held in their respective accounts.

The interest of any one such person does not exceed 5% of the class of securities.

These shares were acquired in the ordinary course of business, and not with the purpose of changing or influencing control of the Issuer.

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

Perkins is a direct subsidiary of Janus Capital (Janus Capital has a direct 78.4% ownership stake) and is a registered investment adviser furnishing investment advice to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and to individual and institutional clients.

INTECH is a direct subsidiary of Janus Capital (Janus Capital has a direct 89.9% ownership stake) and is a registered investment adviser furnishing investment advice to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and to individual and institutional clients.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Not applicable.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my 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 purposes or effect.

SIGNATURES

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

JANUS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC

By /s/ David R. Kowalski  
David R. Kowalski,

2/17/2009  
Date

Senior Vice President and CCO

PERKINS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC

By /s/ David R. Kowalski 2/17/2009  
David R. Kowalski Date  
Under Power of Attorney dated 01/28/09  
On file with Schedule 13G for  
Intuitive Surgical, Inc. 2/17/09

INTECH INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC

By /s/ David R. Kowalski 2/17/2009  
David R. Kowalski Date  
Vice President