MYR GROUP INC. Form DEF 14A March 23, 2016

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant x
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o
Check the appropriate box:

o Preliminary Proxy Statement
O Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

x Definitive Proxy Statement
o Definitive Additional Materials
o Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

# MYR Group Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

x No fee required.
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(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

MYR Group Inc.

(5)	I otal fee paid:			
o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.				
Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for owhich the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.				
(1)	Amount Previously Paid:			
(2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:			
(3)	Filing Party:			
(4)	Date Filed:			

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# MYR GROUP INC.

# 1701 GOLF ROAD, SUITE 3-1012 ROLLING MEADOWS, IL 60008

March 23, 2016

Dear Fellow Stockholder,

I am pleased to invite you to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of MYR Group Inc., which will be held at 9:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, April 28, 2016, at the DoubleTree Hotel, 75 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 (the Annual Meeting). The meeting facilities will open to stockholders at 8:30 a.m. local time.

At the Annual Meeting we will report on operations and act on the matters described in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the Proxy Statement that follow this letter. Stockholders of record at the close of business on March 1, 2016, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting.

It is important that your shares are represented and voted at the Annual Meeting regardless of the size of your holdings. Even if you intend to attend the Annual Meeting, please complete, sign, date and return the accompanying proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope as soon as possible in order to ensure the presence of a quorum. If you do not vote promptly, we may incur additional costs in soliciting proxies. Voting by returning your proxy card in advance of the Annual Meeting does not deprive you of your right to attend and vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

The Board and management look forward to your participation at the Annual Meeting and appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

William A. Koertner Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

# **YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT**

# MYR GROUP INC.

# 1701 GOLF ROAD, SUITE 3-1012 ROLLING MEADOWS, IL 60008

# NOTICE OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF MYR GROUP INC.

TIME AND DATE: 9:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, April 28, 2016

DoubleTree Hotel

PLACE: 75 West Algonquin Road

Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

(1)

ITEMS OF BUSINESS: Election as directors of the four nominees identified in this proxy

statement, each to serve a term of three years;

(2)

Advisory resolution to approve the compensation of our named

executive officers;

(3)

Ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public

accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016; and

(4)

Consideration of other business properly presented at the meeting.

BOARD The Board of Directors recommends that you vote, by following the

instructions on the enclosed proxy card, FOR the election of each of the

nominees in Item 1 and FOR Items 2 and 3.

Stockholders of record at the close of business on March 1, 2016 are

WHO CAN VOTE: entitled to vote at the meeting, or any postponement or adjournment

thereof.

DATE OF DISTRIBUTION:

RECOMMENDATION:

This Notice of Meeting, the Proxy Statement, the accompanying proxy card and our 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders are being distributed to stockholders beginning on or about March 23, 2016.

# Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for our 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 28, 2016

This Notice of Meeting, the Proxy Statement, and the 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders on Form 10-K are available on our website http://investor.myrgroup.com/annuals.cfm.

Gerald B. Engen, Jr.
Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary

March 23, 2016

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Throughout this proxy statement, references to MYR Group, the Company, we, us, and our refer to MYR Group Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, except as otherwise indicated or as the context otherwise requires.

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# MYR GROUP INC.

# March 23, 2016

# **PROXY STATEMENT**

# FOR THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

# **SUMMARY INFORMATION**

This Summary Information section introduces the proposals to be voted on at the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the Annual Meeting ) as well as highlights of our corporate governance, executive compensation and business results in 2015. We encourage you to review the entire 2016 proxy statement (the Proxy Statement ) prior to determining how you wish to vote your shares. We are holding the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. local time at the DoubleTree Hotel, 75 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005.

# **Meeting Agenda and Voting Recommendation**

Item	Proposal	Board Vote Recommendation	Page Reference (for details)
1.	Election as directors of the four nominees identified in this Proxy Statement and the enclosed proxy card, each to serve a term of three years	FOR EACH NOMINEE	8
2.	Advisory resolution to approve the compensation of our named executive officers	FOR	52
3.	Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP (EY) as our independent registered public accounting firr for the year ending December 31, 2016	nFOR	56

# 2015 Executive Compensation Highlights

Our executive compensation program seeks to reward our executive officers for their contributions to our short-term and long-term performance. Most importantly, we seek to link individual pay to Company success, and we work to

structure executive officer compensation consistent with this goal. We maintain the following policies and practices, among others, that aim to promote our commitment to pay for performance:

We provide our executive officers with total compensation opportunities at levels that we believe are competitive with our peer companies so that we can retain and motivate our skilled and qualified officers.

We grant equity awards under our Long-Term Incentive Plan (Amended and Restated as of May 1, 2014) (the LTIP), which include time-based retention awards and awards that are tied to Company performance goals or the performance of the Company s stock. Equity awards under the LTIP may be issued in the form of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, performance awards, phantom stock, stock bonuses and dividend equivalents. We annually put our named executive officer compensation to an advisory vote of our stockholders and received a positive response of over 97% of the votes cast on this proposal at our 2015 Annual Meeting.

We include clawback provisions in our LTIP award agreements, which subject all new equity awards under the LTIP to the Company s right to recover in the event that it is determined that a participant engaged in conduct that contributed to any material restatement of our earnings.

We cap annual cash incentive awards that can be earned at 200% of salary for our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and lesser amounts for our other named executive officers. The number of performance shares that can be earned is capped at 200% of target for all named executive officers.

2015 Executive Compensation Highlights

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We have an insider trading policy that prohibits our directors and named executive officers from hedging the economic risk of their stock ownership, holding shares of the Company s common stock in a margin account or pledging shares as collateral for a loan.

We have stock ownership guidelines, with a stock retention feature, for our directors and named executive officers.

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

# **Code of Ethics and Corporate Governance Principles**

We have a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the Code of Ethics) applicable to all of our directors, officers and employees. The Code of Ethics promotes honest and ethical conduct, full and accurate public communication and compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations. We disclose any waiver or amendments to the Code of Ethics as required by the applicable rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Additionally, the board of directors of MYR Group (the Board ) has guidelines that provide a framework for MYR Group s corporate governance (the Corporate Governance Principles ). The Corporate Governance Principles assist the Board in the exercise of its responsibilities to help ensure compliance with governing law and our policies.

Stockholders and others can access our corporate governance materials, including the Certificate of Incorporation, Amended and Restated By-Laws (the By-Laws), Board committee charters, our Corporate Governance Principles, our Code of Ethics and other corporate governance related materials on our website at <a href="https://www.myrgroup.com">www.myrgroup.com</a>. Copies of these materials are also available free of charge to any stockholder who sends a written request to our Secretary at MYR Group Inc., 1701 Golf Road, Suite 3-1012, Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008.

The information on our website is not, and shall not be deemed to be, a part of this Proxy Statement or incorporated into any other filings we make with the SEC.

# **Director Independence**

Our Corporate Governance Principles require that at least a majority of the Board qualify as independent directors under the listing standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market (Nasdaq) and any other requirements of the committees upon which he or she serves. Nasdaq listing standards have both objective tests and a subjective test for determining who is an independent director. The objective tests state, for example, that an employee director is not considered independent. The subjective test requires the Board to affirmatively determine that the director does not have a relationship that would interfere with the director s exercise of independent judgment in carrying out his or her responsibilities. Members of our Audit Committee and Compensation Committee, respectively, are subject to certain additional independence criteria as described below under Audit Committee Matters and Compensation Committee Matters.

After considering the Nasdaq listing standards and information provided by each director, the Board determined that the following directors are independent: Jack L. Alexander, Larry F. Altenbaumer, Henry W. Fayne, Kenneth M. Hartwick, Gary R. Johnson, Donald C.I. Lucky, Maurice E. Moore, William D. Patterson and John P. Schauerman as well as the director to be appointed immediately following the Annual Meeting, Arnaud Ajdler. William A. Koertner is not considered an independent director due to his employment with MYR Group.

# **Executive Sessions of the Board**

In accordance with the Corporate Governance Principles, the independent directors meet at least twice per year in executive sessions, which are chaired by the Lead Director. Executive sessions are typically held following Board meetings, without management present.

# **Meeting Attendance**

We expect directors to regularly attend Board meetings and meetings of the committees on which they serve. The Board held twenty-three meetings in 2015, seven of which were briefings by management on project bidding opportunities. All of our directors serving during the year ended December 31, 2015 attended at least 91% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board and committees on which they served. All directors are expected to attend the Annual Meeting and all directors serving at the time of the 2015 Annual Meeting, including the incumbent director nominees, attended that meeting.

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# **Communications with the Board and Reporting of Concerns**

The Board values and encourages constructive dialogue with stockholders and other interested parties on topics such as compensation and other important governance topics. Stockholders and other interested parties can communicate with the directors, individually or as a group, by writing to our Secretary at MYR Group Inc., 1701 Golf Road, Suite 3-1012, Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008 or by submitting an e-mail to our corporate website at <a href="http://investor.myrgroup.com/contactBoard.cfm">http://investor.myrgroup.com/contactBoard.cfm</a>.

The Secretary forwards communications relating to matters within the Board s purview to the appropriate directors, communications relating to matters within a Board committee s area of responsibility to the chair of the appropriate committee and communications relating to ordinary business matters, such as suggestions, inquiries and consumer complaints to the appropriate MYR Group officer. The Secretary generally does not forward complaints about service, new services suggestions, resumes and other forms of job inquiries, surveys, business solicitations or advertisements or inappropriate communications. Anyone who has a concern about the Company s conduct, accounting, financial reporting, internal controls, or auditing matters may submit that concern anonymously or confidentially to the Company s Anonymous Incident Reporting System MySafeWorkplace at 800-461-9330 or <a href="https://www.mysafeworkplace.com">www.mysafeworkplace.com</a>.

# **Board Leadership Structure**

Our Corporate Governance Principles provide that the Board has the discretion to choose its board leadership structure and Chairman in any way that it deems best for MYR Group and our stockholders. When determining the leadership structure that allows the Board to effectively carry out its responsibilities and represent our stockholders interests, the Board considers various factors including our specific business needs, our industry s demands, our operating and financial performance, the economic and regulatory environment, Board self-evaluations, alternative leadership structures and our corporate governance policies and practices. William A. Koertner currently serves as both Chairman of the Board and our CEO. He has held both of those positions since 2007. The Board believes that combining the Chairman and CEO positions, together with an independent Lead Director, is appropriate at this time because it effectively utilizes Mr. Koertner s extensive experience and knowledge of our industry and Company and provides for efficient leadership of our Board and Company. In making this determination, the Board has taken into consideration MYR Group s size, structure and business as well as Mr. Koertner s knowledge of the industry, successful tenure with MYR Group and his established relationships with our customers. The Board also believes that Mr. Koertner is in the best position to inform our independent directors about our operations, projects and issues important to the Company. Except for Mr. Koertner, the Board is comprised entirely of independent directors and all of the committee members are independent. The Board has the necessary power and authority to request and obtain information directly from management, to retain outside consultants and to consult directly with management and employees where it deems appropriate.

In accordance with the Corporate Governance Principles, the independent directors selected Gary R. Johnson to serve as the Board s Lead Director. As Lead Director, Mr. Johnson has the authority to call meetings of the independent directors and his duties include, among others, presiding at executive sessions of the independent directors, which are typically held following Board meetings without management present, and serving as a liaison between the Chairman and the independent directors and, where appropriate, with the stockholders.

Our overall corporate governance policies and practices, combined with the strength of our independent directors, minimize potential conflicts that may result from combined roles of Chairman and CEO. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the other independent directors periodically review this structure to ensure it is

still appropriate.

# **Risk Oversight**

We do not view risk in isolation but consider risk as part of our regular consideration of business strategy and business decisions. Assessing and managing risk is the responsibility of management, which establishes and maintains risk management processes, including action plans and controls, to balance risk mitigation and opportunities to create stockholder value. It is management s responsibility to anticipate, identify and communicate risks to the Board and/or its committees.

The Board has the responsibility to oversee and review certain aspects of our risk management efforts, either directly or through its committees, based upon management s identification, assessment and mitigation of risk. We approach risk management by integrating strategic planning and operational decision-making with risk oversight by management and the Board. The Board commits extensive time and effort discussing and establishing the Company s strategic plan, and it reconsiders key elements of the strategic plan as significant events and opportunities arise during the year. As part of the strategic plan review, the Board and management focus on the primary value drivers for the Company and risks facing the Company.

The Board s standing committees are each chaired by an independent director and support the Board s oversight functions by regularly addressing various risks in their respective areas of oversight. Specifically, the Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its risk management oversight responsibilities in the areas of financial reporting, internal controls and compliance with public reporting requirements. The Compensation Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its risk management oversight responsibilities associated with risks arising from compensation policies and programs, including the review of incentive compensation to ensure our programs contribute to our success, increase shareholder value and discourage unnecessary and excessive risk taking. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its risk management oversight responsibilities associated with risks primarily related to corporate governance. Each of the committee chairs reports to the full Board at regular meetings concerning the activities of the committee, the significant issues it has discussed and the actions taken by the committee.

We believe that our leadership structure supports the risk oversight function of the Board. All directors are actively involved in the risk oversight function and with our CEO serving as Chairman of the Board, he is able to promote open communication between management and directors relating to risk.

# **Committee Membership**

Our Board designates the members and chairs of committees based on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee s recommendations. Because he is not an independent director, William A. Koertner does not serve on any of the committees. The Board has three standing committees Audit, Compensation, and Nominating and Corporate Governance each comprised entirely of independent directors. Membership of the committees in 2015 was as follows:

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(1) Mr. Hartwick s and Mr. Lucky s appointments to the Board were effective on July 29, 2015. Effective October 19, 2015, Ms. Johnson resigned from the Board and was appointed Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.

Each of the three standing committees has a written charter adopted by the Board. The charters define each committee s roles and responsibilities. The charters are available on our website at <a href="https://www.myrgroup.com">www.myrgroup.com</a>. MYR Group will provide copies of these charters free of charge to any stockholder who sends a written request to our Secretary at MYR Group Inc., 1701 Golf Road, Suite 3-1012, Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008.

# NOMINATING AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

The Board has determined that all of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee members are independent under the Nasdaq listing standards. The primary responsibilities of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee include (i) identifying and recommending to the Board individuals qualified to serve as director, (ii) advising the Board with respect to the Board s size, composition, procedures and committees, (iii) developing and recommending to the Board the corporate governance principles applicable to the Company, (iv) overseeing the self-evaluation of the Board and Board committees and (v) providing oversight with respect to corporate governance and ethical conduct.

# Criteria for Nomination to the Board of Directors and Diversity

The Board is responsible for nominating directors for election to the Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for identifying, screening, and recommending candidates to the Board for Board membership, in accordance with the committee s charter, our Certificate of Incorporation, our By-Laws, our Corporate Governance Principles and additional criteria that may be considered by the Board regarding director candidate qualifications. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also evaluates the qualifications of all candidates properly nominated by stockholders in the same manner and using the same criteria.

Since the identification and selection of qualified directors is a complex and subjective process that requires consideration of many intangible factors, and will be significantly influenced by the particular needs of the Board from time to time, there is not a specific set of qualifications, qualities or skills that are necessary for a nominee to possess, other than those that are necessary to meet legal requirements, the Nasdaq listing standards and the provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation, By-Laws, Corporate Governance Principles and charters of the Board s committees. When considering nominees, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may take into consideration many factors including, but not limited to, a candidate s:

record of accomplishment in his or her chosen field;

depth and breadth of experience at an executive, policy-making level in business, financial services, academia, law, government, technology or other areas relevant to the Company s activities;

personal and professional ethics, integrity and values;

commitment to enhancing stockholder value;

ability to exercise good judgment and provide practical insights and diverse perspectives;

knowledge of the Company s industry, markets and customers;

absence of real and perceived conflicts of interest;

ability and willingness to devote sufficient time to become knowledgeable about the Company and to effectively carry out the duties and responsibilities of service;

ability to attend Board meetings in person;

ability to develop a good working relationship with other members of the Board; and ability to contribute to the Board s working relationship with senior management.

When considering nominees, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may also consider whether the candidate possesses the qualifications, experience and skills it considers appropriate in the context of the Board's overall composition and needs. In addition, our Corporate Governance Principles specify that the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee should consider the value of diversity on the Board in the director nominee identification and nomination process. Accordingly, while the Company does not have a specific policy regarding

diversity, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee s evaluation of director nominees includes consideration of their ability to contribute to the diversity of personal and professional experiences, opinions, perspectives and backgrounds on the Board. Nominees are not discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or any other basis proscribed by law. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will

assess the effectiveness of this approach as part of its review of the Board s composition as well as in the course of the Board s and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee s self-evaluation process.

Under the heading Proposal No. 1. Election of Directors, we provide an overview of each nominee s principal occupation, business experience and other directorships of publicly traded companies, together with the qualifications, experience, key attributes and skills the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board believe will best serve the interests of the Board, the Company and our stockholders.

# **Board and Committee Self-Evaluations**

The Board and each of the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees conduct an annual self-evaluation addressing matters the Board and committees consider relevant to their performance. These evaluations include both a qualitative and quantitative assessment by each director of the performance of the Board and the committee or committees on which the director sits. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee oversees the evaluation process.

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# PROPOSAL NO. 1. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board currently consists of ten directors. The directors are divided into three classes, designated as Class I, Class II and Class III. The term for each class expires at the conclusion of a three-year term. At the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Class III directors are standing for election.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommended to the Board, and the Board approved, the nomination of Larry F. Altenbaumer, William A. Koertner, William D. Patterson and John P. Schauerman as directors (the Nominees), each for a term ending at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until his successor has been chosen and qualified.

Each of the Nominees was chosen by the Board to be a director because the Board and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believe that his qualifications, experience, background and skills (summarized below under the subheading **Director Qualifications**), taken together, demonstrate his capacity to make a continuing meaningful contribution to the Board s oversight of the business and affairs of the Company. Accordingly, the Board believes that the continued service of each of the Nominees on the Board will serve the best interests of the Company and all of its stockholders.

If you return a proxy card without giving specific voting instructions, then your shares will be voted *FOR* the election of the Nominees.

If any Nominee should be unavailable to serve due to an unanticipated event, the Board may designate another person as a substitute nominee or, in accordance with our By-Laws, act to reduce the number of directors. If the Board substitutes another nominee, the shares represented by your proxy card will be voted for the substitute nominee.

None of the Nominees are related to another or to any other director or executive officer of MYR Group or its subsidiaries by blood, marriage or adoption.

# THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE NOMINEES.

# **Vote Required**

On December 21, 2015, our By-laws were amended to provide for a majority vote standard in uncontested director elections. As amended, the By-laws provide that a director nominee in an uncontested election will be elected if the number of shares voted for the director s election exceeds 50% of the number of votes cast on the issue of that director s election (including votes FOR or AGAINST, but excluding any votes to ABSTAIN or broker non-votes). If a director in an uncontested election fails to receive the required number of votes for re-election in an uncontested election, the director is expected to tender his or her resignation and will submit such recommendation for prompt consideration by the Board. A director whose resignation is under consideration is expected to abstain from participating in any decision regarding that resignation. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board may consider any factors they deem relevant in deciding whether to accept or reject a director s resignation.

In a contested election, where the number of director nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected, a plurality vote standard will apply, and the director nominees who receive the most FOR votes will be elected. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement (as discussed in more detail below under Settlement Agreement and Appointment of New Directors ), Engine Capital, L.P. and its affiliates have withdrawn their nomination letter and the Board has increased the size of the Board from nine to ten directors, including increasing the number of Class III directors from three to four. Accordingly, because the number of director nominees does not exceed the number of directors to be elected, the election of directors at the Annual Meeting will not be a contested election. As a result, each of the Nominees will be elected if the number of shares voted for such Nominee s election exceeds 50% of the number of votes cast on the issue of such Nominee s election (including votes FOR or AGAINST, but excluding any votes to ABSTAIN or broker non-votes).

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# SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW DIRECTORS

On January 6, 2016, the Company received a letter from Engine Capital, L.P. and certain of its affiliates notifying the Company of Engine Capital s intention to nominate Arnaud Ajdler and John P. Schauerman and a third nominee, Grant G. McCullagh, for election to the Board at the Annual Meeting.

On March 22, 2016, the Company entered into a settlement agreement (the Settlement Agreement ) with Engine Capital, L.P. and certain of its affiliates and Mr. Ajdler (collectively, Engine Capital ) and Mr. Schauerman to settle the proxy contest pertaining to the election of directors at the Annual Meeting. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Board increased the size of the Board from nine to ten directors, appointed John P. Schauerman to fill the vacancy on the Board as a Class III director, effective March 22, 2016, and agreed to nominate Mr. Schauerman for election to the Board as a Class III director at the Annual Meeting.

In addition, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, immediately following the Annual Meeting, the Board will increase the size of the Board from ten to eleven directors and appoint Arnaud Ajdler to fill the vacancy on the Board as a Class I director, with a term expiring at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Company s Stockholders. The Settlement Agreement also provides that Mr. Schauerman be appointed to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Audit Committee, and Mr. Ajdler will be appointed to the Compensation Committee, subject to their eligibility to serve in such capacities pursuant to applicable law and stock exchange regulations.

Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Engine Capital has withdrawn its nomination of its three candidates for election to the Board at the Annual Meeting and has agreed to immediately cease all efforts related to its own proxy solicitation. Engine Capital has agreed to vote all shares of the Company s common stock beneficially owned by Engine Capital in favor of the Board s Nominees at the Annual Meeting. In addition, Engine Capital has agreed to certain normal and customary standstill provisions, which expire on the earlier of (1) the date that is 15 business days prior to the deadline for the submission of stockholder nominations for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to the Company s By-laws or (2) the date that is 90 days prior to the first anniversary of the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

In addition, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Company has agreed to reimburse Engine Capital for its reasonable, documented out-of-pocket fees and expenses including legal expenses incurred in connection with seeking Board representation at the Annual Meeting and negotiating the Settlement Agreement, up to a maximum amount of \$150,000 in the aggregate.

The foregoing is not a complete description of the terms of the Settlement Agreement. For a further description of the terms of the Settlement Agreement, including a copy of the Settlement Agreement, please see our Current Report on Form 8-K, which was filed with the SEC on March 23, 2016.

# **Director Qualifications**

When considering whether our directors, including the nominees, should serve as a director and have the experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, taken as a whole, to enable the Board to satisfy its responsibilities effectively in light of our businesses and structure, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board considered their wealth of knowledge of our industry and customers, integrity, their particular experiences, individual talents, business judgment and vision, leadership skills and what each individual would bring to the Board as a whole,

including the information discussed in each of the director s individual biographies set forth in the tables below. Additionally, the Board considered and valued that each of our directors has extensive experience as a business leader and has a strong understanding of business operations in general.

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The following is information as of March 15, 2016, regarding each director who is up for election at the Annual Meeting:

Larry F. Altenbaumer

Age: 67

Director Since: 2006 Director Class: Class III Mr. Altenbaumer has over 40 years of experience in the energy industry. He spent nearly 34 years at Illinois Power Company (Illinois Power), an electric and natural gas utility. He served as President of Illinois Power from 1999 until his retirement in 2004, and served in various financial leadership positions before that, including Treasurer, Controller and Chief Financial Officer. During his tenure with Illinois Power, Mr. Altenbaumer also served as executive Vice President for Regulated Delivery for Dynegy, Inc. ( Dynegy ), a wholesale power, capacity and ancillary service provider. Illinois Power became a subsidiary of Dynegy in 2000 in a transaction led by Mr. Altenbaumer for Illinois Power. Since 2004, Mr. Altenbaumer has served as an independent consultant, providing services to organizations both inside and outside of the energy industry. Since 2005, he has served as an independent director for the Southwest Power Pool, a FERC-approved regional transmission organization covering portions of fourteen states. Since 2014, he has served as a director for Summit Utilities, a privately-held holding company that owns and operates natural gas distribution companies in Colorado, Missouri and Maine. From 2005 to 2014, he served as an advisor to ArcLight Capital Partners, a private equity firm that has invested approximately \$15.3 billion in the energy sector. He is also currently serving as the executive director of the Midwest Inland Port, a regional economic development initiative based in Decatur, Illinois and is a member of the Board of Decatur Memorial Hospital. Mr. Altenbaumer received a Bachelor s Degree in electrical engineering and Mr. Altenbaumer serves as the chair of the Compensation committee,

computer science from the University of Illinois.

serves on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and has a 97% attendance record for all 2015 Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

## Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Mr. Altenbaumer's long record of achievement in various leadership positions at Illinois Power, including President, enables him to provide valuable insight into key aspects of successfully managing our day-to-day business and management operations. This experience and his current position as a director of the Southwest Power Pool and a member of its Human Resources Committee and Finance Committee support his role as Chairman of the Compensation Committee. His executive management roles, knowledge of our customers and competitors and range of consulting experience both inside and outside of the energy industry strengthen Mr. Altenbaumer s ability to provide strategic leadership to help us better position ourselves for future growth and success. In addition, Mr. Altenbaumer s board service for the Southwest Power Pool along with the nature of his activity in support of several ArcLight portfolio companies provide him with relevant expertise in areas related to corporate governance issues affecting U.S. publicly traded companies and arm him with a wide base of knowledge related to his membership on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

#### William A. Koertner

Age: 66

Director Since: 2007 Director Class: Class III Mr. Koertner joined MYR Group in 1998 as Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, responsible for all financial functions including accounting, treasury, risk management and MIS operations. He was promoted to President and CEO in December 2003. Prior to joining MYR Group, Mr. Koertner served as Chief Financial Officer for Central Illinois Public Service Company from 1995 to 1998 and President and Chief Executive Officer of CIPSCO Investment Company (CIPSCO) from 1995 to 1998 as well. CIPSCO manages nonutility investments and provides investment management services for affiliates. Mr. Koertner holds a Bachelor of Science degree in finance from Northern Illinois University and a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Illinois.

Mr. Koertner serves as the Chairman of the Board and has a 100% attendance record for all 2015 Board meetings.

# Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Through Mr. Koertner s tenure as both President and CEO and Chief Financial Officer of MYR Group, he has gained an in-depth understanding of our day-to-day operations and has helped to develop and set our short and long-term growth strategies. He has been an instrumental force in building and maintaining key customer, vendor and investor relationships that have played an integral role in helping to further understand our business goals, the markets in which we operate and our competitive climate, all of which have contributed greatly to the success of the Company. Mr. Koertner also brings a wealth of financial expertise and utility background to his role and possesses an expert understanding of accounting and treasury practices, risk management and MIS operations, which allows him to provide sound guidance to the Board regarding our strategies and management.

## William D. Patterson

Age: 61

Director Since: 2007 Director Class: Class III Since 2010, Mr. Patterson has been the President of EnSTAR Management Corporation, a company that he founded to provide advisory and consulting services to utilities. From 2009 to 2010, Mr. Patterson served as Senior Vice President of Corporate and Business Development for American Water Works Company, Inc., the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. From 2005 to 2008, Mr. Patterson served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Pennichuck Corporation, an investor-owned water utility holding company. From 2003 to 2005, he served as an executive advisor to Concentric Energy Advisors, a private firm located in Marlborough, Massachusetts, providing financial advisory and consulting services for utilities. His experience also includes nearly 20 years of work within the investment banking industry, serving in senior positions at E.F. Hutton, Shearson Lehman and Smith Barney, where he was managing director and co-head of the corporate finance department s regulated utilities practice. Mr. Patterson earned his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Princeton University, graduating summa cum laude. He earned his Masters of Business Administration degree in finance and accounting from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Mr. Patterson serves as the chair of the Audit Committee, serves on the Compensation Committee and has a 100% attendance record for all 2015 Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

# Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Mr. Patterson is a financial executive and expert with 30 years of experience primarily serving the regulated utility and energy/utility infrastructure markets. As Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Compensation Committee, Mr. Patterson brings a broad-based track record of success as a banker, investor and advisor and has held senior management and independent director positions for both public and private companies. His service as a senior executive for various companies in the utility industry provides him with an unparalleled understanding and awareness of our markets and a valuable perspective in the review and analysis of financial statements and results.

#### John P. Schauerman

Age: 59

Director Since: 2016 Director Class: Class III Mr. Schauerman served as Executive Vice President of Corporate Development of Primoris Services Corporation ( Primoris ), a specialty construction and infrastructure company, from February 2009 to May 2013, where he was responsible for developing and integrating Primoris overall strategic plan, including the evaluation and structuring of new business opportunities and acquisitions. Prior to that, Mr. Schauerman served as Primoris Chief Financial Officer from February 2008 to February 2009, during which time Primoris went public through a merger with Rhapsody Acquisition Corp. He also served as a director of Primoris from July 2008 to May 2013 and as a director of its predecessor entity, ARB, Inc. (ARB) from 1993 to July 2008. Mr. Schauerman joined ARB in 1993 as Senior Vice President. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President of Wedbush Morgan Securities, Inc., a regional investment bank focused on financing activities for middle market companies (n/k/a Wedbush Securities, Inc.). Mr. Schauerman has served on the Boards of Directors of Harmony Merger Corp., a blank check company, since March 2015 and Wedbush Securities, Inc., a leading financial services and investment firm, since August 2014. He previously served as a director of Quartet Merger Corporation, a blank check company, from November 2013 to October 2014. Mr. Schauerman holds an M.B.A. in Finance from Columbia University and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Mr. Schauerman was appointed to the Board and to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Audit Committee effective March 22, 2016 pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

# Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Mr. Schauerman s executive roles within our industry are expected to provide financial and operational experience to the Board. Mr. Schauerman s leadership positions and experience with mergers and acquisitions is expected to provide the Board with valuable knowledge and insight into the Company s strategic planning and growth initiatives. This experience, coupled with his public company board experience, is expected to make him a valuable addition to the Board.

The following is information regarding Class I and Class II directors serving as of March 15, 2016:

#### Henry W. Fayne

Age: 69

Director Since: 2007 Director Class: Class I Expiration of Term: 2017 Mr. Fayne has more than 30 years of experience with American Electric Power ( AEP ), an electric utility company servicing five million customers in 11 states. During his tenure from 1974 to 2004, he held senior positions in both finance and operations. Most recently, he served as Executive Vice President of Energy Services and was responsible for transmission, distribution and customer relations operations for the AEP system, which employed approximately 15,000 line workers. He also served as Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President Financial Services and was responsible for financial planning and budgeting, risk management, internal audits, accounting and treasury functions. After retiring from AEP in 2004, Mr. Fayne began providing advisory and consulting services to various companies, including Century Aluminum Company. In addition to serving on our Board, Mr. Favne currently serves as chairman of the board of directors for Southwest Generation, LLC, a privately held gas-fired generating company; director and chairman of the audit committee of the board of directors for Murray Energy Corporation, a privately held coal mining company; sits on the board of directors of Youth and Families, a non-profit organization serving at-risk children in Franklin County, Ohio; and serves as a director of Summit Utilities Inc., a privately held gas distribution company. Mr. Fayne holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Columbia College of Columbia University and a Masters of Business Administration degree from the Columbia Business School.

Mr. Fayne serves on the Audit and Compensation committees and has a 91% attendance record for all 2015 Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

#### Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

With over 35 years of total industry experience, Mr. Fayne s extensive background in financial planning, budgeting, risk management and operational experience with AEP combine to provide extremely relevant insight and guidance related to our primary operations. His substantial executive leadership expertise and consulting experience are directly relevant to our operations and activities as well as to his service on our Audit and Compensation Committees, and help aid the Board s strategic and high-level planning as well as the Board s understanding of our customers and competitors. Mr. Fayne s participation on a variety of other boards provides him with a well-rounded perspective to further enhance the Board s understanding of the industry.

Mr. Hartick currently serves as the Senior Vice President of Finance, Strategy, Risk & CFO for Ontario Power Generation, a provincial owner of power generation in Ontario. From February 2015 to March 2016, Mr. Hartwick served as the Chief Financial Officer of Wellspring Financial Corporation, a Canadian sales financing company. Prior to joining Wellspring, Mr. Hartwick served for ten years as Director, President and Chief Executive Officer of Just Energy Group Inc., an integrated retailer of commodity products. At Just Energy Group, Inc., his role included putting in place a broad set of financing arrangements for growth in North America and the United Kingdom and the expansion of the sales organization across these locations. Prior to that, Mr. Hartwick held a variety of senior executive roles, gaining an extensive financial background in the energy, consumer products and capital markets areas, including the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer at Just Energy Group, Inc., Chief Financial Officer at Hydro One, Inc. and a partner at Ernst & Young, LLP. In each of these roles, Mr. Hartwick participated in the expansion and growth of the businesses and the establishment of financial platforms to support that growth. From October 2004 to March of 2016, Mr. Hartwick served on the Board of Directors of Atlantic Power Corporation, a power generation company in the United States and Canada. Mr. Hartwick currently serves on the Board of Directors of Spark Energy, Inc., as well as the Board of Governors for Trent University, his alma mater. Mr. Hartwick earned his Honors of Business Administration Degree from Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario and is a certified public accountant. Mr. Hartwick serves on the Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees. Since his appointment in July of 2015, he has a 100% attendance record for all Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

### Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Through Mr. Hartwick s senior executive positions, including the roles of chief executive officer and chief financial officer, he brings leadership, risk management, and strategic planning experience to the Board. Mr. Hartwick s in-depth knowledge of financing initiatives as a senior executive in North American markets provides the Board with proficiencies to support business development, growth strategies and expenditure plans. Mr. Hartwick s experience as a director of other publicly-traded companies enables him to provide insights into a variety of strategic planning, risk management, compensation, finance and governance practices. Mr. Hartwick s leadership in the energy industry and financial sector make him a valued advisor and highly qualified to serve as a key member of the Board, Audit Committee, and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Gary R. Johnson

Kenneth M. Hartwick

Director Since: 2015

Director Class: Class I

Expiration of Term: 2017

Age: 53

Age: 69

Director Since: 2007 Director Class: Class I Expiration of Term: 2017 Most recently, Mr. Johnson was Vice President and General Counsel of Xcel Energy and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Northern States Power Company. Xcel Energy, through its subsidiaries, is a leading electric and natural gas utility company offering a comprehensive portfolio of energy-related products and services to customers throughout the western and midwestern United States. Mr. Johnson occupied this

position from 2000 until his retirement in 2007. From 1989 to 2000, Mr. Johnson was Vice President and General Counsel of Northern States Power Company, the predecessor to Xcel Energy. He holds a bachelor s degree in history from the University of Minnesota and a Masters in Public Administration degree from the Ohio State University. Mr. Johnson is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School.

Mr. Johnson is the Board s Lead Director. He serves on the Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees and has a 100% attendance record for all 2015 Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

## Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Through his distinguished career as an executive officer and general counsel at Xcel Energy and Northern States Power Company, Mr. Johnson gained a broad understanding of the business, industry, legal issues and regulatory landscape of the electrical utility industry. Serving as Lead Director on the Board and the Chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, Mr. Johnson uses his vast knowledge to provide a valuable perspective that assists the Board in its understanding of current legal and regulatory issues facing us and the industry.

#### Jack L. Alexander

Age: 68

Director Since: 2007 Director Class: Class II Expiration of Term: 2018 Mr. Alexander retired from MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) in 2005 and provided advisory and consulting services to MidAmerican until 2007. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Alexander spent 32 years serving in various roles with MidAmerican from 1973 to 2005. He was Senior Vice President of Supply and Marketing from 2002 to 2005 and was responsible for electric generation, energy trading, marketing and sales, risk management and legislation and regulation. Prior to this, Mr. Alexander held roles in engineering, corporate planning, human resources and energy delivery. He has over 13 years of experience leading MidAmerican s human resources function, with responsibility for labor relations, contract negotiations, compensation and benefits, employment and employee development and training. Mr. Alexander holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and economics from Morningside College.

Mr. Alexander serves on the Audit and Compensation committees and has a 100% attendance record for all 2015 Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

#### Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Mr. Alexander s background as a senior executive at MidAmerican and varied industry experience in transmission and distribution, electric generation, energy trading, marketing and sales, risk management, legislation and regulation, engineering, corporate planning and human resources provide him with an extremely broad and fundamental understanding related to our operations and organizational structure, our utility customers and our transmission and distribution business sector. He also has extensive experience with mergers and acquisitions including asset valuations and due diligence on a number of utility acquisitions. His knowledge and experience is extremely relevant to Mr. Alexander s role as a member on the Audit Committee. While at MidAmerican, Mr. Alexander was responsible for the construction of over \$2.0 billion of new electric generation in the state of Iowa including one of the world s largest land-based wind energy projects. He also has experience serving as MidAmerican s chief company spokesperson on a number of IBEW labor contract negotiations. His human resources leadership and experience in labor relations, contract negotiations, compensation and benefits, employment and employee development and training provide a unique and thorough perspective that is of great value in Mr. Alexander s role on our Compensation Committee.

**Donald C.I. Lucky** 

Age: 53

Director Since: 2015 Director Class: Class II Expiration of Term: 2018 Mr. Lucky is a construction attorney and managing partner at the century-old Alberta-based law firm of Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer LLP, where he has practiced since 1988. He has advised contractors and owners in major power projects, including oil and gas, solar, wind and carbon capture, EPC mega projects and more than 80 public-private finance infrastructure projects (hospitals, penitentiaries, water treatment and transportation) throughout Canada, the United States and Australia. Mr. Lucky has appeared as counsel at all levels of the Courts of Alberta and the Northwest Territories and in mediations and arbitrations as counsel and adjudicator. He also teaches Construction Law at the University of Alberta and has received numerous industry awards and recognitions in the area of construction law and otherwise, including being inducted in 2009 into the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers. Mr. Lucky obtained his Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Law degrees from the University of Alberta, and his Masters of Law degree from the University of Cambridge. Mr. Lucky serves on the Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees. Since his appointment in July of 2015, he has a 100% attendance record for all Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

# Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Throughout his career as an attorney in the construction industry, Mr. Lucky has a detailed understanding of the legal issues and risks of our current and expanding markets. Mr. Lucky s perspective as an academic and his involvement in various energy projects in multiple countries provides the Board with valuable new ideas and perspectives. Mr. Lucky s experience in the construction industry with the wealth of knowledge he has gained advocating for contractors gives the Board significant insight for our strategic planning while presenting the Board an understanding and awareness of the opportunities and challenges that present the Company.

#### Maurice E. Moore

Age: 65

Director Since: 2010 Director Class: Class II Expiration of Term: 2018 Since 2009, Mr. Moore has been Managing Director and sole proprietor of Primus Financial Group, LLC, a firm providing leasing and project finance advisory services to companies engaged in the renewable energy business. With more than 25 years of professional financial experience, Mr. Moore has an extensive background in originating, negotiating, syndicating and financing large capital projects in various business segments, including the electric utility and renewable energy industries. Prior to his position at Primus Financial Group, Mr. Moore served in senior leadership roles with Chase Equipment Leasing, Inc. from 2006 to 2009, a division of JP Morgan Chase offering a variety of financing and lease solutions to help businesses acquire the equipment needed for daily operations; and JP Morgan Capital Corporation, and its predecessor companies, from 1986 to 2005. Prior to serving on the Board, Mr. Moore served on the boards for West Suburban Medical Center and Community Chest of Oak Park & River Forest, Illinois, and was formerly Finance Advisory Committee Chairman for Oak Park & River Forest High School in Illinois. Mr. Moore earned a Bachelor of Science degree in

civil engineering from Brown University and a Masters of Business Administration degree from Harvard Business School.

Mr. Moore serves on the Audit and Nominating and Corporate
Governance committees and has a 96% attendance record for all 2015
Board and committee meetings on which he serves.

# Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Mr. Moore has substantial leadership, financial services and capital expenditures experience, and has advised a variety of clients engaged in energy and renewable energy markets. His skills in originating, negotiating and financing

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large capital projects in both similar and varying environments serve as a guiding force concerning our capital investment and expenditure plans. In addition, his financial advisory involvement in the renewable energy space provides a diverse range of insight that contributes to the Board s understanding of the markets in which we operate. Mr. Moore s business acumen and participation on the Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees help to broaden our exposure and understanding of successful financial practices and growth strategies.

Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Board is expected to appoint Arnaud Ajdler as a Class I director immediately following the Annual Meeting. The following information is accurate as of March 15, 2016:

#### **Arnaud Ajdler**

Age: 40

Mr. Ajdler is currently the Managing Member of Engine Capital Management, LLC, which serves as the investment manager to value-oriented special situations funds, that invest both actively and passively in companies undergoing change, and is the Managing Member of each of Engine Investments, LLC and Engine Investments II, LLC. Prior to founding Engine Capital Management, LLC in March 2013, Mr. Ajdler served as a Managing Director of Crescendo Partners L.P., a principal investment firm, from December 2005 to February 2013. In addition, Mr. Aidler has served as a director of Destination Maternity Corporation, the world s largest designer and retailer of maternity apparel, since March 2008, and as Non-Executive Chairman of its board of directors since February 2011. He has also served as a director and on the compensation and nominating and corporate governance committees of Stewart Information Services Corporation, a company that provides title insurance and real estate services worldwide, since May 2014, and as a director of StarTek, Inc., a provider of business process outsourcing services, since May 2015. Mr. Aidler is also an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University Business School where he teaches a course in Value Investing. He also previously served as a director and on the audit committee of Imvescor Restaurant Group, Inc., a Canadian franchisor of restaurant concepts from July 2013 to March 2016, as a director and chair of the corporate governance and nominating committee of Charming Shoppes, Inc., an apparel retailer, from 2008 until the company was acquired in June 2012, and as a director and on the compensation and human resources committee of O Charley s Inc., a multi-concept restaurant company, from March 2012 until the company was acquired in April 2012. Since its inception in June 2006 and until its combination with Primoris Services Corporation in July 2008, Mr. Ajdler served as a member of the board of directors and as the Secretary of Rhapsody Acquisition Corp., an OTC Bulletin Board-listed blank check company formed to effect a business combination with an operating business. From June 2004 until June 2006, Mr. Ajdler served as the Chief Financial Officer, a director and the Secretary of Arpeggio Acquisition Corporation, a specified purpose acquisition company ( Arpeggio ). Arpeggio completed its business combination with Hill International, Inc., a worldwide construction consulting firm, in June 2006, and until June 2009, Mr. Aidler served as a director of the surviving company, a NYSE listed company. From

August 2006 until the company was acquired in October 2007, Mr. Ajdler served as a director of The Topps Company, Inc., a company that provides baseball, football, hockey, entertainment, and pop culture products.

Mr. Ajdler is expected to be appointed to the Board and the Compensation Committee immediately following the Annual Meeting pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

#### Qualifications, Experience, Key Attributes and Skills:

Mr. Ajdler s experience as a managing director of an investment firm with investments in a broad range of industries is expected to provide the Board with additional financial analysis and planning knowledge. Mr. Ajdler s leadership positions in various industries is expected to provide the Board with new insight and perspectives. His financial background, as well as Mr. Ajdler s significant experience serving on the boards of directors of several companies, is expected to make him a valuable asset to the Board.

# SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), requires our executive officers, directors and persons who own more than 10% of our common stock to report their ownership of our common stock and changes in that ownership.

We reviewed copies of reports filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and written representations from reporting persons that all reportable transactions were reported. Based solely on that review, we believe that during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, all filings required of our executive officers and directors were timely made in accordance with the Exchange Act.

# CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS

# Review, Approval and Ratification of Transactions with Related Persons

We have a written policy and procedures for the review, approval and ratification of transactions with related persons, which have been adopted by the Board. Under our policy, the definition of related persons includes, among others, any person who is or was, during the last fiscal year, an executive officer, director or nominee for director of the Company, any shareholder owning more than 5% of any class of our voting securities, or an immediate family member of any such person.

It is the policy of the Company to prohibit related person transactions unless the Company s Audit Committee has determined in advance of the Company or a subsidiary entering into the transaction that it will be conducted on terms that are fair to the Company or the subsidiary and the transaction is in the best interests of the Company or the subsidiary.

Pursuant to our policy, there were no reported transactions in 2015 that qualified as a related person transaction. As a result, no reported transaction was referred to the Audit Committee or any other committee of the Board for review and no related person transaction was required to be disclosed in the Company s filings.

## **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MATTERS**

The Board established the standing Compensation Committee in accordance with our By-Laws. The Board has determined that each member of the Compensation Committee qualifies as an independent director as defined under the Nasdaq rules, as a non-employee director as defined in Rule 16b-3(b)(3) under the Exchange Act and as an outside director within the meaning of Section 162(m)(4)(C)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the IRS Code ).

The Compensation Committee firmly believes that the compensation of our executive officers should emphasize paying for performance that contributes to our success while encouraging behavior that is in our stockholders long-term best interests. The Compensation Committee is responsible for assisting the Board in overseeing the Company s compensation and employee benefit plans and practices, including its executive compensation plans and its incentive-compensation and equity-based plans. To represent and assist the Board in its oversight of the Company s compensation practices and under its charter, the Compensation Committee performs, among others, the following

reviews and recommends changes to the Company s executive compensation philosophy, general compensation programs and executive benefit plans, including incentive-compensation programs and equity-based plans; reviews and recommends any changes to the goals and objectives of the Company s executive compensation plans; evaluates annually the performance of named executive officers in light of the goals and objectives of the Company s executive compensation plans, and determines and approves, or recommends to the Board for its approval, the compensation levels of named executive officers based on this evaluation;

evaluates the appropriate level of compensation for Board and committee service by non-employee members of the Board and determines and approves, or recommends to the Board for its approval, the level of compensation for such service:

establishes and reviews stock ownership guidelines for directors and officers; and reviews and recommends to the Board the frequency with which the Company will conduct Say-on-Pay Votes and reviews and approves proposals regarding the Say-on-Pay Vote and the frequency of the Say-on-Pay Vote to be included in the Company s proxy statement.

The Compensation Discussion and Analysis, included in this Proxy Statement, goes into further detail about the Compensation Committee s processes for determining the appropriate levels of compensation for executive officers and directors.

## **Compensation Consultants**

In order to fulfill its duties, the Compensation Committee has the authority to retain, at the Company s expense, its own advisors and compensation consultants and to approve their compensation. These external compensation consultants provide the Compensation Committee with guidance on compensation trends, program designs and market research and advice and recommendations on both executive and director compensation. They also help evaluate the competitive position of named executive officers and directors compensation, and provide advice on incentive award programs. Their findings are discussed in more detail in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

Compensation consultants are engaged by and report directly to the Compensation Committee on executive compensation matters and meet separately with the Compensation Committee outside the presence of management. Interaction between the compensation consultants and management is generally limited to providing necessary information and data.

The Compensation Committee has retained Mercer to serve as its compensation consultant. The Compensation Committee has reviewed the independence of Mercer s advisory role relative to the six consultant independence factors adopted by the SEC to guide listed companies in determining the independence of their compensation consultants, legal counsel and other advisers. Following its review, the

Compensation Committee concluded that Mercer has no conflicts of interest, and provides the Compensation Committee with objective and independent executive compensation advisory services.

## **Compensation Risk Assessment**

In reviewing and approving compensation programs, the Compensation Committee considers whether the programs are likely to promote risk-taking behavior that could adversely affect the Company. The Compensation Committee has designed the Company s compensation programs, including the Company s incentive compensation plans, with specific features to address potential risks while rewarding employees for achieving long-term financial and strategic objectives through prudent business judgment and appropriate risk taking. The following elements have been incorporated into our programs available for our executive officers:

A Balanced Mix of Compensation Components The target compensation mix for the Company s executive officers is composed of salary, annual cash incentives and long-term equity incentives, representing a mix that is not overly weighted toward short-term cash incentives.

Multiple Performance Factors The Company s incentive compensation plans use multiple Company-wide metrics, which encourage retention of executives and focus on the achievement of objectives for the overall benefit of the Company. The incentive compensation granted under the plans in 2015 included:

Annual cash incentive compensation that was dependent on multiple performance metrics including pretax income and safety performance.

Forty percent of the long-term incentive compensation in the form of time-based restricted stock with three-year ratable vesting.

Sixty percent of the long-term incentive compensation in the form of performance shares allocated evenly between two performance measures, return on invested capital ( ROIC ) and relative total shareholder return ( TSR ), as compared to a group of peer companies, over a three-year performance period.

Capped Incentive Awards Annual cash incentive awards are capped at 200% of salary for our CEO and lesser amounts for our other named executive officers. The number of performance shares that can be earned is capped at 200% of target for all named executive officers.

Clawback Provisions LTIP award agreements contain a clawback provision, which makes all LTIP awards subject to the Company s right to recover the award in the event that it is determined that a participant engaged in conduct that contributed to any material restatement of our earnings.

Stock Ownership Guidelines Stock ownership guidelines call for significant share ownership for our named executive officers.

Stock Retention Policy Executive officers are expected to retain the net shares received through an exercise of stock options and the vesting of restricted stock and performance shares if they have not reached the applicable stock ownership guidelines.

Anti-hedging and Pledging Policy Executive officers are expected to comply with our insider trading policy that prohibits our named executive officers from hedging the economic risk of their stock ownership and holding shares of the Company s common stock in a margin account or pledging shares as collateral for a loan.

The Compensation Committee annually performs an assessment of compensation-related risks for all of our policies and programs. These assessments include a review of multiple factors including, but not limited to, the design of compensation policies and programs, controls and approval processes and the negative discretion provided in the oversight of these programs. Periodically, the Compensation Committee retains outside consultants to assist in these assessments. In 2015, the Compensation Committee concluded that our compensation programs do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. In the event that the Company s risk profile was to change, the Compensation Committee would consider appropriate adjustments in policies and practices.

## Compensation Committee Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2015

The Compensation Committee oversees our compensation program on behalf of the Board. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Compensation Committee reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis included in this Proxy Statement.

In reliance on the review and discussion referred to above, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in our Proxy Statement to be filed with the SEC in connection with our Annual Meeting and incorporated by reference in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 filed with the SEC ( 2015 Form 10-K ).

**Compensation Committee:** 

Larry F. Altenbaumer, Chair Jack L. Alexander Henry W. Fayne Donald C.I. Lucky Gary R. Johnson William D. Patterson

## DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

We use a combination of cash and equity-based compensation to attract and retain non-employee directors and to compensate such directors for their service on the Board in amounts that are commensurate with their Board and committee responsibilities. The Compensation Committee reviews director compensation periodically and recommends changes to the Board when it deems them appropriate. The Compensation Committee and the Board consider analyses prepared by Mercer of reported non-employee director compensation practices at our peer companies and generally seek to target our non-employee directors total compensation (defined as total cash compensation and total equity compensation) at or near the median total compensation of the non-employee directors of our peers.

In October of 2013, at the request of our Compensation Committee, Mercer performed and presented to the Compensation Committee a study of reported non-employee director compensation practices (the 2013 Mercer Non-Employee Director Compensation Study ). In 2014, the Compensation Committee considered this study and recommended to the Board, and the Board approved, an increase in cash compensation for our non-employee directors. The 2013 Mercer Non-Employee Director Compensation Study also recommended an increase in equity awards (from \$60,000 to \$75,000), and in 2015, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board, and the Board approved, an increase in equity awards as well as an increase in the number of meetings that are included in the annual cash retainer. Compensation for our non-employee directors for service on the Board and Board committees for 2015 was as follows:

annual cash retainer of \$57,000 for each U.S. non-employee member of the Board, with such amount to include seven in-person Board meetings and ten telephonic Board meetings;

a cash retainer of \$42,750 for each Canadian non-employee member of the Board, which reflects the pro-rated portion of the annual cash retainer of \$57,000 for their length of service from the date of their appointment, with such amount to include the pro-rated portion of in-person and telephonic Board meetings;

for attendance above the number of meetings included in the cash retainer, cash compensation of \$2,000 for each meeting of the Board attended in person and \$1,000 for each meeting attended telephonically;

cash compensation of \$1,000 for attendance at each meeting of any committee (including any subcommittee), whether in person or by telephone;

additional \$10,000 annually for each chairperson of the Audit and Compensation Committees, and an additional \$5,000 annually for the chairperson of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee;

for U.S. directors, equity compensation in the form of time-based restricted stock grants with a value of approximately \$75,000. Each grant vests ratably over a three-year period. Vesting of these time-based restricted stock grants may be accelerated upon a change in control, as defined in the LTIP, and will be accelerated should a non-employee director resign from the Board during the vesting period, provided that such resignation is not due to the director s breach of his or her fiduciary duty;

for Canadian directors, equity compensation in the form of time-based phantom stock unit grants with tandem dividend equivalents with a value of approximately \$56,250, which reflects the pro-rated portion of an annual grant amount of \$75,000 for their length of service from the date of their appointment. Each grant is to vest ratably over a three-year period. Vesting of these time-based phantom stock unit grants may be accelerated upon a change in control, as defined in the LTIP, and will be accelerated should a non-employee director resign from the Board during the vesting period, provided that such resignation is not due to the director s breach of his or her fiduciary duty; and reimbursement for reasonable costs and expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board and committee meetings.

## **Director Stock Ownership**

In 2011, the Board established stock ownership guidelines for our non-employee directors to reinforce the importance of aligning the interests of the members of the Board with the interests of our stockholders. The guidelines require non-employee directors to meet an equity ownership level with a value equal to or greater than four times the annual retainer within five years from the later of the enactment of the guidelines (March 31, 2011) and the date the non-employee director was appointed to the Board. The non-employee director has three years to meet the incremental increase in the new stock ownership level caused by an increase in the annual retainer. We have adopted retention requirements with respect to these stock ownership guidelines whereby non-employee directors are expected to retain net shares received through an exercise of stock options or the vesting of restricted stock or phantom stock units if they have not satisfied the required equity ownership level.

The following table sets forth each non-employee director s ownership as of March 15, 2016 for stock ownership guidelines purposes:

Name	Share Ownership <sup>(1)</sup>	Market Value (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Ownership Guideline	Current Ownership Multiple
Arnaud Ajdler <sup>(3)</sup>	956,690	30,843,685	4.0x	541.1x
Jack L. Alexander	14,024	452,140	4.0x	7.9x
Larry F. Altenbaumer	16,161	521,037	4.0x	9.1x
Henry W. Fayne	13,741	443,016	4.0x	7.8x
Kenneth M. Hartwick <sup>(4)</sup>			4.0x	0.0x
Gary R. Johnson	17,334	558,854	4.0x	9.8x
Donald C.I. Lucky <sup>(4)</sup>			4.0x	0.0x
Maurice E. Moore	11,848	381,980	4.0x	6.7x
William D. Patterson	13,455	433,795	4.0x	7.6x
John P. Schauerman <sup>(5)</sup>	10,000	322,400	4.0x	5.7x

- (1) The amounts in this column were calculated in accordance with the stock ownership guidelines and include vested but unexercised stock options and exclude unvested restricted stock and phantom stock units.
- The amounts in this column were calculated in accordance with the stock ownership guidelines based on the highest reported share price for the year ended December 31, 2015 of \$32.24.
- Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Mr. Ajdler is expected to be appointed as a Class I director following the Annual Meeting. Includes 956,690 shares held by Engine Capital. Mr. Ajdler serves as Managing Member of
- (3) Engine Capital Management, LLC and certain other affiliates of Engine Capital. Mr. Ajdler and Engine Capital share voting and dispositive power over such shares.
  - Mr. Hartwick s and Mr. Lucky s appointments to the Board were effective on July 29, 2015. Mr. Hartwick and Mr.
- (4) Lucky were each granted 1,902 shares of phantom stock units on July 30, 2015, which vest ratably over the next three years.
- (5) Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Mr. Schauerman s appointment to the Board was effective on March 22, 2016.

## **Insider Trading Policy**

Our insider trading policy, among other things, prohibits our directors from hedging the economic risk of their stock ownership, holding shares of the Company s common stock in a margin account or pledging shares as collateral for a loan. The policy also prohibits trading in our securities outside of specified window periods and without pre-clearance. The policy also prohibits short-selling of the Company s securities.

## **2015 Director Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth the compensation earned by each of our non-employee directors for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015:

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Total (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>
Arnaud Ajdler <sup>(4)</sup>	0	0	0
Jack L. Alexander	84,000	74,971	158,971
Larry F. Altenbaumer	93,000	74,971	167,971
Henry W. Fayne	81,000	74,971	155,971
Kenneth M. Hartwick <sup>(5)</sup>	44,750	56,242	100,992
Gary R. Johnson	88,000	74,971	162,971
Betty R. Johnson <sup>(6)</sup>	81,000	74,971	155,971
Donald C.I. Lucky <sup>(5)</sup>	44,750	56,242	100,992
Maurice E. Moore	83,000	74,971	157,971
William D. Patterson	94,000	74,971	168,971
John P. Schauerman <sup>(7)</sup>	0	0	0

Our non-employee directors have the option of receiving between 10% and 60% of their annual retainer in the form

(1) of our common stock. The amounts in this column include the cash equivalent of the stock received by a director making this election. In 2015, Mr. Johnson received 972 shares as a portion of his annual retainer.

Messrs. Alexander, Altenbaumer, Fayne, Johnson, Moore and Patterson and Ms. Johnson were each awarded 2,557 shares of restricted stock on April 30, 2015. Mr. Hartwick and Mr. Lucky were each awarded 1,902 phantom stock units on July 30, 2015. The amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of those awards in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Roard (FASR). Accounting Standards Codification (FASR). To

- (2) accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 718. The awards vest ratably over three years. These amounts reflect our accounting expense for these awards and may not correspond to the actual value that may be recognized by the non-employee directors. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts are included in footnote 12 to our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 included in our 2015 Form 10-K.
- We ceased granting stock options to non-employee directors after 2007. Messrs. Alexander, Altenbaumer, Fayne, Johnson and Patterson and Ms. Johnson each held 8,000 stock options as of December 31, 2015. Messrs.
- (3) Alexander, Altenbaumer, Fayne, Johnson, Moore and Patterson each held 5,068 shares of restricted stock and Mr. Hartwick and Mr. Lucky each held 1,902 shares of phantom stock units as of December 31, 2015.
- Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Mr. Ajdler is expected to be appointed as a Class I director following the Annual Meeting.
- (5) Mr. Hartwick s and Mr. Lucky s appointments to the Board were effective on July 29, 2015 and they received fees and phantom stock units which were pro-rated for their length of service.
- (6) Effective October 19, 2015, Ms. Johnson resigned from the Board and was appointed Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.
- (7) Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Mr. Schauerman  $\,$  s appointment to the Board was effective on March 22, 2016.

## **COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

## Introduction

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis describes the material components of our executive officer compensation program for the following current and former officers who are named in the Executive Compensation Tables below and who are referred to as our named executive officers. Our named executive officers for 2015 were as follows:

William A. Koertner, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer;
Betty R. Johnson, Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer<sup>(1)</sup>;
Tod M. Cooper, Senior Vice President;
Gerald B. Engen, Jr., Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary;
Paul J. Evans, former Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer<sup>(2)</sup>; and Richard S. Swartz, Jr., Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

(1) Ms. Johnson was appointed Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer effective October 19, 2015.

(2) Mr. Evans served as our Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer until October 19, 2015.

## **Executive Summary**

#### 2015 Company Performance

MYR Group is a leading specialty contractor serving the electrical infrastructure market throughout the United States and Canada with the experience and expertise to complete electrical installations of any type and size. Our comprehensive services on electric transmission and distribution (T&D) networks and substation facilities include design, engineering, procurement, construction, upgrade, maintenance and repair services. Our transmission and distribution customers include investor-owned utilities, cooperatives, private developers, government-funded utilities, independent power producers, independent transmission companies, industrial facility owners and other contractors. We also provide commercial and industrial (C&I) electrical contracting services such as the design, installation, maintenance and repair of commercial and industrial wiring, installation of traffic networks and the installation of bridge, roadway and tunnel lighting for general contractors, commercial and industrial facility owners, local governments and developers throughout the western and northeastern United States.

Our Company had the following significant achievements in fiscal year 2015:

We had record revenues of approximately \$1.062 billion, an increase of 12.5% from 2014. Our backlog at December 31, 2015 was \$450.9 million, an increase of 4.0% over our backlog on December 31, 2014. We acquired E.S. Boulos Company, one of New England s largest and most experienced electrical contractors, which expanded our T&D presence and established a C&I presence in the northeast United States.

We repurchased a total of 1,183,862 shares under our share repurchase program, returning approximately \$27.0 million to stockholders.

Engineering News-Record recognized us as one of the nation s top five specialty electrical contractors for the 24 consecutive year.

#### **Pay For Performance**

We have designed our compensation programs to reward our key executive officers for their contributions to our short-term and long-term performance and to be competitive with programs offered by companies with which we compete for executive officer talent. We believe that the pay of our named executive officers should be directly linked to performance; thus our compensation programs are designed to reward strong financial

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performance and safe operations. In fiscal 2015, we did not meet our target performance goals for financial performance, resulting in below-target cash incentive and performance share payouts to our executive officers.

## 2015 Target Performance-Based Compensation

We endeavor to maintain strong compensation practices, which requires effective governance standards with respect to the oversight of our executive compensation policies and practices. Although we do not use a specific formula to determine the mix of performance-based and fixed compensation paid to our named executive officers, our emphasis on pay-for-performance resulted in performance-based compensation (which we define as performance share awards and cash awards tied to performance) representing a significant part of our named executive officers target compensation in 2015. In 2015, performance-based compensation represented approximately 58% of the target Total Direct Compensation for our CEO and an average of approximately 50% for our other named executive officers, as shown in the charts below:

As shown below for 2015, the target Total Direct Compensation for our CEO and named executive officers compared favorably with the Peer Group (as discussed below under Use of Compensation Consultants and Peer Groups ):

	2015 Target Total Direct Compensation (\$ in 000s) <sup>(1)</sup>	Median Peer Group Total Direct Compensation Based on Mercer s 2014 Report (\$ in 000s)
Chief Executive Officer	\$ 2,456	\$ 2,354
Other named executive officers (average)	\$ 969	\$ 973

2015 target total direct compensation includes base salary, target bonus under our Senior Management Incentive Plan (the SMIP) and target equity awards under our LTIP, which are valued in accordance with FASB ASC Topic (1)718. Assumptions used in the calculation of the fair value of equity awards and vesting details are included in footnote 12 to our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 included in our 2015 Form 10-K.

## **Key Features of Our Compensation Practices and Philosophy**

#### We adhere to executive compensation best practices

<u>Competitive Pay</u>. We provide our executive officers with total compensation opportunities at levels that are period peri

<u>Capped Incentive Awards</u>. Annual cash incentive awards are capped at 200% of target for our CEO and lesser pamounts for our other named executive officers and the number of performance shares that can be earned is capped at 200% of target for all named executive officers;

<u>Independent Compensation Consultant</u>. Our Compensation Committee has engaged its own independent performs an annual comprehensive market analysis of our executive compensation programs and pay levels;

<u>Peer Companies</u>. We conduct a rigorous peer group assessment and maintain a peer group that provides a valuable comparison for compensation decisions;

<u>Clawback Policy</u>. We include clawback provisions in our LTIP award agreements, which subject all equity awards punder the LTIP to the Company s right to recover awards in the event that it is determined that a participant has engaged in conduct that contributed to any material restatement of our earnings; and

<u>Risk Assessment</u>. The Compensation Committee performed a risk assessment and determined that no element of our compensation programs was reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our Company.

## What we do to align executive compensation with the interests of our shareholders

<u>Pay for Performance</u>. We granted equity awards under our LTIP that provide a mix of retention-based awards and bawards that will reward our executives for the achievement of long-term performance goals that are intended to maximize stockholder value;

bay on Pay. We annually put our named executive officer compensation to an advisory vote of our stockholders and received a positive response of over 97% of the votes cast on this proposal at our 2015 Annual Meeting;

b Stock Ownership Guidelines. We have stock ownership guidelines, with a stock retention feature, for our named executive officers; and

<u>b</u> Stockholder Input. We encourage open dialogue with stockholders to solicit input and feedback on our compensation practices and policies.

#### What we don t do

<u>No Hedging and Pledging</u>. We have an insider trading policy that prohibits our named executive officers from hedging the economic risk of their stock ownership and holding shares of the Company s common stock in a margin account or pledging shares as collateral for a loan;

<u>No Gross-ups Going Forward</u>. Since 2011, we have maintained a policy that does not include gross-up payments for excise taxes in new employment agreements; and

<u>No Single Trigger</u>. Our employment agreements with our named executive officers provide for additional severance payments and benefits only on a so-called double trigger basis, for termination without cause or for good reason following a change of control.

## **Objectives of our Compensation Programs**

We seek to maintain the competitiveness of our executive compensation program with those of our peers and competitors. Adjustments to both overall compensation and the individual components of compensation are based on various factors, including results of compensation benchmarking studies, general economic conditions, the effects of inflation or other economic forces, changes in our business operations and the related

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financial results, results from our stockholder vote on Say-on-Pay and changes in the compensation practices of our competitors. We also take into account each executive officer s individual performance when making compensation adjustments.

The primary objectives of our executive compensation program are to:

attract and retain the most talented and dedicated executives possible;

reward accountability and performance by linking compensation to the achievement of financial and safety performance goals;

motivate executive leadership and promote behavior that aligns our executive officers interests with those of our stockholders;

encourage our executives to develop business and build a backlog of profitable business to ensure our long-term success;

encourage our executives to develop business models and systems that seek out strategic opportunities, which benefit us and our stockholders;

encourage our executives to develop and maintain an understanding of our industry s competitive environment and position ourselves as a leader within our industry; and

encourage our executives to implement a culture of legal and regulatory compliance and a commitment to operating our business with the highest standards of professional conduct, ethics and compliance.

## Management s Role

The Compensation Committee oversees the executive compensation program for our named executive officers, as discussed under Compensation Committee Matters. Our management also plays an important role in setting the compensation of our named executive officers by initially recommending various aspects of incentive compensation, including financial performance goals, safety performance goals and strategic goals relating to each named executive officer. Management also makes recommendations regarding the salary, cash bonus and equity awards for our named executive officers (other than with respect to our CEO). While our management makes recommendations as to the goals and awards for named executive officers incentive compensation (other than with respect to our CEO), the Compensation Committee has final authority and complete discretion to ultimately set the compensation of our named executive officers.

At the request of the Compensation Committee, our CEO presents to the Compensation Committee his evaluation of the performance of our other named executive officers and his recommendations regarding their compensation. The Compensation Committee considers these evaluations and recommendations in determining our named executive officers salaries and the amounts that may be paid under our incentive plans.

To assist the Compensation Committee, management also prepares information tally sheets. The purpose of the tally sheets is to provide the Compensation Committee the information on key elements of actual realized compensation and potential realizable compensation for our named executive officers so that the Compensation Committee may fully evaluate our total compensation packages. Further, the Compensation Committee discusses compensation decisions with Mercer, its independent compensation consultant, and deliberates on such decisions without management present.

## **Use of Compensation Consultants and Peer Groups**

The Compensation Committee believes that it is appropriate to utilize compensation benchmarking studies of our peer and competitor companies to establish initial compensation targets because the competitiveness of our compensation

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practices greatly influences our ability to attract, motivate and retain top executive officer talent, which is an important determinant of our business success. However, the Compensation Committee believes compensation benchmarking studies should be considered only as a point of reference for measurement and not as the determinative factor for our named executive officers—compensation. The results of the studies do not supplant the significance of the individual performance of our named executive officers that the Compensation Committee considers when making compensation decisions.

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Because the information provided by compensation benchmark studies is just one of the pieces of information that is used in setting executive compensation, the Compensation Committee has discretion in determining the nature and extent of their use. Further, the Compensation Committee has discretion to determine the frequency of performing benchmarking and other studies.

We annually compare our compensation program with those companies in a peer group that the Compensation Committee evaluates together with Mercer (the Peer Group). The companies selected for inclusion in the Peer Group, which are listed below, were selected on the basis of a number of factors, including similar industry characteristics, organization size, financial characteristics such as revenues and market capitalization, as well as companies we compete against for talent. At the time of selection, all of the companies were publicly traded U.S. companies in the construction, engineering and commercial services industries with annual revenue between approximately one-third and three times our annual revenue.

During our 2014 review of the makeup of our Peer Group, we removed Michael Baker Corporation, as it was no longer publicly traded and executive compensation data was no longer available and replaced it with Furmanite Corporation given its industry characteristics and revenue. The companies included in the Peer Group for the evaluation of 2015 executive compensation levels were:

Peer Group

Aegion Corporation Ameresco, Inc.

Astec Industries, Inc.

Cal Dive International, Inc.

Comfort Systems USA, Inc.

Dycom Industries, Inc.

Furmanite Corporation

Granite Construction Incorporated Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co.

Integrated Electrical Services, Inc.

Layne Christensen Company

Matrix Service Company

Newpark Resources, Inc.

Orion Marine Group, Inc.

Pike Corporation

**Primoris Services Corporation** 

Sterling Construction Company Inc.

Team, Inc.

Tetra Tech. Inc.

TRC Companies, Inc.

Willbros Group Inc.

In October 2014, Mercer performed and presented to the Compensation Committee an executive compensation study (the Mercer Executive Compensation Review ). The Mercer Executive Compensation Review included comparisons of our executive compensation programs to the Peer Group, which assisted the Compensation Committee with designing our executive compensation program for 2015 to be competitive with the group and our markets. According to the Mercer Executive Compensation Review, MYR Group was positioned at the 54th and 47th percentile in revenue and market capitalization, respectively, of the Peer Group. The Compensation Committee generally seeks to target total executive compensation at or near the median total compensation of the Peer Group and allows business and individual performance to determine whether actual pay is above or below the median. The Compensation Committee believes that this review of Peer Group programs provides valuable information during the Compensation Committee s review and design of both the named executive officers overall compensation levels and individual components of compensation, including the allocation of compensation between long-term and short-term compensation and cash and non-cash compensation.

## **Communications with Stockholders on Executive Compensation**

At our 2015 Annual Meeting, our stockholders voted on an advisory resolution regarding the compensation of our named executive officers, which was approved by more than 97% of the votes cast on the proposal (the Say-on-Pay proposal). These results demonstrated strong stockholder support for our overall executive compensation program. The Compensation Committee considered this favorable vote and determined that our current practices and processes did not require any significant modifications to address stockholder concerns. The Compensation Committee will continue to consider the outcome of these annual advisory votes when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

In addition to our annual Say-on-Pay proposal, stockholders are encouraged to provide feedback on our corporate governance policies and our executive compensation programs, including its various components.

From time to time, we have reached out to and engaged in conversations with some of our larger stockholders regarding our compensation programs and philosophy and have generally received positive feedback on our practices. We believe that these conversations have and will better situate our Company to modify our compensation programs to address stockholder concerns on an ongoing basis. Management reports to the Compensation Committee on issues or concerns our stockholders provide with respect to our executive compensation programs. We encourage stockholders to reach out to the Board or the Compensation Committee with any feedback on our executive compensation programs. For more information on providing feedback and the related procedures, please see Corporate Governance Communications with the Board in this Proxy Statement.

## **Summary of Key 2015 Compensation Elements**

This table summarizes the material elements of our 2015 compensation program for our named executive officers.

Compensation Element	Objectives	Key Features Varies based on skills, experience,
Salary	To provide a fixed level of cash compensation to reward demonstrated experience, skills and competencies relative to the market value of the job.	level of responsibility and other factors.  Adjustments are considered annually based on individual performance, level of pay relative to the market and internal pay equity.
Senior Management Incentive Plan Awards	To reward annual corporate performance.	Annual incentive payments are cash awards based on financial and safety performance objectives.
	To align interests of our named executive officers with those of our stockholders by linking compensation with financial and safety performance.	Annual cash incentive awards are capped at 200% of salary for our CEO and lesser amounts for our other named executive officers.
	To retain named executive officers by providing market-competitive compensation.	
Long-Term Incentive Plan (Equity) Awards	To align named executive officers interests with long-term stockholder interests by linking part of each named executive officer s compensation to long-term corporate performance.	Targeted at levels that will provide total direct compensation (salary plus annual incentive plus equity awards) competitive with our Peer Group s total direct compensation.
	To provide opportunities for wealth creation and stock ownership, which promotes retention and enables us to attract and motivate our named executive officers.	Utilizes different equity types, including restricted stock and performance shares to balance the multiple objectives.
	To retain named executive officers through multi-year vesting of equity grants and multi-year performance	Restricted stock awards generally vest over three-year periods. Performance shares are earned over a three-year

periods.

performance period and the number of shares that can be earned is capped at 200% of target.

Compensation Element	Objectives	Key Features
Profit Sharing Contributions to Diversified Holdings Savings Plan	To reward annual corporate performance for our employees, including our named executive officers.	Contribute up to 10% of salary depending on the profitability of the Company.
401(k) Matching Contributions to Diversified Holdings Savings Plan	To provide certain retirement income for our employees, including our named executive officers.	Provide a match of 100% of an employee s contributions up to the first 6% of such employee s salary, up to the maximum allowed by the plan.
Financial Planning Services	To attract and retain named executive officers.	Use of a financial planning service.
Executive Perquisites	To attract and retain named executive officers.	Use of a Company vehicle or a car allowance.

## **Analysis of 2015 Compensation Decisions and Actions**

#### Salary

Salary is a critical element of our named executive officers compensation because it provides them with a base level of guaranteed monthly income as compensation for services provided to us.

The Compensation Committee generally reviews the salaries of the named executive officers annually. To assist with that review, the Compensation Committee often will refer to the salaries in effect for comparable officers at companies in the Peer Group. The Compensation Committee has typically considered such review, as well as internal comparables, individual performance, economic conditions and the Company s financial performance, in reviewing salary levels. When market or merit increases are warranted, changes in salary are generally made effective during our second quarter.

When setting salaries for our named executive officers for 2015, the Compensation Committee considered the Mercer Executive Compensation Review, as well as certain other factors, including those specified above. As a result, the Compensation Committee made market-based salary increases for certain named executive officers as outlined in the table below:

Named Executive Officer	2014 Base	2015 Base	Percen	tage
Named Executive Officer	Salary	Salary	Increas	se
Mr. Koertner	\$ 600,000	\$ 615,000	2.5	%
Ms. Johnson <sup>(1)</sup>		\$ 350,000		
Mr. Cooper	\$ 315,000	\$ 330,750	5.0	%
Mr. Engen	\$ 344,000	\$ 354,000	2.9	%
Mr. Evans <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 331,000	\$ 341,000	3.0	%
Mr. Swartz	\$ 380,000	\$ 392,000	3.2	%

<sup>(1)</sup> Effective October 19, 2015, Ms. Johnson resigned from the Board and was appointed Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.

<sup>(2)</sup> Mr. Evans served as our Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer until October 19, 2015.

#### **Senior Management Incentive Plan Awards**

The SMIP is designed to provide our named executive officers with cash performance awards payable annually to reward the achievement of certain financial and safety performance goals that we believe are strongly linked to stockholder value creation. An important factor in our decision to pay our SMIP awards in cash rather than in equity has been to ensure that our compensation program remains competitive with the programs of our direct competitors, which include private companies that primarily pay their executives with cash. Our SMIP performance targets are measured against financial performance and safety goals that are established annually by the Compensation Committee and that encourage our named executive officers to increase stockholder value by focusing on growth in revenue and earnings and safety in operations.

The payout for each named executive officer under the SMIP is dependent on a percentage of each named executive officer s salary that the Compensation Committee determines to be subject to the plan and our performance measured against the financial and safety goals established by the Compensation Committee pursuant to the SMIP. The Compensation Committee determines the percentage of each named executive officer s salary to be subject to an award under the plan based on position, market pay levels and our overall compensation philosophy, which emphasizes performance-based compensation. In connection with its review of the percentage of each named executive officer s salary that should be subject to an award under the plan for 2015 and taking into account the Mercer Executive Compensation Review, the Compensation Committee maintained the same threshold, target and maximum payable awards as in 2014 for all named executive officers, as these levels were determined to be comparable to the Peer Group.

Each named executive officer s 2015 incentive opportunity under the SMIP is provided in the table below:

	Performance Rating <sup>(1)</sup>					
	75% of	100% of	•	150% of	Coalc	
Named Executive Officer <sup>(2)</sup>	Goals	Goals		(Maximum)		
	(Threshold	(IVIAXIIIIUIII)				
	(incentive opportunity as a perce				of	
	salary)					
Mr. Koertner	42.5 %	102.5	%	200.0	%	
Messrs. Cooper and Engen	35.0 %	71.0	%	125.0	%	
Mr. Swartz	36.0 %	76.0	%	135.0	%	
Mr. Evans	33.5 %	65.0	%	110.0	%	

There is no payout under the SMIP as to each performance goal unless 75% of the performance goal is achieved. (1) The SMIP provides for a range of payouts based upon the achievement of our performance goals determined by linear interpolation between achievement levels.

(2) Ms. Johnson was not eligible to participate in the program for 2015, but will participate in the SMIP in 2016. Each named executive officer s 2015 award pursuant to the SMIP was based on pretax income as the financial performance goal and total case rate, lost time case rate and the avoidance of a catastrophic accident resulting in a fatality as the safety performance goals. We chose these particular metrics because we believe they are strongly correlated with our success, which is consistent with our compensation objective of linking named executive officers compensation with performance. The performance goals are intended to be challenging and ambitious but also realistic enough to be reasonably attainable given a concerted effort by our named executive officers in consideration of current conditions and trends.

The performance goals for target, threshold and maximum, as well as the actual level of performance achieved for SMIP plan year 2015, are displayed in the following table (dollars in thousands):

	Threshold	Target	Maximum	2015 Results
Pretax Income	\$ 39,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 78,000	\$ 44,299
Total Case Rate	2.64	1.98	1.32	1.85
Lost Time Case Rate	0.53	0.40	0.27	0.34
Catastrophic Accident	0	0	0	0

The following table shows the weighting of the performance goals, based on each individual named executive officer s level of responsibility within the Company, that were applied to that named executive officer s salary to determine

payout for awards under the SMIP in 2015:

- (1) If any catastrophic accident resulting in a fatality occurs, there is no award for this criterion; however, if no such event occurs, payout will be made at the No Event percentage of salary.
- (2) Ms. Johnson was not eligible to participate in the program for 2015, but will participate in the SMIP in 2016.

The table below sets forth for SMIP plan year 2015 the annual incentive opportunities for threshold, target and maximum performance levels, as well as the actual award amount earned for 2015. The actual payout amounts are computed based on actual 2015 performance, as outlined above.

	Pretax Income (% of Salary)		Total Case Rate (% of Salary)			Lost Time Case Rate (% of Salary)			Catastrophic Accident <sup>(1)</sup> (% of Salary)		
Named Executive Officer <sup>(2)</sup>	Thres.	Target	Max	Thres	:Target	Max	Thres	.Target	Max	Eve	Nβ nt(β) Event
Mr. Koertner	17.5	64.5	140.0	2.5	9.0	20.0	2.5	9.0	20.0	0	20.0
Mr. Cooper	17.5	45.5	87.5	2.5	6.5	12.5	2.5	6.5	12.5	0	12.5
Mr. Engen	17.5	45.5	87.5	2.5	6.5	12.5	2.5	6.5	12.5	0	12.5
Mr. Evans	17.5	42.0	77.0	2.5	6.0	11.0	2.5	6.0	11.0	0	11.0
Mr. Swartz	17.5	48.5	94.5	2.5	7.0	13.5	2.5	7.0	13.5	0	13.5

(1) Ms. Johnson was not eligible to participate in the program for 2015, but will participate in the SMIP in 2016.As part of Mr. Evans separation with the Company, he received a payout in accordance with the termination(2) provisions in his employment agreement and did not receive a payout under the SMIP. For Mr. Evans, the salary displayed is his base salary.

#### **Long-Term Incentive Compensation**

We believe that long-term performance is achieved through an ownership culture that rewards and encourages our named executive officers to foster our long-term success. We believe that an effective method to reward and encourage such success is through the use of stock-based awards. The purposes of the LTIP are to attract, motivate and retain our key employees and non-employee directors upon whose judgment, initiative and efforts the financial success and growth of our business largely depends, to provide additional incentive to our employees and directors through stock ownership and other rights that promote and recognize our financial success and growth, and to align management s interests with those of our stockholders. As part of the LTIP, we include a change in control provision that more closely aligns our interests with those of the named executive officers in the event of a change in control by allowing the Compensation Committee to adjust the LTIP awards to maintain and protect the rights of the participants in the LTIP in case of a change in control. Under the terms of the LTIP, the Compensation Committee has the authority to determine who will receive awards under the LTIP, the amounts of the awards and the limitations on those awards.

For 2015, the Compensation Committee considered the market data with respect to each named executive officer in the Mercer Executive Compensation Review, compensation levels of our Peer Group, compensation objectives of retention and stockholder value creation and individual and corporate performance. As a result of this review, the Compensation Committee approved equity award compensation under our LTIP in 2015 and allocated forty percent of the compensation to time-based restricted stock, thirty percent to ROIC-based performance shares and thirty percent to TSR-based performance shares. The Compensation Committee elected this mix of equity awards because it represented an appropriate balance of the incentives provided with the different types of equity instruments. For example, restricted stock provides a benefit by helping to retain key employees and performance shares are designed to vary the level of rewards a named executive officer receives dependent upon actual corporate performance and market results that are critical to stockholders.

The forty percent of the equity compensation award granted as time-based restricted stock will vest evenly over a three-year period beginning on the first anniversary of the grant. The number of shares of restricted stock was determined by dividing the amount of the equity compensation award allocated to restricted stock by the closing price of our common stock on the date of the grant.

The thirty percent of the equity compensation award granted as ROIC-based performance shares can be earned based on the average ROIC over a three-year performance period. We define ROIC as net income, less any dividends, divided by stockholders equity plus net debt (total debt less cash and marketable securities) at the beginning of the performance period. The number of ROIC-based performance shares earned can vary from zero to 200% of the target number of performance shares. The target number of ROIC-based

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performance shares was determined by dividing the amount of the equity compensation award allocated to ROIC performance by the closing price of the Company s common stock on the date of grant. The potential award levels are as follows:

	Performance
ROIC Performance	Shares
ROIC Performance	Earned
	(% of Target)
Equal to or Above the Maximum	200 %
Equal to the Target	100 %
Equal to the Threshold	50 %
Below the Threshold	0 %

The thirty percent of the equity compensation award granted as TSR-based performance shares can be earned based on the TSR of the Company s stock compared to the TSR of a peer group over a three-year performance period. We define TSR as the change in the fair market value, adjusted for dividends, of the Company s common stock. The number of TSR-based performance shares earned can vary from zero to 200% of the target number of performance shares. The target number of TSR-based performance shares was determined by dividing the amount of the equity compensation award allocated to TSR performance by the closing price of the Company s common stock on the date of grant. The potential award levels are as follows:

	Performance
TSR Performance	Shares
15K Ferrormance	Earned
	(% of Target)
75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile or Higher	200 %
50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	100 %
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	25 %
Less than 25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0 %

The Compensation Committee selected the TSR peer group based on criteria that included each company s industry and operational comparability. The 2015 TSR peer group includes all companies that are in either the peer group used in the Performance Graph in our 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K or the Peer Group used to set 2015 executive compensation. The 2014 TSR peer group included Argan, Inc., URS Corp. and Tutor Perini Corp., and those companies were removed from the TSR peer group because they did not appear in either the 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K or the 2015 executive compensation Peer Group. Furmanite Corporation was added to the 2015 executive compensation Peer Group, therefore it was included in the 2015 TSR peer group. In order to be counted in the final TSR calculations, a company must remain publicly traded during the entire performance period. The peer group of companies used for evaluating the Company s relative TSR performance for the 2015 grant of TSR-based performance shares was as follows:

TSR Peer Group
Aegion Corporation
Ameresco, Inc.
Ameresco, Inc.
Astec Industries, Inc.
Cal Dive International, Inc.
Comfort Systems USA, Inc.

Mastec, Inc.
Matrix Services Company
Newpark Resources, Inc.
Orion Marine Group, Inc.
Primoris Services Corporation

Darformanca

Dycom Industries, Inc. Quanta Services, Inc.

Emcor Group Sterling Construction Company Inc.

Furmanite Corporation<sup>(1)</sup>
Granite Construction Incorporated
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co.
Integrated Electrical Services, Inc.

Team, Inc.
Tetra Tech, Inc.
TRC Companies, Inc.
Willbros Group Inc.

Layne Christensen Company

<sup>(1)</sup> Team, Inc. acquired all of the outstanding shares of Furmanite Corporation in 2015. As a result, Furmanite is no longer publicly traded and will be excluded from the final TSR calculation.

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In 2015, the Compensation Committee approved equity award grants to our named executive officers in the following amounts based on grant-date fair value, consistent with the presentation in the 2015 Summary Compensation Table:

	Value of 2015 Equity Grants by Grant Type				
Named Executive Officer	Nominal Value of Equity Awards (\$)	Value of Restricted Stock (\$)	Value of ROIC Performance Shares (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Value of TSR Performance Shares (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	
William A. Koertner <sup>(2)</sup>	1,210,809	413,976	310,497	486,336	
Betty R. Johnson <sup>(3)</sup>	199,993	199,993			
Tod M. Cooper <sup>(2)</sup>	380,147	129,990	97,477	152,680	
Gerald B. Engen <sup>(2)</sup>	398,848	136,384	102,273	160,191	
Paul J. Evans <sup>(4)</sup>	350,937	119,976	89,997	140,964	
Richard S. Swartz, Jr. <sup>(2)</sup>	501,846	171,580	128,693	201,573	

The ROIC-based and TSR-based performance shares are earned over a performance period of three years and vest on December 31, 2017. The values of the performance shares have been calculated taking into consideration the probable outcome of the respective performance conditions as of the grant date. The

- (1) ROIC-based performance shares are valued at the closing price of our common stock on the grant date. Because TSR is a market-based performance metric, the Company used a Monte Carlo simulation model to calculate the fair value of the grant of TSR-based performance shares in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, which resulted in a fair value of \$47.24 per share.
- (2) The restricted stock granted to Messrs. Koertner, Cooper, Engen and Swartz vest ratably over a three-year period.
- (3) The restricted stock granted to Ms. Johnson upon her appointment as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer will cliff vest on October 19, 2020.
- Mr. Evans restricted stock vested on October 19, 2015, the date of his termination, per the terms of his restricted stock award agreement. At the end of the performance period, he will receive a pro-rata share of the performance shares earned based on the number of whole months he was employed during the performance period, per the terms of his performance shares award agreement.

The Compensation Committee made performance share awards in 2013 for the performance period running from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015 (the 2013 Performance Period ). The performance shares granted in 2013 were earned based on the relative achievement of the target level of return on equity (ROE) set at the beginning of the 2013 Performance Period. We define ROE as net income divided by total shareholders—equity at the beginning of the period. The number of performance shares earned from this award was dependent on the actual level of ROE achieved for the 2013 Performance Period, and the number of earned shares could have varied between 0% (for performance below threshold; 50% for performance at threshold) and 200% of the target number. However, in no case could the earned number of shares have exceeded 200% of the target number. The ROE target for the 2013 Performance Period was 12.0%. Based on the three-year average ROE of 11.5% for the 2013 Performance Period, 91.4% of the target performance shares awarded were earned. The chart below shows the performance share payouts for each of our named executive officers that were awarded performance shares in 2013:

	Target	Earned	Award Value
Named Executive Officer	Award	Award	at Vesting <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)
	(Shares)	(Shares)	

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William A. Koertner	16,207	14,815	305,633
Tod M. Cooper	1,012	925	19,083
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	4,051	3,703	76,393
Paul J. Evans <sup>(2)</sup>	4,051	3,394	70,018
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	4,727	4,321	89,142

<sup>(1)</sup> Award value was based on the closing stock price of \$20.63 on February 18, 2016, the vesting date.

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Mr. Evans earned award represents a pro-rata share of the granted award based on the number of whole months served during the performance period, per the terms of his performance shares award agreement. The Compensation Committee also awarded performance shares in 2014 for the performance period running from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. These performance shares will be earned based on the achievement of the target level of ROIC and relative TSR for the performance period and otherwise contain terms consistent with the performance shares granted in 2015 described above.

We do not publicly disclose future target levels of ROIC for the performance shares granted because that information constitutes confidential commercial or financial information, the disclosure of which could cause us competitive harm with regard to short-term strategies and goals. We intend to disclose this information after the conclusion of the applicable performance period. A named executive officer may earn a pro-rata share of performance shares in the event of his death, disability, retirement after reaching normal retirement age (as such is defined in the Social Security Act of 1935, as amended) or termination without cause or for good reason. The vesting of performance shares may be accelerated in the event of a named executive officer s termination without cause or for good reason following a change in control. Additional information regarding these awards may be found in the 2015 Summary Compensation Table, the 2015 Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table and under Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control.

## **Other Compensation**

At its discretion, the Compensation Committee may authorize profit sharing contributions to the Diversified Holdings Savings Plan (our 401(k) plan) accounts of our employees, including our named executive officers, subject to applicable limitations. For 2015, we paid 2% of salary in profit sharing contributions.

Additionally, our employees, including our named executive officers, receive matching contributions under our 401(k) plan. We match 100% of an employee s contributions up to the first 6% of such employee s salary, up to the maximum allowed by the plan.

Each named executive officer is eligible to utilize the financial planning service offered by the Company as a perquisite. In 2015, only Mr. Engen elected to use this service.

Each named executive officer is also eligible to participate in all other benefit plans and programs that are or in the future may be available to our other executive employees, including any health insurance or health care plan, life insurance, disability insurance, retirement plan, vacation and sick leave plan and other similar plans. In addition, each named executive officer is eligible for certain other benefits that are generally available to our employees, including reimbursement of business and entertainment expenses, reimbursement of relocation expenses and perquisites, including the choice of a car allowance or the use of a company car with a gas card. The Board may revise, amend or add to the executive officer—s benefits and perquisites as it deems advisable.

The benefits described in this section are paid to remain competitive in the marketplace. Amounts relating to certain of these benefits may be found in the All Other Compensation column of the 2015 Summary Compensation Table.

## **Exercise of Discretion in Executive Compensation Decisions**

The Compensation Committee has complete discretion to withhold payment of an award under our SMIP regardless of whether we or our named executive officers have successfully met the goals set under the SMIP. For 2015, the Compensation Committee did not exercise such discretion in the payment or non-payment of SMIP awards to our

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named executive officers.

The Compensation Committee has the authority and discretion to determine who receives and the nature of equity compensation grants under our LTIP. The Compensation Committee also has the authority to cancel outstanding grants and substitute new grants of the same or different number of shares of stock and having exercise prices that may be the same or different than the exercise price of the cancelled grants or amend the

terms of outstanding grants, provided that such amendment does not impair the rights of the grantee without the grantee s consent. The LTIP prohibits the repricing of outstanding stock options or SARs without stockholder approval.

# Employment Agreements, Severance Benefits and Change in Control Provisions

In connection with our private placement in 2007, we entered into employment agreements with each of the individuals serving as named executive officers at the time. These employment agreements (the Legacy Employment Agreements) remain in place with Messrs. Koertner, Engen and Swartz. Ms. Johnson entered into an employment agreement (the Johnson Employment Agreement) in connection with her appointment as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer in October 2015. Mr. Cooper entered into an employment agreement (the Cooper Employment Agreement) in 2015 in connection with his appointment as a Senior Vice President. Mr. Evans is no longer employed by the Company. The Legacy Employment Agreements, Johnson Employment Agreement and Cooper Employment Agreement (collectively, the Employment Agreements) provide for severance payments and benefits upon a termination of a named executive s employment without cause or for good reason, as further described below under Executive Compensation Tables Employment Agreements. We compete for executive talent in a highly competitive market in which companies routinely offer similar benefits to named executive officers. We view the cash severance and continuation of health and welfare benefits as appropriate for the named executive officers who may not be in a position to readily obtain comparable employment within a reasonable period of time due to the restrictive covenants, including a one-year non-compete covenant, in the Employment Agreements.

In addition, the Employment Agreements provide for additional severance payments and benefits upon a termination of a named executive s employment without cause or for good reason within one year following a change in control (in other words, only on a so-called double trigger basis). We believe that providing change in control benefits reduces the reluctance of our named executive officers to pursue potential change in control transactions that may be in our best interest while simultaneously preserving neutrality in negotiating and executing transactions that are favorable to us. Since 2011, the Compensation Committee has maintained a policy that it will not include gross-up payments for excise taxes as a result of a change in control pursuant to any new employment agreement. Accordingly, the Johnson Employment Agreement and Cooper Employment Agreement do not include any provisions to provide gross-up payments for excise taxes as a result of a change in control. Details regarding severance payments and benefits payable upon a termination of a named executive officer s employment following a change in control are described under Executive Compensation Tables Employment Agreements and Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control.

## **Deductibility of Executive Compensation**

In developing the compensation packages for the named executive officers, the Compensation Committee considered the deductibility of executive compensation under Section 162(m) of the IRS Code. Section 162(m) generally disallows a tax deduction for compensation that we pay to our CEO or any of the next three most highly compensated executive officers (other than our Chief Financial Officer) to the extent that the compensation for any such individual exceeds \$1,000,000 in any taxable year. However, this deduction limitation does not apply to compensation that qualifies as performance-based under Section 162(m). In order to maintain flexibility in making compensation decisions, the Compensation Committee has not adopted a policy requiring all compensation to be deductible under Section 162(m) of the IRS Code. Portions of the compensation we pay to certain of the named executive officers may not be deductible due to the application of Section 162(m) of the IRS Code and the Committee may from time to time

approve compensation that is not deductible under Section 162(m) if it determines that it is in our best interest to do so.

# **Stock Ownership Guidelines and Retention**

In order to align the interests of our executives with those of our stockholders, we require our named executive officers to attain levels of beneficial stock ownership measured based on a multiple of his or her annual base salary, as set forth below:

	Stock
Position	Ownership
	Guideline
Chief Executive Officer	5x base salary
All Other Named Executive Officers	3x base salary

The stock ownership guidelines require named executive officers to attain levels of beneficial stock ownership within five years from the later of March 31, 2011 and the date of the named executive officer s appointment to a position subject to the guidelines and three years from the effective date of an increase in compensation. We have adopted retention requirements with respect to these stock ownership guidelines whereby named executive officers are expected to retain the net shares received through an exercise of stock options and the vesting of restricted stock and performance shares if they have not reached the applicable stock ownership guidelines.

The following table sets forth each named executive officer s ownership value as of March 15, 2016:

Name	Share Ownership <sup>(1)</sup>	Market Value (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Ownership Guideline	Current Ownership Multiple
William A. Koertner	346,044	11,156,459	5.0x	18.1x
Betty R. Johnson <sup>(3)</sup>	17,156	553,116	3.0x	1.6x
Tod M. Cooper <sup>(4)</sup>	14,146	456,067	3.0x	1.4x
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	84,477	2,723,539	3.0x	7.7x
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	64,166	2,068,712	3.0x	5.3x

- (1) The amounts in this column were calculated in accordance with the stock ownership guidelines and include vested but unexercised stock options and exclude unvested restricted stock and unvested performance shares.
- (2) The amounts in this column were calculated in accordance with the stock ownership guidelines based on the highest reported share price for the year ended December 31, 2015 of \$32.24.
- (3) Effective October 19, 2015, Ms. Johnson resigned from the Board and was appointed Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.
  - (4) Mr. Cooper became subject to the stock ownership guidelines in 2015.

# **Trading Restrictions**

We also have an insider trading policy which, among other things, prohibits named executive officers from hedging the economic risk of their stock ownership, holding shares of the Company s common stock in a margin account or pledging shares as collateral for a loan. Among other restrictions, the policy also prohibits trading in our securities outside of specific window periods and without pre-clearance. The policy also prohibits short-selling of the Company s securities.

# **Clawback Arrangements**

Each of the agreements underlying equity awards granted to our named executive officers under our LTIP permits the Compensation Committee to cause us to recover shares of common stock or cash paid to the named executive officer with respect to the applicable award if:

we restate any part of our financial statements for any fiscal year or years covered by the respective award due to a material noncompliance with any applicable financial reporting requirement; and the Compensation Committee determines that the respective named executive officer is personally responsible for causing the restatement as a result of his or her personal misconduct or any fraudulent activity on the part of the named executive officer.

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For grants of restricted stock and phantom stock units, we may recover any shares that vested within the period of 18 months prior to the restatement or the net proceeds of any sales of such shares. With respect to performance shares, the amount of any cash or shares recoverable is limited to the amount by which the payments exceeded the amount that would have been paid to the named executive officer had our financial statements for the applicable restated fiscal year or years been initially filed as restated, as reasonably determined by the Compensation Committee. In the case of stock options, to the extent an applicable named executive officer exercises a stock option within a period of 18 months prior to the restatement, we may recover from the named executive officer any equity acquired by the named executive officer or any net proceeds of any exercises and sales.

## Conclusion

We have designed and administer our compensation programs in a manner that emphasizes the retention of our named executive officers and rewards them appropriately for positive results. We monitor the programs in recognition of the dynamic marketplace in which we compete for talent and will continue to emphasize pay-for-performance and equity-based incentive plans that reward our named executive officers for results aligned with the interests of our stockholders.

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## **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES**

## 2015 Summary Compensation Table

The following table shows the compensation earned by our named executive officers for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, 2013:

						Non-Equi	ty	
		Salary	Bonus <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock	Option	Incentive	All Other	Total
Name and Principal Position	Year	(\$)	(\$)	Awards <sup>(2)</sup>	Awards <sup>(2)</sup>		Comp <sup>(4)</sup>	(\$)
		(Ψ)	(Ψ)	(\$)	(\$)	Comp <sup>(3)</sup>	(\$)	(Ψ)
						(\$)		
William A. Koertner	2015	611,250		1,210,809		494,729	36,825	2,353,613
Chairman, President and	2014	600,000		1,109,590		866,337	41,100	2,617,027
Chief Executive Officer	2013	592,500		799,978	399,996	710,763	37,200	2,540,437
Betty R Johnson	2015	67,308	101,826	199,993			8,650	377,777
Senior Vice President, Chief								
Financial Officer and								
Treasurer								
Tod M. Cooper	2015	326,813		380,147		189,108	24,536	920,604
Senior Vice President								
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	2015	351,500		398,848		203,393	32,530	986,271
Senior Vice President, Chief	2014	341,500		365,553		316,669	38,750	1,062,472
Legal Officer and Secretary	2013	330,780		199,958	99,996	282,064	30,600	943,398
Paul J. Evans <sup>(5)</sup>	2015	280,854		350,937			1,192,911	1,824,702
Former Vice President,	2014	328,500		321,584		271,091	39,092	960,267
Chief								
Financial Officer and	2013	315,750		199,958	99,996	242,812	37,200	895,716
Treasurer								
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	2015	389,000		501,846		238,776	28,699	1,158,321
Senior Vice President and	2014	376,500		459,903		376,007	37,500	1,249,910
Chief Operating Officer	2013	361,000		233,324	116,658	330,532	30,600	1,072,114
Chief Operating Officer	2013	361,000		233,324	116,658	330,532	30,600	1,072,114

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents the \$100,000 sign-on cash bonus Ms. Johnson received upon her appointment on October 19, 2015 and amounts reimbursed to Ms. Johnson for COBRA payments.

Represents the aggregate grant date fair value of stock awards, including restricted stock and performance shares (Stock Awards column), and stock option awards (Option Awards column) granted under the LTIP during the applicable period in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts and vesting details are included in footnote 12 to our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year and all December 21, 2015 included in our 2015 Form 10 K. The values of the performance shares have been

<sup>(2)</sup> ended December 31, 2015 included in our 2015 Form 10-K. The values of the performance shares have been calculated taking into consideration the probable outcome of the respective performance conditions as of the grant date. These amounts reflect our accounting expense for these awards and do not correspond to the actual value that may be recognized by the officers. Below is a breakout of the 2015 performance share grant date fair values assuming probable performance and maximum performance (in the case of maximum, based on the maximum number of shares multiplied by the fair value on the grant date):

	Probable	Maximum
Named Executive Officer	Performance	Performance
	(\$)	(\$)
William A. Koertner	796,833	1,593,666
Tod M. Cooper	250,157	500,314
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	262,464	524,928
Paul J. Evans	230,961	461,922
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	330,266	660,532

Represents the dollar value of the cash awards earned under our SMIP for fiscal 2015, 2014 and 2013 for Messrs. (3) Koertner, Cooper, Engen and Swartz. Ms. Johnson was not eligible to participate in the program for 2015, but will participate in the SMIP in 2016. For further details regarding the SMIP, see

Compensation Discussion and Analysis Analysis of 2015 Compensation Decisions and Actions Senior Management Incentive Plan Awards above.

(4) The following supplemental table describes the items of compensation reported in this column for fiscal 2015:

Name	401(k) Matching Contribution (\$)	Profit Sharing Contribution (\$)	Automobile and Other Travel Expenses (\$) <sup>(A)</sup>	Financial Planning Services (\$)	Termination Payment (\$)(B)
William A. Koertner	18,000	12,225	6,600		
Betty R Johnson	5,654	1,346	1,650		
Tod M. Cooper	18,000	6,536			
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	18,000	7,030		7,500	
Paul J. Evans	16,851				1,176,060
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	18,000	7,780	2,919		

- (A) Represents the named executive officer s personal use of a company automobile or automobile and fuel allowance and related expenses and reimbursement for certain personal travel-related expenses.
- (B) As part of Mr. Evans separation from the Company, he received a payout in accordance with the termination provisions in his employment agreement.
  - The nominal value of Mr. Evans 2015 stock awards in the 2015 Summary Compensation Table includes the value of his restricted stock award and performance shares award, assuming probable performance. At the end of the
- (5) performance period, Mr. Evans will receive a pro-rated portion of the performance shares earned, based on his employment for 9 full months of the 36 month performance period, per the terms of his performance shares award agreement. The value of his pro-rated performance shares award, assuming probable performance to targets, was \$57,740 and at maximum performance would be \$115,480.

## 2015 Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table sets forth the estimated future payouts for grants of awards made to each of the named executive officers under the SMIP and LTIP for 2015:

Name Grant Date			I Future Pa on-Equity I ords <sup>(1)</sup>			•	All Other	Exercise Grant Or Base Other Value of	
		Threshold (\$)	Target Maximum (\$) (\$)		Thresho (#)	ldГarget (#)	Maximu (#)	Stock mAwards <sup>(</sup> (#)	Option Option (#) Awards (5) (\$/\$sh)
William A. Koertner		259,781	626,531	1,222,500					(4. 3-2)
	3/24/15 3/24/15				10,295	20,590	41,180	13,726	796,833 413,976
Betty R. Johnson								8,861	199,993
Tod M. Cooper		114,384	232,037	408,516					
1	3/24/15 3/24/15				3,232	6,464	12,928	4,310	250,157 129,990
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	-,,	123,025	249,565	439,375				1,0 - 0	
Liigeli, 31.	3/24/15 3/24/15				3,391	6,782	13,564	4,522	262,464 136,384
Paul J. Evans									
	3/24/15 3/24/15				2,984	5,968	11,936	3,978	230,961 119,976
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	312 <del>-1</del> 113	140,040	295,640	525,150				3,710	117,770
	3/24/15 3/24/15				4,267	8,534	17,068	5,689	330,266 171,580

The target amounts represent the potential cash payout if performance is at target levels under the SMIP. For further details regarding the SMIP, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis Analysis of 2015 Compensation

<sup>(1)</sup> Decisions and Actions Senior Management Incentive Plan Awards above. Actual amounts awarded under the SMIP were paid in 2016 and are disclosed in the 2015 Summary Compensation Table. Mr. Evans will not receive a payout under the non-equity incentive plan based on the terms of his separation agreement.

<sup>(2)</sup> These columns contain the performance-based awards only and are split evenly between ROIC-based performance shares and TSR-based performance share awards. The Target column represents the number of shares payable if the target ROIC and TSR levels are met. The Threshold column represents the number of shares payable if the minimum performance target is met. The Maximum column represents the maximum number of shares payable if the maximum performance target is exceeded. The performance period for these shares is January 1, 2015 through

December 31, 2017. At the end of the performance period, Mr. Evans will receive a pro-rated portion of the performance shares earned, based on his employment for 9 full months of the 36 month performance period, per the terms of his performance shares award agreement.

- All restricted stock awards were granted under the LTIP. The restricted stock awards granted on March 24, 2015 to Messrs. Koertner, Cooper, Engen and Swartz will vest ratably over a three-year period. The restricted stock
- (3) awarded to Ms. Johnson will cliff vest on October 19, 2020. Mr. Evans restricted stock, which was granted on March 24, 2015, vested on October 19, 2015, the date of his termination, per the terms of his restricted stock award agreement.
  - (4) No stock options were awarded in 2015.
- Represents the aggregate grant date fair value of restricted stock and performance shares granted under the LTIP during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. The values of the performance shares have been calculated taking into consideration the probable outcome of the respective performance conditions as of the grant date. The fair value per share of the restricted stock 43

and ROIC-based performance awards granted on March 24, 2015 was \$30.16. The fair value per share of the TSR-based performance awards granted on March 24, 2015, which are based on a market-based measure, was \$47.24 which was determined using a Monte Carlo simulation. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts and vesting details are included in footnote 12 to our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 included in our 2015 Form 10-K. These amounts reflect our accounting expense for these awards and may not correspond to the actual value that may be recognized by the officers.

# **Employment Agreements**

Under each Employment Agreement, the officer is eligible to receive salary, an annual target bonus, as defined under the SMIP, use of a company car and gas card or a car allowance in accordance with the Company s policy, and is eligible to participate in all incentive, 401(k), profit sharing, health and welfare benefit plans, policies and arrangements applicable generally to our other similarly-situated executive officers. Subject to prior notice, each Employment Agreement automatically renews annually for an additional one-year term.

Each Employment Agreement contains non-competition covenants restricting the ability of the named executive officer to compete with us, to solicit our clients or to recruit our employees during the term of his employment and for a period of one year thereafter and prohibiting him from disclosing confidential information and trade secrets at any time during or after his employment.

Each Employment Agreement generally terminates upon the named executive officer s:

death; disability;

termination for cause by the Company or for good reason by the employee (as both are defined in the Employment Agreements and generally described below);

termination without cause or for good reason; or

termination without cause or for good reason following a Change in Control (as defined in each Employment Agreement and generally described below).

If termination results from any of the foregoing, each named executive officer would be entitled to all compensation earned and all benefits and reimbursements due through the date of termination. Additionally, if termination results from any of the reasons below, the named executive officer would be entitled to the following additional payments and/or benefits:

Reason for Termination	Potential Payment(s)				
Disability	Long-term disability benefits pursuant to the terms of any long-term disability policy provided to similarly-situated employees of the Company in which the named executive officer participates.				
Without cause or for good reason	Lump-sum payment of twice the named executive officer s base salary and target annual incentive.				

Company-funded benefit continuation coverage for the named executive officer and eligible dependents for a period of two years, subject to forfeiture in the event the named executive officer breaches the restrictive covenants or becomes reemployed in the two-year period following his termination.

Reason for Termination

Potential Payment(s)

Lump-sum payment of three times the named executive officer s base salary and target annual incentive.

Without cause or for good reason within 12 months following a change in control, a so-called double trigger provision

Company-funded benefit continuation coverage for the named executive officer and eligible dependents for a period of two years, subject to forfeiture in the event the named executive officer becomes reemployed in the two-year period following his termination.

Gross-up payments for excise taxes, under the Legacy Employment Agreements (the Company does not include such payments in new employment agreements for named executive officers).

Each Employment Agreement for the named executive officers generally defines cause as a named executive officer s:

material breach of the non-competition provisions of the named executive officer s Employment Agreement; commission of a criminal act by the named executive officer against the Company, including but not limited to fraud, embezzlement or theft;

conviction or plea of no contest or nolo contendre to a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude; or failure or refusal to carry out, or comply with, in any material respect, any lawful directive of the Board that is not cured within 30 days after the receipt of written notice from the Company.

Good reason exists under each Employment Agreement if, among other things, such named executive officer s base salary and/or annual target bonus opportunity is reduced, his or her duties are materially reduced, he or she is required to relocate to a work site more than 50 miles from his or her current work site or if the Company materially breaches a material provision of the named executive officer s Employment Agreement and fails to cure such breach within 30 days of the receipt of written notice of the breach.

Each Employment Agreement for the named executive officers generally defines a change in control as the occurrence of a change in the ownership of the Company, a change in the effective control of the Company or a change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the Company s assets as defined in Treasury Regulation §§ 1.409A-3(i)(5)(v), (vi) and (vii), respectively. As described above, if a named executive officer is terminated without cause or for good reason within 12 months following a change in control, the named executive officer would be entitled to all compensation earned and all benefits and reimbursements due through the date of termination, as well as to lump-sum payment of three times the named executive officer s base salary, three times target annual incentive and company-funded benefit continuation coverage for the named executive officer and eligible dependents for a period of two years, subject to forfeiture in the event the named executive officer becomes reemployed in the two-year period following his termination and, under the Legacy Employment Agreements only, gross-up payments for any excise taxes incurred under Sections 280G.

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Change in control is similarly defined in the LTIP. Under the terms of the LTIP award agreements may provide for the effect of a change in control, which may include any one or more of the following:

the acceleration or extension of time periods for purposes of exercising, vesting in or realizing gain from any award granted under the LTIP;

the waiver or modification of performance or other conditions related to the payment or other rights under an award; provision for the cash settlement of an award for an equivalent cash value, as determined by the Compensation Committee; or

other modifications or adjustments to an award as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate to maintain and protect the rights and interests of plan participants upon or following a change in control.

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# **Outstanding Equity Awards at 2015 Fiscal Year End**

The following table sets forth for each named executive officer outstanding equity awards as of the end of the 2015 fiscal year:

		OPTION	AWARDS	S		STOCK A	WARDS		
Name (a)	Grant Date	Number of Securities Underlyin Unexercis Options (# Exercisab (b)(1)	ig∪nderiyi edinexerci Options (#	Exercis Sed Price (\$) (d)	Option Expiration Date (e)	Number of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (#) (f)	Shares of	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested (#) (h)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested (\$) (i) <sup>(2)</sup>
William A. Koertner	12/20/07	110,000		13.00	12/20/17				
	3/24/10 3/24/11 3/23/12 3/25/13 3/24/11 3/23/12 3/25/13 3/24/14 3/24/15 3/24/14	28,679 25,258 35,635 22,710	11,355	17.18 24.18 17.48 24.68	3/24/20 3/24/21 3/23/22 3/25/23	2,481 <sup>(3)</sup> 6,864 <sup>(3)</sup> 9,724 <sup>(3)</sup> 11,165 <sup>(3)</sup> 13,726 <sup>(3)</sup>	51,133 141,467 200,412 230,111 282,893	25,120 <sup>(4)</sup> 20,590 <sup>(5)</sup>	517,723 424,360
Betty R. Johnson	12/20/07	8,000		13.00	12/20/17				
	10/19/15					8,861 (7)	182,625		
Tod M. Cooper	12/20/07	9,212		13.00	12/20/17				
	3/24/10 3/24/11 3/23/12 3/25/13 3/24/11 3/23/12 3/25/13 8/12/13	1,911 1,403 2,969 1,419	710	17.18 24.18 17.48 24.68	3/24/20 3/24/21 3/23/22 3/25/23	137 (3) 572 (3) 607 (3) 6,708 (8)	2,824 11,789 12,510 138,252		

	3/24/14 3/24/15 3/24/14 3/24/15					,	(3) (3)	50,020 88,829	5,460 <sup>(4)</sup> 6,464 <sup>(5)</sup>	112,531 133,223
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	12/20/07	32,000		13.00	12/20/17					
υ,	3/24/10	9,559		17.18	3/24/20					
	3/24/11	7,296		24.18	3/24/21					
	3/23/12	10,294		17.48	3/23/22					
	3/25/13	5,677	2,839	24.68	3/25/23					
	3/24/11	- ,	,			716	(3)	14,757		
	3/23/12					1,983	(3)	40,870		
	3/25/13					2,431	(3)	50,103		
	3/24/14					3,678	(3)	75,804		
	3/24/15					4,522		93,198		
	3/24/14					•		•	8,276 (4)	170,568
	3/24/15								6,782 (5)	139,777
			(ce	ontinued	on next pag	<i>e</i> )				

		OPTION	AWAR	DS		STOCK A	AWARDS		
Name (a)	Grant Date	Number of Securitie Underlyi Unexerci Options (# Exercisal (b)(1)	of sSecuriti nIgnderly isIchexere Options (#	es Option Exercises Exercised Price (\$) (d)	Option Expiration Date (e)	Stock That	Market Value of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$) (g) <sup>(2)</sup>	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested (#) (h)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested (\$) (i) <sup>(2)</sup>
Paul J. Evans <sup>(6)</sup>	1/3/12	23,734		19.46	1/17/16				
Zvans	3/25/13 3/24/14 3/24/15	8,516		24.68	1/17/16			4,246 <sup>(4)</sup> 1,492 <sup>(5)</sup>	87,510 30,750
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	12/20/07	32,000		13.00	12/20/17				
	3/24/10 3/24/11 3/23/12 3/25/13 3/24/11 5/12/11 3/23/12 3/25/13 3/24/14 3/24/15	9,559 8,419 11,878 6,623	3,312	17.18 24.18 17.48 24.68	3/24/20 3/24/21 3/23/22 3/25/23	827 (3) 6,688(9) 2,288(3) 2,836(3) 4,627(3) 5,689(3)	17,044 137,840 47,156 58,450 95,362 117,250	10,412 <sup>(4)</sup> 8,534 <sup>(5)</sup>	214,591 175,886

The options in column (b) with an option expiration date of December 20, 2017 were granted under the stockholder-approved LTIP and vested ratably over a four-year period. The options with an expiration date of

The restricted stock awards granted on March 24, 2010, March 24, 2011, March 23, 2012 and March 25, 2013 vest

<sup>(1)</sup> January 17, 2016 were granted under the stockholder-approved LTIP and vested upon the executive s termination, as per the terms of his stock option agreement. All other options were granted under the stockholder-approved LTIP and vest or vested ratably over a three-year period.

<sup>(2)</sup> The closing price of \$20.61 of the Company's shares on December 31, 2015 was used to determine the market values shown in columns (g) and (i).

<sup>(3)</sup> ratably over a five-year period while the restricted stock awards granted on March 24, 2014 and March 24, 2015 vest ratably over a three-year period. These restricted stock awards are subject to certain clawback provisions.

<sup>(4)</sup> These performance share awards will cliff vest on December 31, 2016, and are split evenly between the achievement of certain specified levels of the Company s ROIC over a performance measurement period from

January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016 and the Company s relative TSR compared to a peer group of companies from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016. These performance stock awards are subject to certain clawback provisions. Target award shown: ROIC-based award may be earned between threshold (50% of target) and maximum (200% of target) and TSR-based award may be earned between threshold (25% of target) and maximum (200% of target), although the minimum payout for either award is zero.

These performance share awards will cliff vest on December 31, 2017, and are split evenly between the achievement of certain specified levels of the Company s ROIC over a performance measurement period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017 and the Company s relative TSR compared to a peer group of companies

(5) from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017. These performance stock awards are subject to certain clawback provisions. Target award shown: ROIC-based award may be earned between threshold (50% of target) and maximum (200% of target) and TSR-based award may be earned between threshold (25% of target) and maximum (200% of target), although the minimum payout for either award is zero.

Upon Mr. Evans separation from the Company, pursuant to his stock option award agreements, all of his unvested stock options immediately vested. His stock options were exercisable over the 90 day period after his separation,

- (6) which ended on January 17, 2016. He is entitled to a pro-rated payout of his performance share awards based on the number of the full months of his employment during the measurement period, as specified in his performance shares award agreement.
  - This restricted stock award was granted to Ms. Johnson upon her appointment as Senior Vice President, Chief
- (7) Financial Officer and Treasurer. The award will cliff vest on October 19, 2020. This restricted stock award is subject to certain clawback provisions.
- (8) This restricted stock award was granted to Mr. Cooper upon his appointment as Senior Vice President. The award will cliff vest on August 12, 2018. This restricted stock award is subject to certain clawback provisions.
- (9) This restricted stock award was granted to Mr. Swartz upon his promotion to Chief Operating Officer. The award will cliff vest on May 12, 2016. This restricted stock award is subject to certain clawback provisions.

# 2015 Option Exercises and Stock Vested

The following table sets forth for each named executive officer the activity for stock option exercises and vesting of stock awards during the year ended December 31, 2015:

Name	Option Awa Number of Shares Acquired Upon Exercise (#)	Value Realized Upon Exercise (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Award Number of Shares Acquired Upon Vesting (#) <sup>(2)</sup>	Value Realized Upon Vesting (\$)(3)
William A. Koertner	69,632	1,861,448	32,463	842,875
Tod M. Cooper			2,958	80,728
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	10,894	171,601	9,030	238,334
Paul J. Evans			22,404	528,141
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	11,577	284,139	10,522	277,654

Amounts reflect the difference between the exercise price of the option and the market price of our common stock at the time of exercise.

The amounts shown include restricted stock that vested on March 23, March 24 and March 25, 2015 and

<sup>(2)</sup> performance shares awarded under our LTIP for the 2013 Performance Period which ended on December 31, 2015. For Mr. Evans, the amount shown also includes restricted stock that vested on January 3, 2015 and October 19, 2015.

<sup>(3)</sup> The amounts shown are calculated based on the closing market price of our common stock on the date of vesting.

# **Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control**

As described above under Employment Agreements, our named executive officers have severance and change in control clauses in their Employment Agreements. The following table summarizes and quantifies the compensation that would have become payable to each current executive officer upon termination or a change in control (and qualifying termination) on December 31, 2015, given the named executive officers compensation and service levels as of such date:

Name	Benefit	Termination due to Disability <sup>(1)</sup>	Termination without Cause or for Good Reason <sup>(2)</sup>	Termination without Cause or for Good Reason within 12 months following a Change in Control <sup>(3)</sup>
William A. Koertner	Severance pay <sup>(5)</sup>	269,654	2,490,750	3,736,125
	Welfare benefits	22,806	105,240	105,240
	Accelerated equity <sup>(6)</sup>	1,355,305	1,355,305	1,848,099
	Total <sup>(4)</sup>	1,647,765	3,951,295	5,689,464
Betty R. Johnson <sup>(7)</sup>	Severance pay <sup>(5)</sup>	145,385	700,000	1,050,000
	Welfare benefits			
	Accelerated equity <sup>(6)</sup>	182,625	182,625	182,625
	Total <sup>(4)</sup>	328,010	882,625	1,232,625
Tod M. Cooper	Severance pay <sup>(5)</sup>	145,021	1,131,165	1,696,748
	Welfare benefits	12,384	57,144	57,144
	Accelerated equity <sup>(6)</sup>	413,319	413,319	549,978
	Total <sup>(4)</sup>	570,724	1,601,628	2,303,870
Gerald B. Engen, Jr.	Severance pay <sup>(5)</sup>	155,215	1,210,680	1,816,020
	Welfare benefits	23,184	115,656	115,656
	Accelerated equity <sup>(6)</sup>	422,745	422,745	585,077
	Total <sup>(4)</sup>	601,144	1,749,081	2,516,753
Richard S. Swartz, Jr.	Severance pay <sup>(5)</sup>	171,877	1,379,840	2,069,760
	Welfare benefits	23,184	117,408	117,408
	Accelerated equity <sup>(6)</sup>	659,325	659,325	863,579
	Total <sup>(4)</sup>	854,386	2,156,573	3,050,747

Represents the amount of salary continuation and other benefits to which the named executive officer is entitled under the terms of our long-term disability policy for a period of 180 days from the date of termination due to long-term disability. After six months of salary continuation, as provided by us, the named executive officer will be eligible for benefits under the terms of our long-term disability insurance plan, which provides a benefit equal to 60% of the named executive officer s monthly base salary (up to a maximum monthly benefit of \$10,000) until age 65 or older, as defined in the plan.

(2)

Represents the sum of (a) twice the sum of the named executive officer s base salary and target annual incentive (for 2015, the target annual incentive was 102.5% of annual salary for Mr. Koertner, 76.0% of annual salary for Mr. Swartz and 71.0% of annual salary for Messrs. Cooper and Engen) and (b) company-funded benefit continuation coverage for the named executive officer and eligible dependents under our welfare benefit plans in which the named executive officer is a participant for a period of two years.

Represents the sum of (a) three times the sum of the named executive officer s base salary and target annual incentive (for 2015, the target annual incentive was 102.5% of annual salary for Mr. Koertner, 76.0% of annual

- (3)salary for Mr. Swartz and 71.0% of annual salary for Messrs. Cooper and Engen) and (b) company-funded benefit continuation coverage for the named executive officer and eligible dependents under our welfare benefit plans in which the named executive officer is a participant for a period of two years.
  - The amounts shown above do not include any gross-up payment which may be due with respect to the excise tax imposed pursuant to Section 4999 of the IRS Code. Based on the following assumptions: a termination of employment without cause (or for good reason) on December 31, 2015 and a per share value on that date of \$20.61 would have entitled these named executive officers to the following gross up payments: \$983.504 (Mr. Engen) and
- (4) would have entitled these named executive officers to the following gross-up payments: \$983,504 (Mr. Engen) and \$1,057,889 (Mr. Swartz). Ms. Johnson and Mr. Cooper are not eligible to receive such gross-up. The foregoing does not take into account any values that could be attributed to a covenant not to compete. A covenant not to compete would reduce the amounts subject to an excise tax (and therefore potentially any amount necessary to gross up the executive in respect of such excise tax). Each of our executives is subject to a one-year non-compete.
- (5) Severance pay includes the named executive officer s base salary and target annual incentive applicable to the type of severance or change in control payment shown.
  - Accelerated equity reflects the amount of compensation that each named executive officer would receive upon the accelerated vesting of any outstanding unvested stock-based awards as of the date of termination. The compensation amount shown is based upon (a) the amount of unvested stock options and unvested restricted shares outstanding as of December 31, 2015, (b) the amount of performance shares outstanding as of December 31, 2015 that are expected to be earned prorated for the length of service completed as of December 31, 2015 for termination without cause or for good reason or all performance shares outstanding for termination without cause or for good reason within 12 months following a change of control and (c) the closing market price of a share of our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market on December 31, 2015, which was \$20.61 per share. The
- (6) options outstanding times the difference between the closing market price and the exercise or strike price of the option. The compensation amount for the unvested restricted stock is calculated by multiplying the number of shares of unvested restricted stock times the closing market price. The compensation amount for the unvested performance shares for termination without cause or for good reason is calculated by multiplying the unvested performance shares by the closing price and then multiplying that amount by the percentage earned (number of months the executive worked from date of grant to date of termination divided by the number of months in the vesting period for the performance shares). The compensation amount for unvested performance shares for termination without cause or for good reason within 12 months following a change of control is calculated by multiplying the unvested performance shares by the market closing price on the date of termination.
- (7) On December 31, 2015, Ms. Johnson was not yet eligible to participate in the SMIP and was not eligible to receive the health insurance portion of welfare benefits.

Mr. Evans left the Company on October 19, 2015. His employment agreement provided for severance benefits consisting of an aggregate cash payment of \$1,176,060, representing severance and health insurance. In addition, the vestings of 14,270 shares of restricted stock and 8,772 non-qualified stock options held by Mr. Evans were accelerated in connection with his termination, per the terms of his award agreements. Mr. Evans will also receive a pro-rata share of any performance shares earned at the end of the performance periods, based on the number of whole months he was employed during the performance periods, per his performance shares award agreements.

# PROPOSAL NO. 2. ADVISORY RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

As required under Section 14A of the Exchange Act, we are asking stockholders to approve an advisory resolution on the compensation of our named executive officers as reported in this Proxy Statement. As described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this Proxy Statement, the Compensation Committee has designed our executive compensation program to align each named executive officer s compensation with our short-term and long-term performance and to provide the compensation and incentives needed to attract, motivate and retain the named executive officers who are crucial to our success. We urge stockholders to read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and the related tables and narratives, which describe in more detail how our named executive officer compensation policies and procedures operate and how they achieve our compensation objectives. All of this information provides detailed discussion and analysis of the compensation of our named executive officers including the following:

We pay for performance. We align executive compensation with short-term and long-term Company-wide, business unit and individual performance. Generally, we target about half of our named executive officer compensation as performance-based compensation. In fiscal 2015, we did not meet our target performance goals for financial performance, resulting in below-target cash incentive and performance share payouts to our executive officers. We have compensation practices that ensure leadership, decision-making and actions that are aligned with our short- and long-term goals without taking inappropriate or unnecessary risks. The practices are discussed in detail in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and include:

We have stock ownership guidelines for directors and executive officers; We have a long-standing insider trading policy, which prohibits, among other activities, the pledging of and hedging transactions with respect to our common stock;

We offer limited executive officer perquisites; and

We periodically review the risk profile of our compensation programs and have significant risk mitigators, such as limits on incentive awards, stock holding requirements and clawback provisions.

The Compensation Committee acts prudently in making decisions. All members of the Compensation Committee are independent directors. The Compensation Committee has established a thorough process for the review and approval of compensation program design, practices and amounts awarded to our executive officers. The Compensation Committee engaged and received advice from an independent, third-party compensation consultant, and, using that advice, selected a peer group of companies to compare to our named executive officers compensation.

We ask our stockholders to participate annually in this review and indicate their support for our named executive officer compensation set forth in this Proxy Statement. This proposal, commonly known as a Say-on-Pay proposal, gives our stockholders the opportunity to express their views on our named executive officers compensation. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this Proxy Statement. We are asking our stockholders to vote FOR the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the Company s stockholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company s named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company s Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC, including the Compensation Discussion and

Analysis, the 2015 Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and disclosures.

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