

MYERS INDUSTRIES INC
Form PREC14A
March 12, 2013
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
SCHEDULE 14A
(RULE 14A-101)
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION
PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(A) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Filed by the Registrant Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

MYERS INDUSTRIES, INC.

(NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

(NAME OF PERSON(S) FILING PROXY STATEMENT, IF OTHER THAN THE REGISTRANT)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

Edgar Filing: MYERS INDUSTRIES INC - Form PREC14A

(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:

Table of Contents

PRELIMINARY SUBJECT TO COMPLETION

1293 South Main Street Akron, Ohio 44301

March , 2013

To Our Shareholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on Friday, April 26, 2013, at 9:00 A.M. at the Louis S. Myers Training Center, 1554 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301.

At the Annual Meeting you will be asked to elect the nine director candidates nominated by our Board of Directors, ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm, and approve the adoption of the Performance Bonus Plan of Myers Industries, Inc. You will also cast a non-binding advisory vote to approve executive compensation (say-on-pay). Enclosed with this letter is a Notice of Annual Meeting together with a Proxy Statement which contains information with respect to the nominees for director and the other proposals.

The proposals discussed in the Proxy Statement are very important to our shareholders and the Company, and we hope that you will be able to personally attend the Annual Meeting. *Whether or not you expect to attend the Annual Meeting in person, I urge you to complete and return the enclosed white proxy card as soon as possible.*

If you have any questions or need assistance in voting your shares, please contact our proxy solicitor, Innisfree M&A Incorporated, toll-free at (888) 750-5834. Banks and brokers may call collect at (212) 750-5833.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. ORR

President and Chief Executive Officer

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 26, 2013: This Proxy Statement and the Company's 2012 Annual Report to Shareholders are available on Myers' website at www.myersindustries.com/investor-relations/annual-reports-proxy-statements.aspx.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|-------------|
| <u>NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS</u> | 1 |
| <u>PROPOSAL NO. 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS</u> | 4 |
| <u>Nominees</u> | 4 |
| <u>Director Independence</u> | 8 |
| <u>Committees of the Board</u> | 9 |
| <u>Committee Charters and Policies</u> | 9 |
| <u>Board Role in Risk Oversight</u> | 9 |
| <u>Board Attendance</u> | 10 |
| <u>Interested Parties Communications with the Board of Directors</u> | 10 |
| <u>Shareholder Nominations of Director Candidates</u> | 10 |
| <u>Corporate Governance Policies</u> | 12 |
| <u>Director Compensation</u> | 13 |
| <u>Risk Assessment of Compensation Practices</u> | 14 |
| <u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND RELATED INFORMATION</u> | 15 |
| <u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u> | 15 |
| <u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u> | 25 |
| <u>Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation</u> | 25 |
| <u>Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation</u> | 26 |
| <u>Employment Arrangements Including Change in Control</u> | 27 |
| <u>Grants of Plan Based Awards</u> | 34 |
| <u>Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End</u> | 35 |
| <u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2012</u> | 36 |
| <u>Pension Benefits</u> | 36 |
| <u>Policies and Procedures with Respect to Related Party Transactions</u> | 36 |
| <u>PROPOSAL NO. 2 RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM</u> | 37 |
| <u>Matters Relating to the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u> | 37 |
| <u>Audit Committee Report</u> | 38 |
| <u>PROPOSAL NO. 3 ADVISORY VOTE TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u> | 39 |
| <u>PROPOSAL NO. 4 APPROVAL OF ADOPTION OF PERFORMANCE BONUS PLAN</u> | 40 |
| <u>Executive Officers of the Company</u> | 42 |
| <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management</u> | 43 |
| <u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u> | 45 |
| <u>Shareholder Proposal for Inclusion in Proxy Statement</u> | 45 |
| <u>No Incorporation by Reference</u> | 46 |
| <u>Cost of Proxy Solicitation</u> | 46 |
| <u>Copy of the Form 10-K</u> | 46 |
| <u>Notice Regarding Delivery of Security Holder Documents</u> | 46 |
| PROXY | |

Table of Contents

1293 South Main Street Akron, Ohio 44301

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held Friday, April 26, 2013

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Myers Industries, Inc., an Ohio corporation (Myers or the Company), will be held at the Louis S. Myers Training Center, 1554 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301, on Friday, April 26, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. (local time), for the following purposes:

1. To elect the nine candidates nominated by the Board of Directors to serve as directors until the next Annual Meeting of Shareholders;
2. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2013;
3. To cast a non-binding advisory vote to approve executive compensation;
4. To approve the adoption of the Performance Bonus Plan of Myers Industries, Inc.; and
5. To consider such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on March 4, 2013 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. All shareholders are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting in person. ***To be sure that your shares are properly represented at the Annual Meeting, whether or not you intend to attend the Annual Meeting in person, please complete and return the enclosed white proxy card as soon as possible.***

If you have any questions or need assistance in voting your shares, please contact our proxy solicitor, Innisfree M&A Incorporated, toll-free at (888) 750-5834. Banks and brokers may call collect at (212) 750-5833.

Edgar Filing: MYERS INDUSTRIES INC - Form PREC14A

By Order of the Board of Directors,

GREGORY W. BRANNING

Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President

and Corporate Secretary

Akron, Ohio

March , 2013

THE 2012 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS ACCOMPANIES THIS NOTICE

1

Table of Contents

Matters Related to the Proxy Statement.

Meeting Time and Applicable Dates. This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors (the Board or Board of Directors) of Myers Industries, Inc., an Ohio corporation, of the accompanying proxy to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders (Annual Meeting) to be held on Friday, April 26, 2013, at 9:00 A.M. (local time), and at any adjournment thereof. The close of business on March 4, 2013, has been fixed as the record date for the determination of the shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

Participants in the Proxy Solicitation. This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Company, the current directors and the nominees for election as director to be used at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment thereof.

Outstanding Shares and Quorum. On the record date, Myers had outstanding 33,812,213 shares of common stock, without par value (Common Stock). Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote. For information concerning our Principal Shareholders see the section titled Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management below. In accordance with the Company s Amended and Restated Code of Regulations, the holders of shares of Common Stock entitling them to exercise a majority of the voting power of the Company, present in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for the Annual Meeting. Shares of Common Stock represented by signed proxies will be counted toward the establishment of a quorum on all matters even though they represent broker non-votes or they are signed but otherwise unmarked, or marked Abstain , Against or Withhold Authority.

Votes Required. With respect to Proposal No. 1, to elect the nine director candidates nominated by the Board, if a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, the nominees for election as directors who receive the greatest number of votes cast will be elected as directors. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of the election of directors. Proposal No. 2, to ratify the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm, is a non-binding proposal, but its approval requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Common Stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions will act as a vote Against Proposal No. 2, while broker non-votes, if any, will have no effect on Proposal No. 2. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee and the Board, in their discretion, may change the appointment at any time during the year if we determine that such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and our shareholders. Proposal No. 3 is a non-binding advisory vote to approve the Company s executive compensation, and its approval requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Common Stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions will act as a vote Against Proposal No. 3, while broker non-votes will have no effect on Proposal No. 3. Proposal No. 4, to approve the adoption of the Performance Bonus Plan, requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Common Stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions will act as a vote Against Proposal No. 4, while broker non-votes will have no effect on Proposal No. 4.

Proxy Instructions. All shares of Common Stock represented by properly executed proxies which are returned and not revoked will be voted in accordance with the instructions, if any, given therein. If no instructions are provided in a proxy, the shares of Common Stock represented by such proxy will be voted For the Board s nominees for director, For the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP, For the approval of the Company s executive compensation, For the approval of the Performance Bonus Plan, and in accordance with the proxy-holder s best judgment as to other matters, if any, which may be properly raised at the Annual Meeting.

Table of Contents

Proxy Voting. If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, then you are a shareholder of record with respect to those shares and you may either vote in person at the Annual Meeting or by using the enclosed white proxy card to vote by telephone, by internet, or by signing, dating and returning the white proxy card in the envelope provided. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting in person, you should submit your white proxy card as soon as possible. If your shares are held in street name through a broker, bank or other nominee, then you must instruct them to vote on your behalf, otherwise your shares cannot be voted at the Annual Meeting. You should follow the directions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee regarding how to instruct such party to vote. If you have any questions or need assistance in voting your shares, please contact our proxy solicitor, Innisfree M&A Incorporated, at the address and phone numbers below.

INNISFREE M&A INCORPORATED

501 MADISON AVENUE, 20TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, NY 10022

SHAREHOLDERS CALL TOLL FREE: (888) 750-5834

BANKS AND BROKERS MAY CALL COLLECT: (212) 750-5833

Proxy Revocation and Voting in Person. A shareholder who has given a proxy may revoke it at any time prior to its exercise by: (1) giving written notice of such revocation to the Corporate Secretary of the Company, (2) executing and delivering to the Corporate Secretary of the Company a later dated proxy reflecting contrary instructions, or (3) appearing at the Annual Meeting and taking appropriate steps to vote in person.

Voting Confidentiality. Proxies, ballots and voting tabulations are handled on a confidential basis to protect your voting privacy. This information will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Inspector of Election. The inspector of election for the Annual Meeting shall determine the number of votes cast by holders of Common Stock for all matters. The Board will appoint an inspector of election to serve at the Annual Meeting. Preliminary voting results will be announced at the Annual Meeting, if practicable. Final voting results will be filed on a Current Report on Form 8-K, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC).

Address of Company. The mailing address of the principal executive offices of the Company is 1293 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301.

Mailing Date. This Proxy Statement, together with the related proxy card and our 2012 Annual Report to Shareholders, is being mailed to our shareholders on or about March 1, 2013.

Trademark. Myers Industries, Inc.[®] is a registered trademark of the Company.

Availability on the Internet. This Proxy Statement and the Company's 2012 Annual Report to Shareholders are available on Myers' website at www.myersindustries.com/investor-relations/annual-reports-proxy-statements.aspx.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL NO. 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Nominees. Set forth below for each nominee for election as a director is a brief statement, including the age, principal occupation and business experience for at least the past five years, and any directorships held with public companies.

The members of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of the Board (Governance Committee) have recommended, and the independent members of the Board of Directors have nominated, the persons listed below as nominees for the Board of Directors, all of whom presently are directors of the Company.

The Governance Committee reviews and evaluates individuals for nomination to stand for election as a director who are recommended to the Governance Committee in writing by any of our shareholders pursuant to the procedure outlined below in the section titled Shareholder Nominations of Director Candidates on the same basis as candidates who are suggested by our current or past directors, executive officers, or other sources, which may, from time-to-time, include professional search firms retained by the Governance Committee. In March 2011, the Governance Committee adopted Board Member Recruiting Guidelines that outline the process for the Governance Committee to recruit and evaluate potential director candidates. These guidelines are available on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page of the Company s website at www.myersind.com. In considering these potential candidates for nomination to stand for election, the Governance Committee will consider: (1) the current composition of the Board and how it functions as a group; (2) the talents, personalities, strengths, and weaknesses of current directors; (3) the value of contributions made by individual directors; (4) the need for a person with specific skills, experiences or background to be added to the Board; (5) any anticipated vacancies due to retirement or other reasons; and (6) other factors which may enter into the nomination decision. The Governance Committee endeavors to select nominees that contribute unique skills and professional experiences in order to advance the performance of the Board of Directors and establish a well rounded Board with diverse views that reflect the interests of our shareholders. The Governance Committee considers diversity as one of a number of factors in identifying nominees for directors, however, there is no formal policy in this regard. The Governance Committee views diversity broadly to include diversity of experience, skills and viewpoint, in addition to traditional concepts of diversity such as race and gender.

When considering an individual candidate s suitability for the Board, the Governance Committee will evaluate each individual on a case-by-case basis. The Governance Committee does not prescribe minimum qualifications or standards for directors, however, the Governance Committee looks for directors who have personal characteristics, educational backgrounds and relevant experience that would be expected to help further the goals of both the Board and the Company. In addition, the Governance Committee will review the extent of the candidate s demonstrated excellence and success in his or her chosen business, profession, or other career and the skills and talents that the candidate would be expected to add to the Board. The Governance Committee may choose, in individual cases, to conduct interviews with the candidate and/or contact references, business associates, other members of boards on which the candidate serves or other appropriate persons to obtain additional information. The Governance Committee will make its determinations on whether to nominate an individual candidate based on the Board s then-current needs, the merits of that candidate and the qualifications of other available candidates. The Governance Committee believes that each of the nominees possess certain key attributes that the Governance Committee believes to be important for an effective Board.

Each of the below nominees has consented (i) to serve as a nominee, (ii) to being named as a nominee in this Proxy Statement and (iii) to serve as a director if elected. If any nominee should become unavailable for any reason, it is intended that votes will be cast for a substitute nominee designated by the Board. There is no reason to believe that the nominees named will be unable to serve if elected. Proxies cannot be voted for a greater number of nominees than the number named in this Proxy Statement.

Table of Contents

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THE ELECTION OF THESE NOMINEES

| Name | Age | Principal Occupation for Past Five Years and Other Information |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| Vincent C. Byrd | 58 | <p>President and Chief Operating Officer, The J. M. Smucker Company (J. M. Smucker) (NYSE), Orrville, Ohio, a manufacturer and marketer of branded food products; Director of J. M. Smucker; Director of Dick's Sporting Goods, Inc. (NYSE), Coraopolis, Pennsylvania, a sporting goods retailer; formerly President, U.S. Retail, Coffee, of J. M. Smucker; former Director of Spangler Candy Company, Bryan, Ohio, a manufacturer of confectionery products. Served as Director of Myers since 2006.</p> <p>By virtue of his more than 36 years of work experience with a Fortune 500 company in the consumer packaged goods industry and over ten years of experience serving on the board of directors of The J. M. Smucker Company, Mr. Byrd brings to the Board key insights into the strategic, marketing, and operational requirements of a public company. In addition, Mr. Byrd's international experience and finance and accounting background provides valuable business acumen and financial skills to the Board.</p> |
| Sarah R. Coffin | 61 | <p>Former Chief Executive Officer of Aspen Growth Strategies, LLC, Wooster, Ohio, an investment company; former Director and Chair of the Compensation Committee of SPX Corporation (NYSE), Charlotte, North Carolina, a global industrial equipment and manufacturing company; former Director of Huttenes-Albertus International, Chicago, Illinois, an international manufacturer of chemical products for the foundry industry. Served as Executive Vice President, Hexion Specialty Chemicals (now Momentive) and Senior Vice President, Noveon, Inc. (now Lubrizol), both specialty chemical and polymer producers in the industrial market space. Served as Director of Myers since 2010.</p> <p>As a former division and global leader in several companies, Ms. Coffin has substantial senior level executive experience in marketing, distribution and operations, and adds a unique perspective to the Board. Her background in the polymer and specialty chemicals industry, coupled with her knowledge and insight from her prior service on the boards of other companies, allows Ms. Coffin to provide valuable contributions to the Board.</p> |
| John B. Crowe | 66 | <p>Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Buckeye Technologies Inc. (NYSE), Memphis, Tennessee, a producer of absorbent products, chemical cellulose products and customized paper. Formerly, Mr. Crowe served as Buckeye Technologies Inc.'s President and Chief Operating Officer and has been a Director of that company since 2003. He has held executive positions as Executive Vice President and General Manager at Alabama River Pulp Co., Inc. and Alabama Pine Pulp Co., Inc. and as Vice President of the Flint River Operations for the Weyerhaeuser Co. Served as a Director of Myers since 2009.</p> <p>As Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Buckeye Technologies Inc., Mr. Crowe brings valuable insight and international experience into the operational requirements, investor relations and strategic planning processes of a public company. Mr. Crowe provides significant experience in manufacturing, sales, implementation of growth strategies, and building organizational capability. In addition, Mr. Crowe draws on his</p> |

Table of Contents

| Name | Age | Principal Occupation for Past Five Years and Other Information |
|------------------------|-----|--|
| William A. Foley | 65 | <p>considerable leadership experience, including his service as a United States Air Force Reserve Lt. Colonel and as a Vietnam veteran, in his service to the Board.</p> <p>Chairman of the Board of Directors of Libbey Inc. (NYSE), Toledo, Ohio, a producer of consumer and industrial glassware. Retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Blonder Home Accents, Cleveland, Ohio, a distributor of wallcoverings and home accents; Formerly Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Thinkwell Incorporated, Cleveland, Ohio, President of Arhaus Incorporated, Cleveland, Ohio, a private brand name furniture company, and Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Lesco Incorporated, Cleveland, Ohio, a manufacturer, distributor and retailer of professional lawn care and golf course management products. Served as Director of Myers since 2011.</p> |
| Robert B. Heisler, Jr. | 64 | <p>As a leader of numerous companies, Mr. Foley has over 30 years of senior management experience, both domestic and international. He has wide-ranging acquisition, joint venture, business and market development experience. Extensive experience in wide scale plastics manufacturing as well as consumer and distribution segments of the lawn and garden industry provides broad input in product areas germane to Myers reporting segments. Mr. Foley's experience with best practices on public company boards, particularly in governance, compensation and leadership make him a valuable member of the Board.</p> <p>Retired dean of the Kent State University Business School; Director of FirstEnergy Corp. (NYSE), Akron, Ohio, an energy company; Director of TFS Financial Corporation (NASDAQ), Cleveland, Ohio, a retail consumer banking services company. Formerly Chief Financial Officer of Kent State University and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of KeyBank, N.A. (NYSE) and McDonald Financial Group; Former Director of KeyBank, N.A. and McDonald Investments. Served as Director of Myers since 2011.</p> |
| Richard P. Johnston | 82 | <p>Mr. Heisler has over 40 years of business experience. His decades of experience on the board of directors of other public companies and numerous non-profit organizations, including serving on the Compensation Committee and Audit Committee of FirstEnergy and as Chair of the Risk Committee of TFS Financial Corporation, enable him to be an engaged member of the Myers Board. Mr. Heisler also serves as an advisor to the Board of Directors of the J. M. Smucker Company. Mr. Heisler brings vast leadership and financial management experience that permits him to be a successful contributor to the Board.</p> <p>A retired Ohio Certified Public Accountant; Chairman of the Board of Private Equity Group, Jackson, Wyoming; Chairman of the Board of Dismal River Golf Club, Mullen, Nebraska; Director of Jackson Hole Capital Partners, Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Director of Results Radio, Inc., Sonoma, California; a Founder and former Director of AGCO, Inc. (NYSE), Duluth, Georgia, a manufacturer and distributor of agricultural equipment; formerly a Director of Communications Properties (NASDAQ), Austin, Texas, a cable television company; formerly a Director of Royal Precision, Torrington, Connecticut, a manufacturer of golf club components; formerly a Director of Republic Realty Mortgage Co., Chicago, Illinois, a commercial mortgage company. Served as Director of Myers since 1992 and is currently Chairman of the Board of Myers.</p> |

Table of Contents

| Name | Age | Principal Occupation for Past Five Years and Other Information |
|--------------------|-----|--|
| Edward W. Kissel | 71 | <p>With his many years of management experience and service on the board of directors with a number of public companies in a wide range of businesses, Mr. Johnston brings critical financial and investor experiences and insight regarding best practices for a public company. In addition, over 20 years of experience as a Director of Myers gives him a deep understanding of the Company and its operations and makes him particularly qualified to serve as Chairman of the Board.</p> <p>President and Managing Partner of Kissel Group Ltd., Akron, Ohio, a holding company with interests in property, consulting and mold manufacturing; Director of Smithers Scientific Services, Inc., Akron, Ohio, a provider of testing services for materials; formerly President, Chief Operating Officer and Director of OM Group, Inc. (NYSE), Cleveland, Ohio, a specialty chemical company; formerly Director of Weda Bay Minerals, Inc. (Toronto Stock Exchange), Toronto, Canada, a mineral exploration company; formerly Managing Director of Kane & Co., Los Angeles, California, an investment banking firm. Served as Director of Myers since 2000.</p> <p>Mr. Kissel has broad global experience in the manufacturing, chemical and commodity industries. He has had executive assignments in strategy, operations, sales and marketing, and research and development, including both growth and turnaround situations that include divestitures and acquisitions. Extensive consulting for Myers in operations and strategy prior to joining the Board, combined with current business involvement in markets served by Myers, position Mr. Kissel to give the Board and management knowledgeable perspectives on Board issues impacting shareholder value. Mr. Kissel actively serves the Board as a member of the Audit Committee and Chairman of the Governance and Nominating Committee.</p> |
| John C. Orr | 62 | <p>President and Chief Executive Officer of Myers; formerly President and Chief Operating Officer of Myers; formerly General Manager of Buckhorn, Inc., a subsidiary of Myers; formerly Vice President of Manufacturing North American Tire Division, The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company; Director of Libbey Inc. (NYSE), Toledo, Ohio, a producer of consumer and industrial glassware; Director of the Akron General Health System, Akron, Ohio. Served as Director of Myers since 2005.</p> <p>Mr. Orr's extensive leadership experience in the manufacturing industry, in addition to his years of service to Myers in management, position him well to serve on the Board. His service as a director for other companies provides Mr. Orr with a variety of perspectives that he contributes to the Board.</p> |
| Robert A. Stefanko | 70 | <p>Currently retired, formerly Chairman of the Board and Executive Vice President of Finance & Administration of A. Schulman, Inc. (NASDAQ), Akron, Ohio, an international supplier of plastic compounds and resins; Director and member of Audit Committee of OMNOVA Solutions, Inc. (NYSE), Fairlawn, Ohio, an innovator of emulsion polymers, specialty chemicals and decorative and functional surfaces; former director of The Davey Tree Expert Company, Kent, Ohio, a tree, shrub and lawn care company. Served as Director of Myers since 2007.</p> |

Table of Contents

| Name | Age | Principal Occupation for Past Five Years and Other Information |
|------|-----|---|
| | | As a former Chief Financial Officer and director of A. Schulman, Inc. from 1979 through 2006 and as a director of other public company boards, Mr. Stefanko has extensive involvement in public company matters, including international, compensation, audit, financial, legal, risk management, acquisitions, and various other matters. Mr. Stefanko also serves on the Board of Akron General Health System, which employs over 5,000 people, where he is a member of the Finance Committee. In addition, Mr. Stefanko's extensive experience with boards and compensation and audit committees gives him valuable knowledge and insight that he brings to the Company. |

Each of the foregoing nominees was recommended by the Governance Committee. There are, and during the past ten years there have been, no legal proceedings material to an evaluation of the ability of any director, nominee, or executive officer of Myers to act in such capacity or concerning his integrity. There are no family relationships among any of the directors and executive officers.

The Board recommends that you vote FOR each of the director nominees listed above.

Notice of Other Possible Nominees. On February 21, 2013, Gamco Asset Management, Inc., a New York corporation (Gamco), amended its Schedule 13D relating to the Company to disclose that Gamco had sent a letter to the Company recommending one individual, Daniel R. Lee, for nomination for election as director of the Company at the Annual Meeting. On February 22, 2013, Gamco further amended its Schedule 13D relating to the Company to disclose that Gamco had sent a letter to the Company to provide additional information regarding Mr. Lee (the Letter).

According to the information provided by Gamco in the Letter, for which the Company disclaims any responsibility, it is the beneficial owner of 3,666,589 shares of our Common Stock as of February 21, 2013. However, according to Gamco's most recent Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on February 22, 2013, for which the Company disclaims any responsibility, it is part of a group of stockholders that together beneficially owned 5,301,400 shares of our Common Stock as of February 22, 2013. In the Letter, Gamco indicated that it intends to be present at the Annual Meeting in person or by proxy to nominate Mr. Lee to serve as director of the Company.

Our Board recommends that you vote FOR each of Vincent C. Byrd, Sarah R. Coffin, John B. Crowe, William A. Foley, Robert B. Heisler, Jr., Richard P. Johnston, Edward W. Kissel, John C. Orr, and Robert A. Stefanko by executing and returning the white proxy card or voting by one of the other ways indicated thereon. Proxies solicited by the Company will be so voted unless shareholders specify otherwise.

Director Independence. The Board has determined that each of the following current directors and nominees are independent and that each of these nominees has no material relationship with us that would impact their independence: Vincent C. Byrd, Sarah R. Coffin, John B. Crowe, William A. Foley, Robert B. Heisler, Jr., Richard P. Johnston, Edward W. Kissel, and Robert A. Stefanko. The determination of whether a director is independent is based upon the Board's review of the relationships between each director and the Company, if any, under the Company's Board of Directors Independence Criteria policy adopted by the Board on April 20, 2004, as amended, and the corporate governance listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). In connection with the Board's determination regarding the independence of each non-management director, the Board considered any transactions, relationships and arrangements as required by our independence guidelines. In particular, the Board considered the following relationships: (1) the relationship between A. Schulman, Inc. (A. Schulman) and the Company in connection with its independence determination of Robert A. Stefanko and concluded Mr. Stefanko met the independence requirement; and (2) the relationship between FirstEnergy Corp. (FirstEnergy) and the Company in connection with its independence determination of Robert B. Heisler, Jr. and concluded Mr. Heisler met the independence requirement. Mr. Stefanko is a stockholder of A. Schulman, holding less than 1% of A. Schulman's

Table of Contents

shares of stock. In fiscal 2012, the Company purchased \$212,700 of materials from A. Schulman during the ordinary course of operations, which is less than 1% of the annual revenues of both companies. Mr. Heisler is a shareholder and director of FirstEnergy, holding less than 1% of FirstEnergy's shares of stock. In fiscal 2012, we purchased \$4,502,000 of materials from FirstEnergy during the ordinary course of operations, which is less than 1% of the annual revenues of both companies. All members of the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Governance Committee were determined to be independent, and in addition, the Board determined that the members of the Audit Committee are also independent as defined in the SEC regulations.

Committees of the Board. The Board has three standing committees, the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Governance Committee, whose members were appointed in April 2012 following the Annual Meeting.

Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is currently comprised of four independent directors, Robert A. Stefanko (Chairman and Presiding Director), Edward W. Kissel, Sarah R. Coffin, and Robert B. Heisler, Jr. The functions of the Audit Committee, which met eight times in 2012, are to: (1) engage the independent registered public accounting firm, (2) approve all audit and related engagements (audit and non-audit), (3) review the results of the audit and interim reviews, (4) evaluate the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm, (5) review with the independent registered public accounting firm the financial results of the Company prior to their public release and filing of reports with the SEC, (6) direct and supervise special investigations and (7) oversee our accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters reporting hotline (discussed below) and our corporate compliance program. The Audit Committee also has oversight of our system of internal auditing functions and controls, as well as our internal control procedures. None of our Audit Committee members serve on more than two other public company audit committees.

The Board has identified Robert A. Stefanko as the Audit Committee financial expert.

Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee establishes and administers the Company's policies, programs and procedures for compensating its executive officers and directors. The Compensation Committee has the authority to retain outside consultants regarding executive compensation and other matters. The Compensation Committee, which met five times in 2012, is currently comprised of four independent directors, Vincent C. Byrd (Chairman and Presiding Director), Robert A. Stefanko, John B. Crowe, and Sarah R. Coffin.

Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. The Governance Committee is responsible for, among other things, evaluating new director candidates and incumbent directors, and recommending nominees to serve on the Board as well as members of the Board's committees to the independent directors of the Board. The Governance Committee is also responsible for recommending and monitoring participation in continuing education programs by the members of the Board. The Governance Committee, which met six times in 2012, is currently comprised of three independent directors, Edward W. Kissel (Chairman and Presiding Director), John B. Crowe, and William A. Foley.

Committee Charters and Policies. The Board has adopted written charters for the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Governance Committee. Each Committee reviews and evaluates the adequacy of its charter at least annually and recommends any proposed changes to the Board for approval. Each of the written charters and policies of the Committees of the Board are available on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page of the Company's website at www.myersind.com.

Board Role in Risk Oversight. The Board annually reviews the Company's strategic plan, which addresses, among other things, the risks and opportunities facing the Company. The Board also has overall responsibility for executive officer succession planning and reviews succession plans each year. Certain areas of oversight are delegated to the relevant Committees of the Board and the Committees regularly report back on their deliberations. This oversight is enabled by reporting processes that are designed to provide visibility to the Board about the identification, assessment, monitoring and management of enterprise-wide risks. In July 2012, management conducted its most recent enterprise-

Table of Contents

wide risk assessment of the Company and each of its business segments and presented the assessment results to the Board for review. The focus of this assessment included a review of strategic, financial, operational, compliance and technology objectives and risks for the Company. In addition, on an ongoing basis: (a) the Audit Committee maintains primary responsibility for oversight of risks and exposures pertaining to the accounting, auditing and financial reporting processes of the Company; (b) the Compensation Committee maintains primary responsibility for risks and exposures associated with oversight of the administration and implementation of our compensation policies; and (c) the Governance Committee maintains primary responsibility for risks and exposures associated with corporate governance and succession planning.

Board Attendance. There were a total of six regularly scheduled and special meetings of the Board of Directors in 2012. During 2012, all directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate total number of the meetings of the Board and Committees on which they served. In 2012, all of our directors attended our Annual Meeting. Although we do not have a formal policy requiring directors to attend the Annual Meeting, our directors are encouraged to attend.

Interested Parties Communications with the Board of Directors. Our Board provides the following methods for interested parties and shareholders to send communications to a director, to a Committee of the Board, to the non-management directors, or to the Board:

Written Communication. Interested parties may send such communications by mail or courier delivery addressed as follows: Board of Directors (or Committee Chairman, Board Member or Non-Management Directors, as the case may be), c/o Gregory W. Branning, Corporate Secretary, Myers Industries, Inc., 1293 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301. All communications directed to the Board of Directors or to the Non-Management Directors will be forwarded unopened to the Chairman of the Governance Committee. The Chairman of the Governance Committee in turn determines whether the communications should be forwarded to the appropriate members of the Board and, if so, forwards them accordingly. For communications addressed to a particular director or the Chairman of a particular Committee of the Board, however, the Corporate Secretary will forward those communications, unopened, directly to the person or Committee Chairman in question.

Toll Free Hotline. In 2003, the Audit Committee established a hotline for receiving, retaining and treating complaints from any interested party regarding accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters, and procedures for the anonymous submission of these concerns. The hotline is maintained by a company which is independent of Myers. Interested parties may also use this hotline to communicate with the Board. Any interested party may contact a director, a Committee of the Board, the non-management directors, or the Board through the toll free hotline at (877) 285-4145. The hotline is available worldwide, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Note that all reports made through the hotline are directed to either or both the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Corporate Secretary. We do not permit any retaliation of any kind against any person who submits a complaint or concern under these procedures.

Shareholder Nominations of Director Candidates.

Shareholder Recommendation Policy. The Governance Committee will consider individuals for nomination to stand for election as a director who are recommended to it in writing by any of our shareholders that strictly follow the procedures outlined in the next paragraph below and that send a signed letter of recommendation to the following address: Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, c/o Mr. Gregory W. Branning, Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Corporate Secretary, Myers Industries, Inc., 1293 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301.

Recommendation letters must certify that the person making the recommendation is a shareholder of the Company (including the number of shares held as of the date of the recommendation), and further state the reasons for the recommendation, the full name and address of the proposed nominee as well as a biographical history setting forth past and present directorships, employment, occupations and civic activities for at least the past five years. Any such recommendation should be accompanied by a

Table of Contents

signed written statement from the proposed nominee consenting to be named as a candidate and, if nominated and elected, consenting to serve as a director. The letter must also include a signed written statement that the nominating shareholder and the candidate will make available to the Governance Committee all information reasonably requested in furtherance of the Governance Committee's evaluation. The letter must be received before the close of business on or before November 15th of the year prior to our next annual meeting of shareholders.

The Governance Committee reviews and evaluates individuals for nomination to stand for election as a director who are recommended to the Governance Committee in writing by any of our shareholders pursuant to the procedures outlined in the paragraph above on the same basis as candidates who are suggested by our current or past directors, executive officers, or other sources, which may, from time-to-time, include professional search firms retained by the Governance Committee. In considering individuals for nomination to stand for election, the Governance Committee will consider: (1) the current composition of the Board of Directors and how it functions as a group; (2) the talents, personalities, strengths, and weaknesses of current directors; (3) the value of contributions made by individual directors; (4) the need for a person with specific skills, experiences or background to be added to the Board; (5) any anticipated vacancies due to retirement or other reasons; and (6) other factors which may enter into the nomination decision.

When considering an individual candidate's suitability for the Board, the Governance Committee will evaluate each individual on a case-by-case basis. The Governance Committee does not prescribe minimum qualifications or standards for directors, however, the Governance Committee looks for directors who have personal characteristics, educational backgrounds and relevant experience that would be expected to help further the goals of both the Board and the Company. In addition, the Governance Committee will review the extent of the candidate's demonstrated excellence and success in his or her chosen business, profession, or other career and the skills and talents that the candidate would be expected to add to the Board. The Governance Committee may choose, in individual cases, to conduct interviews with the candidate and/or contact references, business associates, other members of boards on which the candidate serves or other appropriate persons to obtain additional information. The Governance Committee will make its determinations on whether to nominate an individual candidate based on the Board's then-current needs, the merits of that candidate and the qualifications of other available candidates.

Shareholder Nomination Policy. In accordance with our Amended and Restated Code of Regulations, a shareholder may directly nominate a candidate for election as a director of the Company only if written notice of such intention is received by the Corporate Secretary not less than sixty (60) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of such annual meeting of shareholders or special meeting of shareholders for the election of directors. In the event that the date of such meeting to elect directors is not publicly disclosed at least seventy (70) days prior to the date of such meeting, written notice of such shareholder's intent to nominate a candidate must be received by the Corporate Secretary not later than the close of business on the tenth (10th) day following the date on which notice of such meeting is first provided to the shareholders. A shareholder wishing to directly nominate an individual to serve as a director must follow the procedure outlined in Article I, Section 12 of our Amended and Restated Code of Regulations, titled "Advance Notice of Director Nomination" and then send a signed letter of nomination to the following address: Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, c/o Mr. Gregory W. Branning, Corporate Secretary, Myers Industries, Inc., 1293 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44301.

On February 21, 2013, Gamco amended its Schedule 13D relating to the Company to disclose that Gamco had sent a letter to the Company recommending one individual, Daniel R. Lee, for nomination for election as director of the Company at the Annual Meeting. On February 22, 2013, Gamco further amended its Schedule 13D relating to the Company to disclose that Gamco had sent a letter to the Company to provide additional information regarding Mr. Lee. Gamco indicated that it intends to be present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting to nominate Mr. Lee.

Table of Contents

Corporate Governance Policies.

Implementation. The Board of Directors has implemented the corporate governance initiatives required by the NYSE rules and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. These initiatives include, among others, Corporate Governance Guidelines, a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for the Company's directors, officers and employees, as well as a Code of Ethical Conduct for the Finance Officers and Finance Department Personnel. These corporate governance policies and procedures are discussed in various places within this Proxy Statement. In March 2011, the Board incorporated a director resignation policy into its Corporate Governance Guidelines. Pursuant to this director resignation policy, in an uncontested election, any incumbent director who receives a greater number of votes Withheld or Against his or her election than votes For his or her election (and with respect to such incumbent director's election at least 25% of the Company's shares outstanding and entitled to vote thereon were Withheld or voted Against the election of such director) shall submit an offer of resignation to the Board of Directors. The Governance Committee will then recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject any tendered resignations, and the Board will decide whether to accept or reject such tendered resignations. The Board's decision will be publicly disclosed in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC. If an incumbent director's tendered resignation is rejected, then he or she will continue to serve until his or her successor is elected, or until his or her earlier resignation, removal from office, or death. If an incumbent director's tendered resignation is accepted, then the Board will have the sole discretion to fill any resulting vacancy to the extent permitted by the Company's Amended and Restated Code of Regulations.

Availability of Corporate Governance Policies. Each of our corporate governance policies is available on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page of our website at www.myersind.com.

Code of Ethics. We have a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and a Code of Ethical Conduct for the Finance Officers and Finance Department Personnel, which embody our commitment to ethical and legal business practices, as well as satisfying the NYSE requirements to implement and maintain such policies. The Board expects all of our officers, directors and other members of our workforce to act ethically at all times. Both of these policies are available on our website at www.myersind.com on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page.

Stock Ownership Guidelines. In 2010, we implemented Stock Ownership Guidelines whereby our executive officers and non-employee directors are expected to hold a specified amount of our Common Stock. The Chief Executive Officer is expected to hold an investment position in our Common Stock equal to five times his annual base salary. The Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer are both expected to hold an investment position equal to three times their respective annual base salaries. The non-employee Directors are expected to hold five times their annual cash Board retainer in our Common Stock. The executive officers and non-employee directors have five years from the effective date of the guidelines to attain the ownership requirement. These Stock Ownership Guidelines are available on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page of the Company's website at www.myersind.com.

Board Member Recruiting Guidelines. In March 2011, the Governance Committee adopted Board Member Recruiting Guidelines that outline the process for existing Board members to nominate potential director candidates to the Governance Committee. These recruiting guidelines are available on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page of the Company's website at www.myersind.com.

Executive Sessions of the Board. Effective in December 2002, the Board adopted a policy requiring the non-management directors, both as to the Board and in their respective Committees, to meet regularly in executive session without any management personnel or employee directors present. During 2012, the Board and each Committee met regularly in executive session as follows: Board, five times; Audit Committee, eight times; Compensation Committee, three times; and the Governance Committee, five times.

Table of Contents

Independent Chairman. Effective in October 2009, the Board appointed Richard P. Johnston independent Chairman of the Board. The Company believes this leadership structure is appropriate for the Company as it further aligns the interests of the Company and our shareholders by ensuring independent leadership of the Board. The independent Chairman serves as a liaison between our directors and our management and helps to maintain open communication and discussion by the Board. Duties of the Chairman are specified in the Charter of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, adopted October 28, 2009, and include serving in a presiding capacity, coordinating the activities of the Board, and such other duties and responsibilities as the Board may determine from time-to-time. This charter is available on our website at www.myersind.com on the Corporate Governance page accessed from the Investor Relations page.

Presiding Directors. The independent directors reported that in 2012 they selected Presiding Directors to preside during executive sessions. The Chairman of the Governance Committee acts as the Presiding Director for the executive sessions of the Board, and the Chairman of each Committee was selected as the Presiding Director for the executive sessions of the applicable Committee of the Board.

Anonymous Reporting. The Audit Committee maintains procedures, including a worldwide telephone hotline, which allows employees and interested parties to report any financial or other concerns anonymously as further detailed under Interested Parties Communications with the Board of Directors above.

Annual Board and Committee Self-Assessments. In 2004, the Board, through the Governance Committee, instituted annual self-assessments of the Board, as well as of the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Governance Committee, to assist in determining whether the Board and its Committees are functioning effectively. In early 2012, the Board and each of its Committees conducted the most recent self-evaluations and discussed the results of the self-evaluations.

NYSE and SEC Certifications. In 2012, we submitted to the NYSE an unqualified Section 12(a) certification by our Chief Executive Officer. Further, each applicable filing with the SEC contained the Section 302 and 906 Certifications of both our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

Director Compensation. The annual retainer for non-employee directors is \$40,000. In addition, Committee members receive \$10,000 per year per Committee of the Board. The Chairman of the Audit Committee and Chairman of the Compensation Committee each receive an additional \$8,000 per year. The Chairman of the Governance Committee receives an additional \$4,000 per year. The Chairman of the Board receives an additional annual retainer of \$20,000. Directors who are employees of the Company do not receive the annual retainer.

Under our 2008 Incentive Stock Plan, each non-employee director who holds such position on the date of the annual meeting of the shareholders and has been a director for the entire period since the annual meeting of shareholders of Myers that was held in the immediately preceding calendar year will be awarded annually, on the date of the annual meeting of shareholders, shares of our Common Stock valued at \$60,000 on such date. Prior to May 2012, each non-employee director who held such position on the date of the annual meeting of the shareholders and had been a director for the entire period since the annual meeting of shareholders of Myers that was held in the immediately preceding calendar year was awarded annually, on the date of the annual meeting of shareholders, 3,000 shares of Common Stock.

Our Amended and Restated Code of Regulations provides that we will indemnify, to the fullest extent then permitted by law, any of our directors or former directors who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any matter, whether civil or criminal, by reason of the fact that the individual is or was a director of the Company, or serving at our request as a director of another entity. We have entered into indemnity agreements with each of our directors contractually obligating us to provide such protection. We also currently have in effect director and officer insurance coverage.

Table of Contents

The following table shows the compensation paid to each of the non-employee directors during fiscal 2012. Mr. Orr, who is our President and Chief Executive Officer, does not receive any additional compensation for his services as a director.

**NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION TABLE
FOR FISCAL 2012**

| Name | Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$) | Stock Awards (\$) ⁽⁴⁾ | Option Awards (\$) ⁽⁵⁾ | Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$) | Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$) | All Other Compensation (\$) | Total (\$) |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Vincent C. Byrd ⁽¹⁾ | 56,000 | 50,130 | | | | | 106,130 |
| Sarah R. Coffin | 58,750 | 50,130 | | | | | 108,880 |
| John B. Crowe | 58,750 | 50,130 | | | | | 108,880 |
| William A. Foley | 46,250 | 50,130 | | | | | 96,380 |
| Robert B. Heisler, Jr. | 45,250 | 50,130 | | | | | 95,380 |
| Richard P. Johnston | 88,750 | 50,130 | | | | 25,549 ⁽⁶⁾ | 164,429 |
| Edward W. Kissel ⁽²⁾ | 62,750 | 50,130 | | | | | 112,880 |
| Robert A. Stefanko ⁽³⁾ | 66,750 | 50,130 | | | | | 116,880 |

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Byrd served as the Chairman and Presiding Director of the Compensation Committee.

⁽²⁾ Mr. Kissel served as the Chairman and Presiding Director of the Governance Committee.

⁽³⁾ Mr. Stefanko served as the Chairman and Presiding Director of the Audit Committee.

⁽⁴⁾ Stock Award amounts shown in this Non-Employee Director Compensation Table do not reflect compensation actually received by the directors. The amounts shown reflect the fair market value of 3,000 shares of common stock awarded to the non-employee directors on April 27, 2012.

⁽⁵⁾ No stock option awards were provided to the non-employee directors in 2012. The number of stock options held by the directors at December 31, 2012 was as follows: Mr. Byrd (0), Ms. Coffin (0), Mr. Crowe (0), Mr. Foley (0), Mr. Heisler (0), Mr. Johnston (2,500), Mr. Kissel (7,750), and Mr. Stefanko (0).

⁽⁶⁾ The amount of \$25,549 for Mr. Johnston reflects an annual pension benefit that he is entitled to under the terms of an employment agreement with our subsidiary Buckhorn Inc. He resigned as an employee in 1990. The pension benefits commenced under the employment agreement following his resignation.

Risk Assessment of Compensation Practices. In establishing compensation policies and practices for all of our employees, we utilize a balanced mix of salary, bonus and, in some cases, equity-based compensation that supports the enhancement of revenue, earnings and cash performance of the Company for our shareholders without creating undue risk. Under our long term incentive program adopted in 2010 (the LTIP), we utilize a blend of stock options, service-based awards and performance-based awards with a greater emphasis on performance-based awards than service-based awards that we believe will further align the interests of our employees with those of our shareholders. Our risk oversight and overall compensation structure has features that guard against excessive risk taking, including:

Our Board's and its Committees' role in risk oversight, including internal control over financial reporting and other strategic, financial, operational, compliance and technology policies and practices (see the section titled "Board's Role in Risk Oversight" above for a complete

description);

Diversified nature of our business segments with respect to industries and markets served, products and services sold, and geographic footprint;

Establishment and annual review of base salaries to be consistent with an employee's responsibilities;

Determination and award of incentive awards based on a review of a variety of indicators of performance that diversifies the risks associated with any single indicator of performance;

Table of Contents

A mixture of fixed and variable, annual and long-term, and cash and equity compensation are provided to our employees to encourage strategy and actions that are in the long-term interests of the Company and our shareholders; and

Awards of incentive compensation with performance vesting criteria to reward employees for driving sustainable, profitable growth for shareholders.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND RELATED INFORMATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

Executive Summary:

Our executive pay program is managed by the Compensation Committee. The role of the Compensation Committee is to oversee our executive pay plans and policies, administer our stock plans and annually review and make recommendations to the Board for all pay decisions relating to our executives, including the Named Executive Officers (NEOs):

John C. Orr, President and Chief Executive Officer

David B. Knowles, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Greggory W. Branning, Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Corporate Secretary (effective September 1, 2012)

Donald A. Merrill, Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Corporate Secretary (through August 31, 2012)
Messrs. Orr, Knowles, and Branning are our only NEOs. Mr. Merrill was also a NEO during part of 2012.

As shareholders consider the effectiveness of our executive pay program for our NEOs in the most recent year and their support of our executive pay program, they should take into account the following:

The Company's financial position remains solid, with a strong balance sheet and financial liquidity to pursue strategic goals to enhance shareholder value. This is evidenced by an increase of 40% in our adjusted earnings per share from 2011 to 2012. Additionally, we had positive cash flow from operating activities of \$60.8 million in 2012.

Base salaries for the NEOs were subject to an increase of approximately 3%.

The Company targets total direct compensation at the median of the competitive market. An analysis of the total direct compensation (defined as base salary, target bonus opportunity, and long-term incentives) in 2012 indicated that total compensation is below the median of the market, primarily driven by below-market long-term incentives.

We continue to utilize a long-term incentive portfolio of options, service-based restricted stock and stock units, and long-term cash incentives tied to financial results to provide greater reward balance, more effectively manage share dilution and offer us greater flexibility to reward for long-term results.

Edgar Filing: MYERS INDUSTRIES INC - Form PREC14A

We have several pay practices and policies that are in the best interests of our shareholders, including modest perquisites, limited executive retirement benefits, and stock ownership guidelines.

In 2012, we eliminated employment contracts for our NEOs and replaced them with severance agreements to provide greater flexibility in managing executive severance benefits.

A review of our pay programs concluded they do not encourage excessive or unnecessary risk taking.

Table of Contents

Finally, we believe the pay actually earned by our Chief Executive Officer has been aligned with the Company's total shareholder return performance. The realized pay of our Chief Executive Officer (salary, actual bonuses, long-term performance cash earned, options exercised, stock vested, and all other compensation) and unrealized pay (the value of outstanding equity awards and in-cycle cash performance awards at target) aligned closely with total shareholder return.

Realized and Unrealized Compensation

| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total Value | \$3,544 | \$5,754 | \$9,196 |
| <i>Realized Compensation¹</i> | <i>\$1,872</i> | <i>\$1,772</i> | <i>\$2,897</i> |
| <i>Unrealized Compensation²</i> | <i>\$1,672</i> | <i>\$3,982</i> | <i>\$6,298</i> |
| Indexed TSR | 110 | 143 | 179 |
| <i>1-Year TSR</i> | <i>10.1%</i> | <i>30.0%</i> | <i>25.3%</i> |

¹ Includes salary, bonus, options exercised, stock vested, and all other compensation

² Includes outstanding equity awards and in-cycle long-term cash at target

Table of Contents

The remainder of this report provides details of each of these conclusions and examines our pay philosophy and objectives, the process used to set pay for 2012, the elements of pay awarded and other policies affecting our executive pay program.

Pay Philosophy and Practices.

Our success depends largely on the contributions of motivated, focused and energized executives all working to achieve our strategic objectives. The Compensation Committee and senior management, with assistance from our independent compensation advisors, develop competitive pay programs for our executives and we follow the basic tenets set forth below:

What We Do:

Pay for Performance

Reasonable Post-Employment/Change in Control Provisions

Double Trigger Change in Control Provisions

Modest Perquisites

Share Ownership Guidelines

Independent Compensation Advisors

What We Don't Do:

Enter into Employment Contracts

Offer Tax Gross-Ups

Reprice Underwater Options

Allow Cash Buyouts of Underwater Options

Permit Short Sales by Executive Officers or Directors

Process Used to Set Pay for 2012.

Interactions between multiple parties established our executive pay program for 2012:

Compensation Committee;

senior management;

independent compensation advisors; and

outside advisors, including legal counsel.

Role of Compensation Committee:

Four independent directors comprise our Compensation Committee, which is responsible for establishing and administering our compensation policies, programs and procedures. In dispensing its duties, the Compensation Committee may request information from senior management regarding the Company's performance, pay and programs to assist it in its actions. Moreover, the Compensation Committee has the authority to retain outside advisors as needed to assist it in reviewing the Company's programs, revising them and providing competitive pay levels. In arriving at its decision on executive compensation, the Compensation Committee takes into account the shareholder say-on-pay vote at the previous annual meeting of shareholders.

The Compensation Committee annually reviews and establishes the goals used for our incentive plans. In addition, it annually assesses the performance of the Company and the Chief Executive Officer. Based on this evaluation, the Compensation Committee then recommends the Chief Executive Officer's compensation for the next year to the Board for its consideration and approval. In addition, the

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee reviews the Chief Executive Officer's compensation recommendations for the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer, providing appropriate input and approving final awards. Finally, the Compensation Committee provides guidance and final approval to the Chief Executive Officer with regard to the determination of the compensation of other key executives.

Role of Senior Management:

The Company's management serves in an advisory or support capacity as the Compensation Committee carries out its charter. Typically, the Company's Chief Executive Officer participates in meetings of the Compensation Committee. The Company's other NEOs may participate as necessary or at the Compensation Committee's request. The NEOs normally provide the Compensation Committee with information regarding the Company's performance as well as information regarding executives who participate in the Company's various plans. Such data is usually focused on the executives' historical pay and benefit levels, plan costs, context for how programs have changed over time and input regarding particular management issues that need to be addressed. In addition, management normally furnishes similar information to the Compensation Committee's independent compensation advisors.

Management provides input regarding the recommendations made by outside advisors or the Compensation Committee. Management implements, communicates and administers the programs approved by the Compensation Committee, reporting back to it any questions, concerns or issues.

The Chief Executive Officer annually evaluates the performance of the Company and its other NEOs. Based on his evaluation, he provides the Compensation Committee with his recommendations regarding the pay for the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer for its consideration, input and approval. The Compensation Committee, in turn, authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to establish the pay for the Company's other executives based on terms consistent with those used to establish the pay of the NEOs. Members of management present at meetings when pay is discussed are recused from such discussions when the Compensation Committee focuses on their individual pay.

Role of Independent Compensation Advisors:

In 2012, the Compensation Committee engaged Pay Governance, LLC (Pay Governance) to assist the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee has the authority to retain Pay Governance or to engage other independent advisors and compensation consultants to assist in carrying out its responsibilities. Pay Governance's lead consultant reported directly to the Compensation Committee Chairman, who approved his work, and interacted with management as needed to complete the work requested by the Compensation Committee. Pay Governance did not provide other services to the Company during 2012 and received no compensation other than with respect to the services provided to the Compensation Committee.

To support the Compensation Committee in this effort, Pay Governance provided information regarding how other companies in the plastics, packaging/container and distribution industries compensate its senior executives. Companies selected for this analysis were proposed by Pay Governance, reviewed by management and the Compensation Committee, and ultimately approved by the Compensation Committee. Companies included in the analysis were located across the country and had median revenues of approximately \$975 million, indicative of our competitive market for executive talent and

Table of Contents

reasonably greater than our 2011 year-end sales of \$756 million. The peer group used for 2012 included the following companies:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. Schulman, Inc. | Lawson Products |
| AEP Industries Inc. | Multi-Color Corporation |
| American Biltrite Inc. | NN, Inc. |
| AptarGroup, Inc. | OMNOVA Solutions Inc. |
| Associated Materials LLC | Packaging Corporation of America |
| Boise Inc. | Park-Ohio Holdings Corp. |
| Crocs, Inc. | Tredegear Corporation |
| Dorman Products, Inc. | Trex Company, Inc. |
| Graham Packaging | Tupperware Brands Corporation |
| Kapstone Paper and Packaging | West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc. |

Constar International was eliminated from the peer group that was used in 2011 because it entered Chapter 11 bankruptcy in March 2011.

In addition, Pay Governance provided the Compensation Committee with data from compensation surveys that included hundreds of companies in a broader range of industries with revenues that are comparable to ours to support the information developed for the peer companies.

Based on this information, Pay Governance offered its recommendations for the NEOs' pay program for 2012 and presented them in meetings and conference calls with the Compensation Committee. Pay Governance also reviewed the Company's 2012 proxy statement.

Myers believes its practices are consistent with the practices for other companies of its size, reflects best practices regarding the governance of executive pay programs and reflects the executive pay program's objectives of delivering competitive and appropriate pay aligned with our shareholders' interests.

After interviewing several independent compensation advisors, the Compensation Committee engaged Exequity LLP in October 2012 to serve as the independent compensation advisor, replacing Pay Governance. The work of neither Pay Governance nor Exequity has raised any conflicts of interest.

Elements of Pay for 2012.

The basic elements of our compensation package include:

Base salary;

Annual bonus opportunities;

Long-term incentives in the form of cash, options, and restricted stock;

Retirement and other benefits generally available to all other Company employees; and

Modest executive perquisites.

Consistent with the objectives of our executive pay philosophy, we target total compensation to approximate the 50th percentile (or median) for executives in similar roles at companies of similar size and complexity. We believe targeting median pay levels is appropriate as it is sufficient to attract and retain key executives, but does not position our compensation costs out of line with other companies of similar size. Pay can vary from target levels to the degree the Company's performance or stock price increases or decreases, affecting the value our executives realize from Myers' annual bonus and long-term incentive awards.

Table of Contents

While we do not have a prescribed mix of pay, the following table indicates the percentage of each NEO's total target direct compensation that is attributable to base salary, target bonus, and long-term incentives (Mr. Donald A. Merrill is excluded because he was not a NEO for the entire year):

| Component of Pay | Mr. John C. Orr | Mr. David B. Knowles | Mr. Gregory W. Branning |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Salary | 28% | 34% | 38% |
| Target Bonus | 28% | 25% | 27% |
| Long-Term Incentives | 44% | 41% | 35% |

Relative to competitive market practices, this mix is generally weighted more heavily towards short-term incentives and less heavily towards long-term incentives.

Base Salaries:

Base salaries are the guaranteed part of our executives' pay. We pay base salaries to recognize the skills, competencies, experience, and individual performance an executive brings to his or her role. As a result, changes in base salary result primarily from changes in the executive's responsibilities, an assessment of their annual performance, and our financial ability to pay base salaries and provide increases to them.

Salaries for our executives are based on the scope of their responsibilities and their relevant background, training and experience. Data on compensation practices of companies similar to ours is also considered in setting base salaries. The Compensation Committee targets base salaries at approximately the 50th percentile, but also considers an individual's experience, performance, and external market conditions. Under the terms of our NEOs' severance agreements, their base salaries may not be materially decreased.

Based on external market conditions, company performance, and senior management's recommendations, the Compensation Committee decided to increase the base salaries for the NEOs by 3%. This positioned the base salaries at approximately the 50th percentile of the peer group for Messrs. Orr, Knowles, and Merrill. Mr. Branning's base salary ranks below the 50th percentile of the peer group as he is new to the CFO position.

Annual Bonuses:

In keeping with our policy of rewarding our executive officers for performance, executives, including our NEOs, were eligible to earn annual incentives under our annual incentive plan. Bonuses under the plan increase each executive's focus on specific short-term corporate operational goals. As a result, it balances the objectives of our other pay programs, which concentrate on individual performance (base salaries), long-term financial results, and stock price growth. Finally, annual bonuses allow us to manage fixed compensation costs, while still providing executives with competitive cash compensation consisting of salaries and bonuses.

Each year, the Compensation Committee approves a target bonus opportunity for each NEO. We intend for our target bonuses to be at least at median levels to place more emphasis on achieving annual operating results and to support more demanding annual performance objectives. For 2012, our target bonuses were 100% of salary for Mr. Orr, 75% of salary for Messrs. Knowles and Merrill, and 70% of salary for Mr. Branning. Mr. Branning was guaranteed a bonus of \$112,000 for 2012 in connection with his employment by the Company in September 2012. Actual bonuses can range from 0% to 200% of target depending on actual performance, practices that are consistent with the range of annual bonus opportunities of peers and those of other companies our size. In this manner, we can reward our executives with higher levels of cash compensation for results that substantially exceed target results. Conversely, we pay relatively lower levels of cash compensation for results that fail to meet minimally acceptable standards.

Table of Contents

Annual bonuses are based on results in two areas:

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA), as adjusted for special income and expenses approved by the Compensation Committee. EBITDA results determine 50% of an executive s annual bonus.

Cash flow before capital expenditures, which determines the remaining 50% of an individual s award. The use of EBITDA as a bonus metric focuses on our core operating profitability and is not influenced by accounting policies, significant non-operating results or other extraordinary items that can obscure our operating results. We believe consistent improvements in our operating results over time should produce value for our shareholders over the long-term. Cash flow balances the profitability focus of EBITDA by measuring our executives ability to manage our working capital. Moreover, it focuses our management on generating discretionary cash that can be used to invest in assets, make acquisitions, retire debt, pay dividends and re-purchase our Common Stock without disrupting operations. Cash flow is measured before capital expenditures so as to balance sound decisions on long-term capital investments with achievement of cash flow goals. Both measures are weighted equally in order to balance near-term profitability with long-term growth.

Each year, the Compensation Committee approves annual performance targets for EBITDA and cash flow. These targets are based on the annual budget developed by our senior management through vigorous bottoms-up planning, evaluation of business expectations for each business segment, customer reviews, raw material availability and pricing evaluations, SG&A considerations and general economic conditions. The annual budget is vetted and approved by the Board. Targets are established based upon a reasonable level of expected return given our performance against the annual budget. Once targets are established, the Compensation Committee sets minimum and maximum goals to appropriately reward for results that exceed or fall short of target expectations.

| Performance Objective | Bonus % Target Award ⁽¹⁾ | EBITDA (\$ Millions) | Cash Flow (\$ Millions) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Minimum | 0% | \$62.748 | \$51.095 |
| Target | 100% | \$83.664 | \$68.126 |
| Maximum | 200% | \$104.580 | \$85.158 |
| 2012 Actual Results | | \$88.47 | \$60.01 |
| 2012 Percentage Payout | 87.9% | 123.0% | 52.9% |

⁽¹⁾ Bonuses for results in between performance objectives are interpolated

The range of performance associated with each measure (minimum results equal to 75% of target and maximum performance equal to 125% of target) reflects typical practices of peers and other companies. For 2012, actual EBITDA results were above target; however, actual cash flow was below target, resulting in a weighted average payout percentage that was below target. Based on this payout percentage and the executive s target bonus opportunity, Messrs. Orr and Knowles received a bonus of \$659,428 and \$286,852, respectively, for 2012. Mr. Branning received a guaranteed bonus of \$112,000 for 2012. Each of these cash bonuses was paid early in 2013. Pursuant to the terms of his separation agreement, Mr. Merrill received \$219,105 representing the annual bonus that was earned but unpaid as of his termination date.

Long-Term Incentives:

The 2008 Incentive Stock Plan provides us with flexibility to grant stock options, stock appreciation rights, performance awards, restricted stock, stock units, and other forms of equity-based awards. These awards are consistent with our goal of motivating and rewarding our executive officers for increasing shareholder value and promote our long-term interests by aiding the retention of high-quality

Table of Contents

executives. Our use of long-term incentives reflects the belief that a significant component of executive compensation should be at risk where the amount earned depends on achieving Company performance objectives designed to enhance shareholder value. Finally, long-term incentives in the form of stock help build executive stock ownership, consistent with our stock ownership objectives more fully described in the section titled "Stock Ownership Guidelines" and strengthen the alignment with our shareholders' interests.

For long-term incentives, the Board awarded a blend of stock options, service-based restricted stock awards and performance-based long-term cash incentives. This approach provides reward balance with each element designed to meet specific reward objectives:

Stock options align our executives' interests with those of our shareholders because options only produce rewards to our executives if our stock price increases after options are granted. We believe options are performance-based awards, because the stock price appreciation that produces gains to the executive can only be achieved by improvements in the Company's operating and financial results. In addition, options help build executive ownership.

Service-based restricted stock grants help in attracting and retaining our key executives, which is especially helpful given the cyclical nature of some of our business segments. Restricted stock also ties our executives to the total returns earned by our investors through dividends as well as stock price appreciation.

Long-term cash incentives reward our executives for achieving financial goals over a multi-year period. Moreover, the use of cash helps us to more effectively manage the shares available for use under our 2008 Incentive Stock Plan, reduces dilution of our shareholders' interests and provides our executives competitive long-term incentive opportunities. In addition, the use of cash provides our executives a means to pay for taxes associated with their long-term awards, helping them retain more of the shares received as options and restricted shares. Our long-term incentives target 50th percentile values for executives in similar roles at companies of similar size, although actual long-term incentives are currently significantly below the median. Once target values are developed, awards for each long-term element are based on an individual's position, organizational level, scope of responsibilities, their ties to long-term results, and any special attraction and retention needs. For the NEOs, the Compensation Committee aimed to strike a balance between the three elements while emphasizing performance-based elements (options and long-term cash incentives) over service-based ones (restricted stock). For Messrs. Orr, Knowles, and Merrill, 35% of their target value was delivered in the form of stock options, 35% in the form of target long-term cash incentives and 30% as service-based restricted stock.

To strengthen the awards' long-term ties to performance as well as to help retain our executives, long-term incentives vest or are earned over several years. For example, stock options vest ratably on the first three anniversaries of the grant and are exercisable within ten years following their grant, consistent with our historical terms for option grants. Service-based restricted stock grants are subject to three-year cliff vesting, are tied to continued service, and provide a strong device for retaining our executives. Finally, long-term cash incentives are based on the achievement of pre-established objectives over a three-year period.

Long-term cash incentives are based on our average return on invested capital (ROIC) for the three-year period beginning in 2012 and ending in 2014. ROIC equals our earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) divided by our total invested capital (total debt and total equity). In our view, ROIC holds our management accountable for all capital invested in the Company. Moreover, it represents an appropriate measure for a capital intensive business like ours. It also balances the measures used in our annual bonus plan. Finally, we believe that ROIC achievement is aligned with our stock price performance.

For the three-year period ending in 2014, the Company established three-year average ROIC performance objectives that ranged from 5% (minimum) to 15% (maximum), with target results achieved

Table of Contents

at 10%. Target ROIC performance represented a reasonable objective as it approximated the median three-year ROIC results of our peers and other S&P Small Cap 600 Companies (S&P Small Caps). Maximum results reflected a reasonable stretch that approximated the 75th percentile of our peers and S&P Small Caps. The minimum ROIC goal was comparable to the 25th percentile of our peers and S&P Small Caps.

For the three-year period ending in 2012, the three-year average ROIC performance objectives ranged from 5% (minimum) to 15% (maximum), with target results achieved at 10%. For such three-year period, the Company achieved a three-year average ROIC of 12.3%. Based on this ROIC, Mr. Orr and Mr. Knowles received a long-term cash incentive of \$1,043,900 and \$321,200, respectively. These long-term cash incentives were paid early in 2013.

Retirement and Other Benefits:

We also maintain qualified and nonqualified retirement programs to provide our executives and other employees basic life and income security needs and recognize individual contributions during their career with Myers. The NEOs participate in our qualified retirement plan (a tax-qualified 401(k) Plan, pursuant to which all participants are eligible to receive matching contributions from the Company) on the same terms as all of our other employees.

NEOs also participate in our Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (SERP). The SERP was adopted to replace retirement benefits lost because of regulatory limits associated with qualified plans, provide retirement benefits for our NEOs comparable to that of other employees who are not constrained by regulatory limits, offer more competitive benefits to newly appointed senior executives, and enhance the retention and recruitment of high-quality executives. The SERP provides additional pension benefits to a select group of management. The annual supplemental pension benefit is payable for ten years commencing at the earlier of retirement or termination. Credit for years of service under the SERP may also be awarded to a participant at the discretion of the Compensation Committee. As part of their respective employment arrangements, Messrs. Orr, Knowles and Branning were provided with an annual SERP benefit up to \$325,000, \$75,000, and \$50,000, respectively, payable for ten years commencing at the earlier of retirement or termination. Pursuant to the terms of Mr. Merrill's separation agreement, he is entitled to a SERP benefit of \$1,666.66 per month payable for a period of 120 months starting at age 55.

NEOs also participate in broad-based benefit plans that are available to all employees, including health insurance and life and disability insurance. Executives' benefits are not tied to individual or Company performance, which is the same approach used for other employees. Moreover, changes to executives' benefits reflect the changes to the benefits of other employees.

Executive Perquisites:

The Company's executive perquisites are modest relative to the general practices of other companies. These rewards are not tied to individual or Company performance. While we believe these benefits are modest, they are highly valued by recipients, have limited cost, are part of a competitive reward program, and help in attracting and retaining the best executives.

In 2012, some of our NEOs received either a car allowance (Mr. Knowles) or Company provided car plus reimbursement for related expenses (Messrs. Orr and Merrill). NEOs also are able to use the Company's country club membership, but at their own expense. In addition, NEOs are eligible for an annual physical examination. NEOs are responsible for paying the income taxes associated with these benefits and are not grossed-up by the Company.

Other Policies and Practices.

Timing of Equity Grants and Grant Price. Option grants and other equity incentives are generally awarded during the first Compensation Committee meeting of the fiscal year, normally in late February or early March. This meeting is normally set more than a year in advance, limiting our

Table of Contents

ability to time the market for equity awards. The value of any such grants is determined by the closing price of our stock on the NYSE on the date that the Board approves such grants. In addition, from time-to-time during the year, the Compensation Committee may make grants to a new employee or, in rare circumstances, to a current employee. In such cases, the value of the grants is based on the closing price of our stock on the NYSE on the date such grants are approved by the Board.

Stock Ownership Guidelines: A key objective of our pay program in general and our long-term incentive awards in particular is to encourage and build stock ownership. As a result, we adopted stock ownership guidelines that are common at other companies. These guidelines were adopted in the fall of 2010 and amended in January 2013 and require Mr. Orr to own shares that are equal to five times his base salary. Messrs. Knowles and Branning are required to own shares equal to three times their respective base salaries. NEOs have five years from the effective date of the guidelines to achieve their ownership targets. In determining stock ownership, we count shares owned outright, including shares owned jointly with a spouse or separately by a spouse and/or children that share the NEO's household, vested and unvested restricted stock and restricted stock unit awards, and vested stock options.

Accounting and Tax Considerations: In designing our compensation programs, we take into consideration the accounting and tax effect, including the impact of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, that the components will have or may have on our executive officers and the Company.

Pay Decisions for 2013.

In February 2013, the Compensation Committee met to approve the Company's executive incentive pay program for NEOs for 2013. The pay program reflects many of the same elements used in 2012 although our independent compensation advisor has recommended certain modifications to more effectively achieve our compensation objectives.

Target bonus opportunities were unchanged;

Bonuses remained tied to achieving budgeted EBITDA and cash flow;

Long-term incentives were increased to bring total target direct compensation levels to the market median;

NEOs received the same mix of options, service-based stock awards and long-term cash incentives as in 2012 (although the stock awards are now in the form of stock units and now vest ratably over a three year period);

Long-term cash incentives remained tied to three-year ROIC.

In arriving at its decisions on executive compensation, the Compensation Committee took into account the affirmative shareholder say-on-pay vote at the previous annual meeting of shareholders and continued to apply the same principles in determining the amounts and types of executive compensation. The Compensation Committee referenced two separate peer groups, a proxy peer group and a broader general industry survey peer group, to determine the competitive pay positioning of our NEOs' pay. The proxy peer group included the following companies:

A. Schulman, Inc.
AEP Industries Inc.
American Biltrite Inc.
AptarGroup, Inc.
Boise Inc.
Crocs, Inc.
Dorman Products, Inc.

Lawson Products
Multi-Color Corporation
NN, Inc.
OMNOVA Solutions Inc.
Park-Ohio Holdings Corp.
Tredegar Corporation
Trex Company, Inc.

Edgar Filing: MYERS INDUSTRIES INC - Form PREC14A

Intertape Polymer Group Inc.
Kapstone Paper and Packaging

TriMas Corporation
West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.

Table of Contents

Associated Materials LLC, Graham Packaging Company, Spartech Corporation, and Tupperware Brands Corporation were eliminated from the proxy peer group used in 2012, and TriMas Corporation and Intertape Polymer Group Inc. were added to the proxy peer group. The general industry peer group companies were selected based on the following parameters: (1) participant in the Equilar Top 25 Survey; (2) publicly traded U.S.-based companies with a focus on manufacturing and other asset-based companies; and (3) size-appropriate companies with revenues within a range of roughly one-half to two times the Company's revenue with median revenues for the group near the Company's revenue. The general industry peer group companies included:

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Apogee Enterprises, Inc. | lululemon athletica inc. |
| Barnes Group Inc. | Neenah Paper, Inc. |
| Coherent, Inc. | Nordson Corporation |
| Cymer, Inc. | ResMed Inc. |
| Deckers Outdoor Corporation | Tecumseh Products Company |
| Entegris, Inc. | Tempur-Pedic International Inc. |
| ESCO Technologies Inc. | TriMas Corporation |
| FEI Company | U.S. Concrete, Inc. |
| Graco Inc. | West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc. |
| H.B. Fuller Company | Zep Inc. |
| Integra LifeSciences Holdings Corporation | |

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation.

During fiscal 2012, the following directors were members of the Compensation Committee: Vincent C. Byrd, Robert A. Stefanko, John B. Crowe, and Sarah R. Coffin. None of the Compensation Committee's members have at any time been an officer or employee of the Company. None of our NEOs serve, or in the past fiscal year has served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more NEOs serving on the Company's Board or Compensation Committee.

Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation.

The information contained in this report shall not be deemed to be soliciting material or filed with the SEC or subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), except to the extent that we specifically incorporate it by reference into a document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act) or the Exchange Act.

The Compensation Committee, in the performance of its duties and responsibilities, has reviewed and discussed with management the information provided under the section titled Compensation Discussion and Analysis. Based on discussions with management and our review of the Compensation Discussion and Analysis disclosure, we have recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

The foregoing report has been furnished by the current members of the Compensation Committee, being:

Vincent C. Byrd, Chairman and Presiding Director, Robert A. Stefanko, John B. Crowe, and Sarah R. Coffin.

Table of Contents

Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation. The following table contains certain information regarding the compensation earned, paid or payable during 2012, for services rendered to the Company and its subsidiaries during fiscal 2012, to the NEOs.

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

| Name and Principal Position | Year | Salary (\$) | Bonus (\$) | Stock Awards (\$) ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾ | Option Awards (\$) ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾ | Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$) ⁽⁵⁾ | Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$) | All Other Compensation (\$) ⁽⁶⁾ | Total (\$) |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | | |