

ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP  
Form DEF 14A  
December 27, 2018

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.        )

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

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

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Esterline Technologies Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

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

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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

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.

1) Amount Previously Paid:

2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed:

---

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND PROXY STATEMENT

ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION

500 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE

Bellevue, Washington 98004

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held February 7, 2019

To the Shareholders of Esterline Technologies Corporation:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 2019 annual meeting of shareholders for ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. (local time), at the Seattle offices of Perkins Coie LLP, 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4900, Seattle, Washington, for the following purposes:

- (1) to elect as directors of the Company the five nominees named in the attached proxy statement;
- (2) to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018;
- (3) to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 27, 2019; and
- (4) to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on December 12, 2018, as the record date for determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. Members of the Company's management will not make any formal presentations as part of the annual meeting, but will be available to address questions from shareholders, as appropriate.

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal year 2018 is provided for your convenience.

By order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Amy L. Watson  
AMY L. WATSON  
Deputy General Counsel and

Corporate Secretary

December 27, 2018

---

PROXY STATEMENT

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held February 7, 2019

This proxy statement, which is first being provided to shareholders on or about December 27, 2018, has been prepared in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of Esterline Technologies Corporation (the “Company”) of proxies in the accompanying form to be voted at the 2019 annual meeting of shareholders of the Company to be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. (local time), at the Seattle offices of Perkins Coie LLP, 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4900, Seattle, Washington 98101, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof. The Company’s principal executive office is at 500 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Suite 1500, Bellevue, Washington 98004.

Shareholders are being asked to vote on three proposals at the 2019 annual meeting:

- (1) to elect as directors of the Company five nominees: Delores M. Etter, Paul V. Haack, Mary L. Howell, Scott E. Keuchle and Curtis C. Reusser for a one-year term that will expire at the 2020 annual meeting of shareholders;
- (2) to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company’s named executive officers for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018; and
- (3) to ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending September 27, 2019.

In addition, you may be asked to consider any other business properly presented at the 2019 annual meeting and any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting. Members of the Company’s management will not make any formal presentations as part of the 2019 annual meeting, but will be available to address questions from shareholders, as appropriate.

The cost of this solicitation will be borne by the Company. In addition to solicitation by mail, officers and employees of the Company may, without additional compensation, solicit the return of proxies by telephone, messenger, facsimile transmission or personal interview. Arrangements may also be made with brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries to send proxies and proxy material to their principals, and the Company may reimburse such persons for their expenses in so doing. The Company has retained MacKenzie Partners, Inc. to provide proxy solicitation services for a fee of \$12,500, plus reimbursement of its out-of-pocket expenses.

Registered shareholders can vote in person, by Internet, by telephone or by mail, as described below. If you are a beneficial shareholder, please refer to the information forwarded by your broker, bank or other holder of record to see what options are available to you. Registered shareholders may cast their vote by:

- (1) Attending and voting in person at the annual meeting;
- (2) Accessing the Internet website specified in the Notice of Internet Availability and following the instructions provided on the website (or if printed copies of the proxy materials were requested, as specified in the printed proxy card);
- (3) Calling the telephone number specified in the Notice of Internet Availability and voting by following the instructions provided on the phone line (or if copies of the proxy materials were requested, as specified in the

printed proxy card); or

(4) Requesting a printed proxy card and completing, signing, dating and promptly mailing the proxy card in the envelope provided.

Any proxy given pursuant to the solicitation may be revoked at any time prior to being voted. A proxy may be revoked by the record holder or other person entitled to vote (a) by attending the meeting in person and voting the shares, (b) by executing another proxy dated as of a later date, or (c) by notifying the Secretary of the Company in writing, at the Company's address set forth on the notice of the meeting, provided that such notice is received by the Secretary prior to the meeting date. All shares represented by valid proxies will be voted at the meeting. Proxies will be voted in accordance with the specification made therein or, in the absence of specification, in accordance with the provisions of the proxy.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on December 12, 2018, as the record date for determining the holders of common stock of the Company (the "Common Stock") entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. The Common Stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange. At the close of business on the record date there were outstanding and entitled to vote 29,640,812 of Common Stock, which are entitled to one vote per share on all matters which properly come before the annual meeting.

---

The presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote is required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the meeting. The inspector of elections, who determines whether or not a quorum is present at the annual meeting, will count abstentions and broker non-votes, which are discussed further below, as shares of Common Stock that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum. There must be a quorum for the meeting to be held. The Company has appointed Computershare as the inspector of elections for the annual meeting. Votes cast by proxy or in person at the annual meeting will be tabulated by the inspector of elections appointed for the annual meeting.

For Proposal One (regarding the election of directors), each nominee must receive an affirmative vote of a majority of votes cast, either in person or represented by proxy at the meeting, to be elected to the Board of Directors. Shareholders are not entitled to cumulate votes in electing directors. For Proposal Two (regarding the advisory vote on the executive compensation of the Company's named executive officers) and Proposal Three (regarding the ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2019), the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast will be required for approval of the proposals. The votes on Proposal Two (regarding executive compensation) and Proposal Three (regarding the ratification of our independent auditors) are advisory in nature and are nonbinding.

Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be considered votes cast with respect to Proposals One, Two and Three, and as a result, they will have no effect on the vote relating to those proposals. Broker non-votes occur when a person holding shares through a bank or brokerage account does not provide instructions as to how his or her shares should be voted and the broker does not exercise discretion to vote those shares on a particular matter. Brokers may not exercise discretion to vote shares as to non-routine matters, which at the 2019 annual meeting include the election of directors and the advisory vote on executive compensation. Brokers may exercise discretion to vote shares as to which instructions are not given with respect to routine matters, which at the 2019 annual meeting includes the ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

#### PROPOSAL ONE:

##### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws provide for a board of directors that consists of not less than seven (7) or more than twelve (12) members, as may be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors. At the 2018 annual meeting, the Company's shareholders approved amendments to the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation to eliminate the classified structure of our Board of Directors. Accordingly, the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that each director elected at each annual meeting of stockholders, beginning with the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders, shall serve a one-year term expiring at the following annual meeting of stockholders and until his or her respective successor is duly elected and qualified, or until his or her earlier death, resignation, retirement, disqualification or removal.

At the 2018 annual meeting, Ms. Delores M. Etter and Ms. Mary L. Howell were elected for a one-year term that expires at the 2019 annual meeting. In addition, the terms of Mr. Paul V. Haack, Mr. Scott E. Kuechle and Mr. Curtis C. Reusser, who were elected to three-year terms at the 2016 annual meeting when the Company's Board of Directors was classified, expire at the 2019 annual meeting. Accordingly, each of the foregoing five Directors is standing for election at the 2019 annual meeting. The remaining directors who are not standing for election at the 2019 annual meeting will continue to serve for the remainder of their terms, which will expire at the 2020 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

The Company entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of October 9, 2018, and amended on October 10, 2018 (as it may be further amended from time to time, the "Merger Agreement"), by and among the

Company, TransDigm Group Incorporated, a Delaware corporation (“TransDigm”), and Thunderbird Merger Sub Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of TransDigm (“Merger Sub”) pursuant to which, among other things, Merger Sub will merge with and into the Company, with the Company surviving as a wholly owned subsidiary of TransDigm (the “Merger”). The Merger is subject to a number of closing conditions, but if completed, each outstanding share of Common Stock will be converted into the right to receive \$122.50 in cash, without interest and subject to any withholding taxes, (unless the holder of such shares has properly exercised and perfected his or her appraisal rights with respect to such shares). Upon completion of the Merger, among other things, the Company’s Directors will be replaced by the directors of Merger Sub. As a result, the Directors may not serve for the full term to which he or she has been elected if the Merger is completed before the Company holds the 2020 annual meeting of stockholders. For more information regarding the Merger Agreement and the Merger, please see the Company’s Definitive Proxy Statement filed with the SEC on November 30, 2018.

---



### Majority Voting in Director Elections and Irrevocable Resignations

Pursuant to the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws, a director nominee is elected to the Board if the votes cast for the nominee exceed the votes cast against the nominee. Abstentions will have no effect on the election of directors since only votes "For" or "Against" a nominee will be counted.

Under the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board will nominate only those persons who tender, in advance, irrevocable resignations, which are effective upon a director's failure to receive the required vote at any annual meeting at which they are nominated for re-election and Board acceptance of the resignation. The Board will act on the resignation, taking into account the recommendation of the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee, and publicly disclose its decision within 90 days from the date of the certification of the election results. Any director who tenders such a resignation in accordance with the Corporate Governance Guidelines will not participate in the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee recommendation or Board decision on the resignation. If the Board does not accept the resignation of a director in the foregoing circumstances, the director will continue to serve until the next annual meeting and until his or her successor is duly elected, or until his or her earlier resignation or removal, subject to the consummation of the Merger. If the Board accepts the resignation, then the Board, in its sole discretion, may fill any resulting vacancy or may decrease the size of the Board as provided for and in accordance with the Bylaws.

As previously disclosed, we entered into an agreement with First Pacific Advisors, LLC and certain of its affiliates named in the agreement (collectively, "FPA") dated October 18, 2016, (the "FPA Agreement"). Pursuant to the FPA Agreement, the Board appointed Mr. Nils E. Larsen as a new independent director effective October 18, 2016, and nominated Mr. Larsen for election at the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders where he was elected to the class of directors with terms expiring in 2020. According to the terms of the FPA Agreement, Mr. Larsen tendered an irrevocable resignation letter pursuant to which he will immediately resign from the Board and all applicable committees thereof if, at any time during the Standstill Period (as defined below), FPA fails to beneficially own at least 10% of the Common Stock. The Standstill Period is the period from October 18, 2016, until the earlier of (i) the date that is fifteen (15) business days prior to the deadline for the submission of stockholder nominations for the 2020 annual meeting of stockholders pursuant to the Bylaws and (ii) the date that is 100 days prior to the first anniversary of the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders. FPA's beneficial ownership declined to below 10% after fiscal 2018, which triggered the Board's determination whether to accept Mr. Larsen's resignation. Mr. Larsen will continue his service on the Board in 2019 by unanimous decision of the Board (with Mr. Larsen not participating). See the "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions – The FPA Agreement" section of this proxy statement beginning on page 45 for further detail on the FPA Agreement.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR its director nominees named below.

Information as to each nominee and each director whose term will continue after the 2019 annual meeting is provided below. Unless otherwise instructed, it is the intention of the persons named in the accompanying proxy to vote shares represented by properly executed proxies FOR the election of the nominees named below. The Board of Directors knows of no reason why any of its nominees will be unable or unwilling to serve. If any nominee becomes unavailable to serve, the Board of Directors intends for the persons named as proxies to vote for the election of such other persons, if any, as the Board of Directors may recommend.

Nominees to the class of directors whose term will expire at the 2020 annual meeting:

Delores M. Etter

Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering

Former Distinguished Fellow, Darwin Deason Institute for Cyber Security

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. Age 71.

Dr. Etter was a member of the Department of Electrical Engineering at Southern Methodist University from June 2008 to December 2016. She held the Texas Instruments Distinguished Chair in Engineering Education and was a Distinguished Fellow in the Darwin Deason Institute for Cyber Security. Dr. Etter is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a former member of the National Science Board, and a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. She is also a director of Stantec Inc. She has been a director of the Company since 2010.

Dr. Etter has had multiple, substantive experiences within the U.S. Department of Defense, including serving as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, and as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Science and Technology, as well as serving on the faculty at public and private academic institutions. These experiences, coupled with her deep technical knowledge in the areas of sensors and software and her familiarity with the Joint Strike Fighter and other military aircraft, enable Dr. Etter to provide insight and guidance to management and the Board.

---

Paul V. Haack

Senior Partner (Retired), Deloitte & Touche LLP. Age 68.

Prior to 2006, Mr. Haack was a Senior Partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP (an international public accounting firm). He is currently an Emeritus Trustee of the University of Montana Foundation. He has been a director of the Company since 2006.

During his tenure at Deloitte, Mr. Haack was a leader of its Aerospace and Defense Practice, which provided him with knowledge and experience relevant to the Company's industry. Mr. Haack also gained extensive experience in complex mergers and acquisitions and capital structure issues from his career at Deloitte, and from his tenure as director and Audit Committee Chair at SonoSite, including during Sonosite's successful sale to FujiFilm for which he served on the Transaction Committee. As a practicing CPA for 33 years, he has extensive expertise in finance, accounting and regulatory matters related to financial reporting, and has experience with the complexities of doing business overseas. The broad skillset he brings to the Board enhances the Board's oversight of financial reporting, enterprise risks, as well as the Company's strategy in the markets in which the Company operates and positions him well to serve as a Board member of the Company.

Mary L. Howell

Executive Vice President (Retired), Textron, Inc. Age 66.

Prior to January 2010, Ms. Howell was the Executive Vice President of Textron, Inc. (a multi-industry company serving aircraft, automotive, defense, industrial, and finance businesses), having held such position since August 1995. Ms. Howell is also a board member of the Atlantic Council of the United States and Vectrus, Inc. She has been a director of the Company since 2011.

Ms. Howell has extensive experience in the commercial and military markets that strengthen the Board's oversight of the Company's strategic plans. Her deep expertise in global operations, marketing, sales, business development and merger and acquisition transactions as well as her service on the boards of the National Association of Manufacturers and the Aerospace Industries Association enhance the Board's oversight of strategic matters and enterprise risk. Further, her former experience as a board member of FM Global has given her insight to sophisticated risk management practices that contributes to the Board's oversight of the Company's complex global operations.

Scott E. Kuechle

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Retired), Goodrich Corporation. Age 59.

Prior to July 2012, Mr. Kuechle was the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Goodrich Corporation (an aerospace and defense company) since August 2005. He is also a director of Kaman Corporation and Wesco Aircraft Holdings, Inc. He has been a director of the Company since 2012.

Mr. Kuechle's extensive experience within the aerospace and defense industry during his 29-year tenure at Goodrich and ongoing board experience at two other aerospace public companies provide relevant and valuable insights to the Board's oversight of the Company's strategic plans and initiatives. This industry experience, coupled with his deep expertise in corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, and financial controls and analysis, provide the Board with a powerful skillset to draw upon as the Company continues to execute its strategic plan with a focus on organic growth, good-fit mergers and acquisitions, and operational excellence. In addition, Mr. Kuechle's experience in complex corporate finance matters, including capital allocation, strengthen the Audit Committee's oversight of audit, financial

reporting and financial risk matters.

Curtis C. Reusser

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Esterline Technologies Corporation. Age 58.

Mr. Reusser has been Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since March 2014 and served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company from October 2013 to March 2014. Previously, he was President, Aircraft Systems of UTC Aerospace Systems for United Technologies Corporation (“UTC”) (a provider of a broad range of high-technology products and services to the global aerospace and building systems industries) from July 2012 to October 2013. He has been a director of the Company since 2013.

Mr. Reusser brings to the Board over 30 years of experience in the aerospace and defense industry, which significantly strengthens the Board’s oversight of the development and execution of the Company’s strategic plans and initiatives. With his engineering background and substantive leadership experience at Goodrich Corporation and UTC, Mr. Reusser adds a “hands-on” dynamic to the Board. Mr. Reusser has direct experience in growing and leading businesses that are complementary to Esterline’s, including sensors and systems, power systems and avionics and communication systems. Mr. Reusser’s extensive and relevant industry experiences and experience in merger and acquisition transactions add significantly to the Board’s oversight of the Company’s global operations, operational excellence initiatives, strategic transactions and strategy deployment.

---

Continuing directors:

Michael J. Cave

Senior Vice President (Retired), The Boeing Company.

President (Retired), Boeing Capital Corporation. Age 58.

Mr. Cave served as a Senior Vice President of The Boeing Company (a leading aerospace company and manufacturer of commercial jetliners and military aircraft), from January 2010 to May 2014. During this same time period, he also served as President of Boeing Capital Corporation (a wholly owned Boeing subsidiary that is primarily responsible for arranging, structuring and providing financing for Boeing's commercial airplane and space and defense products). He is the non-executive chairman of the board of Harley Davidson and also serves as a director of AirCastle Ltd. and Ball Corporation. He has been a director of the Company since November 2015, and his current term expires in 2020.

Mr. Cave's skills, expertise and experience in financial services, strategic planning, operations management and business development he gained through senior leadership roles at The Boeing Company make him a valuable member of the Board. His insights into the various products under development and entering production at aerospace original equipment manufacturers and the many high-level customer relationships that he developed in his time at Boeing are particularly helpful in guiding the Company on strategic matters. In addition, Mr. Cave provides the benefits of service on the boards of other publicly traded companies and has significant experience with mergers and acquisitions, including integration of newly acquired businesses, which enhances the Board's strategic transaction oversight resources.

Michael J. Covey

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Potlatch Corporation. Age 61.

Mr. Covey has been Chairman and Chief Executive Office of Potlatch Corporation (a leading manufacturer of forest products) since 2013. Prior to that time, he was the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Potlatch Corporation, having held such positions from 2007 through 2013. He has been a director of the Company since 2017, and his current term expires in 2020.

Mr. Covey's long and ongoing experience as an acting Chief Executive Officer brings a valuable executive-level perspective to the Board. He contributes helpful insights into all aspects of running a manufacturing business, enhancing in particular the Board's oversight of operations and financial management. Through his extensive background in senior-level management, Mr. Covey also possesses experience with strategy development and execution as well as capital deployment, which benefit and strengthen the Board's oversight in these areas. Mr. Covey's long experience as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman roles have enabled him to develop a strong sense of the importance of optimizing business operations to grow shareholder value, which helps the Board with its oversight of the Company's strategic direction and implementation of key business plans.

Anthony P. Franceschini

President and Chief Executive Officer (Retired), Stantec Inc. Age 67.

Prior to May 2009, Mr. Franceschini was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Stantec Inc. (an engineering, architecture and related professional services design firm), having held such positions since June 1998. He served as a director of Stantec Inc. from March 1994 to May 2018. He is chairman of the board for ZCL Composites Inc. and is a

director of Aecon Group Inc. and is on the advisory board of a private company. He has been a director of the Company since 2002, and his current term expires in 2020.

Mr. Franceschini has substantive experience in the area of mergers and acquisitions, having guided Stantec Inc. through a period of significant growth facilitated through many successful acquisitions, which enhances the Board's oversight of strategic transactions and other growth plans. His understanding of the acquisition process and post-acquisition integration is beneficial to the Board and management as acquisitions and effective integration of acquisitions remain key focus areas for the Company. Additionally, as a Canadian citizen, Mr. Franceschini's familiarity with Canadian business and banking practices adds meaningful oversight of Esterline's investments in Canada.

Nils E. Larsen

President, SZR Consulting, LLC

Senior Operating Advisor, The Carlyle Group. Age 48.

Mr. Larsen is the President and founder of SZR Consulting, LLC (a business consulting firm) and is an Operating Advisor with The Carlyle Group. Mr. Larsen has held these positions since September 2013. In addition, Mr. Larsen is an Advisor to Equity Group Investments, LLC, a private investment firm. Mr. Larsen has been an Advisor to Equity Group Investments, LLC since January 2017 and, prior to that, held a variety of roles with Equity Group Investments, LLC including Managing Director from 2001 to 2016. Mr. Larsen is Chairman of Liberty Tire Recycling, LLC, a director of Vantage Drilling

---

International and three other private companies. Mr. Larsen has been a director of the Company since 2016, and his current term expires in 2020.

Mr. Larsen has extensive experience in financial analysis across numerous industries and has overseen the management and governance of companies in many of them. This experience brings relevant and valuable insight to the Board's oversight of the Company's capital structure, financial performance and financial risk. Mr. Larsen's management and oversight experience includes extensive strategic planning, budgeting and operational planning which will enhance the Board's oversight of the Company's strategic plan and budgeting process. Mr. Larsen also brings deep experience in sourcing, analyzing, structuring and negotiating business acquisitions and divestitures to the Board's oversight of the Company's merger and acquisition activities and the evaluation of the performance of those activities.

#### OTHER INFORMATION AS TO DIRECTORS

##### Director Compensation

The following table describes the compensation earned by persons who served as non-employee directors during fiscal 2018. Employees of the Company serving on the Board or committees received no additional compensation for such service.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid		Stock Awards	All Other Compensation	Total
	in Cash				
	(\$) (1)	(\$) (2)			(\$)
Michael J. Cave	\$76,250	\$110,000	\$	-	\$186,250
Michael J. Covey	67,500	110,000		-	177,500
Delores M. Etter	80,000	110,000		-	190,000
Anthony P. Franceschini	75,417	110,000		-	185,417
Paul V. Haack	79,167	110,000		-	189,167
Mary L. Howell	89,167	110,000		-	199,167
Scott E. Kuechle	88,750	110,000		-	198,750
Nils E. Larsen	81,250	110,000		-	191,250
Gary E. Pruitt <sup>(3)</sup>	33,750	-		-	33,750

(1) Amounts in this column represent retainers and chair fees.

(2) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards granted during fiscal 2018, computed in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718 (ASC 718).

(3) Mr. Pruitt retired from the Board in February 2018.

For fiscal 2018, the Company paid the following cash fees to non-employee directors:

Non-Employee Director Annual Retainer

\$55,000

Edgar Filing: ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP - Form DEF 14A

Lead Independent Director Additional Annual Retainer	25,000
Audit Committee Member Annual Retainer	12,500
Audit Committee Chair Additional Annual Retainer	12,500
Compensation Committee Member Annual Retainer	7,500
Compensation Committee Chair Additional Annual Retainer	7,500
Regulatory Compliance Subcommittee Member Annual Retainer *	7,500
Regulatory Compliance Subcommittee Chair Additional Annual Retainer *	7,500
Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee Member Annual Retainer	7,500
Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee Chair Additional Annual Retainer	7,500
Enterprise Risk Committee Member Annual Retainer	7,500
Enterprise Risk Committee Chair Additional Annual Retainer	7,500

---

\* The Regulatory Compliance Subcommittee was disbanded in November 2017.

The Compensation Committee reviews director remuneration periodically, and seeks information and advice from its compensation consultant, Semler Brossy, to assist the Committee's consideration. Pursuant to such a review, the Committee confirmed it was generally satisfied with the level and structure of director fees and made no changes for fiscal 2018.

---



All annual retainers are paid quarterly in arrears. The Company also reimburses non-employee directors for reasonable expenses incurred in attending Board and committee meetings.

In addition, the Company makes an annual issuance of fully-paid Common Stock to each non-employee director serving on the Board the day after each annual meeting of shareholders. In fiscal 2018, each non-employee director who continued service on the Board after the annual meeting date was issued \$110,000 of fully-paid Common Stock. The number of shares of Common Stock issued is determined based on the closing price of our Common Stock on the date of the annual meeting, as reported in the Wall Street Journal the following day. During fiscal 2018, shares to non-employee directors were issued under the Company's 2013 Equity Incentive Plan. Board policy requires non-employee directors to acquire and hold shares of the Common Stock that are equal to or greater in value than five times the amount of the annual cash retainer for Board service, which is currently \$55,000, as described above. All non-employee directors, other than Mr. Covey, met the share ownership requirement as of the end of fiscal 2018. Mr. Covey is to achieve the required ownership level by the fifth anniversary of his election to the Board, or May 2022.

#### Board and Board Committees

There were 16 meetings of the Board of Directors during fiscal 2018. During fiscal 2018, each director attended at least 75% of the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors and Board committees of which he/she was a member, except for Mr. Gary Pruitt, who attended 67% of the Compensation Committee meetings that were held prior to his retirement as a Director in February 2018.

The Board recognizes that there is no single best approach to the structure of Board leadership and therefore, our Corporate Governance Guidelines provide that there shall be a Chairman of the Board who may or may not be a member of management. In the event the Chairman is a member of management, a Lead Independent Director shall be selected from among the non-management directors. This gives the Board the flexibility to structure the Board's leadership in the best interests of the Company. Currently, Mr. Reusser serves as the Chairman of the Board, and due to Mr. Reusser's current position with the Company, Ms. Howell currently serves as the Lead Independent Director.

The Chairman of the Board, if a non-management director, presides over executive sessions of non-management directors, which are held on a regular basis, generally at each scheduled Board meeting. Because the Chairman of the Board is an employee of the Company, the Lead Independent Director presides over the sessions. Non-management directors who are considered independent under the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") independence listing standards also meet in executive session at least once annually. In addition, the Audit Committee has adopted the practice of reserving time at each meeting to meet without members of Company management present. The Compensation Committee and the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee also have adopted a similar practice of meeting periodically without members of Company management present.

**Board's Role in Risk Oversight.** The Company has traditionally identified and evaluated risk as part of its annual strategic planning process (carried out through its business units) and will continue to do so. In addition, the Company developed and implemented an enterprise risk management ("ERM") program which incorporates senior officer and business unit risk assessments, including those identified as part of the strategic planning process. The Company's ERM program is a systematic approach to risk assessment and mitigation, which is designed to measure, manage and aggregate risks on an enterprise-wide basis. Under the Company's ERM program, management identifies various risks facing the Company and assesses such risks by likelihood of occurrence and potential impact. Management has the responsibility for developing an action plan to address, mitigate or monitor such risks. Management updates the ERM program annually to reassess its risk profile and to identify new risks that might need to be incorporated into the assessment.

In fiscal 2018, the Board of Directors retained responsibility for overseeing risk assessment for the enterprise in light of the interrelated nature of the elements of risk. However, the Board has delegated certain risk areas for inquiry and monitoring to Board committees. As described below, the Board receives assistance from certain of its committees for the identification and monitoring of those risks that are related to the committees' areas of focus as described in each committee charter. The Board and its committees exercise their risk oversight function by carefully evaluating management reports and making inquiries of management regarding material risk exposures and the steps taken to control such exposure.

The Audit Committee reviews risks related to internal controls, disclosure, financial reporting, and financial impacts from legal and compliance activity. Oversight of some compliance activities, including trade compliance risks and business ethics programs in particular, is led by the Enterprise Risk Committee, as further described below. Among other processes, the Audit Committee meets regularly in separate executive sessions, without management, with the Company's internal auditors and external accounting firm. The Audit Committee also meets in executive session with the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer, and the General Counsel. The Audit Committee met in executive session, without management, with the

---

Company's independent registered public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP, as part of each of the regular in-person meetings and most of the special meetings held in fiscal 2018.

The Enterprise Risk Committee supports the Board's oversight of enterprise risk management, including the ERM program described above, regulatory (including international trade, anti-corruption/anti-bribery and environmental health and safety) compliance and business ethics programs and risks, corporate acquisition and divestiture transactions, cybersecurity and information systems risks, and key research and development ("R&D") opportunities. During early fiscal 2018, the Enterprise Risk Committee also oversaw the activities of the Regulatory Compliance Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee"), which was formed in August 2013 and was delegated the authority to oversee the Company's export control compliance activities and program development resulting from its obligations under the Consent Agreement entered into in March 2014 (the "Consent Agreement") with the U.S. Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls Office of Defense Trade Controls Compliance to resolve alleged International Traffic in Arms Regulations civil violations. The Consent Agreement was closed in September 2017. As a result, the Subcommittee was disbanded in November 2017, and the Enterprise Risk Committee assumed lead oversight of the Company's export control compliance program and activities.

The Compensation Committee reviews risks associated with the Company's compensation programs to ensure that incentive compensation arrangements for employees do not encourage inappropriate risk taking, as described more fully under the "Statement Regarding Compensation Practices" section in this proxy statement on page 31.

Attendance at the Annual Meeting. The Board of Directors currently does not have a policy with regard to director attendance at the Company's annual shareholders meeting; however, it schedules the second fiscal quarter meeting of the Board of Directors on or near the same date as the annual shareholders meeting to facilitate director attendance at the annual meeting. All of the Company's directors then serving on the Board attended the annual shareholders meeting in 2018.

Board Independence. The Board has reviewed the relationships between the Company and each director and has determined that a majority of the directors are independent for purposes of the NYSE corporate governance listing standards. In accordance with these listing standards, the Board adopted its own set of specified criteria, identified in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines which are posted on the Company's website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab, to assist it in determining whether any relationship between a director and the Company impairs independence. Using the adopted criteria, the Board affirmatively determined that all of the directors, other than Mr. Reusser, are independent under the NYSE listing standards. Mr. Reusser does not meet NYSE independence listing standards due to his current positions as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

Board Committees. Set forth below is an overview of the membership and key responsibilities of each of the Company's standing Board Committees. The Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee periodically reviews Committee composition and Board leadership assignments and makes recommendations for changes to the full Board of Directors. As part of this regular review process, several Committee and Board leadership assignments were changed in November 2017, which are described in the Board Committee summaries that follow.

The Audit Committee currently consists of directors Kuechle (Chair), Franceschini, Haack, and Larsen, each of whom is independent in accordance with applicable rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and NYSE listing standards. Ms. Howell served on the Audit Committee during fiscal 2017 and was replaced by Mr. Franceschini effective in November 2017. The Audit Committee selects, retains and oversees the independent registered public accounting firm to audit the Company's annual financial statements, approves the terms of the engagement of, and the selection of the lead partner from, the independent registered public accounting firm and reviews and approves the fees charged for audits and for any non-audit assignments. The Board of Directors has

adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee, a copy of which is posted on the Company's website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab. The Audit Committee's responsibilities also include, among others, overseeing (1) the integrity of the Company's financial statements, which includes reviewing the scope and results of the annual audit by the independent registered public accounting firm, any recommendations of the independent registered public accounting firm resulting therefrom and management's response thereto and the accounting principles being applied by the Company in financial reporting, (2) the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (3) the independent registered public accounting firm's qualifications and independence, (4) the performance of the Company's internal auditors and the independent registered public accounting firm, and (5) such other related matters as may be assigned to it by the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee met ten times during fiscal 2018.

The Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Haack, Kuechle and Larsen and Ms. Howell each qualify as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in Item 407 of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC and that each Audit Committee member has accounting and financial management literacy under NYSE listing standards.

---

The Compensation Committee currently consists of directors Cave (Chair), Covey, and Etter, each of whom is independent in accordance with applicable NYSE listing standards. Mr. Franceschini served as Chair and Mr. Haack served as a member of the Compensation Committee until November 2017, at which time Mr. Cave was appointed as Chair and Mr. Covey was appointed as a member of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Pruitt served on the Compensation Committee during fiscal 2018 until his retirement from the Board of Directors and its committees in February 2018 following the conclusion of the 2018 annual meeting. The Compensation Committee develops, evaluates and recommends to the independent members of the Board for its approval corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”); evaluates the CEO’s performance and that of other corporate officers in light of corporate goals and objectives; develops, evaluates and recommends the form and level of compensation for the CEO and other officers of the Company; recommends compensation for Board members; oversees the Company’s succession planning process; and is responsible for performing the other related responsibilities set forth in its written charter, which is posted on the Company’s website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab. The Compensation Committee also administers the Company’s equity and incentive compensation plans for officers and senior corporate management, which includes recommending amendments to such plans. When appropriate, the Compensation Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees, or may delegate authority to one or more designated members of the Board or to corporate officers. The CEO, the Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, and the Executive Vice President & General Counsel are non-voting advisors to the Compensation Committee from whom the Compensation Committee solicits and considers recommendations as to compensation for the other executive officers as well as other matters related to the Company’s executive compensation program.

The Compensation Committee has the sole authority from the Board of Directors for the appointment, compensation, and oversight of the Company’s outside executive and director compensation consultant. The Compensation Committee has engaged Semler Brossy, an independent executive compensation consultant, to: (1) review and develop compensation program recommendations for Company executives and directors; (2) provide and analyze benchmark compensation data for executive officers and directors from peer companies and from general compensation surveys; (3) advise the Committee on compensation levels for executive officers and directors; and (4) provide analysis and recommendations related to the design of executive incentive plans. Semler Brossy has no other business relationships with Esterline. The compensation consultant reports directly to the Committee, and the Committee may replace the firm or hire additional consultants at any time. A representative of the compensation consultant attends meetings of the Committee, upon request, and communicates with the Committee chair between meetings. The Compensation Committee met six times during fiscal 2018.

The Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee currently consists of directors Etter (Chair), Cave, and Franceschini, each of whom is independent in accordance with applicable NYSE listing standards. Mr. Pruitt served on the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee during fiscal 2018 until his retirement from the Board of Directors and its committees in February 2018 following the conclusion of the 2018 annual meeting. The Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee recommends director candidates to the entire Board, oversees the evaluation of the Board of Directors and Company management, develops and monitors corporate governance principles, practices and guidelines for the Board of Directors and the Company, and is responsible for performing the other related responsibilities set forth in its written charter, which is posted on the Company’s website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab. The Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee met four times during fiscal 2018.

The Enterprise Risk Committee currently consists of directors Larsen (Chair), Covey, Haack, Howell and Kuechle. Ms. Howell served as Chair and Mr. Cave and Ms. Etter served as members and of the Enterprise Risk Committee until November 2017, at which time Mr. Larsen was appointed as Chair and Mr. Covey was appointed as a member of the Enterprise Risk Committee. The Enterprise Risk Committee provides oversight of the Company’s enterprise risk management program and risks associated with regulatory compliance, business ethics and

cybersecurity, as well as of corporate transactions and research and development investment opportunities. In fiscal 2017, oversight of the Company's export control compliance program and activities resulting from the Company's obligations under the Consent Agreement was delegated to the Regulatory Compliance Subcommittee of the Enterprise Risk Committee, as further described under "Board's Role in Risk Oversight" on page 7. During fiscal 2017, the Regulatory Compliance Subcommittee consisted of directors Howell (Chair), Etter, Kuechle and Morris (until his retirement in February 2017). The Consent Agreement was closed in September 2017. As a result, the Subcommittee was disbanded in November 2017, and the Enterprise Risk Committee assumed lead oversight of the Company's export control compliance program and activities.

#### Director Nominations and Qualifications

In accordance with the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws, any shareholder entitled to vote for the election of directors at the annual meeting may nominate persons for election as directors at the 2020 annual shareholders meeting only if the Corporate Secretary receives written notice of any such nominations not fewer than 120 days nor more than 150 days prior to the date of the annual meeting. If the Merger is not completed, it is anticipated that the 2020 annual meeting will be held on

---

February 6, 2020, in which case the Corporate Secretary must receive written notice of any such nominations no earlier than September 9, 2019, and no later than October 9, 2019. Such nominations should be sent to: Esterline Technologies Corporation, Attn: Corporate Secretary, 500 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Suite 1500, Bellevue, WA 98004 and comply with the requirements set forth in our Bylaws.

The Chairman of the Board, other directors or senior management of the Company may also recommend director nominees. The Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee will evaluate recommended director nominees, including those that are submitted to the Company by a shareholder, taking into consideration certain criteria such as business or community leadership experience, policy-making experience, record of accomplishments, personal integrity and high moral responsibility, capacity to evaluate strategy and reach sound conclusions and current Board composition. In addition, prospective directors must have time available to devote to Board activities and be able to work well with the CEO and other members of the Board. Although there is no formal diversity policy in place, the Company and the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee value board members with varying viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences. They consider candidates' diverse backgrounds as a favorable asset in identifying nominees for director.

The Company did not receive any shareholder nominations for directors to be considered by the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee for the 2019 annual shareholders meeting.

#### Communications with the Board

Shareholders, and other interested parties, may contact Mr. Reusser, as the Chairman, Ms. Howell, as the Lead Independent Director, the non-management directors as a group, the Board of Directors as a group or an individual director by the following means:

Email: [boardofdirectors@esterline.com](mailto:boardofdirectors@esterline.com)

Mail: Board of Directors  
Attn: Lead Independent Director or Corporate Secretary  
Esterline Technologies Corporation  
500 108th Avenue NE, Suite 1500  
Bellevue, WA 98004

Each communication should clearly specify the name of the individual director or group of directors to whom the communication is addressed. Communications sent by email are delivered directly to the Lead Independent Director and to the Corporate Secretary, who will promptly forward such communications to the specified director addressees. Communications sent by mail will be promptly forwarded by the Corporate Secretary to the specified director addressee or, if such communication is addressed to the full Board of Directors, to the Chairman of the Board and the Lead Independent Director, who will promptly forward such communication to the full Board of Directors. Shareholders wishing to submit proposals for inclusion in the proxy statement relating to the 2020 annual shareholders meeting should follow the procedures specified under Shareholder Proposals for 2020 in this proxy statement. Shareholders wishing to nominate or recommend directors should follow the procedures specified under the Other Information as to Directors—Director Nominations and Qualifications section above.

#### CODE OF ETHICS

The Company has adopted a code of ethics that applies to its accounting and financial employees, including the CEO and Chief Financial Officer. This code of ethics, which is included as part of the Company's Code of Business

Conduct and Ethics that applies to the Company's employees and directors, is posted on the Company's website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab. The Company intends to satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to or waiver from application of the code of ethics provisions of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to the CEO or the Chief Financial Officer, and any other applicable accounting and financial employee, by posting such information on its website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab.

---



## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of shares of Common Stock as of December 7, 2018, by (i) each person or entity who is known by the Company to own beneficially more than 5% of the Common Stock, (ii) each of the Company's directors, (iii) each of the Company's Named Executive Officers ("NEOs") who are further defined in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of this proxy statement on page 12 and (iv) all directors and executive officers of the Company as a group.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner (1)	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (2)	Percent of Class
BlackRock, Inc. 40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022	3,583,751 (3)	12.1%
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP Palisades West - Bldg. One, 6300 Bee Cave Road, Austin, TX 78746	2,537,129 (4)	8.6%
The Vanguard Group, Inc. 100 Vanguard Boulevard, Malver, PA 19355	2,477,996 (5)	8.4%
Curtis C. Reusser	138,448 (6)	*
Robert D. George	72,980 (6)	*
Albert S. Yost	27,827 (6)	*
Paul V. Haack	26,696	*
Marcia J. Mason	24,583 (6)	*
Anthony P. Franceschini	21,937	*
Delores M. Etter	15,200	*
Mary L. Howell	14,923	*
Scott E. Kuechle	8,225	*
Nils E. Larsen	5,713	*
Stephen M. Nolan	5,275 (6)	*
Michael J. Cave	4,894	*
Roger A. Ross	4,579 (6)	*
Michael J. Covey	2,573	*
Donald E. Walther	- (6)	*
Directors, nominees and executive officers as a group (16 persons)	385,669 (6)	1.3%

\*Less than 1%

(1) Unless otherwise indicated, the business address of each of the shareholders named in this table is Esterline Technologies Corporation, 500 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Suite 1500, Bellevue, Washington 98004.

(2) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act. In computing the number of shares beneficially owned by a person or a group and the percentage ownership of that person or group, shares of Common Stock subject to options currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after December 12, 2018, are deemed outstanding, but are not deemed outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person. As of December 12, 2018, there were 29,640,812 shares of

Common Stock outstanding. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes to this table, the person and entities named in the table have sole voting and sole investment power with respect to all shares beneficially owned, subject to community property laws where applicable.

- (3) The information on the number of shares held is based on a Schedule 13G filed on January 19, 2018, on behalf of BlackRock, Inc. (“BlackRock”). Based upon such filing, BlackRock beneficially owns 3,583,751 shares. BlackRock has sole voting power over 3,533,009 shares and sole dispositive power over 3,583,751 shares.
- (4) The information on the number of shares held is based upon a Schedule 13G filed on February 9, 2018, on behalf of Dimensional Fund Advisors LP (“Dimensional”). Based upon such filing, Dimensional is an investment advisor registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940. Dimensional furnishes investment advice to four investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, and serves as investment manager to certain other investment vehicles, including commingled group trusts. These investment companies and investment vehicles are the “Funds.” In its role as investment advisor or investment manager, Dimensional possessed sole voting and investment power over all of the shares. The Funds own all of the shares, and Dimensional disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares. Dimensional has sole voting power over 2,499,482 shares and sole dispositive power over 2,537,129 shares.
- (5) The information on the number of shares held is based upon Schedule 13G filed February 9, 2018, on behalf of The Vanguard Group (“Vanguard”). Based upon filing, Vanguard beneficially owns 2,477,996 shares.
-

(6) Includes shares subject to options granted under the Company's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan and the Company's 2013 Equity Incentive Plan which are exercisable currently or within 60 days of December 12, 2018, as follows: Mr. Reusser, 89,550; Mr. Nolan, 5,275; Mr. Ross, 0; Mr. Walther, 0; Mr. Yost, 17,125 shares; Mr. George, 57,150 shares; Ms. Mason, 15,925 shares; and directors, nominees and executive officers as a group, 194,650 shares.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### Introduction

The following discussion describes and analyzes Esterline's compensation program for its NEOs. For fiscal 2018, our NEOs are:

- Curtis C. Reusser, Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer ("CEO");
- Stephen M. Nolan, Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer ("CFO");
- Roger A. Ross, Executive Vice President and President, Sensors & Systems;
- Donald E. Walther, Executive Vice President & General Counsel;
- Albert S. Yost, Executive Vice President and President, Advanced Materials and Avionics & Controls;
- Robert D. George, Former Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Corporate Development; and
- Marcia J. Mason, Former Executive Vice President & General Counsel.

During fiscal 2018, Esterline experienced executive management changes, as follows:

Effective February 5, 2018, Mr. Nolan was appointed as Executive Vice President & CFO, and our former Executive Vice President & CFO, Mr. George, retired from his positions. Mr. George remained employed through August 1, 2018 to support the transition of responsibilities to Mr. Nolan as well as special activities at the request of the CEO. Effective May 15, 2018, Mr. Walther was appointed as Executive Vice President & General Counsel, and our former Executive Vice President & General Counsel, Ms. Mason, retired from her positions. Ms. Mason remained employed through October 1, 2018 to support the transition of responsibilities to Mr. Walther.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2018, we discovered accounting errors in the Power Systems business within our Sensors & Systems segment that caused us to restate our financial results for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2017 (the "Restatement"). Financial results included in this CD&A for fiscal 2017, fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015, as may be applicable, are on a restated basis, unless otherwise noted.

#### Executive Summary

The key events related to Company performance and resulting executive compensation decisions in fiscal 2018 are outlined briefly below and described more fully in later sections of this CD&A.

We ended the year with similar sales of \$2.03 billion and lower Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (“GAAP”) net earnings from continuing operations of \$68.8 million, or \$2.32 per diluted share, compared with \$2.00 billion in sales and GAAP net earnings from continuing operations of \$118.9 million, or \$3.96 per diluted share, in fiscal 2017. As explained further in “Company Performance in Fiscal 2018” beginning on page 19 below, our GAAP net earnings from continuing operations in fiscal 2018 compared with fiscal 2017 were impacted by discrete tax effects due to the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (“TCJA”), the sale of our Kirkhill business in March 2018 as well as transaction expenses associated with the Merger. The Company’s financial results are reflected in incentive payouts to our NEOs that were below target – under both the fiscal 2018 annual incentive program and the 2016-2018 performance cycle of the long-term performance share plan (“PSP”). In addition, fiscal 2018 incentive payouts to our NEOs were not advantaged or disadvantaged by the financial impacts of the TCJA, which resulted in charges of \$49.9 million, or \$1.68 per diluted share, in fiscal 2018.

On October 9, 2018, we entered into the Merger Agreement with TransDigm. Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, upon completion of the Merger, all outstanding restricted stock units (“RSUs”) and PSP awards held by our NEOs will be cashed out at \$122.50 per share (with performance share awards vesting at target with proration), in each case, subject to deduction of any required withholding tax. Each stock option that is outstanding immediately prior to the completion of the merger, whether vested or unvested, will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash (without interest and subject to deduction for any required withholding tax) equal to the product obtained by multiplying (i) the amount by which \$122.50 exceeds the per-share exercise price of such stock option, by (ii) the total number of shares of ESL common stock underlying such stock option.

---

## Key Compensation Program and Pay Decisions

• The Compensation Committee, with the assistance of its consultant, examined the Company's executive compensation programs and confirmed that they continue to make sense to support the business. As a result, there were no changes to the executive compensation program for 2018.

• Base salaries and target annual and long-term incentive (LTI) program award opportunities for NEOs (other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther) either remained unchanged from fiscal 2017 amounts or increased moderately for fiscal 2018 to acknowledge strength of individual performance and to align them more closely with the competitive market. Total target compensation for our CEO remained unchanged from fiscal 2017.

• Our fiscal 2018 annual incentive program was based on earnings from continuing operations before interest and taxes ("EBIT"), return on sales ("ROS"), and the achievement of performance objectives under our strategic plan established at the beginning of the year. The EBIT target and ROS target for fiscal 2018 were \$198.6 million and 9.60%, respectively. Based on aggregate achievement of the financial metrics, taking into account certain adjustments as further explained under "Specific Compensation Decisions for NEOs in Fiscal 2018" beginning on page 22, and the achievement level of the pre-established strategic objectives, each NEO earned a payout that was 93.6% of target. As further explained below, the target payout for each of Messrs. Ross and Yost and Ms. Mason was adjusted downward from their initial target payout set for fiscal 2018 as a result of the Restatement.

• The 2016-2018 performance cycle of the PSP was based on average return on invested capital ("ROIC") and net earnings per diluted share ("EPS"), with three-year targets of 9.6% and \$6.35, respectively. Actual ROIC and EPS performance were below these targets. As a result, no payouts were made to our NEOs for the 2016-2018 performance cycle under the PSP.

• As a result of the Restatement, the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors applied the Company's clawback policy (which is described below in this CD&A) to compensation earned based on fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2017 financial performance by the Company's NEOs, other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther, who were hired by the Company subsequent to the events that led to the Restatement. Messrs. Reusser and George had \$121,465 and \$47,905, respectively, deducted from their payroll compensation during fiscal 2018. In addition, the 2018 annual incentive dollar-based target awards for Messrs. Ross and Yost and Ms. Mason were reduced by 10%, and as a result each earned \$22,100, \$25,334 and \$22,545, respectively, less than they would have earned if their targets had not been reduced. Further information about these adjustments is set forth below under "Specific Compensation Decisions for NEOs in Fiscal 2018" beginning on page 22.

• The Committee believes that the fiscal 2018 pay decisions were appropriate in light of the Company's performance and that the overall pay program continues to align pay and performance over time. It should be noted that our NEOs (other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther) were paid an average amount equal to approximately 72% of target payout under our annual incentive plan (without the downward adjustment to the fiscal 2018 payout due to the Restatement) over the last three fiscal years and received no payout under our PSP in the last three fiscal years.

### Objectives of our Executive Compensation Program

The Committee works to provide our executives with competitive compensation opportunities that reward strong performance and promote shareholder interests. We base our executive compensation practices on principles designed to align executive compensation with Company business strategy, management initiatives, financial objectives and performance. In applying these principles, the Committee has established an executive compensation program to:

- Attract and retain key executives critical to the success of the Company;
- Ensure the long-term retention and continued development of strong operating leaders capable of managing a growing number of worldwide operations;
- Reinforce a pay-for-performance environment that provides awards based on both the Company's annual financial results and its longer-term achievements;
- Reward executives for long-term strategic management and the enhancement of shareholder value;
- Provide an appropriate mix of fixed and variable pay; and

◆ Optimize organizational and individual performance, while controlling for potential risks through thoughtful program design and sound administration.

The Committee applies the same philosophy, objectives, and methods for establishing the CEO's compensation as it does for all other executive officers.

---

## Summary of Compensation Program Components

We believe the components of our compensation program are well-aligned to accomplish the objectives listed above. The Committee reviews the executive compensation program annually and makes adjustments as appropriate to meet Company objectives. For fiscal year 2018, our executive compensation program had the following principal components:

### PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF COMPENSATION FOR FISCAL 2018

Base Salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a competitive level of annual compensation to attract and retain executives with the skills and experience necessary to lead our Company.</li> </ul>
Annual cash incentive opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus and reward our NEOs on achievement of critical annual financial goals and key performance objectives to help the Company achieve its strategic plan priorities. For fiscal 2018, performance was measured by EBIT and ROS, as well as achievement of the strategic performance objectives.</li> <li>Serve as a critical element of our overall pay-for-performance approach.</li> </ul>
Long-term Performance Share Plan incentive opportunities (35%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focuses and rewards our NEOs on driving profitable growth over time, which is strongly correlated with share price appreciation and shareholder value.</li> <li>Financial metrics include net income from continuing operations during the performance cycle three-year compound annual growth in EPS and three-year average annual ROIC.</li> <li>All current performance cycles are settled in shares under the Company's PSP.</li> </ul>
Stock options (35%) Restricted stock units (30%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link pay for our NEOs directly to the shareholder experience, as potential compensatory value to the executive comes only with increases in the Company's share price.</li> <li>Address our retention objectives directly, reinforce a strong ownership culture and achieve a minimum level of net income from continuing operations.</li> <li>Further the alignment of executive interests with shareholders.</li> </ul>
Retirement earnings opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to a competitive compensation package, thereby helping the Company to attract and retain talented executives. Principally, these programs are designed to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help our NEOs and other employees save for their retirement; and</li> <li>Provide the opportunity to plan and defer taxation on income.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The programs are as follows:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A 401K savings plan, supplemented with a nonqualified, unsecured, executive retirement and deferred compensation plan ("DC SERP") that permits deferrals in excess of certain compensation limits that apply to the underlying tax-qualified 401(k) plan. The DC SERP also provides a corresponding Company match that applies to the underlying tax-qualified plan. This design is commonly known as a "restoration" plan because it allows executives to contribute to and earn retirement savings levels that are equivalent to those available to the general workforce, measured as a percentage of compensation.</li> <li>A traditional pension plan, supplemented with a nonqualified, unsecured, executive retirement pension plan ("Pension SERP") that permits executives to earn pension benefits on compensation that is in excess of certain compensation limits that apply to the tax-qualified pension program. The Pension SERP design is also a "restoration" plan because it allows executives to earn and accrue pension benefits equivalent to those of the general workforce, measured as a percentage of compensation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Are further described in the "Benefits and Other Programs" section of this CD&A on page 28.

#### PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF COMPENSATION FOR FISCAL 2018

Limitations mainly comprised of conservative allowances for car expenses, airline club memberships and financial planning advisory services that (1) save time and maintain focus for our executives; (2) provide our executives value beyond their cost to the Company; and (3) are fairly common in the broader market and in keeping with reasonable, competitive practices.

Change intended to minimize personal considerations and maintain focus on the Company in the event of rumored or actual inchange in corporate control. These are "double-trigger" benefits, meaning that no benefits are due under these agreements unless there is both: (1) a change in control; and (2) a loss of employment due to termination by the Company without cause or by specified circumstances that constitute good reason to resign.

agreements

- Do not provide any tax gross-ups for personal tax liabilities that might apply to any of these change-in-control benefits other than those associated with continuation of benefits.
-



With respect to the principal elements of our executive pay program above, we consider annual incentives, long-term incentives and stock options to be performance based, because all of these three elements are valuable to the executive only if performance goals are achieved and/or share price improves. Further, the value of RSU grants also varies directly with share price performance, and vesting of RSUs is subject to the achievement of a minimum performance threshold of net income from continuing operations.

We also consider the mix of fixed (e.g., base salary) and variable (e.g., annual and long-term incentives) pay opportunity when reviewing target total compensation.

\*Values for options and RSUs were based on the percentage of each NEO's annual long-term incentive allocated to options and RSUs, respectively, as indicated in the table under "Long-Term Incentives" on page 25. Actual mix, calculated using grant date value may be slightly different.

Compensation Decision Process

#### Market-Based Assessments of Pay Opportunities for Our NEOs

Each year, the Committee reviews current competitive market information on executive pay levels for our executives. For fiscal year 2018, the Committee retained Semler Brossy as its independent advisor to assist with this benchmarking work, and to advise the Committee generally as to other executive compensation matters.

In determining fiscal 2018 compensation, the Committee referenced available public information for a group of peer companies, identified with the help of Semler Brossy based principally on the following criteria: similar businesses and industries, comparable size, and subject to similar public reporting requirements. Some of the information for the peer companies relates to the most recent completed fiscal year for such peers prior to when the Committee assesses the benchmark data early in the Company's fiscal year.

---

In selecting companies with similar business focus, primary consideration was given to Aerospace and Defense, with representation of broader industrial companies held to roughly one-third by number of the total group. The Committee reviews the peer group annually, working to ensure the peer companies closely align with Esterline by financial size and business focus, and that the total group remains a reasonable representation of the competitive market for our senior-most executive roles.

For fiscal 2018, there were no changes made to the peer group, comprised of the following 17 companies.

AAR Corp.	Curtiss-Wright Corp.	Roper Industries Inc.
AMETEK Inc.	HEICO Corp.	Teledyne Technologies Inc.
Barnes Group Inc.	Hexcel Corp.	TransDigm Group Inc.
BE Aerospace Inc.	Moog Inc.	Triumph Group Inc.
Crane Co.	Orbital ATK	Woodward Inc.
Cubic Corp.	Rockwell Collins Inc.	

Key statistics for fiscal year 2016 for these 17 peer companies as compared with Esterline's corresponding metrics for fiscal year 2016 are as follows:

- Median revenue was \$2.3 billion (25th percentile: \$2.0 billion) versus Esterline's revenue of \$2.0 billion;
- Median market capitalization was \$5.0 billion (25th percentile: \$3.6 billion) versus Esterline's \$2.7 billion; and
- Median total capital was \$2.0 billion (25th percentile: \$1.8 billion) versus Esterline's \$2.5 billion.

In addition, the Committee reviewed pay information from the following published surveys to complement the peer group information. The surveys were selected to represent pay levels for positions of comparable responsibility within companies of comparable size to Esterline. The precise make-up of the participating companies is proprietary to the survey administrators and therefore not available to the Company. For fiscal 2018 compensation decisions, we looked to two leading survey sources:

- September 2017 CDB General Industry Executive Compensation Report, reporting data from 386 participating companies using a regression to the Company's \$2.0 billion in revenue in fiscal 2016 and
- September 2017 Equilar Top 25 Executive Compensation Survey, reporting data from 213 participating companies with annual revenues between \$1 billion and \$3 billion.

In determining fiscal 2018 compensation, the Committee reviewed and compared the executives' aggregate target direct compensation (base salary, short- and long-term incentives at target) against the aggregate compensation offered to executives in the 2018 peer group and the market surveys. In doing so, the Committee focused principally on competitive 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> percentile values. For the most part, the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile competitive reference simply acknowledges Esterline's relative size among the defined peer companies.

#### Review of Total Compensation

When the Committee evaluates any significant component of an executive officer's total compensation, it considers the aggregate amounts and mix of all components in making its decision. For fiscal 2018, the Committee reviewed all components of compensation for each executive officer to get a complete picture of the total compensation

opportunities awarded, including base salary, annual incentive compensation, long-term incentive compensation, retirement earnings opportunities, the dollar value to the executive and cost to the Company of all perquisites and other personal benefits. The Committee does not target any single element of compensation to specific peer company percentiles; rather, the Committee reviews pay for our NEOs relative to the peer and survey data to ensure that pay levels are reasonable relative to the 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> percentile benchmarks.

#### Governance Process

The Committee and the independent members of the Board approve all officer compensation programs and establish individual pay levels for all executive officers. In doing so, the Committee consults with its independent executive compensation advisor, Semler Brossy, which has no other business relationships with Esterline. The independent advisor routinely provides the Committee with an evaluation of the market competitiveness of executive compensation packages, advice on CEO and other executive pay decisions, and advice on other compensation-related matters, in each case, as requested by the Committee. The firm reports directly to the Committee, and the Committee has the authority to replace the firm or hire additional consultants at any time. A representative of the firm attends meetings of the Committee, upon request, and communicates with the Committee chair and members between meetings. While the Committee values the advice of its consultant, the Committee and the independent members of the Board are the sole decision-makers concerning compensation

---

of executive officers. The Committee assessed the independence of its advisors, including Semler Brossy, in accordance with applicable rules of the SEC regarding independence of advisors to compensation committees. As part of this assessment, the Committee reviewed independence and conflict of interest policies of its advisors as well as each advisor's relationship with the Company. Based on this review and assessment, the Committee determined that there were no independence or conflict of interest issues related to any of its advisors, including Semler Brossy.

The Committee also seeks recommendations from management – the CEO and the Executive Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer – as to appropriate program changes and pay levels for all executive officers apart from the CEO. The CFO and the Executive Vice President & General Counsel are also consulted with respect to appropriate changes in pay design. For all officers, the Committee consults with its outside advisor as to those recommendations and seeks specific advice as to appropriate pay levels for the CEO. In addition, the Committee and the independent members of the Board conduct an annual performance evaluation of the CEO, the results of which significantly contribute to decisions concerning CEO compensation. On this basis, the Committee develops proposals for consideration by all independent directors, who act on those proposals in executive session, outside the presence of the CEO and any other officers.

#### Say on Pay Vote

We had an advisory vote on our executive compensation program (commonly referred to as the “say on pay” vote) at our annual meeting of shareholders held on February 8, 2018, as required under the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd–Frank Act”). Our 2018 “say on pay” vote received strong support from shareholders, garnering approximately 81% “For” votes. We take this continued, solid shareholder support as an assurance that our executive pay program and practices continue to be reasonable and well aligned with shareholder expectations.

We will continue to review our overall approach to executive pay annually, and we expect to make changes from time to time to ensure it remains well aligned with Company business strategy and with shareholder interests and provides appropriate earning opportunities for our executives.

We will continue to hold an advisory vote on executive compensation on an annual basis. We are and will remain committed to being responsive to shareholder feedback, and the results of our annual “say on pay” votes inform the Committee's discussions about the executive pay program.

#### Risk Assessment

In developing and reviewing the Company's executive incentive programs, management and the Committee analyze the elements of the program, including the incentives inherent in program designs, to help ensure they do not induce executives to undertake unacceptable levels of business risk. Our compensation program, in total, is intended to reward the management team for strong performance over the long term, with consideration to near-term actions and results that strengthen and protect our Company. We believe our balanced approach to performance measurement and to compensation program design works and includes appropriate safeguards. Further, program administration is subject to effective internal controls, and when determining the principal outcomes – performance assessments and pay decisions – we rely on principles of sound governance and good business judgment. The Committee remains satisfied that our plan designs are conservative in this respect, and that, together, the various components of pay work as a check and balance to ensure executive incentives are consistent with shareholder interests. These checks and balances work across a few key dimensions:

• **Time:** Our executive pay programs balance annual and long-term performance measurement and pay delivery.

Performance focus: Our incentive pay programs balance growth (e.g., EBIT, EPS) and profitability (e.g., ROS, ROIC, earnings from continuing operations before income taxes and net income from continuing operations), with both an annual and long-term lens (per the above).

•Cash and equity pay: Our executive pay programs balance cash compensation – a tangible, more immediate currency – with equity compensation – which is directly tied to the shareholder experience and serves to align interests.  
Executive Stock Ownership and Holding Requirements and Insider Trading Policy

Since 2012, we have in place stock ownership requirements for our executive officers to strengthen the alignment of executive interests with those of our shareholders. Under the current policy effective in February 2016, our CEO is required to own shares of our Common Stock having a value equal to five times base salary other executive officers are required to own shares of our Common Stock having a value equal to three times base salary (the “Revised Threshold”). Prior to February 2016, the value of shares of Common Stock to be held by our CEO was three times annual base salary and by our other NEOs was one times base salary (“Original Threshold”). While the policy does not require attainment of the threshold levels within a

---

specified period of time, to ensure progress against these requirements and to ensure maintenance of these ownership levels over time, our executive officers are required:

- to hold 50% of shares of our Common Stock acquired upon the exercise of stock options granted, net of income taxes due
- to hold 50% of shares of our Common Stock received upon vesting of RSUs, net of income taxes due and
- to hold 50% of shares earned under the PSP, net of income taxes due.

These conditions apply to (i) stock options granted between December 8, 2011, and January 31, 2016, (ii) RSUs granted between December 5, 2013, and January 31, 2016, and (iii) PSP awards granted between November 18, 2015, and January 31, 2016, until the Original Threshold levels are met, and apply to stock options, RSUs and PSP awards granted on or after February 1, 2016, until the Revised Threshold levels are met. As of the end of fiscal 2018, all of our current NEOs subject to the Original Threshold had achieved the Original Threshold level of equity ownership. The only current NEO who had achieved the Revised Threshold of equity ownership as of the end of fiscal 2018 was Mr. Reusser, due in part to the fact that this level was first established during fiscal 2016.

We maintain an Insider Trading Policy that includes provisions prohibiting NEOs, directors and employees from engaging in short-term or speculative transactions in the Company's securities. The policy also prohibits other transactions in the Company's securities such as short sales, put or call options, hedging transactions, margin accounts and pledges, and other actions that may lead to inadvertent violations of the insider trading laws.

#### Clawback Policy

The Committee has adopted a compensation recovery policy applicable to the Company's incentive plans, often referred to as a "clawback" policy. This policy supplemented existing clawback provisions that apply to the CEO and CFO under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Sarbanes-Oxley provides that the CEO and the CFO must reimburse the Company for any bonus or other incentive-based or equity-based compensation received during the twelve-month period following the preparation of an accounting restatement, where the restatement is caused by misconduct.

The policy applies to the top senior leaders of the Company, including the NEOs, the platform presidents and financial directors and senior managers on corporate staff. The policy extends to all incentive programs (cash and equity, annual and long-term), gains made on option exercises or stock sales, awards received, monies earned, and grants made in the current fiscal year and the previous three fiscal years. The policy covers the following events:

- any material error that causes a financial restatement, irrespective of cause
- material error in internal, non-public business unit or platform financial statements, in addition to corporate financial statements subject to SEC public reporting and
- misconduct of any type that harms the Company, whether it affects financial statements or not (e.g., attempted bribery or other fraud, misuse of trade secrets for personal gain, etc.).

In the first quarter of fiscal 2018, the Company discovered certain accounting errors at the Power Systems business in the Company's Sensors & Systems segment, and subsequently restated its reported financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2017. In light of the Restatement, the Committee determined, in its discretion as permitted under the policy, to apply the clawback policy and reduce compensation earned in fiscal 2018 by the NEO's, other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther, who were hired after the events leading to the Restatement occurred. The Committee's determination of the impact to each NEO took into account the NEO's management oversight for the underlying events and also considered that no fraudulent acts or intentional misconduct were factors in the events leading to the Restatement. Further information about the resulting impacts of the application of the clawback policy to compensation earned by the applicable NEOs in fiscal 2018 is set forth under "Specific Compensation Decisions for NEOs in Fiscal 2018" beginning on page 22 below.

The Committee is aware of a rule-making process pending with the SEC pursuant to its implementation of statutory clawback provisions contained in the Dodd-Frank Act. The Committee will continue to monitor developments in this area, and will reconsider and revise its policy, as needed, when the SEC issues final rules relating to compensation clawbacks.

---

## Other Considerations

In determining executive compensation, the Committee also considers, among other factors, the possible tax consequences to Esterline and to its executives. For example:

• Prior to the enactment of the TCJA, the Committee considered the exception for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the IRC in designing our compensation programs, but retained the flexibility and discretion to grant compensation awards, whether or not deductible under Section 162(m) of the IRC. Due to the repeal of the exception for performance-based compensation under the TCJA, compensation awarded to our NEOs in fiscal 2018 will not be eligible for favorable treatment under Section 162(m) of the IRC. The Committee continues to evaluate this area relative to the Company's compensation programs given the changes in the treatment of performance-based compensation under the TCJA.

• We considered the tax ramifications of the change in control termination protection agreements with our officers under Section 280G and Section 4999 of the IRC. The Company does not gross up such payments or otherwise pay an officer's individual tax liability in these circumstances. The agreements generally provide that in the event any payments under the agreements are considered to be "excess parachute payments" under Section 280G, either alone or together with other payments from us, the payments will be reduced so that the payments will not be treated as "excess parachute payments." However, this payment reduction will only take place if the reduction would provide to the officer a greater net, after-tax benefit than he or she would receive if the payments were not subject to the reduction.

• We considered the potential impact of Section 409A of the IRC on our compensation programs, which imposes tax penalties on certain nonqualified deferred compensation arrangements. We operate our covered arrangements in a manner intended to comply with or be exempt from Section 409A.

The Committee also considers the accounting consequences to the Company of different compensation decisions, as well as the impact on shareholder dilution. In addition, in setting target financial performance under the Company's plans and measuring Company performance against the targets, the Committee excludes material impacts of GAAP-mandated changes or changes in applicable tax laws and regulations.

## Company Performance in Fiscal 2018

In fiscal 2018, Esterline achieved sales of \$2.03 billion, which was similar to fiscal 2017 sales of \$2.00 billion. The Company recorded earnings from continuing operations of \$68.8 million, or \$2.32 per diluted share, in fiscal 2018 compared with earnings from continuing operations of \$118.9 million, or \$3.96 per diluted share, in fiscal 2017. The Company generated cash flows from operations of \$214.1 million in fiscal 2018 compared with \$193.4 million in fiscal 2017, an increase of 10.7%. Backlog ended fiscal year 2018 at \$1.48 billion, up from backlog of \$1.30 billion in fiscal 2017. As introduced in the Executive Summary above, fiscal 2018 financial results were impacted significantly by the following:

• The Company's financial performance in fiscal 2018 was generally in-line with its expectations but impacted by one-time events. As a result, our GAAP financial performance was weaker in some key metrics in fiscal 2018 compared with fiscal 2017. Due to the nature of certain one-time events, the financial impacts of such events were excluded from the calculation of results for purposes of determining the achievement of target performance under the 2018 annual incentive plan, as further explained under "Specific Compensation Decisions for NEOs in Fiscal 2018" beginning on page 22 below.

• The TCJA, which was enacted in December 2017, required the Company to record provisional discrete tax expenses of \$49.9 million, or \$1.68 per diluted share.

• The Company sold its Kirkhill business in March 2018, which contributed \$35.5 million of revenue in fiscal 2018 compared with \$98.3 million in revenue in fiscal 2017. The Company incurred \$6.4 million before tax, or \$0.15 per diluted share, in aggregate losses and charges on the sale of Kirkhill.



•The Company incurred \$7.2 million before tax, or \$0.17 per diluted share, of expenses related to the proposed Merger with TransDigm.

Key operating financial metrics for restated fiscal 2017, as reported fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2018, as well as adjusted fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2018 financial metrics are summarized in the table below. While Esterline also considers net earnings from continuing operations and adjusted net earnings from continuing operations as additional metrics to gauge its performance, the metrics in the table below are the basis for the financial targets set under its incentive compensation plans. The amounts under the columns for “Adjusted Fiscal 2017” and “Adjusted Fiscal 2018” reflected in the table below include the adjustments described in the footnotes to the table and were the basis for measuring achievement of the financial targets under our annual incentive plan and PSP. In addition, amounts under “Adjusted Fiscal 2017” reflect adjustments to the “As Reported GAAP

---

Fiscal 2017” column, as neither the adjustment amounts nor the resulting amounts under “Adjusted Fiscal 2017” were re-calculated following the Restatement.

In thousands, except per share amounts.

Key Operating Metrics	Restated	As	Adjusted	GAAP	Adjusted
	GAAP	Reported			
	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2018
Net revenue	\$2,000,304	\$2,002,195	\$2,002,195	\$2,034,839	\$2,034,839
Operating earnings *	183,075	194,811	196,062	182,579	196,123
Net earnings **	111,554	117,387	118,353	69,458	129,419
Net earnings per share - diluted **	\$3.72	\$3.91	\$3.94	\$2.34	\$4.35

\*Fiscal 2017 adjusted operating earnings exclude the acquisition integration expense of \$1.3 million related to the advanced displays business acquired in 2015. Fiscal 2018 adjusted operating earnings exclude transaction and consulting expenses of \$7.2 million and losses on the sale of Kirkhill of \$6.4 million. Operating earnings, as adjusted, for fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2018 were used for the calculation of EBIT and ROS under our annual incentive plan.

\*\*Fiscal 2017 adjusted net earnings and adjusted EPS exclude the acquisition integration expenses of \$1.0 million related to the advanced displays business acquired in 2015, net of taxes of \$0.3 million. Fiscal 2018 adjusted net earnings exclude transaction and consulting expenses of \$5.3 million, net of taxes of \$1.9 million, and losses on the sale of Kirkhill of \$4.7 million, net of taxes of \$1.7 million, and discrete tax charges due to the TCJA of \$49.9 million. The adjusted net earnings and adjusted EPS for both fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2018 were used for the calculation of ROIC and the calculation of EPS for the fiscal 2015-2017 performance cycle and fiscal 2016-2018 performance cycle under the PSP.

Over the period from fiscal 2014 to fiscal 2018, we delivered a compound annual growth rate (“CAGR”) of +0.1% for revenue. For EPS growth, the CAGR over the same period using reported results under GAAP for EPS from continuing operations, except as noted in the footnote below the chart below, is -17.7%.

\*Fiscal 2015 revenue and diluted EPS reflect GAAP revenue and diluted EPS for the eleven-month period ended October 2, 2015, increased by 11.5% to account for the 11-month fiscal year 2015. Fiscal 2018 EPS includes the impact of discrete tax charges of \$49.9 million, or \$1.68 per diluted share, due to the TCJA.

#### CEO Pay and Shareholder Returns

Our compensation programs focus on pay-for-performance and are designed to reward financial performance and shareholder value creation. Both charts below help demonstrate the link between total CEO pay and total shareholder returns in each of the past five fiscal years. In the chart immediately below, total pay includes base salary, actual annual incentive

earned, and target long-term incentives (as defined for disclosure in the Summary Compensation Table). The figure for Mr. Reusser's 2014 compensation does not include the cash sign-on bonus or special RSU award made at the time of hire. These one-time items are excluded given that both elements reflect compensation provided to replace retirement or equity benefits forfeited upon departure from his prior employer. Indexed total shareholder return shows the value of \$100 invested in our Common Stock in the first year shown.

#### Historical Annual Incentive Results and CEO Annual Incentive Payouts

The table below provides the Company's financial results for annual incentive compensation purposes as well as annual incentive compensation paid to our CEO in each of the past five fiscal years. In addition to the notes included in the introduction to the chart above that also apply to the chart below, the bar in each year in the chart below reflects the actual annual incentive payout for the CEO in that year.

\*EBIT annual incentive for fiscal years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 and ROS annual incentive for all fiscal years presented above were based on results that were adjusted from GAAP. Adjusted EBIT and ROS for fiscal 2018 exclude transaction and consulting expenses of \$7.2 million, losses and charges on the sale of Kirkhill of \$6.4 million. Adjusted EBIT and ROS for fiscal 2017 exclude the acquisition integration expenses of \$1.3 million. Adjusted EBIT and ROS for fiscal 2016 exclude the accelerated integration and acquisition integration expenses of \$20.7 million. Adjusted EBIT and ROS for fiscal 2015 were based on fiscal 2015 results recast for the 12-month period ended October 2, 2015 and exclude accelerated integration expenses of \$11.7 million, incremental compliance expenses of \$12.0 million, acquisition charges and first-year operating loss associated with the acquisition of the advanced displays business, a pension adjustment, and a non-income tax gain of an aggregate of \$34.1 million. Adjusted EBIT and ROS for fiscal 2014 excludes accelerated integration costs of \$20.4 million and the operating results from the Sunbank acquisition completed in December 2013. Fiscal 2014 adjusted EBIT and ROS include the operating results from discontinued operations.

---

\*\*The EPS annual incentive was a compensation metric that was the basis for the annual incentive award payable to the CEO for fiscal 2014 only. The EPS annual incentive for fiscal 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 are included for informational purposes only. The EPS annual incentives for fiscal year 2014 were based on results that were adjusted from GAAP. The adjustments to EPS results for fiscal 2014 exclude (i) accelerated integration costs of \$16.1 million, net of taxes of \$4.3 million, (ii) the loss on the assets held for sale of \$49.5 million, and (iii) losses associated with a previously sold business recorded in discontinued operations of \$0.7 million. Fiscal 2015 adjusted EPS excludes (i) the accelerated integration expenses of \$11.7 million, net of taxes of \$2.0 million, (ii) incremental compliance expenses of \$12.0 million, net of taxes of \$2.0 million, and (iii) the effects of the senior note redemption, a pension adjustment, DAT acquisition charges, DAT first-year operating loss and a non-income tax gain of an aggregate of \$35.9 million. Fiscal 2016 adjusted EPS excludes accelerated integration costs of \$17.5 million, net of taxes of \$3.3 million. Fiscal 2017 adjusted EPS excludes acquisition integration expenses of \$1.0 million, net of taxes of \$0.3 million. Fiscal 2018 adjusted EPS excludes transaction and consulting expenses of \$5.3 million, net of taxes of \$1.9 million, and losses and charges on the sale of Kirkhill of \$4.7 million, net of taxes of \$1.7 million and discrete tax charges due to the TCJA of \$49.9 million.

#### Specific Compensation Decisions for NEOs in Fiscal 2018

#### Competitive Position of Total Target Compensation for Fiscal 2018

As described above in the “Compensation Decision Process” section of this CD&A starting on page 15, specific compensation decisions for our executive officers in fiscal 2018 were based on a competitive assessment of our executive compensation opportunities relative to those at comparable companies. The Committee considers available market information from our peer group and published surveys for base salary, annual incentive target values, and long-term incentive target values, which together comprise “total target compensation.”

While the Committee does not manage executive pay opportunities to a specific percentile in the market, it does reference a “competitive range” to help guide decisions. For target total compensation, this competitive range is initially established as a range between the 25th percentile and median references and then defined as plus or minus 15% of market references for each executive position. With the fiscal 2018 decisions reported below in this section, total target compensation for Mr. Reusser is within the competitive range and towards the lower end. Taking Messrs. George, Ross and Yost and Ms. Mason as a group, who were executive officers at the time fiscal 2018 pay decisions were made, the fiscal 2018 decisions reported below position total target compensation within this competitive range.

In addition, for new senior executive hires, the Committee takes into consideration compensation levels at their previous employer, the Company’s current pay structure, and competitive market references when determining total target compensation. Target pay opportunities for Messrs. Nolan and Walther were both pegged to the mid-range of competitive practice. At times the Committee may also make initial equity grants or pay signing bonuses at the time of hiring. See the additional detail on page 27 regarding the initial equity awards Messrs. Nolan and Walther received at the time of hire.

Following are the specifics of fiscal 2018 decisions for the NEOs as they relate to each component of compensation.

#### Base Salary

The Committee targets base salaries to be competitive in the marketplaces in which we compete for key executive officers. The Committee considers available market data, referencing the peer group data and pay surveys (as discussed above), and targets pay to be within a reasonable range around the median. Our executive base salaries take into account competitive norms, scope and complexity of responsibilities, internal equity, the Company’s financial condition, as well as the qualifications, experience and sustained individual performance of the executive.

Effective January 2018, the independent members of the Board approved base salary increases for the NEOs (other than Messrs. Nolan, Reusser and Walther) ranging from 3.0% to 4.0% with consideration to this element within the context of “total target compensation” and actual total pay to each NEO in recent years, individual performance and closer alignment with competitive references. Base salaries for Messrs. Nolan and Walther were consistent with their offers of employment and were informed by competitive practice and internal positioning relative to other Company executive roles.

---

The following table shows the initial base salary for each of Messrs. Nolan and Walther and the base salary increases in fiscal 2018 for each other NEO:

Executive	Title	2017 Base Salary	2018 Base Salary	% Increase
Curtis C. Reusser	Chairman, President and CEO	\$850,000	\$850,000	0.0%
Stephen M. Nolan	Executive Vice President and CFO	-	525,000	N/A
Roger A. Ross	Executive Vice President and President, Sensors & Systems	412,775	429,286	4.0%
Donald E. Walther	Executive Vice President & General Counsel	-	480,000	N/A
Albert S. Yost	Executive Vice President and President, Advanced Materials and Avionics & Controls	475,475	492,117	3.5%
Robert D. George	Former Executive Vice President, CFO and Corporate Development	543,375	559,676	3.0%
Marcia J. Mason	Former Executive Vice President & General Counsel	424,350	437,929	3.2%

As mentioned above, in connection with the Restatement, the Committee determined, in its discretion, to apply the clawback policy to the NEO's who were in their role/s at the time of the events leading to the Restatement. As part of its determination, the Committee approved a reduction of payroll compensation earned by Messrs. Reusser and George during fiscal 2018 of \$121,465 and \$47,905, respectively. These amounts reflect the difference in the amount Messrs. Reusser and George would have earned in fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2017 if the applicable metrics under the Company's compensation programs were re-calculated to adjust for the accounting errors rather than the original calculations. The Restatement did not impact any fiscal 2015 compensation metrics for which Messrs. Reusser and George earned any compensation.

#### Signing Bonus for Mr. Walther

As part of his new hire package, Mr. Walther was paid a \$300,000 signing bonus in cash. This signing bonus was considered in the context of Mr. Walther's overall pay package and took into account his compensation at his prior employer, competitive practices and internal positioning relative to other Company executive roles.

#### Annual Incentive Compensation Plan

We provide executives with annual incentive opportunities contingent on meeting pre-defined financial goals for the year. The purpose of the annual incentive plan is to encourage our officers to make prudent decisions that will strengthen current year financial results for shareholders. No executive is eligible to receive annual incentive compensation unless the Company achieves a minimum level of performance recommended by the Committee at the beginning of the fiscal year and approved by the independent members of the Board.

For fiscal 2018, the Committee identified a target award amount of annual incentive compensation for each participant expressed as a percentage of the base salary rate in effect as of the last day of the fiscal year. This percentage varied in proportion to the level of the individual executive's responsibility within the Company, as well as a review of competitive compensation opportunities. The target award amount was not guaranteed, but reflected what would be payable if targeted results were achieved. The following table shows the initial fiscal 2018 target opportunities for each NEO under our annual incentive plan, which remained unchanged from fiscal 2017 for each executive NEO who was an executive in fiscal 2017. Target annual incentive opportunities for Messrs. Nolan and Walther are consistent with their offers of employment and informed by competitive practice and internal positioning. In connection with the Restatement, the Committee determined, in its discretion, to apply the clawback policy to reduce by 10% on a dollar basis the initial fiscal 2018 target annual incentive opportunity for each of Messrs. Ross and Yost and Ms. Mason, as reflected in the table below.

---

Executive	Initial Target Annual Incentive Compensation as % of Base Salary	Adjusted Target Annual Incentive Compensation as % of Base Salary
Curtis C. Reusser	100%	N/A
Stephen M. Nolan	70%	N/A
Roger A. Ross	55%	49.5%
Donald E. Walther	55%	N/A
Albert S. Yost	55%	49.5%
Robert D. George	60%	N/A
Marcia J. Mason	55%	49.5%

For fiscal 2018, the financial performance measures established for the annual incentive plan were (i) EBIT weighted at 50%, (ii) ROS weighted at 30%, and (iii) a strategic component weighted at 20%. EBIT measures the performance of the core operations and does not include certain financing decisions or corporate effects (e.g., share buybacks, taxes). EBIT works well with ROS, ensuring that operational profitability is accomplished efficiently and that both profitability and growth are focus areas. For fiscal 2018, target EBIT was \$198.6 million and target ROS was 9.6%. The fiscal 2018 targets were developed from the Company's annual operating plan, which took into account the challenging performance in fiscal 2017 and expectations for fiscal 2018.

The strategic component identifies a few specific performance objectives that are intended to set the Company up for sustained long-term success and connected to the five core elements of the Company's strategic plan: (1) Profitable & Balanced Sales Growth, (2) Enterprise Excellence, (3) Leverage the Enterprise, (4) Employee Engagement, and (5) Regulatory & Customer Compliance. In fiscal 2018, the Committee established the following six strategic objectives:

- Minimum growth targets measured by achievement of the fiscal 2018 sales budget;
- The Company's aggregate on-time-in-full ("OTIF") achievement on customer deliveries;
- The Company's aggregate performance on product quality improvement, as measured by improvement in the number of deliveries without defects;
- Our platforms' aggregate reduction in inventory turns, as measured by improvement over the platforms' inventory turns for fiscal 2017;
- Our platforms' aggregate reduction in past-due corrective actions in response to findings identified under the Company's environmental health and safety, trade compliance, and internal controls internal audit programs; and
- Our platforms' aggregate average completion of the Company's operating system assessment.

In addition, the 2018 annual incentive plan included a minimum performance threshold of \$50 million in earnings from continuing operations before income taxes, as reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018, which performance threshold was fully achieved.

The following table shows the actual and potential payouts for each NEO under the fiscal 2018 annual incentive plan at various levels of EBIT and ROS achievement (with linear interpolation for achievement between threshold and target and between target and maximum) as well as for achievement of the specified strategic objectives. Actual award amounts for each NEO under the 2018 annual incentive plan are reflected in the "Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018" included in this proxy statement.



Edgar Filing: ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP - Form DEF 14A

	Actual *	Payout %	Threshold	Target	Maximum
EBIT (50% weighting, in millions)	\$196.1	47.6 %	\$ 158.9	\$198.6	\$ 238.4
ROS (30% weighting)	9.64 %	30.8 %	8.16 %	9.60 %	11.04 %
Strategic objectives (six objectives					
- total 20% weighting)	N/A	15.2 %	N/A	100 %	200 %
Payout (as a % of target award amount)	**	93.6 %	25 %	100 %	200 %

\*The amounts for EBIT and ROS were adjusted to exclude transaction and consulting expenses as well as losses on the sale of Kirkhill as further described in the first footnote to the Key Operating Metrics table on page 20.

\*\*See the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation Earnings column of the “Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018” on page 32 of this proxy statement for the actual payout amount earned by each NEO.

---

As the table above reflects, actual results for EBIT and ROS exceeded the threshold level at 95.2% and 102.8%, respectively. This performance resulted in a payout of 47.6% of target award based on EBIT results, as adjusted, and a payout of 30.8% of target award based on ROS results, as adjusted.

In addition, the Committee determined that the NEOs earned an award based on the aggregate achievement of each of the six strategic objectives. The performance metric for each objective was challenging, but achievable, as the Committee recognized the importance of incentivizing the Company's executives to make significant progress on, and/or effective completion of, six strategic objectives as follows:

- Achievement of sales growth targets, weighted at 5%;
- Progress in the operating system assessment, weighted at 5%;
- Improvement in inventory turns, weighted at 3%;
- OTIF achievement, weighted at 2.5%;
- Quality improvement, weighted at 2.5%; and
- Reduction in past-due compliance corrective actions, weighted at 2%.

Target achievement of each objective would result in a 5%, 3%, 2.5% or 2% target award for each NEO in correspondence with the weighting assigned to each objective. However, it was possible to earn higher than target performance for each objective up to 200% of target, which would yield payouts higher than the weighting assigned to these objectives.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the results summarized in a report on the Company's achievement of the strategic objectives prepared by the Company's CEO, which reflected the Company's achievement ranging from below to slightly above target across the objectives. Cumulative achievement was 15.2% of the potential 20% target award, or approximately 75% of target overall. Based on these results for the strategic objectives plus the EBIT and ROS results of 47.6% and 30.8% of the target award, respectively, the Committee confirmed that the Company achieved performance that resulted in an aggregate 93.6% payout of the target award for each NEO. Each of Messrs. Ross and Yost and Ms. Mason also received a 93.6% payout on their adjusted target award that was reduced by 10% from the initial target on a dollar basis due to the Restatement. Payouts to Messrs. Walther, Nolan and George were prorated based on their date of hire or retirement during fiscal 2018, as applicable.

In fiscal 2017, each NEO earned a payout of 80.8% of the target award, which was based on partial achievement of the financial target performance and achievement of the strategic objectives established at the beginning of fiscal 2017.

#### Long-Term Incentives

For fiscal 2018, we continued to use our PSP program, first implemented in fiscal 2015, to further strengthen executive alignment with the shareholder experience, in addition to grants of stock options and RSUs. The PSP program focuses on EPS and ROIC – two metrics selected for their comparatively strong correlation with the creation of shareholder value over time and that focus on both profitability and growth. This three-component approach – share price, EPS, and ROIC – helps to balance pay delivery and outcomes, thereby (i) working to avoid potential unintended consequences with any single measure or component, and, (ii) helping to engage our NEOs, alongside other key elements of executive pay programs. Overall, the PSP program helps to engage our NEOs to:

- Focus on increasing total shareholder returns over the long term by concentrating on key drivers of share price
- Consider and make reasonable, long-term investments by measuring performance over multiple years and
- Use Company assets effectively in achieving earnings goals.

For fiscal 2018, long-term incentive opportunities under our LTI program were consistent with prior levels for the NEOs (other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther) and with the competitive market. The long-term incentive target award

opportunities under our LTI program for each of our NEOs established in fiscal 2018 were as set forth in the table below. In fiscal 2018, the Committee determined to shift its mid-year LTI award philosophy for new hires and employees who are promoted either for the first time into roles that are eligible for participation in the PSP program or into roles with a higher PSP target opportunity. Instead of granting PSPs or increasing the number of target PSPs the employee may earn at the time of mid-year hire or promotion, the Company granted stock options and/or RSUs at a level that corresponds with the level of the position and took into account competitive benchmark levels, as applicable. The newly hired or promoted employee will then be granted PSPs as part of the regular program grants at the beginning of the next fiscal year. This new approach applied to Messrs. Nolan and Walther, who were not formally added to the Company's LTI program in fiscal 2018. In connection with his appointment as Executive Vice President and CFO, Mr. Nolan received initial equity grants consisting of a stock option to purchase 21,100 shares of our Common Stock, with a grant date fair value of \$614,610, and 8,450 RSUs, valued at approximately \$588,965 on the date of grant. In connection with his appointment as Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Mr. Walther received

---

initial equity grants consisting of a stock option to purchase 11,380 shares of our Common Stock, with a grant date fair value of \$355,261, and 3,935 RSUs, valued at approximately \$293,945 on the date of grant. The initial equity grants, consisting of approximately 50% stock options and 50% RSUs were designed to provide an initial ownership stake to both executives, balanced across full value shares and share price appreciation from the time of hire.

Executive	Total target annual	long-term incentive opportunity as % of base salary	Target value (in thousands)	Percentage allocated to PSP	Percentage allocated to stock options	Percentage allocated to restricted stock units
Curtis C. Reusser	300%	\$ 2,550	35%	35%	30%	
Stephen M. Nolan	N/A	-	-	-	-	
Roger A. Ross	120%	495	35%	35%	30%	
Donald E. Walther	N/A	-	-	-	-	
Albert S. Yost	120%	571	35%	35%	30%	
Robert D. George	140%	761	35%	35%	30%	
Marcia J. Mason	120%	509	35%	35%	30%	

### Performance Share Program

Under our PSP, a new performance period begins with each fiscal year and extends for three years. The two relevant performance cycles for purposes of fiscal year 2018 compensation are (i) the 2016–2018 cycle which ended on the last day of fiscal 2018 and for which payments, if any, are to be made in early fiscal 2019, and (ii) the 2018–2020 cycle for which target opportunities were set in early fiscal 2018. The PSP maximum payout is limited to 300% of target payout.

There are two equally weighted performance goals under the PSP: (1) EPS, with built-in growth, and (2) ROIC. For purposes of the PSP, we: (a) establish a target EPS that reflects growth in EPS based on all operating earnings and calculated with a compound annual growth rate measured from the beginning of the base year to the end of the last year in a given performance cycle and (b) use ROIC that is calculated as:  $(x+y)/z$ , where:

- $x$  is net income, before extraordinary items and before interest expense;
- $y$  is tax-adjusted interest expense; and
- $z$  is the monthly average invested capital during the corresponding fiscal year, averaged over the applicable performance cycle and expressed as a percentage.

For these purposes, invested capital is defined as total debt plus total shareholders' equity, less cash. This definition of ROIC was initially introduced for the 2013–2015 performance cycle and has been maintained for the subsequent performance cycles. These two performance measures – EPS, with built-in growth, and ROIC – were selected for their direct correlation over time with the creation of shareholder value. In addition, beginning in fiscal 2016, the PSP

awards include a minimum performance threshold to preserve flexibility in structuring awards under the PSP in a manner intended to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the IRC, if applicable.

#### Performance Share Program – 2016-2018 Performance Cycle

For the 2016–2018 performance cycle under the PSP, the two performance targets were as follows: \$6.35 EPS as of the end of the performance period and 9.6% ROIC. Payout amounts are based on the level of achievement of each of these two performance goals (EPS and ROIC) independently of each other. Award opportunities range from 0% to 300% of target, depending on actual performance. There was no payout for the 2016–2018 performance cycle based on our EPS results \$4.36 and ROIC results of 6.80%. In determining results for the 2016–2018 performance cycle, the Committee calculated EPS and ROIC using adjusted net income and adjusted EPS calculated as described in the second footnote to the “Key Operating Metrics” table above on page 20. However, even after applying these adjustments, there was no payout.

#### Performance Share Program – 2018-2020 Performance Cycle

In November 2017, the independent members of the Board assigned each participating executive a target opportunity for the 2018-2020 performance cycle under the PSP based on competitive market data and on Committee recommendations, as discussed above. In setting performance goals for the PSP cycle, the Committee seeks to balance several factors, including reference to historical standard-based goals, alignment with business context and expectations for the performance cycle (which may change year-to-year), and appropriate calibration for pay and performance outcomes. The target opportunity is not guaranteed, but reflects what will be payable if the Company achieves established performance goals. Actual awards paid may

---

be larger or smaller than target depending on Company performance over the three-year period. The target and maximum number of shares that may be earned by the NEOs for the 2018-2020 performance cycle under the PSP are disclosed in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table for Fiscal 2018” in this proxy statement on page 34.

### Stock Options

For all NEOs other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther, management and the Committee determined the number of shares subject to each stock option grant using a Black–Scholes value per option of 46.1% of our Common Stock’s face value at grant, using a representative price of \$93.43 per share based on the average closing trading price of our Common Stock from September 26, 2017 - October 24, 2017. Options were granted on November 7, 2017, with an exercise price equal to the closing price of our Common Stock on that date (\$92.75). On February 2, 2018, in connection with his appointment as Executive Vice President and CFO, Mr. Nolan was granted an initial stock option grant to purchase 21,100 shares of our Common Stock with an exercise price of \$69.70, the closing price of our Common Stock on the date of grant. On May 15, 2018, in connection with his appointment as Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Mr. Walther was granted an initial stock option grant to purchase 11,380 of the Company’s Common Stock with an exercise price of \$74.70, the closing price of our Common Stock on the date of grant. These initial stock option grants, as well as the initial restricted stock unit awards discussed in the section immediately below, were made with consideration to the overall pay package established for Messrs. Nolan and Walther with reference to available market data. Further, these initial grants – as well as the RSU grants described below – provided Mr. Nolan and Mr. Walther with an immediate equity stake in the company, thereby working to align interests within the Company and externally to investors.

The independent members of the Board grant stock options based on Committee recommendations, with an exercise price equal to the closing price of our Common Stock on the date of grant. Typically, each grant vests and becomes exercisable in four equal annual installments and continues to be exercisable until ten years from the date granted. Options carry value only as the Company’s share price increases, thereby linking potential executive gains with the creation of shareholder value over time.

Generally, stock options to executives are granted once per year in November when other aspects of executive compensation are reviewed, including awards based on the financial results of the prior fiscal year, which concludes at the end of September. The Committee may also recommend option grants at other times, such as in connection with promotions. We do not time employee stock option grants in coordination with the release of material nonpublic information for the purpose of affecting the value of compensation.

The stock options granted to the NEOs in fiscal 2018 are disclosed in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table for Fiscal 2018” in this proxy statement on page 34.

### Restricted Stock Units

The Committee continued the use of RSUs as a third component to our long–term incentive opportunities for executives in fiscal 2018. Typically, each grant vests 100% after the third anniversary of the grant date, thereby providing additional retention and aligning with shareholders. For all NEOs other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther, management and the Committee determined the number of RSUs awarded, using a representative price of \$93.43 per share based on the average closing trading price of our Common Stock from September 26, 2017 - October 24, 2018. RSUs were granted on November 7, 2017. On February 2, 2018, in connection with his appointment as Executive Vice President and CFO, Mr. Nolan was granted an initial equity award of 8,450 RSUs, valued at approximately \$588,965 on the date of grant. On May 15, 2018, in connection with his appointment as Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Mr. Walther was granted an initial equity award of 3,935 RSUs, valued at approximately \$293,945 on the date of grant. These initial equity grants vest in full on the third anniversary of the

grant and were made with consideration to compensation that would otherwise have been earned by Messrs. Nolan and Walther had they continued with their prior employer.

Generally, we grant RSUs to executives once per year along with the stock options and when other aspects of executive compensation are reviewed, as described above. The Committee may also recommend RSUs at other times, such as in connection with promotions or for additional retention purposes.

The RSUs granted to the NEOs in fiscal 2018 are disclosed in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table for Fiscal 2018” in this proxy statement on page 34.

---

## Benefits and Other Programs

Executive officers are allowed to participate in the Company's standard benefit programs that are generally available to other U.S.-based employees, including medical, dental, life, disability, pension, 401(k), stock purchase, health and wellness, employee assistance, and similar retirement and health and group insurance plans.

In addition, all of our executive officers are eligible to participate in a supplemental executive retirement pension plan that permits benefits to be earned on compensation that is in excess of certain statutory limits that apply to the traditional pension plan, as more fully described in the "Pension Benefits for Fiscal 2018" table in this proxy statement on page 38. The Committee believes that these programs are important attraction and retention tools, and that they are reasonable because they are designed to provide executives similar benefits as other employee participants, albeit on above-limit compensation. Executive officers are also eligible to participate in an executive supplemental retirement and deferred compensation plan that allows participants to defer compensation in excess of certain statutory limits in the tax-qualified 401(k) plan and provides a Company match on deferred compensation amounts that exceed certain limits in the tax-qualified 401(k) plan, allowing executives to earn an equivalent portion in Company matching funds as that available to the general workforce in the tax-qualified plan, as more fully described in the "Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018" in this proxy statement on page 39. The Company does not pay or guarantee above-market returns. The appreciation, if any, in the account balances of plan participants is due solely to contributions by participants, any Company matching contributions, and the underlying performance of the investment funds selected by the participants.

Executive officers also receive automobile allowances, as do the Company's subsidiary presidents and certain sales personnel. Similarly, executive officers are eligible for relocation benefits under standard Company policy, which may be enhanced for executive officers and other management employees on a case-by-case basis. Messrs. Nolan and Walther were offered the Company's standard relocation benefits as part of their respective new hire packages. Certain executive officers and other senior managers also receive limited financial planning services, airline club memberships, an annual physical, a temporary housing stipend where the Company requires an executive to move to a substantially higher-cost area, and additional unemployment insurance. Where applicable, the value of these items is disclosed in the "Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018" on page 32 and accompanying notes. These benefits are a very small percentage of total compensation for NEOs and, overall, the dollar values are in keeping with competitive norms. The Company does not provide executives with a tax gross-up to cover personal income taxes that might apply to any of these benefits, except in the case of certain Company-required, actual relocation costs that an officer must include as regular income, and for taxes due on temporary housing stipends that are provided as a transition measure to assist an executive who has relocated to a substantially higher-cost area.

## Continued Employment Arrangements for Mr. George and Ms. Mason

As mentioned earlier in this CD&A, Mr. George retired as CFO and Corporate Development effective February 5, 2018, but remained employed until August 1, 2018. Similarly, Ms. Mason retired as Executive Vice President and General Counsel effective May 15, 2018, but remained employed until October 1, 2018. Following retirement from his or her respective positions, each of Mr. George and Ms. Mason continued to earn his or her annual base salary until the last day of employment and continued to participate in the Company's employee benefit programs in which he or she participated immediately prior to employment. The outstanding compensation awards and equity awards held by Mr. George and Ms. Mason were treated in accordance with the plan terms applicable to such awards; provided, however, that the Compensation Committee determined in its discretion, as permitted under the terms applicable to such RSUs, to accelerate the vesting of 1,600 RSUs that were granted to Ms. Mason in November 2015, which RSUs became fully vested on October 1, 2018. The RSUs were accelerated given Ms. Mason's long service to the Company and in consideration of the fact the RSUs would have vested in November 2018 by their terms.



### Change in Control Arrangements

To help ensure key officers focus their energy and attention on the best interests of the Company's shareholders, we have entered into "double-trigger" change in control termination protection agreements with our officers, including our current NEOs. These agreements are designed to protect our executives in the event of a change in control, by assuring compensation benefits, including cash awards issuable under the Company's annual incentive plan and PSP if an executive were terminated without cause or were to resign for good reason following a change in control. The Committee believes the amounts payable under these agreements provide our executives with reasonable protection, both in principle and with consideration to competitive market practice. If the Merger with TransDigm is completed, each NEO will be entitled to the cash payout of outstanding equity awards at the closing of the transaction, and each NEO (other than Mr. George and Ms. Mason) will be entitled to the other change of control benefits provided for under his termination protection agreement should the NEO's employment terminate without cause or the NEO resign for good reason within 24 months of the closing of the transaction.

---

The Committee believes it is important to balance the need to provide an incentive for the NEOs to seek out and complete transactions that are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders, while limiting equity award acceleration to certain types of change in control transactions and events that defeat the retention purpose of equity. For these reasons, all options and RSUs issued under the Company's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan and 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, including those granted to the NEOs, do not accelerate in vesting upon certain transactions such as a merger or similar transaction if the successor converts, assumes or replaces such awards. In addition, for equity awards granted to NEOs after September 2015, we eliminated the single-trigger acceleration upon certain acquisitions of the Company's outstanding securities and changes in the composition of the Board.

Under the terms of our 2013 Equity Incentive Plan and the change in control termination protection agreements, all time-based equity awards granted to executive officers beginning in fiscal 2016 will not accelerate in vesting unless there is a qualifying change in control event and the executive is terminated without cause or resigns with good reason within 24 months following such transaction. Accordingly, the payout to executives in those circumstances is a "double-trigger" benefit. If the acquiring or successor entity does not assume or replace unvested equity, these unvested awards will generally become immediately vested and exercisable. Outstanding PSP awards as of the date of change in control for which the payout has not been determined will be prorated at the target payout level up to and including the date of the change in control. See the "Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements" section of this proxy statement beginning on page 40 for further detail on the treatment of equity awards in alternative change in control events. Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, if the Merger with TransDigm is completed, no outstanding equity awards held by the NEOs will be assumed and therefore will be cashed out at closing at the per share Merger consideration amount of \$122.50, as described above under "Specific Compensation Decisions for NEOs in Fiscal 2018" – Long-Term Incentives beginning on page 22.

The Company does not provide executives with a tax gross-up to cover personal income or excise taxes that may apply to any of the change in control benefits, other than with respect to the continuation of certain health and welfare benefits or cash payment in lieu of such benefits.

#### Fiscal 2019 Compensation Program Changes and NEO Compensation Events

##### Long-Term Incentive Program Changes

Due to the pendency of the Merger, in November 2018, the Compensation Committee agreed to modify the Company's LTI program for NEOs for fiscal 2019. For fiscal 2019, the Company will grant only RSU awards to NEOs, rather than our historical combination of PSPs, stock options and RSUs. With the Merger pending, it was impractical to establish PSP financial targets for a 3-year period. Further, the Committee determined stock options to be out of step with the pending Merger. In order to provide an appropriate target pay value, the number of stock options and attendant dilution would have been much higher than our historical practice, given the transaction price in the pending Merger. Further, the long-horizon, ten-year term for our stock options extends far beyond the timeline for the pending Merger.

As a result, the Committee granted each NEO a tranche of RSUs with the standard 3-year cliff vesting schedule, a tranche of RSUs that contain a 4-year annual vesting schedule to match the vesting schedule of our historical stock option grants, and a tranche of RSUs with 3-year cliff vesting in substitution for the PSP shares that were previously granted as part of the LTI program. The first two tranches of RSUs will accelerate in full upon the closing the Merger, and the tranche of RSUs substituted for the former PSPs will vest pro-rata to the date of closing of the Merger, to mirror the accelerated vesting schedule upon a change in control for currently outstanding PSPs.

##### NEO Compensation Events

In November 2018, the Compensation Committee and the Board determined to subject an amount equal to 50% of the fiscal 2018 annual incentive bonus earned (the “Conditional Amount”) by each of Messrs. Nolan and Ross to reimbursement by the Company, dependent upon substantial completion of the Company’s remediation plan for the material weaknesses that gave rise to the Restatement. Completion of the remediation plan includes satisfactory testing by the Company’s internal auditors of the effectiveness of the internal controls covered by the remediation plan. The determination of substantial completion of the remediation plan will be made by the Company’s Audit Committee. Messrs. Nolan and Ross were paid their fiscal 2018 annual incentive bonus earned pursuant to the terms of the fiscal 2018 annual incentive plan, but if the remediation plan is not substantially completed by the time of completion of Merger, as determined by the Audit Committee, the amounts otherwise payable to Messrs. Nolan and Ross pursuant to their respective termination protection agreements will be reduced by the Conditional Amount. If no amounts are ultimately paid to Messrs. Nolan or Ross under their termination protection agreements, they will not be required to otherwise pay back the Conditional Amount.

---

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has reviewed and discussed with management the above CD&A. Based on that review and discussion, the Committee has recommended to the Board that this CD&A be included in this proxy statement.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL J. CAVE, CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL J. COVEY

DELORES M. ETTER

---

## STATEMENT REGARDING COMPENSATION PRACTICES

In fiscal 2018, the Compensation Committee and management continued their practice of conducting a comprehensive review of our compensation programs, including executive compensation and major broad-based compensation programs in which salaried and hourly employees at various levels of the organization participate. The goal of this review was to assess whether any of our compensation programs, either individually or in the aggregate, would encourage executives or employees to undertake unnecessary or excessive risks that were reasonably likely to have a material adverse impact on our business.

The Compensation Committee reviewed an inventory of our variable pay and sales commission plans, considering the number of participants in each plan, the target and maximum payment potential, and the performance goals of each plan. The Compensation Committee concluded that these programs were appropriate for our businesses and highly unlikely to create a material risk.

Although the programs that were in place for fiscal 2018 are generally designed to pay for performance and provide incentive-based compensation, the programs contain various mitigating factors to ensure our employees, including our NEOs, are not encouraged to take unnecessary risks in managing our business. These factors include:

- Oversight of programs (or components of programs) by committees of the Board, including the Compensation Committee;
- Discretion provided to the Board and the Compensation Committee (including negative discretion) to set targets, monitor performance and determine final payouts for executive-level incentive plans;
- Oversight of programs by a broad-based group of functions within the organization, including the CEO, CFO, General Counsel, segment presidents, Chief Human Resources Officer, and at multiple levels within the organization (both corporate and business units);
- Target awards that are indexed on base pay, which is determined based on market data and the merit of individual performance; further, Company policy and practices control base pay levels carefully through analysis, reporting, and executive approvals that ensure we compensate employees fairly;
- Incentives focused primarily on the use of broad-based financial metrics (such as growth in operating profit and return on investment), including a mixture of consolidated and business-specific goals, with no one factor receiving an excessive weighting;
- A mixture of programs that provide focus on both short- and long-term goals and that provide a mixture of cash and equity compensation;
- Our long-term incentive plan focuses on earnings growth and average return on investment over overlapping three-year award periods and settles awards in shares for performance periods beginning in fiscal 2017. This creates a focus on driving sustained performance over multiple award periods, mitigating the potential for executives to take excessive risks to drive short-term performance spikes in any one award period;
- Capping the potential payouts on all Company incentive plans to eliminate the potential for dramatic or risky windfalls;
- A compensation recovery (or “clawback”) policy applicable to all executive and senior management incentive programs;
- Service-based vesting conditions with respect to equity grants; and
- The long-term ownership interests in the Company held by our key executive officers and by members of the Board of Directors.

As a result of this review, both management and the Compensation Committee concluded that our total compensation plans, programs and practices are structured in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders. They are appropriately tailored to encourage employees to grow our business, but not incent them to do so in a way that poses unnecessary or excessive material risk to the Company.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

All members of the Compensation Committee during the 2018 fiscal year, each of whom was listed in “Board and Board Committees – Compensation Committee” were independent directors and no member was an employee or former employee. No Compensation Committee member had any relationship requiring disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K. No executive officer of the Company has served on the board of directors or compensation committee of any other entity that has or has had one or more executive officers who served as a member of the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee during the 2018 fiscal year.

---

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following tables and accompanying narrative disclosure should be read in conjunction with the CD&A, which presents the objectives of our executive compensation and benefits programs.

## Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018

The table below summarizes certain compensation information for fiscal 2018 for our NEOs, who include the CEO, CFO, and the three other most highly-compensated executive officers of the Company who were serving as executive officers at the end of fiscal 2018 as well as Mr. Robert D. George, who served as CFO during part of fiscal 2018 and Ms. Marcia J. Mason, who served as General Counsel during part of fiscal 2018.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value & Non-qualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
Curtis C. Reusser Chairman, President & CEO	2018	\$850,000	\$-	\$1,650,950	\$802,342	\$795,600	\$212,333	\$68,932	\$4,380,157
	2017	850,000	-	1,602,255	800,110	612,000	243,451	61,233	4,169,049
	2016	850,000	-	1,483,097	1,218,796	279,990	180,570	54,563	4,067,016
Stephen M. Nolan <sup>(6)</sup> Executive Vice President  & CFO	2018	343,269	-	588,965	614,610	229,320	5,109	99,063	1,880,336
Roger A. Ross Executive Vice President and President, Sensors  & Systems	2018	424,841	-	333,900	162,794	198,896	56,544	36,737	1,213,712
	2017	407,989	-	308,955	156,343	183,437	66,451	33,628	1,156,803
	2016	389,615	-	325,171	176,744	92,766	32,441	119,283	1,136,020
Donald E. Walther <sup>(7)</sup> Executive Vice President	2018	184,615	300,000	293,945	355,261	102,960	-	155,843	1,392,624

& General  
Counsel

Albert S. Yost	2018	487,636	-	380,275	186,050	228,007	73,734	39,753	1,395,455
Executive Vice President	2017	469,963	-	359,250	177,802	211,301	114,124	36,261	1,368,701
and President, Advanced	2016	451,500	-	372,757	202,519	106,857	175,513	32,423	1,341,569

Materials and  
Avionics

& Controls

Robert D. George <sup>(8)</sup>	2018	464,878	-	500,850	248,067	261,928	-	43,471	1,519,194
Former Executive Vice President, CFO &	2017	538,428	-	481,395	239,113	234,738	161,727	38,843	1,694,244
	2016	520,962	-	499,653	272,480	115,290	435,212	36,029	1,879,626

Corporate  
Development

Marcia J. Mason	2018	434,273	-	343,175	166,670	202,901	107,156	37,702	1,291,877
Former Executive Vice President & General Counsel	2017	420,487	-	323,325	159,408	188,581	293,437	34,285	1,419,523
	2016	406,231	-	333,102	184,108	96,289	381,556	31,978	1,433,264

(1) Represents a sign-on bonus paid to Mr. Walther in November 2018 after six months of employment, which is subject to reimbursement to the Company if Mr. Walther leaves the Company within twelve months of his hire date.

(2) Represents the aggregate grant date fair value of awards granted during the fiscal year, computed in accordance with ASC 718. Other than Messrs. Nolan and Walther, under the Stock Awards column, amounts for fiscal 2018 include the grant date fair value of the 2018-2020 performance cycle under the PSP at target as follows: Mr. Reusser, \$890,400; Mr. Ross, \$176,225; Mr. Yost, \$204,050; Mr. George, \$268,975; and Ms. Mason, \$185,500. At the maximum level of achievement, these values would be as follows: Mr. Reusser, \$2,671,200; Mr. Ross, \$528,675; Mr. Yost, \$612,120; Mr. George, \$806,925; and Ms. Mason, \$556,500. Assumptions used to calculate the amounts for fiscal 2018 are included in Note 13, "Employee Stock Plans," of the audited financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018.



- (3) For fiscal 2018, represents amounts earned under the annual incentive plan. Amounts for fiscal 2017 and 2016 for Messrs. Reusser and George were adjusted from previously reported amounts to reflect amounts deducted from compensation in fiscal 2018 due the application of the clawback policy, as described in the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this proxy statement. Mr. Reusser’s adjustments were \$74,800 and \$46,665 for fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. Mr. George’s adjustments were \$28,690 and \$19,215 for fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively.
- (4) Represents the annual increase in the actuarial present value of accumulated benefits under our Pension Plan and Supplemental Executive Retirement Plans (SERP – Pre 2005 and 2005+). Mr. Walther did not participate in the pension plans in fiscal 2018. For Mr. George, the amount was \$(16,086).
- (5) For fiscal 2018, includes match payments under the Company’s 401(k) plan (\$8,250 for each NEO) and the Company’s Supplemental Executive Retirement & Deferred Compensation Plan (Mr. Reusser, \$38,004; Mr. Ross, \$9,766; Mr. Yost, \$12,480; Mr. George, \$16,083; Ms. Mason, \$10,271). Also includes the following for each NEO: Mr. Reusser (automobile allowance, financial planning and club memberships); Mr. Nolan (automobile allowance, financial planning and moving expenses of \$76,559 which included a tax gross up of \$22,373); Mr. Ross (automobile allowance and financial planning); Mr. Walther (automobile allowance, financial planning and moving expenses of \$135,973 which included a tax gross up of \$44,229); Mr. Yost (automobile allowance, financial planning, cost of annual physical and club memberships); Mr. George (automobile allowance, financial planning, club memberships and cost of annual physical); Ms. Mason (automobile allowance, financial planning and club memberships). We value the incremental cost to us for these benefits based on the actual costs or charges incurred by us for the benefits.
- (6) Mr. Nolan joined the Company on February 5, 2018.
- (7) Mr. Walther joined the Company on May 15, 2018.
- (8) Due to his retirement on August 1, 2018, Mr. George forfeited his November 7, 2017, RSU grant, as well as his appointment to the 2018-2020 performance cycle of the PSP.
-

## Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table for Fiscal 2018

The following table provides information regarding grants of plan-based awards to the NEOs under our 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan and the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan during fiscal 2018.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards			All Other Stock Awards	All Other Option Awards	Exercise or Base Price	Grant Date	Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)
		Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)	Number of Shares or Units	Number of Securities Underlying Options			
Curtis												
C.		(1)	\$212,500	\$850,000	\$1,700,000	-	-	-	-	-	\$-	\$-
Reusser	11/07/17	(2)	-	-	-	2,400	9,600	28,800	-	-	-	890,400
	11/07/17	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,700	92.75	802,342
	11/07/17	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,200	-	-	760,550
Stephen												
M.		(1)	91,875	367,500	735,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nolan	02/05/18	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,100	69.70	614,610
	02/05/18	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,450	-	-	588,965
Roger												
A.		(1)	53,124	212,497	424,993	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ross	11/07/17	(2)	-	-	-	475	1,900	5,700	-	-	-	176,225
	11/07/17	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,200	92.75	162,794
	11/07/17	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,700	-	-	157,675
Donald												
E.		(1)	66,000	264,000	528,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Walther	05/15/18	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,380	74.70	355,261
	05/15/18	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,935	-	-	293,945
Albert												
S.		(1)	60,899	243,598	487,196	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yost	11/07/17	(2)	-	-	-	550	2,200	6,600	-	-	-	204,050
	11/07/17	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,800	92.75	186,050
	11/07/17	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900	-	-	176,225

## Robert

D.	(1)	83,951	335,806	671,611	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
George	11/07/17 (2)	-	-	-	725	2,900	8,700	-	-	-	268,975
	11/07/17 (3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,400	92.75	248,067
	11/07/17 (4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500	-	-	231,875

## Marcia

J.	(1)	54,194	216,775	433,550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mason	11/07/17 (2)	-	-	-	500	2,000	6,000	-	-	-	185,500
	11/07/17 (3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,300	92.75	166,670
	11/07/17 (4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,700	-	-	157,675

- 
- (1) This shows the potential value of the payout for each NEO under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan if the threshold, target or maximum goals are satisfied. The potential payouts are performance driven and therefore completely at risk. The business measurements, performance goals and calculation for determining the payout, including applicable proration and reductions, are described in the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this proxy statement. Actual amounts earned are disclosed in the “Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018” in this proxy statement.
- (2) This shows the potential number of shares that may be earned by each NEO, other than Mr. Nolan and Mr. Walther, under the PSP program if the threshold, target or maximum goals of the 2018-2020 performance cycle are satisfied. The potential payouts are performance driven and therefore completely at risk. The business measurements, performance goals and calculation determining the payout are described in the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this proxy statement. Any payouts under the 2018-2020 performance cycle will be made after November 13, 2020, pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan. Due to his retirement on August 1, 2018, Mr. George forfeited his appointment.
- (3) The option grants were made pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan. The exercise price of the options is equal to the closing price of the Common Stock on the date of grant. The options vest at the rate of 25% per year on each of the first four anniversaries of the date of grant.
- (4) The RSUs were granted pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan. They vest in full on the third anniversary of the date of grant. Due to his retirement on August 1, 2018, Mr. George forfeited his grant.
-

### Annual Incentive Compensation Plan

Payments under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan are tied to key measures of corporate performance relating to the following financial objectives: EBIT and ROS, in addition to six strategic objectives. For additional information regarding the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan, please refer to the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this proxy statement starting on page 12.

### 2013 Equity Incentive Plan

Equity awards granted to our executive officers in fiscal 2018 consisted of stock options, RSUs and PSP awards granted under the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended. Stock options have a term of ten years and typically vest in equal annual installments over the period from the date of grant until the fourth anniversary of the date of grant. The exercise price for all stock options is equal to the closing price of the Common Stock on the date of grant. RSUs generally have a three-year cliff vesting. PSP awards granted in fiscal 2018 are earned based on the level of achievement of specified performance goals during a three-year performance period. To the extent earned, awards are settled in shares of fully vested Common Stock. For additional information regarding the PSP, please see the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this proxy statement starting on page 12.

### Offer Letters for Mr. Nolan and Mr. Walther

As described in the Executive Summary of the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this proxy statement, the Board of Directors appointed Mr. Nolan as Executive Vice President & CFO, effective February 5, 2018. Pursuant to his offer letter, effective on the Effective Date, Mr. Nolan received an annual base salary of \$525,000. He also received a new hire stock option to purchase 21,100 shares of the Common Stock with an exercise price equal \$69.70 per share, which was the closing trading price of the Common Stock on February 5, 2018, and a new hire award of 8,450 RSUs. Mr. Nolan was also appointed to the Company’s 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan on a pro-rated basis, with a target award equal to 70% of his base salary.

The Board of Directors appointed Mr. Walther as Executive Vice President & General Counsel, effective May 15, 2018. Pursuant to his offer letter, Mr. Walther received an annual base salary of \$480,000 and a signing bonus of \$300,000 that was paid in a lump sum following the completion of six months of employment with the Company. He also received a new hire stock option to purchase 11,380 shares of Common Stock with an exercise price equal to \$74.70 per share, which was the closing trading price of the Common Stock on May 15, 2018, and a new hire award of 1,700 RSUs. Mr. Walther was also appointed to the Company’s 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan on a pro-rated basis, with a target award equal to 55% of his base salary.

Pursuant to their offer letters, Messrs. Nolan and Walther were also eligible to participate in the Company’s LTI program beginning in fiscal year 2019, with a total annual target value of 150% and 120%, respectively, of his base salary. Messrs. Nolan and Walter were also eligible to participate in Esterline’s retirement, health care and other benefit plans and in the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan and the Supplemental Executive Retirement and Deferred Compensation Plan and to receive a car allowance of up to approximately \$800 per month, before taxes, up to \$8,000 annually for financial planning services and reimbursement for certain relocation expenses in accordance with standard corporate policy. Messrs. Nolan and Walther also entered into a termination protection agreement, which is further described below under “Termination of Employment and Change in Control Agreements” starting on page 40. As with other officers, Messrs. Nolan and Walther are employed at-will and serve at the pleasure of the Board.

### Fixed Cash Compensation in Proportion to Total Compensation

The proportion of fixed cash compensation (salary) compared to total compensation (as reported in the Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018 included in this proxy statement) varies somewhat among the NEOs. Specifically, allocation among the different components of compensation varies based on the position and level of responsibility as well as on market data provided by Semler Brossy that reflects the practices of other companies. For example, those NEOs with the greater ability to influence our performance will have a higher level of at-risk compensation in the form of an increased percentage of total compensation in equity awards and cash-based incentive plan target awards. The lower the level of influence of an executive, the higher the percentage of their total compensation is in the form of base salary with a correspondingly lower percentage of equity awards and cash-based incentive plan target awards. In general, the proportion of at-risk compensation increases with base salary level, which usually indicates relative scope and level of responsibility, such that those with higher salaries also have more of their total compensation at risk. Accordingly, executive compensation for higher-level executives is set to align closely with shareholder and Company long-term shared interests. In fiscal 2018, the

---

percentage of fixed cash compensation as compared to total compensation was 20% for the CEO. For the other NEOs, the average percentage of fixed cash compensation as compared to total compensation was 35%.

Outstanding Equity Awards Table at Fiscal Year End 2018

The following table summarizes the total outstanding equity awards held as of September 28, 2018, by each of the NEOs. The market value of the RSUs and PSP awards is based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018, which was \$90.95.

Name	Grant Date	Option Awards				Stock Awards			
		Unexercised	Unexercisable	Option	Option	Number of Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Market Value of Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Number of Shares or Units	Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested
		(#)	(#)	Exercise Price (\$)	Expiration Date	(#)	(\$)	(#)	(\$)
Curtis C. Reusser	12/05/13	(1) 26,000	-	\$88.75	12/05/23	-	\$-	-	\$-
	12/11/14	(1) 15,375	5,125	117.53	12/11/24	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(1) 16,550	16,550	79.31	11/18/25	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(2) -	-	-	-	8,500	773,075	-	-
	11/18/15	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	2,550	231,923
	11/08/16	(1) 6,525	19,575	71.85	11/08/26	-	-	-	-
	11/08/16	(2) -	-	-	-	10,300	936,785	-	-
	11/08/16	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	3,000	272,850
	11/07/17	(1) -	20,700	92.75	11/07/27	-	-	-	-
	11/07/17	(2) -	-	-	-	8,200	745,790	-	-
	11/07/17	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	2,400	218,280
Stephen M. Nolan	02/05/18	(1) -	21,100	69.70	02/05/28	-	-	-	-
	02/05/18	(2) -	-	-	-	8,450	768,528	-	-
Roger A. Ross	08/24/15	(1) 7,875	2,625	78.87	08/24/25	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(1) 2,400	2,400	79.31	11/18/25	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(2) -	-	-	-	1,600	145,520	-	-

Edgar Filing: ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP - Form DEF 14A

	11/18/15	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	625	56,844
	11/08/16	(1)	1,275	3,825	71.85	11/08/26	-	-	-
	11/08/16	(2)	-	-	-	-	2,000	181,900	-
	11/08/16	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	575	52,296
	11/07/17	(1)	-	4,200	92.75	11/07/27	-	-	-
	11/07/17	(2)	-	-	-	-	1,700	154,615	-
	11/07/17	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	475	43,201
Donald E.	05/15/18	(1)	-	11,380	74.70	05/15/28	-	-	-
Walther	05/15/18	(2)	-	-	-	-	3,935	357,888	-
Albert S.	12/05/13	(1)	5,100	-	88.75	12/05/23	-	-	-
Yost	12/11/14	(1)	2,850	950	117.53	12/11/24	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(1)	2,750	2,750	79.31	11/18/25	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(2)	-	-	-	-	1,800	163,710	-
	11/18/15	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	725	65,939
	11/08/16	(1)	1,450	4,350	71.85	11/08/26	-	-	-
	11/08/16	(2)	-	-	-	-	2,300	209,185	-
	11/08/16	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	675	61,391
	11/07/17	(1)	-	4,800	92.75	11/07/27	-	-	-
	11/07/17	(2)	-	-	-	-	1,900	172,805	-
	11/07/17	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	550	50,023

---

Name	Grant Date	Option Awards				Stock Awards			
		Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options That Have Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercisable Options	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Market Value of Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)	Number of Shares or Units	Market Value of Unearned Shares or Units (\$)
Robert D. George	12/10/09	(1) 21,700	-	41.00	12/10/19	-	-	-	-
	12/09/10	(1) 15,300	-	64.56	12/09/20	-	-	-	-
	07/26/11	(1) 5,000	-	78.24	07/26/21	-	-	-	-
	12/08/11	(1) 18,300	-	51.08	08/01/21	-	-	-	-
	12/06/12	(1) 10,000	-	60.65	12/06/22	-	-	-	-
	12/05/13	(1) 7,400	-	88.75	08/01/23	-	-	-	-
	12/11/14	(1) 4,050	1,350	117.53	08/01/23	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(1) 3,700	3,700	79.31	08/01/23	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	975	88,676
	11/08/16	(1) 1,950	5,850	71.85	08/01/23	-	-	-	-
	11/08/16	(2) -	-	-	-	3,100	281,945	-	-
	11/08/16	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	900	81,855
	11/07/17	(1) -	6,400	92.75	08/01/23	-	-	-	-
Marcia J. Mason	12/09/10	(1) 7,600	-	64.56	12/09/20	-	-	-	-
	12/08/11	(1) 8,900	-	51.08	12/08/21	-	-	-	-
	08/01/12	(1) 20,000	-	57.03	08/01/22	-	-	-	-
	12/06/12	(1) 6,700	-	60.65	12/06/22	-	-	-	-
	12/05/13	(1) 4,900	-	88.75	12/05/23	-	-	-	-
	12/11/14	(1) 2,700	900	117.53	12/11/24	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(1) 2,500	2,500	79.31	11/18/25	-	-	-	-
	11/18/15	(2) -	-	-	-	1,600	145,520	-	-
	11/18/15	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	650	59,118
	11/08/16	(1) 1,300	3,900	71.85	11/08/26	-	-	-	-
	11/08/16	(2) -	-	-	-	2,100	190,995	-	-
	11/08/16	(3) -	-	-	-	-	-	600	54,570
	11/07/17	(1) -	4,300	92.75	11/07/27	-	-	-	-
	11/07/17	(2) -	-	-	-	1,700	154,615	-	-



11/07/17 (3) - - - - - 500 45,475

- (1) Options vest and become exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date.
- (2) RSUs that fully vest on the third anniversary of the grant date.
- (3) PSP awards reflected assume achievement of the threshold performance goal for the corresponding performance cycle.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested in Fiscal 2018

The following table summarizes the option awards exercised and RSUs vested during fiscal 2018 for each of the NEOs.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of	Value Realized	Number of	Value Realized
	on Exercise	on Exercise	on Vesting	on Vesting
	(#)	(\$)	(#)	(\$) (1)
Curtis C. Reusser	-	-	3,269	314,325
Stephen M. Nolan	-	-	-	-
Roger A. Ross	-	-	1,059	121,240
Donald E. Walther	-	-	-	-
Albert S. Yost	-	-	1,933	214,910
Robert D. George	-	-	870	104,775
Marcia J. Mason	-	-	726	69,850

(1) Represents the value of vested RSUs calculated by multiplying the number of vested RSUs by the closing price of our Common Stock on the vesting date.

## Retirement Benefits

## Pension Benefits for Fiscal 2018

The table below provides information as of September 28, 2018, regarding the number of years of credited service, the present value of accumulated benefits payable at normal retirement age, and any payments made during the last fiscal year with respect to the Esterline Technologies Retirement Plan (the “Pension Plan”), the Esterline Corporation Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Key Executives (the “SERP Pre 2005”), and the Esterline Technologies Corporation Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (the “SERP 2005+”). Esterline froze the SERP Pre 2005 plan on December 31, 2004, and the SERP 2005+ plan became effective January 1, 2005. Mr. George and Ms. Mason are the only NEOs eligible under the SERP Pre 2005 plan. No payments were made from these plans to any of the NEOs during fiscal 2018.

Name	Plan Name	Number of Years of Credited Service	Payments	
			Present Value of Accumulated Benefit (\$ (1))	During Last Fiscal Year (\$)
Curtis C. Reusser	Pension Plan	4.41	\$ 87,485	\$ -
	SERP 2005+	4.41	826,850	-
	Total		\$ 914,335	\$ -
Stephen M. Nolan	Pension Plan	0.08	\$ 1,964	\$ -
	SERP 2005+	0.08	3,145	-
	Total		\$ 5,109	\$ -
Roger A. Ross	Pension Plan	2.58	\$ 50,552	\$ -
	SERP 2005+	2.58	104,884	-
	Total		\$ 155,436	\$ -
Donald E. Walther <sup>(2)</sup>	Pension Plan	N/A	\$ -	\$ -
	SERP 2005+	N/A	-	-
	Total		\$ -	\$ -
Albert S. Yost	Pension Plan	11.10	\$ 330,725	\$ -
	SERP 2005+	8.85	390,815	-
	Total		\$ 721,540	\$ -
Robert D. George	Pension Plan	20.58	\$ 888,250	\$ -
	SERP Pre 2005	7.00	229,651	-
	SERP 2005+	13.58	1,368,629	-
	Total		\$ 2,486,530	\$ -
Marcia J. Mason	Pension Plan	24.75	\$ 1,308,019	\$ -

SERP Pre 2005	11.00	159,777	-
SERP 2005+	13.75	1,335,272	-
Total		\$ 2,803,068	\$ -

---

(1) The assumptions and methodology used in calculating the estimated present values shown in this column are generally consistent with those used and disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018, except that the NEOs who remained employed as of September 28, 2018, are assumed to retire at their earliest unreduced retirement age (age 65) or their current age, if later. For NEOs who retired during the year, the estimated present values reflect pension payments as well as adjustments for early/late retirement and form of payment elections. No additional compensation or service is assumed beyond the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018. The specific relevant assumptions include a discount rate of 4.35% and post-retirement mortality as follows: Base Table is RP-2014 mortality table with separate tables for male and female annuitants projected back to 2006 using generational scale MP-2014 and forward to 2017 using generational scale MP-2017. Generational projection is applied from 2017 using MP-2017.

(2) Mr. Walther did not participate in the pension plans in fiscal 2018.

Esterline's Pension Plan is a broad based, tax-qualified defined benefit pension plan that provides a benefit to eligible employees of the Company. Approximately 53% of all U.S. employees are eligible to participate in the Pension Plan.

---

Qualified pension benefits are based on a final average pay formula, which takes into account years of service and highest five-year average earnings, or a cash balance formula, with annual pay credits ranging from 2% to 6% of earnings plus an additional 2% of earnings in excess of the annual Social Security Taxable Wage Base, and interest credits which vary annually based on certain external indices. Earnings include base pay and annual and long-term incentive pay subject to statutory limitations. As of January 1, 2003, participants were given the option of continuing to accrue benefits under the final average pay formula, or to earn benefits under the cash balance formula. Since that date, all new participants are enrolled in the cash balance formula. Participants earning benefits under the final average pay formula must contribute 1% of after-tax compensation each year, while no employee contributions are required under the cash balance formula.

The standard form of benefit payment is a single life annuity for participants who are not married and a 50% joint and surviving spouse annuity for married participants. Alternatively, participants may elect a joint and surviving spouse annuity with a continuation percentage of 75% or 100%, or a life annuity with payments guaranteed for a 5-year, 10-year or 15-year period. Benefits earned under the cash balance formula may also be paid as a lump sum.

The annual benefit at normal retirement (age 65) under the final average pay formula is the participant's highest five-year average pay less the participant's primary Social Security benefit times 1.6%, times the participant's credited service up to 30 years. Participants are eligible to receive early retirement benefits when they have completed five years of plan participation and their age plus service equals 65 years. NEOs who are eligible for early retirement are Mr. George, Ms. Mason and Mr. Yost. Mr. George and Ms. Mason are eligible under the Pension Plan, the SERP Pre 2005, and the SERP 2005+. Mr. Yost is eligible under the Pension Plan and the SERP 2005+. For participants who elect to receive benefits prior to age 65, benefits are reduced by 6 2/3% per year between ages 60 and 65, 3 1/3% per year between ages 55 and 60, 3% per year between ages 50 and 55, and 2% per year below age 50.

The Supplemental Executive Retirement Plans (SERP – Pre 2005 and 2005+) provide benefit formulas and early retirement formulas that are similar to the final average pay formula and the cash balance formula in the Pension Plan, but permit benefits to be earned on compensation that is in excess of certain statutory limits that apply to the Pension Plan. However, amounts earned under the long-term incentive compensation plan are excluded from earnings used in the benefit formulas of the SERPs.

#### Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018

The table below provides information as of September 28, 2018, regarding each NEO's activity in the Esterline Technologies Supplemental Executive Retirement & Deferred Compensation Plan (the "DC SERP"). It includes information on executive voluntary contributions, Company contributions and aggregate earnings during the fiscal year. There were no distributions from the DC SERP in fiscal 2018.

Name	Executive	Registrant	Aggregate	Aggregate	Aggregate
	Contributions	Contributions	Earnings	Withdrawals	Balance at
	in	in	in	/	Last Fiscal
	Last Fiscal	Last Fiscal	Last	Distributions	Year End
	Year	Year	Fiscal	(\$)	Year
	(\$) (1)	(\$) (2)	Year		(\$) (4)

(\$)(3)

Curtis C. Reusser	\$ 74,363	\$ 38,004	\$ 26,966	\$ -	\$441,008
Stephen M. Nolan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roger A. Ross	29,557	9,766	9,738	-	141,170
Donald E. Walther	2,917	-	41	-	2,958
Albert S. Yost	33,968	12,480	54,947	-	722,679
Robert D. George	82,678	16,083	137,551	-	1,532,226
Marcia J. Mason	24,220	10,271	60,536	-	493,319

- 
- (1) Represents elective deferrals of compensation that are also reported as compensation earned in the Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018 in this proxy statement.
- (2) Represents Company matching contributions to the DC SERP earned in fiscal 2018. Company contributions are also reported in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table for Fiscal 2018 in this proxy statement.
- (3) Represents increases/decreases due to dividends, earnings, fees and investment gains/losses.
- (4) Does not include Company contributions earned in fiscal 2018 that will not be made until early 2019 following calendar and qualified plan year closing activities. Includes amount reported in prior years.
- The DC SERP became effective on January 1, 2007. The plan provides an opportunity for participants to defer a portion of their cash compensation to be paid as a lump sum or in 10 annual installments upon retirement or at another future date. The
-

executives may defer up to 75% of base pay and annual incentive compensation and up to 100% of long-term incentive compensation. Investment earnings are pursuant to each executive's individual elections from among available investment options, substantially similar to those in the Company's tax-qualified 401(k) plan, and are subject to daily valuation.

The DC SERP provides a Company match on part of the deferred compensation based on a formula that is substantially the same as that in the Company's tax-qualified 401(k) plan. The Company match applies to deferred compensation amounts that exceed certain statutory limits in the tax-qualified 401(k) plan. However, amounts earned under the long-term incentive compensation plan are excluded from earnings used in the match calculation of the DC SERP.

#### Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements

**Termination Protection Agreements.** The Company has entered into termination protection agreements with the NEOs which provide "double-trigger" benefits that are designed to induce them to remain in the employ of the Company or any successor company in the event of a "Change in Control Event" by assuring compensation benefits if an officer is terminated without "Cause" or resigns for "Good Reason," as defined in the agreements. The termination protection agreements with each of Mr. George and Ms. Mason terminated upon his or her respective retirement with the Company. In the event of termination of employment within two years after the day preceding a Change in Control Event, the agreements for Messrs. Reusser and Yost generally provide for:

- a pro rata amount of "minimum total compensation" as measured by the average compensation received during the prior two years, calculated as follows and reduced (but not below zero) by base salary previously paid to the executive: one (1) times the executive's annual rate of salary on the date immediately prior to the date of the Change in Control Event (the "effective date"), plus one (1) times the executive's target annual incentive compensation on the effective date, plus the actual gross cash compensation paid to the executive under the Company's long-term incentive plan during the twenty-four (24) month period ending on the Effective Date, divided by two (2);
- a lump sum payment equal to all other earned, but unpaid amounts;
- a lump sum payment equal to three times the minimum total compensation;
- full vesting of all outstanding unvested equity awards held by the executive as of the effective date to the extent such awards were not accelerated in full in connection with the Change in Control Event;
- reimbursement of certain legal fees and expenses associated with enforcing the agreement; and
- continuation of life insurance, health and accident and disability benefits for the remainder of the initial two-year period or until other full-time employment is accepted, unless participation in the Company's plans or programs is not practicable, in which case the Company may provide the executive with substantially similar benefits or cash compensation on an after-tax basis sufficient for the executive to purchase such benefits.

In the event of termination of employment within two years after the effective date, the agreements for Messrs. Nolan, Ross and Walther generally provide for:

- a pro rata amount of the executive's target annual incentive compensation on the effective date;
- a lump sum payment equal to all other earned, but unpaid amounts;
- a lump sum payment equal to three times the sum of the executive's annual rate of salary on the effective date plus the executive's target annual incentive compensation on the effective date;
- full vesting of all outstanding unvested equity awards held by the executive as of the effective date to the extent such awards were not accelerated in full in connection with the Change in Control Event;
- reimbursement of certain legal fees and expenses associated with enforcing the agreement; and
- an amount equal to the then-current monthly COBRA premium rate for the executive and his dependents multiplied by the number of months remaining in the 24-month period following the effective date further multiplied by 1.4.

In the event any payments under the termination protection agreements are considered to be “excess parachute payments” under Section 280G of the IRC, either alone or together with other Company payments, the payments will be reduced so that the payments will not be treated as “excess parachute payments.” However, this payment reduction will only take place if the reduction would provide to the executive a greater net, after-tax benefit than he or she would receive if the payments were not subject to the reduction.

---

For purposes of the termination protection agreements, the following definitions apply:

“Cause” is generally defined as:

- the willful and continued failure by the executive to substantially perform his or her duties and obligations to the Company (other than any such failure resulting from illness, sickness, or physical or mental incapacity) which failure continues after the Company has given notice to the executive; or
- the willful engaging by the executive in misconduct that is significantly injurious to the Company, monetarily or otherwise.

“Good Reason” is generally defined as:

- a material diminution in the executive’s authority, duties, or responsibilities, including, for example, assignment to the executive of any duties inconsistent with, or the reduction of powers or functions associated with, his or her positions, duties, responsibilities and status with the Company immediately prior to the transaction or any removal of the executive from or any failure to re-elect the executive to any positions or offices the executive held immediately prior to the transaction, except in connection with the termination of the executive’s employment by the Company for cause or for disability, or a material negative change in the employment relationship, such as the failure to maintain a working environment conducive to the performance of the executive’s duties or the effective exercise of the powers or functions associated with the executive’s position, responsibilities and status with the Company immediately prior to the transaction;
- any action or inaction that constitutes a material breach by the Company of the agreement (including, among others, the failure to maintain the compensation paid to the executive at certain levels);
- the Company’s mandatory transfer of the executive to another geographic location, without the executive’s consent, outside of a twenty (20) mile radius from the executive’s current location; or
- failure by the Company to obtain an assumption of the obligations of the Company to perform the agreement by any successor.

Termination of employment by the executive will not be deemed to be for “Good Reason” unless the executive provides written notice to the Company of the Good Reason conduct or event within 90 days of its occurrence and the Company has a 30-day opportunity after such notice to cure such conduct or event.

“Change in Control Event” is generally defined as any of the events described under “company transaction” or under “change in control” under the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan section below. The Merger qualifies as a Change in Control Event.

2013 Equity Incentive Plan. Options granted pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan to our executive officers continue to vest in accordance with the normal vesting schedule in the event of termination due to retirement. For RSUs granted pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan prior to the end of fiscal 2017, the Compensation Committee has in its sole discretion the ability to provide that all unvested units become vested upon retirement. Beginning in fiscal 2017, all new RSUs granted under the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan to our executive officers will become vested in the event of retirement, but settlement will follow in accordance with the original vesting schedule of the award. In addition, upon death or disability of our executive officers, all unvested stock options and RSUs will automatically fully vest. Upon the retirement, death or disability of an executive officer, each executive officer is entitled to awards issued in the normal course under the PSP for the full performance period based on actual achievement of the PSP goals so long as the executive officer completes at least one full year of continuous, active employment during the performance period. If that service period is not met, the executive officer will not be entitled to any award under the PSP upon his or her retirement, death or disability.

In addition, pursuant to the Company’s 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, together with the terms of the termination protection agreements, all options and RSUs held by the NEOs do not vest upon certain company transactions if the



successor converts, assumes or replaces such awards unless an employee is terminated without cause or resigns with good reason within 24 months following such transaction. If the outstanding options and RSUs held by NEOs are not converted, assumed or replaced by the successor in such transaction, the outstanding awards become fully and immediately vested and exercisable, as applicable. All options and RSUs held by the NEOs that were granted prior to September 2015 become fully and immediately vested and exercisable immediately prior to certain acquisitions of the Company's outstanding securities and changes in the composition of the Board. Stock options and RSUs granted to NEOs after September 2015 will not vest automatically upon such events. Performance-based awards under the PSP program earned and outstanding as of the date of a company transaction and for which the payout level has been determined are payable in full in accordance with the original payout schedule. Awards under the PSP program for which the payout level has not been determined will be prorated at the target payout level up to and including the date of such transaction.

---

For purposes of the awards granted under the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan prior to September 2015, the following definitions generally apply:

A company transaction is generally defined as the consummation of any of the following:

- a merger or consolidation of the Company with or into any other company or other entity;
- a sale in one transaction or a series of transactions undertaken with a common purpose of at least 50% of the Company's outstanding voting securities; or
- a sale, lease, exchange or other transfer in one transaction or a series of related transactions undertaken with a common purpose of at least 50% of the Company's assets,

and excludes a transaction pursuant to which:

- the beneficial ownership of the Company or the resulting company remains the same with respect to at least 70% of the voting power of the outstanding voting securities in substantially the same proportions as immediately prior to such transaction;
- no entity (other than the Company or an affiliate) will beneficially own 30% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock of the resulting company or the voting power of the outstanding voting securities; and
- the Company's incumbent board will, after the transaction, constitute at least a majority of the board of the company resulting from such transaction.

A change in control is generally defined as the occurrence of any of the following events:

- an acquisition of beneficial ownership of 30% or more of either (a) the then outstanding shares of Common Stock of the Company or (b) the combined voting power of the then outstanding voting securities of the Company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (excluding any acquisition directly from the Company, any acquisition by the Company, any acquisition by any employee benefit plan of the Company, or an acquisition pursuant to certain related party transactions); or
- a change in the composition of the Board during any two-year period such that the incumbent board members cease to constitute at least a majority (not including directors whose election was approved by at least two-thirds of the incumbent board).

In September 2015, we amended the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan to delete the definition of change of control, as described above, and to change the term "company transaction" to "change in control" such that as amended, change in control has the meaning of company transaction as set forth above.

**Annual Incentive Compensation Plan.** Under the terms of the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan, participants must remain employed by the Company through the entire fiscal year and through the payment date (generally within 60 days following fiscal year-end) to be entitled to receive payment, unless termination is due to retirement, disability or death, in which case the participant will be entitled to a pro-rata amount based on the participant's period of active employment. Payments made under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan are subject to the Company's compensation recovery, or "clawback," policy.

**Pension Plans.** Under the terms of the Pension Plan and SERPs (Pre 2005 and 2005+), a participant must earn five years of service to receive a termination benefit. Disability benefits are available to any active participant who becomes totally and permanently disabled and remains so until normal retirement age. The disability benefit is calculated assuming the rate of pay at disability continues in effect until normal retirement age, and includes service from the date of disability until normal retirement age. Normal retirement age is 65, with 5 years of service, and early retirement can occur once a participant's age plus years of service equal at least 65 years.

**Potential Payments Upon Termination of Employment or Change in Control**

The estimated potential incremental payments and benefits for all NEOs (other than Mr. George and Ms. Mason) under each termination scenario are outlined in the following table. The table does not include amounts payable under the DC SERP and benefits generally available to all employees on a non-discriminatory basis or earned benefits, which are payments and benefits that the NEOs would have already earned during their employment with us whether or not a termination or change in control event had occurred. Actual amounts payable can only be determined at the time of termination or change in control. In accordance with SEC rules, the table reflects amounts based on the closing price of our Common Stock on the last day of fiscal 2018, which was \$90.95 per share. However, if the Merger closes, under the terms of the Merger Agreement, the NEOs will be

---

entitled to \$122.50 per share for shares of Common Stock underlying outstanding equity awards they hold at the closing of the Merger, subject to tax withholding (and, in the case of stock options, net of the applicable exercise price).

Name	Benefit	Termination Scenario <sup>(1)</sup>			
		Retirement (\$)	Death or Disability (\$)	Involuntary Termination Without Cause or for Good Reason (\$)	Change in Control Termination (\$)
Curtis C. Reusser	Severance Payment	(2) -	-	-	5,939,317
	Incentive Plan Awards	(3) 795,600	795,600	-	795,600
	Accelerated Equity	(4) 773,075	3,022,175	-	4,040,815
	Continued Equity Vesting	(5) 4,213,620	1,964,520	-	-
	Benefit Continuation	(6) -	-	-	37,567
	Excess Retirement Benefit	(7) -	1,374,968	-	-
	Reduction of CIC Benefits	(8) -	-	-	(1,510,151 )
	Stephen M. Nolan	Severance Payment	(2) -	-	-
Incentive Plan Awards		(3) 229,320	229,320	-	229,320
Accelerated Equity		(4) -	1,216,903	-	1,216,903
Continued Equity Vesting		(5) 448,375	-	-	-
Benefit Continuation		(6) -	-	-	22,679
Excess Retirement Benefit		(7) -	572,394	-	-
Roger A. Ross	Severance Payment	(2) -	-	-	2,232,287
	Incentive Plan Awards	(3) 198,897	198,897	-	198,897
	Accelerated Equity	(4) 145,520	614,739	-	811,797
	Continued Equity Vesting	(5) 851,209	381,990	-	-
	Benefit Continuation	(6) -	-	-	37,074
	Excess Retirement Benefit	(7) -	683,281	-	-
Donald E. Walther	Severance Payment	(2) -	-	-	2,442,127
	Incentive Plan Awards	(3) 102,960	102,960	-	102,960
	Accelerated Equity	(4) -	542,813	-	542,813
	Continued Equity Vesting	(5) 184,925	-	-	-
	Benefit Continuation	(6) -	-	-	22,679
Albert S. Yost	Severance Payment	(2) -	-	-	2,548,331
	Incentive Plan Awards	(3) 228,008	228,008	-	228,008
	Accelerated Equity	(4) 163,710	660,795	-	891,202
	Continued Equity Vesting	(5) 942,740	445,655	-	-
	Benefit Continuation	(6) -	-	-	38,052
	Excess Retirement Benefit	(7) -	502,295	-	-
	Reduction of CIC Benefits	(8) -	-	-	(151,620 )

- (1) All scenarios assume termination and/or change in control occurred on September 28, 2018, the last day of fiscal 2018. The closing price of the Company's Common Stock on that date was \$90.95 per share.
- (2) Messrs. Reusser and Yost will receive pro rata payment of Minimum Total Cash Compensation plus 3x Minimum Total Compensation (based on amended Sections 4.1(a) and (c) of Termination Protection Agreement). Minimum Total Compensation includes one times the executive's annual rate of salary on the date immediately prior to the date of the change in control event (the "effective date"), plus one times the executive's target annual incentive compensation on the effective date, plus the actual gross cash compensation paid to the executive under the Company's long-term incentive plan during the twenty-four month period ending on the effective date, divided by two. Messrs. Nolan, Ross and Walther will receive cash severance of a lump sum payment equal to 3x the sum of their annual rate of salary on the effective date plus their target annual incentive compensation on the effective date.
- (3) The amounts represent actual amounts earned under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan.
- (4) The amounts in the Retirement column (1) represent the value of the accelerated RSUs based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018, and (2) assume that the Compensation Committee exercised its discretion in the case of retirement, where applicable, to provide that all unvested units become vested. The amounts in the Death or Disability column (1) represent the value of the accelerated stock options and RSUs based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018. The amounts under the Change in Control Termination column represent (1) the difference between the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018, and the exercise price of the accelerated options, (2) the value of the accelerated RSUs based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018, and (3) the value of the 2018-2020 and 2017-2019 performance cycles under the PSP program prorated at target up to September 28, 2018, based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018. Stock options and RSUs, granted prior to September 2015, may accelerate
-

even if the executive's employment is not terminated. For purposes of stock options and RSUs, this assumes the stock options and RSUs are not assumed or substituted for by the successor company in a company transaction.

- (5) The amounts in the Retirement column (1) represents the difference between the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018, and the exercise price of options that were unvested as of September 28, 2018, but that would have continued to vest after termination of employment due to retirement, (2) the RSUs granted after the end of fiscal 2016 which would continue to vest based upon the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018, and (3) the value of the 2018-2020 and 2017-2019 performance cycles under the PSP program prorated at target up to September 28, 2018, based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018. The amounts under the Retirement and Death or Disability columns represent the actual amounts for the 2016-2018 performance cycle under the PSP and the target amounts under the 2018-2020 and 2017-2019 performance cycles under the PSP that participants would only be entitled to if termination was due to retirement, death or disability, based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018. The terms of the PSP provide that participants are entitled to the actual award for the full performance period in the event of retirement, death or disability after at least one year of continuous employment during a performance cycle, but the amounts in the table reflect the target amounts for the 2018-2020 and 2017-2019 performance cycles because actual awards under these cycles cannot be determined at this time.
- (6) Represents the cost of continuation of benefits for Messrs. Reusser and Yost for two years after the transaction, which is the longest period provided for under the termination protection agreements. These benefits include medical, dental, accident, disability and life insurance. For Messrs. Nolan, Ross and Walther, the amount represents COBRA payments two years after the transaction, multiplied by a factor of 1.4.
- (7) Represents the value of additional benefits due to termination of employment as a result of disability in excess of what is shown in the Pension Benefits for Fiscal 2018 table in this proxy statement.
- (8) Represents the reduction estimated to be necessary to avoid excise taxes under Section 280G of the IRC on payments related to a change in control. Under the terms of the termination protection agreements, payments are only reduced if the reduction would provide the executive a greater net, after-tax benefit than the executive would receive if the payments were not subject to the reduction.

#### The Retirement of Mr. George and Ms. Mason

Mr. George retired from the Company effective August 1, 2018, after serving as Executive Vice President, CFO and Corporate Development through February 5, 2018, and as a Senior Advisor until retirement. Since his termination was due to full retirement, he received a prorated amount earned under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan of \$261,928. He is also eligible to receive payment under the 2017-2019 PSP, which will be paid in fiscal 2020 based on actual achievement of the performance goals for that cycle (at target, the value of the award is \$327,420 based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018). Pursuant to the terms of the agreements governing Mr. George's stock options, his unvested stock options will continue to vest, and the value of his stock options that remained unvested as of September 28, 2018, was \$154,803 (based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock of \$90.95 on such date). Pursuant to the terms of the agreement governing Mr. George's RSUs, his unvested RSUs will continue to vest, and the value of his RSUs that remained unvested as of September 28, 2018, was \$281,945 (based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock of \$90.95 on such date).

Ms. Mason retired from the Company effective October 1, 2018, after serving as Executive Vice President and General Counsel through May 15, 2018, and as a Senior Advisor until retirement. Since her termination was due to full retirement, she received the amount earned under the 2018 Annual Incentive Compensation Plan of \$202,901. She is also eligible to receive payment under the 2017-2019 PSP and the 2018-2020 PSP, which will be paid in fiscal 2020 and 2021, respectively, based on actual achievement of the performance goals for that cycle (at target, the aggregate value of the awards is \$400,180 based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on September 28, 2018). Pursuant to the terms of the agreements governing Ms. Mason's stock options, her unvested stock options will continue to vest, and the value of her stock options that remained unvested as of September 28, 2018, was \$103,590 (based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock of \$90.95 on such date). Pursuant

to the terms of the agreements governing Ms. Mason's RSUs granted after fiscal 2016, her unvested RSUs will continue to vest, and the value of her RSUs that remained unvested as of September 28, 2018, was \$345,610 (based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock of \$90.95 on such date). In September 2018, pursuant to the terms of the agreement governing Ms. Mason's RSUs granted in November 2015 in the event of full retirement, the Compensation Committee determined to accelerate the unvested portion of those outstanding RSUs held by Ms. Mason, considering, among other things, her long service to the Company in significant leadership roles. The value of the RSUs that accelerated on October 1, 2018, was \$145,520 (based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock of \$90.95 on that date).

#### CEO Pay Ratio

As required by SEC rules, we are providing the following information about the relationship of the annual total compensation of our employees and the annual total compensation of our CEO.

---

For fiscal 2018, the ratio of our CEO's annual total compensation to our median employee's annual total compensation is 101 to 1, based on annual total compensation for our CEO of \$4,380,157, as reported in the Summary Compensation Table, and annual total compensation for our median employee of \$43,478, as calculated using Summary Compensation Table requirements.

We identified our median employee from all full-time, part-time, and temporary workers who were included as employees on our payroll records as of a determination date of July 31, 2018. We did not include independent contractors or leased workers in our determination. We used base pay, overtime, and bonuses paid over the twelve-month period preceding the determination date as the consistently applied compensation measure used to determine our median employee. We did not make any assumptions, adjustments or estimates with respect to base pay, overtime, and bonuses paid, except that we (1) made adjustments for employees who were hired during that period and did not receive pay for the full period and (2) converted pay made to international employees to US dollar equivalents using exchange rates as of the determination date.

The ratio presented above is a reasonable estimate calculated in a manner consistent with Item 402(u) of Regulation S-K. The SEC's rules for identifying the median employee and calculating the pay ratio based on that employee's annual total compensation allow companies to adopt a variety of methodologies, to apply certain exclusions, and to make reasonable estimates and assumptions that reflect their employee populations and compensation practices. As a result, the pay ratio reported by other companies may not be comparable to the pay ratio reported above, as other companies have different employee populations and compensation practices and may utilize different methodologies, exclusions, estimates, and assumptions in calculating their own pay ratios.

## CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The Company reviews related-party transactions. Related party transactions are transactions that involve the Company's directors, executive officers, director nominees, 5% or more beneficial owners of the Company's Common Stock, immediate family members of these persons, or entities in which one of these persons has a direct or indirect material interest, as specified under applicable SEC regulations. Transactions that are reviewed as related-party transactions by the Company are transactions that involve amounts that would exceed \$120,000 and/or are required to be disclosed in the proxy statement under SEC regulations and certain other similar transactions. Pursuant to the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, employees and directors have a duty to report any potential conflicts of interest to the appropriate level of management or to the Board of Directors, in the case of directors. The Company evaluates these reports along with responses to the Company's annual director and officer questionnaires for any indication of possible related-party transactions. If a transaction is deemed by the Company to be a related-party transaction, the information regarding the transaction is forwarded to the Audit Committee for review and approval. Pursuant to the Audit Committee's charter, it has been delegated the authority to review and approve all related party transactions. Since the beginning of fiscal year 2017, other than as detailed below, there have been no transactions in excess of \$120,000 between the Company and a related person in which the related person had a direct or indirect material interest.

### The FPA Agreement

As previously disclosed, on October 18, 2016, the Company entered into the FPA Agreement with FPA. According to the terms of the FPA Agreement, the Board appointed Mr. Larsen as a new independent director effective October 18, 2016, and nominated Mr. Larsen for election at the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders, where he was elected to the



class of directors with terms expiring in 2020. FPA also agreed to certain customary standstill restrictions during the Standstill Period, which is defined as the period from October 18, 2016, until the earlier of (i) the date that is fifteen (15) business days prior to the deadline for the submission of stockholder nominations for the 2020 annual meeting of stockholders pursuant to the Company's Bylaws and (ii) the date that is 100 days prior to the first anniversary of the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders. In fiscal 2017, the Company reimbursed FPA \$125,000 for certain expenses related to the negotiation and execution of the FPA Agreement.

For additional details regarding the terms of the FPA Agreement, including a copy of the FPA Agreement, please see Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 19, 2016. FPA was a beneficial owner of at least 5% of the Company's Common Stock during fiscal 2018. As of December 6, 2018, FPA reported that it beneficially owned approximately 4% of the Company's Common Stock, accordingly, FPA is no longer a related party for which transactions with the Company are subject to review and disclosure as described above.

---

## AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit Committee of the Company's Board of Directors consists of four non-employee directors, each of whom the Board has determined (i) meets the independence criteria specified by the SEC and the requirements of Section 303A.02 and other applicable sections of the NYSE listing standards and (ii) is financially literate in accordance with the requirements of Section 303A.07 of the NYSE listing standards. The Audit Committee annually reviews and reassesses its written charter, a copy of which is available on the Company's website at [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com) under the Corporate Governance tab.

Management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the systems of internal controls for financial reporting. The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting processes on behalf of the Board of Directors. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with management the audited financial statements relating to the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018, and discussed with management 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 Audit Committee selects and retains the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, which was Ernst & Young LLP for fiscal 2018.

The Audit 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, its judgments as to the quality, not just the acceptability, of the Company's accounting principles and such other matters relating to the audit required to be discussed by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Auditing Standard No. 1300. In addition, the Audit Committee has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the accounting firm's independence from management and the Company and received the written disclosures from the independent registered public accounting firm required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board requiring the independent accountant's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence.

The Audit Committee discussed with the Company's internal auditors and the independent registered public accounting firm the overall scope and plans for their respective audits. The Audit Committee met with the internal auditors and the independent registered public accounting firm, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examinations, their evaluations of the Company's internal controls, and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors (and the Board has approved) that the audited financial statements be included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018, for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

SCOTT E. KUECHLE, CHAIRMAN

ANTHONY P. FRANCESCHINI

PAUL V. HAACK

NILS E. LARSEN

## INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S FEES

The aggregate fees billed by Ernst & Young LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, in fiscal 2018 and 2017 were as set forth below. The increase in fees for fiscal 2018 was mainly driven by audit activities related to the Restatement.

	Fees	
	2018	2017
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$5,889,821	\$4,127,993
Audit-related fees <sup>(2)</sup>	110,475	50,012
Tax fees <sup>(3)</sup>	281,105	395,999

---

(1) Includes professional services for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and internal control over financial reporting, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, included in the Company's Annual Reports on Form 10-K, and for reviews of the financial statements included in the Company's Form 10-Q filings. Included are services that are normally provided by the Company's independent registered public accounting firm in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements and

---

services that generally only the independent registered public accounting firm can reasonably provide, such as comfort letters, statutory audits, attest services, consents and assistance with and review of documents filed with the SEC.

(2) Includes fees associated with assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company’s financial statements, including, if applicable, fees related to assistance in financial due diligence related to mergers and acquisitions and consultation regarding generally accepted accounting principles. These services include employee benefit plan (pension and 401(k)) audits and other assurance services not directly related to the audit of the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

(3) Includes fees associated with tax compliance, tax advice, and domestic and international tax planning. This category includes fees relating to tax planning on mergers and acquisitions, restructurings and other services related to tax disclosure and filing requirements.

The Audit Committee has adopted procedures for pre-approving all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee may either pre-approve such services without consideration of specific case-by-case services (“general approval”) or pre-approve specific services (“specific pre-approval”). Unless a type of service to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm has received general pre-approval, it will require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee. In some cases, pre-approval is provided by the full Audit Committee for up to a year, and relates to a particular category or group of services and is subject to a specific budget. In other cases, the Chairman of the Audit Committee has the delegated authority from the Audit Committee to pre-approve additional services, and such pre-approvals are then communicated to the full Audit Committee and ratified by the Committee at the following meeting. When pre-approving services, the Audit Committee considers whether such services are consistent with the SEC’s rules on auditor independence. The Audit Committee also considers whether the independent registered public accounting firm is best positioned to provide the most effective and efficient services, for reasons such as familiarity with the Company’s business, people, culture, accounting systems, and risk profile and whether the services enhance the Company’s ability to manage or control risks and improve audit quality.

The Audit Committee has designated the Corporate Controller to monitor the services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, to determine whether such services are in compliance with the pre-approval policy and to report the results of such monitoring to the Audit Committee on a periodic basis.

#### EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table gives information as of September 28, 2018, about the shares of Common Stock that may be issued upon the exercise of options, warrants and rights under the 2002 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan, the only equity compensation plans of the Company in effect during the Company’s last fiscal year.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding	Weighted average price of outstanding warrants	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under
---------------	--	--	--

	options, warrants	and rights (2)	equity compensation
	and rights (1)		plans (excluding securities reflected in the first column) (3) (4)
Equity compensation plans approved			
by security holders	1,547,950	\$ 80.5960	2,557,616
Equity compensation plans not approved			
by security holders	-	-	-
	1,547,950	\$ 80.5960	2,557,616

---

(1) Includes 128,110 shares subject to outstanding options under the U.K. ShareSave Scheme, which is a subplan to the 2002 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. Also includes shares subject to the 2016-2018, 2017-2019 and 2018-2020 performance cycles under the PSP at target levels.

(2) Excludes RSUs and awards under the PSP, which have no exercise price.

(3) Of these shares, 2,119,505 shares are available for issuance under the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan and 438,111 shares are available for purchase under the 2002 Employee Stock Purchase Plan as of the end of the Company's last completed fiscal year.

(4) Each of the Company's non-employee directors receives an automatic grant of shares of Common Stock not subject to any restriction under the 2013 Equity Incentive Plan within 45 days after each annual shareholders meeting with an aggregate market value of \$110,000 based on the closing price of the Common Stock on that date.

---

PROPOSAL TWO:

ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

In accordance with the Dodd-Frank Act, we are offering our stockholders the opportunity to cast an advisory vote (commonly referred to as the “say on pay” vote) on the Company’s executive compensation program for NEOs. The Board of Directors has determined to include this proposal in the Company’s proxy materials annually (with the next vote occurring at the Company’s annual meeting of stockholders in 2020) until the next required shareholder advisory vote on the frequency of shareholder advisory votes on the compensation of executives. Although this advisory vote is nonbinding, the Board of Directors and the Compensation Committee will take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future compensation decisions for NEOs.

As discussed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement, we believe our compensation program is based on a pay-for-performance structure, is well-aligned with the long-term interests of our shareholders, and is designed to attract, motivate, and retain executive officers who are critical to our success. Some of the features of our compensation program that illustrate our philosophy are:

- A significant portion of an executive’s compensation is at-risk and is subject to the Company’s performance. In fiscal 2018, the executive compensation package (base salary, short- and long-term incentives at target) included 80% of at-risk compensation for the CEO and an average of 65% of at-risk compensation for the other NEOs.
- Base salary increases are typically modest and in keeping with market pay data for executives with similar responsibilities and level of experience. Exceptional increases are limited to promotions or situations where the executive’s job performance is strong and his/her base salary is significantly under the market median.
- Our stock option awards feature graduated vesting over a four-year period.
- Our RSU awards generally feature three-year cliff vesting.
- Our PSP awards have a three-year performance period and are settled in shares to encourage executives to make decisions that align our long-term goals with shareholder interests.
- Our annual incentive program features financial metrics of EBIT and ROS and strategic objectives to focus management attention on balanced growth and achievement in critical areas to help ensure the Company will be well-positioned for future growth.
- Stock Ownership Guidelines require executive officers to acquire and hold certain amounts of the Company’s Common Stock to further strengthen alignment of management’s interests with those of our shareholders.
- We have established a clawback policy that covers awards under all of our incentive programs and also includes prohibitions on hedging/pledging activities under our Insider Trading Policy.

Shareholders are encouraged to read the full details of our executive compensation program as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement, the accompanying compensation tables and related narrative disclosure to properly evaluate our approach to compensating our executives.

For the reasons provided above, we recommend that the shareholders vote in favor of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the shareholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company’s NEOs, as disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement and the accompanying compensation tables and related narrative disclosure in this proxy statement.

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote FOR this proposal to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company’s NEOs.

PROPOSAL THREE:

RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC

ACCOUNTING FIRM

Ernst & Young LLP was the independent registered public accounting firm that audited the Company's consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018. The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company requests that shareholders ratify its selection of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm to audit its consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 27, 2019, at its annual meeting.

Ernst & Young LLP has served as our independent auditor since fiscal 2000. The Audit Committee annually considers whether there should be a rotation of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee believes that

---

retaining Ernst & Young LLP as its independent registered public accounting firm is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

The Company is not obligated by law, its Restated Certificate of Incorporation or Amended and Restated Bylaws to seek ratification of the directors' selection of its independent registered public accounting firm, but is doing so as a matter of corporate practice. If the selection of its independent registered public accounting firm is not ratified by shareholders, the Company may continue to use Ernst & Young LLP as its independent registered public accounting firm or, even if shareholders vote in favor of the selection, may select a new firm if, in the opinion of the Audit Committee, such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

The Company expects that representatives of Ernst & Young LLP will be present at the 2019 annual meeting, will be given the opportunity to make a statement if they wish to do so, and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

#### SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, generally requires the Company's directors, executive officers and 10% or greater shareholders to file electronically reports of their ownership of Common Stock and of changes in such ownership to the SEC. SEC regulations also require the Company to identify in this proxy statement any person subject to this requirement who did not file a Section 16 report on a timely basis. Based solely upon a review of such reports furnished to the Company and written representations from the executive officers and directors that no other reports were required, the Company believes that all such reports were filed on a timely basis during fiscal 2018.

#### OTHER MATTERS

As of the date of this proxy statement, the only matters which management intends to present at the meeting are those set forth in the notice of meeting and in this proxy statement. Management knows of no other matters that may come before the meeting. However, if any other matters properly come before the meeting, it is intended that proxies in the accompanying form will be voted in respect thereof in accordance with the judgment of the person or persons voting as proxies.

#### FORM 10-K AND OTHER CORPORATE GOVERNANCE INFORMATION

The 2018 Annual Report of the Company was provided or otherwise made available to shareholders with this proxy statement. The Company will furnish without charge a copy of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018, including the consolidated financial statements and the financial statement schedules, to any shareholder who makes a request. Contact Esterline Technologies Corporation, Attn: Corporate Communications, 500 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Suite 1500, Bellevue, WA 98004 or call (425) 453-9400. This proxy statement, the 2018 Annual Report and the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2018, are also available on the Company's website, [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com), under the Investor Relations tab. In addition, shareholders may find information relating to the Company's corporate governance posted on the Company's website, [www.esterline.com](http://www.esterline.com), under the Corporate Governance tab. Documents located in this section include the charters for the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating & Corporate Governance Committees, the Corporate Governance Guidelines and the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics.



SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR 2020

In accordance with the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws, proposals of shareholders of the Company that are intended to be included in the Company's proxy statement and presented by such shareholders at the Company's 2020 annual meeting must be received at the Company's principal executive office not fewer than 120 days nor more than 150 days prior to the date of the 2020 annual meeting, and must include the information specified in the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws. If the Merger is not completed, it is anticipated that the 2020 annual meeting will be held on February 6, 2020, in which case, proposals must be received no earlier than September 9, 2019, and no later than October 9, 2019. Any shareholder proposals submitted after October 9, 2019, will be considered untimely and/or not properly brought before the 2020 annual meeting. A copy of the pertinent Bylaw provisions is available on request to the following address: Corporate Secretary, Esterline Technologies Corporation, 500 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Suite 1500, Bellevue, Washington 98004.

Pursuant to Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act, in order for a shareholder's proposal to be eligible for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for the 2020 annual meeting, among other things, the proposal must be received by August 29, 2019, the shareholder must own at least one percent of the outstanding shares of Common Stock or shares of Common Stock

---

with a market value of \$2,000 for at least one year prior to submitting the proposal, and the shareholder must continue to own such stock through the date of the 2020 annual meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Amy L. Watson  
AMY L. WATSON  
Deputy General Counsel and

Corporate Secretary

December 27, 2018

---

. Esterline Technologies Corporation IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION 000004  
ENDORSEMENT\_LINE \_\_\_\_\_ SACKPACK \_\_\_\_\_ MR A SAMPLE DESIGNATION (IF ANY)  
ADD 1 ADD 2 ADD 3 ADD 4 ADD 5 ADD 6 Using a black ink pen, mark your votes with an X as shown in X this  
example. Please do not write outside the designated areas. C123456789 000000000.000000 ext 000000000.000000  
ext 000000000.000000 ext 000000000.000000 ext 000000000.000000 ext 000000000.000000 ext Electronic Voting  
Instructions Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! Instead of mailing your proxy, you may choose one of the  
voting methods outlined below to vote your proxy. VALIDATION DETAILS ARE LOCATED BELOW IN THE  
TITLE BAR. Proxies submitted by the Internet or telephone must be received by 11:59 p.m., Pacific Time, on  
February 6, 2019. Vote by Internet • Go to [www.envisionreports.com/ESL-AM](http://www.envisionreports.com/ESL-AM) • Or scan the QR code with your  
smartphone • Follow the steps outlined on the secure website Vote by telephone • Call toll free 1-800-652-VOTE  
(8683) within the USA, US territories & Canada on a touch tone telephone • Follow the instructions provided by the  
recorded message Annual Meeting Proxy Card 1234 5678 9012 345 • IF YOU HAVE NOT VOTED VIA THE  
INTERNET OR TELEPHONE, FOLD ALONG THE PERFORATION, DETACH AND RETURN THE BOTTOM  
PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. • A Proposals — The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR all the  
nominees listed and FOR Proposals 2 and 3. 1. Election of Directors: 01 - Delores M. Etter For Against Abstain 02 -  
Paul V. Haack For Against Abstain 03 - Mary L. Howell For Against Abstain + 04 - Scott E. Kuechle 05 - Curtis C.  
Reusser 2. To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers for the  
fiscal year ended September 28, 2018. For Against Abstain 3. To ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the  
Company's independent registered public accountinthe fiscal year ending September 27, 2019. g firm for For Against  
Abstain B Non-Voting Items Change of Address — Please print new address below. Comments — Please print your  
comments below. Authorized Signatures — This section must be completed for your vote to be counted. — Date and Sign  
Below Note: please sign as name appears hereon. Joint owners should each sign. When signing as an attorney,  
executor, administrator, trustee or guardian, please give full title as such. Date (mm/dd/yyyy) — Please print date below.  
Signature 1 — Please keep signature within the box. Signature 2 — Please keep signature within the box. MR A SAMPLE  
(THIS AREA IS SET UP TO ACCOMMODATE C 1234567890 J N T 140 CHARACTERS) MR A SAMPLE AND  
MR A SAMPLE AND MR A SAMPLE AND MR A SAMPLE AND MR A SAMPLE AND MR A SAMPLE AND 1UPX 3991261 MR A  
SAMPLE AND MR A SAMPLE AND MR A SAMPLE AND + 02YFRC

---

• IF YOU HAVE NOT VOTED VIA THE INTERNET OR TELEPHONE, FOLD ALONG THE PERFORATION, DETACH AND RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. • Proxy — Esterline Technologies Corporation This Proxy is Solicited on Behalf of the Board of Directors The undersigned hereby appoints Curtis C. Reusser, Donald E. Walther and Amy L. Watson and each of them as proxies, each with full power of substitution, to represent and vote for and on behalf of the undersigned, the number of shares of common stock of Esterline Technologies Corporation that the undersigned would be entitled to vote if personally present at the annual meeting of shareholders to be held on February 7, 2019, or at any adjournment or postponement thereof. The undersigned directs that this proxy be voted as stated on the reverse side. This proxy when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed on this proxy card. If no specification is made, a vote FOR all nominees and FOR proposals 2 and 3 will be entered. In their discretion, the holders of this proxy are authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. The undersigned hereby revokes any proxy or proxies heretofore given for such shares and ratifies all that said proxies or their substitutes may lawfully do by virtue hereof. Important notice regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Proxy Statement and the 2018 Annual Report to Shareholders are available at: [www.envisionreports.com/ESL-AM](http://www.envisionreports.com/ESL-AM) (Continued and to be marked, dated and signed, on the other side)