

FLANDERS CORP  
Form DEF 14A  
November 18, 2003

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

x  
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  o

Check the appropriate box:

o Preliminary Proxy Statement  o Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

x  
Definitive Proxy Statement

o Definitive Additional Materials

o  
Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-11(c) or Rule 14a-12

**FLANDERS CORPORATION**

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(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.

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(1)

Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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

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(1)

Amount previously paid:

(2)

Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3)

Filing Party:

(4)

Date Filed:

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November 19 , 2003

Dear Shareholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting of the shareholders of Flanders Corporation (the "Company") to be held at 2399 26th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713 on December 19 , 2003 , at 3:00 p. m. local time. The purposes of the annual meeting are:

1. To elect five directors of the Company; and

2. To transact any other business that may properly be presented at the annual meeting.

If you were a shareholder of record at the close of business on November 12 , 2003 , you may vote at the annual meeting. The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the proxy statement attached to this notice.

Whether or not you expect to attend the annual meeting, and regardless of the number of shares you own, we urge you to read the attached proxy statement and to promptly date, sign and mail the enclosed proxy card in the envelope provided.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Amerson

President and Chief Executive Officer

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**FLANDERS CORPORATION**

**2399 26th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713**

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**NOTICE OF  
ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

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The annual meeting of the shareholders of Flanders Corporation will be held at 2399 26th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713, on December 19, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. local time. At the annual meeting, you will be asked to:

1. To elect five directors of the Company; and
2. To transact any other business that may properly be presented at the annual meeting.

If you were a shareholder of record at the close of business on November 12, 2003, you may vote at the annual meeting and at any postponements or adjournments thereof.

You are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting. Your vote is important. If you plan to attend the annual meeting, please notify me so that I can prepare identification for you.

**Whether you plan to attend or not, please mark, sign, date and promptly return the enclosed proxy card. A return envelope, which requires no postage if mailed in the United States, has been provided for your use.**

Thank you for your participation,

Jeanetta M. Brown

Corporate Secretary

FLANDERS CORPORATION

November 19, 2003

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**FLANDERS CORPORATION**

2399 26th Avenue North

Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713

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**PROXY STATEMENT**

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**GENERAL**

Flanders Corporation, a North Carolina corporation (the "Company"), is soliciting this proxy on behalf of its Board of Directors for use at the 2003 Annual Meeting of shareholders to be held on Friday, December 19, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. local time, at 2399 26th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida, 33713, and at any adjournments thereof. This proxy statement, the proxy card, and the Company's 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K will be mailed to shareholders beginning on or about November 19, 2003.

**VOTING PROCEDURES**

Record holders of shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$.001 per share, at the close of business on November 12, 2003, may vote at the meeting. Each shareholder has one vote for each share of common stock the shareholder owns. At the close of business on November 12, 2003, there were 26,052,073 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting.

Votes cast by proxy or in person at the annual meeting will be tabulated by the inspectors of election appointed for the meeting who will also determine whether or not a quorum is present. The Company's Bylaws provide that the holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of the Company entitled to vote, represented in person or by proxy, constitute a quorum at any shareholders' meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present for

establishing a quorum, but as unvoted for determining the approval of any matter submitted to the shareholders for a vote. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker votes on some matters on the proxy card but not on others because he does not have the authority to do so.

You may revoke your proxy by filing a written notice of revocation with the Company. You may also revoke your proxy by either (1) filing a new proxy bearing a later date with the Company, or (2) by attending the meeting and voting in person.

Your shares will be voted as you direct on your signed proxy card. If you do not specify on your proxy card how you want to vote your shares, we will vote signed returned proxies "for " the Board's nominees. The Company does not know of any other business that may be presented at the annual meeting. If a proposal other than the one listed in the Notice is presented at the annual meeting, your signed proxy card gives authority to Robert R. Amerson to vote your shares on such matters in his discretion.

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## **PROPOSAL ONE -- ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

### **General**

The Board of Directors currently consists of five directors and the Board has nominated five directors for election at the 2003 Annual Meeting. If you elect them, they will hold office until the next annual meeting and their successors are elected and qualified, or until they retire, die, or are removed. Cumulative voting is not permitted in the election of directors. Unless you specify otherwise, your returned signed proxy will be voted in favor of each of the nominees. If any of the nominees is unable to serve as a director, your proxy may be voted for another person nominated by the Board to fill that vacancy, or the Board may reduce the number of directors to be elected. The following information concerning each nominee is as of November 19, 2003.

### **Information Regarding Nominees for Directors**

The nominees for directors of the Company are as follows:

**Robert R. Amerson.** Mr. Amerson, age 53, has been President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since 1987. Mr. Amerson is also a director, a position he has held since 1988. Mr. Amerson has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Atlantic Christian College.

**Steven K. Clark.** Mr. Clark, age 50 , has been Chief Operating Officer since January 2001. He is also Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, duties he has held since December 15, 1995, and a director of the Company since December 29, 1995. Mr. Clark acted as a consultant to the Company from November 15, 1995 through December 15, 1995. From July 1992 through October 1995, he was the Chief Financial Officer of Daw Technologies, Inc., a specialty cleanroom contractor and major customer of the Company. Prior to this he was a senior partner of Miller & Clark, an accounting and management services firm. Mr. Clark spent four years with Price Waterhouse, and an additional four years with Arthur Andersen, both accounting firms. He is a Certified Public Accountant, has Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, degrees in Accounting and Political Science and a Master of Business Administration, summa cum laude, degree, all from the University of Utah.

**D. Michael Steele.** Mr. Steele, age 49 , is nominated to be an independent director of the Company and will serve on both the Compensation and Audit committees. Mr. Steele has held these positions since November 2001 Mr. Steele is a partner in The Insurance Group, an insurance brokerage, and serves on the Board of Directors of the City of Greenville Airport Authority, the Pitt County North Carolina Special Olympics and the Pitt County Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Steele received his Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University, and his Masters Degree from Bowling Green State University.

**Peter Fredericks.** Mr. Fredericks, age 46 , is nominated to be an independent director of the Company, and will serve on both the Compensation and Audit committees. Mr. Fredericks has been a director since April 2002. Mr. Fredericks is a private equity investor, and has been involved in business management, equity investment, and consulting since 1982. Mr. Fredericks' experience includes working as a strategy consultant with Boston Consulting Group. Mr. Fredericks received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Stanford University, his Masters in Business Administration from Harvard University, where he was a Baker Scholar, and his Ph.D. from the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration.

**David M. Mock .** Mr. Mock, age 51, is nominated to be an independent director of the Company and will serve on both the Compensation and Audit committees. Mr. Mock has been a director since August 2003. Mr. Mock is a General Partner with GMG Capital Partners, a New York-based investment firm, which he co-founded in 1997. Prior to joining GMS/GMG Partners, Mr. Mock was a private investor pursuing an investment strategy similar to that of GMG. Mock has extensive operations and private investment experience with respect to technology companies. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Captus Networks as well as serving as Director or Officer to several other companies including Alloptic, Inc., Forum Systems, and Connecting Point, Inc. Mr. Mock holds an Accounting degree from the University of Utah.

### **Vote Required**

A plurality of the shares represented at the meeting after a quorum is established is required to elect a director.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT SHAREHOLDERS VOTE FOR EACH OF THE NOMINEES FOR DIRECTOR.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Set forth below is information regarding the current executive officers of the Company (in addition to Messrs. Amerson and Clark) who are not also directors of the Company as of November 12, 2003 ..

**David Aaronson.** Mr. Aaronson, age 39 , has been Vice President Filter Sales and Service since December 2001. He has direct responsibility for overseeing sales of filtration products to air filter sales and service accounts. From August 2001 to December 2001, Mr. Aaronson was regional sales manager for the Company. From 1989 through 2000, Mr. Aaronson was the general manager of the air filtration division of Jorban-Riscoe Associates, Inc., a manufacturers' representative firm. Mr. Aaronson is also a partner in Air Quality Equipment Company, a manufacturers' representative firm specializing in air filtration and energy savings solutions. Mr. Aaronson graduated from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Arts in Business/Personnel Administration.

**James L. "Buddy" Mercer.** Mr. Mercer, age 61 , has been Vice President Operations since December 2001. He has direct responsibility for all plant manufacturing operations. Prior to December 2001, beginning in 1998, he was a general manager for Precisionaire, Inc., a subsidiary. From 1967 through 1997, Mr. Mercer worked at Purolator Air Products, a competitor, working in several positions culminating in plant manager.

**BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the beneficial ownership of the Company's common stock, as of December 31 , 2002 with respect to (i) each person known by the Company to own beneficially more than 5% of the common stock, (ii) each of the Company's directors, (iii) each of the Company's executive officers, and (iv) all directors and executive officers of the Company as a group. Beneficial ownership of shares, as determined in accordance with applicable SEC rules, includes shares as to which a person has sole or shared voting power or sole or shared investment power.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned	Percentage of Outstanding Shares of Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>
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Robert R. Amerson <sup>(2)</sup>	7,874 ,370	28.09 %
531 Flanders Filters Road Washington, NC 27889		
Steven K. Clark <sup>(2)</sup>	5,155 ,183	18.39 %
2399 26th Avenue North  Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713		
Peter Fredericks <sup>(3)</sup>	54,300	*
144 Woodland Drive  San Francisco, CA 94117		
Andrew Stallman <sup>(4)</sup>	66,500	*
2800 Neilson Way, Ste. 1101  Santa Monica, CA 90405		
Michael Steele <sup>(5)</sup>	53,000	*
243 Commerce Street  Greenville, NC 27836		
Linda Palmatier <sup>(6)</sup>	40,000	*
2399 26 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North  St. Petersburg, FL 33713		
James L. Mercer	--	*
2121B Wal Pat Road  Smithfield, NC 27577		
Al Longton <sup>(7)</sup>	10,000	*
531 Flanders Filters Road  Washington, NC 27889		
David Aaronson	--	*
2399 26 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North  St. Petersburg, FL 33713		
Dimensional Fund Advisors Inc.	1,981,500	7.61 %

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1299 Ocean Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor

Santa Monica, CA 90401

Wilco Management Company, Inc. 2360 West Joppa Road, Suite 226  Lutherville, MD 21093	1,498,595	5.75 %
Thomas T. Allan  3114 Barracks Road  Charlottesville, VA 22901	1,820,232	6.99%
Officers and Directors as a  Group (9 persons) <sup>(2), (3),(4),(5),(6),(7)</sup>	13,205,653	50.72 %

\*

Represents less than 1% of the total issued and outstanding shares of common stock.

(1)

Applicable percentage of ownership is based on 26,033,135 shares of common stock outstanding as of December 31, 2002, together with all applicable options for unissued securities for such shareholders exercisable within 60 days. Shares of common stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days are deemed outstanding for computing the percentage ownership of the person holding such options, but are not deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of any other person.

(2)

Includes 1,000,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$2.50 per share and 1,000,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$7.50 per share.

(3)

Includes 50,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$1.74 per share.

(4)

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Includes 50,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$2.50 per share and 5,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at 1.875 per share.

(5)

Includes 50,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$1.70 per share.

(6)

Includes 20,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$1.71 per share and 20,000 which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at 1.50 per share.

(7)

Includes 2,500 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$7.125 per share, 2,500 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$3.938 per share, and 5,000 shares which are subject to an option to purchase such shares from the Company at \$2.50 per share.

## **OTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### Board Meetings and Committees

During 2002 , the Board of Directors met six (6) times and also executed various resolutions and written actions in lieu of meetings. The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee and a Compensation Committee. The Audit Committee reviews the results and scope of the audit and other services provided by the Company s independent auditors, reviews and evaluates the Company s internal audit and control functions, and monitors transactions between the Company and its employees, officers and directors. The Compensation Committee administers the Company s equity incentive plans and designates compensation levels for officers and directors of the Company. The Audit Committee met three (3) times during 2002 .. The Compensation Committee met one (1) time during 2002.

Currently, the Audit Committee consists of Messrs. Mock, Steele, and Fredericks, with Mr. Mock serving as Chairman. The Compensation Committee consists of Messrs. Clark, Amerson, Mock, Steele, and Fredericks with Mr. Mock serving as Chairman.

Director Compensation

Directors who are Company employees receive no additional or special remuneration for serving as directors. The Company's non-employee Directors are paid \$500 plus out-of-pocket expenses for each meeting of the Board of Directors where the directors are physically present. At initial appointment to the Board and pursuant to the 1996 Flanders Corporation Directors Option Plan, a director receives an automatic option to purchase 50,000 shares of the Company's common stock. All independent directors with a minimum of six (6) months on the Board are automatically granted an additional 5,000 options to purchase Company common stock each year thereafter for so long as the director remains on the Board.

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the aggregate cash compensation paid by the Company for services rendered during the last three years to the Company's Chief Executive Officer and to each of the Company's other executive officers whose annual salary, bonus and other compensation exceeded \$100,000 in 2002:

Name and Principal Position	Year	Annual Compensation		Long-Term Compensation Awards			Payouts
		Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Other Annual Compensation (\$)	Restricted Stock Award(s)	Securities Underlying Options/SARs (#)	
Robert R. Amerson	2002	\$ 249,039	--	\$ 1,231			
President and CEO	2001 <sup>1</sup>	241,347		10,500	--	1,000,000	--

	2000	250,000					
James L. Buddy Mercer	2002	112,608	--	--	--	--	--
Vice President Operations	2001	110,952					
	2000	112,247					
Steven K. Clark	2002	249,519		1,348			
Vice President Finance/CFO	2001 <sup>1</sup>	240,866	--	1,327	--	--	1,000,000
	2000	250,000					

1

Mr. Amerson and Mr. Clark each had an annual salary of \$250,000, plus a possible bonus each year, under their respective Employment Agreements, as amended. In the third quarter of 2001, these salaries were voluntarily reduced by ten percent, to \$225,000 per year. See Employment Agreements.

Aggregated Option/SAR Exercises in Last Fiscal Year and Fiscal Year-End Option/SAR Values

The following table sets forth the aggregate number and value of stock options and SARs exercised during the last year by the Company's Chief Executive Officer and by each of the Company's other executive officers whose annual salary, bonus and other compensation exceed \$100,000.

Shares Acquired On	Value	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options/SARs at Fiscal Year-End (#)	Value of Unexercised In-the-Money Options/ SARs at Fiscal Year-End
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<b>Name</b>	<b>Exercise (#)</b>	<b>Realized (\$)</b>	<b>Exercisable/Unexercisable</b>	<b>Exercisable/Unexercisable</b>
		\$	2,000,000 /	/
Robert R. Amerson		\$	2,000,000 /	/
Steven K. Clark				

### Employment Agreements

Messrs. Amerson and Clark have employment agreements effective as of December 15, 1995 ( "Employment Agreements" ). The Employment Agreements, as amended, provide for an annual base salary of \$250,000 for both Mr. Amerson and Mr. Clark and terminate in 2010. The Employment Agreements also provide that the executive shall be entitled to the following termination payments: (i) 100% of his current base salary if the employment is terminated as a result of his death or disability; (ii) up to 200% of his current base salary if the employment is terminated by the Company for any reason other than death, disability or for cause, or (iii) up to 250% of the executive's gross income during the year preceding his termination if the Employment Agreement is terminated by the executive for good reason or by the Company for any reason other than death, disability or cause and the termination occurs within two years after a change of control of the Company has occurred.

### Long-Term Incentive Plan

In 1996, the Company adopted the Long-Term Incentive Plan ("LTI Plan") to assist the Company in securing and retaining key employees and consultants. The LTI Plan authorizes grants of incentive stock options, nonqualified stock options, stock appreciation rights ("SARs"), performance shares, restricted stock awards, dividend equivalents or other stock-based awards to individuals who are officers, key employees or outside consultants of the Company. There are 1,979,280 shares of common stock reserved for award under the LTI Plan.

The Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee determines the total number and type of award granted in any year, the number and selection of employees or consultants to receive awards, the number and type of awards granted to each grantee and the other terms and provisions of the awards, subject to the limitations set forth in the LTI Plan.

*Stock Option Grants.* The Compensation Committee has the authority to select individuals who are to receive options under the LTI Plan and to specify the terms and conditions of each option so granted (incentive or nonqualified), the exercise price (which must be at least equal to the fair market value of the common stock on the date of grant with respect to incentive stock options), the vesting provisions and the option term. Unless otherwise provided by the Compensation Committee, any option granted under the LTI Plan expires the earlier of (1) five years from the date of grant; (2) two months after the optionee's termination of service with the Company for any reason other than death; or (3) 15 months after the optionee's death. As of November 12, 2003, there were 589,000 options outstanding under the LTI Plan.

*Stock Appreciation Rights.* The Compensation Committee may grant SARs separately or in tandem with a stock option award. A SAR is an incentive award that permits the holder to receive (per share covered thereby) an amount equal to the amount by which the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date of exercise exceeds the fair market value of such share on the date the SAR was granted. Under the LTI Plan, the Company may pay such amount in cash, in common stock or a combination of both. Unless otherwise provided by the Compensation Committee at the time of grant, the provisions of the LTI Plan relating to the termination of employment of a holder of a stock option will apply equally, to the extent applicable, to the holder of a SAR. A SAR granted in tandem with a related option will generally have the same terms and provisions as the related option with respect to exercisability. A SAR granted separately will have such terms as the Compensation Committee may determine, subject to the provisions of the LTI Plan. As of November 12, 2003, no SARs were outstanding under the LTI Plan.

*Performance Shares.* The Compensation Committee is authorized under the LTI Plan to grant performance shares to selected employees. Performance shares are rights granted to employees to receive cash, stock, or other property, the payment of which is contingent upon achieving certain performance goals established by the Compensation Committee. As of November 12, 2003, no performance shares were outstanding under the LTI Plan.

*Restricted Stock Awards.* The Compensation Committee is authorized under the LTI Plan to issue shares of restricted common stock to eligible participants on such terms and conditions and subject to such restrictions, if any, as the Compensation Committee may determine. As of November 12, 2003, no restricted stock awards were outstanding under the LTI Plan.

*Dividend Equivalents.* The Compensation Committee may also grant dividend equivalent rights to participants subject to such terms and conditions as may be selected by the Compensation Committee. Dividend equivalent rights entitle the holder to receive payments equal to dividends with respect to all or a portion of the number of shares of stock subject to an option award or SARs, as determined by the Committee. As of November 12, 2003, no dividend equivalents were outstanding under the LTI Plan.

## **FEES PAID TO INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**



Grant Thornton LLP

The Audit Committee retained Grant Thornton LLP as the Company's independent auditors to audit the Company's financial statements during certain periods in fiscal 2002. The aggregate fees billed by Grant Thornton LLP include fees for the following services rendered during fiscal 2002 are:

**Audit Fees** totaling \$554,591 which included fees for the review and examination of Flanders' consolidated financial statements, quarterly reviews of interim financial statements, gathering and review of audit work papers for transition to Pender Newkirk & Company and consultations on accounting matters related to the financial statements.

**All Other Fees** totaling \$113,910.

**Financial Information Systems Design and Implementation Fees.** Grant Thornton LLP was not engaged to perform any services involving financial information systems design and implementation.

The Audit Committee has concluded the provision of the non-audit services listed as "All Other Fees" above is compatible with maintaining the independence of Grant Thornton LLP.

Pender Newkirk & Company, CPAs

The Audit Committee also retained Pender Newkirk & Company as the Company's independent auditors to audit the Company's financial statements during fiscal 2002. Although there were no fees billed during 2002, the aggregate fees billed by Pender Newkirk & Company in 2003 for services rendered in 2003 related to fiscal 2002 are:

**Audit Fees** totaling \$125,000 which included fees for the review and examination of Flanders' consolidated financial statements, quarterly reviews of interim financial statements, transitional review of audit work papers, review for a standard SEC compliance review, and consultations on accounting matters related to the financial statements.

**All Other Fees** totaling \$222,703.

**Financial Information Systems Design and Implementation Fees.** Pender Newkirk & Company was not engaged to perform any services involving financial information systems design and implementation.

The Audit Committee has concluded the provision of the non-audit services listed as "All Other Fees" above is compatible with maintaining the independence of Pender Newkirk & Company.

## **REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

### General

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is currently composed of three independent directors, Messrs. Fredericks, Steele, and Mock , who have no interlocking relationships (as defined by the SEC) , the Board Chairman and CEO , Mr. Amerson, who recuses himself from votes and discussions on his own compensation, and Board member and CFO, Mr. Clark, who recuses himself from votes and discussions on his own compensation ..

We are engaged in highly competitive businesses and compete nationally for personnel at the executive and technical staff level. Outstanding candidates are aggressively recruited, often at premium salaries. Highly qualified employees are essential to our success. We are committed to providing competitive compensation that helps attract, retain, and motivate the highly skilled people we require. We strongly believe that a considerable portion of the compensation for the Chief Executive Officer and other top executives must be tied to the achievement of business objectives, completing acquisitions, and to business unit and overall financial performance, both current and long-term.

### Executive Compensation

Our executive compensation program is administered by the Compensation Committee. The role of the Compensation Committee is to review and approve salaries and other compensation of the executive officers of the Company, to administer the Long-Term Incentive Plan, and to review and approve stock option grants to all employees including the executive officers of the Company.

### General Compensation Philosophy

Our compensation philosophy is that total cash compensation should vary with the performance of the Company and any long-term incentive should be closely aligned with the interest of the stockholders. Total cash compensation for the executive officers consists of the following components:

- Base Salary.
- An executive officer bonus that is related to growth in sales and operating earnings of the Company.

Long-term incentives are realized through the granting of stock options to executives and key employees through the LTI Plan. We have also granted certain non-qualified options to our executive officers. We have no other long-term incentive plans for our officers and employees.

### Base Salary and Executive Officer Bonus Target

Current base salaries for the executive officers were determined by arms length negotiations with the Board of Directors. Messrs. Clark and Amerson have employment contracts with the Company which set base salaries and allow for bonus targets and levels to be set at the sole discretion of this committee. During 2000 and 2001, none of the executive officers reached their bonus targets, hence no bonuses were awarded to executive officers in 2002, nor will bonuses be awarded in 2003 for performance in 2002 ..

### Chief Executive Officer Compensation

The current base salary for the Chief Executive Officer of \$250,000 is set according to his employment contract, which also includes provision for annual bonuses at the sole discretion of this committee. No bonuses were awarded to the Chief Executive Officer in 2002 and none were accrued based upon 2002 performance.

### Stock Options

Stock options are granted to aid in the retention of executive and key employees and to align the interests of executive and key employees with those of the stockholders. The level of stock options granted (i.e., the number of shares subject to each stock option grant) is based on the employee's ability to impact future corporate results. An employee's ability to impact future corporate results depends on the level and amount of job responsibility of the individual. Therefore, the level of stock options granted is proportional to the Compensation Committee's evaluation of each employee's job responsibility. For example, Robert R. Amerson, as the Chief Executive Officer, and Steven K. Clark, as Chief Operating Officer, have the highest levels of responsibility and would typically be awarded the highest level of stock options. Stock options are granted at a price not less than the fair market value on the date granted.

Respectfully submitted,

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE:

Peter Fredericks

D. Michael Steele

Robert Amerson

David Mock

Steven K. Clark

#### **COMPARATIVE STOCK PERFORMANCE GRAPH**

The following graph shows a comparison of cumulative total returns for the Company, the NASDAQ Stock Market -- U.S. Index and the NASDAQ NM Industrial Index during the period commencing December 31, 1997 and ending September 30, 2003 .. The comparison assumes \$100 was invested on December 31, 1997 in the Company's common stock with the reinvestment of all dividends, if any. Total shareholder returns for prior periods are not an indication of future returns.

## **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

### General

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is composed of three independent directors who have no interlocking relationships as defined by the Commission, Messrs. Mock , and Fredericks, and Steele.

The Audit Committee reviews the results and scope of the audit and other services provided by the Company's independent auditors, reviews and evaluates the Company's internal audit and control functions, and monitors transactions between the Company and its employees, officers and directors.

### Audit Committee Charter

During 2000, the Audit Committee recommended the approval of a formal Charter, which expanded the Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities to include:

- 
- Serve as an independent and objective party to monitor the Company's financial reporting processes and internal control systems
- Review and appraise the audit efforts of the Company's independent accountants and internal finance department.
- Provide an open avenue of communication between the independent accountants, financial and senior management, the internal finance department, and the Board of Directors.
- Review quarterly and annual financial statements submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the public, including any certification, opinion or review rendered by the Company's independent accountants.

### Review of Annual Results

The Audit Committee reviewed and discussed the Company's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002 with the Company's management. The Audit Committee also discussed the statements with the Company's independent auditors,. In particular, the Audit Committee discussed with the independent auditors the matters required by SAS 61.

It is not the responsibility of the Audit Committee to render an opinion regarding the Company's financial statements, but to monitor the Company's internal controls and reporting processes, as well as the Company's relationship with its internal auditors.

The Audit Committee received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent accountants required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 and has discussed with and confirmed the independence of the independent accountant.

Based on its review and the discussions noted above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended December 31, 2002 , 2001 and 2000 be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2002 ..

Respectfully submitted,

David M. Mock      Peter Fredericks

D. Michael Steele

## **CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS**

At November 12, 2003, Steven K. Clark owed the Company \$ 4,487,943 of principal and \$705,935 of accrued interest which he previously borrowed to settle claims, to make certain payments under an indemnity agreement he entered into with the Company, to exercise options and to purchase certain shares from Thomas T. Allan, a former officer and director. This debt is evidenced by a note which bears interest at LIBOR plus 1%, and is due in full on December 31, 2010, or on demand by the Company ..

At November 12, 2003, Robert R. Amerson owed the Company \$ 1,967,449 of principal and \$ 406,311 of accrued interest, which he previously borrowed, the majority of which was used to settle claims, to make certain payments under an indemnity agreement he entered into with the Company, to purchase certain shares from Thomas T. Allan, a former officer and director of the Company, and for other unspecified reasons. This debt is evidenced by a note which bears interest at LIBOR plus 1%, and is due in full on December 31, 2010, or on demand by the Company ..

The Company made payments totaling \$1,666,263 and \$ 1,104,641 in 2002 and 2001, respectively, to Superior Die Cutting, Inc., a vendor supplying raw materials to the company. Superior Die Cutting, Inc. is partially owned by Mercury Diecutting, Inc., an entity wholly-owned by Robert R. Amerson and Steven K. Clark. The Company made payments totaling \$474,000 and \$349,509 in 2002 and 2001, respectively, to Wal-Pat II, a real estate partnership which leases property to the Company. Wal-Pat II is owned by Robert R. Amerson and Steven K. Clark as fifty percent partners. At December 31, 2002, the Company owed a total of \$3,070,981 and \$0 to Superior Die-Cutting and Wal-Pat II, respectively.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 16(A) OF THE 1934 ACT**

Section 16(a) of the 1934 Act requires the Company's directors, executive officers, and persons who own more than ten percent of a registered class of the Company's equity securities to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of common stock and other equity securities of the Company. Officers, directors, and greater than ten-percent beneficial owners are required by SEC regulation to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) reports they file.

Based solely upon review of the copies of such reports furnished to the Company and written representations that no other reports were required, the Company believes that there was compliance for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 with all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to the Company's officers, directors, and greater than ten-percent beneficial owners.

## **SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR 2003 ANNUAL MEETING**

If you wish to submit proposals to be included in the Company's 2003 proxy statement, we must receive them on or before Friday, August 20, 2004. Please address your proposals to Corporate Secretary, Flanders Corporation, 2399 26th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33713.

Under the Company's Bylaws, if you wish to raise a matter before the shareholders at the 2003 annual meeting:

- You must notify the Secretary in writing by not later than October 20, 2004 but not prior to September 20, 2004.
- Your notice must contain the specific information required by the Company's Bylaws.

Please note that these requirements relate only to matters you wish to bring before your fellow shareholders at the annual meeting. They are separate from the SEC's requirements to have your proposal included in the proxy statement.

## **METHOD OF PROXY SOLICITATION**

The Company is soliciting this proxy on behalf of its Board of Directors. The Company will pay the costs of soliciting the proxies. These costs will include the expenses of preparing and mailing the proxy materials for the annual meeting and reimbursement paid to brokerage firms and others for their expenses incurred in forwarding the proxy materials. Directors, officers and regularly engaged employees of the Company may also solicit proxies without additional compensation therefor.

A list of shareholders entitled to vote will be available for examination at the meeting by any shareholder for any purpose germane to the meeting. The list will also be available on the same basis for ten (10) days prior to the meeting at our corporate headquarters by request to the Corporate Secretary at 2399 26th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS ON FORM 10-K**

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, has been enclosed with this proxy statement. The Form 10-K includes a list of exhibits on page 35. The Company will furnish copies of any of the exhibits to its 2002 Annual Report on Form 10-K upon the request of any shareholder, upon the payment of \$25 to the Company in reimbursement for the Company's reasonable expenses of furnishing the exhibit. Requests should be directed to Jeanetta Brown at (727) 822-4411.



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PROXY

**FLANDERS CORPORATION**  
**PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF**  
**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE**  
**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS**

This Proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors who recommend a vote for all nominees.

The undersigned hereby appoints Robert R. Amerson and Steven K. Clark, individually and collectively, as proxies to represent the undersigned with full power of substitution at the Annual Shareholders Meeting of Flanders Corporation, to be held on December 19, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. local time at 2399 26th Avenue North, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713 and at any and all postponements or adjournments thereof.

**UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED**

**THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED FOR EACH PROPOSAL SET FORTH BELOW**

1.

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.** This proxy will be voted FOR each of the nominees identified in the proxy statement at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders unless authority to vote for one or more nominees is expressly withheld. To

withhold authority for one or more individual nominees, cross out the name or names of such persons.

o

FOR all nominees

o

WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN NOMINEES. **If you wish to withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee, strike a line through the nominee's name in the list below** (shares will be voted for nominees whose names are not stricken):

Robert R. Amerson

Steven K. Clark

Peter Fredericks

D. Michael Steele

David M. Mock

o

WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN NOMINEES.

2.

OTHER MATTERS. Unless a line is stricken through this sentence, the shares voted herein shall be voted in the discretion of the proxies for other matters which may properly come before the meeting.

The shares represented by this Proxy will be voted in the manner directed herein only if this Proxy is properly executed and timely returned. **If the undersigned does not specify a choice, the shares will be voted FOR the nominees for director listed hereon and in the discretion of the proxies for other matters which may properly come before the meeting.**

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

Signature of Shareholder(s)

Note: Signature should agree with the name on stock certificates as printed thereon. Executors, administrators and other fiduciaries should indicate the capacity in which they are signing

o

I plan to personally attend the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders

**PLEASE DATE, SIGN AND RETURN THIS PROXY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.**

**THANK YOU.**