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EMERSON ELECTRIC CO  
Form DEF 14A  
December 14, 2001

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)  
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION  
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 / /

Check the appropriate box:

|                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| / / Preliminary Proxy Statement     | / / Confidential, for Use of the |
| /X/ Definitive Proxy Statement      | Commission Only (as permitted    |
| / / Definitive Additional Materials | by Rule 14a-6(e) (2))            |
| / / Soliciting Material Pursuant to |                                  |
| Rule 14a-12                         |                                  |

EMERSON ELECTRIC CO.

-----  
(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.  
 / / 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:

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

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(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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(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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(5) Total fee paid:

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// 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 which 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:

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

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(3) Filing Party:

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(4) Date Filed:

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING  
OF STOCKHOLDERS

Emerson [logo]

St. Louis, Missouri  
December 12, 2001

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF  
EMERSON ELECTRIC CO.:

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of Emerson Electric Co. will be held at the office of the Company, 8000 West Florissant Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri on Tuesday, February 5, 2002, commencing at 10:00 a.m., at which meeting only holders of the common stock of record at the close of business on November 27, 2001, will be entitled to vote, for the following purposes:

1. To elect six Directors;
2. To vote upon a proposal to approve the 2001 Stock Option Plan;
3. To vote upon the stockholder proposal described in the accompanying proxy statement, if properly presented at the meeting; and
4. To transact such other and further business, if any, as lawfully may be brought before the meeting.

EMERSON ELECTRIC CO.

By /s/ Charles F. Knight  
Chairman of the Board

/s/ W. W. Withers  
Secretary

EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON, PLEASE VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR THE INTERNET, OR EXECUTE THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD AND MAIL IT PROMPTLY. A RETURN ENVELOPE (WHICH REQUIRES NO POSTAGE IF MAILED IN THE

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UNITED STATES) IS ENCLOSED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE. TELEPHONE AND INTERNET VOTING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED ON YOUR PROXY CARD. SHOULD YOU ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON, YOU MAY REVOKE YOUR PROXY AND VOTE IN PERSON.

### IMPORTANT

PLEASE NOTE THAT A TICKET IS REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION TO THE MEETING. IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN PERSON AND ARE A STOCKHOLDER OF RECORD, PLEASE CHECK THE BOX ON YOUR PROXY CARD AND BRING THE TEAR-OFF ADMISSION TICKET WITH YOU TO THE MEETING. IF YOUR SHARES ARE HELD BY SOMEONE ELSE (SUCH AS A BROKER) PLEASE BRING WITH YOU A LETTER FROM THAT FIRM OR AN ACCOUNT STATEMENT SHOWING YOU WERE A BENEFICIAL HOLDER ON NOVEMBER 27, 2001.

### EMERSON ELECTRIC CO.

8000 WEST FLORISSANT AVENUE, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63136

### PROXY STATEMENT

FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2002

This proxy statement is furnished to the stockholders of Emerson Electric Co. in connection with the solicitation of proxies for use at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held February 5, 2002, and at all adjournments thereof, for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. This proxy statement and the enclosed form of proxy are first being mailed to stockholders on or about December 12, 2001.

If you have a disability which requires accommodation at the meeting, please call 314-553-2197; requests must be received by January 15, 2002.

REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS CAN SIMPLIFY THEIR VOTING AND SAVE THE COMPANY EXPENSE BY CALLING 1-800-840-1208 AND VOTING BY TELEPHONE, OR VOTING BY INTERNET AT [HTTP://WWW.EPROXY.COM/EMR/](http://WWW.EPROXY.COM/EMR/). Telephone and Internet voting information is provided on your proxy card. A Control Number, located on the proxy card, is designed to verify your identity and allow you to vote your shares and confirm that your voting instructions have been properly recorded.

If your shares are held in the name of a bank or broker, follow the voting instructions on the form you receive from that firm. The availability of telephone or Internet voting will depend on that firm's voting processes.

IF YOU VOTE BY TELEPHONE OR INTERNET, IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO RETURN YOUR PROXY CARD.

If you do not choose to vote by telephone or Internet, please return your proxy card, properly signed, and the shares represented will be voted in accordance with your directions. You can specify your choices by marking the appropriate boxes on the proxy card. If your proxy card is signed and returned without specifying choices, the shares will be voted FOR Proposals 1 and 2, AGAINST Proposal 3 and otherwise in the discretion of the proxies. The Company knows of no reason why any of the nominees for Director named herein would be unable to serve. In the event, however, that any nominee named should, prior to the election, become unable to serve as a Director, your proxy (unless designated to the contrary) will be voted for such other person or persons as the Board of Directors of the Company may recommend.

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You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted (in the case of proxy cards) by giving notice to the Secretary of the Company or by executing a later-dated proxy. To revoke a proxy or change your vote by telephone or Internet, you must do so by telephone or Internet (following the directions on your proxy card) by twelve midnight Eastern time on February 4, 2002.

The close of business on November 27, 2001, has been fixed as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders. As of the record date, there were outstanding and entitled to be voted at such meeting 420,636,930 shares of common stock. The holders of the common stock will be entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held of record on the record date.

A copy of the Company's Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2001 accompanies this proxy statement.

This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors of the Company. The solicitation will be by mail and the expense thereof will be paid by the Company. The Company has retained Georgeson & Company, Inc. to assist in the solicitation of proxies at an estimated cost of \$13,000 plus expenses. In addition, solicitation of proxies may be made by telephone or telegram by Directors, officers or regular employees of the Company.

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### I. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

#### NOMINEES AND CONTINUING DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is divided into three classes, with the terms of office of each class ending in successive years. Six Directors of the Company are to be elected for terms ending at the Annual Meeting in 2005, or until their respective successors have been elected and have qualified. Messrs. Loynd, Knight, Horton and Farr, previously elected for terms ending in 2002, 2002, 2003 and 2004, respectively, were reclassified by action of the Board of Directors to their present terms. Certain information with respect to the nominees for election as Directors proposed by the Company, as well as the other Directors whose terms of office as Directors will continue after the Annual Meeting, is set forth below.

| NAME, AGE, PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION<br>OR POSITION, OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS<br>-----  | SERVED AS<br>DIRECTOR<br>SINCE<br>----- | SHARES OF<br>EMERSON<br>COMMON STOCK<br>BENEFICIALLY<br>OWNED (1) (2) (3)<br>----- |
|---|---|--|
| <br>NOMINEES FOR TERMS ENDING IN 2005   |   |  |
| D. N. Farr, 46.....<br>Chief Executive Officer of Emerson   | 2000                                    | 278,116  |
| D. C. Farrell, 68.....<br>Retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The May<br>Department Stores Company<br>He is also a Director of Ralston Purina Company | 1989                                    | 16,950   |

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|  |          |           |
|--|----------|-----------|
| W. J. Galvin, 55.....  | 2000     | 244,318   |
| Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Emerson  |          |           |
| R. B. Horton, 62.....  | 1987     | 6,312     |
| Retired Chairman of Railtrack Group PLC<br>He is also a Director of PartnerRe Ltd. and Premier Farnell plc   |          |           |
| C. A. Peters, 46.....  | 2000     | 163,410   |
| Senior Executive Vice President of Emerson   |          |           |
| J. W. Prueher, 58.....   | 2001 (4) | --        |
| Retired Admiral, U.S. Navy, and Retired U.S. Ambassador to the People's Republic of China<br>He is also a Director of Merrill Lynch & Company, Inc., The New York Life Insurance Company and Ford Island Development Group LLC |          |           |
| TO CONTINUE IN OFFICE UNTIL 2004   |          |           |
| J. G. Berges, 54.....  | 1997     | 407,455 ( |
| President of Emerson<br>He is also a Director of PPG Industries, Inc.  |          |           |
| C. Fernandez G., 34.....   | 2001 (4) | 1,000     |
| Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Grupo Modelo, S. A. de C. V., brewer<br>He is also a Director of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. and Grupo Televisa, S.A.  |          |           |
| C. F. Knight, 65.....  | 1972     | 1,680,850 |
| Chairman of the Board of Emerson<br>He is also a Director of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., BP p.l.c., International Business Machines Corporation, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. and SBC Communications Inc.              |          |           |

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| NAME, AGE, PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION<br>OR POSITION, OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS<br>-----   | SERVED AS<br>DIRECTOR<br>SINCE<br>----- | SHARES OF<br>EMERSON<br>COMMON STOCK<br>BENEFICIALLY<br>OWNED (1) (2) (3)<br>----- |
|--|---|--|
| R. L. Ridgway, 66.....   | 1995                                    | 5,660  |
| Former Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Canada<br>She is also a Director of The Boeing Company, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, New Perspective Fund, Inc. and Sara Lee Corporation |   |  |
| W. M. Van Cleve, 72.....   | 1984                                    | 33,950 (   |
| Senior Counsel of Bryan Cave LLP, lawyers  |   |  |
| E. E. Whitacre, Jr., 60.....   | 1990                                    | 7,350  |
| Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of SBC Communications   |   |  |

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Inc., a diversified communications holding company  
 He is also a Director of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.,  
 Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation and The May  
 Department Stores Company

TO CONTINUE IN OFFICE UNTIL 2003

|   |         |             |
|---|---------|-------------|
| L. L. Browning, Jr., 72.....<br>Former Vice Chairman of Emerson   | 1969    | 196,115     |
| A. A. Busch III, 64.....<br>Chairman of the Board and President of Anheuser-Busch<br>Companies, Inc., brewery, container manufacturer and<br>theme park operator<br>He is also a Director of GenAmerica Corporation and SBC<br>Communications Inc.  | 1985    | 28,150      |
| A. F. Golden, 55.....<br>Partner of Davis Polk & Wardwell, lawyers  | 2000    | 1,794       |
| G. A. Lodge, 69.....<br>President of InnoCal Management, Inc., a venture capital<br>management company  | 1974    | 10,950      |
| V. R. Loucks, Jr., 67.....<br>Retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Baxter<br>International Inc., Chairman of The Aethena Group LLC<br>(private equity fund)<br>He is also a Director of Affymetrix, Inc., Anheuser-Busch<br>Companies, Inc., GeneSoft, Inc. and The Quaker Oats<br>Company | 1979(6) | 6,950       |
| R. B. Loynd, 74.....<br>Chairman of the Executive Committee of Furniture Brands<br>International, Inc., manufacturer and marketer of<br>furniture products<br>He is also a Director of Joy Global Inc.  | 1987    | 12,950      |
| All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (21<br>persons).....  |         | 3,458,457 ( |