

Rock-Tenn CO
Form PRE 14A
December 06, 2013

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**

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

ROCK-TENN COMPANY

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

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(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 the 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

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

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.

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

December 19, 2013

To our Shareholders:

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend our annual meeting of shareholders, which is to be held on January 31, 2014, at the Grand Hyatt Atlanta at 3300 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30305. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m., local time. The following Notice of 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders outlines the business to be conducted at the meeting.

Again this year, we are using the Internet as our primary means of furnishing proxy materials to shareholders. Accordingly, most shareholders will not receive paper copies of our proxy materials. We will instead send shareholders a notice with instructions for accessing the proxy materials and voting via the Internet. The notice also provides information on how shareholders may obtain paper copies of our proxy materials if they so choose.

Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, please vote as soon as possible to ensure that your shares will be represented and voted at the annual meeting. You may vote via the Internet, by telephone or, if you receive a paper proxy card in the mail, by mailing the completed proxy card. If you attend the annual meeting, you may vote your shares in person even though you have previously voted your proxy.

Very truly yours,

Steven C. Voorhees
Chief Executive Officer

NOTICE OF 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held on January 31, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m., local time, on Friday, January 31, 2014.

PLACE: Grand Hyatt Atlanta
3300 Peachtree Road, N.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30305

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- (1) To elect six directors.
- (2) To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the independent registered public accounting firm of Rock-Tenn Company.
- (3) To hold an advisory vote on executive compensation.
- (4) To approve restated and amended articles of incorporation for Rock-Tenn Company to provide that all directors elected at or after the annual meeting of shareholders held in 2015 be elected on an annual basis and to consolidate other amendments that were previously made to the articles of incorporation.
- (5) To transact any other business that properly comes before the meeting or any adjournment of the annual meeting.

WHO MAY VOTE: You can vote if you were a holder of Class A Common Stock of record on December 2, 2013.

DATE THESE PROXY

MATERIALS WERE FIRST

MADE AVAILABLE ON

THE INTERNET: December 19, 2013

INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS

In accordance with U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission rules, we are using the Internet as our primary means of furnishing proxy materials to shareholders. Consequently, most shareholders will not receive paper copies of our proxy materials. We will instead send shareholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials with instructions for accessing the proxy materials, including our proxy statement and annual report, and voting via the Internet. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials also provides information on how shareholders may obtain paper copies of our proxy materials if they so choose.

ROCK-TENN COMPANY

504 Thrasher Street

Norcross, Georgia 30071

PROXY STATEMENT

FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 31, 2014

PROXY SOLICITATION AND VOTING INFORMATION

Why am I receiving these materials?

Our board of directors has made these materials available to you on the Internet or, upon your request, has delivered printed versions of these materials to you by mail, in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the board of directors. The proxies will be used at our annual meeting of shareholders to be held on January 31, 2014 (which we refer to as the **annual meeting**). We made these materials available to shareholders beginning on December 19, 2013. Our shareholders are invited to attend the annual meeting and are requested to vote on the proposals described in this proxy statement.

What is included in these materials?

These materials include:

our proxy statement; and

our 2013 annual report to shareholders, which includes our audited consolidated financial statements.

If you request printed versions of these materials by mail, these materials will also include the proxy card for the annual meeting.

What am I voting on?

You will be voting on each of the following:

The election of six directors.

The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm. We refer to the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm as the **E&Y Appointment**.

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An advisory vote on executive compensation.

The approval of restated and amended articles of incorporation of our company to provide that all directors elected at or after the annual meeting of shareholders held in 2015 be elected on an annual basis and to consolidate other amendments that have previously been made to the Company's current articles of incorporation. We refer to the proposed restated and amended articles of incorporation as the **Amended Articles**.

The transaction of any other business that properly comes before the annual meeting or any adjournment of the annual meeting.

As of the date of this proxy statement, the board of directors knows of no other matters that will be properly brought before the annual meeting.

You may not cumulate your votes for any matter being voted on at the annual meeting, and you are not entitled to appraisal or dissenters' rights.

Why did I receive a one-page notice in the mail or e-mail notification regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of proxy materials?

Pursuant to rules adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (which we refer to as the **SEC**), we provide access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (which we refer to as the **Notice**) to our shareholders of record and beneficial owners. We are sending the Notice by e-mail to our shareholders who previously chose to receive notices by this method. All shareholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials on the website referred to in the Notice, free of charge, or request to receive a printed set of the proxy materials. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy may be found in the Notice. In addition, shareholders may request to receive proxy materials electronically by e-mail on an ongoing basis.

How can I get electronic access to the proxy materials?

The Notice provides you with instructions regarding how to:

view our proxy materials for the annual meeting on the Internet and execute a proxy; and

instruct us to send future proxy materials to you electronically by e-mail.

Choosing to receive future proxy materials by e-mail will save us the cost of printing and mailing documents to you and will reduce the impact of our annual meetings on the environment. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by e-mail, you will receive an e-mail next year with instructions containing a link to those materials and a link to the proxy voting site. Your election to receive proxy materials by e-mail will remain in effect until you terminate it.

Who may vote?

You may vote if you owned our Class A Common Stock as of the close of business on December 2, 2013, the record date for the annual meeting. As of December 2, 2013, there were 71,768,912 shares of our Class A Common Stock outstanding.

What if my certificates represent Class B Common Stock?

Each share of our Class B Common Stock was automatically converted into one share of Class A Common Stock on June 30, 2002. Each certificate that represented shares of Class B Common Stock represents the same number of shares of Class A Common Stock into which the Class B Common Stock was converted. We refer to our Class A Common Stock (including certificates that represented shares of Class B Common Stock) as the **Common Stock**.

How do I vote?

You have four voting options. You may vote using one of the following methods:

Over the Internet. If you have access to the Internet, we encourage you to vote in this manner.

By telephone.

For those shareholders who request to receive a paper proxy card in the mail, by completing, signing and returning the proxy card.

By attending the annual meeting and voting in person.

The Notice provides instructions on how to access your proxy card, which contains instructions on how to vote via the Internet or by the telephone. For those shareholders who request to receive a paper proxy card in the mail, instructions for voting via the Internet, by telephone or by mail are set forth on the proxy card. Please follow the directions on your proxy card carefully.

May I vote at the annual meeting?

You may vote your shares at the annual meeting if you attend in person. Even if you plan to be present at the annual meeting, we encourage you to vote your shares by proxy. You may vote your proxy via the Internet, by telephone or by mail. Even if you have already voted your shares by proxy, you may change your vote and vote your shares at the annual meeting if you attend in person.

What if my shares are registered in more than one person's name?

If you own shares that are registered in the name of more than one person, each person must sign the proxy. If an attorney, executor, administrator, trustee, guardian or any other person signs the proxy in a representative capacity, the full title of the person signing the proxy should be given and a certificate should be furnished showing evidence of appointment.

What does it mean if I receive more than one Notice?

It means you have multiple accounts with brokers and/or our transfer agent. Please vote all of these shares. We recommend that you contact your broker and/or our transfer agent to consolidate as many accounts as possible under the same name and address. Our transfer agent is Computershare Investor Services, 250 Royall Street, Canton, MA 02021 and may be reached at 1-800-568-3476.

May I change my mind after I vote?

You may change your vote at any time before the polls close at the annual meeting. You may do this by using one of the following methods:

Voting again by telephone or over the Internet prior to 1:00 a.m., E.T., on January 31, 2014.

Giving written notice to the corporate secretary of our company.

Delivering a later-dated proxy.

Voting in person at the annual meeting.

How many votes am I entitled to?

You are entitled to one vote for each share of Common Stock you own.

How many votes must be present to hold the annual meeting?

In order for us to conduct the annual meeting, the holders of a majority of the votes of the Common Stock outstanding as of December 2, 2013 must be present at the annual meeting. This is referred to as a quorum. Your shares will be counted as present at the annual meeting if you do one of the following:

Vote via the Internet or by telephone.

Return a properly executed proxy by mail (even if you do not provide voting instructions).

Attend the annual meeting and vote in person.

How many votes are needed to elect directors?

The six nominees receiving the highest number of yes votes will be elected directors. This number is called a plurality.

How many votes are needed to ratify the E&Y Appointment and approve the advisory vote on executive compensation?

To ratify the E&Y Appointment and to approve the non-binding resolution regarding the approval of executive compensation, the yes votes cast in favor of the matter must exceed the no votes cast against the matter.

How many votes are needed to approve the Amended Articles?

To approve the Amended Articles, the yes votes cast in favor of the Amended Articles must make up at least 75% of the outstanding voting power of our Common Stock.

How many votes are needed for other matters?

To approve any other matter that properly comes before the annual meeting, the yes votes cast in favor of the matter must exceed the no votes cast against the matter. The board of directors knows of no other matters that will be properly brought before the annual meeting. If other matters are properly introduced, the persons named in the proxy as the proxy holders will vote on such matters in their discretion.

Will my shares be voted if I do not provide my proxy?

Your shares may be voted under certain circumstances if they are held in the name of a brokerage firm. Brokerage firms have the authority under rules of the New York Stock Exchange (which we refer to as the **NYSE**) to vote customers' unvoted shares on routine matters, which include the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm. Accordingly, if a brokerage firm votes your shares on these matters in accordance with these rules, your shares will count as present at the annual meeting for purposes of establishing a quorum and will count as yes votes or no votes, as the case may be, with respect to all routine matters voted on at the annual meeting. If you hold your shares directly in your own name, they will not be voted if you do not vote them or provide a proxy. If a brokerage firm signs and returns a proxy on your behalf that does not contain voting instructions, your shares will count as present at the annual meeting for quorum purposes and will count as a for vote for the E&Y Appointment but will not count as a yes vote or a no vote on the election of the director nominees named in this proxy statement or the Amended Articles and will not be counted as an advisory vote on executive compensation. These are referred to as broker non-votes.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

ITEM 1

Board of Directors

Our board of directors currently has 11 members. The directors are divided into three classes with the directors in each class serving a term of three years. Directors for each class are elected at the annual meeting of shareholders held in the year in which the term for their class expires. At our annual meeting, six nominees for director are to be elected to serve on our board of directors. Four of the nominees will be elected to serve until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2017, one of the directors will be elected to serve until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2016, and one of the directors will be elected to serve until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2015, or until each of their successors are qualified and elected. Our board is authorized to increase or decrease the size of the board and is authorized to fill the vacancies created by any increase. Any directors elected by the board in this manner will stand for re-election at the next annual meeting of the shareholders after his or her election even if that class of directors is not subject to election that year. All directors elected at or after the annual meeting of shareholders held in 2015 will be elected on an annual basis if the Amended Articles are approved as contemplated by Item 4 of this proxy statement.

Each of Jenny A. Hourihan and Steven C. Voorhees were elected in August 2013 by our board to serve as new directors. Our shareholders will vote at our annual meeting on whether to elect Mr. Voorhees to serve as a director in the class of directors with its term expiring in 2016 and whether to elect Ms. Hourihan to serve as a director in the class of directors with its term expiring in 2015. After James A. Rubright's retirement from our board on October 31, 2013, the board decreased its size to 11 members, which it is authorized to do. Our directors must retire when they reach the age of 72, although they may continue to serve until the next annual or special meeting of the shareholders at which directors are to be elected. Mr. John W. Spiegel will retire as a director at our annual meeting because he turned 72 during fiscal 2013. Following his retirement, our board of directors will have 10 members and 1 vacancy. Our board of directors has approved reducing the size of the board to 10 members upon the retirement of Mr. Spiegel.

We do not believe that any of our nominees for director will be unwilling or unable to serve as director at the time of his or her election. However, if at the time of the annual meeting any of the nominees should be unwilling or unable to serve, proxies will be voted as recommended by the board of directors to do one of the following:

To elect substitute nominees recommended by the board.

To allow the vacancy created to remain open until filled by the board.

To reduce the number of directors for the ensuing year.

In no event, however, can a proxy be voted to elect more than six directors.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The board of directors recommends a vote FOR J. Powell Brown, Robert M. Chapman, Terrell K. Crews and Russell M. Currey to hold office until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2017, FOR Steven C. Voorhees to hold office until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2016, and for Jenny A. Hourihan to hold office until the annual meeting of shareholders in 2015, or until each of their successors is qualified and elected.

Nominee for Election Term Expiring 2015

| Name | Age | Director Since | Positions Held |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------------|---|
| Jenny A. Hourihan | 55 | 2013 | Jenny A. Hourihan has served as the chief executive officer and president of ORBIS International, a nonprofit organization that works in developing countries to save sight, since September 2012. Ms. Hourihan served as chief financial officer of Pro Mujer International, an international development organization offering microfinance, health services and training to over 300,000 clients in Latin America, from 2009 to 2012. Ms. Hourihan was Managing Director and Sector Head Paper and Forest Products Group for Bank of America, from 2003 to 2008, and held similar positions at Merrill Lynch, from 2000 to 2003, and the Salomon Smith Barney unit of Citigroup, from 1981 to 2000, where she led global teams in North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia. Ms. Hourihan's experience as the leader and chief financial officer of international organizations and her role as an investment banker with advisory and transactional experience in both United States and international equity and debt capital markets, mergers and acquisitions and corporate restructurings across a variety of industries, including our industry, while serving private and public sector clients, gives her broad expertise and knowledge of domestic and international financial matters and unique insight into complex transactions, that benefit our company and its board of directors. |

Nominee for Election Term Expiring 2016

| Name | Age | Director Since | Positions Held |
|--------------------|------------|---------------------------|--|
| Steven C. Voorhees | 59 | 2013 | Steven C. Voorhees has served as our chief executive officer since November 1, 2013. He served as our president and chief operating officer from January 2013 through October 2013. He served as our executive vice president and chief financial officer from September 2000 to January 2013 and also served as our chief administrative officer from July 2008 to January 2013. Mr. Voorhees was chosen to serve on our board because of his role as our chief executive officer and because we believe having him serve as chief executive officer and as a member of the board strengthens our company through his extensive knowledge of our company's operations, history and culture and helps provide a unified focus for management to execute our strategy and business plans. |

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Nominees for Election Term Expiring 2017

| Name | Age | Director Since | Positions Held |
|-------------------|-----|----------------|---|
| J. Powell Brown | 46 | 2010 | Mr. Brown has served as chief executive officer of Brown & Brown, Inc., an insurance services company, since July 2009. He has served as president of Brown & Brown, Inc., since January 2007, and was appointed to be a director of Brown & Brown, Inc. in October 2007. Prior to that time, he served as a regional executive vice president of Brown & Brown, since 2002. From January 2006 until April 2009, Mr. Brown served on the board of directors of SunTrust Bank/Central Florida, a commercial bank and a subsidiary of SunTrust Banks, Inc. Mr. Brown's experience as chief executive officer and an executive officer of a large, publicly-traded insurance brokerage firm gives him broad experience and knowledge of risk management and loss minimization and mitigation as well as perspective on leadership of publicly-held companies that benefit our company and its board of directors. |
| Robert M. Chapman | 60 | 2007 | Mr. Chapman was appointed as the chief executive officer of CenterPoint Properties Trust in November 2013. He served as the chief operating officer of Duke Realty Corporation, a real estate development company, from August 2007 until his resignation in November 2009. He served as senior executive vice president of real estate operations for Duke Realty, from August 2003 until July 2007, and as regional executive vice president for Duke Realty's Southeast region, from 1999 through July 2003. Mr. Chapman's experience as head of real estate acquisitions and development for a large national real estate investment trust gives him broad experience in evaluating national real estate and economic trends and growth opportunities as well as expertise in complex project finance activities that benefit our company and its board of directors. |
| Terrell K. Crews | 58 | 2011 | Mr. Crews served as a director of Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation (which we refer to as Smurfit-Stone), from June 2010 until it was acquired by us in May 2011. He served as executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief executive officer of the vegetable business of Monsanto Company, an agricultural products company, from 2007 until his retirement in 2009. Prior to that he served as executive vice president and chief financial officer of Monsanto, beginning in 2000. Mr. Crews has served as a director of Hormel Foods Corporation, a producer of meat and other food products, since October 2007, and has served as a director of Archer Daniels Midland Company, an agricultural commodities and products company, since May 2011. Mr. Crews's experience as a chief financial officer and as a member of numerous public company boards of directors, including Smurfit-Stone, and his service on other public company audit committees, gives him broad knowledge of business in general and in-depth experience in complex financial matters that benefit our company and its board of directors. |

| Name | Age | Director Since | Positions Held |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|--|
| Russell M. Currey | 52 | 2003 | Mr. Currey has served as the president of Boxwood Capital, LLC, a private investment company, since September 2013. He served as executive vice president and general manager of our corrugated packaging division, a position he held for more than five years, until his resignation in May 2008. Mr. Currey joined our company as an employee in July 1983. Mr. Currey's experience with our company in a number of leadership roles over a period of 29 years provides him with substantial knowledge of our business, our employees and our customers that benefits our company and its board of directors. |

Incumbent Directors Term Expiring 2016 (Not up for election at this shareholders meeting)

| Name | Age | Director Since | Positions Held |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------|--|
| G. Stephen Felker | 62 | 2001 | Mr. Felker has served as our non-executive chairman of the board of our company since November 1, 2013. He served as chairman of the board and director of Avondale Incorporated, a former textile manufacturer, from 1992 until his retirement in September 2011. He served as president and chief executive officer of Avondale from 1980 to 2008. Mr. Felker's experience as chief executive officer of Avondale Incorporated gives him broad experience in manufacturing, managing commodity risk and, as Avondale achieved its success and size through several large acquisitions, in evaluating and in integrating acquisitions that benefits our company and its board of directors. |
| Lawrence L. Gellerstedt III | 57 | 1998 | Mr. Gellerstedt has served as president and chief executive officer of Cousins Properties Incorporated, a publicly-traded real estate development company, since July 2009, and he served as the executive vice president and chief development officer of Cousins Properties, from June 2005 until July 2009. He is also a director of Cousins Properties. Mr. Gellerstedt served as the chairman and chief executive officer of The Gellerstedt Group, a real estate development company, from June 2003 until June 2005. Mr. Gellerstedt served as the president and chief operating officer of The Integral Group, a real estate development company, from January 2001 until June 2003. From 1994 to 2007, Mr. Gellerstedt served as a director of Alltel Corporation, a nationwide telecommunications services company. Mr. Gellerstedt's experience as chief executive officer of several companies over the years, including a large publicly-traded real estate development company and a large construction company, and as a member of several public company boards of directors, provides valuable leadership and board governance insights and financial expertise that benefits our company and its board of directors. |

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Incumbent Directors Term Expiring 2015 (Not up for election at this shareholders meeting)

| Name | Age | Director Since | Positions Held |
|---------------------|-----|----------------|--|
| Timothy J. Bernlohr | 54 | 2011 | <p>Mr. Bernlohr served as a director of Smurfit-Stone from June 2010 until it was acquired by us in May 2011. Mr. Bernlohr is the managing member of TJB Management Consulting, LLC, a consultant to businesses in transformation, such as restructurings, and a provider of interim executive management and strategic planning services, which he founded in 2005. He served as president and chief executive officer of RBX Industries, Inc. (which we refer to as RBX), which was a manufacturer and marketer of rubber and plastics materials, from 2003 to 2005, and served in various senior executive capacities at RBX, including president and chief operating officer, from 1997 until 2002. Prior to joining RBX, Mr. Bernlohr spent 16 years in the international and industry products divisions of Armstrong World Industries, Inc., where he served in a variety of management positions. Mr. Bernlohr has served as lead independent director of Chemtura Corporation, a specialty chemicals company, since 2010, and as a director of Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings, Inc., an air cargo and aircraft services company, since 2006. Within the last five years, Mr. Bernlohr also served on the boards of directors of Aventine Renewable Energy Holdings, Inc., Ambassadors International, Inc., and WCI Steel Corporation. Mr. Bernlohr's experience as a strategic consultant and chief executive officer of an international manufacturing company and as a director of Smurfit-Stone and other publicly-traded companies provides him with broad knowledge of corporate strategy and business in general that benefits our company and its board of directors.</p> |
| Bettina M. Whyte | 64 | 2007 | <p>Ms. Whyte is a managing director and senior advisor at Alvarez and Marsal Holdings, LLC, a world-wide business consulting firm. Ms. Whyte served as managing director and head of the Special Situations Group of MBIA Insurance Corporation, a provider of credit enhancement services and a provider of fixed-income asset management services, from March 2006 until October 2007, and managing director of AlixPartners, LLC, a business turnaround management and financial advisory firm, from April 1997 until March 2006. Ms. Whyte has also been a director of each of AGL Resources Inc., an energy company, since October 2004, Amerisure Insurance, a mutual insurance company, since 2002, and Annie's, Inc., a specialty food manufacturer, since June 2011. Ms. Whyte's roles in the financial and operational restructuring of complex businesses, having served as interim chief executive officer, chief operating officer and chief restructuring officer of numerous troubled public and private companies, and serving as a director of several public companies, give her broad experience with operational and financial issues and insight in leading organizations that benefits our company and its board of directors.</p> |

Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance Guidelines. We have posted our corporate governance guidelines on our Internet website at www.rocktenn.com.

Director Independence. Our board of directors annually conducts an assessment of the independence of each director in accordance with our corporate governance guidelines, applicable rules and regulations of the SEC, and the corporate governance standards of the NYSE for listed companies. The board assesses each director's independence by reviewing any potential conflicts of interest and significant outside relationships. In determining each director's independence, the board broadly considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including specific criteria included in the NYSE's corporate governance standards. For these purposes, the NYSE requires the board to consider certain relationships that existed during a three-year look-back period. The board considers the materiality and importance of the relationship not merely from the standpoint of the director, but also from the standpoint of persons or organizations with which the director has an affiliation. An independent director is one found to be free of any relationship with our company or our management that impairs the director's ability to make independent judgments.

The board of directors conducted an assessment of the independence of each director at its last regularly scheduled meeting. Based on this assessment, the board affirmatively determined that the following directors are independent: Mmes. Hourihan and Whyte and Messrs. Bernlohr, Brown, Chapman, Crews, Currey, Felker, Gellerstedt and Spiegel. The board of directors determined that each of our current directors (other than Mr. Voorhees) has no material relationship with our company (either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a material relationship with our company). The board determined that Mr. Voorhees is not independent because he is an employee of our company. The board determined that each of Mmes. Hourihan and Whyte and Messrs. Bernlohr, Chapman, Crews, Currey, Felker, Gellerstedt and Spiegel is independent because he or she has no significant relationship with our company (other than as a director and shareholder). The board determined that no relationship Mr. Brown has with our company is material for purposes of determining his independence. In making that determination, the board considered the following relationship that Mr. Brown has with our company (which is also described under the heading **Certain Transactions** elsewhere in this proxy statement):

J. Powell Brown. Mr. Brown is the chief executive officer, president and a director of Brown & Brown, Inc. Our company made payments to Brown & Brown, Inc. for insurance services during fiscal 2013 as described below under the heading **Certain Transactions**. Our board also considered similar payments made during fiscal 2012 and 2011. The board determined that these payments and relationships were not material for these purposes and did not impair Mr. Brown's independence.

While our board has determined that Mr. Brown is independent in accordance with applicable regulations promulgated pursuant to the Exchange Act and the rules of the NYSE, Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. (which we refer to as **ISS**), a privately-held advisory service and proxy analyst serving institutional shareholders, has denominated Mr. Brown as an affiliated outside director because he is an officer of Brown & Brown, Inc., which provides our company with professional services (as defined by ISS) in excess of \$10,000 per year. ISS deems insurance brokerage services to be professional services and therefore does not consider him to be independent. Our board of directors disagrees with ISS's analysis and has consistently found that Mr. Brown's position at Brown & Brown, Inc., which has long been an important insurance broker for our company, does not affect his independence from our company.

Our company purchases products and services in the normal course of business from many suppliers and sells products and services to many customers. In some instances, these transactions occur with companies with which members of our board of directors have relationships as directors or executive officers. Further, members of the board have relationships as directors or executive officers with certain companies that hold or held our debt or equity. For purposes of our board's affirmative determinations of director independence, none of these

relationships was considered significant, either individually or collectively, except as described above or under the heading **Certain Transactions** elsewhere in this proxy statement. For these purposes, the board determined that these relationships were not material either individually or collectively.

Director Self-Evaluation. Our board of directors conducts an annual self-evaluation of the board, its committees and its individual members pursuant to our corporate governance guidelines. The nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for overseeing the self-evaluation process and making a report to the board of directors pursuant to our corporate governance guidelines.

Director Education. Our board of directors has adopted a director education policy under which we will reimburse directors for tuition and all customary and reasonable expenses incurred in connection with attending a director education seminar once every two years. In addition, any director desiring to be reimbursed for additional programs may be reimbursed upon approval of the chairman of the nominating and corporate governance committee. We also regularly invite securities and financial analysts, economists and other experts to speak to our board at its meetings on subjects that are relevant to our business, our industry and the economy in general.

Communicating with Our Directors. So that shareholders and other interested parties may make their concerns known, we have established a method for communicating with our directors, including our non-executive chairman and other non-management directors. There are two ways to communicate with our directors:

By mail: Rock-Tenn Company, 504 Thrasher Street, Norcross, Georgia 30071.

By facsimile: (770) 248-4402.

Communications that are intended specifically for our non-executive chairman or other non-management directors should be marked **Attention: Independent Director Communications**. Communications regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters may also be reported to the audit committee of our board of directors using the above address and marking the communication **Attention: Audit Committee Communications**. All other director communications should be marked **Attention: Director Communications**. You may also communicate with our board as a whole by using our Internet website contact form at <http://ir.rocktenn.com/contactBoard.cfm>. Our legal department will facilitate all of these communications. We have posted a summary of methods for communicating with our directors on our Internet website at www.rocktenn.com.

Our directors are encouraged to attend and participate in the annual meeting. All but one of our directors who were serving at that time attended the annual meeting of shareholders held on January 25, 2013.

Codes of Business Conduct and Ethics

Employee Code of Business Conduct. Our board of directors has adopted a code of business conduct for our employees. Failure to comply with this code of business conduct is a serious offense and will result in appropriate disciplinary action. We will disclose, to the extent and in the manner required by any applicable law or NYSE corporate governance standard, any waiver of any provision of this code of business conduct.

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Board of Directors. Our board of directors has also adopted a code of business conduct and ethics for our board of directors. Failure to comply with this code of business conduct and ethics is a serious offense and will result in appropriate disciplinary action. We will disclose, to the extent and in the manner required by any applicable law or NYSE corporate governance standard, any waiver of any provision of this code of business conduct and ethics.

Code of Ethical Conduct for Chief Executive Officer and Senior Financial Officers. Our board of directors has also adopted a code of ethical conduct for our principal executive officer (our chief executive officer), our

principal financial officer (our chief financial officer), our principal accounting officer (our chief accounting officer) and other senior executive and senior financial officers specifically designated by our chief executive officer (who we refer to as our **CEO**). These officers are expected to adhere at all times to this code of ethical conduct. Failure to comply with this code of ethical conduct for our CEO and senior financial officers is a serious offense and will result in appropriate disciplinary action. Each of our board of directors and our nominating and corporate governance committee has the authority to independently approve, in its sole discretion, any such disciplinary action as well as any amendment to and any waiver or material departure from a provision of this code of ethical conduct. We will disclose on our Internet website at www.rocktenn.com, to the extent and in the manner permitted by Item 5.05 of Form 8-K under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (which we refer to as the **Exchange Act**), the nature of any amendment to this code of ethical conduct (other than technical, administrative, or other non-substantive amendments), our approval of any material departure from a provision of this code of ethical conduct, and our failure to take action within a reasonable period of time regarding any material departure from a provision of this code of ethical conduct that has been made known to any of our executive officers.

Copies. We have posted copies of each of these codes of business conduct and ethics on our Internet website at www.rocktenn.com.

Director Nominations

As provided in its charter, our nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for evaluating and recommending candidates for the board of directors, including incumbent directors whose terms are expiring and potential new directors. The committee utilizes a variety of methods for identifying and evaluating nominees for director. The committee periodically assesses the appropriate size of the board and whether any vacancies on the board are expected due to retirement or otherwise. If no vacancies are anticipated, the committee considers the current qualifications of incumbent directors whose terms are expiring. If vacancies arise or the committee anticipates vacancies, the committee considers various potential candidates for director. Candidates may come to the attention of the committee through current board members, professional search firms the committee may seek to engage or other persons. Our board of directors does not currently expect any board vacancies to arise in the near future other than the temporary vacancy that will arise from Mr. Spiegel's retirement, as discussed above under the heading ***Election of Directors Board of Directors*** . All of the nominees that the board has recommended for election by the shareholders, as described above under the heading ***Election of Directors Recommendation of the Board of Directors***, are incumbent directors.

The nominating and corporate governance committee will also consider and evaluate candidates properly submitted for nomination by shareholders in accordance with the procedures set forth in our bylaws, which are described below under the heading ***Additional Information Shareholder Nominations for Election of Directors***. Following verification of the shareholder status of persons proposing candidates, the committee will aggregate and consider qualifying nominations. If a shareholder provides materials in connection with the nomination of a director candidate, our corporate secretary will forward the materials to the nominating and corporate governance committee. Based on its evaluation of any director candidates nominated by shareholders, the nominating and corporate governance committee will determine whether to include the candidate in its recommended slate of director nominees.

When the nominating and corporate governance committee reviews a potential new candidate, consistent with our corporate governance guidelines, the committee will apply the criteria it considers appropriate. The committee generally considers the candidate's qualifications in light of the needs of the board and our company at that time given the current mix of director attributes. Our corporate governance guidelines contain specific criteria for board and board committee membership. In accordance with our corporate governance guidelines, the board of directors will strive to select as candidates for board membership a mix of individuals who represent diverse experience at policy-making levels in business, government, education and technology, and in areas that

are relevant to our company's activities as well as other characteristics that will contribute to the overall ability of the board to perform its duties and meet changing conditions. Our corporate governance guidelines also provide that each director must meet the following criteria:

Be free of conflicts of interest and other legal and ethical issues that would interfere with the proper performance of the responsibilities of a director (recognizing that some directors may also be executive officers of our company).

Be committed to discharging the duties of a director in accordance with the corporate governance guidelines and applicable law.

Be willing and able to devote sufficient time and energy to carrying out his or her duties effectively and be committed to serve on the board for an extended period of time.

Have sufficient experience to enable the director to meaningfully participate in deliberations of the board and one or more of its committees and to otherwise fulfill his or her duties.

Our bylaws also provide that a director must retire when he or she reaches the age of 72, although he or she may continue to serve until the next annual or special meeting of shareholders at which directors are to be elected after he or she reaches that age. The corporate governance guidelines also provide that any director who has a significant change in his or her full-time job responsibilities must give prompt written notice to the board of directors, specifying the details, and must submit to the board of directors a letter of resignation from the board of directors and from each committee of the board of directors on which the director serves. Submission of a letter of resignation provides the board of directors the opportunity to review the continued appropriateness of the director's membership on the board of directors and committees of the board of directors under the circumstances. The board of directors may reject or accept the letter of resignation due to change in job responsibilities as it deems to be appropriate.

The nominating and corporate governance committee also considers each candidate's independence, as defined in the corporate governance guidelines and in the corporate governance standards of the NYSE, as described above under the heading ***Election of Directors Corporate Governance Director Independence***. The committee expects a high level of commitment from our directors and considers a candidate's service on other boards and board committees to ensure that the candidate has sufficient time to effectively serve our company.

Director Election Resignation Policy

Our corporate governance guidelines provide that if in an election for directors in which the only nominees are persons nominated by the board, a director does not receive more votes cast for his or her election than against his or her election or re-election, then that director will, within five days following the certification of the shareholder vote, tender his or her written resignation to our non-executive chairman for consideration by our nominating and corporate governance committee. The director's resignation will be conditioned upon our board's acceptance of his or her resignation. When our board considers the number of votes cast for a director, it considers votes to withhold authority to vote for a director but does not count when a shareholder abstains from voting for a director. Our nominating and corporate governance committee must within 45 days following the date of the shareholders' meeting when the election occurred consider the director's resignation and recommend to our board whether to accept a director's resignation. Our board makes the final decision regarding whether to accept the director's resignation. In determining its recommendation to our board, our nominating and corporate governance committee will consider all the information, factors and alternatives that its members deem appropriate. Our board must make a final decision regarding the resignation within 90 days of the shareholders' meeting where the election occurred. In considering the nominating and corporate governance committee's recommendation, our board will consider the information, factors and alternatives considered by our nominating and corporate governance committee and any additional information, factors and alternatives that our board deems appropriate.

No director who is required by our corporate governance guidelines to tender his or her resignation as described above may participate in the deliberations, recommendation or determination regarding his or her resignation as a director. If a majority of the members of our nominating and corporate governance committee are ever required to submit their resignations as described above, any of our independent directors who are not required to submit their resignations (including the directors, if any, who were not standing for election), will appoint an ad hoc board committee from among themselves within 5 days following the certification of the shareholder vote. The ad hoc committee must consist of at least 3 directors and will serve in place of our nominating and corporate governance committee to consider and, within 45 days following the date of the shareholders' meeting where the election occurred, make a recommendation to our board regarding the tendered resignations. If fewer than 3 directors are eligible to serve on an ad hoc committee, our entire board (excluding, in each case, the particular director whose resignation is being considered) will deliberate and make the determination of whether to accept or reject each tendered resignation without any recommendation from our nominating and corporate governance committee or the creation of an ad hoc committee. Following our board's decision to accept or reject any tendered resignation, we will make public disclosures with respect to our board's decision as may be required or as we may otherwise determine to be appropriate.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Our board of directors held thirteen meetings during fiscal 2013. Each of our current directors attended at least 75% of the board meetings and at least 75% of the meetings of the committees on which that director served in fiscal 2013.

Leadership Structure

Since November 1, 2013, Mr. Voorhees has served as our chief executive officer, and Mr. Felker has served as our non-executive chairman of the board. We decided to separate the roles of chief executive officer and chairman of the board following the retirement of our former chief executive officer and chairman of the board, James A. Rubright, because the board now believes that clear delineation of the role of the non-executive chairman minimizes duplication of effort between our CEO and our non-executive chairman. The role of our non-executive chairman is to provide oversight, direction and leadership to our board and to facilitate communication among our directors and the regular flow of information between our management and our directors. In addition, the non-executive chairman will serve as the chairman of our executive committee; preside at our stockholder meetings, board meetings and executive sessions; and provide input to our compensation committee and our nominating and corporate governance committee, as appropriate, with respect to the performance evaluation process of our CEO, our annual board performance self-evaluation process and our management succession planning. Fulfilling the roles and responsibilities outlined above, our non-executive chairman provides strong leadership for our board, while recognizing our CEO as the leader of our company with respect to our business partners, employees, stockholders and other parties. Our chief executive officer continues to regularly communicate with the individual members of our board.

Meetings of Non-Management Directors. Our non-management directors generally meet separately from the other directors in executive session before or after board meetings and board committee meetings. Pursuant to our corporate governance guidelines, our non-management directors will continue to meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions after board meetings, presided over by our non-executive chairman, and at such other times as may be scheduled by our non-executive chairman. All of the directors who are independent select the non-executive chairman.

Committees of the Board of Directors

The board of directors has an executive committee, an audit committee, a compensation committee, a finance committee and a nominating and corporate governance committee.

Executive Committee. Ms. Whyte and Messrs. Felker, Gellerstedt, Spiegel and Voorhees are members of the executive committee. Mr. Felker is chairman of the committee.

The executive committee is authorized to exercise the authority of the full board in managing the business and affairs of our company. However, the executive committee does not have the power to do any of the following: (1) approve or propose to shareholders action that Georgia law requires to be approved by shareholders; (2) fill vacancies on the board or any of its committees; (3) amend our charter; (4) adopt, amend or repeal our bylaws; or (5) approve a plan of merger not requiring shareholder approval.

The executive committee held three meeting during fiscal 2013.

Audit Committee. Ms. Hourihan and Messrs. Brown, Chapman, Crews and Currey are members of the audit committee. Mr. Crews is chairman of the committee.

The board of directors has determined that Mr. Crews is an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (which we refer to as the **Securities Act**), and the Exchange Act. As an audit committee financial expert, Mr. Crews has the accounting or related financial management expertise that the NYSE listing standards require at least one member of an audit committee to have. The board of directors has also determined that all audit committee members are financially literate, as that qualification is interpreted by the board in its business judgment, in compliance with the NYSE listing standards requirements for audit committee members. The board of directors has also determined that all members of the committee are independent in accordance with the heightened independence standards established by the Exchange Act and adopted by the NYSE for audit committee members. See **Election of Directors Corporate Governance Director Independence** above.

The audit committee is responsible for the oversight of: (1) the integrity of our financial statements; (2) our system of internal control over financial reporting; (3) the performance of our internal audit function; (4) the independence, qualifications and performance of our independent auditor; and (5) our system of compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. Among other things, the audit committee, under its charter, directly appoints, compensates, retains and oversees the work of our independent auditor, which reports directly to the committee. The other principal duties and responsibilities of the audit committee are set forth in its charter, which was adopted by the board of directors and is available on our website at www.rocktenn.com. The audit committee may exercise additional authority prescribed from time to time by the board of directors.

The audit committee held nine meetings during fiscal 2013, including meetings to review and discuss with the independent auditor and management our quarterly earnings releases as well as the financial statements and the disclosure under the heading *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations* included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and in our annual report on Form 10-K.

Compensation Committee. Ms. Whyte and Messrs. Bernlohr, Gellerstedt and Spiegel are members of the compensation committee. Mr. Gellerstedt is chairman of the committee. The board of directors has determined that all members of the committee are independent. See **Election of Directors Corporate Governance Director Independence** above.

The purpose of the compensation committee is to assist the board of directors in fulfilling its responsibilities with respect to compensation of our executives and non-employee directors. The compensation committee is responsible for the following: (1) establishing salaries, bonuses and other compensation for our CEO and our other senior executives; and (2) administering our equity incentive plans, our employee stock purchase plan, our SERP (as defined below under **Executive Compensation Tables Retirement Plans SERP**), our Supplemental Plan (as defined below under **Executive Compensation Tables Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan**) and our annual executive bonus program.

The committee's principal duties and responsibilities are to do the following:

except to the extent that the committee elects to seek the approval of the board of directors,

review and approve corporate goals and objectives relating to compensation of our CEO;

evaluate the CEO's performance in light of any of these goals and objectives; and

determine and approve the CEO's compensation level based on any such evaluation;

except to the extent that the committee delegates the responsibility to the CEO or elects to seek the approval of the board of directors,

review and approve goals, objectives and recommendations relating to the compensation of senior executives (other than the CEO) and other executives submitted to the committee by the CEO; and

approve the compensation for senior executives (other than the CEO);

adopt, amend and administer our equity plans, cash-based long-term incentive compensation plans and non-qualified deferred compensation plans, except as otherwise provided in those plans;

make recommendations to the board of directors with respect to compensation of our non-employee directors;

set the overall compensation strategy and compensation policies for executives and our non-employee directors; and

prepare the report from the committee required by the rules of the SEC to be included in our annual proxy statement.

The other principal duties and responsibilities of the compensation committee are set forth in its charter, which was adopted by the board of directors and is available on our website at www.rocktenn.com.

We describe the processes and procedures we use to consider and determine executive compensation, including the scope of authority of the compensation committee, the role of our CEO in determining or recommending executive compensation and the role of our compensation consultant, in this proxy statement in the section below titled *Executive Compensation Compensation Discussion and Analysis*.

The compensation committee held three meetings during fiscal 2013.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation. In addition to Ms. Whyte and Messrs. Bernlohr, Gellerstedt and Spiegel, Mr. Felker was also a member of our compensation committee during fiscal 2013. None of the compensation committee members during fiscal 2013 is or has been an officer or employee of our company or had any relationship that is required to be disclosed as a transaction with a related party.

Finance Committee. Ms. Hourihan and Messrs. Brown, Chapman, Crews and Currey are members of the finance committee. Mr. Chapman is chairman of the committee.

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The purpose of the finance committee is to assist the board of directors in fulfilling its responsibilities with respect to oversight of our financial management and resources. The committee's principal duties and responsibilities are to do the following:

review our proposed capital budget, including expected financing approaches, and make recommendations to the board of directors on whether to approve the proposed capital budget;

review management's assessment of our capital structure, including dividend policies and stock repurchase programs, debt capacity and liquidity;

review procedures established by management to monitor debt-related covenant compliance and discuss with management any effect of covenants on our capital structure;

review financing and liquidity initiatives to be proposed by management for action by the board of directors; and

review, solely for purposes of determining the impact of our defined benefit plans on our finances and financial statements, the investment objectives, investment performance and funding requirements of the plans, and such other information relating to the plans as the finance committee deems appropriate for these purposes.

The other principal duties and responsibilities of the finance committee are set forth in its charter, which was adopted by the board of directors and is available on our website at www.rocktenn.com. The finance committee held three meetings during fiscal 2013.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Ms. Whyte and Messrs. Bernlohr, Brown, Chapman and Spiegel are members of the nominating and corporate governance committee. Ms. Whyte is chairman of the committee. The board of directors has determined that all members of the committee are independent. See *Election of Directors Corporate Governance Director Independence* above.

The purpose of the nominating and corporate governance committee is to assist the board of directors in fulfilling its corporate governance responsibilities including, without limitation, with respect to identifying and recommending qualified candidates for our board of directors and its committees; overseeing the evaluation of the effectiveness of the board of directors and its committees; and developing and recommending corporate governance guidelines. The committee's principal duties and responsibilities are to do the following:

develop and recommend corporate governance guidelines and any changes to the corporate governance guidelines;

review and make recommendations regarding corporate governance proposals by shareholders;

lead the search for potential director candidates;

evaluate and recommend candidates for our board of directors, including incumbent directors whose terms are expiring and potential new directors;

assist in the process of attracting qualified director nominees;

evaluate and recommend changes to the size, composition and structure of the board of directors and its committees;

evaluate and recommend changes to the membership criteria for the board of directors and its committees;

develop and recommend to the board of directors and, when approved by the board of directors, oversee an annual self-evaluation process for the board of directors and its committees in accordance with the corporate governance guidelines and recommend to the board of directors any changes to the process that the committee considers appropriate;

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recommend to the board of directors from time to time the establishment of any new committees of the board of directors as the nominating and corporate governance committee considers necessary or desirable;

evaluate recommendations to adopt or amend codes of business conduct and ethics and to recommend to the board of directors those codes that the nominating and corporate governance committee considers necessary to comply with applicable law or otherwise appropriate;

evaluate periodically all codes of business conduct and ethics adopted by the board of directors and recommend any changes that the nominating and corporate governance committee considers necessary to comply with applicable law or otherwise appropriate; and

recommend orientation and education procedures for directors as the committee considers appropriate.

The other principal duties and responsibilities of the nominating and corporate governance committee are set forth in its charter, which was adopted by the board of directors and is available on our website at www.rocktenn.com. The nominating and corporate governance committee will also consider and evaluate candidates properly submitted for nomination by shareholders in accordance with the procedures set forth in our bylaws, which are described below under the heading ***Additional Information Shareholder Nominations for Election of Directors***. See also ***Election of Directors Director Nominations*** above.

The nominating and corporate governance committee held three meetings during fiscal 2013.

Copies of Committee Charters. We have posted on our Internet website at www.rocktenn.com copies of the charters of each of the audit committee, the compensation committee, the finance committee and the nominating and corporate governance committee.

Board of Directors Role in Risk Management

Our board of directors has responsibility for the oversight of risk management at our company and implements its oversight function both as a whole and through delegation to its committees. The board recognizes that it is neither possible nor desirable to eliminate all risk. Rather, the board of directors views appropriate risk taking as essential to the long-term success of our company and seeks to understand and oversee critical business risks in the context of our business strategy, the magnitude of the particular risks and the proper allocation of our company's resources. The board of directors and its committees receive regular reports from members of senior management on areas of material risk to the company, including operational, financial, strategic, competitive, reputational, legal and regulatory risks, and how those risks are managed.

Various aspects of the board of directors' risk oversight are delegated to its committees, which meet regularly and report back to the full board. The following committees play significant roles in carrying out the risk oversight function:

Our audit committee oversees risks related to our company's financial statements, the financial reporting and disclosure processes, the financial and other internal controls, accounting and legal matters. The audit committee also oversees the internal audit function. Our independent outside auditors and the director of our internal audit department regularly identify and discuss with the audit committee risks and related mitigation measures that may arise during their regular reviews of our company's financial statements and audit work. The audit committee meets separately on a regular basis with representatives of our independent auditing firm, the director of our internal audit department and our general counsel.

Our compensation committee evaluates the risks and rewards associated with our company's compensation philosophy and programs. The compensation committee reviews and approves compensation programs with features designed to reward long-term achievement and discourage excessive short-term risk taking. An independent executive compensation consulting firm hired by the compensation committee advises the committee with respect to our executive compensation practices

and programs, including the risks associated with each of them. We believe that our compensation policies and principles in conjunction with our internal oversight of those policies and principles reduce the possibility of imprudent risk taking.

Our nominating and corporate governance committee monitors our corporate governance practices against applicable requirements, including those of the NYSE, and against evolving developments and is responsible for our codes of conduct and ethics, including the code of business conduct applicable to our employees. The nominating and corporate governance committee also considers issues associated with the independence of our board members.

Our finance committee reviews management's annual capital expenditure plans and management's assessment of the Company's capital structure, including dividend policies and stock repurchase programs, debt capacity, liquidity and refinancing risk. The finance committee reviews financing and liquidity initiatives to be proposed by management for board action. In addition, the committee reviews steps taken by management to ensure compliance with our company's financial management policies.

Our general counsel informs each committee and the board of directors of relevant legal and compliance issues, and each committee also has access to our company's outside counsel when they deem it advisable. Each committee also understands that it has the authority to engage such independent counsel as the committee deems necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

Annually, our CEO and chief financial officer and, as deemed appropriate by management or our board members, other senior executives make a presentation to our board of directors about risks associated with our business and how our company manages and mitigates those risks. Because overseeing risk is an ongoing process, the board of directors also discusses risk throughout the year at other meetings in relation to proposed actions or discussions with respect to various aspects of our operations.

We believe that the board of directors' approach to risk oversight provides a framework for the board in conjunction with management of our company to assess the various risks, make informed decisions and approach existing and emerging risks in a proactive manner for our company.

Compensation of Directors

The following table provides information concerning the compensation of our directors who are not named executive officers for fiscal 2013. We pay these directors annual retainer fees of \$105,000, paid in equal quarterly installments. The chairman of the board receives an additional annual fee of \$20,000, the chair of the audit committee receives an additional annual fee of \$15,000, and each chair of the other committees of our board of directors receives an additional annual fee of \$10,000. These factors account for differences among the compensation of the directors in the table below. In addition, each then serving non-employee director received, on January 24, 2013, pursuant to the Rock-Tenn Company Amended and Restated 2004 Incentive Stock Plan (which we refer to as the **2004 Incentive Stock Plan**), a grant of 1,325 shares of our Common Stock that will vest on January 24, 2014.

In accordance with SEC regulations, grants of restricted stock are valued at the grant date fair value computed in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Accounting Standards Codification 718, *Compensation - Stock Compensation* (which we refer to as **ASC 718**). The fair value per share of grants of restricted stock awarded in fiscal 2013 is equal to the closing sale price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the date of grant (*i.e.*, \$79.66 on January 24, 2013). We recognize such expense ratably over the vesting period but without reduction for assumed forfeitures (as we do for financial reporting purposes).

Director Compensation Table for Fiscal 2013

| Name | Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$) | Stock Awards \$(1)(2) | Option Awards \$(3) | Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$) | Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$) | All Other Compensation \$(4) | Total (\$) |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Timothy J. Bernlohr | \$ 105,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 212,121 |
| J. Powell Brown | \$ 105,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 212,121 |
| Robert M. Chapman | \$ 115,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 222,121 |
| Terrell K. Crews | \$ 105,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 212,121 |
| Russell M. Currey | \$ 105,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 212,121 |
| G. Stephen Felker | \$ 145,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 252,121 |
| L.L. Gellerstedt III | \$ 120,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 227,121 |
| Jenny A. Hourihan | \$ 17,500 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 17,500 |
| John W. Spiegel | \$ 105,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 212,121 |
| Bettina M. Whyte | \$ 120,000 | \$ 105,550 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,571 | \$ 227,121 |

- (1) Non-employee directors received stock awards on January 24, 2013. Amounts for 2013 stock awards are based on the closing sale price of our Common Stock on the NYSE of \$79.66 on January 24, 2013. We report in this column the aggregate fair value of grants made in fiscal 2013 in accordance with ASC 718. Please refer to Note 14 to our financial statements in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013 for a discussion of the assumptions related to the calculation of such value.
- (2) As of September 30, 2013, the aggregate number of unvested restricted stock awards held by each director serving at that time other than Mr. Rubright and Ms. Hourihan was 1,325 shares.
- (3) As of September 30, 2013, no non-employee director serving at that time held any unexercised stock options.
- (4) No non-employee director received perquisites or personal benefits in excess of \$10,000. Pursuant to SEC regulations, we report our perquisites only when our aggregate incremental cost of providing them to any individual exceeds \$10,000. This column includes dividends on unvested restricted stock paid to each non-employee director during fiscal 2013.

COMMON STOCK OWNERSHIP BY MANAGEMENT

AND PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

The table below shows, as of December 2, 2013, how many shares of our Common Stock each of the following beneficially owned: named executive officers (as defined below under *Executive Compensation Compensation Discussion and Analysis Introduction*), our directors, owners of 5% or more of our Common Stock and our directors and our executive officers as a group. Under the rules of the SEC, a person beneficially owns securities if that person has or shares the power to vote or dispose of the securities. The person also beneficially owns securities that the person has the right to purchase within 60 days. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed to beneficially own the same securities, and a person may be deemed to beneficially own securities in which he or she has no financial interest. Except as shown in the footnotes to the table, the shareholders named below have the sole power to vote or dispose of the shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

| Directors and | Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock | |
|--|---|------------------------|
| | Number of Shares | Percent of Class(1) |
| Named Executive Officers | | |
| James A. Rubright(2) | 313,235 | * |
| Steven C. Voorhees(3) | 277,267 | * |
| Ward H. Dickson | 0 | * |
| Michael E. Kiepora(4) | 155,071 | * |
| James B. Porter III(5) | 66,586 | * |
| Robert B. McIntosh(6) | 135,842 | * |
| Timothy J. Bernlohr(7) | 6,326 | * |
| J. Powell Brown(8) | 12,050 | * |
| Robert M. Chapman(9) | 12,050 | * |
| Terrell K. Crews(10) | 6,326 | * |
| Russell M. Currey(11) | 542,996 | * |
| G. Stephen Felker(12) | 36,325 | * |
| Lawrence L. Gellerstedt III(13) | 28,171 | * |
| Jenny A. Hourihan | 0 | * |
| John W. Spiegel(14) | 15,952 | * |
| Bettina M. Whyte(15) | 17,050 | * |
| All directors and executive officers as a group (16 persons)(16) | 1,654,632 | 2.29% |
| Shareholders | | |
| Fidelity Management & Research Company(17) | 9,347,681 | 12.99% |
| BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A.(17) | 4,124,943 | 5.73% |
| Vanguard Group, Inc.(17) | 4,002,231 | 5.56% |

* Less than 1%.

(1) Based on an aggregate of shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding as of December 2, 2013, plus, for each individual, the number of shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding stock options that are or will become exercisable on or prior to January 31, 2014.

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- (2) Share balance includes 113,510 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options beneficially owned by Mr. Rubright.

- (3) Share balance includes 68,200 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options beneficially owned by Mr. Voorhees.
- (4) Share balance includes 74,008 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options beneficially owned by Mr. Kiepura.
- (5) Share balance includes 18,167 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options beneficially owned by Mr. Porter.
- (6) Share balance includes 52,600 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options beneficially owned by Mr. McIntosh.
- (7) Share balance includes 1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Bernlohr that will vest on January 24, 2014.
- (8) Share balance includes:

9,000 shares held in a joint ownership investment account with Mr. Brown's spouse; and

1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Brown that will vest on January 24, 2014.

- (9) Share balance includes 1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Chapman that will vest on January 24, 2014.
- (10) Share balance includes 1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Crews that will vest on January 24, 2014.
- (11) Share balance includes:

42,808 shares deemed beneficially owned by Mr. Currey as trustee of a trust for the benefit of his mother;

92,966 shares beneficially owned by Mr. Currey that are owned by Boxwood Capital, LLC, a limited liability company of which Mr. Currey is the controlling member and president;

359,928 shares owned by Mr. Bradley Currey for which Mr. Russell Currey is the proxy agent; and

1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Russell Currey that will vest on January 24, 2014.

- (12) Share balance includes 1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Felker that will vest on January 24, 2014.
- (13) Share balance includes:

73 shares held by Mr. Gellerstedt's daughter; and

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1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Gellerstedt that will vest on January 24, 2014.

(14) Share balance includes:

14,627 shares deemed beneficially owned by Mr. Spiegel as trustee of a revocable trust for which he is the trustee, grantor and beneficiary: and

1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Mr. Spiegel that will vest on January 24, 2014.

(15) Share balance includes 1,325 shares of restricted stock beneficially owned by Ms. Whyte that will vest on January 24, 2014.

(16) Share balance includes 326,485 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options beneficially owned by our directors and executive officers.

(17) This information is based upon a NASDAQ OMQ Investor Analytics Report for the month of October 2003. Fidelity's address is 82 Devonshire Street, Boston MA 02109. BlackRock's address is 400 Howard Street, San Francisco CA 94105. Vanguard's address is 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern PA 19355.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
Identification of Executive Officers

The executive officers of our company are as follows as of December 19, 2013:

| Name | Age | Position Held |
|---------------------|------------|---|
| Steven C. Voorhees | 59 | Chief Executive Officer |
| Michael E. Kiepura | 57 | President - Consumer Packaging and Recycling |
| James B. Porter III | 62 | President - Corrugated Packaging |
| Ward H. Dickson | 51 | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer |
| Robert B. McIntosh | 56 | Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary |
| A. Stephen Meadows | 63 | Chief Accounting Officer |

Steven C. Voorhees has served as our chief executive officer since November 1, 2013. He served as our president and chief operating officer from January 2013 through October 2013 and served as our executive vice president and chief financial officer, from September 2000 to January 2013. Mr. Voorhees also served as our chief administrative officer from July 2008 to January 2013.

Michael E. Kiepura has served as President - Consumer Packaging and Recycling since July 2012. He served as President - Consumer Packaging from May 2011 to July 2012 and served as executive vice president of our consumer packaging business from July 2008 until May 2011. From June 2005 to July 2008 Mr. Kiepura was the executive vice president of our folding carton division. From August 2001 to June 2005, Mr. Kiepura was the senior vice president of sales in the folding carton division. From November 1999 to July 2001, Mr. Kiepura was senior vice president, eastern region, folding carton division.

James B. Porter III has served as President - Corrugated Packaging since July 2012. He served as President - Corrugated Packaging and Recycling from May 2011 to July 2012 and served as executive vice president of our corrugated packaging business from July 2008 until May 2011. Mr. Porter joined our company in connection with our acquisition of Southern Container Corp. in March 2008. Prior to his appointment as executive vice president, Mr. Porter served as the president and chief operating officer of Southern Container from 2004 and served as the president of Solvay Paperboard, a subsidiary of Southern Container, from 1997 through 2004.

Ward H. Dickson has served as our executive vice president and chief financial officer since September 16, 2013. From November of 2011 until September 2013, he served as the senior vice president of finance for the global sales and service organization of Cisco Systems, Inc., and, from July 2009 to November 2011, he served as the vice president of finance for the global sales and service organization of Cisco. Mr. Dickson served as the vice president of finance at Scientific Atlanta, a division of Cisco, from February 2006 until July 2009. Prior to Cisco's acquisition of Scientific Atlanta, Inc. in February 2006, Mr. Dickson had served as that company's vice president of worldwide financial operations since 2003.

Robert B. McIntosh has served as our executive vice president, general counsel and secretary since January 2009. Mr. McIntosh served as our senior vice president, general counsel and secretary since August 2000.

A. Stephen Meadows has served as our chief accounting officer since July 2006.

All of our executive officers are elected annually by the board of directors. Our chief executive officer serves at the discretion of our board of directors, and our other executive officers serve at the discretion of our chief executive officer.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION
COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**Introduction**

In this section, we discuss our compensation program as it pertains to each person who served as our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer during fiscal 2013 and our three other most highly-compensated executive officers who were serving at the end of fiscal 2013. We refer to these six persons throughout as the **named executive officers** or our **NEOs**. Our discussion focuses on compensation and practices relating to our most recently completed fiscal year.

Our NEOs for fiscal 2013 include the following people who held the positions set forth opposite their respective names during fiscal 2013:

| Name | Position Held |
|-----------------------|--|
| James A. Rubright(1) | Chief Executive Officer |
| Steven C. Voorhees(2) | Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer/President and Chief Operating Officer |
| Ward H. Dickson | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer |
| Michael E. Kiepora | President - Consumer Packaging and Recycling |
| James B. Porter III | President - Corrugated Packaging |
| Robert B. McIntosh | Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary |

(1) Mr. Rubright retired from our company on October 31, 2013.

(2) Mr. Voorhees was our executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer in fiscal 2013 until he was promoted to president and chief operating officer in January 2013. He was appointed as our chief executive officer, effective as of November 1, 2013.

Executive Summary

Our executive compensation program is based on a pay-for-performance model and uses long-term and short-term incentives to help drive performance and align the interests of our named executive officers with the interests of our shareholders. Our long-term incentives are equity based and include a combination of performance-based restricted stock and stock options, and our short-term incentives focus on the performance goals that we believe drive shareholder value and for which our executives are responsible. Together, these incentives focus our executives on making decisions that will benefit our shareholders and our stock price over the long term. As noted in the discussion below, more than half of our NEOs' compensation is equity based and more than 75% of our NEOs' compensation is variable or at-risk, thereby closely aligning their compensation with the interests of our shareholders.

Our NEOs' base salaries provide a basic level of compensation and enable us to recruit and retain executives. In fiscal 2013, our NEOs' base salaries ranged from 97% to 123% of the market median based on our current peer group and survey data. Our NEOs also receive annual incentives that reward performance based on various combinations of the following factors, as applicable to the individual NEO: our company's operating income, the operating income of our company's various businesses, our customer satisfaction surveys, our safety record, the reduction and management of the costs of our home office, the effectiveness of our legal department and individual performance evaluations. In accordance with our philosophy of paying for performance, a NEO's performance-based compensation rises and falls with the performance of our company as a whole as well as by the performance of operations that report to an individual NEO.

In fiscal 2013, our executive compensation program performed as designed. During the year, our company's financial performance as a whole achieved a level above the maximum goal set by our compensation committee for the component of our NEOs' annual bonus opportunities related to our company's operating income. This resulted in awards of the highest percentage available of this component of each of our NEOs' bonuses because the performance of our company is an element of each of their performance bonus goals. Our corrugated packaging segment also achieved above the maximum goal set for that segment's financial performance bonus component during fiscal 2013. Therefore, the NEO with responsibility for our corrugated packaging segment realized the highest level of this bonus component, rewarding this outstanding performance. Our consumer packaging segment exceeded its target goal set for financial performance and almost achieved its maximum goal for financial goal so that the NEO with responsibility for that segment earned a bonus that rewarded his segment's excellent performance.

On the other hand, while the results of our company's overall customer satisfaction surveys exceeded the threshold bonus opportunity for this component, the survey results failed to achieve the high target that we had set for this goal because of our emphasis on customer satisfaction. This impacted that measure of the bonuses of Messrs. Rubright, Voorhees and McIntosh whose bonus goals each included these survey results. Corrugated packaging did not achieve a threshold customer satisfaction result, which caused Mr. Porter to achieve no reward for that segment of his bonus calculation while our consumer packaging segment exceeded the maximum goal for customer satisfaction results resulting in the maximum reward for this element of Mr. Kiepura's bonus calculation. We also place a high value and emphasis on safety and use it as an important measure of our NEOs' bonus goals. Variances in our company's overall safety results both as a company and by segment resulted in differing rewards for our NEOs who are rewarded for the areas.

Our performance-based restricted stock that vested in fiscal 2013 was contingent on our company achieving a specific cash flow to market equity ratio over specified multi-year periods. Our company achieved a cash flow to market equity ratio, as defined in the grants, of over 20% for the three-year period ending December 31, 2012, which exceeded the level at which the awards made in January 2010 would vest at the maximum level. This increased the value of the equity incentive portion of our NEOs' compensation, which is reflected in the materials below. Thus we believe that our short-term and long-term incentives achieved their objectives of motivating and rewarding performance and aligning the interests of our NEOs with those of our shareholders.

Executive Compensation Philosophy

Our executive compensation philosophy is based on the belief that the compensation of our employees, including our named executive officers, should be set at levels that allow us to attract and retain employees who are committed to achieving high performance and who demonstrate the ability to do so. We seek to provide an executive compensation package that is driven by our overall financial performance, increased shareholder value, the success of areas of our business directly impacted by the executive's performance, and the performance of the individual executive. We view our compensation program as a strategic tool that supports the successful execution of our business strategy. The core principles of this strategy include the following:

making compensation decisions that are based on a pay-for-performance model, thereby linking a substantial portion of total direct compensation to variable at-risk pay;

long-term incentives (which we refer to as **LTI**) should be used in addition to short-term incentives (which we refer to as **STI**) to encourage a focus on long-term strategy and execution;

equity compensation should be used in addition to cash compensation to align the interests of our executives with the interests of our shareholders;

compensation should reflect an employee's level of responsibility and contribution, and the greater the responsibility, the greater the share of an employee's compensation that should be at-risk with respect to performance; and

overall compensation must be competitive relative to other comparable organizations in order to attract superior executives. The following table shows the use of these principles in the weighting of the target total direct compensation elements in effect during fiscal 2013:

| Mr. Rubright (chairman and CEO) | | NEOs (other than Mr. Rubright) | |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Base Salary | 14% | Base Salary | 22% |
| Target Bonus | 21% | Target Bonus | 21% |
| Target LTI | 64% | Target LTI | 57% |
| Target Variable | 86% | Target Variable | 78% |
| LTI vs. STI | 75%/25% | LTI vs. STI | 74%/26% |
| Equity vs. Cash | 64%/36% | Equity vs. Cash | 57%/43% |

Objectives of Our Executive Compensation Program

The objectives of our executive compensation program are to create a clear path between realized compensation and the successful execution of our business strategy; attract and retain high quality executives capable of and committed to achieving superior performance; enhance each individual executive's performance; align incentives with the areas of our business most directly impacted by the executive's leadership and performance; improve the overall performance of our company; increase shareholder value by creating a mutuality of interest between the executive officers and shareholders through equity compensation structures that promote the sharing of the risks and rewards of strategic decision-making; and enhance the financial effectiveness of the program by taking into consideration the accounting treatment, deductibility and taxation of compensation decisions.

Administration of Our Executive Compensation Program

Our executive compensation program is administered by the compensation committee of our board of directors. As reflected in its charter, the compensation committee approves executive compensation and the related corporate and individual goals and objectives, determines the compensation of our CEO and approves the compensation of our other senior executives and evaluates our CEO's performance relative to established goals and objectives.

Over the course of each year, the compensation committee reviews the relationship between our executive compensation program and the achievement of business objectives, as well as the competitiveness of the program.

The compensation committee retains a compensation consulting firm to provide objective analysis, advice and information to the compensation committee, including competitive market data and compensation recommendations related to our CEO and our other senior executives. Hay Group served as the independent executive compensation consultant to the compensation committee during fiscal 2013. The compensation consultant reports to the chairman of the compensation committee and has direct access to the other members of the compensation committee. The compensation consultant attends committee meetings and also meets with the compensation committee in person in executive sessions without management present. The decisions made by the compensation committee are the responsibility of the committee and may reflect factors and considerations other than the information and recommendations provided by the compensation consultant. Hay Group did not provide us with any other services in fiscal 2013.

The compensation committee considers input from our CEO in making determinations regarding our overall executive compensation program and the individual compensation of the senior executives other than our CEO. As part of the annual planning process, our CEO develops targets for our annual bonus program and presents

them to the compensation committee for consideration. Based on performance appraisals and information regarding competitive market practices provided by the compensation consultant, our CEO recommends base salary adjustments, annual bonus opportunities, and long-term incentive levels for our senior executives other than our CEO. Each year, our CEO presents to the compensation committee and the non-management directors his evaluation of each senior executive's contribution and performance over the past year, strengths and development needs and actions, and reviews succession plans for each of our senior executives.

After taking into account advice and recommendations from our CEO and the compensation consultant, the compensation committee determines what changes, if any, should be made to the executive compensation program and sets the level of compensation for each senior executive with respect to each element in the compensation program. In setting these levels, the compensation committee reviews a detailed analysis of each senior executive's annual total direct compensation (base salary, annual bonus opportunity and long-term incentives), including the competitive market data discussed below and the value of benefits under our retirement plans and reviews compensation tally sheets with respect to our most senior executives that set forth each element of the executives' compensation and benefits.

Say-on-Pay

In accordance with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, we began providing our shareholders with the opportunity to cast an advisory vote regarding the compensation of our named executive officers in 2010. At our annual shareholders' meeting held on January 25, 2013, more than 87% of the votes cast were in favor of our executive compensation program. We considered this to be an extremely favorable result and determined not to make any changes to our compensation policies as a result of these votes. We intend to continue to provide our shareholders the opportunity to cast advisory votes annually.

Consideration of Competitive Market Data Regarding Executive Compensation

In determining the amount of senior executive compensation each year, the compensation committee reviews competitive market data from a combination of a specific peer group of companies within the paper and packaging industry and various published survey data for similarly sized companies or business units in the non-durable goods manufacturing sector. In some cases, these surveys include all manufacturing or general industry data, when non-durable goods manufacturing categories are not available. For fiscal 2013, a peer group was selected based on the recommendation of our consultant, who considered factors like revenue size, nature of business, talent market, organizational complexity, and location. This peer group consisted of the following companies:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alcoa Inc. | MeadWestvaco Corporation |
| Ball Corporation | Newell Rubbermaid Inc. |
| Bemis Company, Inc. | Nucor Corporation |
| Crown Holdings, Inc. | Owens-Illinois Inc. |
| The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company | Sealed Air Corp. |
| Graphic Packaging Holding Company | Sonoco Products Company |
| Greif Inc. | United States Steel Corporation |
| International Paper Company | Weyerhaeuser Company |
| Kimberly-Clark Corporation | |

The compensation committee uses this peer group and survey data regarding base salary, annual performance bonuses and long-term incentives to assist directors in determining appropriate overall compensation levels but does not specifically benchmark to particular compensation levels. The following sets forth the compensation committee's approach to the various components of executive compensation for our named executive officers relative to the competitive market data for executive talent discussed above:

Base salary Salaries are determined based on the executive's responsibilities, performance, experience, and the compensation committee's judgment regarding competitive requirements and internal equity. We do not target a specific market data percentile for base salaries. Our salaries are individually determined and range broadly among our senior executives.

Annual performance bonus Annual performance bonus opportunities are determined based on the executive's individual responsibilities and experience and are individually set for each executive after reviewing market data. We do not target a specific market data percentile for bonus opportunities. Our bonus opportunities range broadly among our senior executives.

Long-term incentives In setting the aggregate LTI values, the compensation committee compares our most recent one and three-year financial performance to the financial performance of the peer group of companies and reviews market levels of LTI for the peer group and other competitive market data to assist it in determining appropriate levels of LTI. Individual LTI awards are based on individual assessments, taking into account the executive's responsibilities, performance, experience and other factors.

While the compensation committee reviews benchmarking information regarding the various components of compensation for each of the NEOs and certain other senior executives, the primary benchmark used to assess executive compensation is target total direct compensation, which is comprised of the target total cash compensation (base salary and target annual bonus opportunity), plus the target amount of the LTI awards. Based on our current peer group and survey data, the target total direct compensation of our CEO in fiscal 2013 was 117% of the market median and the target total direct compensation of our other NEOs for fiscal 2013 ranged from 89% to 127% of the market median.

The compensation committee believes that this approach results in appropriate levels of compensation for our senior executives and results in market levels of compensation that are necessary to attract, retain and motivate our senior executives. In making its determinations, the compensation committee does not take into account an individual's net worth or the aggregate wealth accumulated or realized by the individual from past compensation grants.

Components of Our Executive Compensation Program

We provide a combination of pay elements and benefits to accomplish our executive compensation objectives, including both short-term and long-term compensation. We believe that long-term incentives are critical in aligning our executives' interests with our shareholders' interests and creating an effective retention measure.

The four primary components of our executive compensation program include:

base salary;

annual performance bonus;

long-term incentives; and

retirement benefits.

A description of these four components and related programs follows.

Base Salary. Base salary is designed to provide competitive levels of compensation to executives based upon their responsibilities, performance and experience, in relation to competitive market data. No specific formula is applied to determine the weight of each of these factors. We pay base salaries because they provide a basic level of compensation and are necessary to recruit and retain executives. In fiscal 2013, our NEO's base salaries ranged from 97% to 123% of the market median based on our current peer group and survey data.

At lower executive levels, base salaries represent a larger portion of total compensation. At more senior executive levels, a greater portion of overall compensation is progressively replaced with larger variable compensation opportunities. The compensation committee has historically followed a policy of using primarily performance bonus awards rather than base salary to reward outstanding performance.

Base salary levels are also important because we generally tie the amount of annual performance bonus and long-term incentive opportunities and a substantial portion of our retirement benefits to a percentage of each executive's base salary.

Annual Performance Bonus. Our annual executive bonus program is designed to motivate senior executives and reward the achievement of specific performance goals that are in line with our business strategy. Annual bonus goals are established for each of the executives who participate in the program, including each of our named executive officers.

The size of the target annual executive bonus program opportunities are designed to provide competitive levels of compensation to executives based upon their experience, duties and scope of responsibilities. Target awards are based on a percentage of the executive's year-end base salary.

The amount actually paid to an executive under the annual executive bonus program is a function of the following variables: the executive's target bonus opportunity; the goals established by the compensation committee for the executive; for each goal, the attainment of minimum achievement levels (threshold), capped by maximum achievement levels, and the compensation committee's determination of the extent to which the executive's goals were met. Awards earned under the annual executive bonus program are contingent upon continued employment with us through the end of the fiscal year or as otherwise determined by the compensation committee.

The fiscal 2013 bonus goals of each of our named executive officers are set forth below. The bonus goals of Mr. Rubright were based exclusively on consolidated company measures because his position with us had a substantial impact on the achievement of those measures. The fiscal 2013 bonus goals of Mr. Voorhees were based exclusively on consolidated company measures when he was serving as our president and chief operating officer because the positions he held with us in those capacities had a substantial impact on the achievement of those measures. The fiscal 2013 bonus goals of Mr. Voorhees when he was serving as our executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer were based both consolidated company measures and home office measures, which are more fully described below, because his service in those capacities had a substantial impact on the achievement of each of those measures. The fiscal 2013 bonus goals of Messrs. Kiepora and Porter were based primarily on the measures of the respective businesses that they each lead as president. Mr. Dickson was only employed with us for the last two weeks of fiscal 2013 so he did not have bonus goals for fiscal 2013, but he earned a one-time signing bonus of \$25,000 during fiscal 2013. The fiscal 2013 bonus goals of Mr. McIntosh were based on consolidated company measures, home office measures and his performance, including the effectiveness of the legal department.

The primary performance goals for each of our NEOs are operating income, customer satisfaction ratings and safety measures, with operating income having the greatest weighting because we believe that maximizing the operating income of each of our businesses and the consolidated company over the long-term will drive

shareholder value. Customer satisfaction ratings are an important component of our performance goals because they provide us with an objective measure of how our customers view the quality of our products, the level of our service and the value they receive from conducting business with us. We use CSM Marketing, an independent market research firm, to conduct our annual customer satisfaction surveys, which reports on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest rating.

Safety has long been, and continues to be, an important aspect of our culture. We therefore include safety measures as part of the performance goals for all of our NEOs, other than Messrs. McIntosh and Voorhees, before he became our president and chief operating officer, because Mr. McIntosh has no responsibility for manufacturing operations, and Mr. Voorhees had no responsibilities for manufacturing operations when he was our executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer. Our safety performance measures include the number of workers' compensation claims (which we refer to as **TWCC**) and the severity of injuries as measured by the number of workdays lost due to injuries (which we refer to as **LWD**). **TWCC** is equal to (i) the number of workers' compensation claims made in our company or a particular business unit, as applicable, during a fiscal year, multiplied by 200,000, divided by (ii) the actual number of hours worked during the fiscal year. **LWD** is equal to (i) the number of workdays lost due to injuries in our company or by a particular business unit, as applicable, during a fiscal year, multiplied by 200,000, divided by (ii) the actual number of hours worked during the fiscal year. In the case of Mr. McIntosh, home office cost savings are an important area of our performance measurement of him because he has responsibility for a substantial portion of our corporate administrative costs. We also measured Mr. Voorhees on home cost savings before he became our president and chief operating officer because he had responsibility for a substantial portion of our corporate administrative costs when he was our executive vice president and chief financial officer. These cost savings goals include maintaining or increasing prior year savings and reducing current year costs.

For fiscal 2013, the compensation committee established the following bonus goals and performance benchmarks for Mr. Rubright under the annual executive bonus program. He was eligible to earn a cash bonus of up to a maximum of 200% of his year-end base salary to the extent we achieved the following goals at or in excess of the maximum performance benchmark:

| Goal | Weight | Performance Benchmarks (Dollars in 000s) | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| | | Threshold | Target | Maximum |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 75% | \$ 525,000 | \$ 743,600 | \$ 825,000 |
| Customer Satisfaction - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 10% | 8.4 | 8.7 | 8.9 |
| Safety (TWCC) - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 7.5% | 2.75 | 2.25 | 1.75 |
| Safety (LWD) - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 7.5% | 28 | 20 | 12 |

For fiscal 2013, for the period from October 1, 2012 through January 31, 2013, when Mr. Voorhees was serving as our executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer, the compensation committee established the following bonus goals and performance benchmarks for him under the annual executive bonus program. He was eligible to earn a cash bonus of up to a maximum of 120% of his year-end base salary for that period of time to the extent we achieved the following goals at or in excess of the maximum performance benchmark as of the end of the fiscal year:

| Goal | Weight | Performance Benchmarks (Dollars in 000s) | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| | | Threshold | Target | Maximum |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 50% | \$ 525,000 | \$ 743,600 | \$ 825,000 |
| Customer Satisfaction - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 10% | 8.4 | 8.7 | 8.9 |
| Home Office - | | | | |
| Maintain/Increase FY12 Savings | 10% | \$ 70,000 | \$ 75,000 | \$ 85,000 |
| Home Office - | | | | |
| Reduce and Manage FY13 Costs | 30% | \$ 35,000 | \$ 50,000 | \$ 65,000 |

For fiscal 2013, for the period from February 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013, when Mr. Voorhees was serving as our president and chief operating officer, the compensation committee established the following bonus goals and performance benchmarks for him under the annual executive bonus program. He was eligible to earn a cash bonus of up to a maximum of 135% of his year-end base salary to the extent we achieved the following goals at or in excess of the maximum performance benchmark during that period of time:

| Goal | Weight | Performance Benchmarks (Dollars in 000s) | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| | | Threshold | Target | Maximum |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 75% | \$ 347,000 | \$ 491,600 | \$ 545,100 |
| Customer Satisfaction - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 10% | 8.4 | 8.7 | 8.9 |
| Safety (TWCC) - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 7.5% | 2.75 | 2.25 | 1.75 |
| Safety (LWD) - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 7.5% | 28 | 20 | 12 |

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For fiscal 2013, the compensation committee established the following bonus goals and performance benchmarks for Mr. Kiepura under the annual executive bonus program. He was eligible to earn a cash bonus of up to a maximum of 135% of his year-end base salary to the extent we achieved the following goals at or in excess of the maximum performance benchmark:

| Goal | Weight | Performance Benchmarks (Dollars in 000s) | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| | | Threshold | Target | Maximum |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 20% | \$ 525,000 | \$ 743,600 | \$ 825,000 |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consumer Packaging | 55% | \$ 223,500 | \$ 277,300 | \$ 299,300 |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Recycling | 5% | \$ 11,000 | \$ 16,600 | \$ 20,000 |
| Customer Satisfaction - | | | | |
| Consumer Packaging and Recycling | 10% | 8.3 | 8.7 | 9 |
| Safety (TWCC) - | | | | |
| Consumer Packaging | 5% | 3 | 2.25 | 1.5 |
| Safety (LWD) - | | | | |
| Consumer Packaging | 5% | 30 | 20 | 10 |

For fiscal 2013, the compensation committee established the following bonus goals and performance benchmarks for Mr. Porter under the annual executive bonus program. He was eligible to earn a cash bonus of up to a maximum of 135% of his year-end base salary to the extent we achieved the following goals at or in excess of the maximum performance benchmark:

| Goal | Weight | Performance Benchmarks (Dollars in 000s) | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| | | Threshold | Target | Maximum |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 20% | \$ 525,000 | \$ 743,600 | \$ 825,000 |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Corrugated | 55% | \$ 382,500 | \$ 546,400 | \$ 628,300 |
| Customer Satisfaction - | | | | |
| Corrugated | 10% | 8.3 | 8.7 | 9 |
| Safety (TWCC) - | | | | |
| Corrugated | 10% | 3 | 2.25 | 1.5 |
| Safety (LWD) - | | | | |
| Corrugated | 5% | 30 | 20 | 10 |

For fiscal 2013, the compensation committee established the following bonus goals and performance benchmarks for Mr. McIntosh under the annual executive bonus program. He was eligible to earn a cash bonus of up to a maximum of 100% of his year-end base salary to the extent he or she achieved the following goals at or in excess of the maximum performance benchmark:

| Goal | Weight | Performance Benchmarks (Dollars in 000s) | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---|------------|------------|
| | | Threshold | Target | Maximum |
| Operating Income - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 40% | \$ 525,000 | \$ 743,600 | \$ 825,000 |
| Customer Satisfaction - | | | | |
| Consolidated Company | 10% | 8.4 | 8.7 | 8.9 |
| Home Office - | | | | |
| Maintain/Increase FY12 Savings | 10% | \$ 70,000 | \$ 75,000 | \$ 85,000 |
| Home Office - | | | | |
| Reduce and Manage FY13 Costs | 15% | \$ 35,000 | \$ 50,000 | \$ 65,000 |
| Individual Performance | | | | |
| Evaluation | 17.5% | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Legal Department Effectiveness | | | | |
| Evaluation | 7.5% | 1 | 2 | 3 |

The compensation committee sets these performance goals and related performance benchmarks at the beginning of each fiscal year after considering management's recommendations, confidential business plan and budget for that fiscal year. The compensation committee sets the required performance benchmark to achieve a maximum payout for a particular performance goal at ambitious levels that can only be attained when applicable results are exceptional and which justify the higher award payments. We set goals at a level where we expect an executive to achieve a maximum payout with respect to a particular performance goal one or two years out of ten. Similarly, we set goals at a level where we expect an executive to achieve a threshold payout or less with respect to a particular performance goal one or two years out of ten.

Potential bonus payouts under our annual executive bonus program depend on the level at which the performance benchmarks are achieved as set forth in the table below, based on a percentage of the executive's year-end base salary. The failure to achieve at least a threshold performance benchmark with respect to a particular bonus goal will result in no payout with respect to that portion of the bonus. The achievement in excess of the maximum performance benchmark with respect to a particular bonus goal will result in a maximum payout with respect to that bonus goal. The achievement in excess of the threshold performance benchmark with respect to that portion of the bonus, but at a level below the maximum performance benchmark, will result in a payout with respect to the particular bonus goal based on straight-line linear interpolation. The compensation committee is responsible for assessing actual performance relative to performance benchmarks for each goal and, in doing so, determines and certifies the amount of any final bonus payout. For fiscal 2013, the compensation committee determined and certified that the named executive officers achieved overall performance benchmarks resulting in the executive bonus payout as a percentage of their year-end salaries set forth below in the column entitled "Actual 2013 Executive Bonus Payout."

| NEO | Payout Based on Achieving Benchmark at Threshold | Payout Based on Achieving Benchmark at Target | Payout Based on Achieving Benchmark at Maximum | Actual 2013 Executive Bonus Payout |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| James A. Rubright | 125% | 150% | 200% | 193.88% |
| Steven C. Voorhees (10/1/12 - 1/31/13) | 70% | 90% | 120% | 116.1% |
| (2/1/13 - 9/30/13) | 75% | 100% | 135% | 130.44% |
| Ward H. Dickson | | | | |
| Michael E. Kiepura | 75% | 100% | 135% | 130.21% |
| James B. Porter III | 75% | 100% | 135% | 120.05% |
| Robert B. McIntosh | 50% | 75% | 100% | 91.81% |

During fiscal 2007 through 2013, our CEO received an average bonus payout that is 117.8% of the target level, while during that same period, our named executive officers (other than our CEO) received an average bonus that is 119.8% of the target level. For fiscal 2014, the bonus goals and their relative weighting for each of the named executive officers shown above will be the same as those applicable for fiscal 2013, except that Mr. Voorhees's bonus goals will now reflect the fact that he is our chief executive officer, and Mr. Dickson's bonus goals will be established on benchmark's that reflect his role as our executive vice president and chief financial officer. Also, the performance benchmarks required to achieve threshold, target and maximum benchmarks have been changed. The compensation committee may change the performance goals for fiscal 2015 and later years.

Long-Term Incentives. We emphasize long-term variable compensation at the senior executive level over short-term variable compensation because of our desire to reward effective long-term management decision-making and our desire to attract and retain executives who have the potential to positively impact both our short-term and long-term profitability. Long-term incentives are designed to allow us to focus attention on the successful execution of our long-term business strategy and future returns to our shareholders and are presently delivered to the named executive officers through the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan. The compensation committee administers the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan and may award (a) stock options, (b) stock appreciation rights, (c) stock grants, (d) stock unit grants and (e) cash awards. The compensation committee generally has made annual or special awards to our named executive officers that have included a combination of restricted stock and stock options.

Restricted Stock and Stock Options. On January 25, 2013, the compensation committee made long-term incentive award grants to our named executive officers. The awards consisted of performance-based restricted stock grants and stock options made pursuant to our 2004 Incentive Stock Plan. We feel the combination of performance-based restricted stock with stock options is a strong at-risk, long-term incentive portfolio that provides strong alignment between our stock price performance, our management team's long-term execution of our strategic plan, and the long-term incentive amounts actually realized by our executive team.

The restricted stock grants have a service condition and a performance condition. The performance condition is based on our cash flow to equity ratio (as defined below). The term cash flow to equity ratio means the ratio of our company's cash flow (as defined below), divided by an amount equal to (i) \$5,019,357,562, representing 71,797,419 shares of our Common Stock outstanding as of the end of the day on December 31, 2012, multiplied by \$69.91, the closing price of our Common Stock outstanding on December 31, 2012, (ii) divided by three (to reflect the 3-year performance period). The term cash flow means the cash provided by operating activities achieved during the period commencing on January 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2015, as set forth in our statements of cash flow, as adjusted in accordance with certain rules approved by our compensation committee.

Subject to the satisfaction of the applicable service requirement, the target award for our restricted stock grants made on January 25, 2013 will vest based on our company's achievement of a cash flow to equity ratio described above as follows:

Cash Flow to

| Equity Ratio | Percent of Target Award |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ³ 16.0 | 200% |
| ³ 14.0 but < 16.0 | 100% |
| ³ 10.0 but < 14.0 | 50% |
| < 10.0 | 0% |

Performance between these goal levels will be interpolated on a linear basis.

On January 25, 2013, the compensation committee also approved awards of stock options under the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan for the purchase of shares of Common Stock with an exercise price of \$79.80, the closing sale price on the NYSE on January 25, 2013. These stock options will vest on January 25, 2016 for all of the NEOs, except for Mr. Rubright, whose stock options vested upon his retirement on October 31, 2013. The stock options of a NEO will be immediately exercisable in full upon his death or disability or if his employment terminates after he has reached the age of 60 years and has completed at least 10 consecutive years of continuous service for our company. On September 16, 2013, Mr. Dickson received a grant of 15,000 shares of restricted stock with no performance condition requirements that will vest in increments of 3,750 shares on each of the next four anniversaries of their grant. The compensation committee approved the following restricted stock and stock option grants to our named executive officers, other than Mr. Dickson, on January 25, 2013:

| Name | Target Award - # of Restricted Shares | Stock Options - # of Shares Subject to Exercise |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| James A. Rubright | 58,080 | 37,210 |
| Steven C. Voorhees(1) | 19,840 | 9,280 |
| Michael E. Kiepora | 15,740 | 10,090 |
| James B. Porter III | 18,480 | 11,840 |
| Robert B. McIntosh | 5,970 | 3,820 |

- (1) Mr. Voorhees was awarded 14,490 shares of restricted stock on January 25, 2013, and, on February 5, 2013, the compensation committee approved an additional grant of 5,350 shares of restricted stock to Mr. Voorhees in connection with his promotion to president and chief operating officer that have the same service and performance conditions as the grants that he received on January 25, 2013.

If the granted restricted shares described above vest in accordance with the formula described above, they will be registered in the name of the applicable NEO as of January 25, 2016, unless forfeited or vested before that date. None of the shares of restricted stock will have voting or dividend rights until they are registered in the name of the applicable individual.

Except as provided below, all of the restricted shares described above granted to our NEOs, other than Mr. Rubright, will vest on January 25, 2016, unless forfeited or vested before then, so long as the respective NEO is still employed by our company on that date. The service requirement of Mr. Rubright's outstanding, unvested restricted shares vested upon his retirement on October 31, 2013, but he is still subject to any performance-based vesting requirements.

If a NEO's employment is terminated due to his death or disability prior to the date when his stock grants would have vested as described above, he will be entitled to all of the stock grants that would have otherwise vested had his employment not been terminated by reason of his death or disability once the applicable amount has been determined in accordance with the formula described above.

Our compensation committee has also determined that any stock grants made during fiscal 2013 or later pursuant to the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan will vest early in the event of a change in control termination event. A change in control termination event would occur if a grant recipient's employment with our company or its successor is terminated by our company or its successor or the grant recipient leaves our company or its successor for good reason within three years following a change in control of our company. Good reason would include, among other occurrences, the assignment to the grant recipient of duties inconsistent with his or her position immediately prior to the change in control or a substantial decrease in his or her responsibilities; a reduction in the grant recipient's annual base salary; the elimination of a material element of the recipient's compensation or material reduction of the recipient's participation in the material element of compensation from substantially the same basis as before the change in control; the elimination of substantially similar pension or welfare plans (except for across-the-board reductions of such benefits for all similarly placed employees), or a material reduction of any material fringe benefit.

Each of the named executive officers is required to retain ownership of fifty percent (50%) of the restricted stock awarded to him for a period of two years following the vesting of the restricted stock. The two-year retention period will not apply to any shares to the extent that the executive continues to own an amount of our Common Stock at least equal to the amount of shares required under the preceding sentence, plus an amount of shares required to be held under our stock ownership guidelines (described below). In addition, NEOs are not subject to the retention requirements after termination of employment. The fifty percent (50%) requirement will apply only to the amount of restricted stock remaining after shares of Common Stock have been sold or otherwise reduced to satisfy any federal, state or local withholding tax liability arising from the granting or vesting of such restricted stock. The restricted stock grants that we make to our NEOs do not have voting or dividend rights until they are fully vested.

Retirement Benefits. We also provide certain retirement benefits to our named executive officers. These are discussed in detail below in the section titled *Executive Compensation Tables - Retirement Plans*.

Perquisites. Perquisites are not a significant element of our executive compensation program. We do not reimburse our NEOs for club memberships or tax gross-up payments, other than Mr. Porter with respect to his automobile allowance and life insurance premiums, both of which we agreed to pay in connection with our acquisition of Southern Container Corp. (which we refer to as **SCC**).

Certain perquisites are provided that enable our NEOs to perform their responsibilities more efficiently. For example, during fiscal 2013, Mr. Rubright, and currently, Messrs. Voorhees, Kiepora and Porter may use our airplanes for business and limited personal use. This perquisite helps keep them more secure, ensures their quick availability for company matters and permits them to work on company business without distractions. We believe that the benefit to us of providing this perquisite outweighs the costs to the company.

Employment Agreement with James A. Rubright. On February 7, 2006, we entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Rubright in which he agreed that for three years following the date of his termination of employment with us he would not knowingly, without our prior written consent, disclose to any person, firm or corporation any material confidential information of our company or its subsidiaries that was not then known to Mr. Rubright or that thereafter may become known to Mr. Rubright as a result of his employment or association

with our company and that would be helpful to a competitor. Mr. Rubright also agreed that, for a period of three years following the date of his termination with us he would not induce, either directly or indirectly, any salaried employee of our company or any of its subsidiaries to terminate his or her employment, and he would not call on or solicit for the purpose of competing with our company or its subsidiaries any customers of our company or its subsidiaries. In the event of a breach by Mr. Rubright of these covenants, we will have the right to an injunction or other equitable relief in any court of competent jurisdiction enjoining any such breach, in addition to pursuing any other rights and remedies at law or in equity that we may have. Mr. Rubright retired from our company on October 31, 2013.

Employment Agreement with James B. Porter III. Effective as of March 5, 2008, in connection with our acquisition of SCC, we assumed an employment agreement with Mr. Porter that he had previously entered into with SCC before our acquisition of it. Unless terminated earlier by us or Mr. Porter, the term of his employment agreement will end on December 31, 2014. At the end of its term, the term will be automatically extended for additional one-year terms unless either of us or Mr. Porter has notified the other of non-extension of the term at least 30 days prior to the scheduled termination date. Mr. Porter's salary and bonus are no longer set in accordance with his employment agreement. In his employment agreement, we also agreed to provide Mr. Porter with a \$1,000 per month car allowance. We also pay tax gross-ups for Mr. Porter's automobile allowance and those related to the payment of a life insurance policy.

In connection with his employment agreement, Mr. Porter has agreed that during the term of his employment with us and at all times after his departure he will not use or disclose any information concerning us or our business affairs or our trade secrets acquired by him while employed by us. Mr. Porter has also agreed that during his employment with us and for two years after his separation from us he will not directly or indirectly individually or in any capacity engage or participate in or give any advice or assistance to or work as a manager in any business that competes with us or has an equity interest in a box plant or paper mill within a 200 mile radius of any of SCC's box plants or paper mills.

Mr. Porter has further agreed that during the term of his employment with us and for 2 years after its termination he will not solicit any customers who were our customers at any time during his employment or induce any of our employees or representatives to join him or any business which he may be associated with in any capacity. If Mr. Porter breaches any of his covenants regarding competition with us, or solicitation or inducement of our customers or employees, we will have the right to an injunction or other restrictions in court.

In the event that Mr. Porter's employment with us is terminated due to his death or permanent disability, or by us without Gross Cause (as defined below), a prorated portion of his bonus will be paid by us to him (or, in the event of his death prior to such payment, to his designated beneficiary or beneficiaries) at the time his bonus would have been paid had his employment continued for the full fiscal year in which it was terminated.

Under his employment agreement, we may terminate Mr. Porter's employment with us with or without Gross Cause. However, if we terminate him other than for Gross Cause, we shall pay him an amount equal to 12 months of his base salary, at the rate in effect on the date of termination, payable at the times his salary would have otherwise been paid had his employment continued over a 12-month severance period and any bonus that would have been paid if his employment had continued during the 12-month severance period.

Additionally, if Mr. Porter's employment is terminated prior to the termination date of his agreement by us for grounds that would not constitute Gross Cause or the employment agreement is not renewed for any additional period at the time of its termination in accordance with its terms, then:

Mr. Porter's outstanding unvested stock options, if any, will, as of the date of termination of his employment, become immediately vested in full and shall become immediately exercisable and will remain exercisable until the earlier of ninety (90) days following the date of his termination of employment or the latest date on which any applicable options could be exercised under its terms had Mr. Porter's employment with us not terminated.

Mr. Porter will be fully vested in any outstanding unvested long-term incentive awards from us other than stock options (which we refer to as **LTI Awards**) granted in any calendar year prior to the calendar year in which he terminates employment, provided that any applicable performance goals under the applicable LTI Awards have been satisfied in accordance with their terms; and (ii) Mr. Porter will be vested in a prorated portion of any LTI Award granted in the calendar year in which he terminates employment.

Any payment of an LTI Award described above will be made at the time payment would have otherwise been made had Mr. Porter's employment not terminated.

Gross Cause would include Mr. Porter's fraud, gross misconduct, gross negligence, disloyalty, gross insubordination, breach of trust, breach of any material term of his employment agreement and any other similar cause.

Stock Ownership Guidelines

In order to better align the interests of our shareholders, executives and directors, our board of directors has adopted the following stock ownership guidelines. These guidelines reflect current corporate practices and result in the linking of a portion of the personal financial interests of the named executive officers, as well as certain other designated executives, through the ownership of our Common Stock, with the financial interests of our shareholders.

The guidelines are as follows:

Each named executive officer, other than our CEO, must own an amount of shares of our Common Stock, including vested or unvested restricted stock awards, having a value of not less than three times the annual base salary of such person.

The CEO must own an amount of shares of our Common Stock, including vested or unvested restricted stock awards, having a value of not less than six times the CEO's annual base salary.

Anti-Hedging Policy

Our compensation committee has adopted an anti-hedging policy that prohibits our directors and executive officers from purchasing or selling puts, calls, warrants or other derivative securities based on our Common Stock or other securities.

Clawback Provisions

Our compensation committee adopted clawback provisions that apply to awards made to our NEOs during fiscal 2013 and later pursuant to our annual executive bonus program and our 2004 Incentive Stock Plan that allow us to recapture amounts paid or stock granted to NEOs that vests based upon financial results that we are required to restate at a future date if our compensation committee determines that the restatement is based in whole or in part upon any misconduct by an applicable NEO. These provisions require an applicable NEO to pay to our company an amount of cash or deliver an amount of shares of our Common Stock equal to the benefit received by the NEO because of the misstatement of financial results. The clawback provisions apply to misstatements of financial results that are discovered within twenty-four months after an applicable stock grant has vested or bonus has been paid.

Tax Considerations

The compensation committee has reviewed the applicability of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (which we refer to as the **Code**), as amended by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993. In certain circumstances, Section 162(m) may deny a federal income tax deduction

for compensation to our named executive officers (excluding our chief financial officer) in excess of \$1 million per year, effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1994. Certain compensation that qualifies as performance-based and is paid pursuant to a plan that has been approved by shareholders may be exempt from the Section 162(m) limit. We intend to qualify certain compensation paid to our named executive officers for deductibility under the Code, including Section 162(m). However, we believe that the interests of our company and our shareholders may sometimes be best served by providing compensation that is not deductible in order to attract, retain, motivate and reward executive talent. Accordingly, the compensation committee intends to retain the flexibility to provide for payments of compensation that is not deductible. Payments under our annual executive bonus program and restricted stock awards under our 2004 Incentive Stock Plan are generally qualified as performance-based compensation and exempt from the Section 162(m) limit.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The compensation committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with the company's management. Based on this review and discussion, the compensation committee recommended that the board of directors include the Compensation Discussion and Analysis in this proxy statement and our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013.

Lawrence L. Gellerstedt III, chairman, compensation committee

Timothy J. Bernlohr, compensation committee member

John W. Spiegel, compensation committee member

Bettina M. Whyte, compensation committee member

The foregoing report should not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act or under the Exchange Act, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed to be soliciting material or to be filed under such Acts.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

Summary Compensation Table

The table below shows, as applicable, the total compensation earned during fiscal years 2013, 2012 and 2011 by those persons who: (1) served as our chief executive officer during fiscal 2013, (2) served as our chief financial officer during fiscal 2013, and (3) were our three other most highly compensated executive officers who were serving as executive officers at the end of fiscal 2013.

Summary Compensation Table

| Name and Principal Position(1) | Fiscal Year | Salary (\$)(2) | Stock Awards (\$)(3) | Option Awards (\$)(3) | Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(4) | Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)(5) | All Other Compensation (\$)(6) | Total (\$) |
|--|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | |
| James A. Rubright Chairman and Chief Executive Officer | 2013 | \$ 1,278,125 | \$ 4,634,784 | \$ 724,129 | \$ 2,496,141 | \$ 2,870,146 | \$ 592,508 | \$ 12,595,833 |
| | 2012 | \$ 1,220,250 | \$ 4,611,623 | \$ 1,029,902 | \$ 1,806,678 | \$ 3,117,577 | \$ 639,357 | \$ 12,425,387 |
| | 2011 | \$ 1,112,250 | \$ 3,392,026 | \$ 752,910 | \$ 1,857,275 | \$ 4,152,738 | \$ 266,987 | \$ 11,534,186 |
| Steven C. Voorhees Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer / President and Chief Operating Officer | 2013 | \$ 665,667 | \$ 1,584,891 | \$ 290,624 | \$ 848,795 | \$ 55,814 | \$ 59,451 | \$ 3,505,242 |
| | 2012 | \$ 547,500 | \$ 1,126,757 | \$ 282,542 | \$ 531,706 | \$ 261,619 | \$ 47,446 | \$ 2,797,570 |
| | 2011 | \$ 489,065 | \$ 958,739 | \$ 209,941 | \$ 522,982 | \$ 165,748 | \$ 69,956 | \$ 2,416,431 |
| Ward H. Dickson Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer | 2013 | \$ 22,917 | \$ 1,866,150 | \$ 0 | \$ 25,000 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,914,067 |
| Michael E. Kiepora President Consumer Packaging and Recycling | 2013 | \$ 596,750 | \$ 1,256,052 | \$ 315,991 | \$ 786,484 | \$ 1,407 | \$ 47,274 | \$ 3,003,958 |
| | 2012 | \$ 565,000 | \$ 1,225,012 | \$ 307,454 | \$ 646,488 | \$ 307,867 | \$ 65,239 | \$ 3,117,060 |
| | 2011 | \$ 514,650 | \$ 1,050,345 | \$ 227,561 | \$ 584,662 | \$ 169,998 | \$ 80,245 | \$ 2,627,461 |
| James B. Porter III President Corrugated Packaging | 2013 | \$ 705,500 | \$ 1,474,704 | \$ 370,796 | \$ 851,178 | \$ 0 | \$ 477,696 | \$ 3,879,874 |
| | 2012 | \$ 690,000 | \$ 1,481,741 | \$ 371,862 | \$ 325,401 | \$ 0 | \$ 485,822 | \$ 3,354,826 |
| | 2011 | \$ 603,807 | \$ 1,239,628 | \$ 274,792 | \$ 690,424 | \$ 0 | \$ 283,411 | \$ 3,092,062 |
| Robert B. McIntosh Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary | 2013 | \$ 394,000 | \$ 476,406 | \$ 119,632 | \$ 364,496 | \$ 0 | \$ 25,256 | \$ 1,379,790 |
| | 2012 | \$ 382,500 | \$ 473,840 | \$ 118,485 | \$ 315,278 | \$ 193,121 | \$ 30,423 | \$ 1,513,647 |
| | 2011 | \$ 357,014 | \$ 405,035 | \$ 84,921 | \$ 305,022 | \$ 103,129 | \$ 41,862 | \$ 1,296,983 |

- (1) In this column, we give the positions held by our named executive officers during fiscal 2013. Mr. Voorhees served as our executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer during fiscal 2013 until January 2013 when he was promoted to serve as our president and chief operating officer. Mr. Voorhees became our chief executive officer on November 1, 2013 after Mr. Rubright's retirement on October 31, 2013. Mr. Ward joined our company as our executive vice president and chief financial officer on September 16, 2013.
- (2) The salary amounts for fiscal 2013 reflect three months of salary at the calendar year 2012 rate in effect on October 1, 2012 and nine months of salary at the calendar year 2013, with the exception of Messrs. Voorhees and Dickson. Mr. Voorhees's salary reflects three months of salary at the calendar year 2012 rate in effect on October 1, 2012 for his positions as executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer, one month at an initial calendar year 2013 rate for his positions as executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer and eight months of salary at an adjusted rate of \$720,000, effective on February 1, 2013, for his positions as president and chief operating officer. Mr. Dickson only received 2 weeks of salary from us in fiscal 2013.
- (3) In the columns Stock Awards and Option Awards, SEC regulations require us to disclose the aggregate grant date fair value of the award of stock or options measured in dollars and calculated in accordance with ASC 718. For grants of restricted stock, the fair value per share is equal to the closing sale price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the date of grant (\$79.80 on January 25, 2013, \$80.11 on February 5, 2013, and \$124.41 on September 16, 2013). The grants of restricted stock in fiscal 2013, other than to Mr. Dickson, contain a performance condition that may be adjusted from 0-200% of target subject to the level of performance attained. SEC regulations require us to disclose the aggregate fair value at the grant date based upon the probable outcome of such conditions. The amounts shown in the Summary Compensation Table for the fiscal 2013 stock awards are calculated at 100% of target which was what the expected

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probable outcome of the performance condition at the grant date. The aggregate fair value of the fiscal 2013 performance

awards at the maximum 200% of target would be as follows: Mr. Rubright, \$9,269,568; Mr. Voorhees, \$3,169,782; Mr. Kiepara, \$2,512,104, Mr. Porter, \$2,949,408; and Mr. McIntosh, \$952,812. The grants to Mr. Dickson do not have performance conditions that would adjust the number of shares of the grant. For stock options, the fair value per share is based on certain assumptions which we explain in Note 14 to our financial statements which are included in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013. We disclose the aggregate expense without reduction for assumed forfeitures (as we do for financial reporting purposes).

The shares of restricted stock granted in fiscal 2013 will vest and be registered in the individual's name in accordance with the description in the section titled *Compensation Discussion and Analysis - Components of our Executive Compensation Program - Long-Term Incentives - Restricted Stock and Stock Options* above.

- (4) Amounts shown in this column include payments made to our NEOs under our annual executive bonus program, except for Mr. Dickson's bonus, which was made in connection with him being hired by our company. Awards paid under this program for fiscal 2013 were earned in fiscal 2013 but not paid until fiscal 2014.
- (5) This column shows the increase from September 30, 2012 to September 30, 2013 in the actuarial present value of accumulated benefits for each NEO under the Pension Plan and SERP. It does not include any above-market or preferential earnings on deferred compensation, as we do not provide above-market or preferential interest on the deferred compensation of our named executive officers. The amounts set forth in this column were calculated using the assumptions from the corresponding end-of-year disclosures. Accrued benefits payable at age 65 (or payable immediately if the NEO is over age 65) were determined as of the end of fiscal 2013 using compensation data through September 30 and include the bonuses paid for fiscal 2013 after the fiscal year end. The accrued benefits were discounted back to the disclosure date with the discount rate only. Each participant is assumed to retire at age 65 or is assumed to retire immediately, if currently over 65. The discount rates used as of September 30, 2012 and September 30, 2013 were 4.215% and 5.193%, respectively, for the Pension Plan and were 2.57% and 3.39%, respectively, for the SERP. The lump sum rates (SERP only) used as of September 30, 2012 and September 30, 2013 were 1.65% and 2.64%, respectively. As of September 30, 2012 and September 30, 2013, the lump sum rate used to calculate Mr. Rubright's SERP benefit was 1.68% and 2.7373%, respectively. The lump sum mortality table (SERP only) used was the applicable table under Revenue Ruling 2001-62 (GAR 94). The post-retirement mortality tables (qualified pension plan only) used as of September 30, 2012 and September 30, 2013 were RP-2000 Combined Healthy with White Collar adjustment for males and females projected to 2018 with Scale AA and RP-2000 Combined Healthy with White Collar adjustments for males and females projected with generational mortality improvement with Scale AA, respectively.
- (6) The amounts shown as all other compensation include the following perquisites and personal benefits:

All Other Compensation Table for Fiscal 2013

| | James A. Rubright | Steven C. Voorhees | Ward H. Dickson | Michael E. Kiepara | James B. Porter | Robert B. McIntosh |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Life Insurance Premiums | \$ 4,896 | \$ 3,504 | \$ 0 | \$ 2,970 | \$ 3,134 | \$ 2,501 |
| Company Contributions to Supplemental Plan and 401(k) Plan(A) | \$ 562,831 | \$ 45,434 | \$ 0 | \$ 41,497 | \$ 448,768 | \$ 22,755 |
| Airplane Usage(B) | \$ 24,781 | \$ 10,513 | \$ 0 | \$ 2,807 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| Other(C) | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 25,794 | \$ 0 |
| Total | \$ 592,508 | \$ 59,451 | \$ 0 | \$ 47,274 | \$ 477,696 | \$ 25,256 |

- (A) Under the Supplemental Plan, we match an amount equal to 50% of the executive's contribution. Additionally, we contributed designated amounts to Mr. Rubright's individual retirement accounts and contribute designated amounts to Mr. Porter's individual retirement accounts. Certain amounts disclosed in this row are also disclosed in the table below titled *Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table*.
- (B) In accordance with SEC regulations, we report use of corporate aircraft by our executive officers as a perquisite or other personal benefit unless it is integrally and directly related to the performance of the executive's duties. SEC rules require us to report this and other perquisites at our aggregate incremental cost. The amounts we report are consistent with this standard. We estimate our aggregate incremental cost to be equal to our average incremental operating costs, which includes items such as fuel; maintenance; landing fees; trip-related permits; trip-related hangar costs; trip-related meals and supplies; crew expenses during layovers; and any other expenses incurred or accrued based on the number of hours flown. We use this method because we believe, on average, it fairly approximates our incremental cost and because it ensures that some cost is allocated to each passenger on each trip.

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- (C) For Mr. Porter, this amount includes \$12,000 for Mr. Porter's automobile allowance; \$8,851 for tax gross-up payments related to our payment of his automobile allowance; \$1,163 for tax gross-up payments related to our payment of his life insurance premiums; and \$3,780 related to reimbursement of a relocation expense. We discontinued reimbursing our NEOs for club memberships and the related tax gross-up payments as of September 30, 2010.

Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table provides information as to the grants of plan-based awards to each named executive officer during fiscal 2013. This includes annual performance bonus awards under our annual executive bonus program, which is discussed in greater detail in this proxy statement under the section titled **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Components of our Executive Compensation Program Annual Performance Bonus**, and restricted stock and stock option awards under the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan, which is discussed in greater detail in this proxy statement under the section titled **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Components of our Executive Compensation Program Long-Term Incentives Restricted Stock and Stock Options**.

| Name | Grant Date | Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards | | | Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1) | | | All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options(2) | Exercise Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh) | Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards |
|--------------------|---------------|---|--------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------|---|---|--|
| | | Threshold (\$) | Target (\$) | Maximum (\$) | Threshold (#) | Target (#) | Maximum (#) | | | |
| James A. Rubright | 10/26/2012 | \$ 1,609,375 | \$ 1,931,250 | \$ 2,750,000 | | | | | | |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | | | | 37,210 | \$ 79.80 | \$ 724,129 |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | 0 | 58,080 | 116,160 | | | \$ 4,634,784 |
| Steven C. Voorhees | 10/26/2012(3) | \$ 136,345 | \$ 175,300 | \$ 233,734 | | | | | | |
| | 2/5/2013(3) | \$ 358,028 | \$ 477,370 | \$ 644,450 | | | | | | |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | | | | 9,280 | \$ 79.80 | \$ 290,624 |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | 0 | 14,490 | 28,980 | | | \$ 1,156,302 |
| | 2/5/2013 | | | | 0 | 5,350 | 10,700 | | | \$ 428,589 |
| Ward H. Dickson | | | | | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | | | \$ 1,866,150 |
| Michael E. Kieपुरa | 10/26/2012 | \$ 453,000 | \$ 604,000 | \$ 815,400 | | | | | | |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | | | | 10,090 | \$ 79.80 | \$ 315,991 |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | 0 | 15,740 | 31,480 | | | \$ 1,256,052 |
| James B. Porter | 10/26/2012 | \$ 531,750 | \$ 709,000 | \$ 957,150 | | | | | | |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | | | | 11,840 | \$ 79.80 | \$ 370,796 |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | 0 | 18,480 | 36,960 | | | \$ 1,474,704 |
| Robert B. McIntosh | 10/26/2012 | \$ 198,500 | \$ 297,750 | \$ 339,000 | | | | | | |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | | | | 3,820 | \$ 79.80 | \$ 119,632 |
| | 1/25/2013 | | | | 0 | 5,970 | 11,940 | | | \$ 476,406 |

- (1) These columns represent restricted stock grants made under the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan on January 25, 2013, February 5, 2013, in the case of Mr. Voorhees, and September 16, 2013, in the case of Mr. Dickson, which vest as described in this proxy statement under the section titled **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Components of our Executive Compensation Program Long-Term Incentives Restricted Stock and Stock Options**.
- (2) The stock options granted to the named executive officers in fiscal 2013 have a 10-year term and vest as described in this proxy statement under the section titled **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Long-Term Incentives Components of our Executive Compensation Program Restricted Stock and Stock Options**. Stock options have no express performance criteria other than continued employment (with limited exceptions for termination of employment due to change in control, death, disability and retirement). However, options have an implicit performance criterion because the options have no value to the executive unless and until our stock price exceeds the exercise price.
- (3) Mr. Voorhees's potential non-equity incentive plan awards amounts under our annual executive bonus program were increased and prorated on February 5, 2013 in connection with his promotion to our president and chief operating officer so that the potential awards granted on October 26, 2012 were adjusted to provide his bonus payout opportunity for the period from October 1, 2012 through January 31, 2013, and the potential awards granted on February 5, 2013, provided his bonus payout opportunity for the period from February 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table summarizes stock-based compensation awards outstanding as of September 30, 2013 for the named executive officers. The following table provides information concerning unexercised options, stock that has not vested, and equity incentive plan awards for each named executive officer outstanding as of the end of our most recently completed fiscal year. Each outstanding award is represented by a separate row which indicates the number of securities underlying the award, including awards that have been transferred other than for value (if any). For option awards, the table discloses the exercise price and the expiration date. For stock awards, the table provides the total number of shares of stock that have not vested and the aggregate market value of shares of stock that have not vested. We computed the market value of stock awards by multiplying the closing sale price of our Common Stock at the end of the most recently completed fiscal year by the number of shares of stock or the amount of equity incentive plan awards, respectively.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal 2013 Year-End

| Name | Option Awards | | | | | Stock Awards | | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested (\$)(3) | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|------------------------|--|---|--|---------------|
| | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable(1) | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Options (#) | Option Exercise Price (\$) | Option Expiration Date | Number of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (#) | Market Value of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$) | | |
| James A. Rubright | 59,500 | 0 | 0 | \$ 35.95 | 5/10/2017 | | | | |
| | 77,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 29.10 | 3/19/2018 | | | | |
| | 62,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 26.43 | 3/18/2019 | | | | |
| | 34,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 42.69 | 1/29/2020 | | | | |
| | 0 | 25,375 | 0 | \$ 68.65 | 2/28/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 3,325 | 0 | \$ 62.06 | 7/20/2021 | | | | |
| | 47,600 | 0 | 0 | \$ 63.39 | 2/1/2022 | | | | |
| | 0 | 37,210 | 0 | \$ 79.80 | 1/25/2023 | 0 | \$ 0 | 180,730 | \$ 18,302,527 |
| Steven C. Voorhees | 16,700 | 0 | 0 | \$ 35.95 | 5/10/2017 | | | | |
| | 22,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 29.10 | 3/19/2018 | | | | |
| | 20,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 26.43 | 3/18/2019 | | | | |
| | 9,500 | 0 | 0 | \$ 42.69 | 1/29/2020 | | | | |
| | 0 | 7,100 | 0 | \$ 68.65 | 2/28/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 900 | 0 | \$ 62.06 | 7/20/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 11,625 | 0 | \$ 63.39 | 2/1/2022 | | | | |
| | 0 | 9,280 | 0 | \$ 79.80 | 1/25/2023 | 0 | \$ 0 | 51,715 | \$ 5,237,178 |
| Ward H. Dickson | | | | | | 15,000 | \$ 1,519,050 | 0 | \$ 0 |
| Michael E. Kiepora | 5,567 | 0 | 0 | \$ 35.95 | 5/10/2017 | | | | |
| | 14,666 | 0 | 0 | \$ 29.10 | 3/19/2018 | | | | |
| | 20,000 | 0 | 0 | \$ 35.76 | 8/1/2018 | | | | |
| | 22,275 | 0 | 0 | \$ 26.43 | 3/18/2019 | | | | |
| | 11,500 | 0 | 0 | \$ 42.69 | 1/29/2020 | | | | |
| | 0 | 8,575 | 0 | \$ 68.65 | 2/28/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 12,650 | 0 | \$ 63.39 | 2/1/2022 | | | | |
| | 0 | 10,090 | 0 | \$ 79.80 | 1/25/2023 | 0 | \$ 0 | 50,365 | \$ 5,100,464 |
| James B. Porter | 6,667 | 0 | 0 | \$ 35.76 | 8/1/2018 | | | | |
| | 11,500 | 0 | 0 | \$ 42.69 | 1/29/2020 | | | | |
| | 0 | 8,575 | 0 | \$ 68.65 | 2/28/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 1,975 | 0 | \$ 62.06 | 7/20/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 15,300 | 0 | \$ 63.39 | 2/1/2022 | | | | |
| | 0 | 11,840 | 0 | \$ 79.80 | 1/25/2023 | 0 | \$ 0 | 60,205 | \$ 6,096,960 |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|-------|---|----------|-----------|---|----|---|---------------------|
| Robert B. McIntosh | 12,500 | 0 | 0 | \$ 15.40 | 5/4/2014 | | | | |
| | 11,900 | 0 | 0 | \$ 35.95 | 5/10/2017 | | | | |
| | 15,500 | 0 | 0 | \$ 29.10 | 3/19/2018 | | | | |
| | 8,400 | 0 | 0 | \$ 26.43 | 3/18/2019 | | | | |
| | 4,300 | 0 | 0 | \$ 42.69 | 1/29/2020 | | | | |
| | 0 | 3,200 | 0 | \$ 68.65 | 2/28/2021 | | | | |
| | 0 | 4,875 | 0 | \$ 63.39 | 2/1/2022 | | | | |
| | 0 | 3,820 | 0 | \$ 79.80 | 1/25/2023 | | | | |
| | | | | | | 0 | \$ | 0 | 19,345 \$ 1,959,068 |

- (1) Vesting dates of unvested stock option awards are as follows, as of September 30, 2013: Mr. Rubright 37,210 on December 31, 2013, 25,375 on February 28, 2014, and 3,325 on July 20, 2014; Mr. Voorhees 7,100 on February 28, 2014, 900 on July 20, 2014, 11,625 on February 1, 2015, and 9,280 on January 25, 2016; Mr. Kiepura 8,575 on February 28, 2014, 12,650 on February 1, 2015, and 10,090 on January 25, 2016; and Mr. Porter 8,575 on February 28, 2014, 1,975 on July 20, 2014, 15,300 on February 1, 2015, and 11,840 on January 25, 2016; and Mr. McIntosh 3,200 on February 28, 2014, 4,875 on February 1, 2015, and 3,820 on January 25, 2016.
- (2) Unearned stock grants, other than the grant made to Mr. Dickson on September 16, 2013, are subject to performance conditions. The performance conditions for the restricted stock grants made in fiscal 2013 are described in this proxy statement under the section titled **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Components of our Executive Compensation Program Long-Term Incentives Restricted Stock and Stock Options**. The number of shares reported in this column is based upon us achieving the applicable target market or target performance conditions. In the event that the applicable market or performance conditions are met at target, the vesting dates of unearned and unvested stock grants are as follows: Mr. Rubright 49,900 on February 28, 2014, 72,750 on February 1, 2015, and 58,080 on January 25, 2016; Mr. Voorhees 14,100 on February 28, 2014, 17,775 on February 1, 2015 and 19,840 on January 25, 2016; Mr. Dickson 3,750 on September 16, 2014, 3,750 on September 16, 2015, 3,750 on September 16, 2016, and 3,750 on September 16, 2017; Mr. Kiepura 15,300 on February 28, 2014, 19,325 on February 1, 2015, and 15,740 on January 25, 2016; Mr. Porter 18,350 on February 28, 2014, 23,375 on February 1, 2015, and 18,480 on January 25, 2016; and Mr. McIntosh 5,900 on February 28, 2014, 7,475 on February 1, 2015, and 5,970 on January 25, 2016.
- (3) Based on the closing sale price of \$101.27 for our Common Stock on September 30, 2013, the last trading date of our fiscal year, as reported on the NYSE. **Value Realized from Stock Options and Stock Appreciation Awards**

The following table provides information concerning exercises of stock options, and vesting of stock, including restricted stock, during fiscal 2013 for each of the named executive officers on an aggregated basis. In some cases, this includes the vesting of performance stock which vested in the most recently completed fiscal year but which was granted in previous years. The table reports the number of securities for which the options were exercised; the aggregate dollar value realized upon exercise of options; the number of shares of stock that have vested; and the aggregate dollar value realized upon vesting of stock.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested Table for Fiscal 2013

| Name | Option Awards | | Stock Awards | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#) | Value Realized on Exercise (\$) | Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#) | Value Realized on Vesting (\$)(1) |
| James A. Rubright | 0 | \$ 0 | 90,000 | \$ 6,291,900 |
| Steven C. Voorhees | 0 | \$ 0 | 25,500 | \$ 1,782,705 |
| Ward H. Dickson | 0 | \$ 0 | 0 | \$ 0 |
| Michael E. Kiepura | 0 | \$ 0 | 30,750 | \$ 2,149,733 |
| James B. Porter III | 35,608 | \$ 1,605,084 | 30,750 | \$ 2,149,733 |
| Robert B. McIntosh | 0 | \$ 0 | 11,850 | \$ 828,434 |

- (1) These amounts are calculated based on the closing sale price of the Common Stock on the vesting date.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The table below shows information with respect to all of our equity compensation plans as of September 30, 2013:

| Plan Category | Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a) | Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights \$(b) | Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column(a)) (c) |
|---|---|---|--|
| Equity compensation plans approved by security holders: | | | |
| 2000 Incentive Stock Plan(1) | 12,500 | \$ 15.40 | 0 |
| 2004 Incentive Stock Plan(1) | 1,068,984 | \$ 51.07 | 2,817,158 |
| Rock-Tenn Company (SSCC) Equity Incentive Plan(2) | 102,267 | \$ 41.64 | 2,616,131 |
| 1993 Employee Stock Purchase Plan | 0 | 0 | 701,398 |
| Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders | 0 | 0 | 0 |

- (1) Under the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan, there are available for awards granted during the term of the plan (1) 7.4 million shares of Common Stock, plus (2) 389,833 shares of Common Stock that remained available for issuance under the Rock-Tenn Company 2000 Incentive Stock Plan (which we refer to as the **2000 Incentive Stock Plan**), plus (3) the number of shares of Common Stock subject to grants under the 2000 Incentive Stock Plan that were outstanding on the effective date of the 2004 Incentive Stock Plan and that are subsequently forfeited or expire. We may grant no new awards under the 2000 Incentive Stock.
- (2) In connection with our acquisition of Smurfit-Stone, we assumed the Smurfit-Stone Equity Incentive Plan, which was renamed the Rock-Tenn Company (SSCC) Equity Incentive Plan. The shares available for issuance, stock options and unvested restricted stock units outstanding at the time of our acquisition of Smurfit-Stone under that plan were converted into shares of our Common Stock and options and restricted stock units, as applicable, with respect to shares of our Common Stock using the conversion factor as described in the merger agreement. We have determined that we will not make any more grants of awards pursuant to the Rock-Tenn Company (SSCC) Equity Incentive Plan.

Retirement Plans

Pension Plan. Our named executive officers, other than Messrs. Dickson and Porter, participate in our defined benefit plan for salaried and nonunion hourly employees (which we refer to as our **Pension Plan**). Our Pension Plan was amended effective as of March 1, 2005, to add a new benefit formula. After February 28, 2005, the new benefit formula (which we refer to as the **2005 benefit formula**) equals 1% of a participant's compensation (as defined in the Pension Plan). In connection with the amendment, covered employees who were 35 years old or older or who had five years or more of vested service on December 31, 2004, were required to elect one of two options effective March 1, 2005: (1) a reduced future pension accrual based on the 2005 benefit formula and the then current match under the Rock-Tenn Company 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan (which we refer to as the **401(k) Plan**) or (2) no future pension accrual and an enhanced match under the 401(k) Plan. None of the named executive officers who participate in our Pension Plan elected to cease future pension accruals during the Pension Plan's election periods in December 2004 and January 2005. Covered employees who were under 35 years of age and who had less than five years of vested service on December 31, 2004 automatically ceased accruals in the Pension Plan effective as of December 31, 2004 and became eligible for an enhanced match under the 401(k) Plan.

The 2005 benefit formula produces a benefit payable at a participant's normal retirement age as an annuity payable only for the life of the participant. The amendment to our Pension Plan also froze the benefit, if any, accrued for each participant as of February 28, 2005, under prior benefit formulae utilized under the Pension

Plan. Therefore, other than as set forth in the following two sentences, all NEOs, other than Messrs. Dickson and Porter, will receive a benefit at retirement equal to the sum of (1) their benefit accrued as of December 31, 1997, under the old four-part benefit formula in effect on that date, if any, (2) their benefit accrued after that date and through February 28, 2005, under the benefit formula in effect during that period, and (3) their benefit accrued under the 2005 benefit formula on and after March 1, 2005. With respect to Mr. Kiepura, he will receive a benefit at retirement equal to the sum of (1) his benefit accrued as of December 31, 1997, which includes a frozen benefit accrued during his employment with his former employer that we purchased and a benefit under the old four-part benefit formula, (2) his benefit accrued after that date and through February 28, 2005, and (3) his benefit accrued under the 2005 benefit formula on and after March 1, 2005.

Our Pension Plan was again amended effective as of January 1, 2006, to allow the remaining participants under the Pension Plan to elect one of two options: (1) a reduced future pension accrual based on the 2005 benefit formula and the then current match under the 401(k) Plan or (2) no future pension accrual and an enhanced match under the 401(k) Plan. None of the named executive officers elected to cease future pension accruals during the Pension Plan's election periods.

Under our Pension Plan, **compensation** for salaried employees is defined as base pay. Therefore, it does not include any bonuses, overtime, commissions, reimbursed expenses of any kind, severance pay, income imputed from insurance coverage or the like, or payments under the Pension Plan or any other employee benefit plan or any income from a stock option plan. No employee's compensation for purposes of the Pension Plan includes amounts in excess of the compensation limit under the Code. This limit is periodically adjusted for inflation by the United States Secretary of the Treasury and this limit, as adjusted, was \$245,000 for calendar year 2011, \$250,000 for calendar year 2012, \$255,000 for calendar year 2013, and will be \$260,000 for calendar year 2014.

A participating employee's right to benefits under our Pension Plan vests after five years of service or at normal retirement age, whichever is earlier. The plan is a defined benefit plan qualified under the Code and, as such, is subject to a limitation under the Code on the amount of benefits that may be paid to a participant each year under the plan.

SERP. The Rock-Tenn Company Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (which we refer to as the **SERP**) is designed to supplement a participant's benefit under our Pension Plan for a relatively small number of participants. The SERP provides unfunded supplemental retirement benefits. The SERP benefit is paid in a lump sum for participants whose employment terminates on or after November 11, 2005. Currently, there are approximately 12 active employees who participate in the SERP, including the named executive officers with the exception of Messrs. Dickson, Porter and Rubright.

Under the SERP there are four benefit levels (which we refer to as **level 1**, **level 2**, **level 3** and **level 4**), but no benefit will be paid under level 1, level 2 or level 3 to a participant if the participant is not eligible for a vested benefit under our Pension Plan. The compensation committee determines who will participate in the SERP and the benefit level for such participant. Benefit level 1 is based exclusively on a participant's base salary below a compensation cap and was designed to make up for the loss in benefits a participant will receive under our Pension Plan as a result of the reduction in the Code compensation limit in 1994 from \$235,840 to \$150,000 as indexed thereafter for inflation. Benefit level 2 is the same as benefit level 1 except that the benefit a participant earns will be based on the aggregate of the participant's base salary and bonus paid, and there is no compensation cap. Five of our active employees, including our named executive officers other than our Messrs. Dickson, Porter and Rubright, participate in the SERP at benefit level 2.

Benefit level 3 will provide a benefit payable upon retirement to a participant which, when added to certain of the participant's other deferred compensation benefits from us, will be equal to 3.5833% of a participant's final average pay for each year of benefit service, plus three years. A participant's final average pay will be the average of the highest three years of the participant's base salary and bonus during the five-year period immediately preceding the participant's termination of employment, and the benefit under level 3 will take into

account the participant's benefit payable under our Pension Plan and the participant's primary social security benefit and will be further reduced by an amount equal to \$207,153. Mr. Rubright, our former CEO, was our only employee participating in the SERP at benefit level 3 until his retirement on October 31, 2013.

Mr. Rubright's SERP benefit level 3 will be paid in a lump sum of \$25,924,966 in May 2014 in connection with his retirement from our company. The lump sum was calculated starting with Mr. Rubright's annual benefit under the SERP payable in a life only annuity and then reducing such benefit by his annual primary social security benefit, his annual Pension Plan benefit and the annuitized value of \$207,153. This amount was then converted to a lump sum amount by using certain retirement factors and conversion factors as defined in the SERP. As of March 31, 2009, the SERP was amended to set the interest rate used to calculate the lump sum value of a level 3 benefit accrued as of March 31, 2009 at 2.645%. The SERP was further amended to set the interest rate used to calculate the lump sum value of a level 3 benefit accrued during the period commencing on April 1, 2009 and ending on December 31, 2009 at 3.6625%.

None of our NEOs currently employed with us participate in the SERP at benefit levels 1, 3 or 4.

The following table illustrates the actuarial present value as of September 30, 2013 of benefits accumulated by the named executive officers under the Pension Plan and the SERP using the methodology required by the SEC pursuant to the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Accounting Standards Codification 715, *Compensation - Retirement Benefits*, at the earliest unreduced retirement age under the plan.

Pension Benefits Table for Fiscal 2013

| Name | Plan Name | Number of Years Credited Service (#) | Present Value of Accumulated Benefit (\$)(2) | Payments During Last Fiscal Year (\$) |
|--------------------|--|---|---|--|
| James A. Rubright | Rock-Tenn Company | 14.083 | \$ 437,624 | \$0 |
| | Consolidated Pension Plan | | | |
| | Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan | 17.083(1) | \$ 25,143,105 | \$0 |
| Steven C. Voorhees | Rock-Tenn Company | 13.083 | \$ 300,871 | \$0 |
| | Consolidated Pension Plan | | | |
| | Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan | 13.083 | \$ 807,889 | \$0 |
| Ward H. Dickson(3) | | | | \$0 |
| Michael E. Kiepora | Rock-Tenn Company | 18.25 | \$ 442,751 | \$0 |
| | Consolidated Pension Plan | | | |
| | Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan | 18.25 | \$ 683,311 | \$0 |
| James B. Porter(3) | | | | \$0 |
| Robert B. McIntosh | Rock-Tenn Company | 18.0 | \$ 362,898 | \$0 |
| | Consolidated Pension Plan | | | |

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Supplemental Executive

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|----|---------|----|---|
| Retirement Plan | 18.0 | \$ | 351,630 | \$ | 0 |
|-----------------|------|----|---------|----|---|

- (1) Under the SERP benefit level 3 formula, Mr. Rubright receives three additional years of credited service in the calculation of his SERP 3 benefits.

(2) The amounts set forth in this column were calculated using the assumptions from the corresponding end-of-year disclosure. Accrued benefits payable at age 65 (or immediately if the NEO is over 65) were determined as of the end of the fiscal year using compensation data through September 30 that includes bonuses for fiscal 2013 paid after the fiscal year end. The accrued benefits were discounted back to the disclosure date with the discount rate only. Each participant is assumed to work until age 65 and then retire (or retire immediately if the NEO is over age 65). The discount rates used as of September 30, 2013 were 5.193% (for the Rock-Tenn Company Consolidated Pension Plan) and 3.390% (for the SERP). The lump sum rate (SERP only) used as of September 30, 2013 was 2.64% (except the lump sum rate applied to Mr. Rubright's SERP benefit accrued to March 31, 2009 is 2.645%, and the lump sum rate applied to Mr. Rubright's SERP benefit accrued during the period April 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009 is 3.6625% and 2.7373% for benefits accrued after December 31, 2009). The lump sum mortality table (SERP only) used as of September 30, 2013 was the applicable table under Revenue Ruling 2001-62 (GAR 94). The post-retirement mortality (qualified pension plan only) table used as of September 30, 2013 was RP-2000 Combined Healthy with White Collar adjustments for males and females projected with generational mortality improvement with Scale AA.

(3) Messrs. Dickson and Porter do not participate in our Pension Plan or the SERP.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

The following table provides information with respect to each nonqualified deferred compensation plan that is a defined contribution plan, also called an individual account plan. The amounts shown include compensation earned and deferred in prior years, and earnings on, or distributions of, such amounts.

The column **Executive Contributions in Last Fiscal Year** indicates the aggregate amount contributed to such plans by each named executive officer during fiscal 2013.

The column **Registrant Contributions in Last Fiscal Year** indicates our aggregate contributions on behalf of each named executive officer during fiscal 2013. Generally, our contributions to nonqualified deferred compensation plans are our matching contributions under the Senior Executive part of the Supplemental Plan in an amount equal to 50% of the participant's contributions to the Supplemental Plan. Additionally, we make designated contributions for Mr. Rubright and Mr. Porter each pay period under the individual retirement accounts part of the Supplement Plan. We also make matching contributions or profit sharing contributions to our qualified 401(k) plans, but those plans are tax qualified and, therefore, we do not include our contributions to them in this table. We include our matches to all plans in the table titled ***All Other Compensation Table*** included in footnote 6 of the table titled ***Summary Compensation Table*** above.

The column **Aggregate Earnings in Last Fiscal Year** indicates the total dollar amount of interest or other earnings accrued during fiscal 2013, including interest and dividends paid at market rates. We pay such amounts to compensate the executive for the deferral, and we do not consider the payment of interest and other earnings at market rates to be compensation.

The column **Aggregate Balance at Last Fiscal Year-End** reports the total balance of the executive's account as of September 30, 2013.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table for Fiscal 2013

| Name | Executive | Registrant | Aggregate Earnings | Aggregate | Aggregate Balance |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | Contributions | Contributions | | Withdrawals | |
| | in Last Fiscal | in Last Fiscal | in Last Fiscal | / | at Last Fiscal |
| | Year(1)(2) | Year(2)(3) | Year(4) | Distributions | Year-End(4) |
| | (\$) | (\$) | (\$) | (\$) | (\$) |
| James A. Rubright | \$ 210,362 | \$ 555,181 | \$ 557,203 | \$ 0 | \$ 3,392,441 |
| Steven C. Voorhees | \$ 78,978 | \$ 39,489 | \$ 74,704 | \$ 0 | \$ 751,250 |
| Ward H. Dickson(5) | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| Michael E. Kieपुरa | \$ 70,914 | \$ 35,457 | \$ 59,814 | \$ 0 | \$ 603,803 |
| James B. Porter | \$ 80,993 | \$ 440,497 | \$ 313,653 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,680,052 |
| Robert B. McIntosh | \$ 33,600 | \$ 16,800 | \$ 81,702 | \$ 0 | \$ 404,890 |

- (1) After each named executive officer reaches the designated maximum contribution or compensation limit under the 401(k) Plan, he may defer up to 6% of his salary, and separately, he may defer up to 6% of his bonus pursuant to the Supplemental Plan.
- (2) These amounts represent contributions earned in fiscal 2013 by the applicable named executive officers.
- (3) Under the Senior Executive part of the Supplemental Plan, we match an amount equal to 50% of the executive's contribution. We make additional contributions on behalf of Mr. Rubright and Mr. Porter under the individual retirement accounts part of the Supplemental Plan. Certain amounts disclosed in this column are also disclosed for fiscal 2013 in the table titled *All Other Compensation Table* included in footnote 6 of the table titled *Summary Compensation Table* above. The amounts disclosed in the two tables do not correspond because this table only discloses contributions earned under the Supplemental Plan in fiscal 2013, and the amounts disclosed for fiscal 2013 in the table titled *All Other Compensation Table* includes contributions earned in fiscal 2013 under the Supplemental Plan and the 401(k) Plan.
- (4) The amounts in this column are calculated by adding the amounts set forth in each of the first four columns of this table for each named executive officer to the applicable NEO's aggregate balance as of the end of fiscal 2011.
- (5) Mr. Dickson was not eligible for nonqualified deferred compensation plans during FY13.

Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan. The Rock-Tenn Company Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan (which we refer to as the **Supplemental Plan**) is a non-qualified, unfunded deferred compensation plan sponsored and maintained by us and is intended to provide participants with an opportunity to supplement their retirement income through deferral of current compensation. The Supplemental Plan is comprised of three parts. The first, we call the Senior Executive plan, in which the named executive officers and certain other senior executives are eligible to participate. We contribute an amount to each participant's account maintained under the Senior Executive plan equal to 50% of the participant's contributions. The second part, we call the Broad Based plan, in which certain other employees deemed highly compensated employees (and who are subject to a cap on deferral contributions under the 401(k) Plan) are eligible to participate. The third part, individual retirement accounts, is described below.

Effective July 20, 2011, our compensation committee authorized an amendment to the Supplemental Plan to provide for additional retirement contributions for designated executive officers of our company. In connection with the amendment, Mr. Rubright and Mr. Porter were designated participants to receive the additional contributions established as individual retirement accounts in the Supplemental Plan. Mr. Rubright's contribution amount was \$450,000 per year effective as of September 10, 2011. Mr. Porter's contribution amount is \$400,000 per year effective as of May 27, 2011. Contributions are deemed contributed in substantially equal installments each semi-monthly pay period, prorated for partial pay periods on a daily basis. Contributions will end at separation of service from our company.

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Amounts deferred and payable under the Supplemental Plan (which we refer to as the **Obligations**) are our unsecured obligations, and rank equally with our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness outstanding from time to time. Each participant in the Senior Executive plan elects the amount of eligible base

salary and eligible bonus to be deferred, up to 6%. Each Obligation will be payable on a date selected by us pursuant to the terms of the Supplemental Plan. The Obligations generally are payable after termination of the participant's employment or in certain emergency situations. Each participant's account will be adjusted for investment gains and losses as if the credits to the participant's account had been invested in the benchmark investment alternatives available under the Supplemental Plan in accordance with the participant's investment election or elections (or default election or elections) as in effect from time to time. All such adjustments will be made at the same time and in accordance with the same procedures followed under the 401(k) Plan for crediting investment gains and losses to a participant's account under the 401(k) Plan. The Obligations are denominated and payable in United States dollars. The benchmark investment alternatives available under the Supplemental Plan are in our view comparable to investment alternatives commonly available under 401(k) retirement savings plans.

Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control

The following table summarizes the estimated payments to be made under each contract, agreement, plan or arrangement which provides for payments to a named executive officer at, following, or in connection with any termination of employment including by resignation, retirement, disability or a constructive termination of a named executive officer, or our change in control or a reduction in the named executive officer's responsibilities. However, in accordance with SEC regulations, we do not report any amount to be provided to a named executive officer under any arrangement which does not discriminate in scope, terms, or operation in favor of our executive officers and which is available generally to all salaried employees.

For the purpose of the quantitative disclosure in the following table and in accordance with SEC regulations, we have assumed that the termination took place on the last business day of our most recently completed fiscal year, and that the price per share of our Common Stock is the closing sale price on the NYSE as of that date of \$101.27.

Severance. Mr. Porter or his representative will receive payments in the event of his death, disability or termination in accordance with his employment agreement as described above in the section titled ***Compensation Discussion and Analysis Employment Agreement with James B. Porter III.*** No other NEOs are entitled to severance payments resulting from termination or a change in control of our company or a change in his responsibilities.

Acceleration of Stock Grants and Stock Options. All stock options held by a named executive officer at the time of his death or disability will be immediately exercisable. In the event of a change in control, any conditions to the exercise of outstanding stock options and any issuances and forfeiture conditions on outstanding stock grants issued will be deemed satisfied, and, in such event, our board of directors under certain circumstances has the right to cancel such options and stock grants after providing each employee and director a reasonable period to exercise his or her options and to take such action as necessary to receive the shares subject to any stock grant.

All unearned restricted stock held by a named executive officer will immediately vest at the time of his death or disability but will still be subject to any performance requirements connected with the applicable restricted stock.

Also, the restricted stock grants made by the compensation committee on February 28, 2011, July 20, 2011, and February 1, 2012 will fully vest immediately upon a change in control at the maximum pay-out of 200% of the relevant target award amount provided that the applicable named executive officer is employed by us at the time of the change in control. The restricted stock grants made by the compensation committee on January 25, 2013, February 5, 2013, with respect to Mr. Voorhees, and September 16, 2013, with respect to Mr. Dickson, will vest as described above in the section titled ***Compensation Discussion and Analysis Long-Term Incentives Restricted Stock and Stock Options.***

Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control for Fiscal 2013

| Name | Benefit | Before Change in Control, Termination w/o Cause | After Change in Control, Termination w/o Cause | Termination With Cause/ Resignation w/o Good Reason | Death or Disability | Change in Control |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| James A. Rubright | Severance | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Stock Options(1) | \$ 0 | \$ 1,757,004 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,757,004 | \$ 1,757,004 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Restricted Stock(2) SERP(3) | \$ 0 \$ 25,568,064 | \$ 36,605,054 \$ 25,568,064 | \$ 0 \$ 25,568,064 | \$ 18,302,527 \$ 25,568,064 | \$ 24,841,531 \$ 0 |
| Total value: | \$ 25,568,064 | \$ 63,930,122 | \$ 25,568,064 | \$ 45,627,595 | \$ 26,598,535 | |
| Steven C. Voorhees | Severance | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Stock Options(1) | \$ 0 | \$ 906,488 | \$ 0 | \$ 906,488 | \$ 906,488 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Restricted Stock(2) SERP(3) | \$ 0 \$ 805,072 | \$ 10,474,356 \$ 805,072 | \$ 0 \$ 805,072 | \$ 5,237,178 \$ 805,072 | \$ 6,455,963 \$ 0 |
| Total value: | \$ 805,072 | \$ 12,185,916 | \$ 805,072 | \$ 6,948,738 | \$ 7,362,451 | |
| Ward H. Dickson | Severance | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Stock Options(1) | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Restricted Stock(2) SERP(3) | \$ 0 \$ 0 | \$ 1,519,050 \$ 0 | \$ 0 \$ 0 | \$ 1,519,050 \$ 0 | \$ 0 \$ 0 |
| Total value: | \$ 0 | \$ 1,519,050 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,519,050 | \$ 0 | |
| Michael E. Kiepora | Severance | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Stock Options(1) | \$ 0 | \$ 975,531 | \$ 0 | \$ 975,531 | \$ 975,531 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Restricted Stock(2) SERP(3) | \$ 0 \$ 683,959 | \$ 10,200,927 \$ 683,959 | \$ 0 \$ 683,959 | \$ 5,100,464 \$ 683,959 | \$ 7,012,948 \$ 0 |
| Total value: | \$ 683,959 | \$ 11,860,417 | \$ 683,959 | \$ 6,759,954 | \$ 7,988,479 | |
| James B. Porter | Severance | \$ 1,418,000 | \$ 1,418,000 | \$ 0 | \$ 709,000 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | |
| | Stock Options(1) | \$ 1,190,925 | \$ 1,190,925 | \$ 0 | \$ 1,190,925 | \$ 1,190,925 |

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| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | | | |
| | Restricted Stock(2) | \$ | 0 | \$ 12,193,921 | \$ | 0 | \$ 6,096,960 | \$ 8,450,982 |
| | SERP(3) | \$ | 0 | \$ 0 | \$ | 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Total value: | \$ | 2,608,925 | \$ 14,802,846 | \$ | 0 | \$ 7,996,885 | \$ 9,641,907 |
| Robert B. McIntosh | Severance | \$ | 0 | \$ 0 | \$ | 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | | | |
| | Stock Options(1) | \$ | 0 | \$ 371,064 | \$ | 0 | \$ 371,064 | \$ 371,064 |
| | Accelerated Vesting of | | | | | | | |
| | Restricted Stock(2) | \$ | 0 | \$ 3,918,136 | \$ | 0 | \$ 1,959,068 | \$ 2,708,973 |
| | SERP(3) | \$ | 352,042 | \$ 352,042 | \$ | 352,042 | \$ 352,042 | \$ 0 |
| | Total value: | \$ | 352,042 | \$ 4,641,242 | \$ | 352,042 | \$ 2,682,174 | \$ 3,080,037 |

- (1) The calculation of the value of accelerated vesting of stock options is based upon the closing sale price of \$101.27 of our Common Stock on the NYSE on September 30, 2013, the last trading day of our fiscal year, and the exercise price of \$79.80 per share of the NEOs' stock options granted on January 25, 2013, the exercise price of \$63.39 per share of the NEOs' stock options granted on February 1, 2012, the exercise price of \$68.65 per share of the NEOs' stock options granted on February 28, 2011, and the exercise price of \$62.06 per share of the stock options granted to Messrs. Rubright, Porter, and Voorhees on July 20, 2011.
- (2) The calculation of the value of accelerated vesting of restricted stock is based on the closing sale price of \$101.27 of our Common Stock on the NYSE on September 30, 2013, the last trading day of our fiscal year, multiplied by the number of shares that would have vested on September 30, 2013 for each named executive officer upon the occurrence of the

specified events. Upon a change in control, the restricted stock awards granted to the named executive officers in fiscal 2011 and 2012 will vest immediately at the maximum pay-out of and 200%, respectively, of the relevant target award, and the restricted stock awards granted to the named executive officers in fiscal 2013 will vest as described above in the section titled *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Long-Term Incentives Restricted Stock and Stock Options*.

- (3) The SERP benefit above represents the potential payments from the SERP as of the end of fiscal 2013. These benefit payments were based on the accrued benefits at September 30, 2013 and were converted to lump sum amounts using the August 2013 10-year Treasury rate of 2.7373%, except the lump sum rate applied to Mr. Rubright's SERP benefit accrued to March 31, 2009 is 2.645%, and the lump sum rate applied to Mr. Rubright's SERP benefit accrued from April 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009 is 3.6625%. Messrs. Dickson and Porter are not eligible for the SERP. The actual amount that Mr. Rubright will receive in May 2014 for his SERP benefit payment for his service through his retirement on October 31, 2013 will be \$25,924,966.

CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS

J. Powell Brown, a director of our company, is chief executive officer, president, a member of the board and a shareholder of Brown & Brown, Inc., the insurance agency that brokers a portion of the insurance for our company. During fiscal 2013, we paid Brown & Brown, Inc. approximately \$10,700,000 for property and casualty insurance premiums brokered by Brown & Brown, Inc. These payments to Brown & Brown, Inc. are for premium payments that Brown & Brown, Inc. pays to various insurance providers on our behalf. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, we paid Brown & Brown, Inc. approximately \$800,000, inclusive of fees for services and commissions paid by the insurance providers.

Administration of Related-Party Transactions

We require that each executive officer, director and director nominee complete an annual questionnaire and report all transactions with us in which such persons (or their immediate family members) had or will have a direct or indirect material interest (except for salaries, directors' fees and dividends on our stock). Management reviews responses to the questionnaires and, if any such transactions are disclosed, they are reviewed by the nominating and corporate governance committee as to directors and director nominees or by the audit committee as to executive officers. Our executive officers, directors and director nominees have rarely engaged in any such transactions with us, however. We do not have a formal written policy for approval or ratification of such transactions. Information included in directors' responses to the questionnaires is reviewed annually by the board of directors for the purpose of assessing independence under our corporate governance guidelines, applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and the corporate governance standards of the NYSE, and we review all responses to insure that any transactions adhere to the standards set forth in the above-referenced guidelines and standards as well as our various codes of conduct.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The audit committee, which operates under a written charter adopted by our board of directors, is composed of independent directors (as defined in the listing standards applicable to the NYSE) and oversees on behalf of the board of directors our company's financial reporting process and system of internal control over financial reporting. A copy of the audit committee charter is available on our Internet website at www.rocktenn.com. Our management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the system of internal control over financial reporting. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the audit committee reviewed and discussed with management the audited financial statements to be included in the annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013, including a discussion of the quality, not just the acceptability, of the accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments and the clarity of disclosures in the financial statements.

The committee discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm, which is responsible for expressing an opinion on the conformity of those audited financial statements with generally accepted accounting principles, their judgments as to the quality, not just the acceptability, of our company's accounting principles

and such other matters as are required to be discussed with the audit committee under generally accepted auditing standards (including Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (Communication with Audit Committees), as amended and as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T) and applicable law.

In addition, the independent registered public accounting firm provided to the audit committee the written disclosures and the letter regarding its independence from management and our company as required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant's communications with the audit committee concerning independence. The audit committee discussed this information with the independent registered public accounting firm.

The audit committee discussed with our company's internal auditors and independent registered public accounting firm the overall scope and plans for their respective audits. The audit committee meets with the internal auditors and independent registered public accounting firm, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examinations, their evaluations of our company's internal controls, and the overall quality of our company's financial reporting. The audit committee held nine meetings during fiscal 2013. The audit committee was updated no less than quarterly on management's process to assess the adequacy of our company's system of internal control over financial reporting, the framework used to make the assessment and management's conclusions on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. The audit committee also discussed with the independent auditor our company's internal control assessment process, management's assessment with respect thereto and the independent auditor's evaluation of our system of internal control over financial reporting.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the audit committee recommended to the board of directors (and the board approved) that the audited financial statements be included in the annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013, for filing with the SEC.

Terrell K. Crews, chairman, audit committee

J. Powell Brown, audit committee member

Robert M. Chapman, audit committee member

Russell M. Currey, audit committee member

Jenny A. Hourihan, audit committee member

The foregoing report should not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act or under the Exchange Act, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed to be soliciting material or to be filed under such Acts.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM
Fees

The following table presents fees billed for professional services rendered by our independent registered public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP, and its affiliates (which we refer to collectively as **Ernst & Young**), for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012.

| | 2013(5) | 2012(5) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Audit fees(1) | \$ 6,464,000 | \$ 6,672,000 |
| Audit-related fees(2) | \$ 129,000 | \$ 323,000 |
| Tax fees(3) | \$ 1,329,000 | \$ 1,357,000 |
| All other fees(4) | 0 | \$ 0 |
| Total fees paid to auditor | \$ 7,922,000 | \$ 8,352,000 |

- (1) Audit fees consist primarily of fees related to professional services rendered for the audit of our annual financial statements included in our Form 10-K and the review of interim financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, accounting consultations to the extent necessary for Ernst & Young to fulfill their responsibility under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as services in connection with other statutory and regulatory filings.
- (2) Audit-related fees consist of fees related to professional services rendered for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our annual financial statements that are not included in the amounts disclosed as audit fees above. For fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2012, these fees relate to due diligence services, audits of employee benefit plans, accounting consultations and our subscription to Ernst & Young's Internet-based accounting and reporting resources.
- (3) Tax fees consist primarily of fees related to professional services rendered for tax compliance, tax advice, and tax planning.
- (4) All other fees, if any, consist primarily of fees related to products and professional services that are not included in the amounts disclosed in the three other categories above. Ernst & Young did not perform any such services during these periods.
- (5) All of such Audit fees, Audit-related fees, and Tax fees that Ernst & Young billed for professional services were pre-approved by the audit committee in accordance with our pre-approval policy described below.

Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Services by the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

In accordance with its pre-approval policy, its charter and applicable rules and regulations adopted by the SEC, our audit committee reviews and pre-approves the terms of all audit services provided to us as well as all permissible audit-related and non-audit services to be provided by our independent registered public accounting firm. Unless a service to be provided by our independent registered public accounting firm has received general pre-approval under the pre-approval policy, it requires specific pre-approval by our audit committee or the chairman of our audit committee before the commencement of each service. The term of any pre-approval is twelve months, unless the audit committee specifically provides for a different period.

In determining whether to pre-approve services, the audit committee is generally guided by the following principles. The independent registered public accounting firm engaged to perform audit work necessary for us to file required reports under the Exchange Act may not perform a service that: (1) impairs the independent registered public accounting firm's independence; (2) creates a mutual or conflicting interest between the independent registered public accounting firm and us; (3) places the independent registered public accounting firm in the position of auditing its own work; or (4) results in the independent registered public accounting firm acting as management or an employee of our company.

The audit committee does not delegate its responsibilities to pre-approve services performed by the independent registered public accounting firm to our management. However, the audit committee has appointed our chief accounting officer to assist it in monitoring compliance with the pre-approval policy, including ensuring whether the necessary pre-approvals from the audit committee or the chairman of our audit committee have been obtained and that the services carried out under the pre-approval policy is appropriately reported periodically (but not less than annually).

The audit committee will review and revise the pre-approval policy on a periodic basis (not less than annually) and update it as necessary based on subsequent determinations.

Engagements for our annual audit and quarterly reviews required under the Exchange Act (including the audit of internal control over financial reporting) are reviewed and pre-approved annually by the audit committee. The nature and dollar value of services provided under these engagements are periodically reviewed with the audit committee as changes in terms, conditions and fees resulting from changes in audit scope, our structure, or other matters occur.

The following services, consistent with the nature of services previously provided to us, are pre-approved under the pre-approval policy. All other audit, audit-related and non-audit services must be specifically pre-approved by the audit committee or the chairman of our audit committee prior to the commencement of each service.

Work associated with registered and unregistered securities offerings, including, without limitation, registration statements under the Securities Act;

statutory audits, employee benefit plan audits or other financial audit work required for non-U.S. subsidiaries that are not required for the Exchange Act audit;

attestation services;

advice and consultation as to proposed or newly adopted accounting and auditing standards and interpretations, and as to financial accounting and disclosure requirements imposed by the SEC and other regulatory agencies and professional standard setting bodies;

assistance and consultation as to questions from us, including comments or inquiries made by the SEC or other regulatory agencies;

access to Ernst & Young's Internet-based accounting and reporting resources;

assistance to us with understanding our internal control review and reporting obligations and, if requested, under the supervision of our management assisting us in the documentation of our internal controls and processes, not including the performance of any management review, evaluation or testing of internal controls for the purposes of management's assertions about the effectiveness of internal controls;

review of our information systems security and controls;

preparation and/or review of tax returns (including amended returns and refund claims) to be filed by us with federal, state, local or foreign jurisdictions and related tax services, which includes assistance with audits and notices, voluntary disclosure and amnesty programs, estimated payment and extension calculations, tax projections, allocations and analytical review calculations and tax accounting method changes, statutory incentive credit assistance, transfer pricing analysis, inventory related calculations

and assistance, fixed asset and depreciation assistance and cost segregation studies (but in no circumstances computing depreciation or maintaining our related records), analysis of tax legislation, and pronouncements, expatriate tax services and consultation and responses to questions from us regarding the tax implications of various items;

international tax planning, including foreign tax credit and cash repatriation planning; and

general federal, state, and international tax planning and advice.

For the services receiving general pre-approval under the pre-approval policy listed above, any individual engagement with an estimated cost of more than \$250,000 must nevertheless be specifically pre-approved by the audit committee or by the chairman of the audit committee before the aggregate fees incurred with respect to such engagement exceed \$250,000; provided, however, the services for which general pre-approval under the pre-approval policy may be used during any fiscal year shall be limited to an aggregate of \$1,000,000 of estimated costs outstanding at any one time. The costs of services that receive general pre-approval under the pre-approval policy listed above that then receive specific approval or ratification by the audit committee no longer count towards the calculation of the \$1,000,000 limit. All services will require specific pre-approval by the audit committee or the chairman of the audit committee whenever the aggregate costs of services that have received general pre-approval under the pre-approval policy have reached the \$1,000,000 limit and have not been subsequently approved or ratified by the audit committee. The audit committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting will review services performed pursuant to the general pre-approvals granted under the pre-approval policy and services pre-approved by the chairman of the audit committee. In addition, the nature and dollar value of services performed under the general pre-approval guidelines shall be reviewed with the audit committee on an at least an annual basis.

Our independent registered public accounting firm may not perform any service that is proscribed by law, regulation, the NYSE or regulatory authorities or organizations charged with oversight of the accounting and auditing profession. Specifically, the following non-audit services are prohibited by our pre-approval policy:

bookkeeping or other services related to our accounting records or financial statements;

financial information systems design and implementation;

appraisal or valuation services, fairness opinions or contribution-in-kind reports;

actuarial services;

internal audit outsourcing services;

management functions or human resources;

broker-dealer, investment adviser or investment banking services;

legal services and expert services unrelated to the audit; and

personal tax services for individuals in a financial reporting oversight role.

The audit committee, based on the guiding principles set forth above, may prohibit other services.

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The fees charged by our independent registered public accounting firm must be based on time and expense incurred to perform its services, and in no event will fees be contingency based.

RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED

PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

ITEM 2

The audit committee of the board of directors selected Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. Although we are not required to submit this matter to you, the board of directors believes that it is good corporate governance to do so. This proposal asks you to ratify this selection. If the appointment of Ernst & Young is not ratified by you, the audit committee will reconsider the appointment. Representatives of Ernst & Young are expected to be present at the annual meeting. They will have the opportunity to make a statement if they so desire, and they will be available to respond to appropriate questions that you may have.

Pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC, the audit committee has the direct responsibility to appoint, retain, fix the compensation and oversee the work of our independent registered public accounting firm. Consequently, the audit committee will consider the results of the shareholder vote on ratification but will exercise its judgment, consistent with its primary responsibility, on the appointment and retention of our independent public registered accounting firm, and the appointment of Ernst & Young will be subject to the audit committee and Ernst & Young reaching agreement on satisfactory terms of the appointment.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The board of directors recommends a vote FOR the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of the company. Proxies returned without instructions will be voted FOR the ratification of the E&Y Appointment.

ADVISORY VOTE REGARDING

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

ITEM 3

We are again providing our shareholders with the opportunity to cast an advisory vote regarding the compensation of our executives as our board of directors determined it would be in the best interest of our shareholders and the company to hold an advisory vote on executive compensation annually. Last year, more than 87% of the votes cast were in favor of our executive compensation.

We believe that our compensation policies and procedures are competitive, are focused on pay for performance principles and are strongly aligned with the long-term interests of our shareholders. Our executive compensation philosophy is based on the belief that the compensation of our employees should be set at levels that allow us to attract and retain employees who are committed to achieving high performance and who demonstrate the ability to do so. We seek to provide an executive compensation package that is driven by our overall financial performance, increased shareholder value, the success of areas of our business directly impacted by the executive's performance, and the performance of the individual executive. We view our compensation program as a strategic tool that supports the successful execution of our business strategy and reinforces a performance-based culture. The company employs an executive compensation program for our senior executives that emphasizes long-term compensation over short-term compensation, with a significant portion weighted toward equity awards. This approach strongly aligns our senior executives' compensation with the interest of our shareholders. Our aggregate total shareholder returns for the past one, three, five and ten fiscal years were 42%, 111.2%, 169.5% and 716.4%, respectively. The company believes that the compensation program has been instrumental in helping the company to achieve the strong financial performance that has driven our shareholder returns.

The resolution discussed below, commonly known as a "Say on Pay" proposal, gives you, as a shareholder, the opportunity to endorse or not endorse the compensation that we pay to our named executive officers by voting to approve or not approve such compensation as described in this proxy statement. We encourage you to

closely review our Compensation Discussion and Analysis and the tabular disclosure that follows it. We organized the Compensation Discussion and Analysis to discuss each element of compensation, including direct compensation (base salary, annual performance bonus and long-term incentives) and indirect, long-term compensation such as retirement benefits. In that section, we also discuss our policies and other factors that affect our decisions or those of our compensation committee.

Generally, in this proxy statement we are required to disclose information regarding any person who served as our chief executive officer or our chief financial officer during fiscal 2013 and our three other most highly-compensated executive officers who were serving at the end of fiscal 2013. Therefore, most of our tabular disclosure is backwards-looking. Also, in many cases, we are required to disclose in the executive compensation tables accounting estimates or other non-cash estimates of future compensation. Because of this, we encourage you to read the footnotes and narratives which accompany each table in order to understand any non-cash items.

The board of directors has determined that the best way to allow shareholders to vote on our executive compensation is through the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the company's shareholders approve the compensation of our named executive officers determined by the compensation committee, as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section and the tabular disclosure regarding named executive officer compensation (together with the accompanying narrative disclosure) in this proxy statement.

This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the executive compensation policies and practices described in this proxy statement. Your vote is advisory and will not be binding upon our board. However, the compensation committee will take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

The board of directors recommends that the shareholders vote FOR the adoption of this resolution and approve the company's executive compensation as described in this proxy statement.

APPROVAL OF RESTATED AND AMENDED

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

ITEM 4

The board proposes to amend our company's articles of incorporation to phase out the present three-year staggered terms of our directors and instead provide for the annual election of directors. Our company's articles of incorporation currently divide our board of directors into three classes, as nearly equal in number as possible, with members of each class elected to staggered three-year terms. Approximately one-third of our directors stand for election at each annual meeting of shareholders. At our January 25, 2013 annual meeting, the company's shareholders approved a nonbinding shareholder proposal requesting that the board take the necessary steps to declassify the board and elect the directors annually. The board is proposing, and recommends that the shareholders approve, the Amended Articles to eliminate the classification of the board of directors and to provide for the annual election of directors to be phased in over a three-year period beginning with the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders.

Background of the Proposal

Following last year's annual meeting, our board carefully considered the advantages and disadvantages of maintaining a classified board. The board has long believed that a classified board is in the best interests of our company, its shareholders and our long-term value creation for the reasons set forth in our 2012 proxy statement. Among those considerations, a classified board structure has enhanced the independence of our directors from both management and shareholder special interests, protected the company against unfair or abusive takeover practices and promoted continuity and stability in the management of the business and affairs of our company.

because a majority of directors always have prior experience as directors of the company. However, the board believes it is important for the board to maintain shareholder confidence by demonstrating that it is responsive and accountable to shareholders and committed to strong corporate governance. In this regard, although the shareholder proposal last year was nonbinding, the board gave considerable weight to the fact that the proposal received a substantial majority of votes in favor of the proposal and acknowledges the sentiment of our shareholders in favor of annual elections.

In light of the considerations described above, the board determined to adopt the proposed Amended Articles and recommend that the shareholders approve it.

The Amended Articles

If the Amended Articles are approved by the shareholders, then commencing with the class of directors standing for election at the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders, directors will stand for election for one-year terms expiring at the next succeeding annual meeting of shareholders, and beginning with the 2017 annual meeting of shareholders all of the directors will stand for election for one-year terms. As the Amended Articles would not shorten the existing term of any current director, the directors who have been elected to the board prior to the effectiveness of the Amended Articles, including the directors elected at the annual meeting held in 2014, will hold office until the end of their three-year terms expiring in 2017, in the case of Messrs. Brown, Chapman, Crews and Currey, or the end of his two-year term expiring in 2016, in the case of Mr. Voorhees. Ms. Hourihan has been nominated for election to a one-year term expiring in 2015. In all cases, each director will hold office until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified or until his or her earlier resignation or removal. The Amended Articles also consolidate previous amendments to our current restated and amended articles of incorporation but do not make other substantive changes.

The text of the proposed Amended Articles is attached as Appendix A to this proxy statement.

Required Shareholder Approval

The adoption of the Amended Articles requires the affirmative vote by the holders of at least 75% of the voting power of all the outstanding shares of our Common Stock. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have the effect of a vote against the Amended Articles.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

While the board continues to believe that the retention of a classified board structure provides stockholders with very meaningful protections against actions that may not be in their best interests, the board recognizes that many stockholders have a different view. Accordingly, after careful consideration of the issue and in recognition of stockholder support for last year's nonbinding stockholder proposal to declassify the board, the board has determined to recommend a vote for the approval of the Amended Articles.

The board of directors unanimously recommends that the shareholders vote FOR the approval of the Amended Articles.

OTHER MATTERS

The board of directors knows of no other matters that will be properly brought before the annual meeting. If other matters are introduced, the persons named in the proxy as the proxy holders will vote on such matters in their discretion.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires that our executive officers and directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our Common Stock file with the SEC certain reports, and furnish copies thereof to us, with respect to each such person's beneficial ownership of our equity securities. Based solely upon a review of the copies of the reports furnished to us and certain representations of these persons, all of these persons timely complied with the applicable reporting requirements.

Annual Report on Form 10-K

We will provide without charge, at the written request of any shareholder of record as of December 2, 2013, a copy of our annual report on Form 10-K, including the financial statements and financial statement schedule, as filed with the SEC, excluding exhibits. We will provide copies of the exhibits to eligible shareholders making such a request. We may impose a reasonable fee for providing the exhibits. Requests for copies of our annual report on Form 10-K should be mailed to: Rock-Tenn Company, 504 Thrasher Street, Norcross, Georgia 30071, Attention: corporate secretary. You may also access a copy of our annual report via the Internet by visiting our website located at www.rocktenn.com.

Shareholder Nominations for Election of Directors

Under our bylaws, only persons nominated in accordance with certain procedures will be eligible for election as directors. Shareholders are entitled to nominate persons for election to the board of directors only if (1) the shareholder is otherwise entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, (2) the shareholder sends timely notice of the nomination in writing to our corporate secretary and (3) the shareholder is a shareholder of record at the time of giving notice and at the time of the meeting.

All proposals should be addressed to Rock-Tenn Company, 504 Thrasher Street, Norcross, Georgia 30071, Attention: Corporate Secretary. To be timely, a shareholder's notice must be delivered to our corporate secretary at our principal executive offices not less than ninety (90) days and no more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting of shareholders; provided, however, that if the annual meeting is not scheduled to be held within a period that commences thirty (30) days before that anniversary date and ends thirty (30) days after that anniversary date, the shareholder's notice must be delivered by the later of (a) the tenth (10th) day following the day of the public announcement of the date of the annual meeting or (b) the date which is ninety (90) days before the date of the annual meeting. Accordingly, shareholders must submit nominations no earlier than the close of business on October 3, 2014, and no later than the close of business on November 2, 2014.

Only in the case of an annual meeting, if the number of directors to be elected to the board of directors is increased and there is no public announcement naming all of the nominees for director or specifying the size of the increased board of directors made by us at least one hundred (100) days before the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting, a shareholder's notice will also be considered timely, but only with respect to nominees for any new positions created by such increase, if it is delivered to our corporate secretary not later than the close of business on the tenth (10th) day following the public announcement.

The shareholder's notice must set forth for each person to be nominated for election as a director all of the following:

All information that is required to be disclosed in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the election of directors pursuant to Regulation 14 under the Exchange Act or any other proxy rules promulgated by the SEC.

The signed consent of the proposed nominee to serve as a director if elected.

The name, age and business address and residence address of the proposed nominee.

The principal occupation or employment of the nominee.

The class or series and number of shares of capital stock of our company which are directly or indirectly owned beneficially or of record by the nominee and the date such shares were acquired and the investment intent of such acquisition.

The total number of shares of Common Stock that such shareholder believes will be voted for the proposed nominee.
The shareholder's notice must also set forth, with respect to the shareholder giving such notice, all of the following:

A representation that the shareholder is a holder of record of Common Stock entitled to vote at such meeting and intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the proposed nominee.

The name and address of the shareholder, as they appear on our company's books.

The residence, name and address (if different from the company's books) of the shareholder proposing such business, and the name and address of any Shareholder Associated Person (as defined in our bylaws).

The class and number of shares of Common Stock which are directly or indirectly held of record or beneficially owned by the shareholder or by any Shareholder Associated Person with respect to our securities, a description of any Derivative Positions directly or indirectly held or beneficially held by the shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person, and whether and the extent to which a Hedging Transaction has been entered into by or on behalf of such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person.

How long such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person has beneficially owned (or otherwise had an interest in) such shares.

A description of all arrangements or understandings (including financial transactions and direct or indirect compensation) between such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person and each proposed nominee and any other person or entity (including their names) pursuant to which the nomination(s) are to be made by such shareholder.

Any other information relating to such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated 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 pursuant to Section 14 of the

Exchange Act.

A representation as to whether such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person intends to deliver a proxy statement or form of proxy to the holders of a sufficient number of outstanding shares of our Common Stock to elect such nominee or otherwise to solicit proxies from shareholders in support of the nomination.

In addition, any shareholder who submits a nomination pursuant to these provisions is required to update and supplement the information disclosed in such notice, if necessary, in accordance with our bylaws.

We may require any proposed nominee to furnish such other information as may reasonably be required by us to determine the eligibility of such proposed nominee to serve as a director. Any capitalized terms used, but not defined this section, have the meanings given to those terms in our bylaws.

Shareholder Proposals

Bylaw Provisions. In accordance with our bylaws, a shareholder who desires to present a proposal (other than nominations of persons for election to the board of directors, which must be made in compliance with the procedures described above) for consideration at our 2014 annual meeting of shareholders must deliver the proposal in proper written form to our corporate secretary at our principal executive office not less than ninety (90) days and not more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting of shareholders; therefore, the proposal must be delivered no earlier than the close of business October 3, 2014, and no later than the close of business on November 2, 2014. If the annual meeting is not scheduled to be held within a period that commences thirty (30) days before such anniversary date and ends thirty (30) days after such anniversary date, such shareholder's notice must be delivered by the later of (a) the tenth day following the day of the Public Announcement of the date of the annual meeting or (b) the date which is ninety (90) days prior to the date of the annual meeting.

To be in proper written form, a shareholder's notice to the corporate secretary relating to any such proposal must set forth as to each matter of business the shareholder proposes to bring before the annual meeting:

A brief description of the business desired to be brought before the annual meeting (including the specific text of any resolutions or actions proposed for consideration and if such business includes a proposal to amend our articles of incorporation or bylaws, the specific language of the proposed amendment) and the reasons for conducting such business at the annual meeting.

The name and address, as they appear on our company's books, the residence name and address (if different from our company's books), of the shareholder proposing such business, and the name and address of any Shareholder Associated Person.

The class and number of shares of Common Stock which are directly or indirectly held of record or beneficially owned by the shareholder or by any Shareholder Associated Person with respect to our securities, a description of any Derivative Positions directly or indirectly held or beneficially held by the shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person, and whether and the extent to which a Hedging Transaction has been entered into by or on behalf of such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person.

A description of all arrangements or understandings between the shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person or such other person or entity (including their names) in connection with the proposal of such business by the shareholder and any material interest of the shareholder, any Shareholder Associated Person or any other person or entity in such business.

A representation that such shareholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the annual meeting to bring such business before the meeting.

A representation as to whether such shareholder or any Shareholder Associated Person intends to deliver a proxy statement or form of proxy to holders of at least the percentage of outstanding shares of our Common Stock required to approve the proposal or otherwise to solicit proxies from shareholders in support of the proposal.

In addition, any shareholder who submits a proposal pursuant to these provisions is required to update and supplement the information disclosed in such notice, if necessary, in accordance with our bylaws. Proposals should be addressed to Rock-Tenn Company, 504 Thrasher Street, Norcross, GA 30071, Attention: Corporate Secretary. Any capitalized terms used, but not defined in this section, have the meanings given to those terms in our bylaws.

Inclusion in Next Year's Proxy Statement. Notwithstanding the bylaw provisions, a shareholder who desires to have his or her proposal included in next year's proxy statement must deliver the proposal to our principal executive offices (at the address noted above) no later than the close of business on August 21, 2014.

Expenses of Solicitation

We will bear the cost of solicitation of proxies by the board of directors in connection with the annual meeting. We will reimburse brokers, fiduciaries and custodians for reasonable expenses incurred by them in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners of Common Stock held in their names.

By Order of the Board of Directors
Robert B. McIntosh
Secretary

Our annual report to shareholders for fiscal 2013, which includes audited financial statements, accompanies this proxy statement. The annual report does not form any part of the material for the solicitation of proxies.

RESTATED AND AMENDED
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
ROCK-TENN COMPANY

Article I

Name

The name of the corporation is Rock-Tenn Company (the *Corporation*).

Article II

Authorized Stock

(a) Authorized Classes and Numbers of Shares. The total number of shares of all classes of stock that the Corporation is authorized to issue is 225,000,000 shares; consisting of 175,000,000 shares of Class A Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share (*Common Stock*), and 50,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, par value \$.01 per share (*Preferred Stock*).

(b) Common Stock. The following is a statement of the designations and the powers, preferences and rights in respect of the Common Stock:

(1) Dividends. Subject to the provisions of applicable law and the rights of the holders of the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock, if any, the holders of shares of Common Stock shall be entitled to receive, when and as declared by the Board of Directors of the Corporation, out of the assets of the Corporation legally available therefor, dividends or other distributions, whether payable in cash, property or securities of the Corporation.

(2) Voting Rights. With respect to all such matters upon which shareholders are entitled to vote or give consent, each holder of Common Stock shall be entitled to one (1) vote (in person or by proxy) for each share of Common Stock held by such holder on the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to vote.

(3) Liquidation, Dissolution or Winding Up. Upon the liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, after any preferential amounts required to be paid or distributed to holders of outstanding shares of Preferred Stock, if any, are so paid or distributed, the remaining assets of the Corporation shall be distributed ratably to the holders of Common Stock in proportion to the number of shares held by them.

(4) Reorganization, Consolidation, Share Exchange or Merger. In the event of a reorganization, consolidation, share exchange or merger of the Corporation, each holder of a share of Common Stock shall be entitled to receive the same kind and amount of consideration (whether consisting of cash, property or securities) to be received by each other holder of a share of Common Stock, if any.

(5) Treasury Stock. Shares of Common Stock that have been acquired by the Corporation shall become treasury shares and may be resold or otherwise disposed of by the Corporation for such consideration, not less than the par value thereof, as shall be determined by the Board of Directors, unless or until the Board of Directors shall by resolution provide that any or all treasury shares so acquired shall constitute authorized, but unissued shares.

(c) Preferred Stock. The Preferred Stock may be issued from time to time by the Board of Directors as shares of one or more series. The description of shares of each series of Preferred Stock, including any designations, preferences, conversion and other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends,

qualifications, and terms and conditions of redemption shall be as set forth in resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors, and articles of amendment shall be filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia as required by law to be filed with respect to issuance of such Preferred Stock, prior to the issuance of any shares of such series.

The Board of Directors is expressly authorized, at any time, by adopting resolutions providing for the issuance of, or providing for a change in the number of, shares of any particular series of Preferred Stock and, if and to the extent from time to time required by law, by filing articles of amendment which are effective without shareholder action, to increase or decrease the number of shares included in each series of Preferred Stock, but not below the number of shares then issued, and to the maximum extent permitted by law to set in any one or more respects the designations, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications, or terms and conditions of redemption relating to the shares of each such series. The authority of the Board of Directors with respect to each series of Preferred Stock shall include, but not be limited to, setting or changing the following:

- (i) the dividend rate, if any, on shares of such series, whether dividends shall be cumulative, and, if so, from which date or dates, and the relative rights of priority, if any, of payment of dividends or other distributions on shares of that series;
- (ii) whether the shares of such series shall be redeemable and, if so, the redemption price and the terms and conditions of such redemption;
- (iii) the obligation, if any, of the Corporation to redeem shares of such series pursuant to a sinking fund, and the terms and amount of such sinking fund;
- (iv) whether shares of such series shall be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of stock of any other class or classes or other securities and, if so, the terms and conditions of such conversion or exchange, including the price or prices or the rate or rates of conversion or exchange and the terms of adjustment, if any;
- (v) whether the shares of such series shall have voting rights, in addition to the voting rights provided by law, and, if so, the terms of such voting rights;
- (vi) the rights of the shares of such series in the event of voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Corporation, and the relative rights of priority, if any, of payment of shares of such series; and
- (vii) any other relative rights, powers, preferences, qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof relating to such series.

Article III

Board of Directors

The number of directors constituting the Board of Directors of the Corporation shall be fixed from time to time in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation. At each annual meeting of shareholders of the Corporation commencing with the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders, directors whose terms expire at that meeting (or such directors' successors) shall be elected for a one-year term. Accordingly, at the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders, directors whose terms expire at that meeting (or such directors' successors) shall be elected to hold office for a one-year term expiring at the 2016 annual meeting of shareholders; at the 2016 annual

meeting of shareholders, directors whose terms expire at that meeting (or such directors' successors) shall be elected to hold office for a one-year term expiring at the 2017 annual meeting of shareholders; and at the 2017 annual meeting of shareholders and at each annual meeting of shareholders thereafter, all directors shall be elected to hold office for a one-year term expiring at the next annual meeting of shareholders. The foregoing notwithstanding, each director shall serve until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and qualified, unless he or she shall cease to serve by reason of death, resignation or other cause.

Article IV

Director Liability

No director of the Corporation shall be liable to the Corporation or its shareholders for monetary damages for any action taken or any failure to take any action, as a director, except for liabilities, if any, that the Georgia Business Corporation Code as in effect from time to time expressly provides may not be limited or eliminated. Neither the amendment or repeal of this Article IV nor the adoption of any provision of these Restated and Amended Articles of Incorporation inconsistent with this Article IV shall eliminate or adversely affect any right or protection of a director of the Corporation existing immediately prior to such amendment, repeal or adoption.

Article V

Supermajority Voting Requirement

Notwithstanding any provisions contained herein to the contrary and notwithstanding that some lesser percentage may be permissible under applicable law, the shareholders of the Corporation shall not amend, modify or repeal, or adopt any provision inconsistent with, Articles IV, V, VI or VIII of these Restated and Amended Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation unless approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a least 75% of the outstanding voting power of the Common Stock and Preferred Stock, voting together as a single voting group, given in person or by proxy, at a shareholders' meeting.

Article VI

Amendment of Bylaws

Notwithstanding any provision of the Bylaws of the Corporation and notwithstanding that some lesser percentage may be permissible under applicable law, the shareholders of the Corporation shall not amend, modify or repeal, or adopt any provision inconsistent with, any provision of Article I, Section 2 (Special Meetings of Shareholders) or Article II (Directors) of the Bylaws of the Corporation unless approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 75% of the outstanding voting power of the Common Stock and Preferred Stock, voting together as a single voting group, given in person or by proxy, at a shareholders' meeting. The Board of Directors of the Corporation shall not be permitted to amend, modify or repeal, or to adopt any provision inconsistent with, any provision of Article I, Section 2 (Special Meetings of Shareholders) or Article II (Directors) of the Bylaws of the Corporation unless approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office given in person at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Article VII

Preemptive Rights

No holder of shares of any class of the capital stock of the Corporation shall have any preemptive right to subscribe for or to purchase any shares or other securities issued by the Corporation.

Article VIII

Board Consideration of

Other Constituencies

As permitted by Section 14-2-202(b)(5) of the Georgia Business Corporation Code, in discharging the duties of their respective positions and in determining what is believed to be in the best interests of the Corporation, the Board of Directors, committees of the Board of Directors and individual directors, in addition to considering the effects of any action on the Corporation or its shareholders, may consider the interests of the employees, customers, suppliers and creditors of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, the communities in which offices or other establishments of the Corporation and its subsidiaries are located, and all other factors such directors consider pertinent; provided, however, that this provision shall be deemed solely to grant discretionary authority to the directors and shall not be deemed to create any duty of the directors to consider such other constituencies and shall not be deemed to provide to any constituency any right to be considered.

Article IX

Registered Office and Agent

The address of the Corporation's registered office in the State of Georgia is located in Gwinnett County at 504 Thrasher Street, Norcross, Georgia 30071. The name of its registered agent at such address is Mr. Robert B. McIntosh.

Article X

Address of Corporation

The mailing address of the principal office of the Corporation is 504 Thrasher Street, Norcross, Georgia 30071.