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**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

**THE TORO COMPANY**

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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

Payment of filing fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

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

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

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

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials:

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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# NOTICE OF 2014 ANNUAL MEETING AND PROXY STATEMENT

FOR MARCH 18, 2014

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**The Toro Company**  
8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota 55420-1196  
Telephone 952-888-8801

February 4, 2014

Dear Fellow Shareholders:

I am pleased to invite you to join us for The Toro Company 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at 1:30 p.m., Central Daylight Time, at our corporate offices. A live, listen-only audio webcast of the meeting will be available at [www.thetorocompany.com/proxy](http://www.thetorocompany.com/proxy). Details about the annual meeting, nominees for election to the Board of Directors and other matters to be acted on at the annual meeting are presented in the notice and proxy statement that follow.

It is important that your shares be represented at the annual meeting, regardless of the number of shares you hold and whether or not you plan to attend the meeting in person. Accordingly, please exercise your right to vote by following the instructions for voting on the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials you received for the meeting or, if you received a paper or electronic copy of our proxy materials, by completing, signing, dating and returning your proxy card or by Internet or telephone voting as described in the proxy statement.

On behalf of your Toro Board of Directors and Management, it is my pleasure to express our appreciation for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Hoffman  
*Chairman and CEO*

**You can help us make a difference by eliminating paper proxy mailings. With your consent, we will provide all future proxy materials electronically. Instructions for consenting to electronic delivery can be found on your proxy card or at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com). Your consent to receive shareholder materials electronically will remain in effect until canceled.**



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

The Toro Company 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at 1:30 p.m., Central Daylight Time, at our corporate offices located at 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota, 55420-1196, for the following purposes:

1. To elect as directors the three nominees named in the attached proxy statement, each to serve for a term of three years ending at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders;
2. To ratify the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending October 31, 2014;
3. To approve, on an advisory basis, our executive compensation; and
4. To transact any other business properly brought before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting.

We currently are not aware of any other business to be brought before the annual meeting. Shareholders of record at the close of business on January 22, 2014, the record date, will be entitled to vote at the annual meeting or at any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting.

A shareholder list will be available at our corporate offices beginning March 7, 2014, during normal business hours for examination by any shareholder registered on our stock ledger as of the record date for any purpose germane to the annual meeting.

Since a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock must be represented either in person or by proxy to constitute a quorum for the conduct of business, **please promptly vote your shares by following the instructions for voting on the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials you received for the meeting or, if you received a paper or electronic copy of our proxy materials, by completing, signing, dating and returning your proxy card or by Internet or telephone voting as described in the proxy statement.**

February 4, 2014

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Dordell", written over a horizontal line.

**TIMOTHY P. DORDELL**  
*Vice President, Secretary and  
General Counsel*

# THE TORO COMPANY

8111 Lyndale Avenue South  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55420-1196

## PROXY STATEMENT

2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2014

1:30 p.m. Central Daylight Time

The Toro Company Board of Directors is using this proxy statement to solicit your proxy for use at The Toro Company 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held at 1:30 p.m., Central Daylight Time, on Tuesday, March 18, 2014. We intend to send a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the annual meeting and make proxy materials available to shareholders (or for certain shareholders and for those who request, a paper copy of this proxy statement and the form of proxy) on or about February 4, 2014. Please note that references in this proxy statement to "Toro," our "Company," "we," "us," "our" and similar terms refer to The Toro Company.

### NOTE ABOUT FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this proxy statement are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, and are subject to the safe harbor created by those sections. Forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations of future events, and are generally identified by words such as "expect," "strive," "looking ahead," "outlook," "guidance," "forecast," "goal," "optimistic," "anticipate," "continue," "plan," "estimate," "project," "believe," "should," "could," "will," "would," "possible," "may," "likely," "intend," and similar expressions or future dates. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected or implied. The most significant factors known to us that could materially adversely affect our business, operations, industry, financial position, or future financial performance are described in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, on December 20, 2013, in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors." You should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement, which speaks only as of the date made, and should recognize that forward-looking statements are predictions of future results, which may not occur as anticipated. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements and from historical results, due to the risks and uncertainties described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, including in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," as well as others that we may consider immaterial or do not anticipate at this time. The risks and uncertainties described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K are not exclusive and further information concerning our company and our businesses, including factors that potentially could materially affect our operating results or financial condition, may emerge from time to time. We undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results or changes in factors or assumptions affecting such forward-looking statements. We advise you, however, to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in our future Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K that we file with or furnish to the SEC.

### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

#### Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting To Be Held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014.

This proxy statement and our 2013 Annual Report, which includes our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2013, are available at [www.thetorocompany.com/proxy](http://www.thetorocompany.com/proxy).

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Pursuant to rules adopted by the SEC, we have elected to provide access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials to our shareholders of record and beneficial owners (other than those beneficial owners who hold shares of our common stock in The Toro Company Investment, Savings and Employee Stock Ownership Plan, or IS&ESOP, The Toro Company Profit Sharing Plan for Plymouth Union Employees, The Toro Company Deferred Compensation Plan for Officers, or the Deferred Plan for Officers, The Toro Company Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors, or the Deferred Plan for Directors, and those record and beneficial owners who previously have requested that they receive electronic or paper copies of our proxy materials). All shareholders have the ability to access our proxy materials on the website referred to in the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials ([www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com)) or request to receive a printed set of our proxy materials. Instructions on how to access our proxy materials over the Internet or request a printed copy of our proxy materials may be found in the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials. In addition, shareholders may request to receive proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically by e-mail on an ongoing basis.

### **When and Where Will the Annual Meeting Be Held?**

The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at 1:30 p.m., Central Daylight Time, at our corporate offices located at 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota, 55420-1196.

### **What Are the Purposes of the Annual Meeting?**

The purposes of the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are to vote on the following items:

1. To elect as directors the three nominees named in this proxy statement, each to serve for a term of three years ending at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders;
2. To ratify the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending October 31, 2014;
3. To approve, on an advisory basis, our executive compensation; and
4. To transact any other business properly brought before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting.

### **Who Is Entitled to Vote at the Annual Meeting?**

Shareholders of record at the close of business on January 22, 2014, the record date, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting. As of January 22, 2014, there were 56,773,098 outstanding shares of our common stock. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter to be voted on at the annual meeting. Shares of our common stock that are held by us in our treasury are not counted as outstanding shares and will not be voted.

### **What Does It Mean If I Receive More Than One Notice or Set of Proxy Materials?**

If you hold shares in more than one account, you may receive multiple copies of the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials and/or electronic or paper copies of our proxy materials. If you are a participant in our Dividend Reinvestment Plan, shares registered in your name are combined with shares you hold in that plan. Similarly, where possible, shares registered in your name are combined with shares you hold, if any, as a participant in certain Toro employee benefit plans. However, shares you hold in "street name" (through a broker, bank or other nominee) are not combined with shares registered in your name or held as a participant in Toro employee benefit plans. If you receive more than one Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials and/or electronic or paper copies of our proxy materials, you



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must vote separately for each notice, e-mail notification or proxy and/or voting instruction card having a unique control number to ensure that you vote all of your shares.

### What Different Methods May I Use to Vote My Shares?

Your vote is important. If your shares are registered in your name, you may vote your shares in person at the meeting or by one of the three following methods:

- **Vote by Internet**, by going to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) and following the instructions for Internet voting shown on your Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials, proxy card or voting instruction form.
- **Vote by Telephone**, by dialing 800-690-6903 and following the instructions for telephone voting shown on your proxy card.
- **Vote by Proxy Card**, by completing, signing, dating and mailing your proxy card in the envelope provided if you received a paper copy of these proxy materials. If you vote by Internet or telephone, please do not mail your proxy card.

If you hold shares as a participant in certain Toro employee benefit plans, you may vote your shares by one of the three methods noted above. If your shares are held in "street name," you may receive a separate voting instruction form with this proxy statement or you may need to contact your broker, bank or other nominee to determine whether you will be able to vote electronically using the Internet or by telephone.

### How Will My Shares Be Voted?

If you return your signed proxy card or use Internet or telephone voting before the annual meeting, the named proxies will vote your shares as you direct. If you hold shares as a participant in certain Toro employee benefit plans, the trustee for such plan will cause your shares to be voted confidentially in accordance with your instructions.

For Proposal One—Election of Directors, you may:

- Vote **FOR** all three nominees;
- **WITHHOLD** your vote from all three nominees; or
- **WITHHOLD** your vote from one or more nominees you designate.

For Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation, you may:

- Vote **FOR** the proposal;
- Vote **AGAINST** the proposal; or
- **ABSTAIN** from voting on the proposal.

If your shares are registered in your name and you send in your proxy card or use Internet or telephone voting but you do not specify how you want to vote your shares, the proxies will vote your shares **FOR** all three nominees for election to the Board in Proposal One—Election of Directors, **FOR** Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, and **FOR** Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation. If you hold shares as a participant in certain Toro employee benefit plans and you do not provide voting instructions for such shares, in accordance with the terms of each respective plan, the trustee for such plan will vote your shares in the same proportion as the votes actually cast by participants.

If your shares are held in "street name" and you do not indicate how you wish to vote, under the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, rules, your broker is permitted to exercise its discretion to vote

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your shares only on certain “routine” matters. Proposal One—Election of Directors and Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation are not “routine” matters. Accordingly, if you do not direct your broker how to vote on those proposals, your broker may not exercise discretionary voting authority and may not vote your shares on such proposals. This is called a “broker non-vote” and although your shares will be considered to be represented by proxy at the annual meeting, as discussed below, they are not considered to be shares “entitled to vote” at the annual meeting and will not be counted as having been voted on the applicable proposal. Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm is a “routine” matter and, as such, your broker is permitted to exercise discretionary voting authority to vote your shares “for” or “against” the proposal in the absence of your instruction.

### **How Does the Board Recommend that I Vote?**

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote:

- **FOR** all three nominees for election to the Board in Proposal One—Election of Directors;
- **FOR** Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm; and
- **FOR** Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation.

### **How Can I Revoke or Change My Vote?**

If your shares are registered in your name, you may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted by one of the following methods:

- Submitting another proper proxy with a more recent date than that of the proxy first given by following the Internet or telephone voting instructions or completing, signing, dating and returning a proxy card;
- Sending written notice of revocation to our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel; or
- Attending the annual meeting and voting by ballot.

If you hold shares as a participant in certain Toro employee benefit plans, you may revoke or change your proxy by submitting another proper proxy with a more recent date than that of the proxy first given by following the Internet or telephone voting instructions or completing, signing, dating and returning a proxy card. If your shares are held in “street name,” you may revoke your proxy by following instructions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee.

### **How Many Shares Must Be Present to Hold the Annual Meeting?**

The presence, in person or represented by proxy, at the annual meeting of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock as of the record date will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the annual meeting. Your shares will be counted toward the quorum if you submit a proxy or vote at the annual meeting. Shares represented by proxies marked “abstain” and “broker non-votes” also are counted in determining whether a quorum is present for the transaction of business at the annual meeting.

### **What Vote Is Required for Each Proposal?**

Proposal One—Election of Directors will be decided by the affirmative vote of a plurality of the outstanding shares of our common stock, present in person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting, and entitled to vote at the annual meeting. A “plurality” for Proposal One means the individuals who receive the greatest number of votes cast “for” are elected as directors. However, under our Amended and Restated Bylaws, if a majority of the votes of the shares present in person or

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represented by proxy at the annual meeting are designated to be “withheld” from or are voted “against” a nominee for director in an uncontested election, that director must tender his or her resignation for consideration by the Nominating & Governance Committee. The Nominating & Governance Committee then must evaluate the best interests of our Company and its shareholders and recommend the action to be taken by the Board with respect to such tendered resignation.

Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation each will be decided by the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock, present in person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting, and entitled to vote at the annual meeting. Proposal Three is an advisory vote; however, our Compensation & Human Resources Committee and Board expect to take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future executive compensation decisions.

Proxies marked “withheld” on Proposal One—Election of Directors or “abstain” on Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm or Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation will be counted in determining the total number of shares “entitled to vote” on such proposal but will have the effect of a vote “against” a director or a proposal. “Broker non-votes” are not considered to be shares “entitled to vote” at the annual meeting and, as such, will not be counted as having been voted on the applicable proposal.

### **Who Will Count the Votes?**

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. has been engaged to tabulate shareholder votes and act as our independent inspector of elections for the annual meeting.

### **Are There Any Matters To Be Voted On at the Annual Meeting that Are Not Included in this Proxy Statement?**

We currently are not aware of any business to be acted upon at the annual meeting other than that described in this proxy statement. If, however, other matters properly are brought before the annual meeting, or any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting, your proxy includes discretionary authority on the part of the individuals appointed to vote your shares or act on those matters according to their best judgment.

### **How Will Business Be Conducted at the Annual Meeting?**

The presiding officer at the annual meeting will determine how business at the meeting will be conducted. Only nominations and other proposals brought before the annual meeting in accordance with the advance notice and information requirements of our Amended and Restated Bylaws will be considered, and no such nominations or other proposals were received. In order for a shareholder proposal to have been included in our proxy statement for the annual meeting, our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel must have received such proposal not later than October 1, 2013. Under our Amended and Restated Bylaws, complete and timely written notice of a proposed nominee for election to our Board at the annual meeting or a proposal for any other business to be brought before the annual meeting must have been received by our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel not later than December 12, 2013, nor earlier than November 12, 2013, and must have contained the specific information required by our Amended and Restated Bylaws.

**STOCK OWNERSHIP****Significant Beneficial Owners**

The following table sets forth information known to us as of January 22, 2014, as to entities that have reported to the SEC or have otherwise advised us that they are a beneficial owner, as defined by the SEC's rules and regulations, of more than five percent of our outstanding common stock.

<b>Title of Class</b>	<b>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner</b>	<b>Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership</b>	<b>Percent of Class<sup>(1)</sup></b>
Common Stock	The Vanguard Group, Inc. 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355	3,685,011 <sup>(2)</sup>	6.49%
Common Stock	BlackRock, Inc. 40 East 52nd St. New York, NY 10022	3,428,028 <sup>(3)</sup>	6.04%
Common Stock	Mairs and Power, Inc. 332 Minnesota St. #W-1520 St. Paul, MN 55101	3,214,803 <sup>(4)</sup>	5.66%
Common Stock	T Rowe Price Associates Inc. 100 East Pratt St. Baltimore, MD 21202	3,015,310 <sup>(5)</sup>	5.31%

(1) Percent of class is based on 56,773,098 shares outstanding as of January 22, 2014.

(2) Based solely on information contained in the most recently filed Schedule 13F of The Vanguard Group, Inc. an investment advisor, filed with the SEC on November 7, 2013, reflecting beneficial ownership as of September 30, 2013, with sole investment discretion but no voting authority with respect to 3,647,365 shares, sole investment discretion and voting authority with respect to 3,000 shares and shared investment discretion but sole voting authority with respect to 34,646 shares.

(3) Based solely on information contained in the most recently filed Schedule 13F of each of the following entities, each of which was filed with the SEC on November 12, 2013, reflecting beneficial ownership as of September 30, 2013: (a) BlackRock, Inc., reflecting beneficial ownership of 3,675 shares of our common stock; (b) BlackRock Advisors, LLC, reflecting beneficial ownership of 7,887 shares of our common stock; (c) BlackRock Fund Advisors, reflecting beneficial ownership of 1,958,156 shares of our common stock; (d) BlackRock Investment Management, LLC, reflecting beneficial ownership of 49,981 shares of our common stock; (e) BlackRock Group Limited, reflecting beneficial ownership of 75,219 shares of our common stock; and (f) BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A., reflecting beneficial ownership of 1,333,110 shares of our common stock. Each entity reported sole investment discretion and voting authority with respect to all such shares. BlackRock, Inc. is a parent holding company of certain institutional investment managers and the most recently filed Schedule 13F of BlackRock, Inc. names each of the other entities listed herein as a subsidiary and individual filer of Schedules 13F.

(4) Based solely on information contained in the most recently filed Schedule 13F of Mairs and Power, Inc., an investment advisor, filed with the SEC on November 14, 2013, reflecting beneficial ownership as of September 30, 2013, with sole investment discretion with respect to all such shares, sole voting authority with respect to 2,659,860 shares and no voting authority with respect to 554,943 shares.

(5) Based solely on information contained in the most recently filed Schedule 13F of T Rowe Price Associates Inc., an investment advisor, filed with the SEC on November 14, 2013, reflecting beneficial ownership as of September 30, 2013, with sole investment discretion with respect to all

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such shares, sole voting authority with respect to 539,800 shares and no voting authority with respect to 2,475,510 shares.

### Directors and Executive Officers

The following table sets forth information known to us regarding the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of January 22, 2014, by (i) each of our current directors and nominees for director, (ii) our “principal executive officer,” “principal financial officer” and the next three most highly compensated executive officers named in the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55 (we collectively refer to these persons as our “named executive officers”), and (iii) all current directors and executive officers as a group.

Name	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup> <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	Common Stock Beneficially Owned as a Percent of Common Stock Outstanding <sup>(5)</sup>
<b>Non-Employee Directors:</b>		
Robert C. Buhrmaster	89,690	*
Janet K. Cooper	75,287	*
Gary L. Ellis	55,572	*
Jeffrey M. Ettinger	19,902	*
Katherine J. Harless	55,164	*
James C. O'Rourke	3,143	*
Gregg W. Steinhafel	43,958	*
Christopher A. Twomey	86,849	*
<b>Named Executive Officers:</b>		
Michael J. Hoffman	1,790,150	3.09%
Renee J. Peterson	60,727	*
William E. Brown, Jr.	215,625	*
Timothy P. Dordell	199,165	*
Michael J. Happe	83,435	*
All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (22)	3,545,244	6.03%

\* Less than one percent of the outstanding shares of our common stock

- (1) Shares are deemed to be “beneficially owned” by a person if such person, directly or indirectly, has or shares: (a) the power to vote or direct the voting of such shares, or (b) the power to dispose or direct the disposition of such shares. Except as otherwise indicated in the footnotes to this table, the persons in this table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of our common stock shown as beneficially owned by them, subject to community property laws, where applicable.
- (2) “Beneficial ownership” also includes: (a) shares that a person has the right to acquire within 60 days of January 22, 2014, and, as such, includes shares that may be acquired upon exercise of stock options within 60 days of January 22, 2014; (b) shares of restricted stock that vest over time and are subject to forfeiture until vested; (c) shares allocated to executive officers under the IS&ESOP; and (d) common stock units and performance share units, collectively referred to as units, credited under the Deferred Plan for Directors and the Deferred Plan for Officers. The

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following table reflects the beneficial ownership by type of security held by our Non-Employee Directors and Executive Officers:

Name	Stock Options	Restricted Stock	IS&ESOP	Units under the Deferred Plan for Directors	Units under the Deferred Plan for Officers
<b>Non-Employee Directors:</b>					
Robert C. Buhrmaster	50,232	—	—	8,574	—
Janet K. Cooper	42,232	—	—	21,215	—
Gary L. Ellis	35,140	—	—	1,765	—
Jeffrey M. Ettinger	9,110	—	—	0	—
Katherine J. Harless	23,338	—	—	878	—
James C. O'Rourke	1,140	—	—	0	—
Gregg W. Steinhafel	28,584	—	—	2,638	—
Christopher A. Twomey	42,232	—	—	4,617	—
<b>Named Executive Officers:</b>					
Michael J. Hoffman	1,074,400	0	65,717	—	0
Renee J. Peterson	24,732	15,470	81	—	0
William E. Brown, Jr.	106,866	3,071	4,845	—	0
Timothy P. Dordell	155,038	0	0	—	40,944
Michael J. Happe	51,266	3,071	11,792	—	6,476
All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (22)	2,035,008	30,206	156,371	39,687	168,033

- (3) Includes shares held in trust for estate planning purposes as follows: 10,965 shares for Ms. Cooper, 26,610 shares for Ms. Harless, 40,000 shares for Mr. Twomey, 121,382 shares for Mr. Hoffman, 3,183 shares for Mr. Dordell and 202,140 shares for all current directors and executive officers as a group. Ms. Cooper's spouse is sole trustee of the trust and has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares held in trust; and accordingly, Ms. Cooper disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares. Ms. Harless has shared voting and investment power with respect to the shares held in trust. Mr. Twomey has sole voting and investment power with respect to 10,715 of the shares held in trust and shared voting and investment power with respect to 29,285 of the shares held in trust.
- (4) Includes shares held jointly with spouse for which the director or officer has shared voting and investment power as follows: 12,736 shares for Mr. Steinhafel, 34,525 shares for Mr. Brown and 60,334 shares for all directors and executive officers as a group.
- (5) Percentages are calculated pursuant to Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act. Percentage calculations assume, for each person and the group, that all shares that may be acquired by such person or by the group pursuant to stock options or other rights currently exercisable or that become exercisable within 60 days following January 22, 2014, are outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage of common stock owned by such person or by the group. However, those unissued shares of our common stock described above are not deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of calculating the percentage of common stock owned by any other person.

### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

The rules of the SEC require us to disclose the identity of directors, executive officers and greater than 10% owners of our common stock who did not file on a timely basis reports required by Section 16 of the Exchange Act. Based on review of reports filed by these reporting persons on the

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SEC's electronic filing, or EDGAR, system and written representations by our directors and executive officers, we believe that all of our directors, executive officers and greater than 10% owners complied with all filing requirements applicable to them during our fiscal year ended October 31, 2013, or fiscal 2013, except that one Form 4 reporting one open market purchase on November 20, 2012, by William E. Brown, Jr. was not filed on a timely basis. In this case, a broker made a non-directed purchase of Toro common stock in an IRA account held by Mr. Brown's spouse, and such purchase was subsequently disclosed in a Form 4 filed on December 18, 2012.

## PROPOSAL ONE—ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

### Number of Directors; Board Structure

Our Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that our Board of Directors may be comprised of between eight and twelve directors. Our Board currently is comprised of nine directors. As provided in our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, our Board is divided into three staggered classes of directors of the same or nearly the same number, with each class elected in a different year for a term of three years. Our current directors and their respective current terms are as follows:

Current Term Ending at 2014 Annual Meeting	Current Term Ending at 2015 Annual Meeting	Current Term Ending at 2016 Annual Meeting
Jeffrey M. Ettinger Katherine J. Harless Michael J. Hoffman	Janet K. Cooper Gary L. Ellis Gregg W. Steinhafel	Robert C. Buhmaster James C. O'Rourke Christopher A. Twomey

### Nominees for Director

The Board has nominated each of Jeffrey M. Ettinger, Katherine J. Harless and Michael J. Hoffman for election to the Board to serve for a three-year term ending at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Each of these nominees is a current member of the Board and has consented to serve if elected. Proxies only can be voted for the number of persons named as nominees in this proxy statement, which is three.

### Board Recommendation

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote FOR the election to the Board of the three nominees for director.**

If prior to the annual meeting the Board should learn that any nominee will be unable to serve for any reason, the proxies that otherwise would have been voted for that nominee will be voted for a substitute nominee as selected by the Board. Alternatively, at the Board's discretion, the proxies may be voted for that fewer number of nominees as results from the inability of any nominee to serve. The Board has no reason to believe that any of the nominees will be unable to serve.

### Information About Board Nominees and Continuing Directors

The following paragraphs provide information about each nominee for election to the Board at the annual meeting and each other member of the Board, including all positions he or she currently holds, his or her principal occupation and business experience for the past five years, and the names of other publicly held companies of which he or she currently serves as a director or has served as a director during the past five years. We believe that all of our director nominees and other directors display personal and professional integrity; satisfactory levels of education and business experience; business acumen; an appropriate level of understanding of our business, its industry and other industries relevant to our business; the ability and willingness to devote adequate time to the work of our Board and its committees; a fit of skills and personality with those of our other directors that helps build a Board that is effective, collegial and responsive to the needs of our Company; strategic thinking and a willingness to share ideas; a diversity of experiences, expertise and background; and the ability to represent the interests of all of our shareholders. The information presented below regarding each director nominee or director also sets forth specific experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that led our Board to conclude that he or she should serve as a director in light of our business and structure.

#### **Nominees for Election to the Board—Current Term Ending at the 2014 Annual Meeting.**

**Jeffrey M. Ettinger, age 55**, is the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hormel Foods Corporation, Austin, Minnesota (a multinational manufacturer and marketer of consumer-



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branded food and meat products). Mr. Ettinger has held these positions since November 2006. Previously, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of Hormel Foods from January 2006 to November 2006, and was President and Chief Operating Officer from 2004 to 2006. First elected to the Toro Board in July 2010, he is a member of the Audit Committee and the Compensation & Human Resources Committee. Mr. Ettinger has served as a director of Hormel Foods since 2004, and currently serves on the boards of the Grocery Manufacturers of America, the American Meat Institute, the Minnesota Business Partnership and The Hormel Foundation.

Mr. Ettinger has developed throughout his career, and brings to our Board, strong business acumen, significant executive leadership attributes and relevant experience of driving growth through innovation and strategic acquisitions. As Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hormel Foods, a Fortune 500 public company with global operations, Mr. Ettinger provides our Board and Management relevant insight and guidance with respect to numerous issues important to our Company, including in particular our strategy of driving growth in our business through the development of innovative, customer-valued products and expansion of our global presence through targeted acquisitions. Additionally, he contributes knowledge of public company requirements and issues, which are helpful to his service as a member of our Audit Committee and Compensation & Human Resources Committee.

**Katherine J. Harless, age 62**, was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Idearc Inc., Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas (a provider of sales, publishing and related services including Verizon Yellow Pages and SuperPages.com), from November 2006 until her retirement in February 2008. On March 31, 2009, Idearc Inc. and all of its domestic subsidiaries filed voluntary petitions in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, seeking reorganization relief under the provisions of Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. On December 31, 2009, Idearc emerged from the Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings and under its plan of reorganization has, among other things over time, merged with Dex One Corporation to form Dex Media, Inc. and now trades on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "DXM." Ms. Harless also previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Verizon Information Services Inc. from 2000 to November 2006, when it was spun off by Verizon Communications, Inc. to become Idearc, and was a director of Idearc from November 2006 to May 2008. First elected to the Toro Board in 2000, she is a member of the Audit Committee, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee and the Nominating & Governance Committee. Ms. Harless also currently serves on the advisory board of the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas, Austin, is a director and program co-chair for the North Texas Chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors and a director for The Board Connection.

Ms. Harless brings to our Board executive leadership and management skills that she developed through her positions as former President and Chief Executive Officer of Idearc and as former President of several strategic business units at Verizon Communications, Inc. and GTE Corporation. Ms. Harless was the first woman to become President of an operating company of GTE Corporation. Ms. Harless provides our Board with a seasoned business perspective and provides valuable business, leadership and management insights with respect to our strategic direction. Through her position as former President and Chief Executive Officer of Idearc, a public company, Ms. Harless gained experience and knowledge of financial, executive compensation, corporate governance and other requirements and issues applicable to public companies, which are helpful to her service as a member of our Audit Committee, Compensation & Human Resources Committee and Nominating & Governance Committee.

**Michael J. Hoffman, age 58**, is our Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer, and we generally refer to him in this proxy statement as our Chairman and CEO. Mr. Hoffman was appointed as Chairman in March 2006, was elected as Chief Executive Officer in March 2005, and was

elected as President in October 2004. Mr. Hoffman was first elected to the Toro Board in March 2005, and since November 2005 has also served as a director of Donaldson Company, Inc.

In his more than 36 years with our Company, Mr. Hoffman has developed and brings to our Board leadership experience and extensive knowledge of all aspects of our Company, business, industry, markets and day-to-day operations. Mr. Hoffman contributes an unwavering commitment to quality and innovation in our products, customer service, manufacturing, and marketing, and is a strong steward of our culture and ethical “tone at the top.” Mr. Hoffman’s role as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of our Company creates a critical link between our Board and our Management. As a result of his dual role, Mr. Hoffman provides unique insight into our Company’s future strategies, opportunities and challenges, and serves as the unifying element between the leadership and strategic direction provided by our Board and the implementation of our business strategies by Management. Additionally, Mr. Hoffman’s service on the board of directors of Donaldson enables him to bring an enhanced understanding of, and experience with, public company requirements and issues.

**Continuing Members of the Board—Current Term Ending at the 2015 Annual Meeting.**

**Janet K. Cooper, age 60**, was the Senior Vice President and Treasurer of Qwest Communications International Inc., Denver, Colorado (a U.S. telecommunications company that merged with and now does business as CenturyLink), from September 2002 to June 2008. From 2001 to 2002, she served as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President of McDATA Corporation. From 2000 to 2001, she served as Senior Vice President, Finance of Qwest. From 1998 to 2000, she served in various senior level finance positions at US West Inc., including as Vice President, Finance and Controller and Vice President and Treasurer. From 1978 to 1998, Ms. Cooper served in various capacities with The Quaker Oats Company, including as Vice President, Treasurer and Tax from 1997 to 1998 and Vice President, Treasurer from 1992 to 1997. First elected to the Toro Board in 1994, she is the Chair of the Audit Committee and a member of the Finance Committee. Ms. Cooper has served as a director of Lennox International Inc. since 1999. In addition, she currently serves as a director of MWH Global, Inc., a privately held company.

Through her experience in various senior level financial positions with Qwest, McDATA Corporation, US West and Quaker Oats, Ms. Cooper has developed a substantial financial and accounting background and expertise, which she contributes to our Board and more specifically to our Audit Committee, in her role as Chair, and to our Finance Committee. Ms. Cooper’s financial expertise and acumen in capital markets, audit, tax, accounting, treasury and risk- management matters assists our Board in providing oversight to Management on these matters. Ms. Cooper’s senior leadership experience also enables her to provide strategic input to our Board, in addition to her financial expertise, discipline and oversight.

**Gary L. Ellis, age 57**, is the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Medtronic, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota (a global medical technology company). Mr. Ellis has held these positions since May 2005. Previously, he was the Vice President, Corporate Controller and Treasurer of Medtronic from 1999 to May 2005. First elected to the Toro Board in 2006, he is the Chair of the Finance Committee and a member of the Audit Committee. Mr. Ellis currently serves on the boards of the Science Museum of Minnesota and the Greater Twin Cities United Way.

As Chief Financial Officer of Medtronic, a Fortune 500 public company with global operations, Mr. Ellis possesses and brings relevant financial leadership experience and expertise to our Board and more specifically to our Finance Committee, in his role as Chair, and our to Audit Committee. Such experience assists our Board in providing oversight to Management regarding capital structure, financial condition and policies, long-range financial objectives, tax strategies, financing requirements and arrangements, capital budgets and expenditures, risk-management, insurance coverage, and strategic planning matters. Additionally, Mr. Ellis contributes his international experience managing

worldwide financial operations and analyzing financial implications of merger and acquisition transactions, as well as aligning business strategies and financial decisions. As a result, Mr. Ellis provides our Board valuable perspectives as our Company continues its efforts to improve revenue growth and profitability, including growth in international markets, and maintain a strong balance sheet.

**Gregg W. Steinhafel, age 59**, is the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Target Corporation, Minneapolis, Minnesota (a variety retailing company). Mr. Steinhafel was appointed as Chairman of Target in February 2009, was elected as Chief Executive Officer in May 2008, and was elected as President in 1999. First elected to the Toro Board in 1999, he is a member of the Compensation & Human Resources Committee and the Nominating & Governance Committee. Mr. Steinhafel has served as a director of Target since 2007 and also currently serves on the board of the Retail Industry Leaders Association.

Mr. Steinhafel brings to our Board strong leadership experience and retail knowledge that he has developed in his more than 30 years with Target, a Fortune 500 public company. As Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Target, Mr. Steinhafel is responsible for Target's excellent brand recognition, devotion to innovation, strong supply chain initiatives, and disciplined approach to managing its business and investing in future growth, all of which are important to our Company's business strategies. In addition, he contributes executive decision-making skills and valuable strategic planning expertise, as well as significant and relevant knowledge of public company requirements and issues. Mr. Steinhafel's significant retail knowledge assists our Board in providing guidance with respect to our residential business, which is affected by consumer confidence and spending levels, changing buying patterns of customers and the amount of product placement at mass retailers, such as The Home Depot.

#### **Continuing Members of the Board—Current Term Ending at the 2016 Annual Meeting.**

**Robert C. Buhmaster, age 66**, was the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Jostens, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota (a designer and producer of athletic championship and scholastic products), until his retirement in 2004. Mr. Buhmaster was appointed Chairman of Jostens in 1998 and was elected as Chief Executive Officer in 1994. He also served as President of Jostens from 1994 to January 2003. First elected to the Toro Board in 1996, he serves as our presiding non-management director, or Lead Director, is the Chair of the Nominating & Governance Committee and is a member of the Finance Committee. Mr. Buhmaster has served as a director of SurModics, Inc. since January 2008 and as its Chairman since January 2009. Mr. Buhmaster is retiring from SurModics' board of directors effective at the conclusion of its Annual Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held on February 4, 2014. From August 2009 to May 2013 he also served as a director of Caraustar Industries, Inc., a privately held company.

Mr. Buhmaster has developed and brings to our Board strong business leadership, corporate strategy and operational expertise that he acquired throughout his long career at Jostens, including as its Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President. Additionally, as an experienced public company director, Mr. Buhmaster contributes an enhanced knowledge of public company requirements and issues, including corporate governance matters, which are specifically relevant to his role as our Lead Director and to his service on our Nominating & Governance Committee, in his role as Chair. As a result, Mr. Buhmaster is able to draw on his management and boardroom experiences to foster active discussion and collaboration among the non-employee directors of the Board and with our Management.

**James C. O'Rourke, age 53**, is the Executive Vice President—Operations and Chief Operating Officer of The Mosaic Company, Plymouth, Minnesota (a global producer and marketer of combined concentrated phosphate and potash crop nutrients for the global agriculture industry), a position he has held since August 2012. In this role, Mr. O'Rourke has responsibility for Mosaic's mining and

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manufacturing operations, as well as environmental, health and safety, supply chain and procurement. Previously, Mr. O'Rourke was the Executive Vice President—Operations from January 2009, when he joined Mosaic, to August 2012. From 2006 to 2008, Mr. O'Rourke was the President, Australia Pacific of Barrick Gold Corporation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (a global producer and seller of gold and copper also engaged in related activities including exploration and mine development), where he was responsible for the Australia Pacific Business Unit consisting of gold and copper mines in Australia and Papua New Guinea and oversight of approximately 6,500 employees. Throughout his career, Mr. O'Rourke has held various senior management, engineering and other positions in the mining industry. First elected to the Toro Board in August 2012, he is a member of the Audit Committee and the Finance Committee.

Mr. O'Rourke has developed and brings to our Board significant leadership skills, strategic and innovative thinking and strong international business expertise. He also contributes substantial knowledge of worldwide manufacturing, distribution and supply chain strategies and environmental, health and safety matters gained through his tenure with Mosaic, a Fortune 500 company with global presence, and various previous positions in Canada, Papua New Guinea and Australia. As a result of his background and experience, Mr. O'Rourke provides our Board and Management relevant insight and guidance with respect to numerous issues important to our Company, including in particular as we explore opportunities to increase our global presence and grow our revenues by investing in new products and infrastructure that are intended to connect us more closely with international customers, and strive to further increase operational efficiencies and improve quality worldwide.

**Christopher A. Twomey, age 65**, was the Chairman of Arctic Cat Inc., Thief River Falls, Minnesota (a manufacturer of all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles), a position he held from August 2003 until August 2012. Previously, Mr. Twomey was also the Chief Executive Officer of Arctic Cat from 1986 until his retirement in December 2010. First elected to the Toro Board in 1998, he is the Chair of the Compensation & Human Resources Committee and a member of the Nominating & Governance Committee. Mr. Twomey has served as a director of Arctic Cat since 1987.

Mr. Twomey brings to our Board meaningful strategic, management and operational experience and knowledge developed in his more than 25 years with Arctic Cat. As a result of Mr. Twomey's long career in a business and industry dependent on distributor relationships and financing sources, and affected by weather conditions and seasonality considerations, he provides valuable knowledge and insight with respect to similar issues faced by our Company in our industry. Also, as former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of a public company, Mr. Twomey contributes a solid understanding of public company requirements and issues, including executive compensation and corporate governance issues, which are relevant to his service on our Compensation & Human Resources Committee, in his role as Chair, and as a member of our Nominating & Governance Committee.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

### Corporate Governance Guidelines

The Board has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, which describe our corporate governance practices and policies and provide a framework for our Board governance. The topics addressed in our Corporate Governance Guidelines include: director qualifications and responsibilities; Board committees; director access to officers and employees; compensation; independence and related party transactions; Chief Executive Officer, or CEO, evaluation and management succession; and Board annual self-evaluation. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines provide, among other things, that:

- The Board will have a majority of directors who meet the criteria for independence required by applicable law, the rules and regulations of the SEC and the NYSE listing standards.
- Individual directors who significantly change the responsibility they held when they were elected to the Board should offer their resignation to provide an opportunity for the Board, through the Nominating & Governance Committee, to review the continued appropriateness of Board membership under the circumstances.
- No director may serve on boards of directors of more than four publicly held companies without the approval of the Nominating & Governance Committee.
- No director who is an active full-time employee of our Company may serve as a director of more than two other publicly held companies and there may be no interlocking board memberships without the approval of the Nominating & Governance Committee.
- While the Board does not believe it should establish age limits, any director who has attained the age of 70 should volunteer not to stand for re-election.
- While the Board does not believe it should establish term limits, the Nominating & Governance Committee will review and make a recommendation to the Board regarding each director's continuation on the Board before the annual meeting at which a director is to be proposed for re-election.
- Within five years of joining the Board, each non-management director is expected to own a dollar value of our common stock equal to at least five times the amount of the director's annual cash retainer for Board service.
- At any time that the offices of Chairman and CEO are held by the same person, or the Chairman does not meet the criteria for "independence" as established by applicable law, the rules and regulations of the SEC or the NYSE listing standards, then the Board, upon recommendation of the Nominating & Governance Committee, shall appoint a Lead Director who shall have such duties as are described in the Corporate Governance Guidelines or otherwise determined by the Board.
- The non-management directors will meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions without Management.
- The Board will maintain an Audit Committee, Compensation & Human Resources Committee and Nominating & Governance Committee at all times.
- The Board will annually review top management succession plans and periodically review an emergency leadership preparedness plan applicable in the event the CEO unexpectedly becomes incapacitated or otherwise is unable to serve.
- The Board will conduct an annual self-evaluation to determine whether it and its committees are functioning effectively.

Our Corporate Governance Guidelines can be found on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com](http://www.thetorocompany.com) (select the "Investor Information" link and then the "Corporate Governance" link). From time to time the

Board, upon recommendation of the Nominating & Governance Committee, reviews and updates our Corporate Governance Guidelines as it deems necessary and appropriate.

### **Board Leadership Structure**

Our Corporate Governance Guidelines provide that (i) our Board has no policy with respect to the separation of the offices of the Chairman and the CEO; (ii) our Board believes that this issue is part of the succession planning process and will be reviewed as the Nominating & Governance Committee deems it appropriate; and (iii) at any time that (a) the offices of Chairman and CEO are held by the same person, or (b) the Chairman does not meet the criteria for “independence” as established by applicable law, the rules and regulations of the SEC or the NYSE listing standards, then the Board, upon recommendation of the Nominating & Governance Committee, shall appoint a Lead Director who shall have such duties as are described in the Corporate Governance Guidelines or otherwise determined by the Board. The Board believes it is appropriate not to have a policy requiring the separation of the offices of the Chairman and the CEO so that it may make this determination based on what it believes is best under the current circumstances. However, the Board endorses the concept of an independent, non-employee director being in a position of leadership and, thus, our Corporate Governance Guidelines require a Lead Director when the Chairman is not independent.

Our Board is currently chaired by Michael J. Hoffman, our Chairman and CEO. Our Lead Director is Robert C. Buhmaster. Our Nominating & Governance Committee and full Board believe that our current leadership structure is appropriate for several reasons, including: (i) Mr. Hoffman’s extensive knowledge of our Company, our business and our industry, obtained through his 36 years of service to our Company, which benefit Board leadership and the Board’s decision-making process through his active role as Chairman; (ii) unification of Board leadership and strategic direction as implemented by our Management; and (iii) appropriate balance of risks relating to concentration of authority through the oversight of our independent and engaged Lead Director and Board. Mr. Hoffman’s biography is set forth on pages 11-12.

As our Lead Director, Mr. Buhmaster (i) assists Mr. Hoffman in establishing the agenda for each Board meeting and the schedule of agenda subjects to be discussed during the year, to the degree such subjects can be foreseen; (ii) presides at regularly scheduled executive sessions of the non-employee directors without Management present; (iii) together with the Chair of the Compensation & Human Resources Committee, communicates to Mr. Hoffman the results of his annual performance review and compensation; and (iv) leads the Board’s annual self-evaluation. With more than 17 years of continuous service on our Board, Mr. Buhmaster has considerable knowledge of our Company, our business and our industry. Mr. Buhmaster also has significant public company board experience. In addition to serving as our Lead Director, Mr. Buhmaster serves as the Chair of our Nominating & Governance Committee. Mr. Buhmaster’s biography is set forth on page 13.

### **Board’s Role in Risk Oversight**

Management is primarily responsible for the identification, assessment and management of the key risks faced by our Company. Our risk assessment processes are coordinated primarily through our internal audit function, and involve (i) the identification by senior leaders of our business functions and divisions of the particular risks relevant to their respective areas; (ii) assessment of the materiality of those risks, based on expected probability of occurrence and severity of impact; and (iii) to the extent prudent and feasible, development of strategies and plans to mitigate, monitor and control such risks.

The Board’s oversight of these risks primarily occurs in connection with the exercise of its responsibility to oversee our business, including through the review of our long-term strategic plans, annual operating plans, financial results, merger and acquisition related activities, material legal

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proceedings, and management succession plans. In addition, the Board uses its committees to assist with risk oversight within their respective areas of responsibility and expertise as follows:

- The Audit Committee assists through its oversight of the quality and integrity of our financial reports, compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements, qualifications and independence of our independent registered public accounting firm, or external auditor, performance of our internal audit function, and accounting and reporting processes, and through its review of our general policies and procedures regarding accounting and financial matters and internal controls. The Audit Committee is also responsible for discussing our policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, including our major financial and business risk exposures and the steps Management has taken to monitor and control such exposures.
- The Compensation & Human Resources Committee assists through its oversight of our compensation programs and policies, including executive compensation, and employee organizational and corporate culture plans and strategies. A discussion of the Compensation & Human Resources Committee's assessment of compensation policies and practices as they relate to our Company's risk management is found under "Assessment of Risk Related to Compensation Programs" on page 54.
- The Finance Committee assists through its oversight of our capital structure and related policies, long-range objectives, tax strategies and restructuring projects, financing requirements and arrangements, equity and debt issuances and repurchases, use of derivative, hedging and similar instruments, annual capital budget and capital expenditures, D&O and liability insurance coverage, and the delegated responsibilities of our Management Investment Committee relating to our ERISA-regulated employee benefit plans; and through its evaluation of, among other things, the financial impact of proposed business combination transactions expected to have significant financial implications and related recommendations to the Board and review of post-acquisition financial integration and return on investment.
- The Nominating & Governance Committee assists through its oversight of our overall corporate governance structure and policies, including director nominations, director independence and qualifications, Board leadership structure and Board committee structure.

The Chair of each Board committee provides a summary of the matters discussed in their committee meeting to the full Board. Additional information regarding the responsibilities of each of these committees can be found under "Board Committees" beginning on page 18.

The Board believes that its oversight of risk is enhanced by its current leadership structure, as previously discussed, because our Chairman and CEO, who is ultimately responsible for our Management's risk responsibility, also chairs regular Board meetings and, with his in-depth knowledge and understanding of our Company, is well positioned to bring key business issues and risks to the attention of the full Board.

### **Director Independence**

The Board, following consideration of all relevant facts and circumstances and upon recommendation of the Nominating & Governance Committee, has affirmatively determined that each director who served as a member of our Board during any part of fiscal 2013 (Robert C. Buhmaster, Gary L. Ellis, Jeffrey M. Ettinger, Janet K. Cooper, Katherine J. Harless, Robert H. Nassau, James C. O'Rourke, Gregg W. Steinhafel and Christopher A. Twomey), other than Michael J. Hoffman, our Chairman and CEO, is independent in that each such person has no material relationship with our Company, our Management, our external auditor, our external compensation consultant or our external compensation legal advisors, and otherwise meets the independence requirements as established by applicable law, the rules and regulations of the SEC and the NYSE listing standards. The Board



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determined that Michael J. Hoffman is not independent due to his status as an executive officer of our Company. The Board based its independence determinations, in part, upon a review by the Nominating & Governance Committee and the Board of certain transactions between us and the employers of certain of our directors, each of which was deemed to be pre-approved under our Corporate Governance Guidelines in that each such transaction was made in the ordinary course of business, at arm's length, at prices and on terms customarily available to unrelated third party vendors or customers generally, in amounts that are not material to us or such unaffiliated corporation, and in which the director had no direct or indirect personal interest, nor received any personal benefit.

### **Director Attendance; Executive Sessions**

The Board held seven meetings during fiscal 2013 and took action by unanimous written consent once in fiscal 2013. At each regular Board meeting, our non-employee directors met in executive session without Management present and presided by our Lead Director. Each incumbent director attended at least 75% of the aggregate total number of meetings held by the Board and all committees on which he or she served.

We encourage all of our directors to attend our annual meeting of shareholders and we customarily schedule a regular Board meeting on the same day as our annual meeting. Of the nine directors serving at the time of our 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on March 12, 2013, eight directors were in attendance.

### **Board Committees**

The Board has four committees with their respective principal functions and membership described below. Each committee has a charter that is posted on our website at [www.thetoro.com](http://www.thetoro.com) (select the "Investor Information" link and then the "Corporate Governance" link). On an annual basis the Audit Committee, Nominating & Governance Committee and Compensation & Human Resources Committee review the adequacy of their charter and their performance. The Finance Committee periodically reviews its charter and performance, with such review historically conducted on an annual basis.

The following table indicates the current membership of our four Board committees. Each of the members of the Audit Committee, Compensation & Human Resources Committee and Nominating & Governance Committee meets the independence and other requirements established by applicable law, the rules and regulations of the SEC, the NYSE listing standards and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or Code. Mr. Hoffman is not a member of any Board committee but does attend committee meetings, or portions of such meetings as appropriate, as a member of Management at the invitation of such Board committees.

<b>Director</b>	<b>Audit</b>	<b>Compensation &amp; Human Resources</b>	<b>Nominating &amp; Governance</b>	<b>Finance</b>
Robert C. Buhrmaster			Chair	ü
Janet K. Cooper	Chair			ü
Gary L. Ellis	ü			Chair
Jeffrey M. Ettinger	ü	ü		
Katherine J. Harless	ü	ü	ü	
James C. O'Rourke	ü			ü
Gregg W. Steinhafel		ü	ü	
Christopher A. Twomey		Chair	ü	



**Audit Committee.** The Audit Committee oversees our accounting and financial reporting processes, audits of our consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting. The Committee assists the Board in oversight of the quality and integrity of our financial reports, our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the qualifications and independence of our external auditor, and the performance of our internal audit function. More specifically, the Committee's duties and responsibilities include, among others:

- Reviewing and evaluating, at least annually, the qualifications, independence and performance of our external auditor and lead partners and having direct responsibility for selecting, engaging, retaining, compensating and, where appropriate, replacing our external auditor;
- Reviewing and approving in advance the scope, magnitude and budgets of all examinations of our consolidated financial statements by our external auditor;
- Reviewing and approving in advance the retention of our external auditor for all types of audit and permitted non-audit services to be performed by our external auditor, approving the fees for such services and establishing pre-approval policies and procedures to retain our external auditor for additional non-audit services;
- Meeting with our external auditor periodically, and at least annually, without Management or other Company representatives present to discuss internal controls and accuracy and completeness of our consolidated financial statements;
- Reviewing the annual audit plans of our internal audit function and its capability to perform its duties, including its organization, staffing and independence, and reviewing significant comments and recommendations of our internal audit function and Management's responses;
- Reviewing our Code of Conduct and our Code of Ethics for our CEO and Senior Financial Officers, as well as policies and procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints from employees on accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and for the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters;
- Reviewing with Management and our external auditor any correspondence with regulators or governmental agencies and any significant employee complaints or published reports that raise material issues regarding our consolidated financial statements or accounting policies;
- Reviewing our policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, including our major financial risk exposures and Management's efforts to monitor and control such exposures;
- Reviewing with Management and our external auditor our annual audited consolidated financial statements and audit results, Annual Report on Form 10-K and quarterly condensed consolidated financial statements and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q; in each case with a focus on difficulties encountered, material errors or irregularities, weaknesses in internal controls and similar issues, disagreements with Management, and notifying the Board of major problems or deficiencies discovered in carrying out the Committee's duties;
- Reviewing the type and presentation of information included in our earnings releases and any financial information or earnings guidance provided to financial analysts and rating agencies;
- Receiving analyses and comments regarding significant accounting pronouncements which might affect our Company; and
- Reviewing our general policies and procedures with respect to accounting and financial matters and internal controls.

The Board has determined that all members of the Audit Committee, in addition to being independent under the rules and regulations of the SEC and the NYSE listing standards, are financially

literate and that Audit Committee Chair Janet K. Cooper meets the definition of “audit committee financial expert” as a result of her experience in senior corporate executive positions with financial oversight responsibilities, including her previous experience as the Senior Vice President and Treasurer of Qwest Communications International Inc. and as the Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration of McDATA Corporation, as well as other finance positions with Qwest and The Quaker Oats Company. Shareholders should understand that this designation is an SEC disclosure requirement related to Ms. Cooper’s experience and understanding with respect to certain accounting and auditing matters. The designation does not impose upon her any duties, obligations or liability greater than are generally imposed on her as a member of the Audit Committee and the Board, and her designation as a financial expert pursuant to this SEC requirement does not affect the duties, obligations or liability of any other member of the Audit Committee or the Board. Other members of the Audit Committee who currently are serving or have served as chief executive officers or chief financial officers of other public companies also may be considered financial experts, but the Board has not so designated them.

The Committee held 11 meetings during fiscal 2013. At six of these meetings the Committee met in private session independently without Management present. The Committee met in separate private sessions with our external auditor four times, with Senior Management five times, and with our internal auditor three times. Additional information regarding the Committee and our external auditor is set forth in “Proposal Two—Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm” on page 31.

**Compensation & Human Resources Committee.** The Compensation & Human Resources Committee is responsible for discharging the Board’s responsibilities relating to compensation of our CEO and other executive officers and reviewing and monitoring our human resource and organizational matters. The Committee has overall responsibility for approving and evaluating all of our compensation plans, policies and programs, as well as our philosophy and strategy, as they affect the CEO, other executive officers and senior management employees. More specifically, the Committee’s duties and responsibilities include, among others:

- Having sole authority to retain, obtain the advice from, or terminate any external compensation consultant, independent legal counsel or other advisors used to assist the Committee, including approval of fees to be paid to such Committee advisors, and before selecting any such advisor, and from time to time, the Committee shall consider all factors relevant to the advisor’s independence from the Company’s management, including the provision of other services to our Company and the amount of fees received from our Company;
- Reviewing and approving on an annual basis corporate goals and objectives relevant to the CEO’s compensation, evaluating the CEO’s performance in light of those goals and objectives, approving the compensation levels for the CEO based on such evaluation and presenting such determination to the Board for ratification;
- Reviewing and approving the annual base salaries, incentive opportunities and other compensation arrangements of the CEO and other executive officers;
- Reviewing compensation policies and practices as they affect all employees and relate to risk management practices and risk-taking incentives and reviewing all significant compensation policies and benefit plans to ensure continued appropriateness, including overall employee salary policies and equity-based programs for all categories of employees;
- Reviewing and monitoring compliance with the stock ownership guidelines for the CEO, other executive officers and directors and recommending any proposed changes to such guidelines to the Board;

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- Reviewing, approving and administering executive compensation plans, incentive compensation plans and equity-based plans and monitoring compliance with NYSE shareholder approval requirements regarding equity compensation plans;
- Monitoring employee organizational and corporate culture plans and strategies to ensure alignment with our beliefs and philosophies, including key initiatives that are designed to reinforce and strengthen our core values;
- Reviewing with Management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Committee report on executive compensation, and any compensation-related proposals, including say-on-pay and frequency of say-on-pay proposals, to be included in our proxy statement for our annual meeting; and
- Reviewing and recommending any proposed changes in director compensation to the non-employee directors.

The Committee held two meetings during fiscal 2013 and took action by unanimous written consent five times in fiscal 2013. At each of these meetings, the Committee met in private session without Management present.

**Determining Executive Compensation.** At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee reviews and approves compensation for our Chairman and CEO and each other executive officer, including each of the other named executive officers, which generally includes:

- changes, if any, to base salary; and
- incentive awards, including:
  - annual cash incentive awards for the current fiscal year, including (i) participation targets expressed as a percentage of base salary, target payout amounts, and maximum cash payout amounts authorized under Code Section 162(m), and (ii) performance measures, weightings, goals and adjustment events;
  - long-term incentive awards, including (i) stock option awards, and (ii) three-year performance share awards, including (a) target share payout amounts and maximum share payout amounts authorized under Code Section 162(m), and (b) performance measures, weightings, goals and adjustment events; and
  - other incentive awards, including time-based or performance-based restricted stock or restricted stock units.

In connection with this review and approval, the Committee receives information regarding (i) market base salary, total cash compensation and total direct compensation data and analysis prepared by its external compensation consultant, Towers Watson; (ii) total cash compensation to be paid for the current fiscal year if annual cash incentive awards are achieved and paid at target; (iii) prior fiscal year target equity values; and (iv) total direct compensation for the current fiscal year for equity awards at target. Additionally, the Committee obtains compensation recommendations from our Chairman and CEO, Vice President, Human Resources and Business Development, and Managing Director, HR and Total Rewards, that reflect individual performance; corporate, division and/or plant performance, as applicable; tenure in the position; and outside market factors, including general economic conditions. Neither the Chairman and CEO nor the Vice President, Human Resources and Business Development provides input or recommendations with respect to his own compensation. The Chair of the Committee is also responsible for coordinating a performance evaluation for the Chairman and CEO based on feedback from all non-employee directors in connection with the ratification of the Chairman and CEO's compensation by the Board. Information on the compensation of our named

executive officers is found under “Executive Compensation” beginning on page 35. Also, at the beginning of each fiscal year, the Committee confirms the achievement of performance goals previously established by the Committee at the beginning of the prior fiscal year for annual cash incentive awards and previously established by the Committee at the beginning of the performance period for performance share awards and approves resulting payouts, if any.

The Compensation & Human Resources Committee has retained Towers Watson to assist in the design and review of our executive compensation program. Additional information regarding the role of Towers Watson is found under “Role of the External Compensation Consultant” beginning on page 39. From time to time, the Committee also has engaged Towers Watson to perform other compensation consulting services, which in fiscal 2013 included a non-employee director compensation analysis. Towers Watson does not provide any services to our Company other than those for which it has been retained by the Committee. The Committee has assessed the independence of Towers Watson pursuant to SEC and NYSE rules and concluded that the work of Towers Watson did not raise any conflicts of interest. Representatives from Towers Watson periodically attend meetings of the Committee to act as a resource to the Committee in carrying out its responsibilities. The Committee, through its Chair, can request an independent meeting with representatives from Towers Watson at any time. The Committee also has the authority to obtain advice and assistance from external legal, accounting or other advisors.

**Nominating & Governance Committee.** The Nominating & Governance Committee’s duties and responsibilities include, among others:

- Reviewing and recommending to the Board the exact number of directors to constitute the full Board;
- Having sole discretion and authority to retain, obtain the advice of, or terminate any external search firm to be used to assist in identifying director candidates, any independent legal counsel or other advisors and having sole authority to approve the fees and other terms and conditions of any advisor or legal counsel;
- Identifying individuals qualified to become Board members and recommending to the Board director nominees for the annual meeting;
- Reviewing the adequacy of, and recommending to the Board any proposed changes to, the Corporate Governance Guidelines;
- Reviewing and recommending to the Board any proposed amendments or changes to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation or Amended and Restated Bylaws;
- Overseeing the evaluation of the Board and leading the Board in its annual review of the Board’s performance; and
- Recommending director nominees for each Board committee.

With respect to recommending director nominees for re-election at the annual meeting, the Chair of the Nominating & Governance Committee and/or the Chairman and CEO annually polls the members of the Board about each director whose term is expiring and has not attained the age of 70 and will be retiring from the Board. If the Chair of the Committee determines that a director does not continue to have the affirmative support of a majority of the members of the Board, the Chair will recommend to the Committee that the director not stand for re-election.

The Committee held two meetings during fiscal 2013. At each of these meetings, the Committee met in private session without Management present.

**Identifying New Director Nominees.** In identifying new nominees for election to the Board when vacancies occur, the Nominating & Governance Committee first may solicit recommendations for

nominees from persons whom the Committee believes are likely to be familiar with candidates having the skills and characteristics required for Board nominees. Such persons may include members of the Board and our Senior Management. In addition, the Committee may engage a search firm to assist it in identifying and evaluating qualified nominees. The Committee has sole authority to retain and terminate any search firm to be used to identify director candidates and has sole authority to approve the search firm's fees and other retention terms.

When reviewing the requisite skill and characteristics of potential new director nominees, the Nominating & Governance Committee, pursuant to our Corporate Governance Guidelines, will consider a variety of criteria, including an individual's independence, diversity, age, skills and experience, each in the context of the needs of the Board as a whole. Although the Committee does not have a formal policy regarding consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees, the Committee will evaluate a nominee based on his or her diversity of background, skills, experiences, viewpoints, and geographical representation, as well as more traditional diversity factors. As a result, the composition of the current Board reflects diversity in age, gender, skills, and business and professional experiences.

The Nominating & Governance Committee may solicit the views of Senior Management, Board members and any other individuals it believes may have insight into a candidate. The Committee may designate one or more of its members and/or other Board members to interview any proposed candidate. The Committee then will recommend a director nominee to the Board based on its evaluation of such criteria.

The Nominating & Governance Committee will consider director candidates recommended to it by our shareholders. Those candidates must be qualified and exhibit the experience and expertise required of the Board's own pool of candidates, as well as have an interest in our business, and the demonstrated ability to attend and prepare for Board, committee and shareholder meetings. Any candidate must state in advance his or her willingness and interest in serving on the Board. Candidates should represent the interests of all shareholders and not those of a special interest group. The Committee will evaluate candidates recommended by shareholders using the same criteria it uses to evaluate candidates recommended by others as described above. A shareholder that desires to nominate a person for election to the Board at a meeting of shareholders must follow the specified advanced notice requirements contained in, and provide the specific information required by, our Amended and Restated Bylaws, as described under "Shareholder Proposals and Director Nominations for the 2015 Annual Meeting" beginning on page 73.

**Finance Committee.** The Finance Committee's duties and responsibilities include, among others:

- Reviewing our capital structure and related financial policies and long-range objectives;
- Reviewing tax strategies and restructuring projects as developed by Management;
- Reviewing our financing requirements, evaluating Management's proposals to support such financing requirements and recommending, as appropriate, specific financing arrangements to the Board;
- Reviewing and making recommendations to the Board regarding our cash dividend policy, annual cash dividend level and any other special dividends;
- Reviewing and making recommendations to the Board regarding authorization for the repurchase of equity or long-term debt;
- Reviewing our use of derivative, hedging and similar instruments to manage financial, currency and interest rate exposure;

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- Evaluating the financial impact of proposed merger, acquisition, divestiture, joint venture and other business combination transactions expected to have significant financial implications for our Company and making recommendations to the Board regarding financial aspects of acquisitions and divestitures;
- Reviewing Management's proposed annual capital budget and certain material capital expenditures;
- Evaluating the post-acquisition financial integration and return on investment for certain transactions and report to the Board the financial implications of such acquisitions;
- Reviewing our D&O and liability insurance coverage;
- Reviewing areas of responsibility delegated to our Management Investment Committee, the committee to which responsibilities relating to our ERISA-regulated employee benefit plans have been delegated, including periodic review of the Management Investment Committee Charter, financial performance of benefit plan assets, and the performance of the Management Investment Committee in the discharge of its duties; and
- Monitoring our investor relations program.

The Committee held three meetings during fiscal 2013. At two of these meetings, the Committee met in private session without Management present.

### **Director Compensation**

**Overview.** Our non-employee director compensation program generally is designed to attract and retain experienced and knowledgeable directors and to provide equity-based compensation to align the interests of our directors with those of our shareholders. In fiscal 2013, our non-employee director compensation was comprised of equity compensation, in the form of automatic annual stock and stock option awards, and cash compensation, in the form of annual retainers. Each of these components is described in more detail below. This compensation program structure, together with the feature of The Toro Company 2010 Equity and Incentive Plan, as amended, or 2010 Plan, that enables our directors to elect to receive a portion or all of their cash compensation in the form of our common stock, causes a substantial portion of our non-employee director compensation to be linked to our common stock performance. Mr. Hoffman, our only employee director, does not receive any additional compensation for his service as a director.

**Processes and Procedures for Consideration and Determination of Director Compensation.** The Board has delegated to the Compensation & Human Resources Committee the responsibility, among other things, to annually review and recommend to the Board any proposed changes in non-employee director compensation. In connection with such review, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee engages its external compensation consultant, Towers Watson, to provide analysis regarding non-employee director compensation. As a result of such analysis, and giving consideration to various factors, the Committee recommended and the Board approved changes to the non-employee director compensation program for fiscal 2013 which resulted in the (i) the elimination of all per meeting fees, (ii) approval of an increase to the annual Board retainer, (iii) implementation of annual committee retainers, and (iv) an increase in the Lead Director annual retainer. Effective for fiscal 2014, the compensation structure for our non-employee directors remained the same as fiscal 2013, with amounts increasing slightly for all components of non-employee director compensation, except the annual committee chair retainers were not changed.

**Elements of Our Non-Employee Director Compensation Program.** The following table sets forth our fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2014 non-employee director compensation programs.

<b>Non-Employee Director Compensation</b>	<b>Fiscal 2013</b>	<b>Fiscal 2014</b>
Annual Stock Award Value	\$ 44,000	\$ 47,000
Annual Stock Option Award Value	\$ 44,000	\$ 47,000
Annual Board and Committee Member Retainers		
Board	\$ 61,375	\$ 65,000
Audit Committee Member	\$ 9,000	\$ 10,000
Compensation & Human Resources Committee Member	\$ 3,750	\$ 4,500
Nominating & Governance Committee Member	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000
Finance Committee Member	\$ 3,750	\$ 4,500
Annual Lead Director and Committee Chair Additional Retainers		
Lead Director	\$ 20,000	\$ 22,500
Audit Committee Chair	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Compensation & Human Resources Committee Chair	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Nominating & Governance Committee Chair	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Finance Committee Chair	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000

**Stock Awards.** On the first business day of our fiscal year (usually November 1), each non-employee director is automatically awarded shares of our common stock under the 2010 Plan. In fiscal 2013, the value of this non-employee director stock award was \$44,000. The stock award is determined by dividing the stock award value by the average of the closing prices of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, during the three months prior to the award. Accordingly, on November 1, 2012, 1,128 shares were awarded to each non-employee director based on a three-month average closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, of \$39.00. The shares awarded are fully vested at the time of grant.

**Stock Option Grants.** On the first business day of our fiscal year, each non-employee director also is automatically awarded a stock option to purchase shares of our common stock. In fiscal 2013, the value of this non-employee director stock option award was \$44,000. The stock option award is determined by dividing the stock option award value by the grant date fair value of a stock option to purchase one share of our common stock. For fiscal 2013, the fair value used for purposes of calculating the number of options awarded was based on a Black-Scholes model valuation of \$12.86 per share. Accordingly, on November 1, 2012, each non-employee director received a stock option to purchase 3,421 shares of our common stock. The exercise price per share of these stock options is equal to 100% of the fair market value of one share of our common stock on the date of grant, as determined by the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, which was \$43.11 on November 1, 2012. Except as described below, these stock options vest in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third year anniversaries of the date of grant and remain exercisable for a term of ten years after the date of grant.

If a director becomes disabled or dies, under the 2010 Plan and The Toro Company 2000 Directors Stock Plan, or 2000 Directors Stock Plan, all outstanding unvested stock options will vest in full on the date the director's service ceases by reason of such disability or death and the options may be exercised up to the earlier of the date the stock options expire or one year after the date the director's service ceased by reason of such disability or death.

Under the 2010 Plan and 2000 Directors Stock Plan, if a director has served as a member of the Board for ten full fiscal years or longer and terminates his or her service on the Board, other than due to death or disability, his or her outstanding unvested stock options will continue to vest in accordance with their terms and the director may exercise the vested portions of the stock options for up to four



years after the director's date of termination, but not later than the date the stock options expire. If a director has served as a member of the Board for less than ten full fiscal years and terminates his or her service on the Board, other than due to death or disability, his or her outstanding unvested stock options will expire and be canceled and the director may exercise any vested portions of the stock options for up to three months after the director's date of termination, but not later than the date the stock options expire. The following directors have served as a member of the Board for ten full fiscal years or longer: Robert C. Buhrmaster, Janet K. Cooper, Katherine J. Harless, Gregg W. Steinhafel and Christopher A. Twomey. In addition, Robert Nassau, a former director, completed more than 24 years of service on our Board as of the 2013 Annual Meeting, which was the day he completed his service as a director of our Company.

Stock options granted under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan will vest if there is a change in control of our Company and will remain exercisable for three years following the change in control, but not later than the date the stock options expire, and stock options granted under the 2010 Plan will vest if there is a change in control of our Company and will remain exercisable for the entirety of the term. Generally, and subject to some exceptions, a change in control is deemed to have occurred under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan and the 2010 Plan, as applicable, if: (i) another person becomes the beneficial owner of a specified percentage of our then-outstanding common stock or the combined voting power of our then-outstanding voting stock, which is 15% under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan and 20% under the 2010 Plan; (ii) a majority of the Board becomes comprised of persons other than those for whom election proxies have been solicited by the Board; (iii) the completion of certain business combinations, including certain reorganizations, mergers, consolidations, the sale of all or substantially all of our assets or the acquisition by us of assets or stock of another entity, where the shareholders before the business combination fail to beneficially own and have voting power for more than 50% of our Company or the resulting company after the business combination; or (iv) our shareholders approve a complete liquidation or dissolution of our Company.

**Common Stock In Lieu of Annual Retainers.** Under our 2010 Plan, our non-employee directors may elect to convert a portion or all of their calendar year annual retainers otherwise payable in cash into shares of our common stock. Annual retainers earned after the date a director makes a stock-in-lieu of cash election for a calendar year are issued in shares of common stock in December of that year. The number of shares of our common stock to be issued is determined by dividing the dollar amount of the annual retainers earned in the calendar year and elected to be converted into shares of our common stock by the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on the date that the shares are issued. For calendar 2013, such shares were issued on December 16, 2013, based on that day's closing stock price of \$60.61. Details regarding the number of shares received by our non-employee directors who elected to receive common stock in lieu of cash paid in calendar 2013 may be found in the footnotes to the "Director Compensation for Fiscal 2013" table beginning on page 27.

**Deferred Compensation Plan.** Non-employee directors may elect to defer receipt of all or a part of his or her stock award and/or cash compensation on a calendar year basis under the Deferred Plan for Directors. Stock awards deferred by a director are credited to a bookkeeping common stock unit account maintained for the director participant and such common stock units fluctuate in value with the market price of our common stock. Dividends paid on our common stock are credited to a director's account as additional common stock units. Cash amounts deferred by a director are credited to a bookkeeping cash account maintained for the director participant and such account accrues interest with the rate of return based on funds selected by such director that are comparable to the funds available to our employees through the IS&ESOP, excluding the option to invest in Toro common stock.

A director participant's common stock unit and cash accounts are at all times fully vested. Distributions under the Deferred Plan for Directors are payable in accordance with the director participant's prior distribution elections upon the earliest of retirement, prior to retirement if a valid election has been made or in an unforeseeable financial emergency.



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Details regarding deferred compensation elections may be found in the footnotes to the "Director Compensation for Fiscal 2013" table below.

**Stock Ownership Guidelines.** To further align the interests of our non-employee directors with those of our shareholders, pursuant to our Corporate Governance Guidelines, each non-employee director is expected to own a dollar value of Toro common stock equal to at least five times the director's annual cash retainer for Board service. Non-employee directors are expected to meet this guideline within five years of joining the Board. As of January 22, 2014, each of our non-employee directors who is required to meet the five times multiple stock ownership guideline met such guideline.

**Company Products.** Each of our non-employee directors is entitled to receive certain Company products and related parts, service and accessories for his or her personal use, at no cost; provided, however, that directors are responsible for payment of applicable taxes attributable to the value of such items. There is an \$8,000 lifetime limit on installation and products for an irrigation system and a \$5,000 lifetime limit on installation and products for a landscape lighting system. The value of products, parts and accessories is deemed to be our distributor net price or its equivalent, which is also the price at which such items are generally available to our employees for purchase. This value is generally included on the non-employee director's IRS Form 1099 for the calendar year in which the product, part or accessory was ordered. However, for certain consumer rider products, professional products, commercial vehicles and related accessories, a director may elect at the time he or she orders the product to return such product in the future and, in that case, the director's IRS Form 1099 for each calendar year in which the product is in his or her possession will include the depreciable amount for such year using the IRS prescribed MACRS depreciation rate.

**Charitable Giving.** We support our non-employee directors' charitable organizations through our director matching gift program, which provides that a gift in the amount of \$25 to \$1,000 by a director and/or his or her spouse to one or more tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organizations located in the United States will be matched by us in an aggregate amount of up to \$1,000 per director per year.

**Indemnification and Directors and Officers Insurance.** Each non-employee director is a party to an indemnification agreement with us pursuant to which we have agreed to provide indemnification and advancement of expenses to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law and our Restated Certificate of Incorporation and continued coverage under our D&O insurance.

**Director Compensation for Fiscal 2013.** The following table provides summary information concerning the compensation of each individual director who served during fiscal 2013, other than Michael J. Hoffman, our Chairman and CEO, who is not compensated separately for his service as a director and whose compensation is discussed in the "Executive Compensation" section beginning on page 35.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Stock Option Awards (\$) <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	All Other Compensation (\$) <sup>(5)</sup>	Total (\$)
Robert C. Buhrmaster	\$ 92,625	\$48,628	\$43,995	—	\$185,248
Janet K. Cooper	\$ 89,125	\$48,628	\$43,995	\$ 6,203	\$187,951
Gary L. Ellis <sup>(6)</sup>	\$ 79,125	\$48,628	\$43,995	—	\$171,748
Jeffrey M. Ettinger <sup>(7)</sup>	\$ 74,125	\$48,628	\$43,995	—	\$166,748
Katherine J. Harless <sup>(8)</sup>	\$ 76,625	\$48,628	\$43,995	\$ 9,794	\$179,042
Robert H. Nassau <sup>(9)</sup>	\$ 38,313	\$48,628	\$43,995	\$ 3,160	\$134,096
James C. O'Rourke	\$ 74,125	\$48,628	\$43,995	—	\$166,748
Gregg W. Steinhafel	\$ 67,625	\$48,628	\$43,995	\$ 6,414	\$166,662
Christopher A. Twomey	\$ 77,625	\$48,628	\$43,995	\$ 1,034	\$171,282

- (1) Unless a director otherwise elected to convert a portion or all of his or her annual retainers into shares of our common stock under our 2010 Plan, annual retainers were paid in cash in four quarterly installments at the beginning of each fiscal quarter.
- (2) Amount reported represents the grant date fair value, computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standard Codification (ASC) Topic 718, of the fiscal 2013 annual stock award automatically granted to each of our non-employee directors on November 1, 2012, which were the only stock awards granted to directors during fiscal 2013. The calculation of the number of shares included in the annual stock award was based on the three-month average closing price of our common stock of \$39.00, as reported on the NYSE, as opposed to the closing price on the grant date of \$43.11, which is used in calculating the grant date fair value. As of October 31, 2013, no directors held any restricted stock or other unvested stock awards.
- (3) Amount reported represents the grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 of the fiscal 2013 annual stock option award automatically granted to each of our non-employee directors on November 1, 2012, which were the only stock options granted to directors during fiscal 2013. The exercise price per share is equal to 100% of the fair market value of one share of our common stock on the date of grant, as determined by the closing price for our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, which was \$43.11 on November 1, 2012. The grant date fair value is based on a Black-Scholes model valuation of \$12.86 per share. The following assumptions were used in the calculation: a risk-free interest rate of 1.01%; expected life of 6 years; expected volatility of 35.18%; and an expected dividend yield of 1.04%. The actual value of the stock option awards, if any, to be realized by a director depends upon whether the price of our common stock at exercise is greater than the exercise price of the stock options.
- (4) As of October 31, 2013, the aggregate number of stock options (exercisable and unexercisable) held by each director was as follows: Mr. Buhmaster—54,189; Ms. Cooper—46,189; Mr. Ellis—39,097; Mr. Ettinger—13,067; Ms. Harless—27,295; Mr. Nassau—3,957 (Mr. Nassau retired from the Board, see note 9 below); Mr. O'Rourke—3,421; Mr. Steinhafel—32,541; and Mr. Twomey—46,189. These numbers are different from the numbers set forth in the "Stock Options" column in footnote (2) to the "Directors and Executive Officers" stock ownership table beginning on page 7 which sets forth information as of January 22, 2014, and, therefore, includes options granted on November 1, 2013 and does not include options that will become exercisable more than 60 days after January 22, 2014.
- (5) We generally do not provide perquisites and other personal benefits to our non-employee directors other than Company products for personal use. The amount reported for each of Mses. Cooper and Harless and Messrs. Nassau, Steinhafel and Twomey represents the value of products, parts, service or accessories, as described under "Company Products" on page 27, which is also the amount included on the director's IRS Form 1099 for the calendar year in which such items were ordered or service was provided. The amount reported for each of Mses. Cooper and Harless also includes a charitable donation under our director matching gift program, as described under "Charitable Giving" on page 27.
- (6) Mr. Ellis elected to defer receipt of his calendar 2012 and calendar 2013 retainers earned for fiscal 2013 under the Deferred Plan for Directors.
- (7) Mr. Ettinger elected to convert 100% of his calendar 2012 and calendar 2013 retainers into shares of our common stock under the 2010 Plan. On December 16, 2013, based on that day's closing stock price of \$60.61, as reported on the NYSE, Mr. Ettinger received 1,245 shares of our common stock in lieu of \$75,459 cash that would have been paid in calendar 2013. The amount shown in the "Fees Earned or Paid in Cash" column represents the amount Mr. Ettinger earned for fiscal 2013.

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- (8) Ms. Harless elected to defer receipt of her calendar 2013 retainers earned in fiscal 2013 under the Deferred Plan for Directors.
- (9) Mr. Nassau retired from the Board at the Company's Annual Meeting of Shareholders held in March 2013. Accordingly, the fees shown for Mr. Nassau are for the period from November 1, 2012, through March 12, 2013.

### **Policies and Procedures Regarding Related Person Transactions**

Our Corporate Governance Guidelines set forth in writing our policies and procedures regarding the review, approval and ratification of related person transactions. All reportable related person transactions must be reviewed, approved or ratified by the Nominating & Governance Committee. In determining whether to approve or ratify such transactions, the Committee will take into account, among other factors and information it deems appropriate:

- the related person's relationship to our Company and interest in the transaction;
- the material facts of the transaction;
- the benefits to our Company of the transaction; and
- an assessment of whether the transaction is (to the extent applicable) in the ordinary course of business, at arm's length, at prices and on terms customarily available to unrelated third party vendors or customers generally, and whether the related person had any direct or indirect personal interest in, or received any personal benefit from, such transaction.

Transactions in the ordinary course of business, between us and an unaffiliated corporation of which one of our non-employee directors serves as an officer, that are at arm's length, at prices and on terms customarily available to unrelated third party vendors or customers generally, in which the non-employee director had no direct or indirect personal interest, nor received any personal benefit, and in amounts that are not material to our business or the business of such unaffiliated corporation, are deemed conclusively pre-approved.

### **Board of Directors Business Ethics Policy Statement**

It is our policy to maintain the highest level of moral, ethical and legal standards in the conduct of our business. Pursuant to our Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board has adopted, and each director annually signs, a Business Ethics Policy Statement. The policy can be found on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com](http://www.thetorocompany.com) (select the "Investor Information" link and then the "Corporate Governance" link).

### **Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for our CEO and Senior Financial Officers**

All of our employees are required to comply with our Code of Conduct to help ensure that our business is conducted in accordance with the highest level of moral, ethical and legal standards. We also have a Code of Ethics for our CEO and Senior Financial Officers applicable to our Chairman and CEO (our principal executive officer), our Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer (our principal financial officer), our Vice President, Corporate Controller (our principal accounting officer and controller), and to all business unit controllers and senior accounting personnel identified by our Vice President, Corporate Controller who are also bound by the provisions set forth in the Code of Conduct relating to ethical conduct, conflicts of interest and compliance with the law. Our Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for our CEO and Senior Financial Officers can be found on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com](http://www.thetorocompany.com) (select the "Investor Information" link and then the "Corporate Governance" link). If necessary, we intend to satisfy the disclosure requirements of Item 5.05 of the Current Report on Form 8-K regarding amendments to or waivers from any provision of our Code of Ethics for our CEO and Senior Financial Officers by posting such information on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com](http://www.thetorocompany.com) (select the "Investor Information" link and then the "Corporate Governance" link).

### **Communications with Directors; Complaint Procedures**

Shareholders and other interested parties may communicate directly with our Board, non-employee directors as a group, our Lead Director or any other specified individual director in writing by sending a letter addressed to The Toro Company Board of Directors, c/o Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel, 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota, 55420-1196. Each communication will be reviewed by our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel and then forwarded to the relevant director(s) unless it is unrelated to Board or shareholder matters, such as a communication regarding a job inquiry, survey, offer for goods or services, a donation request, or product idea. In addition, shareholders and other interested parties may communicate with any of our directors by calling 952-887-7268 and leaving a message in our Lead Director's confidential voicemail account, to which only he has access.

We also maintain procedures to receive, retain and treat complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and to allow for the confidential and anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters. A 24-hour, toll-free confidential ethics hotline and a confidential web-based reporting tool are available for the submission of concerns regarding these and other matters by any employee. Concerns and questions received through these methods relating to accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters are promptly brought to the attention of the Chair of the Audit Committee and are handled in accordance with procedures established by the Audit Committee. Complete information regarding our complaint procedures is contained within our Code of Conduct, which may be accessed on our website as noted above.

## PROPOSAL TWO—RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

### Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Audit Committee has selected KPMG LLP, or KPMG, to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm, or external auditor, for fiscal 2014. Although it is not required to do so, the Board, as it traditionally has done in the past, is asking our shareholders to ratify the Audit Committee's selection of KPMG. If our shareholders do not ratify the selection of KPMG, the Audit Committee may reconsider its selection. Even if the selection is ratified by our shareholders, the Audit Committee in its discretion may change the appointment at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in the best interests of our Company and our shareholders.

Representatives of KPMG will be present at the annual meeting to answer appropriate questions. They also will have the opportunity to make a statement if they wish to do so.

### Audit, Audit-Related, Tax and Other Fees

The following table sets forth the aggregate fees billed to us for professional services rendered by KPMG for fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2012 by category, as described in the footnotes to the table.

	Fiscal 2013	Fiscal 2012
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1,715,646	\$1,259,012
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 72,353	\$ 239,064
Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 115,533	\$ 66,028
All Other Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0

(1) Consist of aggregate fees billed, or expected to be billed, for fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2012 for professional services rendered by KPMG in connection with the audit of our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, review of our condensed consolidated financial statements included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, statutory audits of certain of our international subsidiaries and the audit of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

(2) Consist of aggregate fees billed for KPMG's services related to audits of employee benefit plans, financial due diligence services related to potential transactions and various other attestation procedures.

(3) Consist of aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by KPMG for permissible domestic and international tax consulting and compliance services.

### Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee Charter requires that the Audit Committee review and approve in advance the retention of our external auditor for all types of audit and non-audit services to be performed for us by our external auditor and approve the fees for such services, other than de minimus non-audit services allowed by relevant rules and regulations. All of the services provided to us by KPMG for which we paid Audit Fees, Audit-Related Fees and Tax Fees, as shown in the table above, were pre-approved by the Audit Committee in accordance with this pre-approval policy and procedures.

### Board Recommendation

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote FOR ratification of the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2014.**

## Audit Committee Report

This report is furnished by the Audit Committee with respect to our financial statements for fiscal 2013. The Committee operates pursuant to a written charter.

Ultimate responsibility for good corporate governance rests with our Board, whose primary roles and responsibilities involve oversight, counseling and providing direction to our Management in the best long-term interests of Toro and our shareholders. As set forth in its charter, the Audit Committee assists our Board by, among other things, providing oversight of our accounting and financial reporting processes, the audits of our annual financial statements and internal control over financial reporting. A copy of our Audit Committee Charter, which further describes the role and responsibilities of the Committee, is available online at [www.thetorocompany.com](http://www.thetorocompany.com) (click on "Investor Information" and "Corporate Governance").

Management is primarily responsible for the establishment and maintenance of our accounting and financial reporting processes, including our internal controls, and for the preparation and presentation of complete and accurate financial statements. Our independent registered public accounting firm, KPMG LLP, is responsible for performing an independent audit of our financial statements and internal controls over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (U.S.), or PCAOB, expressing an opinion as to the conformity of the financial statements with generally accepted accounting principles, and expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting.

In performing its oversight role, the Audit Committee has (i) reviewed and discussed with Management our audited financial statements for fiscal 2013, (ii) discussed with representatives of KPMG the matters required to be discussed by the Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, *Communication with Audit Committees*, as in effect for fiscal 2013, (iii) received the written disclosures and the letters from KPMG required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding KPMG's communications with the Audit Committee concerning KPMG's independence, as in effect for fiscal 2013, and (iv) discussed with representatives of KPMG its independence and concluded that it is independent from Toro and its Management.

Based on the review and discussions referred to in the foregoing paragraph and subject to the limitations on its responsibilities set forth in its charter, the Audit Committee recommended to our Board that our audited financial statements for fiscal 2013 be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2013, for filing with the SEC.

Audit Committee:  
Janet K. Cooper (Chair)  
Gary L. Ellis  
Jeffrey M. Ettinger  
Katherine J. Harless  
James C. O'Rourke

### PROPOSAL THREE—ADVISORY APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Board is providing our shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Consumer Protection Act and Section 14A of the Exchange Act. This advisory vote, commonly known as a “say-on-pay” vote, is a non-binding vote on the compensation paid to our named executive officers as set forth in the “Executive Compensation” section of this proxy statement beginning on page 35, including in the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis,” the accompanying compensation tables and the corresponding narrative discussion and footnotes. At the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on March 12, 2013, 94% of the votes cast by our shareholders were in favor of the say-on-pay vote. The Compensation & Human Resources Committee generally believes that such results affirmed shareholder support of our approach to executive compensation.

Our executive compensation program is generally designed to attract, retain, motivate and reward highly qualified and talented executive officers, including our named executive officers, that will enable us to perform better than our competitors and drive long-term shareholder value. The underlying core principles of our executive compensation program include (i) linking pay to performance and aligning the interests of our executives with those of our shareholders by providing compensation opportunities that are tied directly to the achievement of financial performance goals and long-term stock price performance; and (ii) providing competitive compensation opportunities targeted at the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for both individual elements of compensation and total direct compensation at target levels of financial performance, which allows us to attract and retain the necessary executive talent while motivating and rewarding the accomplishment of annual and long-term financial performance goals and maintaining an appropriate cost structure. The “Compensation Discussion and Analysis,” which begins on page 35, describes our executive compensation program and the executive compensation decisions made by the Compensation & Human Resources Committee in fiscal 2013 in more detail. Important considerations include:

- A significant portion of the compensation paid or awarded to our named executive officers in fiscal 2013 was “performance-based” or “at-risk” compensation that is tied directly to the achievement of financial performance goals or long-term stock price performance.
- Annual cash incentive awards and three-year performance share awards granted in fiscal 2013 are “performance-based” in that certain threshold, or minimum, levels of financial performance must be achieved in order for there to be any payout for a specified performance measure and, in particular, for the annual cash incentive awards, the threshold level of diluted net earnings per share, or EPS, performance must have been achieved in order for there to be any corporate payout or any corporate portion payout to division participants.
- All incentive compensation awards, including annual and long-term equity and incentive awards, are subject to a “clawback” mechanism.
- None of our executive officers have employment or severance agreements or arrangements, except as provided for in our change in control severance compensation policy, or CIC policy.
- We generally do not provide tax “gross-up” payments under our CIC policy or in connection with any annual or long-term compensation, benefits or perquisites provided to our executive officers.
- Our executive officers receive only modest perquisites.
- We have an independent Compensation & Human Resources Committee.
- We utilize an independent compensation consultant.

We believe that our executive compensation objectives and core principles have resulted in an executive compensation program and related decisions that have appropriately incentivized the

achievement of financial goals and produced financial results that have benefited our Company and our shareholders and are expected to drive long-term shareholder value over time. For example:

- Our fiscal 2013 net sales reached a record \$2,041.4 million, an increase of approximately 4.2% over fiscal 2012;
- Our fiscal 2013 diluted net EPS of \$2.62 represented an increase of approximately 22.4% over fiscal 2012 diluted net EPS of \$2.14;
- We continued our history of paying quarterly cash dividends and increased our fiscal 2013 quarterly cash dividend by 27.3% to \$0.14 per share compared to our quarterly cash dividend in fiscal 2012 of \$0.11 per share; and
- Our stock repurchase program returned nearly \$100 million in cash to our shareholders in fiscal 2013, which reduced the number of shares of common stock outstanding.

Accordingly, the Board recommends that our shareholders vote in favor of the say-on-pay vote as set forth in the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that our shareholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation paid to our named executive officers, as disclosed pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC, including in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis," the accompanying compensation tables and the corresponding narrative discussion and footnotes, and any related material disclosed in this proxy statement.

Shareholders are not ultimately voting to approve or disapprove the Board's recommendation. As this is an advisory vote, the outcome of the vote is not binding on us with respect to future executive compensation decisions, including those relating to our named executive officers, or otherwise. Our Compensation & Human Resources Committee and Board expect to take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future executive compensation decisions.

In accordance with the result of the advisory vote on the frequency of the say-on-pay vote, which was conducted at the Company's 2011 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the Board of Directors has determined that the Company will conduct an executive compensation advisory vote on an annual basis. Accordingly, the next say-on-pay vote will occur in 2015 in connection with our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

#### **Board Recommendation**

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote FOR approval, on an advisory basis, of our executive compensation, or say-on-pay vote.**



## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### Compensation & Human Resources Committee Report

The Compensation & Human Resources Committee has reviewed and discussed the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” with Management and, based on such review and discussion, the Committee recommended to the Board that the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” be included in this proxy statement and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2013.

Compensation & Human Resources Committee:

Christopher A. Twomey (Chair)

Jeffrey M. Ettinger

Katherine J. Harless

Gregg W. Steinhafel

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

**Overview.** In this Compensation Discussion and Analysis, or CD&A, we describe the key principles and approaches used to determine elements of compensation paid to, awarded to and earned by the following named executive officers whose compensation is set forth in the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55:

- Michael J. Hoffman, our Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer, or our Chairman and CEO;
- Renee J. Peterson, our Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer;
- William E. Brown, Jr., our Group Vice President, Commercial and Irrigation Businesses;
- Timothy P. Dordell, our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel; and
- Michael J. Happe, our Group Vice President, Residential and Contractor Businesses.

This CD&A should be read in conjunction with the accompanying compensation tables, corresponding footnotes and narrative discussion, as they provide information and context to the compensation disclosures. Additionally, this CD&A should be read in conjunction with our advisory vote on executive compensation, which can be found under “Proposal Three—Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation” beginning on page 33, as it contains information relevant to your voting decision.

#### Executive Summary.

**Highlights of Compensation Practices.** We maintain compensation practices that support our executive compensation philosophy of ensuring that our executive compensation program is reflective of our financial performance, is market competitive and is aligned with and responsive to the interests of our shareholders. Some of these practices include the following:

- We tie compensation directly to financial performance and require that minimum, or threshold, levels of performance be met in order for there to be any payouts. For our annual cash incentive awards and performance share awards, we establish threshold levels of performance for each performance measure that must be met in order for there to be a payout for that performance measure. Additionally, for the annual cash incentive award, the threshold level of diluted net EPS performance must be met in order for there to be any corporate payout or any corporate portion of a payout to division participants.
- Our annual cash incentive awards and performance share awards also have maximum levels of financial performance. At maximum or greater than maximum levels of performance, our annual

cash incentive award and performance share award payouts are capped at 200% of the target award.

- A significant portion of our executive officers' compensation is "performance-based" or "at risk." For fiscal 2013, 79% of total direct compensation (i.e., the total of salary, annual cash incentives, and the grant date fair value of equity awards granted as part of our long term incentives) was performance-based for our Chairman and CEO and performance-based compensation for our other named executive officers ranged from 61% to 68% of total direct compensation, assuming target levels of performance for the annual cash incentive award and grant date fair values for equity awards.
- We utilize a mix of performance measures within our annual cash incentive plan and our performance share awards.
- Value received under our annual equity awards varies based on our financial performance and/or long-term stock price performance. Payouts of our three-year performance share awards to our executive officers vary based on financial performance as payout of these awards is contingent upon the achievement of three-year cumulative performance goals. Any value received by our executive officers from annual stock option grants is contingent upon long-term stock price performance since stock options only have value if the stock price at the time of exercise exceeds the exercise price established at the time of grant.
- Pursuant to the terms of our 2010 Plan, all equity awards granted to our employees, including our executive officers, that have time-based vesting must have a minimum three-year vesting period, except in limited circumstances, and the repricing or exchange of any equity awards is prohibited without shareholder approval.
- Our 2010 Plan and related award agreements, as well as prior stock option plans and agreements and performance share plan and agreements, include a "clawback" mechanism. Additional information is provided under "Clawback Provisions" within the "Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control" section on page 72.
- We do not have individual employment agreements or arrangements with any of our executive officers, except in connection with our CIC policy, as described under "Change in Control" beginning on page 69. Our CIC policy incorporates a "double trigger" mechanism.
- We generally do not provide tax "gross-up" payments under our CIC policy or in connection with any other compensation, benefits or perquisites provided to our executive officers.
- We provide only modest perquisites to our executive officers.
- We have an independent Compensation & Human Resources Committee.
- We utilize an independent compensation consultant.
- We maintain stock ownership guidelines for all of our executive officers.

***Fiscal 2013 Financial Results and Impact On Variable Compensation.*** Included below is a brief summary of our fiscal 2013 financial performance that relates to the key performance measures that we used in our performance-based compensation plans, as well as other financial highlights.

- Our net sales increased by approximately 4.2%, to a record \$2,041.4 million, compared to fiscal 2012.
- Our diluted net EPS increased 22.4% to \$2.62 compared to \$2.14 in fiscal 2012.
- Our average net working capital (accounts receivable plus inventory less trade payables) as a percent of net sales at the end of fiscal 2013 was up slightly to 16.6% compared to 15.2% at the end of fiscal 2012.

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- We increased our quarterly cash dividend by 27.3% to \$0.14 per share, compared to our quarterly cash dividend in fiscal 2012 of \$0.11 per share.
- Our stock repurchase program returned nearly \$100 million in cash to our shareholders, which reduced the number of shares of common stock outstanding.
- One of our key executive compensation objectives is to link pay to performance. As such, our annual cash incentive awards and our performance share awards result in a payout only if certain threshold performance goals are achieved.

As described in more detail under “Annual Cash Incentives” beginning on page 44, performance for fiscal 2013 generally met or exceeded the corporate performance goals established for the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive awards. Specifically,

- Our diluted net EPS of \$2.62 exceeded the target goal of \$2.39.
- Our revenue growth of 4.2% was within the target range of 4.0% to 6.0%.
- Our corporate average net assets turns of 2.88600 was slightly less than the target goal of 3.03285, but exceeded the threshold level of 2.57792.

When factoring in the weighting of the performance measures and actual levels of performance, the resulting corporate payout percentage for the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive awards was 120.2%. Messrs. Hoffman and Dordell and Ms. Peterson’s annual cash incentive awards were based entirely on corporate performance and therefore, each of them received an annual cash incentive award at 120.2% of their respective target payouts.

The fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive awards for Messrs. Brown and Happe were based 50% on corporate performance and 50% on performance of the divisions over which they had responsibility during fiscal 2013. The actual performance for fiscal 2013 by the respective divisions led by Messrs. Brown and Happe generally met or exceeded the division target performance goals established for the respective divisions in fiscal 2013. The actual results of the division and the corresponding payout percentages are described in detail under “Annual Cash Incentives” beginning on page 44.

As described in more detail under “Long-Term Incentives—Performance Measures for the Performance Period Ending in Fiscal 2013” on page 52, the three year cumulative performance for fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 generally met or exceeded the performance goals for the performance share awards for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period. Specifically,

- Our cumulative corporate net income plus after-tax interest of \$435.7 million exceeded the maximum goal of \$418.6 million.
- Our cumulative corporate revenue of \$5,884.1 million exceeded the target goal of \$5,675.3 million.
- Our cumulative corporate average net assets turns was 8.86421, which was between threshold and target goals of 8.47951 and 9.97589, respectively.

As we did not establish separate performance measures for our executive officers that have division responsibilities when the performance share awards for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period were granted, the entire payout of such performance share awards for all of our named executive officers was based on these three performance measures. When factoring in the weighting of the performance measures and the actual levels of performance, the overall resulting payout percentage for the performance share awards for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period was 161.4%.

**Fiscal 2013 Compensation-Related Actions.** During fiscal 2013, we took a number of actions that supported our executive compensation philosophy of ensuring that our executive compensation

program is reflective of our financial performance, is market competitive and is aligned with and responsive to the interests of our shareholders.

- We maintained the same corporate and division performance measures and weightings for our fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive awards as in fiscal 2012, since we believed such performance measures and weightings continued to be appropriate.
- We increased the annual cash incentive award target as a percent of base salary for Ms. Peterson from 60% to 65% to bring her annual target total cash compensation closer to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Additionally, we increased the annual cash incentive award target as a percent of base salary for Messrs. Brown and Happe from 50% to 55% to acknowledge their increased scope of responsibilities as Group Vice Presidents and to bring their annual target total cash compensation closer to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- To continue to align pay with the long-term performance of our divisions for our executive officers with divisional responsibility, we maintained the 25% division weighting for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period for our performance share awards that were granted at the beginning of fiscal 2013. As a result, 25% of Messrs. Brown's and Happe's fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share award payout will be determined based on the three-year cumulative revenue and cumulative controllable profit contribution, or CPC, of the divisions over which they had responsibility at the beginning of fiscal 2013, which was when the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards were granted. Specifically, 25% of Mr. Brown's award will be based on performance of the International and Commercial divisions and 25% of Mr. Happe's award will be based on performance of the Residential, Exmark, Landscape Contractor Equipment and Sitework Systems divisions.
- At our 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, our shareholders had the opportunity to provide an advisory vote on the compensation paid to our named executive officers, or a "say-on-pay" vote. Of the votes cast by our shareholders, 94% were in favor of our "say-on-pay" vote. Accordingly, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee generally believes that such results affirmed shareholder support of our approach to executive compensation and did not believe it was necessary to, and, therefore, did not, make any significant changes to our executive compensation program solely in response to the vote.

**Executive Compensation Program Objectives.** Our guiding compensation philosophy is to maintain an executive compensation program that allows us to attract, retain, motivate and reward highly qualified and talented executive officers that will enable us to perform better than our competitors and drive long-term shareholder value. The following core principles provide a framework for our executive compensation program:

- **Link Pay to Performance.** We provide annual and long-term incentive compensation opportunities, which are tied directly to achievement of annual and long-term financial performance goals. Actual levels of incentive compensation and, therefore, total direct compensation, vary based on the level of achievement of the performance goals annually and over the long-term.
- **Provide Competitive Target Total Direct Compensation Opportunities.** We provide market competitive total direct compensation opportunities, which we believe allows us to attract and retain the necessary executive talent, motivate and reward the accomplishment of annual and long-term financial performance goals, and maintain an appropriate cost structure. Generally, in order to provide market competitive total direct compensation, our goal is to target a reasonable range within the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile if target levels of performance are met. When actual levels of performance exceed target, actual total cash compensation and total direct compensation will likely exceed the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. When actual levels of performance fall below target, actual total cash compensation and total direct compensation will likely fall

below the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. However, an individual executive officer's total direct compensation, or element of total direct compensation, may vary from the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile based on a number of factors.

- **Align with Shareholder Interests.** To align the interests of our executive officers with those of our shareholders, we provide long-term incentives primarily through a combination of stock options and three-year performance share awards, which we grant to our executive officers on an annual basis and, to a lesser extent, restricted stock and restricted stock units, which we grant in certain circumstances. We believe that our incentive programs' focus on financial business results has a direct link to the value of our common stock. We also maintain stock ownership guidelines to encourage significant ownership of our common stock by our executive officers.

Our compensation policies, practices and programs are designed such that we believe that they do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our Company. Additional detail regarding our risk assessment of our compensation policies, practices and programs is set forth under "Assessment of Risk Related to Compensation Programs" on page 54.

**How We Make Compensation Decisions.** In order to most effectively implement our established compensation philosophy, there are several elements to our executive officer compensation decision-making. Each of these elements and their roles are described briefly below.

**Role of the Compensation & Human Resources Committee.** The Compensation & Human Resources Committee, which is comprised solely of independent directors, oversees our executive compensation program. Within its duties, the Committee approves compensation for our Chairman and CEO, which is then submitted to the other independent directors of the Board for ratification, and for each other executive officer, who we define as any employee at or above the vice president level. In doing so, the Committee:

- Approves the total direct executive compensation package for each executive officer, including his or her base salary, annual cash incentive award and long-term incentive awards;
- Reviews and approves, as appropriate, corporate and division financial performance measures, weightings, goals and performance adjustment events, if any, related to our annual and long-term incentive awards;
- Reviews and approves annual cash incentive award payouts and performance share award payouts;
- Evaluates market competitiveness of each of our executive officer's compensation (in total and by each individual element); and
- Evaluates proposed significant changes to all other elements of our executive compensation program, including forms of long-term incentive awards, health and welfare benefits, retirement plans and perquisites.

The Committee is supported in its duties, and receives input from, Towers Watson, its external compensation consultant, and our Management, including our Chairman and CEO, our Vice President, Human Resources and Business Development and our Managing Director, HR and Total Rewards.

**Role of the External Compensation Consultant.** The Committee has sole authority to hire consultants, approve their fees and determine the nature and scope of their work. The Committee may replace consultants or hire additional consultants at any time.

A representative from Towers Watson attended each Committee meeting in fiscal 2013 and communicates with the Chair of the Committee in advance of, or following, Committee meetings. Each year, Towers Watson reviews and discusses executive compensation trends with Management and the Committee and provides market data for all of our executive officers, including our named executive officers, along with a comparison of those executive officers' current base salaries, target total cash

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compensation and target total direct compensation to the market 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. Additionally, Towers Watson reviews all executive officer compensation recommendations in advance of the Committee meeting and participates in discussions at the Committee meeting regarding those recommendations.

Towers Watson is engaged by the Committee from time to time to perform other compensation consulting services, which in fiscal 2013 included a review of non-employee director compensation.

**Role of Management.** Management's role is to provide current compensation information to Towers Watson and provide analysis and recommendations on executive officer compensation to the Committee based on the comparison to market; the executive's level of professional experience; the executive's duties and responsibilities; individual performance; tenure; historic corporate and division performance; and internal pay comparisons. None of our executive officers, including our Chairman and CEO, provides input or recommendations with respect to his or her compensation.

**Use of Market Data.** Since one of the objectives of our executive compensation program is to provide market competitive compensation opportunities, the Committee uses market data provided by Towers Watson to help evaluate and make compensation decisions. Market data provided by Towers Watson each year is derived from the executive database within the Towers Watson Compensation Data Bank, which is a published compensation survey. There were 442 participating companies in the 2013 survey. The data in the compensation survey is size adjusted, using a regression analysis, for our revenue size. If regression data is not available, data is provided for a sub-set of companies with annual revenue between \$1 billion and \$3 billion (there were 121 participating companies in the 2013 survey in this revenue range). For executive officers with divisional responsibilities, the data is size adjusted for specific division revenue. We believe that the market for our executive officer talent is not limited to the manufacturing industry; therefore, we do not focus specifically on manufacturing companies within the database, nor do we identify a separate group of peer companies within the manufacturing industry. The market data provided by Towers Watson is in aggregate form and individual data for participating companies in the survey is not provided and, therefore, not considered when determining executive officer compensation in total or for any individual element.

Market data is obtained for comparable positions in which each of our executive officer serves. For fiscal 2013, market data for the named executive officers included the chief executive officer for Mr. Hoffman's position, the CFO/top financial officer for Ms. Peterson's position, multi-profit center (group) heads for Messrs. Brown's and Happe's positions and top legal executive for Mr. Dordell's position.

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**Elements of Our Executive Compensation Program.** During fiscal 2013, our executive compensation program consisted of the following key elements: base salary, annual cash incentive, long-term incentives in the form of stock options and performance share awards, health and welfare benefits, retirement plans and perquisites. The following table provides some of the key characteristics of and purpose for each element along with some key actions taken during fiscal 2013.

Element	Key Characteristics	Purpose	Key Fiscal 2013 Actions
Base Salary	Reviewed annually and, if appropriate, adjusted.	Provide a source of fixed income that is market competitive and reflects scope and responsibility of the position held.	Our named executive officers received increases to annual base salaries, effective retroactively as of November 1, 2012, the first day of fiscal 2013, ranging from 3.1% to 7.2% of their then current annual base salaries.
Annual Cash Incentive	A variable, short-term element of compensation that is payable in cash based on achievement of key pre-established annual corporate goals and for division participants, division financial goals.	Motivate and reward our executive officers for achievement of annual business results that drive overall company and division performance.	Target awards as a percent of base salary for our named executive officers were established at 50% to 110% of fiscal year base salary earnings, with certain of our named executive officers receiving an increase in their target award as a percent of base salary.
Long-Term Incentives	A variable, long-term element of compensation that is generally provided in the form of stock options and performance share awards. Stock options are time-based and vest ratably over three years and performance share awards are payable based on achievement of cumulative financial goals after three years and are paid out in shares of our common stock. Occasionally, restricted stock or restricted stock units are granted in connection with hiring new executive officers, mid-year promotions,	Align the interests of our executive officers with our shareholders; encourage focus on long-term Company financial performance measures that are deemed strategically and operationally important to our company; promote retention of our executive officers; and encourage significant ownership of our common stock.	Named executive officers were granted stock options that vest ratably over three years and performance share awards that are payable based on achievement of pre-established three-year cumulative financial goals. The fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards included division performance measures for our executive officers with divisional responsibility, which in fiscal 2013, included Messrs. Brown and Happe. The division performance measures for Messrs. Brown and Happe were based on the divisions over which they had responsibility at the beginning of fiscal 2013, which is when the awards were granted. If an executive

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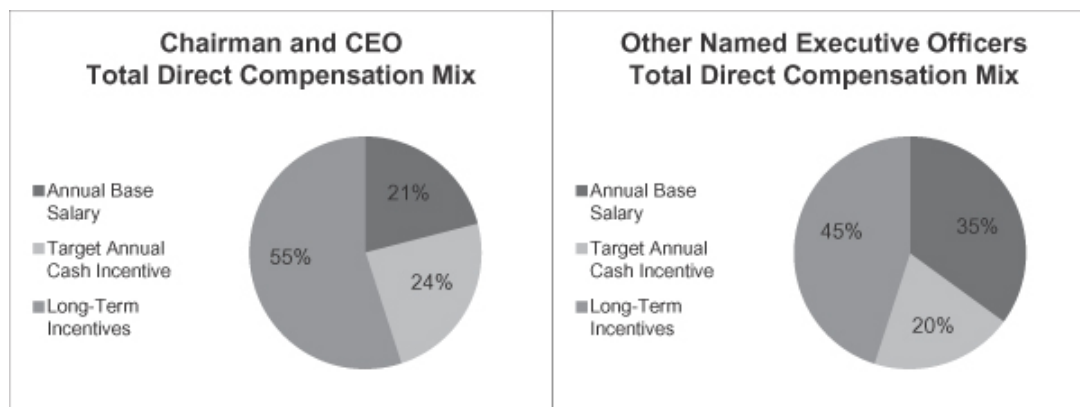
Element	Key Characteristics	Purpose	Key Fiscal 2013 Actions
	leadership transitions or retention purposes.		officer transitions to a new role after the performance share awards are granted, the performance share award granted for that performance period is not adjusted. Instead, the performance share grant of awards for the next three-year period is based on the executive officer's new division responsibilities.
Health and Welfare Benefits	Includes medical and dental insurance; life, accidental death and dismemberment insurance; and disability insurance.	Provide competitive health and welfare benefits at a reasonable cost and promote employee health.	No significant changes were made to our health and welfare benefits.
Retirement Plans	Includes a defined contribution retirement plan and certain nonqualified retirement plans.	Provide an opportunity for employees to save and prepare financially for retirement.	No significant changes were made to our retirement plans.
Perquisites	Includes a company-leased automobile, financial planning allowance, company products and executive physicals.	Assist in promoting the health and personal financial security of our executive officers; promote the personal use of our products by our executive officers; and promote the attraction and retention of our executive officers.	No significant changes were made to our perquisites.

We believe that a significant portion of our executive officers' target total compensation package should be comprised of short-term and long-term variable "performance-based" or "at risk" compensation to directly link our pay to performance. As described previously, for fiscal 2013, such compensation comprised 79% of target total direct compensation for the Chairman and CEO and ranged from 61% to 68% of target total direct compensation for our other named executive officers. This compensation consisted of both short-term variable compensation in the form of our annual cash incentive awards, and long-term variable compensation in the form of stock options and three-year performance share awards.



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The overall mix of annual base salaries, target annual cash incentive awards and grant date fair value long-term incentive awards as a percent of target total direct compensation for our Chairman and CEO and other named executive officers as a group for fiscal 2013 is provided below. The value of the long-term incentives represented is based on the grant date fair value of stock options and performance share awards granted during fiscal 2013. Actual long-term incentive value will be based on long-term stock price performance for the stock options and on results achieved against three-year cumulative financial goals for the performance share awards.



We describe each key element of our executive compensation program in more detail in the following pages, along with the compensation decisions made in fiscal 2013.

**Base Salary.**

*General.* We review base salaries for our executive officers on an annual basis to ensure that they remain market competitive and reflect the scope and responsibility of their positions. Specifically, the base salaries for our executive officers are reviewed and discussed at the regular meeting of the Compensation & Human Resources Committee held in November or December of each year and base salary increases, if any, for our executive officers are approved at that meeting and are effective November 1, the first day of our fiscal year.

*Discussion and Analysis.* When we recommended fiscal 2013 base salaries for our named executive officers, the following factors were considered: current base salary, base salary relative to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, historical and current levels of individual performance, scope and complexity of the position and internal pay comparisons. Fiscal 2013 annual base salaries, fiscal 2013 annual base salary increases compared to fiscal 2012 and fiscal 2013 annual base salaries compared to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile are provided in the table below for each of our named executive officers:

Name	Fiscal 2013 Annual Base Salary	Fiscal 2013 Annual Base Salary Increase Compared to Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2013 Annual Base Salary Compared to Market 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 900,000	4.0%	1.7% above
Ms. Peterson	\$ 445,000	7.2%	3.3% below
Mr. Brown	\$ 355,000	5.2%	6.6% below
Mr. Dordell	\$ 371,000	3.1%	2.4% below
Mr. Happe	\$ 355,000	5.2%	7.8% below

The base salaries of all of our named executive officers are close to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. The base salary increase of 4% for Mr. Hoffman in fiscal 2013 resulted in his base salary being slightly above the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, which the Committee believes is appropriate given Mr. Hoffman's experience, performance and tenure in the role. In fiscal 2013, the base salary increase for Ms. Peterson of 7.2% and the salary increases of 5.2% for Messrs. Brown and Happe and 3.1% for Mr. Dordell were intended to bring their respective annual base salaries closer to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Messrs. Brown and Happe had been in their respective Group Vice President roles for less than one year when the fiscal 2013 base salaries were established. As a result of being new to their position, the Committee believes it is appropriate that, even after their salary increases, their fiscal 2013 base salaries are less than the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. The fiscal annual base salaries are set forth in the "Summary Compensation Table" on page 55 in the "Salary" column.

**Annual Cash Incentives.**

*General.* To help ensure we meet our compensation program objective of linking pay to performance, we provide the opportunity for our executive officers to earn an annual cash incentive, which is designed to motivate attainment and reward accomplishment of annual financial business goals. This is done by establishing financial goals for our annual incentive plan that link closely to our annual financial business plan.

At the beginning of each fiscal year, during its regular meeting held in November or December, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee approves a target award expressed as a percentage of base salary for each executive officer, including our named executive officers. Additionally, the Committee approves specific performance measures, weightings, goals and performance adjustment events, if any, at the corporate and division level, as applicable, for the new fiscal year. The performance measures are selected from the list of performance measures in our 2010 Plan. For each performance measure, a threshold, target and maximum level of performance is defined, which have corresponding payout percentages. During the fiscal year, the Committee reviews progress against the established goals. Following the end of the fiscal year, at its regular meeting held in November or December, Management presents a summary of, and the Committee confirms, actual performance in comparison to the established corporate and division goals along with a corresponding payout percentage, which is expressed as a percent of target performance. Annual cash incentive awards are contingent upon, and paid out to the executive officers in December following, our final earnings release for the recently completed fiscal year.

*Target Awards.* When determining the target award, as a percent of base salary, for each named executive officer, we review the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for target total cash compensation (sum of base salary and target annual cash incentives) for the positions in which such executive officer serves. Our objective is that when we achieve target levels of performance, resulting total cash compensation paid to our executive officers is within a reasonable range of the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Actual total cash compensation will generally exceed the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile if performance exceeds established target annual financial business goals and will generally be less than the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile if actual performance is below established target annual financial business goals. In addition to considering the market data, the Committee also considers experience, scope and complexity of the executive officer's position, as well as individual contributions and performance. Actual awards can range from 0% (if threshold levels of performance are not met) to 200% of the target award (if maximum levels of performance are met for all of the performance measures).

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In December 2012, the Committee approved the fiscal 2013 target awards shown below for each of our named executive officers. The fiscal 2013 target annual cash incentive award, resulting fiscal 2013 target total cash compensation (sum of fiscal 2013 annual base salary and fiscal 2013 target annual cash incentive award) and the comparison to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile are also provided.

Name	Fiscal 2013 Annual Base Salary	Award at Target (% of base salary)	Fiscal 2013 Target Annual Cash Incentive Award	Fiscal 2013 Target Total Cash Compensation	Fiscal 2013 Target Total Cash Compensation Compared to Market 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 900,000	110%	\$ 990,000	\$ 1,890,000	4.1% above
Ms. Peterson	\$ 445,000	65%	\$ 289,250	\$ 734,250	5.9% below
Mr. Brown	\$ 355,000	55%	\$ 195,250	\$ 550,250	12.0% below
Mr. Dordell	\$ 371,000	50%	\$ 185,500	\$ 556,500	8.0% below
Mr. Happe	\$ 355,000	55%	\$ 195,250	\$ 550,250	12.7% below

We believe that the fiscal 2013 target annual cash incentive awards reflect market competitive annual cash incentive opportunities and that the differentiation of target awards among the named executive officers is appropriate given the scope and responsibility of their respective positions. The target award as a percent of base salary for Mr. Hoffman was increased from 100% to 110% in fiscal 2013; as a result, his fiscal 2013 target total cash compensation is slightly higher than the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, which the Committee believes is appropriate given Mr. Hoffman's experience, performance and tenure in the role. The target award as a percent of base salary for Ms. Peterson was increased from 60% to 65% and the target award as a percent of base salary for Messrs. Brown and Happe was increased from 50% to 55%. These increases in target awards were intended to bring the target total cash compensation for Ms. Peterson and Messrs. Brown and Happe closer to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. There was no change to Mr. Dordell's fiscal 2013 target award as a percent of base salary.

The target awards resulted in fiscal 2013 target total cash compensation being below the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for all of the named executive officers, with the exception of Mr. Hoffman, whose fiscal 2013 target total cash compensation was slightly above the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Details regarding actual total cash compensation for fiscal 2013 can be found under "Annual Cash Incentives—Actual Cash Compensation Discussion and Analysis" beginning on page 48.

*Performance Measures, Weightings and Goals.* Each year, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee determines performance measures, weightings, goals and performance adjustment events, if any, for the annual cash incentive awards. We believe that in order to motivate our executive officers to achieve annual business results, it is important to select performance measures designed to motivate our named executive officers to achieve our annual financial plan, as well as drive shareholder value. Key drivers in our annual financial plan for fiscal 2013 included revenue growth, profitability and asset efficiency. Accordingly, the corporate performance measures for fiscal 2013 were corporate revenue growth, diluted net EPS and corporate average net assets turns, and the division performance measures were division revenue growth, division CPC, and division working capital as a percent of sales.

The Committee determined that the corporate and division measures and weightings that were in effect for fiscal 2012 were still appropriate and, therefore, did not change the corporate and division performance measures and weightings for fiscal 2013. The corporate and division performance measures and weightings for fiscal 2013, as approved by the Committee, were therefore as follows:

Corporate Performance Measures	Division Performance Measures
30% Corporate revenue growth	50% Division revenue growth
50% Diluted net EPS	40% Division CPC
20% Corporate average net assets turns	10% Division working capital as a percent of sales

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Our executive officers with all corporate responsibilities had 100% of their annual cash incentive tied to corporate performance. Our executive officers with divisional responsibility had at least 50% of their annual cash incentive tied to division performance and the remaining portion tied to corporate performance.

For fiscal 2013, threshold, target and maximum goals were established for each corporate and division performance measure. Target levels of performance were established based on our annual financial business plan, which takes into account our prior fiscal year financial business results, our competitive situation and the general outlook for our business during the current fiscal year. The diluted net EPS threshold goal, which was set at 80% of plan, must have been met in order for there to be any payout for corporate participants and any corporate portion payout for division participants. For division participants to receive a division payout for the respective individual divisions over which they have responsibility, CPC for the respective division must have been at least 80% of the plan established for that division, or the threshold level of performance. Division participants are still eligible to receive a corporate portion payout for the respective division if CPC of the division is at least 60% of the plan established for that division. If CPC for the respective division is less than 60% of the plan established for that division, then division participants will not receive either the corporate portion payout or division portion payout for that division. For purposes of the fiscal 2014 annual cash incentive award, to provide division participants the ability to participate in the overall performance of our company, we eliminated the threshold that required division CPC be at least 60% of the plan in order for the division participants to receive either the corporate and division payout.

As provided for and in accordance with our 2010 Plan, the Committee also established specific adjustment events for determining corporate performance payouts and division performance payouts under the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive awards. With respect to corporate adjustment events, the impact of an acquisition on the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award payouts was determined by the size of the acquisition based on projected year one revenue. The impact of any acquisition greater than \$10 million was to be excluded from the payout calculation and the impact of any acquisition less than \$10 million was to be included in the payout calculation. Additionally, any externally driven changes in accounting principles and standards were to be excluded if the cumulative net impact on the payout of all such accounting adjustments affected the award payout by more than 2%. With respect to division adjustment events, the impact of any acquisition is excluded from the payout calculation.

*Corporate Performance Measures and Goals.* The below table summarizes the fiscal 2013 corporate performance measures and goals applicable to each of our named executive officers. For our named executive officers with divisional responsibility, 50% of the annual cash incentive award was based on the achievement of the corporate goals listed in the below table. The remaining 50% was based on the achievement of division goals, which are discussed later in this section.

Corporate: Fiscal 2013 Performance Measures	Threshold (40% payout)	Target (100% payout)	Maximum (200% payout)	Actual
30% Corporate revenue growth	2.0%	4.0% – 6.0%	9.0%	4.2%
50% Diluted net EPS	\$1.91	\$2.39	\$2.87	\$2.62
20% Corporate average net assets turns	2.57792	3.03285	3.48778	2.88600

*Corporate Performance Discussion and Analysis.* For fiscal 2013, corporate revenue growth was at the target level of performance, diluted net EPS was between the target and maximum levels of performance, and corporate average net assets turns was between the threshold and target levels of performance. When applying the weightings of the different performance measures to actual results, the resulting corporate performance payout for fiscal 2013 was 120.2% of target. Since Mr. Hoffman, Ms. Peterson and Mr. Dordell have 100% of their annual cash incentive awards tied to corporate performance, their annual cash incentive award payouts were at 120.2% of target. Applying their individual target awards as a percent of base salary, this translated to payouts of 132%, 78% and 60% of fiscal year base salary earnings for Mr. Hoffman, Ms. Peterson and Mr. Dordell, respectively.

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*Division Performance Measures and Goals.* In addition to corporate performance, our executives with division responsibility have 50% of their annual cash incentive award based on actual division performance against division performance goals established for the individual divisions over which they have responsibility. As a result, in fiscal 2013, Messrs. Brown and Happe had 50% of their annual cash incentive award tied to division performance.

The division performance measures include division revenue growth, division CPC and division working capital as a percent of sales. Threshold, target and maximum goals are established for each of these performance measures for each division at the beginning of the fiscal year. Target levels of performance correspond to a payout of 100% of the target award, threshold levels of performance correspond to a payout of 40% of the target award and maximum levels of performance correspond to a payout of 200% of the target award. For each performance measure, the target goal reflects the annual financial business plan goal set for each respective division. Based on historical performance, the Committee believes the attainment of the target performance level, while uncertain, can be reasonably anticipated. Threshold goals represent the minimum level of performance necessary for there to be a payout for that performance measure and the Committee believes the threshold goals are likely to be achieved. The threshold goal for CPC represents 80% of the target award. Threshold goals for revenue growth and working capital as a percent of sales represent the minimum level of performance that the Committee determines is appropriate in order to receive a payout. Maximum goals represent the level of performance at which payouts are 200% of the target award. Even if actual results exceed the maximum goals, the payouts are capped at 200% of the target award. The maximum goal for CPC represents 120% of the plan set for each respective division. Maximum goals for revenue growth and working capital as a percent of sales represent levels of performance at which the Committee determines a payout of 200% of target would be appropriate. The Committee believes that the maximum goals established for each division performance measure are more aggressive goals.

The specific performance goals for each of revenue growth, CPC and working capital as a percent of sales for each division are maintained by us as proprietary and confidential. The Committee believes that disclosure of these specific performance goals would represent competitive harm to us as division goals and results are not publicly disclosed and are competitively sensitive.

*Discussion and Analysis of Division Performance Applicable to Mr. Brown.* The annual cash incentive for Mr. Brown was based 50% on corporate performance and 50% on division performance. The division performance was based on the divisions over which Mr. Brown had responsibility during some, or all, of fiscal 2013. Division performance for Mr. Brown was weighted to generally reflect the difference between the size and profitability of these divisions, as well as the time that Mr. Brown spent among these divisions. At the beginning of fiscal 2013, Mr. Brown had ultimate responsibility for the International division and the Commercial division. In March 2013, position responsibilities for several of our executive officers changed; as a result, Mr. Brown maintained responsibility for the Commercial division and became responsible for the Irrigation division. The International division responsibility was transferred to another one of our executive officers during fiscal 2013; however, Mr. Brown's fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive included the performance of this division as he had responsibility for it for a portion of fiscal 2013.

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The table below reflects how the International, Commercial and Irrigation divisions performed against the three performance measures.

Performance Measure	International	Commercial	Irrigation
Division revenue growth	Between Target and Maximum	Target	Target
Division CPC	Exceeded Maximum	Between Target and Maximum	Between Target and Maximum
Division working capital as a percent of sales	Between Threshold and Target	Between Target and Maximum	Between Threshold and Target

The resulting fiscal 2013 division performance payouts for the International, Commercial and Irrigation divisions were 161.8%, 110.5% and 103.6% of target, respectively. When applying the weightings assigned to each division to the division payout percentages, the resulting division payout percent for Mr. Brown was 118.5%. When applying the 50% corporate weighting to the 120.2% corporate payout percent and the 50% division weighting to the 118.5% division payout percent, the resulting payout as a percent of target was slightly more than 119%. Mr. Brown's actual fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award is, therefore, approximately 119% of the 55% target incentive, or just under 66% of fiscal 2013 base salary earnings.

*Discussion and Analysis of Division Performance Applicable to Mr. Happe.* The annual cash incentive for Mr. Happe was based 50% on corporate performance and 50% on division performance. The division performance was based on the divisions over which Mr. Happe had responsibility during fiscal 2013. Division performance for Mr. Happe was weighted to generally reflect the difference between the size and profitability of these divisions, as well as the time that Mr. Happe spent among these divisions.

The table below reflects how the Residential, Landscape Contractor Equipment, Exmark and Sitework Systems divisions performed against the three performance measures.

Performance Measure	Residential	Landscape Contractor Equipment	Exmark	Sitework Systems
Division revenue growth	Less Than Threshold	Exceeded Maximum	Exceeded Maximum	Target
Division CPC	Between Threshold and Target	Exceeded Maximum	Exceeded Maximum	Between Threshold and Target
Division working capital as a percent of sales	Less Than Threshold	Exceeded Maximum	Between Target and Maximum	Less than Threshold

The resulting fiscal 2013 division performance payouts for the Residential, Landscape Contractor Equipment, Exmark and Sitework Systems divisions were 33.1%, 200% (maximum), 191% and 81.2%, respectively. When applying the weightings assigned to each division to the division payout percentages, the resulting division payout percent for Mr. Happe was 94.5%. When applying the 50% corporate weighting to the 120.2% corporate payout percent and the 50% division weighting to the 94.5% division payout percent, the resulting payout as a percent of target was slightly more than 107%. Mr. Happe's actual fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award is, therefore, approximately 107% of the 55% target incentive, or just over 59% of fiscal 2013 base salary earnings.

*Actual Cash Compensation Discussion and Analysis.* Fiscal 2013 actual total cash compensation and its position relative to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile is reflected in the table below. The corporate performance payout of the annual cash incentive award of 120.2% resulted in actual total cash compensation being above the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Peterson.

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Mr. Dordell's actual total cash compensation was slightly below market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Despite increases in the annual cash incentive award as a percent of base salary of 50% to 55% and performance levels of their respective divisions generally being greater than target, the resulting actual total cash compensation was below the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for Messrs. Brown and Happe. Messrs. Brown and Happe were still relatively new to the Group Vice President role during fiscal 2013; therefore, the Committee believes it is appropriate that their fiscal 2013 total cash compensation be below the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Name	Fiscal 2013 Base Salary Earnings	Fiscal 2013 Actual Total Annual Cash Incentive Award Payout	Fiscal 2013 Actual Total Cash Compensation	Fiscal 2013 Actual Total Cash Compensation Compared to Market 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 900,000	\$ 1,189,980	\$ 2,089,980	15.2% above
Ms. Peterson	\$ 445,000	\$ 347,679	\$ 792,679	1.6% above
Mr. Brown	\$ 355,000	\$ 232,992	\$ 587,992	5.9% below
Mr. Dordell	\$ 371,000	\$ 222,971	\$ 593,971	1.8% below
Mr. Happe	\$ 355,000	\$ 209,625	\$ 564,625	10.4% below

### **Long-Term Incentives.**

*General.* We believe that our use of long-term incentives tied to our common stock, along with our established stock ownership guidelines, help align the interests of our executive officers with the interest of our shareholders. Therefore, we provide the opportunity for our executive officers to earn market competitive long-term incentives in the form of both stock options and performance share awards that are granted annually. We believe that delivering both stock options and performance share awards to our executive officers has been effective in focusing our executives on achievement of long-term financial business results and encouraging stock ownership. This long-term performance orientation of stock options and performance share awards is consistent with our compensation objectives of linking pay to performance and aligning the interests of our executive officers with the interests of our shareholders. We generally target the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for granting long-term incentive awards. With respect to annual grants of long-term incentive awards, in addition to considering the market data, we also consider for each executive officer the scope and complexity of the position, tenure, internal pay comparisons, individual performance and historical targeted grant levels. Generally, one-half of the long-term incentive value is delivered in the form of stock options (using an estimated Black-Scholes value) and one-half of the long-term incentive value is delivered in the form of performance share awards (using an estimated stock price). We believe this mix of equity vehicles strikes the appropriate balance between rewarding increases in the market value of our common stock and the achievement of company specific performance measures. Actual value realized from our long-term incentive awards may exceed or be less than the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile based on actual performance against established three-year cumulative financial business goals for performance share awards and the price of our common stock for stock options. In addition to stock options and performance share awards, we also occasionally use awards of restricted stock or restricted stock units in connection with the hiring of new executive officers, mid-year promotions of existing executive officers, leadership transition or retention purposes.

*Stock Options.* Each year at its regular meeting held in November or December, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee approves the annual grant of stock options to our executive officers. If we deliver strong shareholder returns, our stock price presumably will increase, thereby increasing the value of the stock options and resulting total compensation. If shareholder value is not delivered and our stock price does not increase, the options will have no value. Annual stock options are generally granted on the date of the Committee's meeting or, if held before the issuance of our earnings release announcing prior fiscal year results, on the second business day following the issuance of the earnings release, with the day of such earnings release being the first day, and have a



per share exercise price equal to the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on the date of grant.

To determine the number of options to award to our executive officers, we start with a total target value of stock options and divide that value by the expected value of an option to purchase a share of our common stock, using a Black-Scholes option pricing method. The calculation of the expected value is based on the average closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, over the last three months of the prior fiscal year. The three-month average allows for smoothing of any volatility that may be associated with a particular date's stock price.

Stock options granted to our executive officers, including our named executive officers, vest ratably in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third year anniversaries of the date of grant and are exercisable for a period of ten years following the date of grant. We believe that the three-year vesting schedule is common within our industry and at similarly sized companies. Additionally, the three-year vesting schedule is consistent with the three-year performance period for our performance share awards. We believe the three-year period for both stock options and performance share awards provides retention value and focuses our executive officers on attainment of longer term performance. The Compensation & Human Resources Committee periodically reviews option vesting schedules and terms.

*Performance Share Awards.* Each year at its regular meeting held in November or December, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee approves the annual grant of performance share awards to our executive officers, including our named executive officers. Performance share awards are paid out in shares of our common stock following completion of a three-year performance period if certain performance goals are achieved. The performance goals are based on performance measures contained in our 2010 Plan.

To determine the number of target performance share awards to be granted to our executive officers, we start with a total expected value of performance share awards to be delivered. That value is divided by an expected value per share to determine the number of performance share awards to grant at target. The expected value per share is equal to the average closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, over the last three months of the prior fiscal year.

At the beginning of the first fiscal year in the three-year period, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee establishes performance measures, weightings, goals and performance adjustment events, if any, for the entire three-year performance period, as well as thresholds and maximums. Similar to the process used for establishing performance goals for annual cash incentive awards, our prior fiscal year financial business results, our competitive situation and the general state of our business, including any anticipated business opportunities, are considered by the Committee when establishing performance goals for the three-year performance period. During the fiscal year, the Committee reviews progress against the performance goals for performance share awards for all outstanding performance periods. At the end of the three-year performance period, at the Committee's regular meeting in November or December, Management presents a summary of, and the Committee confirms, performance against the performance goals, and a corresponding payout, which is expressed as a percent of target. Shares of our common stock are paid out to the executive officers in December and are contingent on our final earnings release for the recently completed fiscal year. Actual payouts for performance share awards can range from 0% (if the threshold levels of performance are not met) to 200% of the target award (if maximum levels of performance are met).

*Restricted Stock Awards and Restricted Stock Unit Awards.* Occasionally, the Committee will approve awards of restricted stock or restricted stock units for use in certain situations, including hiring of new executive officers, mid-year promotions of existing executive officers or leadership transition or retention purposes. Vesting may be either performance-based or time-based. Performance-based awards use one or more of the performance measures described in our 2010 Plan. Under our 2010



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Plan, restricted stock and restricted stock units with time-based vesting can vest no more rapidly than ratably over three years. None of our named executive officers received restricted stock or restricted stock units in fiscal 2013.

*Fiscal 2013 Grants.* The number of stock options granted to our named executive officers for fiscal 2013 can be found in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013 Table” on page 59. The per share exercise price of the options is \$42.06, which is equal to the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on the date of grant, which for fiscal 2013 was December 11, 2012. The grant date fair value of those awards can be found in the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55 in the “Option Awards” column and in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013” table in the “Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Award” column.

On December 11, 2012, the Committee granted performance share awards for the fiscal 2013 through fiscal 2015 performance period. The number of performance shares at threshold, target and maximum levels of performance granted to our named executive officers for the fiscal 2013 through fiscal 2015 performance period can be found in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013 Table” on page 59 in the “Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards” columns. The grant date fair value of those awards at target can be found in the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55 in the “Stock Awards” column.

*Performance Measures for the Performance Period Beginning in Fiscal 2013.* At the beginning of fiscal 2013, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee established performance measures, weightings, goals and performance adjustment events, if any, for the entire fiscal 2013 through fiscal 2015 performance period, as well as thresholds and maximums. For the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards, the following corporate performance measures and weightings were established:

- 50% cumulative corporate net income plus after-tax interest;
- 30% cumulative corporate revenue; and
- 20% cumulative corporate average net assets turns.

Our executive officers that did not have divisional responsibilities at the time the performance shares awards for the fiscal 2013 through fiscal 2015 awards were granted have 100% of their performance share awards for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period tied to the corporate performance measures and goals.

For the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards, division performance measures and weightings were also established for executive officers with divisional responsibility. Our executive officers that had divisional responsibilities at the time the performance shares awards for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 awards were granted have 75% of their performance share awards for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period tied to the corporate performance measures and goals and 25% of their performance share awards for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period tied to division performance measures and goals. If an executive officer transitioned to a new role after the performance share awards for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period were granted, the performance share award granted to that executive officer for that period is not adjusted. Instead, the performance share awards granted for the fiscal 2014 to fiscal 2016 performance period would be adjusted based on the executive officer’s new divisional responsibilities. The following division performance measures and weightings were established.

- 60% cumulative CPC; and
- 40% cumulative revenue.

In addition to approving performance measures, weightings and goals, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee also established, in accordance with our 2010 Plan, specific corporate

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adjustment events for determining payouts under the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards. The impact of acquisitions on the evaluation of performance will be determined based on the size of the acquisition as determined by projected year one revenue. The entire impact of any acquisition greater than \$50 million will be excluded from the payout calculation for the entire performance period. All impacts for acquisitions less than \$10 million will be included in the payout calculation for the entire performance period. For acquisitions between \$10 million and \$50 million, the impact will be excluded from the payout calculation if the transaction closes during the third year of the three-year term. If the transaction closes in the first or second year of the performance period, the impact will be included in the payout calculation with the exception of any transaction costs incurred. Additionally, any externally driven changes in accounting principles and standards will be excluded from the evaluation of performance if the cumulative net impact on the payout of all such accounting adjustments impacts the award payout by more than 2%. With respect to the division adjustment events, the impact of all acquisitions in which the projected first 12 months of revenue exceed 1% of division revenue, will be excluded. We believe that these adjustments are important to maintain our historical practice of fixed accounting treatment for our performance share awards.

*Performance Measures for the Performance Period Ending in Fiscal 2013.* We are still in the three year performance period for the performance share awards granted at the beginning of fiscal 2013 for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period. However, at the end of fiscal 2013 we concluded the performance period for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards that were granted at the beginning of fiscal 2011. Therefore, as a result of our three-year performance period for our performance share awards, the performance share awards that were granted in fiscal 2011 for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period were paid out upon the completion of fiscal 2013. A summary of the performance shares awarded to our named executive officers for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period, and the value realized on vesting for those awards, can be found in the "Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2013" table on page 63 in the "Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting" and "Value Realized on Vesting" columns, respectively. Ms. Peterson was not employed when the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards were granted and, as such, did not have a performance share award for that performance period.

The table below outlines the performance measures and weightings, as well as threshold, target and maximum goals, along with actual levels of performance, for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards. We did not establish separate division performance measures and goals for the performance share awards granted for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period.

Fiscal 2011 to Fiscal 2013 Performance Measure	Threshold (40% payout)	Target (100% payout)	Maximum (200% payout)	Actual
50% cumulative corporate net income plus after-tax interest (in thousands)	\$ 295,490	\$ 369,362	\$ 418,609	\$ 435,694
30% cumulative corporate revenue (in thousands)	\$5,328,943	\$ 5,675,296	\$ 5,983,117	\$5,884,073
20% cumulative corporate average net assets turns	8.47951	9.97589	11.47228	8.86421

*Discussion and Analysis.* The maximum level of performance was achieved for the cumulative corporate net income plus after-tax interest performance measure. Cumulative corporate revenue performance was between target and maximum levels of performance. Cumulative corporate average net assets turns performance was between threshold and target levels of performance. As a result of actual performance and the weightings of the performance measures, all executive officers who were previously awarded a performance share award for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period received 161.4% of the target performance shares granted under such award.

*Target Total Direct Compensation.* As described previously, when analyzing compensation, we look at base salary, target total cash compensation and target total direct compensation in comparison to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile when establishing new base salary levels, target annual cash incentive

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awards and long-term incentive awards. Actual value realized from long-term incentives is dependent on stock price at the time of exercise for stock option grants and actual payout of performance share awards at the end of the three-year term, which is dependent on actual cumulative performance against established performance goals. Therefore, it is difficult to assess actual total direct compensation on an annual basis in comparison to the market since the market data may have changed significantly when actual long-term incentive results are fully realized. We believe it is important to continue to review target total direct compensation when establishing long-term incentive grants. The fiscal 2013 target total direct compensation, which is the sum of actual base salary, target annual cash incentive and target value of equity awards, for each named executive officer is compared to the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile in the table below.

Name	Fiscal 2013 Target Total Direct Compensation	Comparison to Market 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 4,190,000	5.3% above
Ms. Peterson	\$ 1,349,250	3.3% below
Mr. Brown	\$ 950,250	6.8% below
Mr. Dordell	\$ 926,500	5.0% below
Mr. Happe	\$ 950,250	8.6% below

### **Health, Welfare and Retirement Benefits and All Other Compensation.**

**Health and Welfare Benefits.** We believe that providing competitive health and welfare benefits at a reasonable cost is an important part of any employee's compensation package and promotes employee health. Our executive officers participate in the same health and welfare benefits as our full-time office salaried employees. These health and welfare benefits for fiscal 2013 included medical and dental insurance; life, accidental death and dismemberment insurance; and disability insurance. These benefits, including plan design and cost, are analyzed annually.

**Retirement Benefits.** We believe that it is important to allow our employees, including our executive officers, the opportunity to save for retirement through our IS&ESOP, which is our defined contribution plan. This is the plan in which the majority of our U.S.-based employees participate. This plan includes a standard 401(k) plan with a company match and two other annual discretionary company contributions, an investment savings contribution and an ESOP contribution. Company contributions for fiscal 2013 to our defined contribution plan on behalf of our named executive officers can be found under "All Other Compensation for Fiscal 2013" beginning on page 57.

Our named executive officers' compensation exceeds the IRS compensation limit; therefore, they are limited in terms of what they can contribute and what we can match in our qualified defined contribution plan. To help ensure our executive officers' ability to provide financial security and save for retirement, we maintain three nonqualified plans, which include: The Toro Company Deferred Compensation Plan, or Deferred Plan, the Deferred Plan for Officers and The Toro Company Supplemental Benefit Plan, or Supplemental Benefit Plan. These plans, which are unsecured and unfunded, are described under "Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013" beginning on page 63.

**Perquisites.** We provide our executive officers with modest perquisites. The perquisites provided during fiscal 2013 included a company-leased automobile, financial planning allowance, payment of an executive physical and company products for personal use. We believe these perquisites are an important part of our overall compensation package and help us accomplish our goal of attracting, retaining and rewarding top executive talent. Specifically, we believe that these perquisites assist in promoting the financial security and health of our executive officers and encourage the use and promotion of our products.

The value of all of the perquisites provided to our named executive officers for fiscal 2013 can be found under "All Other Compensation for Fiscal 2013" beginning on page 57.

**Charitable Giving.** We support our employees' charitable organizations through our employee matching gift program. Our executive officers, including our named executive officers participate in the same employee matching gift program as our other office salaried employees. In this program, a gift in the amount of \$25 to \$3,000 by an employee and his/her spouse to one or more tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organizations located in the United States will be matched in an aggregate amount of up to \$3,000 per year.

**Stock Ownership Guidelines.** We maintain stock ownership guidelines that enable us to meet our compensation objective of aligning the interests of our executive officers with those of our shareholders. Our guidelines require that our Chairman and CEO own a dollar value of our common stock equal to at least five times his annual base salary, and require our other executive officers, including our named executive officers, to own a dollar value of our common stock equal to two or three times annual base salary, depending on their position. Executive officers have five years from the date of hire or, if the ownership multiple has increased during his or her tenure, five years from the date established in connection with such increase to reach their guidelines. As of October 31, 2013, each of our named executive officers required to meet the stock ownership guidelines had met such guideline.

**Employment, Severance and Change in Control Arrangements.** Our named executive officers do not have any employment or severance agreements or arrangements other than as provided for in our CIC policy. Accordingly, our named executive officers do not have the right to cash severance in connection with a termination of employment except in connection with a change in control of our Company as described under "Change in Control" beginning on page 69. Our CIC policy incorporates a "double trigger" mechanism.

**Tax Deductibility of Compensation.** When designing all aspects of compensation, we consider the deductibility of executive compensation under Code Section 162(m), which provides that we may not deduct more than \$1 million paid to certain executive officers, other than "performance-based" compensation meeting certain requirements. Our compensation plans and the annual cash incentive award payouts, stock option grants and performance share award payouts made under these plans have been designed with the intention of satisfying the requirements for "performance-based" compensation as defined in Code Section 162(m). While we design these plans to operate in a manner intended to qualify as "performance-based" under Code Section 162(m), the Committee may administer the plans in a manner that does not satisfy the requirements of Code Section 162(m) in order to achieve a result that the Committee determines to be appropriate. All performance-based compensation awarded to, earned by or paid to our named executive officers in fiscal 2013 was intended to be deductible under Code Section 162(m).

#### **Assessment of Risk Related to Compensation Programs**

We determined that our compensation policies, practices and programs and related compensation governance structure work together to minimize exposure to excessive risk while appropriately pursuing growth strategies that emphasize shareholder value creation. In reaching such determination, we noted that (i) base salaries for all employees are targeted at the market 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, are not subject to performance risk and, for non-executive employees, constitute the largest part of their total compensation; and (ii) incentive or variable compensation awarded to our executive officers, which constitutes the largest part of their total compensation, is appropriately balanced between annual and long-term performance and cash and equity compensation, and utilizes performance measures and goals that are drivers of long-term success for our Company and our shareholders.

**Summary Compensation Table**

The following table summarizes compensation for each of the last three fiscal years awarded to, earned by or paid to our Chairman and CEO; Vice President, Treasurer and CFO, and each of the other three most highly compensated executive officers. We collectively refer to the executive officers listed as our “named executive officers.” The “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” beginning on page 35 provides additional information about compensation paid to our named executive officers. Amounts in this Summary Compensation Table are not reduced to reflect elections, if any, by the named executive officers to defer receipt of base salary, annual cash incentive award payouts or performance share award payouts. Elections to defer these forms of compensation are described in more detail under “Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013” beginning on page 63. Earnings on nonqualified deferred compensation are not on a basis that is considered to be above-market or preferential.

Name and Principal Position	Fiscal Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Stock Awards <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Option Awards <sup>(3)</sup> (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation <sup>(4)</sup> (\$)	All Other Compensation <sup>(5)</sup> (\$)	Total (\$)
Michael J. Hoffman, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer	2013	\$900,000	\$ 0	\$ 1,236,564	\$ 1,254,834	\$ 1,189,980	\$ 208,413	\$ 4,789,791
	2012	\$865,000	\$ 0	\$ 1,214,105	\$ 1,140,360	\$ 819,155	\$ 195,670	\$ 4,234,290
	2011	\$847,926	\$ 0	\$ 1,176,914	\$ 1,303,347	\$ 1,321,069	\$ 224,143	\$ 4,873,399
Renee J. Peterson, VP, Treasurer and CFO <sup>(6)</sup>	2013	\$445,000	\$ 0	\$ 332,274	\$ 335,142	\$ 347,679	\$ 106,626	\$ 1,566,721
	2012	\$415,000	\$ 0	\$ 333,173	\$ 311,320	\$ 235,803	\$ 130,397	\$ 1,425,693
	2011	\$ 77,778	\$ 180,000	\$ 1,052,100	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 9,160	\$ 1,319,038
William E. Brown, Jr. Group VP, Commercial and Irrigation Businesses <sup>(7)</sup>	2013	\$355,000	\$ 0	\$ 214,506	\$ 218,232	\$ 232,992	\$ 66,278	\$ 1,087,008
Timothy P. Dordell, VP, Secretary and General Counsel	2013	\$371,000	\$ 0	\$ 197,682	\$ 201,345	\$ 222,971	\$ 85,404	\$ 1,078,402
	2012	\$360,000	\$ 0	\$ 203,292	\$ 192,640	\$ 170,460	\$ 82,170	\$ 1,008,562
	2011	\$347,000	\$ 0	\$ 213,430	\$ 236,785	\$ 284,540	\$ 85,800	\$ 1,167,555
Michael J. Happe, Group VP, Residential and Contractor Business <sup>(8)</sup>	2013	\$355,000	\$ 0	\$ 214,506	\$ 218,232	\$ 209,625	\$ 62,751	\$ 1,060,114

- (1) We generally do not pay discretionary bonuses or bonuses that are subjectively determined and did not pay any such bonuses to any of our named executive officers in fiscal 2012 or fiscal 2013. In fiscal 2011, we paid a “sign-on” bonus to Ms. Peterson as part of her employment offer and upon commencement of her employment with us. This was intended to offset a portion of the annual cash incentive award that we estimated she would forfeit by terminating her employment with her former employer. Annual cash incentive award payouts based on performance against pre-established financial performance goals are reported in the “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column.
- (2) Amounts reported for fiscal 2013 represent the grant date fair value, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, of performance share awards granted for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 three-year performance period assuming target levels of performance. Amounts reported for fiscal 2013 are also set forth in the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013 Table” on page 59 in the “Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards” column. Provided below is the fiscal 2013 grant date fair value of performance share awards for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period assuming maximum levels of performance. The maximum value is calculated using the number of shares reflected in the “Maximum” column of the “Estimated Future Payouts Under

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Equity Incentive Plan Awards” section of the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013 Table” on page 59 and the closing price of our common stock, as reported by the NYSE, on the grant date of \$42.06.

Name	Grant Date Fair Value at Maximum Levels of Performance
Mr. Hoffman	\$2,473,128
Ms. Peterson	\$ 664,548
Mr. Brown	\$ 429,012
Mr. Dordell	\$ 395,364
Mr. Happe	\$ 429,012

(3) Amounts reported represent the grant date fair value, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, of option awards granted each fiscal year. Summarized in the table below are the specific assumptions used in the valuation of the option awards previously granted.

Grant Date	Risk Free Rate	Expected Life	Expected Volatility	Expected Dividend Yield	Per Share Black-Scholes Value
12/11/2012	0.87%	6.0 years	35.19%	1.07%	\$ 12.99
12/07/2011	1.20%	6.0 years	35.02%	1.31%	\$ 8.60
12/08/2010	2.36%	6.0 years	33.43%	1.04%	\$ 10.29

(4) Amounts reported represent annual cash incentive awards earned for each fiscal year, but paid during the following fiscal year or deferred. Annual cash incentive awards are calculated and paid based on performance against financial performance goals that are established and communicated at the beginning of each fiscal year. Since Ms. Peterson did not commence employment with us until August 22, 2011, she did not receive an annual cash incentive award for fiscal 2011. Additional detail regarding our annual cash incentives is set forth under “Annual Cash Incentives” beginning on page 44.

(5) Amounts for fiscal 2013 are set forth under “All Other Compensation for Fiscal 2013” beginning on page 57.

(6) Ms. Peterson’s salary for fiscal 2011 represents base salary earnings from August 22, 2011, her date of hire, through October 31, 2011.

(7) Mr. Brown was not a named executive officer in fiscal 2012 or 2011; therefore, his information is only provided for fiscal 2013.

(8) Mr. Happe was not a named executive officer in fiscal 2012 or 2011; therefore, his information is only provided for fiscal 2013.

### All Other Compensation for Fiscal 2013

All other compensation for fiscal 2013 includes the value of Company contributions to our retirement plan(s), the value of modest perquisites provided and the matching portion by the Company for charitable donations by our named executive officers, all of which are described below.

Element	Description
Retirement Benefits	Under our IS&ESOP, we currently match \$0.50 for each employee dollar contribution, up to an employee maximum of 4%, although we retain the discretion to amend the match. Employees are eligible to contribute to the plan and receive company matching contributions after 30 days of service. Additionally, there may be an annual Company discretionary investment savings and ESOP contribution. Employees are eligible for this contribution after 30 days of service. For certain employees whose compensation exceeds the IRS limit, we also provide a contribution into a nonqualified deferred compensation plan, the Supplemental Benefit Plan. Our nonqualified deferred compensation plans are described under "Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013" beginning on page 63.
Perquisites	<p>We provide our executive officers, including our named executive officers, with the following modest perquisites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Company-leased automobile—We pay all costs associated with leasing, operating, maintaining and insuring a company-leased automobile. Our executive officers are generally eligible for a new vehicle after 30 months and may choose to purchase the existing vehicle at book value plus payment of any miscellaneous expenses charged by our leasing company.</li><li>• Financial planning—We encourage our executive officers to receive professional advice regarding their financial, tax and estate planning needs. Therefore, we pay up to a maximum defined amount for our Chairman and CEO and each other named executive officer to cover tax planning, tax return preparation, financial counseling and estate planning. Every three years, we will pay up to an additional 50% of the annual allowance. Annual allowance ranges from \$5,000 for certain executives to \$15,000 for our Chairman and CEO.</li><li>• Annual executive physical—To help ensure the health of our executive officers, we generally pay up to \$2,000 for approved physical exam expenses not covered by the executive officer's health insurance.</li><li>• Company products—To enable our executive officers the opportunity to become more familiar with our products and use those products on a regular basis, we provide certain Company products and related parts and accessories for personal use at no cost; provided, however, that executive officers are responsible for applicable taxes attributable to the value of such products. The value of a product, part or accessory is generally deemed to be our distributor net price or its equivalent, which is also the price at which products are available to employees for purchase.</li></ul>
Charitable Giving	We support charitable organizations for our employees, including our named executive officers, through our matching gift program, which provides that a gift in the amount of \$25 to \$3,000 by an employee and/or his or her spouse to one or more tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organizations located in the United States will be matched by us in an aggregate amount of up to \$3,000 per year.



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Specific amounts included in the fiscal 2013 “All Other Compensation” column of the “Summary Compensation Table” are in the table below.

Name	IS&ESOP Contributions <sup>(1)</sup>	Supplemental Benefit Plan Contributions <sup>(2)</sup>	Automobile <sup>(3)</sup>	Financial Planning <sup>(4)</sup>	Executive Physical <sup>(5)</sup>	Company Products <sup>(6)</sup>	Charitable Giving <sup>(7)</sup>	Total
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 22,729	\$ 150,673	\$ 22,648	\$ 11,033	\$ 137	\$ 693	\$ 500	\$ 208,413
Ms. Peterson	\$ 22,729	\$ 44,012	\$ 17,947	\$ 7,708	\$ 1,193	\$ 12,987	\$ 50	\$ 106,626
Mr. Brown	\$ 22,729	\$ 26,759	\$ 14,680	\$ 1,750	\$ 0	\$ 260	\$ 100	\$ 66,278
Mr. Dordell	\$ 22,729	\$ 28,163	\$ 21,735	\$ 8,114	\$ 570	\$ 1,093	\$ 3,000	\$ 85,404
Mr. Happe	\$ 22,729	\$ 24,883	\$ 10,487	\$ 4,600	\$ 0	\$ 52	\$ 0	\$ 62,751

- (1) Amounts reported represent Company (i) matching contributions, (ii) investment savings contributions, and (iii) ESOP contributions to the IS&ESOP.
- (2) Amounts reported represent Company contributions to the Supplemental Benefit Plan.
- (3) Amounts reported represent Company paid automobile lease plus reportable income for personal use of the automobile.
- (4) Amounts reported represent Company paid amounts for financial planning expenses.
- (5) Amounts reported represent Company paid amounts for executive physical expenses or co-pays for executive physicals.
- (6) Amounts reported represent value of company products received for personal use.
- (7) Amounts reported represent matching contributions for charitable donations made by our executive officers.

### Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013

We currently grant cash and equity awards under our 2010 Plan. The types of equity awards permitted under the 2010 Plan include, but are not limited to, stock options, performance share awards, restricted stock awards and restricted stock unit awards. During fiscal 2013, all plan-based awards granted to our named executive officers were granted under the 2010 Plan and included annual cash incentive awards, performance share awards and stock option awards.

**Annual Cash Incentive Awards.** Target annual cash incentive awards are established annually as a percentage of base salary for each executive officer, including our named executive officers. Actual annual cash incentive award payouts are based on performance against the pre-established performance measures and goals. The range of payouts included in the “Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards” column of the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013” table are associated with threshold, target and maximum levels of performance, which correspond to 40%, 100% and 200% of the target award, respectively. If threshold levels of performance are not met, there is no annual cash incentive award payout. Details on how these awards were determined, and the performance measures and goals, can be found under “Annual Cash Incentives” beginning on page 44.

**Performance Share Awards.** Target performance share awards are established annually for a three-year performance period. Payouts of the performance share awards are based on performance against pre-established performance measures and cumulative goals. The range of payouts included in the “Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards” column of the “Grant of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013” table are associated with threshold, target and maximum levels of performance, which correspond to 40% of the target award if threshold levels of performance are met for all the performance measures, 100% of the target award if target levels of performance are met for all the performance measures and 200% of the target award if maximum levels of performance are met for all the performance measures. If threshold levels of performance are not met for a performance



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measure, there is no payout for that performance measure. If the threshold levels of performance are not met for any of the performance measures, there is no performance share award payout. Details on how the awards were determined can be found under “Long-Term Incentives—Performance Share Awards” on page 50.

**Stock Option Awards.** Stock options are granted annually and generally vest ratably in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third year anniversaries of the date of grant. Details on how the awards were determined can be found under “Long-Term Incentives—Stock Options” beginning on page 49. Stock option grants for fiscal 2013 are reflected in the “All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options” column of the “Grants of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013” table.

**Grant of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013 Table.** The following table summarizes all plan-based awards granted to our named executive officers during fiscal 2013. Specifically, the “Grant of Plan-Based Awards for Fiscal 2013” table includes the following:

- Range of annual cash incentive award payouts for annual cash incentive awards granted in fiscal 2013 from threshold to maximum levels of performance;
- Range of performance share award payouts granted in fiscal 2013 for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period from threshold to maximum levels of performance;
- Stock options granted in fiscal 2013 and the exercise price of those stock options; and
- Grant date fair value of all stock and option awards.

Name	Grant Date	Approval Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(1)</sup>			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(2)</sup>			All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options <sup>(3)</sup>	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards <sup>(4)</sup>	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards <sup>(5)(6)</sup>
			Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)			
Michael J. Hoffman											
Annual Cash Incentive Award	—	—	\$ 396,000	\$ 990,000	\$ 1,980,000						
Performance Share Award	12/11/12	12/11/12				11,760	29,400	58,800		\$ 1,236,564	
Stock Options	12/11/12	12/11/12							96,600	\$ 42.06 \$ 1,254,834	
Renee J. Peterson											
Annual Cash Incentive Award	—	—	\$ 115,700	\$ 289,250	\$ 578,500						
Performance Share Award	12/11/12	12/11/12				3,160	7,900	15,800		\$ 332,274	
Stock Options	12/11/12	12/11/12							25,800	\$ 42.06 \$ 335,142	
William E. Brown, Jr.											
Annual Cash Incentive Award	—	—	\$ 78,100	\$ 195,250	\$ 390,500						
Performance Share Award	12/11/12	12/11/12				2,040	5,100	10,200		\$ 214,506	
Stock Options	12/11/12	12/11/12							16,800	\$ 42.06 \$ 218,232	
Timothy P. Dordell											
Annual Cash Incentive Award	—	—	\$ 74,200	\$ 185,500	\$ 371,000						
Performance Share Award	12/11/12	12/11/12				1,880	4,700	9,400		\$ 197,682	
Stock Options	12/11/12	12/11/12							15,500	\$ 42.06 \$ 201,345	
Michael J. Happe											
Annual Cash Incentive Award	—	—	\$ 78,100	\$ 195,250	\$ 390,500						
Performance Share Award	12/11/12	12/11/12				2,040	5,100	10,200		\$ 214,506	
Stock Options	12/11/12	12/11/12							16,800	\$ 42.06 \$ 218,232	

(1) Amounts reported represent the range of payouts of annual cash incentive awards for fiscal 2013. Actual payouts for fiscal 2013 are included in the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55 in the “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column.

(2) Amounts reported represent the range of performance share award payouts for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period. Information regarding the performance share awards is set forth under “Long-Term Incentives—Performance Share Awards” on page 50.

(3) Amounts reported represent stock options granted during fiscal 2013. Options have a ten-year term and vest ratably in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third year anniversaries of the date of grant. Additional information regarding stock options is set forth under “Long-Term Incentives—Stock Options” beginning on page 49.

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- (4) Amounts reported represent the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on the date of grant of \$42.06.
- (5) Amounts reported represent the grant date fair value of performance share awards at target granted for the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period based on the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on the date of grant of \$42.06. These amounts are also set forth in the "Summary Compensation Table" on page 55 in the "Stock Awards" column.
- (6) Amounts reported for option awards represent the grant date fair value of \$12.99 per share, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, of option awards made for fiscal 2013. These amounts are also set forth in the "Summary Compensation Table" on page 55 in the "Option Awards" column. The specific assumptions used in the valuation of the options are included in footnote 3 to the "Summary Compensation Table."

**Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End for 2013**

The following table summarizes all outstanding equity awards previously granted to our named executive officers that were outstanding on October 31, 2013, the last day of fiscal 2013. Specifically, it reflects all exercisable and unexercisable stock options, as well as unvested restricted stock awards and performance share awards. The restricted stock awards and performance share awards have a market or payout value equal to \$58.94, the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on October 31, 2013, the last day of fiscal 2013.

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards			
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable <sup>(1)</sup> (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units that Have Not Vested (#) <sup>(2)</sup>	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock that Have Not Vested (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested <sup>(4)</sup> (#)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested <sup>(5)</sup> (\$)
Michael J. Hoffman								
Stock Options—2000 Plan	80,000	0	\$ 18.5100	12/02/2014				
	115,400	0	\$ 20.0950	11/30/2015				
	151,800	0	\$ 22.4500	11/30/2016				
	125,600	0	\$ 27.4650	11/28/2017				
	184,400	0	\$ 14.3100	12/03/2018				
	170,000	0	\$ 20.3650	12/01/2019				
Stock Options—2010 Plan	84,400	42,200	\$ 31.7600	12/08/2020				
	44,200	88,400	\$ 28.2250	12/07/2021				
	0	96,600	\$ 42.0600	12/11/2022				
F12-F14 Performance Shares							50,267	\$ 2,962,737
F13-F15 Performance Shares							32,928	\$ 1,940,776
Renee J. Peterson								
Stock Options—2010 Plan	12,066	24,134	\$ 28.2250	12/07/2021				
	0	25,800	\$ 42.0600	12/11/2022				
Restricted Stock—2010 Plan					15,422	\$ 908,973		
F12-F14 Performance Shares							13,794	\$ 813,018
F13-F15 Performance Shares							8,848	\$ 521,501
William E. Brown, Jr.								
Stock Options—2000 Plan	15,400	0	\$ 20.0950	11/30/2015				
	16,800	0	\$ 22.4500	11/30/2016				
	13,200	0	\$ 27.4650	11/28/2017				
	16,600	0	\$ 14.3100	12/03/2018				
	19,000	0	\$ 20.3650	12/01/2019				
Stock Options—2010 Plan	8,266	4,134	\$ 31.7600	12/08/2020				
	3,932	7,868	\$ 28.2250	12/07/2021				
	0	16,800	\$ 42.0600	12/11/2022				
Restricted Stock – 2010 Plan					3,062	\$ 180,474		
F12-F14 Performance Shares							3,720	\$ 219,257
F13-F15 Performance Shares							6,441	\$ 379,633
Timothy P. Dordell								
Stock Options—2000 Plan	11,340	0	\$ 21.1650	09/19/2016				
	18,600	0	\$ 22.4500	11/30/2016				
	21,000	0	\$ 27.4650	11/28/2017				
	35,000	0	\$ 14.3100	12/03/2018				
	32,000	0	\$ 20.3650	12/01/2019				
Stock Options—2010 Plan	15,332	7,668	\$ 31.7600	12/08/2020				
	7,466	14,934	\$ 28.2250	12/07/2021				
	0	15,500	\$ 42.0600	12/11/2022				
F12-F14 Performance Shares							8,416	\$ 496,039
F13-F15 Performance Shares							5,264	\$ 310,260
Michael J. Happe								
Stock Options—2000 Plan	7,800	0	\$ 27.4650	11/28/2017				
	17,000	0	\$ 20.3650	12/01/2019				
Stock Options—2010 Plan	8,666	4,334	\$ 31.7600	12/08/2020				
	3,932	7,868	\$ 28.2250	12/07/2021				
	0	16,800	\$ 42.0600	12/11/2022				
Restricted Stock – 2010 Plan					3,062	\$ 180,474		
F12-F14 Performance Shares							3,598	\$ 212,066
F13-F15 Performance Shares							6,354	\$ 374,505

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- (1) Stock options have a ten-year term and vest ratably in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third year anniversaries of the date of grant. The vesting schedule for options unexercisable as of October 31, 2013, is as follows:

Name	Grant Date	12/07/2013	12/08/2013	12/11/2013	12/07/2014	12/11/2014	12/11/2015	Option Expiration Date
Mr. Hoffman	12/08/2010		42,200					12/08/2020
	12/07/2011	44,200			44,200			12/07/2021
	12/11/2012			32,200		32,200	32,200	12/11/2022
Ms. Peterson	12/07/2011	12,066			12,068			12/07/2021
	12/11/2012			8,600		8,600	8,600	12/11/2022
Mr. Brown	12/08/2010		4,134					12/08/2020
	12/07/2011	3,934			3,934			12/07/2021
	12/11/2012			5,600		5,600	5,600	12/11/2022
Mr. Dordell	12/08/2010		7,668					12/08/2020
	12/07/2011	7,466			7,468			12/07/2021
	12/11/2012			5,166		5,166	5,168	12/11/2022
Mr. Happe	12/08/2010		4,334					12/08/2020
	12/07/2011	3,934			3,934			12/07/2021
	12/11/2012			5,600		5,600	5,600	12/11/2022

- (2) Amounts reported represent the number of unvested shares of restricted stock plus accrued but unvested dividends. Shares of restricted stock were awarded to Ms. Peterson on August 22, 2011 as part of her employment offer and upon commencement of her employment with us. These shares of restricted stock vest ratably in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third year anniversaries of the date of grant. Shares of restricted stock were awarded to Messrs. Brown and Happe as part of their promotions to Group Vice President on March 20, 2012. These shares of restricted stock vest in full three years from the date of grant, or on March 20, 2015.
- (3) Amounts reported are based on the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on October 31, 2013, the last day of fiscal 2013, of \$58.94 per share.
- (4) Amounts reported represent the number of performance share awards that were in progress based on actual levels of performance for fiscal 2013 and financial plan levels of performance for fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2015. The fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 performance share awards will vest solely based on the accomplishment of the performance goals established for the three-year performance period, which will end on October 31, 2014. The fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards will vest solely based on the accomplishment of the performance goals established for the three-year performance period, which will end on October 31, 2015.
- (5) Amounts reported represent the value of performance share awards that were in progress based on the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on October 31, 2013, the last day of fiscal 2013, of \$58.94 per share.

### Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2013

The following table summarizes all of the stock options exercised during fiscal 2013, restricted stock awards that vested during fiscal 2013 and performance share awards that were paid out or deferred by our named executive officers for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance period.

Name	Option Awards <sup>(1)</sup>		Stock Awards <sup>(2)</sup>	
	Number of Shares Acquired On Exercise (#)	Value Realized On Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)
Michael J. Hoffman				
Stock Option Exercises	54,000	\$ 2,323,428		
F11-F13 Performance Share Award Payout			62,300	\$ 3,695,013
Renee J. Peterson				
Stock Option Exercises	0	\$ 0		
Restricted Stock Award			15,383	\$ 804,839
William E. Brown, Jr.				
Stock Option Exercises	30,400	\$ 1,536,970		
F11-F13 Performance Share Award Payout			6,133	\$ 363,748
Timothy P. Dordell				
Stock Option Exercises	0	\$ 0		
F11-F13 Performance Share Award Payout			11,298	\$ 670,084
Michael J. Happe				
Stock Option Exercises	9,800	\$ 428,597		
F11-F13 Performance Share Award Payout			6,456	\$ 382,905

- (1) The number of shares acquired upon exercise reflects the gross number of shares acquired absent netting for shares surrendered to pay the option exercise price and/or satisfy tax withholding requirements. The value realized on exercise represents the gross number of shares acquired on exercise multiplied by the market price of our common stock on the exercise date, as reported on the NYSE, less the per share exercise price.
- (2) The number of shares acquired upon vesting reflects the gross number of shares acquired absent netting of shares surrendered to satisfy tax withholding requirements. The value realized on vesting for Ms. Peterson's restricted stock award represents the gross number of shares acquired, including dividends, multiplied by the closing price of our common stock, as reported by the NYSE, on August 22, 2013 (the vesting date) of \$52.32 per share. The value realized on vesting for performance share awards for Messrs. Hoffman, Brown, Happe and Dordell represents the gross number of shares acquired multiplied by the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on December 5, 2013 (the payout date for the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards) of \$59.31 per share. Amounts are not reduced to reflect any elections by our named executive officers to defer receipt of performance share award payouts. Under the Deferred Plan for Officers, each of Messrs. Happe and Dordell deferred receipt of 100%, or 11,298 and 6,456 shares, respectively, of their fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share award payout. The material terms of the Deferred Plan for Officers are described under "Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013" set forth below.

### Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013

We maintain three nonqualified deferred compensation plans in which our named executive officers are eligible to participate.

**The Toro Company Deferred Compensation Plan.** This plan allows employees that are at a director-level and above, including our named executive officers, to defer on a pre-tax basis his or her calendar year base salary and/or fiscal year annual cash incentive payout to a date in the future. Participants can defer up to 50% of calendar year base salary and up to 100% of the fiscal year annual cash incentive award payout. Deferred amounts are placed into a participant's account and the

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participant may invest such deferred amounts in an array of funds that are consistent with or comparable to funds provided in the IS&ESOP. Deferral elections are made on an annual basis, before the beginning of the new fiscal year. Participants must elect a distribution date that is at least two years later than the date the compensation otherwise would have been received. Participants elect the frequency of payments and the number of payments to receive at the time of distribution. Any payouts distributed prior to retirement are paid out in the form of a lump sum. Participants are always 100% vested in their accounts.

**The Toro Company Deferred Compensation Plan for Officers.** This plan allows key employees that receive performance share awards, including our named executive officers, an opportunity to defer receipt of shares of our common stock paid out under such awards to a date in the future. Participants can defer up to 100% of the common stock payout. Each year, before the third fiscal year of the three-year performance period begins, executive officers are given the opportunity to defer the receipt of those shares to some point in the future. Participants must elect a distribution date that is at least two years later than the date the shares would have been received. Participants elect the frequency of payment and the number of payments to receive at the time of distribution. Any payouts distributed prior to retirement are paid out in the form of a lump sum. Participants are always 100% vested in their accounts.

**The Toro Company Supplemental Benefit Plan.** This plan is maintained for the purpose of providing to a select group of management or highly compensated employees, including our named executive officers, benefits in excess of the limitations on benefits and contributions imposed by Code Sections 401(a)(17) and 415. Our contributions to this plan are made on a calendar year basis, usually in the first calendar quarter following the end of the prior calendar year. We contribute the investment savings calculation and the ESOP fund calculation above the compensation limit into this plan. Amounts contributed are placed into a participant's account and the participant may invest such deferred amounts in an array of funds that are consistent with or comparable to funds provided in the IS&ESOP. Participants elect the funds into which these contributions are allocated, as well as the frequency of payments and the number of payments to receive at the time of distribution. Participants are always 100% vested in their accounts.

**Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013 Table.** The following table reflects any named executive officer contributions and Company contributions for fiscal 2013 to our nonqualified deferred compensation plans.

Name	Executive Contributions in Last FY <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Registrant Contributions in Last FY <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Aggregate Earnings in Last FY <sup>(3)</sup> (\$)	Aggregate Withdrawals/Distributions (\$)	Aggregate Balance at Last FYE <sup>(4)</sup> (\$)
Michael J. Hoffman					
Deferred Compensation Plan	\$ 892,485	\$ 0	\$ 410,071	\$ 0	\$ 3,894,808
Deferred Plan for Officers	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,694,684	\$ 0	\$ 5,804,847
Supplemental Benefit Plan	\$ 0	\$ 150,673	\$ 306,503	\$ 0	\$ 2,413,030
Renee J. Peterson					
Deferred Compensation Plan	\$ 248,007	\$ 0	\$ 37,722	\$ 0	\$ 530,742
Deferred Plan for Officers	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Supplemental Benefit Plan	\$ 0	\$ 44,012	\$ 2,433	\$ 0	\$ 80,938
William E. Brown, Jr.					
Deferred Compensation Plan	\$ 232,992	\$ 0	\$ 49,974	\$ 0	\$ 448,961
Deferred Plan for Officers	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Supplemental Benefit Plan	\$ 0	\$ 26,759	\$ 89,057	\$ 0	\$ 417,993
Timothy P. Dordell					
Deferred Compensation Plan	\$ 201,145	\$ 0	\$ 143,023	\$ 0	\$ 1,032,362
Deferred Plan for Officers	\$ 670,084	\$ 0	\$ 510,831	\$ 0	\$ 2,409,984
Supplemental Benefit Plan	\$ 0	\$ 28,163	\$ 21,926	\$ 0	\$ 162,125
Michael J. Happe					
Deferred Compensation Plan	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Deferred Plan for Officers	\$ 382,905	\$ 0	\$ 161,250	\$ 101,442	\$ 919,557
Supplemental Benefit Plan	\$ 0	\$ 24,883	\$ 13,173	\$ 0	\$ 102,514

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- (1) Executive contributions of base salary and annual cash incentive award payouts are included in the “Salary” column and the “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column, respectively, of the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55. Executive contributions of the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share award payouts are included in the “Value Realized on Vesting” column of the “Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2013” table on page 63, but are not included in the “Summary Compensation Table.” Our named executive officers deferred the following components of compensation during fiscal 2013.

Name	Deferrals	Amount
Mr. Hoffman	75% of the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award	\$892,485
Ms. Peterson	15% of base salary from November 2012 through December 2012	\$ 11,125
	17% of base salary from January through October 2013	\$ 63,042
	50% of the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award	\$173,840
Mr. Brown	100% of the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award	\$232,992
Mr. Dordell	20% of base salary for November 2012 through December 2012	\$ 12,367
	25% of base salary from January through October 2013	\$ 77,292
	50% of the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award	\$111,486
	100% of the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share award	\$670,084
Mr. Happe	100% of the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share award	\$382,905

- (2) Amounts reported represent Company contributions to the Supplemental Benefit Plan in fiscal year 2013. These amounts are included in the “All Other Compensation” column of the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55 and the related footnote.
- (3) Aggregate earnings comprise interest, dividends, capital gains and appreciation/depreciation of investment results during the fiscal year based on each named executive officer’s selected fund allocation. None of these amounts are included in the “Summary Compensation Table” because earnings were not preferential or above-market. The funds listed below are consistent with or comparable to those funds provided in our IS&ESOP and do not include any preferential or above-market interest. The rates for fiscal 2013 are provided below:

Alger Small Cap Growth Institutional I	33.7%
American Funds EuroPacific Gr R5	22.6%
American Funds Growth Fund of America R4	31.5%
Artisan Mid Cap Inv	38.7%
Fidelity Treasury Only Money Market	0.0%
ICM Small Company	36.3%
JPMorgan Mid Cap Value Select	27.9%
JPMorgan Prime Money Market Morgan	0.0%
T. Rowe Price Equity Income	27.1%
T. Rowe Price International Discovery	24.6%
Vanguard Institutional Index Institutional	27.2%
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Signal	-1.2%
Toro Common Stock	41.7%

- (4) Amounts reported represent the total balance at October 31, 2013, the last day of fiscal 2013, plus any named executive officer’s or Company contributions for fiscal 2013 that were paid after

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October 31, 2013. Includes the following amounts reported in the “Summary Compensation Table” in the “Base Salary” or “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column for fiscal years 2011 and 2012:

Mr. Hoffman	\$2,140,224
Ms. Peterson	\$ 169,777
Mr. Brown	\$ 130,767
Mr. Dordell	\$ 323,435

Includes the following amounts reported in the “Summary Compensation Table” in the “All Other Compensation” column for fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

Mr. Hoffman	\$300,458
Ms. Peterson	\$ 28,744
Mr. Brown	\$ 39,502
Mr. Dordell	\$ 60,519
Mr. Happe	\$ 27,595

### **Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change In Control**

**Overview.** The following discussion describes the payments and benefits to which our named executive officers, or his or her beneficiaries, are entitled as the result of a termination of employment in various situations, including: voluntary resignation and retirement, disability or death, involuntary termination by us, termination by us for cause, and change in control of our Company. Our named executive officers do not have any employment or severance agreements or arrangements other than as provided for in our CIC policy. Accordingly, our named executive officers do not have the right to cash severance in connection with a termination of employment except in connection with a change in control of our Company as described under “Change in Control” beginning on page 69. For purposes of quantifying other payments or benefits, amounts are calculated (i) for each named executive officer as if the termination occurred following the close of business on October 31, 2013, the last day of our 2013 fiscal year; and (ii) using a per share value of \$58.94, which represents the closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, on October 31, 2013.

The intent of this discussion is to describe those payments and benefits for which the amount, vesting or time of payment is altered by the termination of employment in the described situation. Therefore, this discussion does not describe all payments and benefits a named executive officer will receive following termination. These other payments and benefits, which we refer to as “vested benefits,” include:

- Payment of individual contributions to our Deferred Plan and Deferred Plan for Officers in accordance with prior distribution elections, as described under “Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013” beginning on page 63;
- Payment of Company contributions on behalf of the named executive officer under our Supplemental Benefit Plan, as described under “Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2013” on page 63;
- Payment of individual contributions and vested Company investment fund and ESOP contributions on behalf of the named executive officer under our IS&ESOP, as described under “Health, Welfare and Retirement Benefits and All Other Compensation—Retirement Benefits” on page 53;
- If employed through the end of the fiscal year, payment of annual cash incentive awards if threshold levels are met and at the percentage of the target achieved, as described under “Annual Cash Incentives” beginning on page 44;



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- Exercise of stock options that had vested prior to the date of termination for three months after the date of termination, unless the named executive officer is determined to have taken any adverse action, as described under “Clawback Provisions” on page 72;
- Retention of restricted stock that had vested prior to the date of termination, unless the named executive officer is determined to have taken any adverse action, as described under “Clawback Provisions” on page 72; and
- Payouts under, and continuation of, health and welfare benefits under plans generally applicable to our U.S.-based office salaried employees.

**Voluntary Resignation and Retirement.** We are not obligated to pay any amounts in addition to a named executive officer’s vested benefits, and no outstanding equity compensation awards are altered, in the event of a voluntary termination unless the named executive officer meets the criteria for “retirement” in connection with his or her voluntary termination. For purposes of our compensation arrangements, “retirement” generally means the voluntary termination of employment at or after the age of 55 and with a number of years of service that, when added together with the named executive officer’s age, equals at least 65. Mr. Hoffman is the only named executive officer who met the retirement criteria on October 31, 2013. Accordingly, in the event of retirement, Mr. Hoffman is entitled to or, upon approval by the Compensation & Human Resources Committee, may receive the following payments and benefits in addition to his vested benefits:

- Under the 2010 Plan and related annual cash incentive award agreements, if Mr. Hoffman retires prior to the end of the annual performance period, which is the end of our fiscal year, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee may approve a prorated payment of an outstanding annual cash incentive award but only (i) if threshold levels are met and at the percentage of the target achieved; and (ii) in an amount that is proportionate to the portion of the fiscal year performance period that was completed as of the named executive officer’s retirement date. Accordingly, the Committee could have approved the payment of Mr. Hoffman’s fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive award in the amount of \$1,189,980 as set forth in the “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column of the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55.
- Under The Toro Company 2000 Stock Option Plan, or 2000 Plan, the 2010 Plan and related stock option agreements, Mr. Hoffman is entitled to an extended, post-retirement vesting and exercise period of four years (or the remaining term of the option, whichever is shorter) from his retirement date for all outstanding stock options held on his termination date. During this four-year period, any unvested stock options will continue to vest and Mr. Hoffman may exercise any vested stock options that had vested as of his retirement date or will vest during such four-year period. Mr. Hoffman would have benefited from extended, post-retirement vesting relating to options to purchase an aggregate of 227,200 shares having an aggregate intrinsic value of \$5,492,810.
- Under the 2010 Plan and related performance share agreements, if Mr. Hoffman retires after completion of at least one fiscal year of our current three-fiscal year performance period, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee may approve a prorated payment of an outstanding performance share award but only (i) if threshold levels are met and at the percentage of the target achieved; and (ii) in an amount that is proportionate to the portion of the performance period (determined in full fiscal years) that was completed as of Mr. Hoffman’s retirement date. Accordingly, the Committee could have approved potential performance share payouts for Mr. Hoffman as follows: (i) payout of fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards as set forth in the “Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2013” table on page 63 in the amounts shown below; and (ii) future payout of two-thirds of fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 performance share awards and one-third of fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards as set forth in the “Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End for 2013” table beginning on

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page 61, each at the percentage of the target actually achieved and determined following the completion of the performance period, in the amounts shown below. For the fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards, share amounts shown below represent financial plan levels of performance.

	Fiscal 2011 to Fiscal 2013 Performance Share Awards		Fiscal 2012 to Fiscal 2014 Performance Share Awards		Fiscal 2013 to Fiscal 2015 Performance Share Awards	
	Number of Shares	Value of Shares	Number of Shares	Value of Shares	Number of Shares	Value of Shares
Mr. Hoffman	62,300	\$ 3,671,962	33,511	\$ 1,975,138	10,976	\$ 646,925

- Pursuant to a policy adopted by our Compensation & Human Resources Committee, Mr. Hoffman would continue to receive post-retirement perquisites consisting of reimbursement for amounts incurred for: (i) one additional year of financial planning expenses; (ii) one additional executive physical; and (iii) twelve additional months, or through the end of the lease term, whichever is shorter, of lease payments for a company-leased automobile. Additionally, Mr. Hoffman is entitled to continue to obtain certain Company products for personal use at no cost for five years following his retirement; provided, however, that he is responsible for payment of applicable taxes attributed to the value of such products. Mr. Hoffman would have benefited from perquisites having an aggregate value of \$38,786.

**Disability or Death.** In the event of termination as the result of disability or death, a named executive is entitled to receive the following payments and benefits in addition to his or her vested benefits:

- Under the 2000 Plan, the 2010 Plan and related stock option agreements, all outstanding stock options held by a named executive officer on his or her termination date will immediately vest and may be exercised (by the named executive officer, his or her guardian or legal representative or beneficiary, as applicable) for a period of up to one year (or the remaining term of the option, whichever is shorter). Each of our named executive officers would have benefited from accelerated vesting of options to purchase an aggregate number of shares having an aggregate intrinsic value as follows:

	Number of Shares	Value of Shares
Mr. Hoffman	227,200	\$ 5,492,810
Ms. Peterson	49,934	\$ 1,176,780
Mr. Brown	28,802	\$ 637,612
Mr. Dordell	38,102	\$ 928,754
Mr. Happe	29,002	\$ 643,048

- Under the 2010 Plan and related performance share agreements, if a named executive officer becomes disabled or dies after completion of at least one fiscal year of our current three-fiscal year performance period, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee may approve a prorated payment to the named executive officer, his or her guardian or legal representative or beneficiary, as applicable, of an outstanding performance share award but only (i) if threshold levels are met and at the percentage of the target achieved; and (ii) in an amount that is proportionate to the portion of the performance period (determined in full fiscal years) that was completed as of the named executive officer's termination date. Accordingly, the Committee could have approved potential performance share payouts for each of the named executive officers as follows: (i) payout of fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards as set forth in the "Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2013" table on page 63 in the amounts shown below; and (ii) future payout of two-thirds of fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 performance share awards and one-third of fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards as set forth in the "Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End for 2013" table beginning on page 61, each at the percentage of the target actually achieved and determined following the completion of the

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performance period, in the amounts shown below. For the fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance share awards, share amounts shown below represent financial plan levels of performance.

	Fiscal 2011 to Fiscal 2013 Performance Share Awards		Fiscal 2012 to Fiscal 2014 Performance Share Awards		Fiscal 2013 to Fiscal 2015 Performance Share Awards	
	Number of Shares	Value of Shares	Number of Shares	Value of Shares	Number of Shares	Value of Shares
Mr. Hoffman	62,300	\$ 3,671,962	33,511	\$ 1,975,138	10,976	\$ 646,925
Ms. Peterson	0	\$ 0	9,196	\$ 542,012	2,949	\$ 173,814
Mr. Brown	6,133	\$ 361,479	2,480	\$ 146,171	2,147	\$ 126,544
Mr. Dordell	11,298	\$ 665,904	5,611	\$ 330,712	1,755	\$ 103,440
Mr. Happe	6,456	\$ 380,517	2,399	\$ 141,397	2,118	\$ 124,835

**Involuntary Termination by Toro.** As previously noted, our named executive officers do not have employment or severance agreements or arrangements other than as provided for in our CIC policy. Accordingly, we are not obligated to provide payments or benefits in addition to a named executive officer's vested benefits in the event of an involuntary termination of employment by us. Any negotiated separation arrangements would be determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances, including the named executive officer's term of employment, past contributions and reasons for termination, and would be approved by the Compensation & Human Resources Committee. Separation arrangements typically require that the named executive officer sign a release and waiver of claims and comply with confidentiality and non-compete restrictions. Under our equity compensation plans and related award agreements, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee has discretion to approve, among other things, the immediate termination or vesting, continued vesting, or conditions of payment as applicable to stock options, annual cash incentive awards, performance share awards or restricted stock awards held by a named executive officer on his or her termination date.

**Termination by Toro for Cause.** We are not obligated to provide payments or benefits in addition to a named executive officer's vested benefits in the event of a termination of employment by us for cause. Under our 2000 Plan and 2010 Plan, we have certain clawback rights as described below under "Clawback Provisions."

**Change in Control.** We have a CIC policy applicable to our executive officers, including our named executive officers, that we believe conforms to current market best practices. If a change of control, as generally defined below, has not occurred, our Board may terminate our CIC policy after two years' advance notice of such termination.

Our CIC policy incorporates a "double trigger" mechanism and provides for a severance payment for an executive officer if within three years after a change in control an executive officer's employment is terminated by us without just cause or the executive officer terminates his or her employment for good reason, or if such termination occurs at the request of a third party who had taken steps reasonably calculated to effect the change in control. The severance payment an executive officer would be entitled to receive includes:

- a lump sum cash severance payment equal to two times (or three times for the CEO) the sum of the executive officer's then current annual base salary and target annual cash incentive award;
- a lump sum cash payment in an amount equal to the executive officer's pro-rated target annual cash incentive award for the fiscal year in which the termination date occurs, reduced by any amounts paid under the terms of the applicable equity compensation policy for the same period of time;
- eligibility for continuation coverage under our medical, dental and other group health plans for a period of three years following the termination date and reimbursement for any costs incurred in

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securing such continuation coverage that are in excess of costs that would have been incurred by the executive immediately prior to his or her termination date to obtain such coverage; and

- two years of outplacement services.

Our CIC policy does not provide a “gross-up” for 280G excise tax and, as a condition to the payment of any severance payment, the executive officer must execute a release of claims against us substantially in the form attached to the policy.

In addition to our CIC policy, our 2010 Plan and 2000 Plan, as applicable, provide that if we experience a change in control, as generally defined below, whether or not there is a qualifying termination of employment:

- all stock options immediately vest, become exercisable in full and, pursuant to the 2010 Plan, remain exercisable for their remaining term following the change in control, or, pursuant to the 2000 Plan, remain exercisable for three years or (provided that in no event will three years extend beyond the remaining term of the option);
- all outstanding annual cash incentive awards for performance periods in progress at the time of the change in control immediately vest and become immediately payable at target in cash;
- all outstanding performance share awards for performance periods in progress at the time of the change in control immediately vest and become payable in full in shares of our common stock, provided, however, that the CIC policy provides that for executive officers covered by the CIC policy, any such performance share awards are payable at target (not in full or at maximum); and
- all outstanding shares of restricted stock and restricted stock unit awards immediately vest and become non-forfeitable.

Alternatively, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee may elect to terminate such options, restricted stock, restricted stock unit awards or performance share awards in exchange for a cash payment for each option, restricted stock or performance share award in an amount equal to the excess, if any, between the consideration received by shareholders of our Company for shares of our Company in connection with the change in control and the exercise or purchase price, if any, of the option, restricted stock, restricted stock unit award or performance share award, multiplied by the number of shares subject to such option or award. Our 2010 Plan and 2000 Plan do not provide a “gross-up” for 280G excise tax, but do provide for a reduction of payments if such payments would result in lower after-tax income taking into consideration the 280G excise tax.

For purposes of our CIC policy, 2010 Plan and 2000 Plan, and subject to limited exceptions, a “change in control” occurs if:

- another person becomes the beneficial owner of a specified percentage of our then-outstanding common stock or the combined voting power of our then-outstanding voting stock, which is 15% under the 2000 Plan and CIC Policy and 20% under the 2010 Plan;
- a majority of our Board becomes comprised of persons other than those for whom election proxies have been solicited by our Board;
- the completion of certain business combinations, including a reorganization, merger, consolidation, the sale of all or substantially all of our assets or the acquisition by us of assets or stock of another entity, where the shareholders before the business combination fail to beneficially own and have voting power for more than 50% of our Company or the resulting company after the business combination; or
- our shareholders approve a complete liquidation or dissolution of our Company.

**Potential Change of Control Payments Without Employment Termination Event.** The following table is provided to illustrate the potential payments to each of our named executive officers under our 2010 Plan and 2000 Plan upon a change in control of our Company and without any termination of employment event. For purposes of these calculations, we have assumed the change in control event occurred following the close of business on October 31, 2013. Accordingly, the performance periods for the fiscal 2013 annual cash incentive awards and fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards would have been completed and those amounts would be paid out as set forth in the “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column of the “Summary Compensation Table” on page 55 and the “Option Exercises and Stock Vested for Fiscal 2013” table on page 63, respectively, except that the value of the fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2013 performance share awards would be as follows: Mr. Hoffman, \$3,671,962; Mr. Brown, \$361,479; Mr. Dordell, \$665,904; and Mr. Happe, \$380,517, each of which is based on \$58.94, the market price (closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE) of the shares of our common stock as of October 31, 2013.

Name	Potential Payments Upon a Change in Control Without Any Termination Event			Total
	Unvested & Accelerated Stock Options <sup>(1)</sup>	Unvested & Accelerated Restricted Stock <sup>(2)</sup>	Accelerated Performance Share Award Payouts <sup>(3)</sup>	
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 5,492,810	\$ 0	\$ 4,267,256	\$9,760,066
Ms. Peterson	\$ 1,176,780	\$ 908,973	\$ 1,161,118	\$3,246,871
Mr. Brown	\$ 637,612	\$ 180,474	\$ 524,566	\$1,342,652
Mr. Dordell	\$ 928,754	\$ 0	\$ 701,386	\$1,630,140
Mr. Happe	\$ 643,048	\$ 180,474	\$ 524,566	\$1,348,088

- (1) This amount represents the value of the automatic acceleration of the vesting of unvested stock options held by a named executive officer and is based on the difference between: (a) \$58.94, the market price (closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE) of the shares of our common stock underlying the unvested stock options held by such executive as of October 31, 2013, the last trading day of our 2013 fiscal year, and (b) the exercise price of the stock options. The exercise prices for unvested stock options currently held by our named executive officers range from \$28.225 to \$42.06 per share.
- (2) This amount represents the value of the automatic acceleration of the vesting of unvested shares of common stock held by the named executive officer and is based on the number of unvested shares of common stock multiplied by \$58.94, the market price (closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE) of the shares of our common stock as of October 31, 2013, the last trading day of our 2013 fiscal year.
- (3) This amount represents the value of the immediate payout of the target number of shares of our common stock that such executive would have been entitled to receive as payout for performance share awards for each of the fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 performance period and the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period. Such value is based on: (a) the number of outstanding performance share awards at target held by such executive as of October 31, 2013 for each of the fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2014 performance period and the fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 performance period, multiplied by (b) \$58.94, the market price (closing price of our common stock, as reported on the NYSE) of our common stock on October 31, 2013, the last trading day of our 2013 fiscal year.

**Potential Additional Payments for Employment Termination Event.** The following table quantifies the potential additional payments to each of our named executive officers under our CIC policy if, in anticipation of the change in control, at the request of a third party who took actions to cause the change in control or following a change in control, a named executive officer is terminated by us without cause or a named executive officer terminates his employment for good reason. For

purposes of these calculations, except as otherwise indicated, we have assumed the termination occurred on October 31, 2013.

**Potential Additional Payments in Connection with or Following a Change in Control  
with Termination by Toro Without Cause or by Executive for Good Reason**

Name	Severance Payment <sup>(1)</sup>	Welfare Plan Benefits <sup>(2)</sup>	Outplacement Services <sup>(3)</sup>	Total
Mr. Hoffman	\$ 5,670,000	\$ 53,571	\$ 30,000	\$ 5,753,571
Ms. Peterson	\$ 1,468,500	\$ 51,606	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,550,106
Mr. Brown	\$ 1,100,500	\$ 51,216	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,181,716
Mr. Dordell	\$ 1,113,000	\$ 36,237	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,179,237
Mr. Happe	\$ 1,100,500	\$ 51,216	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,181,716

- (1) This amount represents three times for Mr. Hoffman, as Chairman and CEO, and two times for each other named executive officer, the sum of the executive's: (a) then current annual base salary, which equals twelve times the highest monthly base salary paid to the executive during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2013, and (b) then current target annual cash incentive award.
- (2) This amount represents the estimated value of the welfare plan benefits for a three-year period based on our premium levels in effect on October 31, 2013.
- (3) This amount is based on the assumption that we would incur a \$30,000 one-time cost for outplacement services to be provided for the two-year period.

We have established a trust for the benefit of our named executive officers (and certain other executives and employees) which, in the event of a change in control, must be funded in an amount equal to our accrued liability arising under our change in control arrangements. In addition, under our deferred compensation and retirement plans, upon the occurrence of a change in control, we must transfer cash or property to a trust for the benefit of plan participants in an amount equal to the present value of all accumulated or accrued benefits then payable to or on behalf of plan participants.

**Clawback Provisions.** Our 2000 Plan and the related stock option agreements with our named executive officers contain a "clawback" provision which provides that if, within one year after the termination of employment of any of our named executive officers, the executive officer is employed or retained by or renders services to a competitor, violates any confidentiality or agreement governing the ownership or assignment of intellectual property rights or engages in any other conduct or act determined to be injurious, detrimental or prejudicial to any interest of our Company, we have the right to cancel, rescind or restrict all stock options held by such individual and demand the return of the economic value of any stock option which was realized or obtained by such individual during the period beginning on the date that is 12 months prior to the date of termination to the date of the last exercise.

In addition, under the 2010 Plan and related award agreements, if a participant, including our named executive officers, is determined by the Compensation & Human Resources Committee to have taken any adverse action similar to those actions described above, all rights of such individual under the 2010 Plan and any agreements evidencing an award then held by the individual will terminate and be forfeited and the Committee may require the participant to surrender and return to our Company any shares received, and/or to disgorge any profits or any other economic value made or realized by the individual during the period beginning one year prior to the participant's termination of employment or other service with our Company or any affiliate or subsidiary, in connection with any awards or any shares issued upon the exercise or vesting of any awards. In addition, if we are required to prepare an accounting restatement due to our material noncompliance, as a result of misconduct, with any financial reporting requirement under the securities laws, then any participant, including our named executive officers, who is one of the individuals subject to automatic forfeiture under Section 304 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 must reimburse us for the amount of any award received by such individual under the 2010 Plan during the 12-month period following the first public issuance or filing with the SEC, as the case may be, of the financial document embodying such financial reporting requirement.

**EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

The following table provides information about shares of our common stock that may be issued under our equity compensation plans as of October 31, 2013.

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a)	Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (b)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	3,630,249 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 25.55 <sup>(2)</sup>	3,873,904 <sup>(3)</sup>
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,630,249</b>	<b>\$ 25.55</b>	<b>3,873,904</b>

(1) Amount includes: 1,651,687 outstanding stock options under the 2000 Plan; 167,098 outstanding stock options under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan; 1,250,993 outstanding stock options under the 2010 Plan; 37,171 outstanding restricted stock unit awards under the 2010 Plan; and 523,300 outstanding performance share awards under the 2010 Plan, assuming a maximum level of achievement. The actual number of shares that will be issued under the performance share awards is determined by the level of achievement of performance goals.

(2) Performance share awards and restricted stock units do not have exercise prices and, therefore, have been excluded from the weighted-average exercise price calculation in column (b).

(3) Amount represents shares available for future issuance upon awards that may be granted under the 2010 Plan, which includes 5,500,000 shares approved by our shareholders at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on March 16, 2010, plus shares subject to awards outstanding under the 2000 Plan, the 2000 Directors Stock Plan and the Performance Share Plan, or PSP, as of March 16, 2010, that were subsequently forfeited, expired or otherwise terminated, less any shares issued or surrendered and not again available for issuance under the 2010 Plan. Any shares available under the 2000 Plan, the 2000 Directors Stock Plan and the PSP that were not subject to awards outstanding under such plans as of March 16, 2010, are no longer available for issuance under such plans or the 2010 Plan.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Shareholder Proposals and Director Nominations for the 2015 Annual Meeting**

The 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders is expected to be held on March 17, 2015. In order for a shareholder proposal to be included in our proxy statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting, (i) our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel must receive such proposal no later than the close of business on October 7, 2014, unless the date of the 2015 Annual Meeting is delayed by more than 30 calendar days; and (ii) such proposal must satisfy all of the requirements of, and not otherwise be permitted to be excluded under, Rule 14a-8 promulgated by the SEC and our Amended and Restated Bylaws.

Under our Amended and Restated Bylaws, in order for a shareholder to nominate one or more persons for election to the Board at the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders or propose any other business to be brought before the 2015 Annual Meeting, complete and timely notice must be given in writing and in proper form to our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel not later than December 18, 2014, nor earlier than November 18, 2014. However, if the date of the 2015 Annual



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Meeting is advanced by more than 30 days or delayed by more than 60 days from the first anniversary date of the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, such notice must be delivered not earlier than the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of the rescheduled 2015 Annual Meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of the rescheduled 2015 Annual Meeting or the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the day on which we first make public announcement of the date of the rescheduled 2015 Annual Meeting. Any notice must contain the specific information required by our Amended and Restated Bylaws, including, among other things, information about: any proposed nominee and his or her relationships with the shareholder submitting the nomination; any agreements, arrangements or understandings the shareholder may have with any proposed nominee or other parties relating to the nomination or other proposal; and the interests that the shareholder has related to our Company and its shares, including as a result of, among other things, derivative securities, voting arrangements or short positions. Such information must be updated as of the record date for the 2015 Annual Meeting and as of the date that is 10 business days prior to the date of the 2015 Annual Meeting. This summary information regarding our Amended and Restated Bylaws is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Amended and Restated Bylaws. A copy of our Amended and Restated Bylaws can be found on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com](http://www.thetorocompany.com) (select the "Investor Information" link and then the "Corporate Governance" link). If a nomination or proposal is not timely and properly made in accordance with the procedures set forth in our Amended and Restated Bylaws, or does not contain the specific information required by our Amended and Restated Bylaws, such nomination or proposal will be defective and will not be brought before the 2015 Annual Meeting. If a nomination or proposal is nonetheless brought before the 2015 Annual Meeting and the Chairman does not exercise the power and duty to declare the nomination or proposal defective, the persons named in the proxy may use their discretionary voting with respect to your nomination or proposal.

### **Householding of Annual Meeting Materials**

Some banks, brokers and other nominee record holders may be participating in the practice of "householding" proxy statements and annual reports. This means that only one set of these documents may have been sent to multiple shareholders at a shared address. Additional copies of this proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K are available upon request to our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel at 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota, 55420-1196, by telephone at 888-237-3054, or by e-mail to [invest@toro.com](mailto:invest@toro.com). These documents also may be downloaded and printed from our website at [www.thetorocompany.com/proxy](http://www.thetorocompany.com/proxy). Any shareholder who wants to receive separate copies of our proxy statement and annual report in the future, or any shareholder who is receiving multiple copies and would like to receive only one copy per household, should contact his, her or its bank, broker or other nominee record holder.

### **Annual Report**

**A copy of Toro's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2013, as filed with the SEC, will be sent to any shareholder, without charge, upon written request to our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel at 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota, 55420-1196. You also may obtain our Annual Report on Form 10-K on the Internet at the SEC's website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), or on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com/proxy](http://www.thetorocompany.com/proxy). Our Fiscal Year 2013 Annual Report, which contains information about our business but is not part of our disclosure deemed to be filed with the SEC, also is available on our website at [www.thetorocompany.com/proxy](http://www.thetorocompany.com/proxy).**



**Cost and Method of Solicitation**

We will pay the cost of soliciting proxies and may make arrangements with brokerage houses, custodians, nominees and other fiduciaries to send proxy materials to beneficial owners of our common stock. We will reimburse these third-parties for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. In addition to solicitation by mail, our non-employee directors, executive officers and other employees may solicit proxies by telephone, electronic transmission and personally. Our non-employee directors, executive officers and other employees will not receive compensation for such services other than regular non-employee director or employee compensation. We have retained Morrow & Co., LLC, 470 West Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut, 06902, for an estimated fee of \$7,500, plus out of pocket expenses, to assist in distributing proxy materials and soliciting proxies.

Dated: February 4, 2014

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**TIMOTHY P. DORDELL**  
*Vice President, Secretary  
and General Counsel*

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**THE TORO COMPANY**  
**8111 LYNDALE AVENUE SOUTH**  
**BLOOMINGTON, MN 55420-1196**

**VOTE BY INTERNET - [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com)**

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on March 17, 2014. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an electronic voting instruction form.

**ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS**

If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by The Toro Company in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via e-mail or the Internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

**VOTE BY PHONE - 1-800-690-6903**

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on March 17, 2014. Have your proxy card in hand when you call and then follow the instructions.

**VOTE BY MAIL**

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

M65518-P45706-Z62202

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS  
 DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

**THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.**

<p><b>THE TORO COMPANY</b></p> <p><b>The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the following:</b></p> <p>1. Election of Directors <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Nominees</b></p> <p>01) Jeffrey M. Ettinger                  02) Katherine J. Harless                  03) Michael J. Hoffman</p> <p><b>The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2 and 3.</b></p> <p>2. Ratification of the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending October 31, 2014. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3. Approval, on an advisory basis, of our executive compensation. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> In their discretion, the proxies are authorized to vote on any other business properly brought before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting.</p> <p>For address changes and/or comments, mark here. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(see reverse for instructions)</p> <p>Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) on this proxy. If held in joint tenancy, all persons must sign. Trustees, administrators, etc., should include title and authority. Corporations should provide full name of corporation and title of authorized officer signing the Proxy.</p>	<p><b>For All</b></p> <p><b>Withhold All</b></p> <p><b>For All Except</b></p>	<p>To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark "For All Except" and write the number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below.</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><b>For</b> <b>Against</b> <b>Abstain</b></p>
<p>Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] _____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>	<p>Signature (Joint Owners) _____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>

**THE TORO COMPANY**  
**ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

**Tuesday, March 18, 2014**  
**1:30 p.m. CDT**

**The Toro Company**  
**8111 Lyndale Avenue South**  
**Bloomington, MN 55420**

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:**  
The Notice & Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders on March 18, 2014, and our 2013 Annual Report are available at [www.thetorocompany.com/proxy](http://www.thetorocompany.com/proxy)

M65519-P45706-Z62202



**The Toro Company**  
**8111 Lyndale Ave South**  
**Bloomington, MN 55420**

**Proxy**

**This Proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors for use at the Annual Meeting on March 18, 2014.**

The shares of stock held in this account or in a dividend reinvestment account will be voted as you specify on the reverse side or by telephone or Internet. Shares held in employee benefit plans for which a Proxy is not received will be voted by the trustee in the same proportion as votes actually cast by plan participants.

**If no choice is specified, the Proxy will be voted "For" all nominees for Director and "For" Proposals 2 and 3.**

By signing, dating and returning this Proxy card, you revoke all prior proxies, including any Proxy previously given by telephone or Internet, and appoint M. J. Hoffman and T. P. Dordell, or either of them, with full power of substitution, to vote these shares on the matters shown on the reverse side and on any other business properly brought before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the annual meeting.

Address Changes/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

(If you noted any Address Changes/Comments above, please mark corresponding box on the reverse side.)

**Continued and to be signed on reverse side**