

RBC Bearings INC
Form DEF 14A
July 26, 2013

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

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

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

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

RBC BEARINGS INCORPORATED

(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):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(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):

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

RBC Bearings Incorporated

One Tribology Center

Oxford, Connecticut 06478

July 26, 2013

To our Stockholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the RBC Bearings Incorporated annual meeting of stockholders at 9:00 a.m., local time, on September 12, 2013 at the offices of RBC Bearings Incorporated, 102 Willenbrock Road, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478. The attached Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement describes all known items to be acted upon by stockholders at the meeting.

It is important that your shares are represented at the annual meeting, whether or not you plan to attend. To ensure your shares will be represented, we ask that you vote your shares using the enclosed proxy form for registered stockholders or the proxy voting instruction form for stockholders who hold shares through a broker or other nominee. If you vote by internet or telephone, it is not necessary for you to return your proxy form or voting instruction form in the mail. Please vote your shares as soon as possible.

If you are a registered stockholder and plan to attend the annual meeting, you will be required to present the detachable bottom portion of the enclosed proxy form to gain admission. If you hold shares through a broker or other nominee, you will be required to present a current statement from that institution showing an RBC Bearings Incorporated stockholding. Please note that the document evidencing your shareholdings, to be used to gain entry to the meeting, is non-transferable.

Please vote your shares promptly and join us at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael J. Hartnett

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To our Stockholders:

The 2013 annual meeting of stockholders of RBC Bearings Incorporated will be held at 102 Willenbrock Road, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478, on Thursday, September 12, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m. local time. At the meeting, the holders of the Company's outstanding common stock will consider and vote on the following matters:

- (1) the election of three directors in Class I to serve a term of three years and the election of one director in Class III to serve a term of one year;
- (2) the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2014;
- (3) the approval of our 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan with the number of authorized shares to be issued under the 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan equal to 1,500,000;
- (4) to consider a resolution regarding the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation; and
- (5) any other matter that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Stockholders of record at the close of business on July 16, 2013 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. The directions to the meeting can be found in Appendix A of the attached proxy statement.

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT:

Whether or not you expect to be present at the meeting, please vote your shares by following the instructions on the enclosed proxy card or voting instruction card. If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other recordholder, you may be able to vote by telephone or internet. Their procedures should be described in the voting

form they send you. Any person voting by proxy has the power to revoke it at any time prior to its exercise at the meeting in accordance with the procedures described in the accompanying proxy statement.

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

Please note that space limitations make it necessary to limit attendance to stockholders and one guest. Admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., and seating will begin at 8:30 a.m. Each stockholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Stockholders holding stock in brokerage accounts ("street name" holders) will also need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting stock ownership as of the record date. Cameras (including cellular phones with photographic capabilities), recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Dr. Michael J. Hartnett
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

July 26, 2013

ONE TRIBOLOGY CENTER

OXFORD, CONNECTICUT 06478

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held September 12, 2013

PROXY STATEMENT

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of RBC Bearings Incorporated (the “Company”) is soliciting proxies from its stockholders to be used at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on Thursday, September 12, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m., local time, at 102 Willenbrock Road, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478, and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. This proxy statement, a proxy card and the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 30, 2013 are being mailed, or made available via the internet as described below, to stockholders on or about July 26, 2013. The fiscal years ended April 2, 2011, March 31, 2012, March 30, 2013 and March 29, 2014 are referred to respectively as “fiscal 2011”, “fiscal 2012”, “fiscal 2013” and “fiscal 2014” in this proxy statement.

This year, the Company is furnishing proxy materials to stockholders via the internet. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the “Notice”) by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials unless you specifically request one. The Notice instructs you on how to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy statement and annual report as well as how to submit your proxy over the internet. If you received the Notice and would still like to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials, you should follow the instructions for requesting these materials included in the Notice. We plan to mail the Notice to stockholders on or about July 26, 2013. We will also continue to mail a printed copy of this proxy statement and form of proxy to certain stockholders and we expect that mailing to also begin on or about July 26, 2013.

ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Why did I receive these materials?

We are soliciting proxies for the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders. You are receiving a proxy statement because you owned shares of our common stock on July 16, 2013 (the “Record Date”), and that entitles you to vote at the meeting. By use of a proxy, you can vote whether or not you attend the meeting. This proxy statement describes the matters on which we would like you to vote and provides information on those matters so that you can make an informed decision.

What information is contained in this proxy statement?

The information in this proxy statement relates to the proposals to be voted on at the annual meeting, the voting process, our Board and committees thereof, the compensation of directors and executive officers and other information that the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) requires us to provide annually to our stockholders.

How may I obtain RBC Bearings’ 10-K and other financial information?

A copy of our 2013 Annual Report, which includes our 2013 Form 10-K, is enclosed and incorporated by reference herein.

Stockholders may request another free copy of our 2013 Annual Report, which includes our 2013 Form 10-K, from:

Corporate Secretary
RBC Bearings Incorporated
One Tribology Center
Oxford, CT 06478

We will also furnish any exhibit to the 2013 Form 10-K if specifically requested. Stockholders may also find other filings with the SEC and corporate governance and other information on the investor relations page of our website at

<http://investor.rbcbearings.com/>.

What is the purpose of the annual meeting?

At our annual meeting, stockholders will act upon the matters outlined in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. In addition, management will be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the Record Date are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. If you were a stockholder of record on the Record Date, you will be entitled to vote all of the shares that you held on that date at the meeting, or any postponements or adjournments of the meeting.

How many votes do I have?

You will be entitled to one vote for each outstanding share of RBC Bearings Incorporated common stock you owned as of the Record Date on each matter considered at the meeting. As of July 16, 2013, there were 22,826,455 shares of the Company's common stock outstanding and eligible to vote. There is no cumulative voting.

Who can attend the meeting?

Subject to space availability, all stockholders as of the Record Date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the meeting, and each may be accompanied by one guest. Since seating is limited, admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., and seating will begin at 8:30 a.m. If you attend, please note that you may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Cameras (including cell phones with photographic capabilities), recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

Please also note that if you hold your shares in “street name” (that is, through a broker, bank or other nominee), you will also need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting your stock ownership as of the Record Date and check in at the registration desk at the meeting.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the meeting by marking the appropriate box on the enclosed proxy card or, if you vote by telephone or internet, indicating your plans when prompted.

What constitutes a quorum?

The presence at the meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of the common stock outstanding on the Record Date will constitute a quorum, permitting the conduct of business at the meeting. As of July 16, 2013, 22,826,455 shares of common stock, representing the same number of votes, were outstanding and eligible to vote. Thus, the presence of the holders of common stock representing at least 11,413,228 votes will be required to establish a quorum.

Proxies received by the Company but marked as abstentions and broker non-votes will be included in the calculation of the number of votes considered to be present at the meeting.

How do I vote?

If you are a holder of record (that is, your shares are registered in your own name with our transfer agent), you can vote either in person at the annual meeting or by proxy without attending the annual meeting. We urge you to vote by proxy even if you plan to attend the annual meeting so that we will know as soon as possible that enough votes will be present for us to hold the meeting. If you attend the meeting in person, you may vote at the meeting and your proxy will not be counted. You can vote by proxy by completing, dating and signing the enclosed proxy card and returning it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

If you hold your shares in “street name,” you must either direct the bank, broker or other record holder of your shares as to how to vote your shares, or obtain a proxy from the bank, broker or other record holder to vote at the meeting. Please refer to the voter instruction cards used by your bank, broker or other record holder for specific instructions on methods of voting, including by telephone or using the internet.

Your shares will be voted as you indicate. If you return the proxy card but you do not indicate your voting preferences, then the individuals named on the proxy card will vote your shares in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board and management do not now intend to present any matters at the annual meeting other than those outlined in the Notice of the Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Should any other matter requiring a vote of stockholders arise, stockholders returning the proxy card confer upon the individuals named on the proxy card discretionary authority to vote the shares represented by such proxy on such other matter in the manner they consider appropriate.

If you do not specify on the enclosed proxy card that is sent to the Company (or when giving your proxy over the internet or telephone) how you want to vote your shares, the proxy holders will vote them "FOR" the election of all nominees for director as set forth under Item 1, "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm under Item 2, "FOR" the approval of our 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan with the number of authorized shares to be issued under the 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan equal to 1,500,000 under Item 3; and "FOR" the approval of the resolution regarding the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation under Item 4.

Can I change my vote after I return my proxy card?

Yes. If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke or change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with the Secretary of the Company a notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date or by attending the annual meeting and voting in person. For shares you hold beneficially in "street name," you may change your vote by submitting new voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee or, if you have obtained a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other nominee giving you the right to vote your shares, by attending the meeting and voting in person. In either case, the powers of the proxy holders will be suspended if you attend the meeting in person and so request, although attendance at the meeting will not by itself revoke a previously granted proxy.

Who counts the votes?

Votes will be counted by employees of Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and certified by the Inspector of Election present at the meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, your signed proxy card is returned directly to Broadridge for tabulation. If you hold your shares in "street name" through a broker, bank or other nominee, your broker, bank or other nominee will return one proxy card to Broadridge on behalf of all of its clients.

What are the Board's recommendations?

Unless you give other instructions on your proxy card, the persons named as proxy holders on the proxy card will vote in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board's recommendations are set forth together with the description of each item in this proxy statement. In summary, the Board recommends a vote FOR each of the proposals.

Will stockholders be asked to vote on any other matters?

To the knowledge of the Company and its management, stockholders will vote only on the matters described in this proxy statement. However, if any other matters properly come before the meeting, the persons named as proxies for stockholders will vote on those matters in the manner they consider appropriate.

What vote is required to approve each item?

Election of Directors. Directors are elected (Item 1) by a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each of the director nominees. A properly executed proxy marked "withhold authority", with respect to the election of one or more directors, will not be voted with respect to the director or directors indicated, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum.

Approval of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2014 (Item 2) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast.

Approval of our 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan with the number of authorized shares to be issued under the 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan equal to 1,500,000. The approval of our 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan with the number of authorized shares to be issued under the 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan equal to 1,500,000 (Item 3) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast.

Approval of the “Say on Pay” proposal. The approval of the resolution regarding the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation in the “Say on Pay” proposal (Item 4) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast.

A properly executed proxy marked “abstain” with respect to any matter will not be voted, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum. Accordingly, an abstention will have the effect of a negative vote.

How are votes counted?

In the election of directors, you may vote “FOR” the nominee or your vote may be “WITHHELD” with respect to the nominee. You may not cumulate your votes for the election of directors.

For the ratification of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2014 (Item 2) and the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation in the “Say on Pay” proposal (Item 4) you may vote “FOR,” “AGAINST” or “ABSTAIN.”

If you elect to “ABSTAIN,” the abstention has the same effect as a vote “AGAINST.” If you provide specific instructions with regard to certain items, your shares will be voted as you instruct on such items.

If you hold your shares in “street name” through a broker, bank or other nominee rather than directly in your own name, then your broker, bank or other nominee is considered the stockholder of record, and you are considered the beneficial owner of your shares. The Company has supplied copies of its proxy materials for its 2013 annual meeting of stockholders to the broker, bank or other nominee holding your shares of record, and they have the responsibility to send these proxy materials to you. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other nominee on how to vote your shares at the annual meeting. The broker, bank or other nominee that is the stockholder of record for your shares is obligated to provide you with a voting instruction card for you to use for this purpose. If you are a beneficial owner and your broker, bank or other nominee holds your shares in its name, the broker, bank or other nominee is permitted to vote your shares on the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm, even if the broker, bank or other nominee does not receive voting instructions from you.

If the broker, bank or other nominee does not receive voting instructions from you, your shares may constitute “broker non-votes.” Generally, broker non-votes occur on a matter when a broker is not permitted to vote on that matter without instructions from the beneficial owner and instructions are not given. In tabulating the voting result for any

particular proposal, shares that constitute broker non-votes are not considered present and entitled to vote on that proposal. If a quorum is present at the annual meeting, the persons receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected to serve as directors. As a result, broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of the voting on the election of directors (Item 1) or the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation in the “Say on Pay” proposal (Item 4). Shares represented by such “broker non-votes” will, however, be counted in determining whether there is a quorum, but will not be considered voted with regard to or treated as present with respect to those proposals to which the broker non-votes relate. The ratification of the appointment of the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm (Item 2) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal. Brokers are allowed to vote on behalf of beneficial owners without instruction on Item 2, but are not permitted to vote on any other proposals without voting instructions from you.

Shares represented by proxies which indicate that the stockholders abstain as to the election of directors or to other proposals will be treated as being present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum and, other than for the election of directors and the number of votes cast with respect to each proposal. Consequently, an abstention will have the effect of a vote against with respect to proposals other than the election of directors.

What should I do if I receive more than one set of voting materials?

You may receive more than one set of voting materials, including multiple copies of this proxy statement and multiple proxy cards or voting instruction cards. For example, if you hold your shares in more than one brokerage account, you may receive a separate voting instruction card for each brokerage account in which you hold shares. If you are a stockholder of record and your shares are registered in more than one name, you will receive more than one proxy card. Please complete, sign, date and return each proxy card and voting instruction card that you receive.

Where can I find the voting results of the annual meeting?

The Company intends to announce the preliminary voting results at the annual meeting and publish the final results in its Current Report on Form 8-K which will be filed within four business days after the meeting.

What is the deadline to propose actions for consideration at next year's annual meeting of stockholders?

You may submit proposals for consideration at future stockholder meetings. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for the annual meeting next year, our Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than March 29, 2014. Such proposals also must comply with Rule 14a-8 of the SEC's regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary

RBC Bearings Incorporated

One Tribology Center

Oxford, CT 06478

For a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement, the stockholder must deliver a proxy statement and form of proxy to holders of a sufficient number of shares of our common stock to approve the proposal and provide the information required by our by-laws and give timely notice to the Corporate Secretary in accordance with our by-laws, which, in general, require that the notice be received by the Corporate Secretary:

.. Not less than 60 days prior to the next meeting, and

.. Not more than 90 days prior to the next meeting.

In the event that less than 70 days' notice or prior public announcement of the date of the meeting is given or made to stockholders, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be received not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the date on which such notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or such public

announcement was made.

How may I recommend or nominate individuals to serve as directors?

You may propose director candidates for consideration by the Board's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Any such recommendations should include the nominee's name and qualifications for Board membership and should be directed to the Corporate Secretary at the address of our principal executive offices set forth above.

In addition, our by-laws permit stockholders to nominate directors for election at an annual stockholder meeting. To nominate a director, a stockholder must deliver timely notice of such stockholder's intent to make such nomination in writing to the Corporate Secretary. To be timely, a stockholder's notice must be delivered to or mailed and received at our principal executive offices not less than 60 nor more than 90 days prior to the date of the first anniversary of the previous year's annual meeting. In the event that the date of the annual meeting is changed by more than 30 days from such anniversary date, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be so received not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the earlier of the day on which notice of the date of the meeting was mailed or public disclosure of the meeting was made. To be in proper form, a stockholder's notice shall set forth (i) as to each person whom the stockholder proposes to nominate for election as a director at such meeting (A) the name, age, business address and residence address of the person, (B) the principal occupation or employment of the person, (C) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock of the Company which are owned beneficially or of record by the person and (D) any other information relating to the person that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement or other filings required to be made in connection with solicitations of proxies for election of directors pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act; and (ii) as to the stockholder giving the notice (A) the name and record address of such stockholder, (B) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock of the Company which are owned beneficially or of record by such stockholder, (C) a description of all arrangements or understandings between such stockholder and each proposed nominee and any other person or persons (including their names) pursuant to which the nomination(s) are to be made by such stockholder, (D) a representation that such stockholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the persons named in its notice and (E) any other information relating to such stockholder that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement or other filings required to be made in connection with solicitations of proxies for election of directors pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act. Such notice must be accompanied by a written consent of each proposed nominee to being named as a nominee and to serve as a director if elected.

How may I obtain a copy of RBC Bearings' by-law provisions regarding stockholder proposals and director nominations?

You may contact the Corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices for a copy of the relevant by-law provisions regarding the requirements for making stockholder proposals and nominating director candidates.

Who can help answer my questions?

If you have any questions about the annual meeting or how to vote or revoke your proxy or if you need additional copies of this proxy statement or voting materials, you should contact:

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.

Registered Client Services Department

C/O Robert DeRiso

51 Mercedes Way

Edgewood, NY 11717

P 631-254-1641

F 631-254-7760

robert.deriso@broadridge.com

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR STOCKHOLDER VOTE

ITEM 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board currently is composed of eight directors serving staggered three-year terms and divided into three classes: Class I currently consists of Dr. Thomas J. O'Brien, Edward D. Stewart and Daniel A. Bergeron, Class II consists of Richard R. Crowell and Alan B. Levine and Class III consists of Dr. Michael J. Hartnett, Mitchell I. Quain and

Dr. Amir Faghri. Class I, Class II and Class III directors will serve until our annual meetings of stockholders in 2013, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Vacancies on the Board may be filled only by persons elected by a majority of the remaining directors. A director elected by the Board to fill a vacancy in a class, including vacancies created by an increase in the number of directors, shall serve for the remainder of the full term of that class, and until the director's successor is duly elected and qualified, or until the director's resignation or removal.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has nominated Mitchell I. Quain for re-election as a Class III director and has nominated Dr. Thomas J. O'Brien, Edward D. Stewart and Daniel A. Bergeron for re-election as Class I directors. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviewed the qualifications of the nominees for election to these classes, and unanimously recommended that these nominees be submitted for election or re-election to the Board. If re-elected, Mitchell I. Quain will be moving from Class I to Class III. The term of office of the Class I directors expires this year. Mitchell I. Quain is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in September, 2011. Dr. Thomas O'Brien is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in June, 2002. Edward D. Stewart is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in June, 2013. Daniel A. Bergeron is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in June, 2013. If elected at the annual meeting, the Class I nominees would serve until the 2016 annual meeting and the Class III nominee would serve until the 2014 annual meeting and until their successors are duly elected and qualified, or until the director's resignation or removal.

For a stockholder to nominate an individual for director at the 2014 annual meeting, the stockholder must follow the procedures outlined below under the caption "Stockholder Proposals and Director Nominations for the 2014 Meeting." Stockholders may also nominate a director to be considered by the Board for recommendation to the stockholders in the Company's proxy statement for the 2014 annual meeting by following the procedures outlined below under the caption "Director Nominations to be Considered by the Board."

If you sign your proxy or voting instruction card but do not give instructions with respect to voting for directors, your shares will be voted for the persons recommended by the Board. If you wish to give specific instructions with respect to voting for directors, you may do so by indicating your instructions on your proxy or voting instruction card.

If any nominee named herein for election as a director should for any reason become unavailable to serve prior to the annual meeting, the Board will, prior to the annual meeting, (i) reduce the size of the Board to eliminate the position for which that person was nominated, (ii) nominate a new candidate in place of such person and vote in favor of the new candidate all shares represented by stockholder proxies received by the Board, unless authority to vote for all candidates nominated by the Board is withheld, or (iii) leave the place vacant to be filled at a later time.

Information regarding the nominees, as of July 1, 2013, is set forth below, including his age, the period he has served on the Board and the nominee's business experience. The information presented below for the director nominee and the directors continuing in office has been furnished to the Company by such persons.

The following paragraphs provide information as of the date of this proxy statement about each nominee for director. The information presented includes information each director has provided us about his age (as of July 1, 2013), all positions he holds, his principal occupation and business experience for the past five years and the names of other publicly-held companies for which he currently serves as a director or has served as a director during the past five years. We have also provided below information regarding additional experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that lead our Board to the conclusion that each person should serve as a director. In addition to the information set forth below, we also believe that all of our director nominees have a reputation for integrity, honesty and adherence to high ethical standards. They each have demonstrated business acumen and ability to exercise sound judgment, as well as a commitment of service to our Company and our Board.

Nominee for Election in Class III for a One-year Term Expiring at our 2014 Annual Meeting

Mitchell I. Quain has been a director since September, 2011. He is currently a Senior Advisor to the Carlyle Group and was a Partner of One Equity Partners, a private investment firm until December, 2011. From 2006 to 2010, he was a Senior Director of ACI Capital Corp. From 2002 to 2005, he was Chairman of Register.Com, Inc., an internet services provider, and from 1997 to 2001 he was employed with ABN AMRO and its predecessors in several capacities including Vice Chairman. Mr. Quain has a B.S.E.E. in electrical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.B.A. degree from the Harvard Business School and is a Chartered Financial Analyst. Previously Mr. Quain served on the Boards of publicly traded DeCrane Aircraft Holdings, Inc., Heico Corporation and Mechanical Dynamics, Inc. Mr. Quain is currently Chairman of the Board of Directors of Magnetek, Inc., and a director of Titan International, Inc., Hardinge Inc. and AstroMed, Inc. Mr. Quain's academic background, 30 years of investing experience, working knowledge of capital markets gained from his experiences as an investment banker and his knowledge and experience as a Chartered Financial Analyst qualify him as a "Financial Expert" for the Audit Committee. In addition, his service as a director of other publicly-traded industrial products manufacturers are valuable resources to the Board. This collective background and experience makes him an excellent candidate as a member of our Audit Committee and Board.

Nominees for Election in Class I for a Three-year Term Expiring at Our 2016 Annual Meeting

Dr. Thomas J. O'Brien has been a director and Audit Committee member since February, 2006. Dr. O'Brien has served as a professor at the University of Connecticut since 1986 and as the Head of the Finance Department from 1999 until 2007. Prior to this, Dr. O'Brien held positions at the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, Duke University, University of North Carolina—Charlotte and Florida State University. In addition to Dr. O'Brien's distinguished career as a professor, he has also written several books and has co-authored numerous papers and articles covering topics in finance. Dr. O'Brien earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Davidson College. He received his MBA from the University of Pennsylvania and holds a PhD in Finance from the University of Florida. When he was elected as a director, Dr. O'Brien had established an impressive academic record in finance, and was Head of the Finance Department at the University of Connecticut. Dr. O'Brien provides the Company with a wealth of valuable academic finance knowledge and executive experience which qualifies him as a "Financial Expert" for the Audit Committee.. His continuing association with the University of Connecticut provides the Company and the Audit Committee and the Board with a valuable state of the art finance resource. This collective background and experience makes him an excellent candidate as a member of our Audit Committee and Board.

Edward D. Stewart has been a director since June, 2013. Mr. Stewart is the former Chairman of the Board of ATC Technology Corporation and has served on other company Boards and Audit Committees. Mr. Stewart has many years of financial and operational experience with General Electric Company including as Executive Vice President of GE Capital and Chief Financial Officer of a number of other GE businesses. Mr. Stewart is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Nordstrom fsb, a wholly owned subsidiary of Nordstrom, Inc. and a member of its Audit and Investment Committees. Mr. Stewart earned a Bachelor of Arts, Economics degree from Tufts University. His extensive financial experience qualifies him as a "Financial Expert" for the Audit Committee. In addition, his service as a director of other publicly-traded and private companies are valuable resources to the Board. This collective background and experience makes him an excellent candidate as a member of our Audit Committee and Board.

Daniel A. Bergeron has been a director since June, 2013 and has been with the Company for 9 years. He joined us in May, 2003 as Vice President, Finance. On August 5, 2003, he was appointed Vice President and Chief Financial Officer and Secretary. From November, 2002 through May, 2003, he served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Allied Healthcare International, Inc., a publicly-held provider of healthcare staffing services. Mr. Bergeron served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Paragon Networks International, Inc., a telecommunications company, from June, 2000 to October, 2002. From April, 1998 to February, 2000, he served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Tridex Corporation, a publicly-held software company. From July, 1987 to March, 1998, Mr. Bergeron held various financial reporting positions with Dorr-Oliver Inc., an international engineering and manufacturing company, including Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Bergeron holds a B.S. in Finance from Northeastern University and a M.B.A. from the University of New Haven. Mr. Bergeron provides our Board with significant financial leadership and executive experience. His proven leadership capability and his strong knowledge of the complex financial and operational issues facing mid-sized companies provides the Board with a unique and necessary perspective. This collective background and experience makes him an excellent candidate as a member of our Board.

Vote Required

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting. Accordingly, Mr. Quain, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Stewart and Mr. Bergeron will be elected if they receive more votes than any other nominees for a place on the Board.

The Board recommends a vote *FOR* the election to the Board of Directors of the nominees listed above.

ITEM THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ERNST & YOUNG LLP AS THE COMPANY'S 2: INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014.

The Audit Committee has appointed Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2014, and has further directed that the Board submit the selection of Ernst & Young LLP for ratification by the stockholders at the annual meeting. During fiscal 2013, Ernst & Young LLP served as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and also provided certain tax services. See "Principal Accountant Fees and Services" below.

This proposal is put before the stockholders because the Audit Committee and the Board believe that it is good corporate practice to seek stockholder ratification of the Audit Committee's appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm. If the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP is not ratified, the Audit Committee will consider

the stockholders' vote when determining whether to continue the firm's engagement, but may ultimately determine to continue the engagement of the firm or another audit firm without re-submitting the matter to stockholders. Even if the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP is ratified, the Audit Committee may in its sole discretion terminate the engagement of the firm and direct the appointment of another independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it determines that such an appointment would be in the best interests of our Company and our stockholders. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to attend the annual meeting, where they will be available to respond to appropriate questions and, if they desire, to make a statement.

Vote Required

Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2014 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of the Company's common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal.

The Board recommends a vote *FOR* the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2014.

ITEM 3: THE APPROVAL OF OUR 2013 LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN WITH THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES TO BE ISSUED UNDER THE 2013 LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN EQUAL TO 1,500,000.

In administering our equity compensation program, we consider both our "burn rate" and our "overhang". We define "burn rate" in a given year as the total number of Shares that underlie the equity compensation awards granted in that year, divided by the undiluted weighted average Shares outstanding during the year. Our three year average burn rate from fiscal 2011-2013 was approximately 1.42%.

We define "overhang" as of a given date as: the sum of the total number of Shares that underlie outstanding equity awards plus the total number of Shares available for issuance under our equity compensation plans as of such date (in aggregate these are referred to as "total plan Shares"); divided by the sum of total plan Shares and Shares outstanding as of such date. Our overhang as of March 30, 2013 was approximately 6.7%, and on a pro forma basis (assuming the 1,500,000 increase to the number of shares in the 2013 Plan was authorized as of March 30, 2013) our overhang as of March 30, 2013 would have been approximately 12.5%.

We believe that our overhang (both on an actual basis and on a pro forma basis) and our burn rate are reasonable and in the low ranges in relation to our peer group and reflect a judicious use of equity for compensation purposes.

The Board and the Compensation Committee have determined that it is in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders to adopt a new Company 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") with the number of shares of Common Stock available for issuance equal to 1,500,000. The Board and the Compensation Committee have approved the Plan to be effective as of the date of approval by the Company's shareholders. The Plan will not become effective unless shareholder approval is obtained at the 2013 annual general meeting of shareholders. The principal features of the Plan are virtually identical to the Company's 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan with the following exceptions:

(1) The Plan prohibits share recycling. If any Grant under the Plan expires or terminates unexercised, becomes unexercisable or is forfeited as to any Shares, or is tendered or withheld as to any Shares in payment of the exercise price of the Grant or taxes payable with respect to the Grant or the vesting or exercise thereof, then such unpurchased, forfeited, tendered or withheld Shares may not thereafter be available for further Grants under the Plan.

(2) The number of shares that may be used for restricted stock or restricted unit grants under the Plan may not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total authorized number of Shares pursuant to the Plan.

(3) Any stock option granted under the Plan must be exercisable no more than seven years from the date it is granted.

The terms of the Plan are summarized below and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the Plan. Copies of the Plan are attached hereto as Exhibit A, and is filed as exhibit 10.2 to current Report on Form 8-K dated July 25, 2013.

Description of the Plan. The Plan provides for grants of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock and performance awards. The purpose of the Plan is to provide our directors, officers and other employees and persons who engage in services for us with incentives to maximize stockholder value and otherwise contribute to our success and to enable us to attract, retain and reward the best available persons for positions of responsibility.

Administration of the Plan. The Plan is administered by our Compensation Committee, which consists solely of two or more “non-employee directors” (as defined in Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act). The Compensation Committee may make all decisions and determinations regarding the Plan as it deems necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan. Our Board also has the authority to administer the Plan and to take all actions that the Compensation Committee is otherwise authorized to take under the Plan. The terms and conditions of each award made under the Plan, including vesting requirements, are set forth consistent with the Plan in a written agreement with the grantee.

Number of Shares. Assuming approval, as of September 12, 2013, 1,500,000 shares of our common stock were authorized for issuance under the Plan, subject to adjustment in the event of a reorganization, stock split, merger or similar change in our corporate structure or the outstanding shares of common stock. These shares will be used for future grants to our employees and directors at the discretion of our Compensation Committee. The Board and the Compensation Committee believe that the 1,500,000 shares is a sufficient number of shares of common stock to accomplish the objectives described above. The Plan prohibits share recycling. If any Grant under the Plan expires or terminates unexercised, becomes unexercisable or is forfeited as to any Shares, or is tendered or withheld as to any Shares in payment of the exercise price of the Grant or taxes payable with respect to the Grant or the vesting or exercise thereof, then such unpurchased, forfeited, tendered or withheld Shares may not thereafter be available for further Grants under the Plan.

Stock Options. Under the Plan, the Compensation Committee or the Board may award grants of incentive stock options and other non-qualified stock options. The Compensation Committee also has the authority to grant options that will become fully vested and exercisable automatically upon a change in control. The Compensation Committee may not, however, award to any one person in any calendar year options to purchase common stock equal to more than 10% of the total number of shares authorized under the plan, and it may not award incentive options first exercisable in any calendar year whose underlying shares have a fair market value greater than \$100,000 determined at the time of grant.

The Compensation Committee determines the exercise price and term of any option in its discretion, however, the exercise price may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date of grant. In the case of any incentive stock option, the option must be exercised within 10 years of the date of grant. The exercise price of an incentive option awarded to a person who owns stock constituting more than 10% of our voting power may not be less than 110% of such fair market value on such date and the option must be exercised within five years of the date of grant.

Restricted Stock. Under the Plan, the Compensation Committee may award restricted stock subject to the conditions and restrictions, and for the duration that it determines in its discretion. The number of shares that may be used for restricted stock or restricted unit grants under the Plan may not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total authorized number of Shares pursuant to the Plan.

Stock Appreciation Rights. The Compensation Committee may grant stock appreciation rights, or SARs, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the Plan. Under the Plan, the exercise price of an SAR must equal the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date the SAR was granted. Upon exercise of a SAR, the grantee will receive an amount in shares of our common stock equal to the difference between the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date of exercise and the exercise price of the SAR, multiplied by the number of shares as to which the SAR is exercised.

Performance Awards. The Compensation Committee may grant performance awards contingent upon achievement by the grantee or by us, of set goals and objectives regarding specified performance criteria, over a specified performance cycle. Awards may include specific dollar-value target awards and/or performance units, the value of which is established at the time of grant, and/or performance shares, the value of which is equal to the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date of grant. The value of a performance award may be fixed or fluctuate on the basis of specified performance criteria. A performance award may be paid out in cash and/or shares of common stock or other securities.

Eligibility. Our directors, officers and other employees and persons who engage in services for us are eligible for grants under the Plan. As of the date of this Proxy Statement, there are 6 officers, 6 directors other than the CEO and the CFO, who are officers and directors, and approximately 1,200 employees who are eligible to receive grants under the Plan.

Federal Income Tax Consequences.

The following is a discussion of certain U.S. federal income consequences relevant to participants in the Plan who are subject to federal income tax and the Company. It is not intended to be a complete description of all possible tax consequences with respect to awards granted under the Plan and does not address state, local or foreign tax consequences. Accordingly, holders of awards granted under the Plan should consult their own tax advisers for specific advice with respect to all federal, state or local tax effects before exercising any options or share appreciation rights, and before disposing of any shares of stock acquired pursuant to an award. Moreover, the Company does not represent that the foregoing tax consequences apply to any particular participant's specific circumstances or will continue to apply in the future and makes no undertaking to maintain the tax status (such as an ISO) of any award.

Non-Qualified Stock Option. A participant who is granted a non-qualified stock option will not recognize income at the time the option is granted. Upon the exercise of the option, however, the excess, if any, of the market value of the common shares on the date of exercise over the option price will be treated as ordinary income to the participant, and the Company will generally be entitled to an income tax deduction in the same year in an amount measured by the amount of ordinary income taxable to the participant. The participant will be entitled to a cost basis for the common shares for income tax purposes equal to the amount paid for the common shares plus the amount of ordinary income taxable at the time of exercise. Upon a subsequent sale of such common shares, the participant will recognize short-term or long-term capital gain or loss, depending upon his or her holding period for such common shares.

Incentive Stock Options. A participant who is granted an ISO satisfying the requirements of the Tax Code will not recognize income at the time the option is granted and generally will not recognize income upon exercise of the option provided such participant was an employee of the Company or a subsidiary at all times from the date of grant until three months prior to exercise. The excess of the fair market value over the option exercise price is, however, included in determining the participant's alternative minimum tax as of the date of exercise. If the participant does not dispose of shares received upon exercise of the option for one year after exercise and two years after grant of the option (the "Holding Period"), upon the disposition of such shares the participant will recognize long-term capital gain or loss based on the difference between the option exercise price and the fair market value of shares on the date of disposition. In such event, the Company is not entitled to a deduction for income tax purposes in connection with the exercise of the option. If the participant disposes of the shares received upon exercise of the option without satisfying the Holding Period requirement, the participant must generally recognize ordinary income equal to the lesser of (i) the fair market value of the shares at the date of exercise of the option over the exercise price or (ii) the amount realized upon the disposition of such shares over the exercise price. Any further appreciation is taxed as short-term or long-term capital gain, depending on the participant's Holding Period. If the disposition fails to satisfy the Holding Period, the Company would be entitled to an income tax deduction in the same year in an amount measured by the amount of ordinary income taxable to the participant.

Share appreciation rights. A participant will generally not be taxed at the time a SAR is granted nor will the Company receive a tax deduction. Upon exercise of a SAR, a participant will recognize taxable income equal to the fair market value of the shares received on the exercise date. The Company will be entitled to an income tax deduction in the amount of such income recognized by the participant. SAR's that are paid in cash may be subject to taxation at vesting rather than at exercise because the tax treatment of certain SAR's is unsettled under Section 409A of the Tax Code (see the discussion below).

Restricted Shares and Restricted Share Units. A participant will not recognize any income at the time an award of restricted shares or restricted share units is granted, nor will the Company be entitled to a deduction at that time. In the year in which restrictions on the restricted shares lapse, the participant will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares on the date of vesting over the amount, if any, the participant paid for the shares. Similarly, upon the vesting of restricted share units, the participant will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the fair market value of the shares received. With respect to awards of both restricted shares and restricted share units, the Company will be entitled to a tax deduction at the same time and in the same amount as the participant recognizes income.

Performance Awards. A participant who is awarded performance shares will not recognize income and the Company will not be allowed a deduction at the time that the award is made. When a participant receives payment for performance shares in common shares, the fair market value of the shares received will be ordinary income to the participant. If payment is made in cash, the amount of cash received will be ordinary income to the participant. In either case, the Company will be entitled to a tax deduction in the amount of such income recognized by the participant.

Dividend Equivalents. A participant who is awarded dividend equivalents generally will not recognize taxable income, and the Company will not receive a tax deduction, until shares or cash are distributed pursuant to the award. When the participant receives payment for dividend equivalents in common shares or cash, the fair market value of the shares or the amount of cash received will be ordinary income to the participant and the Company will be entitled to a deduction in the amount of such income recognized by the participant.

The Compensation Committee will require payment of any amount it may determine to be necessary to withhold for federal, state, local or other taxes as a result of the grant, vesting or exercise of an award. In compliance with the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, after January 1, 2005, the maximum federal withholding rate will be used for supplemental wage payments in excess of \$1,000,000 during any taxable year.

Section 409A of the Tax Code. Certain awards under the Plan may be subject to Tax Code Section 409A. Section 409A was added to the Tax Code by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. Section 409A generally applies to compensation deferred under a nonqualified deferred compensation plan on or after January 1, 2005. Section 409A imposes new requirements on a participant's election to defer compensation and the participant's selection of the timing and form of distribution of the deferred compensation with respect to certain awards under the Plan. Also, Section 409A generally provides that the distributions must be made on or following the occurrence of certain events (e.g. the participant's "separation from service" (as defined in Section 409A), a predetermined date, or the participant's death). Section 409A imposes restrictions on a participant's ability to change his or her distribution timing or form with respect to awards under the Plan after the compensation has been deferred. For certain participants who are officers of the Company or its subsidiary corporations and who would otherwise receive a distribution upon separation from service, Section 409A requires that such participant's distribution commence no earlier than six months after such officer's "separation from service" (as defined in Section 409A).

Stock options, SAR's that are distributable in shares of Common Stock and restricted stock awards granted under the Plan generally are not considered deferred compensation subject to Section 409A. Restricted share unit awards and other awards may be subject to Section 409A, depending on the terms of the award. The Company intends that awards made under the Plan that are subject to Section 409A will comply with the requirements of Section 409A.

A nonqualified deferred compensation plan must satisfy the requirements of Section 409A in form and in operation. If the Plan fails to satisfy the requirements of Section 409A, a participant in the Plan may recognize ordinary income on the amounts deferred under the Plan, to the extent vested, prior to when the compensation is actually or "constructively" received. Also, if a Plan fails to comply, Section 409A imposes an additional 20% federal income tax on compensation recognized as ordinary income, as well as certain interest on amounts treated as tax underpayments related to such deferred compensation. Awards granted under the Plan are intended to comply with Section 409A to the extent applicable.

The Plan is not subject to any provision of ERISA, nor is it a qualified employee benefit plan under Section 401(a) of the Tax Code.

Amendment and Termination of the Plan. The Board may amend or terminate the Plan in its discretion, except that no amendment will become effective without prior approval of our stockholders if such approval is necessary for continued compliance with the performance-based compensation exception of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code or any stock exchange listing requirements. If not previously terminated by the Board, the Plan will terminate on September 12, 2023.

The foregoing is only a summary of the Plan and is qualified in its entirety by reference to its full text. A copy of the Plan is attached as Appendix B to this Proxy Statement.

New Plan Benefits. The amount of awards to be made under the Plan is not presently determinable.

In addition to the Plan, the Company has other stock-based compensation plans: The RBC Bearings Incorporated (f/k/a Roller Bearing Holding Company, Inc.) 1998 Stock Option Plan (“1998 Plan”) the RBC Bearings Incorporated (f/k/a Roller Bearing Holding Company, Inc.) 2001 Stock Option Plan (“2001 Plan”) and the RBC Bearings Incorporated 2005 Long Term Incentive Plan (“2005 Plan”). No further options may be granted under the 1998 Plan or the 2001 Plan.

The Board recommends a vote *FOR* the approval of the amendment to the Company’s 2013 Long-Term Incentive Plan with the number of authorized shares to be issued under the 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan equal to 1,500,000.

ITEM 4: NON-BINDING VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Exchange Act requires the Company to hold a separate non-binding advisory stockholder vote (commonly known as a “Say on Pay” proposal) to approve the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the SEC’s rules.

At last year's annual meeting, 28.4% of shareholder votes supported the advisory vote to approve executive compensation. The Company is committed to the interests of its shareholders and the delivery of long-term shareholder value through appropriate executive pay programs and governance actions that attract, motivate and retain a highly-qualified executive team. As part of this commitment, we intend to continue to maintain an ongoing dialogue with our shareholders to address any continued concerns they may have. Previous discussions with the shareholders generally focused on their process for evaluating say-on-pay. In the majority of cases shareholders indicated that they vote on compensation issues in accordance with the recommendations made by whomever they use for proxy advisory services. In our discussion we intend to make certain that any negative recommendations made by these advisory services are legitimately based on a correct understanding of our compensation policies and that there are no misunderstandings regarding whether or not the Company has good compensation governance.

Following last year's vote, we engaged Radford as a compensation consultant to assist us in evaluating our compensation programs and addressing any material concerns raised by these advisory services regarding our compensation programs.

Before engaging Radford the Compensation Committee determined that the engagement would not raise any conflict of interest or independence issues. In making this determination the Compensation Committee investigated and considered the following factors prior to engaging Radford:

1. Whether the compensation consulting company employing the compensation adviser is providing any other services to the Company.
2. How much the compensation consulting company who employs the compensation adviser has received in fees from the Company, as a percentage of that firm's total revenue.
3. What policies and procedures have been adopted by the compensation consulting company employing the compensation adviser to prevent conflicts of interest.
4. Whether the compensation adviser has any business or personal relationship with a member of the Company Compensation Committee.
5. Whether the compensation adviser owns any stock of the Company, and
6. Whether the compensation adviser or the person employing the adviser has any business or personal relationship with an Executive Officer of the Company.

The Company objective was to ensure its compensation programs:

- Properly aligned CEO pay to Company performance.

Ensured that no problematic pay practices exist (such as excessive change-in-control or severance packages, benchmarking compensation above peer medians, repricing or backdating of options or excessive perquisites or tax gross-ups)

- Reflected appropriate communication with and responsiveness to shareholders.