

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC
Form DEFA14A
March 22, 2005

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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 under Rule 14a-12

JOHNSON OUTDOORS 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):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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 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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Filed by Johnson Outdoors Inc.

On March 22, 2005, Johnson Outdoors Inc. (the Company) issued a press release with respect to the Company's proposed merger with JO Acquisition Corp. at the Company's special shareholder meeting on March 22, 2005 (the Press Release). A copy of the Press Release follows as part of this filing under Rule 14a-6 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: CYNTHIA GEORGESON
262-631-6600

POLLS AT JOHNSON OUTDOORS

SPECIAL SHAREHOLDER MEETING UNTIL 12:30 PM CST

Johnson Family Reiterates that \$20.10 Is Best and Final Offer

Racine, Wisconsin, March 22, 2005 **JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.** (Nasdaq: JOUT) today opened the polls at its special meeting of shareholders and announced that they will remain open until 12:30 pm CST to allow shareholders additional time to vote FOR the merger. Johnson Outdoors Board of Directors unanimously recommends that shareholders vote FOR the merger.

Prior to the meeting, in a statement to the special committee, Helen Johnson-Leipold said, "On behalf of the buy-out group, I want to reiterate that the Johnson family will not proceed with the transaction at a price in excess of \$20.10 per share - this is our best and final offer."

Approval of the merger agreement requires, among other required votes, the affirmative vote of 66 2/3% of the votes entitled to be cast at the special meeting by shareholders other than members of the buy-out group and their affiliates or associates. Johnson Outdoors shareholders who have questions or need assistance voting their shares may call Innisfree M&A toll free at (877) 825-8964 or collect at (212) 750-5833.

ABOUT JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.

Johnson Outdoors is a leading global outdoor recreation company that turns ideas into adventure with innovative, top-quality products. The Company designs, manufactures and markets a portfolio of winning, consumer-preferred brands across four categories: Watercraft, Marine Electronics, Diving and Outdoor Equipment. Johnson Outdoors' familiar brands include, among others: Old Town® canoes and kayaks; Ocean Kayak® and Necky® kayaks; Minn Kota® motors; Humminbird® fishfinders; SCUBAPRO® and UWATEC® dive equipment; and Eureka!® tents.

Visit Johnson Outdoors online at <http://www.JohnsonOutdoors.com>.

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