

TENNECO INC  
Form DEF 14A  
April 01, 2016  
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No.    )

Filed by the Registrant       Filed by a Party other than the Registrant   
Check the appropriate box:

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

**Tenneco Inc.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

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

**Proxy Statement and  
Notice of 2016 Annual Meeting**

*Pioneering global ideas for cleaner air, and  
smoother, quieter and safer transportation*

**Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Central Time**

*Tenneco Headquarters 500 North Field Drive  
Lake Forest, IL 60045*

**Table of Contents**

**To the Stockholders of Tenneco Inc.:**

I am pleased to inform you that Tenneco's 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., Central Time, at our headquarters at 500 North Field Drive in Lake Forest, Illinois. A record of our activities for the year 2015 is contained in our Form 10-K, but as we prepare for the Annual Meeting, I want to share with you my thoughts on our 2015 performance, and the bright future ahead for Tenneco.

Our results for 2015 clearly demonstrate the effectiveness of our strategies and the progress we're making on realizing our vision for Tenneco. We're generating profitable growth, continuously improving operations, and investing to achieve long-term success. Some of the key financial highlights for 2015 include:

- A 5% increase in total revenue, excluding currency, with our growth continuing to outpace industry production;
- Highest-ever full year EBIT of \$519 million;
- Our sixth consecutive year of margin expansion, including year-over-year margin improvement in both the Clean Air and Ride Performance product lines; and
- An outstanding cash performance.

Looking ahead, we expect continued revenue growth, driven by our light vehicle position with leading customers, increasing emissions regulations requiring incremental Clean Air content and growing demand for electronic suspension technologies and our aftermarket products. We're also investing in our global operations to improve manufacturing efficiencies and our cost competitiveness, and we're seeing the benefits in both product lines.

Tenneco has a strong track record of solid execution, profitable growth and value creation, and we're excited about the bright future we see ahead.

Thank you for your confidence and continued support.

Gregg Sherrill

Chairman and CEO

Tenneco Inc.

**Table of Contents**

**NOTICE OF  
ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**What:** The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Tenneco Inc.

**When:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., Central Time

**Where:** Tenneco Headquarters, 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

**Items of Business:**

1. To elect the nine director nominees listed in this proxy statement;
2. To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as independent public accountants for 2016;
3. To approve our executive compensation in an advisory vote; and
4. To consider any other matters, if properly raised

**Who may vote:** Holders of common stock of record at the close of business on March 21, 2016

**Voting:** YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting, but if you are not able to attend in person, please submit your vote as soon as possible as instructed in the Notice, proxy card or voting instruction form. You can vote via mail, telephone or the Internet.

Stockholders of record have been mailed a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, which provides stockholders with instructions on how to access our proxy materials and our Form 10-K on the Internet and, if they prefer, how to request paper copies of these materials.

We believe that posting these materials on the Internet provides stockholders with the information that they need, while lowering our costs of printing and delivery and reducing the environmental impact of the Annual Meeting.

**Questions:**

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For any questions regarding the Annual Meeting, please contact Tenneco at (847) 482-5000,  
attention: Corporate Secretary.

By Order of the Board of Directors

James D. Harrington

Corporate Secretary

Lake Forest, Illinois

April 1, 2016

**Table of Contents****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>PAGE</b>
<b><u>Questions and Answers</u></b>	1
<b><u>Election of Directors (Item 1)</u></b>	5
<b><u>Nominees for Election to the Board of Directors</u></b>	6
<b><u>Corporate Governance</u></b>	11
<u>Overview</u>	11
<u>The Board of Directors and Its Committees</u>	13
<u>Transactions with Related Persons</u>	20
<u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	21
<b><u>Ownership of Common Stock</u></b>	22
<u>Management</u>	22
<u>Certain Other Stockholders</u>	23
<b><u>Executive Compensation</u></b>	25
<u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u>	25
<u>Executive Summary</u>	25
<u>Highlights of our Executive Compensation Practices</u>	27
<u>Compensation Objectives</u>	28
<u>Compensation Process</u>	28
<u>Design and Elements of Compensation</u>	30
<u>Equity Award Policy</u>	37
<u>Stock Ownership Guidelines</u>	37
<u>Anti-Hedging Policy and Trading Restrictions</u>	38
<u>Anti-Pledging Policy</u>	38
<u>Clawback Policy</u>	39
<u>Impact of Regulatory Requirements on Compensation</u>	39
<u>Summary Compensation Table</u>	40
<u>Grants of Plan-Based Awards During 2015</u>	42
<u>Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table</u>	43
<u>Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2015</u>	46
<u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested During 2015</u>	48
<u>Post-Employment Compensation</u>	48
<u>Compensation-Related Risk</u>	54
<u>Director Compensation</u>	55
<b><u>Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee Report on Executive Compensation</u></b>	57
<b><u>Report of Audit Committee</u></b>	58
<b><u>Ratify Appointment of Independent Public Accountants (Item 2)</u></b>	59
<u>Audit, Audit-Related, Tax and All Other Fees</u>	59
<u>Pre-Approval Policy</u>	60
<b><u>Approve Executive Compensation in an Advisory Vote (Item 3)</u></b>	61

---

**Table of Contents**

<b><u>Incorporation by Reference</u></b>	62
<b><u>Directions to Annual Meeting</u></b>	62
<b><u>Delivery of Documents to Stockholders Sharing an Address</u></b>	62
<b><u>Submission of Stockholder Proposals</u></b>	63
<b><u>Stockholder Proposals - Inclusion in Company Proxy Statement</u></b>	63
<b><u>Other Stockholder Proposals - Discretionary Voting Authority and By-Laws</u></b>	63

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE  
AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE  
ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
TO BE HELD ON MAY 18, 2016**

Pursuant to the notice and access rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have elected to provide stockholders access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we mailed a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice ) on April 1, 2016 to our stockholders of record. The Notice provides you with instructions regarding how to:

- View our proxy materials for the Annual Meeting and our Form 10-K (which includes our audited financial statements) on the Internet at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com);
- Instruct us to provide our future proxy materials to you electronically by email; and
- If you prefer, request paper copies of our proxy materials and Form 10-K.

Plan participants who hold Tenneco shares in their 401(k) accounts and other stockholders who have previously requested paper copies of these materials may receive these materials by email or by mail. We elected to use electronic notice and access for our proxy materials because this process will reduce our printing and mailing costs and, by reducing the amount of printed materials, will reduce the environmental impact of our annual stockholders meetings. Choosing to receive your future proxy materials by email will help us in these efforts. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by email, you will receive an email next year with instructions containing a link to those materials and a link to the proxy voting site. Your election to receive proxy materials by email will remain in effect until you terminate it.



**Table of Contents**

**PROXY STATEMENT**

The Board of Directors of Tenneco Inc. has made these proxy materials available to you on the Internet, or, upon your request, has delivered printed versions of these materials to you by mail. We first released these proxy materials to our stockholders on or about April 1, 2016. We are furnishing this proxy statement in connection with the solicitation by our Board of Directors of proxies to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders on May 18, 2016, or at any adjournment or postponement thereof.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

***What is the purpose of the Annual Meeting?***

At the Annual Meeting, stockholders will consider and vote on the following matters:

- The election of the nine nominees named in this proxy statement to our Board of Directors, each for a term of one year;
- The ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent public accountants for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016; and
- To approve our executive compensation in an advisory vote.

The stockholders will also act on any other business that may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

***What is the difference between holding shares as a stockholder of record and as a beneficial owner?***

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Wells Fargo Shareowner Services, you are considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record. If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other record holder, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other record holder on how to vote your shares, and you are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting. Your broker, bank or other record holder should have enclosed or provided voting instructions for you to use in directing the voting of your shares.

*Who may attend the Annual Meeting?*

Anyone who was a stockholder as of the close of business on March 21, 2016 may attend the Annual Meeting.

*Who is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting?*

Only holders of record of our common stock at the close of business on March 21, 2016 are entitled to vote. There were 57,276,582 shares of common stock outstanding on March 21, 2016. Stockholders are entitled to cast one vote per share on all matters.

*How do I vote my shares in person at the Annual Meeting?*

Shares held in your name as the stockholder of record may be voted in person at the Annual Meeting. Shares held beneficially in street name may be voted in person at the Annual Meeting only if you obtain a legal proxy from the broker, bank or other record holder that holds your shares

## **Table of Contents**

giving you the right to vote the shares. Even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we recommend that you also submit your proxy or voting instructions as described below so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the Annual Meeting.

### ***How do I vote my shares without attending the Annual Meeting?***

There are three ways to vote by proxy:

- **By Internet** You can vote over the Internet by following the instructions on the Notice or proxy card;
- **By Mail** If you received your proxy materials by mail, you can vote by filling out the accompanying proxy card and returning it in the return envelope that we have enclosed for you; or
- **By Telephone** You can vote by telephone by following the instructions on the proxy card.

If you received a proxy card in the mail but choose to vote by Internet or by telephone, you do not need to return your proxy card.

If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other record holder, follow the voting instructions on the form that you receive from them. The availability of telephone and Internet voting will depend on the bank's, broker's or other record holder's voting process. Your bank, broker or other record holder may not be permitted to exercise voting discretion as to some of the matters to be acted upon. Therefore, please give voting instructions to your bank, broker or other record holder.

Unless you hold your shares through the company's 401(k) plan, you may vote via the Internet or by phone until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, on May 17, 2016, or the company's agent must receive your paper proxy card on or before May 17, 2016. If you hold your shares through the company's 401(k) plan, you may vote via the Internet or by phone until 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on May 15, 2016, or the company's agent must receive your paper proxy card on or before May 15, 2016.

### ***How will my proxy be voted?***

All properly completed, unrevoked proxies that are timely received will be voted in accordance with the specifications made.

If a properly executed, unrevoked written proxy card does not specifically direct the voting of shares covered, the proxy will be voted:

**FOR** the election of all nominees for election as director described in this proxy statement;

**FOR** the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent public accountants for 2016;

**FOR** the approval, in an advisory vote, of our executive compensation; and

in accordance with the judgment of the persons named in the proxy as to such other matters as may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Directors is not aware of any other matters that may properly come before the Annual Meeting. However, should any such matters come before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy card to vote all proxies (unless otherwise directed by stockholders) in accordance with their judgment on such matters.

## **Table of Contents**

### ***May I revoke or change my vote?***

If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy at any time before it is actually voted by giving written notice of revocation to our Corporate Secretary, by delivering a proxy bearing a later date (including by telephone or by Internet) or by attending and voting in person at the Annual Meeting. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not cause your previously granted proxy to be revoked unless you specifically make that request. If you are a beneficial owner of shares, you may submit new voting instructions by contacting your bank, broker or other record holder or, if you have obtained a legal proxy from your bank, broker or other record holder giving you the right to vote your shares, by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person.

### ***Will my vote be made public?***

All proxies, ballots and voting materials that identify the votes of specific stockholders will generally be kept confidential, except as necessary to meet applicable legal requirements and to allow for the tabulation of votes and certification of the vote.

### ***What constitutes a quorum, permitting the Annual Meeting to conduct its business?***

The presence at the Annual Meeting, in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock as of the record date is considered a quorum for the transaction of business. If you submit a properly completed proxy or if you appear at the Annual Meeting to vote in person, your shares of common stock will be considered part of the quorum.

Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining a quorum. A broker non-vote occurs when a bank, broker or other record holder holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because that holder does not have discretionary voting power for that particular item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. The election of directors (Item 1) and the advisory vote on executive compensation (Item 3) are non-discretionary items. If you do not instruct your bank, broker or other record holder how to vote with respect to any of these items, your bank, broker or other record holder may not vote with respect to the applicable proposal and those votes will be counted as broker non-votes.

### ***How many votes are needed to approve a proposal?***

Assuming the presence of a quorum, each director nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting (in person or by proxy) will be elected as a director. A majority of the votes cast means the number of For votes cast exceeds the number of Against votes cast. A proxy marked Abstain with respect to any director will not be

counted in determining the total number of votes cast. Because the election of directors is determined on the basis of a majority of the votes cast, abstentions and broker non-votes have no effect on the election of directors. Assuming the presence of a quorum, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present, in person or by proxy, at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote is required to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent public accountants for 2016 and to approve our executive compensation in an advisory vote. Because the vote standard for the approval of these proposals is a majority of shares present and entitled to vote, abstentions have the effect of a vote against the proposals and broker non-votes have no effect on the proposals.

**Table of Contents**

***Who will count the vote?***

Representatives of Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. will tabulate the votes and act as inspectors of election.

***How can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?***

We will report the voting results in a Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days after the end of the Annual Meeting.

***How is the solicitation being made?***

The cost of solicitation of proxies will be borne by us. Solicitation will be made by mail, and may be made by directors, officers, and employees, personally or by telephone, email or fax. Proxy cards and materials also will be distributed to beneficial owners of stock through brokers, custodians, nominees and other like parties, and we expect to reimburse such parties for their charges and expenses.

***Where can I find more information about Tenneco?***

We file reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy this information at the SEC's public reference facilities. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information about these facilities. This information is also available at our website at <http://www.tenneco.com> and at the Internet site maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>.

**Table of Contents**

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS  
(Item 1)**

Our Board of Directors currently comprises nine individuals, all of whom are proposed to be elected at this Annual Meeting to serve for a one-year term to expire at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2017 and until their successors are chosen and have been duly elected and qualified.

Unless otherwise indicated in your proxy, the persons named as proxy voters in the accompanying proxy card, or their substitutes, will vote your proxy for all the nominees, each of whom has been designated as such by the Board of Directors. In the event that any nominee for director withdraws or for any reason is not able to serve as a director, we will vote your proxy for the remainder of those nominated for director (except as otherwise indicated in your proxy) and for any replacement nominee designated by the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee of the Board of Directors.

You may vote **For** or **Against** any or all of the director nominees, or you may **Abstain** from voting. Assuming a quorum, each director nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting (in person or by proxy) will be elected as director. A **majority** of the votes cast means the number of **For** votes cast exceeds the number of **Against** votes cast. A proxy marked **Abstain** with respect to any director will not be counted in determining the total number of votes cast.

If an incumbent director is not elected, that director remains in office until the director's successor is duly elected and qualified or until the director's death, resignation or retirement. To address this potential outcome, the Board adopted a director resignation policy in Tenneco's By-Laws. Under this policy, the Board of Directors will nominate for directors only those incumbent candidates who tender, in advance, irrevocable resignations, and the Board has obtained such conditional resignations from the nominees in this year's proxy statement. The irrevocable resignations will be effective upon the failure to receive the required vote at any annual meeting at which they are nominated for re-election and Board acceptance of the resignation. If a nominee fails to receive the required vote, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee will recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject the tendered resignation. The Board will publicly disclose its decision within 90 days following certification of the stockholder vote. The director whose resignation is under consideration will not participate in the recommendation of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee or the Board's decision with respect to the resignation. If the Board does not accept the resignation, the director will continue to serve until the next annual meeting and until his or her successor is duly elected, or until his or her earlier resignation or removal. If the Board accepts the resignation, then the Board, in its sole discretion, may fill any resulting vacancy or may decrease the size of the Board (but not below the minimum number of directors required under our Certificate of Incorporation).



**Table of Contents**

**NOMINEES FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR all of the nominees listed below.*

**Thomas C. Freyman**

**Age: 61**

**Committee: Audit**

Mr. Freyman has served in his current role as Executive Vice President, Finance and Administration for Abbott since June 2015. Prior to that, he served as Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President, Finance for Abbott since 2004. He was first appointed Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President, Finance in 2001. From 1999 to 2001, he served as Vice President and Controller of Abbott's Hospital Products Division. Prior to that, he held a number of financial planning and analysis positions with Abbott including Treasurer for Abbott's international operations and Corporate Vice President and Treasurer. Mr. Freyman holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in management from Northwestern University. He has been a director of our company since 2013.

As the Chief Financial Officer of a Fortune 200 company, Mr. Freyman brings substantial expertise in finance and accounting to our Board and the Audit Committee. Throughout his more than 30-year career with Abbott, Mr. Freyman has served in diverse financial and accounting roles throughout Abbott's global organization. Prior to his career with Abbott, he was a certified public accountant with the firm of Ernst & Whinney (now Ernst & Young) where he gained substantial experience in auditing, tax and financial reporting. The Board has designated Mr. Freyman as an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in the SEC's rules adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

**Dennis J. Letham**

**Age: 64**

**Committee: Audit**

**(Chairman)**

From 1995 until his retirement in June 2011, Mr. Letham served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Anixter International Inc., where he oversaw the company's finance, accounting, tax, legal, human resource and internal audit activities in 50 countries. Before assuming his role as Chief Financial Officer in 1995, Mr. Letham served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Anixter, Inc., the principal operating subsidiary of Anixter International Inc., which he joined in 1993. Previously, he had a 10-year career with National Intergroup Inc., where he was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, as well as Vice President and Controller, Director of Corporate Accounting and Manager for Internal Audit. Mr. Letham began his career at Arthur Andersen & Co. in 1973 where he held progressive responsibilities in the Audit Department. Mr. Letham holds a bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University's Accounting Honors program. He also is a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Letham was a director of Interline Brands, Inc. through August 2015. He has been a director of our company since 2007.

Mr. Letham's substantial experience in finance and accounting makes him a valuable asset to our Board and our Audit Committee. Throughout his more than 35-year career, Mr. Letham has gained a deep understanding of the operations and financial reporting and accounting functions of large organizations. His 15 years of experience as the Chief Financial Officer of Anixter, a large international public company, gives him substantial insight into the complex financial, accounting and operational issues that a large multi-national company such as ours can encounter. Further, with his background in public accounting, he brings particular insight to the external and internal audit functions. The Board has designated Mr. Letham as an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in the SEC's rules adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

**Table of Contents**

**James S. Metcalf**

**Age: 58**

**Committee: Audit**

Mr. Metcalf is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of USG Corporation. He has served as Chairman since December 2011. He has served as Chief Executive Officer and President since January 2011 and was President and Chief Operating Officer from January 2006 until January 2011. Prior to that Mr. Metcalf held many positions at USG including president, Building Systems; president and chief executive officer, L&W Supply; senior vice president, Sales and Marketing, USG Interiors, Inc.; vice president, National Accounts, United States Gypsum Company; director, Retail Marketing, USG Corporation; director, Retail Sales, USG Interiors, Inc.; and national accounts manager, United States Gypsum Company. Mr. Metcalf serves on the National Association of Manufacturers Executive Committee. He is also a policy advisory board member for the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University. Mr. Metcalf holds a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University. He also holds a master's degree in business administration from Pepperdine University and Stanford University SEP. He has been a director of our company since 2014.

As the Chief Executive Officer of a major manufacturer of construction materials, Mr. Metcalf brings substantial executive leadership experience to our Board and the Audit Committee. Further, Mr. Metcalf's service in leadership roles in multiple areas within a large manufacturing company gives him particular insight into the types of strategic, operational and financial issues faced by companies such as ours.

**Roger B. Porter**

**Age: 69**

**Committee: Compensation/**

**Nominating/Governance**

**(Chairman)**

Mr. Porter is the IBM Professor of Business and Government and the Master of Dunster House at Harvard University. He has served on the faculty at Harvard University since 1977. He also held senior economic policy positions in the Ford, Reagan and George H.W. Bush White Houses, serving as special assistant to the President and executive secretary of the Economic Policy Board from 1974 to 1977, as deputy assistant to the President and director of the White House Office of Policy Development from 1981 to 1985, and as assistant to the President for economic and domestic policy from 1989 to 1993. He received a B.A. from Brigham Young University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University. He was also a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University where he received his B.Phil. degree. He is also a director of Zions Bancorporation, Extra Space Storage Inc. and Packaging Corporation of America. He has been a director of our company since 1998.

Mr. Porter brings a distinctive background to his service on our Board of Directors. He is the author of several books on economic policy, including *Presidential Decision Making* and *Efficiency, Equity and Legitimacy: The Multilateral Trading System at the Millennium*. His significant policy roles for various White Houses, as well as his scholarly research and teaching as the IBM Professor of Business and Government at Harvard, give him a unique perspective on the impact of general economic, political and market conditions on our business and operations. His background and experience is unlike that of any other Board member, making him a valuable addition to a well-rounded Board. In addition, his service on the Board of Directors of a variety of major public companies provides him an understanding

of the strategic, operational and financial issues faced by large public companies.

**Table of Contents**

**David B. Price, Jr.**

**Age:** 70

**Committee:**

**Compensation/Nominating/**

**Governance**

Since his retirement from Noveon Inc. in 2001, Mr. Price has worked as an independent consultant, providing investment and operational advice primarily to financial and strategic buyers of businesses. Previously, Mr. Price was President of Noveon Inc. from February 2001 until May 2001. Noveon, Inc. was formerly the Performance Materials segment of BF Goodrich Company before its sale to an investor group in February 2001. While with BF Goodrich Company from July 1997 to February 2001, Mr. Price served as Executive Vice President of the BF Goodrich Company and President and Chief Operating Officer of BF Goodrich Performance Materials. Before joining BF Goodrich, Mr. Price held various executive positions over a 25-year span at Monsanto Company, including President of the Performance Materials Division of Monsanto Company from 1995 to July 1997. From 1993 to 1995, he was Vice President and General Manager of commercial operations for the Industrial Products Group and was also named to the management board of Monsanto's Chemical Group. Mr. Price received a B.S.C.E. from the University of Missouri and an M.B.A. from Harvard University. He is a director and former Chairman of the YMCA of Greater St. Louis and a Director and Vice Chairman of St. Luke's Hospital in St. Louis. He has been a director of our company since 1999.

Mr. Price is an experienced businessman, having managed major chemicals businesses for Monsanto and B.F. Goodrich over a 30-year period. His experience as president and chief operating officer of various Monsanto and B.F. Goodrich business units gives Mr. Price an understanding of the strategic, operational and financial issues facing major industrial companies and a perspective beyond traditional automotive manufacturing.

**Gregg M. Sherrill**

**Age:** 63

**Chairman of the Board**

Mr. Sherrill was named our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in January 2007. Mr. Sherrill joined us from Johnson Controls Inc., where he served since 1998, most recently as President, Power Solutions. From 2002 to 2003, Mr. Sherrill served as the Vice President and Managing Director of Europe, South Africa and South America for Johnson Controls' Automotive Systems Group. Before joining Johnson Controls, Mr. Sherrill held various engineering and manufacturing assignments over a 22-year span at Ford Motor Company, including Plant Manager of Ford's Dearborn, Michigan engine plant, Chief Engineer, Steering Systems and Director of Supplier Technical Assistance. Mr. Sherrill holds a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M University and an M.B.A. from Indiana University's Graduate School of Business. Mr. Sherrill is a director of Snap-on Incorporated where he is the Chairman of the Organization and Executive Compensation Committee. Mr. Sherrill is also the Chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers. He has been a director of our company since 2007.

Mr. Sherrill brings to our Board nearly 40 years of experience in the automotive industry, including nine years as our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Before joining our company, he held increasingly senior management roles at

both a major automotive parts supplier and a major original equipment manufacturer, giving him unique perspective and insight. His extensive experience managing international operations is also of key value to a global company such as ours. Under his leadership, in addition to delivering strong financial results, our company has established a long-term vision and strategic direction that capitalizes on the distinct strengths and opportunities of each of our product lines. His extensive knowledge of our business and industry, together with his proven talents and leadership, position him well to serve as our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

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**Table of Contents****Paul T. Stecko****Age: 71****Committee:**

Compensation/Nominating/

Governance, Lead

**Independent Director**

Mr. Stecko has served as a director of Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) since March 1999, including as Chairman from 1999 through 2015. He served as Executive Chairman of PCA from July 2010 through December 2013 and as Chief Executive Officer of PCA from January 1999 through June 2010. Mr. Stecko served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Tenneco Inc. from November 1998 to April 1999 and as Chief Operating Officer of Tenneco Inc. from January 1997 to November 1998. From December 1993 through January 1997, Mr. Stecko served as Chief Executive Officer of Tenneco Packaging Inc. Before that, Mr. Stecko spent 16 years with International Paper Company in roles of increasing responsibility, most recently serving as Vice President and General Manager of the Publication Papers, Bristols and Converting Papers businesses. Mr. Stecko received a B.S. degree in metallurgy from Penn State University and an M.S. in metallurgical engineering and an M.B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a director of State Farm Mutual Insurance Company and served as a director of Smurfit Kappa Group through October 2015. He has been a director of our company since 1998.

Mr. Stecko, with his more than ten years of experience as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Packaging Corporation of America, brings to the Board proven leadership and extensive managerial experience at the most senior level. In addition, his years of service in senior management of Tenneco prior to the 1999 transactions that separated our automotive and packaging businesses give Mr. Stecko unique historical perspective that is of particular value to our company. As a result of these experiences, Mr. Stecko has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the complex strategic, operational and financial issues faced by large public companies. Mr. Stecko's appreciation of the role of directors through his experience as both an inside and independent director of other companies positions him well to serve as our lead independent director.

**Jane L. Warner****Age: 69****Committee: Audit**

From August 2007 until her retirement in March 2013, Ms. Warner served as Executive Vice President at Illinois Tool Works Inc., a Fortune 200 diversified manufacturer of highly engineered components and industrial systems and consumables, where she had worldwide responsibility for its Decorative Surfaces and Finishing Systems businesses. Ms. Warner joined Illinois Tool Works Inc. in December 2005 as Group President of its Worldwide Finishing business. She was previously the President of Plexus Systems, L.L.C., a manufacturing software company, from June 2004 to December 2005, and a Vice President with Electronic Data Systems from 2000 through June 2004, where she led their global manufacturing group. Ms. Warner served as Executive Vice President for first tier supplier Textron Automotive from 1994 through 1999, where she was President of its Kautex North America and Randall divisions. Previously, Ms. Warner held executive positions in manufacturing, engineering and human resources over a 20-year span at General Motors Corporation. Ms. Warner received a B.A. and an M.A. from Michigan State University. She also received an M.B.A. from Stanford University where she was a Sloan Fellow. Ms. Warner is a board member of

Brunswick Corporation and Regal Beloit Corporation. Ms. Warner served on the board of directors of MeadWestvaco Corporation through August 2014. She is also a Trustee for John G. Shedd Aquarium and chairs their Long Range Planning Committee. She has been a director of our company since 2004.

With over 20 years of automotive industry experience, Ms. Warner has particular appreciation of the challenges facing our customers. Her automotive industry expertise is supplemented by her leadership roles in global manufacturing and manufacturing information systems businesses, both of which are of particular relevance to a global manufacturing company such as ours. She also brings to us the financial understanding she has gained through her business unit leadership and as member of the audit committee of both MeadWestvaco and Regal Beloit.



**Table of Contents**

**Roger J. Wood**

**Age: 53**

**Committee:**

**Compensation/Nominating/**

**Governance**

Mr. Wood retired in 2015 as Dana Holding Corporation's President and Chief Executive Officer, a position he held since 2011, when he joined Dana. Prior to joining Dana Holding Corporation, Mr. Wood served as Executive Vice President and Group President for the Engine Group at BorgWarner. In his 26-year career at BorgWarner, Mr. Wood served in various leadership roles with global operations responsibilities. Mr. Wood holds a Bachelor's degree in Engineering Technology from State University College in Buffalo, N.Y., and an M.B.A. from Syracuse University. He is a member of the board of directors of Brunswick Corporation and Fallbrook Technologies. Prior to Mr. Wood's retirement from Dana, he served as a member of the boards for the Business Leaders of Michigan, the Ohio Business Roundtable, the board of trustees of the Manufacturer's Alliance/MAPI and the CEO Council for the Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA). Mr. Wood is a fellow of the National Association of Corporate Directors. He has been a director of our company since 2016.

Mr. Wood's 30-year career at other Tier-1 automotive suppliers gives him distinct knowledge of the businesses and operations of companies such as ours, particularly in the areas of manufacturing operations, business management and strategic planning. In addition, as a former Chief Executive Officer of a major international business, he brings his significant leadership experience to our Board.

**Table of Contents**

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

**Overview**

We have established a comprehensive corporate governance plan for the purpose of defining responsibilities, setting high standards of professional and personal conduct and assuring compliance with these responsibilities and standards. As part of its annual review process, the Board of Directors monitors developments in the area of corporate governance. Summarized below are some of the key elements of our corporate governance plan. Many of these matters are described in more detail elsewhere in this proxy statement.

***Director Independence (see pp. 14-15)***

Eight of our nine current directors are independent under the New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ) listing standards. Assuming all nominees presented in this proxy statement are elected at the Annual Meeting, eight of our nine directors will be independent under the NYSE listing standards.

Independent directors are scheduled to meet separately in executive session after every regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

We have a lead independent director, Mr. Paul T. Stecko.

***Audit Committee (see p. 18-19 and p. 58)***

All members meet the independence standards for audit committee membership under the NYSE listing standards and applicable Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ) rules.

Each of Messrs. Freyman and Letham has been designated as an audit committee financial expert as defined in the SEC rules. All members of the Audit Committee satisfy the NYSE s financial literacy requirements.

The Audit Committee operates under a written charter that governs its duties and

responsibilities, including its sole authority to appoint, review, evaluate and replace our independent auditors.

The Audit Committee has adopted policies and procedures governing the pre-approval of all audit, audit-related, tax and other services provided by our independent auditors.

***Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and Subcommittee (see pp. 15-17 and p. 57)***

All members meet the independence standards for compensation and nominating committee membership under the NYSE listing standards.

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee operates under a written charter that governs its duties and responsibilities, including the responsibility for executive compensation.

We have an Executive Compensation Subcommittee which has the responsibility to consider and approve compensation for our executive officers which is intended to qualify as performance based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

*Corporate Governance Principles*

We have adopted Corporate Governance Principles, including qualification and independence standards for directors.

*Stock Ownership Guidelines (see p. 37-38)*

We have adopted Stock Ownership Guidelines to align the interests of our executives with the interests of our stockholders and promote our commitment to sound corporate governance.

The Stock Ownership Guidelines apply to the non-management directors, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, all Executive Vice Presidents, all Senior Vice Presidents and all Vice Presidents.

## **Table of Contents**

### ***Anti-Hedging Policy and Trading Restrictions (see p. 38)***

We have an insider trading policy which, among other things, prohibits our directors, executive officers and other employees from engaging in derivative or hedging transactions with respect to our securities.

### ***Anti-Pledging Policy (see p. 38)***

We have a policy under which our directors and executive officers are prohibited from pledging our securities as collateral.

### ***Communications with the Directors (see p. 19)***

The Audit Committee has established a process for confidential and anonymous submissions by our employees, as well as submissions by other interested parties, regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters. Additionally, the Board of Directors has established a process for stockholders to communicate with the Board of Directors, as a whole, or any independent director.

### ***Codes of Business Conduct and Ethics***

We operate under a Code of Conduct that applies to all directors, officers and employees and covers a broad range of topics, including compliance with laws, restrictions on gifts and conflicts of interest. All salaried employees are required to affirm annually in writing their acceptance of, and compliance with, the Code of Conduct.

We have also adopted a Code of Ethical Conduct for Financial Managers that applies to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Controller and other key financial managers.

### ***Transactions with Related Persons (see p. 20)***

We have adopted a Policy and Procedure for Transactions with Related Persons, under which our Audit Committee must generally pre-approve transactions involving more than \$120,000 with our directors, executive officers, five percent or greater stockholders and their immediate family members.

### ***Equity Award Policy (see p. 37)***

We have adopted a written policy to be followed for all issuances by our company of compensatory awards in the form of our common stock or any derivative of our common stock.

### ***Clawback Policy (see p. 39)***

We have adopted a clawback policy under which we will, in specified circumstances, require reimbursement of annual and long-term incentives paid to an executive officer. We will continue to review this policy as final rulemaking is adopted regarding clawbacks under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

### ***Personal Loans***

We comply with and operate in a manner consistent with the legislation prohibiting extensions of credit in the form of a personal loan to or for our directors or executive officers.

***Governance Information Available Online***

Additional information about our Governance and Company Policies are available on the Internet at [www.tenneco.com](http://www.tenneco.com). *(The contents of the website are not, however, a part of this proxy statement.)*

Information on-line includes: Audit Committee, Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and Executive Compensation Subcommittee Charters, Corporate Governance Principles, Stock Ownership Guidelines, Accounting Complaints Policy, Code of Ethical Conduct for Financial Managers, Code of Conduct, Policy and Procedures for Transactions with Related Persons, Equity Award Policy, Clawback Policy, Insider Trading Policy, Director Communications Policy and Audit/Non-Audit Services Policy.

We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirements under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K and applicable NYSE rules regarding amendments to or waivers of our Code of Ethical Conduct for Financial Managers and Code of Conduct by posting this information on our website at [www.tenneco.com](http://www.tenneco.com).

**Table of Contents****The Board of Directors and Its Committees****Board Leadership Structure**

Our Board of Directors currently is comprised of nine members, eight of whom are independent and one of whom is an officer of our company. The Board of Directors believes that our ratio of outside directors to inside directors represents a commitment to the independence of the Board and a focus on matters of importance to our stockholders.

	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Role</b>
Mr. Freyman	ü	Audit	
Mr. Letham	ü	Audit	Committee Chairman
Mr. Metcalf	ü	Audit	
Mr. Porter	ü	Compensation/Nominating/Governance	Committee Chairman
Mr. Price	ü	Compensation/Nominating/Governance	
Mr. Sherrill			Chairman of the Board
Mr. Stecko	ü	Compensation/Nominating/Governance	Lead Independent Director
Ms. Warner	ü	Audit	
Mr. Wood	ü	Compensation/Nominating/Governance	

Mr. Sherrill is our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and leads our Board. Mr. Sherrill has general charge and management of the affairs, property and business of our company, under the oversight, and subject to the review and direction, of the Board. He presides at all meetings of stockholders and the Board. We also have a lead independent director, Mr. Stecko. As lead independent director, Mr. Stecko presides at all executive sessions of the Board, consults with management and the other members of the Board regarding Board meeting agendas and serves as the principal liaison between management and the independent directors.

Our Board of Directors has two standing committees – the Audit Committee and the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee. Each of these committees consists solely of independent directors and has its own Chairman who is responsible for directing the work of the committee in fulfilling its responsibilities.

Our Board of Directors believes this leadership structure is in the best interests of our company and its stockholders. Our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer provides the strong, clear and unified leadership that is critical to our relationships with our stockholders, employees, customers, suppliers and other stakeholders. He also serves as a valuable bridge between the Board and our management. We have effective and active oversight by experienced independent directors, who have selected a lead independent director and two independent committee chairs. The

independent directors on the Board and each of the committees meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions without any members of management present. The purpose of these executive sessions is to promote open and candid discussion among the independent directors. Our system provides appropriate checks and balances to protect stockholder value and allows for efficient management of our company.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Role of Board of Directors in Risk Oversight**

Our Board of Directors recognizes that, although risk management is primarily the responsibility of the company's management team, the Board of Directors plays a critical role in the oversight of risk, including the identification and management of risk. The Board of Directors believes that an important part of its responsibilities is to assess the major risks we face and review our strategies for monitoring and controlling these risks. The Board of Directors' involvement in risk oversight involves the full Board of Directors, the Audit Committee and the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee.

We perform an annual enterprise risk assessment which originates within our internal audit department and is performed in accordance with the standards adopted by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). As part of its assessment, our internal audit department interviews each of our directors, as well as members of management, regarding the strategic, operational, compliance and financial risks that our company faces. Our director of internal audit and chief financial officer review the results of this annual enterprise risk assessment with our Board of Directors. In addition, throughout the year, the Board of Directors meets with senior management to discuss:

- current business trends affecting us;
- the major risk exposures facing us; and
- the steps management has taken to monitor and control such risks.

The Board of Directors receives presentations throughout the year from senior management and leaders of our business units and functional groups regarding specific risks that we face. Finally, on an annual basis, management provides a comprehensive strategic review to the Board of Directors which includes a discussion of the major risks faced by our company and our strategies to manage and minimize these risks.

The Audit Committee meets frequently during the year with senior management, our director of internal audit and our independent public accountants and discusses the major risks facing us, and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such risks, as well as the adequacy of internal controls that could mitigate risks and significantly affect our financial statements. At each regularly scheduled meeting, our director of internal audit reviews with the Audit Committee the results of internal audit activities and testing since the Audit Committee's prior meeting. In addition, at each regularly scheduled Audit Committee meeting, the company's general counsel provides a report to the Audit Committee regarding any significant litigation, environmental and regulatory risks faced by our company. The Audit Committee also maintains oversight over the company's compliance programs, including compliance with the company's Code of Conduct. The Chairman of the Audit Committee provides the Board of Directors with a report concerning its risk oversight activities at each Board meeting. The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee reviews our compensation structures and programs to ensure that they do not encourage excessive risk-taking.

### **Director Independence**

The Board of Directors has determined that all of our non-management directors are independent as that term is defined under the listing standards of the NYSE. As part of its analysis, the Board determined that none of the outside directors has a direct or indirect material relationship with our company. Under written guidelines adopted by the



Board, the following

## **Table of Contents**

commercial or charitable relationships are not considered to be material relationships that would impair a director's independence:

- the director is an employee, director or beneficial owner of less than 10% of the shares of another company that (directly or indirectly through its subsidiaries or affiliates) does business with us and the annual sales to, or purchases from, us are less than 1% of the annual consolidated revenues of both our company and the other company;
- the director is an employee, director or beneficial owner of less than 10% of the shares of another company that (directly or indirectly through its subsidiaries or affiliates) is indebted to us, or to which we are indebted, and the total amount of either company's consolidated indebtedness to the other is less than 1% of the total consolidated assets of the indebted company;
- the director is an employee, director or beneficial owner of another company in which we own a common equity interest, and the amount of our interest is less than 5% of the total voting power of the other company; or
- the director serves as an employee, director or trustee of a charitable organization, and our discretionary charitable contributions to the organization are less than 1% of that organization's total annual charitable receipts.

Based on the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors, no outside director has a material relationship with our company.

## **Board Meetings**

During 2015, the Board of Directors held eleven meetings. All of our directors who served in 2015 attended at least 75% of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the committees of the Board on which the director served. The Board of Directors is scheduled to meet in executive session, without management, after every regularly scheduled Board meeting. Mr. Stecko acts as lead independent director to chair these executive sessions and as primary spokesperson in communicating matters arising out of these sessions to our management.

All of the directors attended last year's annual meeting of stockholders. The Board of Directors has a policy that, absent unusual circumstances, all directors attend our annual stockholder meetings.

## **Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and Subcommittee**

The members of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee are Messrs. Price, Stecko, Wood and Porter, who is the Chairman of the Committee. The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee is comprised solely of outside directors who meet the independence standards for compensation and nominating committee members as set forth in the NYSE listing standards.

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee has the responsibility, among other things, to:

- establish the compensation of our executive officers;
- examine periodically our compensation structure;
- supervise our welfare and pension plans and compensation plans;
- produce an annual report on executive compensation for inclusion in our proxy statement in accordance with applicable rules and regulations of the SEC;
- review our compensation practices and policies for our employees to determine whether those practices and policies are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us; and

**Table of Contents**

- review and recommend to the Board any company proposal regarding the advisory vote on executive compensation and any company proposal regarding the frequency of the advisory vote on executive compensation.

It also has significant nominating and corporate governance responsibilities including, among other things, to:

- review and determine the desirable balance of experience, qualifications and expertise among members of the Board;
- review possible candidates for membership on the Board and recommend a slate of nominees for election as directors at each annual meeting of stockholders;
- review the function and composition of the other committees of the Board and recommend membership on these committees;
- review the qualifications of, and recommend candidates for, election as officers of our company;
- develop and recommend to the Board of Directors for approval any revisions to our Corporate Governance Principles; and
- oversee our management succession planning, including with respect to our Chief Executive Officer, and our diversity initiatives in connection with management succession.

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees when appropriate and to the extent permitted by applicable law and the rules of the NYSE. Once a subcommittee of this Committee is so formed, the Committee may exercise any authority in its discretion that is granted to the subcommittee.

We have an Executive Compensation Subcommittee which consists of Messrs. Porter, Price and Wood. This subcommittee has the responsibility of considering and approving compensation for our Chief Executive Officer and our other executive officers which is intended to qualify as performance based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. This subcommittee does not have the authority to further delegate its responsibilities.

Each of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and the Executive Compensation Subcommittee operates pursuant to a written charter, the current versions of which were reaffirmed by the Board of Directors and the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee, respectively, in February 2016 as part of their annual review process. The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee held six meetings, and the Executive Compensation Subcommittee held three meetings, during 2015.

For 2015, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee retained the services of Meridian Compensation Partners, LLC ( Meridian ) as its principal outside compensation consultant. Meridian reports directly to the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee with the assignment to:

- assist in decision-making with respect to executive compensation;
- provide plan design advice;
- provide annual competitive market studies against which committee members can analyze executive compensation; and
- apprise the committee members regarding best practices and pay levels in association with director compensation.

## **Table of Contents**

For our director compensation, Meridian prepares comparative market data and presents that information directly to the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee. The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee reviews this data and establishes director compensation in consultation with Meridian. Meridian provides no other services to the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee or our company.

From time to time, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and the Executive Compensation Subcommittee will review materials prepared by other consultants to assist them with specific compensation matters. For a discussion of the role of our executive officers in the establishment of executive officer compensation, see Executive Compensation Compensation Discussion and Analysis. Our executive officers do not participate in the process for establishing director compensation.

A report of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee regarding executive compensation appears elsewhere in this proxy statement. For a more detailed discussion of the processes and procedures for considering and determining executive compensation, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 25.

## **Consideration of Director Nominees**

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee regularly assesses the size of the Board of Directors, the need for expertise on the Board of Directors and whether any vacancies are expected on the Board of Directors. The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee's process for identifying and evaluating nominees is as follows:

- In the case of incumbent directors, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee reviews annually such directors' overall service to us during their term, including the specific experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that such directors bring to service on our Board, the number of meetings attended, the level of participation, the quality of performance and any transactions of such directors with us during their term.
- In the event that vacancies are anticipated or otherwise arise, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee considers various potential candidates for director that may come to its attention through a variety of sources, including current Board members, stockholders or other persons, including professional search firms. All candidates for director are evaluated at regular or special meetings of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee.

In evaluating and determining whether to recommend a person as a candidate for election as a director, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee considers each candidate's experience, qualifications, attributes and skills as well as the specific qualification standards set forth in our Corporate Governance Principles, including:

- personal and professional ethics, integrity and values;
- an ability and willingness to undertake the requisite time commitment to Board functions;

independence pursuant to the guidelines set forth in the Corporate Governance Principles and applicable rules and regulations;

- age, which must be less than 72 at the time of election unless otherwise determined in the good faith judgment of our Board;
- the potential impact of service on the board of directors of other public companies, including competitors of our company; and
- an absence of employment at a competitor of our company.

## **Table of Contents**

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and the Board of Directors value diversity, and believe that a diverse Board composition provides significant benefit to our company. Each candidate is reviewed in light of the overall composition and skills of the entire Board of Directors at the time, including the varied characteristics of the Board members and candidate in terms of opinions, perspectives, personal and professional experiences and backgrounds. The nominees selected are those whose experience and background are deemed to provide the most valuable contribution to the Board.

Stockholders may nominate persons for election to the Board of Directors at an annual meeting by submitting a letter of nomination, together with certain related information required by our By-Laws, in writing to our Corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices, 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045. For more information on submitting a nomination, visit [www.tenneco.com](http://www.tenneco.com) or see Submission of Stockholder Proposals.

## **Audit Committee**

The members of the Audit Committee are Ms. Warner and Messrs. Freyman, Metcalf, and Letham, who is the Chairman of the Committee. The Audit Committee is comprised solely of directors who meet all of the independence standards for audit committee membership as set forth in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the SEC rules adopted thereunder and the NYSE listing standards. The Board of Directors has designated each of Messrs. Freyman and Letham as an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in the SEC rules adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Management is responsible for our internal controls over the financial reporting process. Our independent public accounting firm is responsible for performing an independent audit of our consolidated financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and for issuing a report on its audit. The Audit Committee's duty is to oversee and monitor these activities on behalf of the Board of Directors. Specifically, the Audit Committee has the responsibility, among other things, to:

- select and approve the compensation of our independent public accountants;
- review and approve the scope of the independent public accountants' audit activity and all non-audit services;
- review the independence, qualifications and performance of our independent public accountants;
- review with management and the independent public accountants the adequacy of our basic accounting system and the effectiveness of our internal audit plan and activities;
- review with management and the independent public accountants our certified financial statements and exercise general oversight over the financial reporting process;
- review with us litigation and other legal matters that may affect our financial condition and monitor compliance with business ethics and other policies;



- provide an avenue of communication among the independent public accountants, management, the internal auditors and the Board of Directors; and
- prepare the audit-related report required by the SEC to be included in our annual proxy statement.

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## **Table of Contents**

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Audit Committee reviewed with management and our independent public accountants:

- significant issues, if any, regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentations, including any significant changes in our selection or application of accounting principles, and significant issues, if any, as to the adequacy of our internal controls and any special audit steps adopted in view of material internal control deficiencies;
- analyses prepared by management and/or our independent public accountants setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of our financial statements, including analyses of the effects of alternative generally accepted accounting principles methods on financial statements;
- the effect of regulatory and accounting initiatives, as well as off-balance sheet structures, if any, on our financial statements; and
- the type and presentation of information to be included in earnings press releases, as well as any financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies.

In addition, the Audit Committee has discussed our major risk exposures and the steps that management has taken to monitor and control such exposures. Management is required to advise the Audit Committee of any instances of fraud relating to employees who have a significant role in our internal controls. The Audit Committee was advised that management was not aware of any such instances of fraud.

The Audit Committee operates under a written charter, the current version of which was reaffirmed by the Board of Directors in February 2016 as part of its annual review process. The Audit Committee held 11 meetings in 2015. A report of the Audit Committee appears elsewhere in this proxy statement.

## **Communications with the Directors**

Anyone with concerns about our conduct, or about our accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, may communicate that concern directly to the Board of Directors, our lead independent director (Mr. Stecko) or any other non-employee director or the Audit Committee. All such concerns will be forwarded to the appropriate directors for their review, and all material concerns related to audit or accounting matters will be forwarded to the Audit Committee. All reported concerns will be reviewed and addressed by our Chief Compliance Officer and General Counsel or his designee (unless he is alleged to be involved in the matter at issue). The status of all outstanding concerns addressed to the Board, the non-employee directors or the Audit Committee will be reported to the Board or the Audit Committee (as applicable) on at least a quarterly basis. The Board or any committee may direct special treatment, including the retention of outside advisors or counsel, for any concern addressed to them. Our corporate policies prohibit retaliatory action against any employee who raises concerns or questions in good faith about these matters.

Stockholders wishing to communicate with the Board of Directors, any outside director or the Audit Committee may do so by writing to our Corporate Secretary at 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045. The Corporate Secretary will forward any communications as directed by the stockholder. We maintain a separate, internal system

for the receipt of communications from employees.

## Table of Contents

### Transactions with Related Persons

The Board of Directors has adopted a Policy and Procedures for Transactions with Related Persons. As a general matter, the policy requires the Audit Committee to review and approve or disapprove the entry by us or our subsidiaries into certain transactions with related persons. The policy only applies to transactions, arrangements and relationships where the aggregate amount involved will or may reasonably be expected to exceed \$120,000 in any calendar year and in which a related person has a direct or indirect interest (other than solely as a result of being a director or a less than 10% beneficial owner of another entity). A related person is:

- any director, nominee for director or executive officer of our company;
- any immediate family member of a director, nominee for director or executive officer of our company; and
- any person, and his or her immediate family members, or any entity, including affiliates, that was a beneficial owner of five percent or more of any of our outstanding equity securities at the time the transaction occurred or existed.

If advance approval of a transaction subject to the policy is not obtained, it must be promptly submitted to the Audit Committee for possible approval, amendment, termination or rescission. In reviewing any transaction, the Audit Committee will take into account, among other factors the Audit Committee deems appropriate, whether the transaction is on terms no less favorable than terms generally available to a third party in similar circumstances and the extent of the related person's interest in the transaction.

The policy provides that the following transactions are pre-approved for the purposes of the policy:

- Employment of executive officers and compensation of directors and executive officers that is otherwise being reported in our annual proxy statement or is not required to be reported in the proxy statement (as these transactions are otherwise subject to approval by the Board of Directors or one of its committees);
- A transaction where the related person's only interest is as an employee, director or beneficial owner of less than 10% of the outstanding equity securities of the other company, and if the transaction involves the sale or purchase of goods or services, the annual sales to or purchases from our company are less than 1% of the annual consolidated revenue for both our company and the other company, or, if the transaction involves lending or borrowing, the total amount of either company's indebtedness is less than 1% of the total consolidated assets of the indebted company;
- Contributions to charitable organizations, foundations or universities at which a related person's only relationship is as an employee, director or trustee, if the aggregate amount does not exceed 1% of the charitable organization's total annual receipts;

- Transactions where the related person's only interest arises solely from the ownership of our common stock, and where all stockholders of our company receive benefits on a pro rata basis;
- Transactions involving a related person where the rates or charges involved are determined by competitive bids;
- Transactions where the related person renders services as a common or contract carrier, or public utility, at rates or charges fixed in conformity with law or governmental authority; and
- Transactions involving services as a bank depository of funds, transfer agent, registrar, trustee under a trust indenture or similar services.

**Table of Contents**

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

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires our directors and executive officers and beneficial owners of 10% or more of a registered class of our equity securities to file with the SEC initial reports of beneficial ownership (Form 3) and reports on changes in beneficial ownership (Form 4 or 5). SEC rules adopted pursuant to Section 16(a) require that such persons furnish us with copies of all such forms they file with the SEC.

Based solely upon our review of such forms furnished to us for 2015, and upon the written representations received by us from certain of our directors and executive officers that no Forms 5 were required, we believe that, except as described below, our directors, executive officers and 10% or greater stockholders complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements on a timely basis during 2015. A Form 4 reporting the sale of 30,000 shares by the Joyce A. Price Revocable Trust was filed five business days after it was due because the broker handling the trade did not timely inform our company.

**Table of Contents****OWNERSHIP OF COMMON STOCK****Management**

The following table shows, as of March 21, 2016, the number of shares of our common stock, par value \$.01 per share (the only class of voting securities outstanding), beneficially owned by: (1) each director and nominee for director; (2) each person who is named in the Summary Compensation Table below; and (3) all directors and executive officers as a group.

	Shares of Common Stock Owned		Common Stock Equivalents(4)	Total Shares and Equivalents
	(1)	(2)(3)		
<b>Directors</b>				
Thomas C. Freyman	13,329		0	13,329
Dennis J. Letham	29,838		37,958	67,796
James S. Metcalf	5,425		472	5,897
Roger B. Porter	55,744		103,960	159,704
David B. Price, Jr.	34,915	(6)	58,434	93,349
Gregg M. Sherrill	836,314		0	836,314
Paul T. Stecko	14,031	(7)	57,130	71,161
Jane L. Warner	27,091		18,946	46,037
Roger J. Wood	2,757		0	2,757
<b>Named Executive Officers</b>				
Kenneth R. Trammell	234,756		0	234,756
Brian J. Kessler	148,386		0	148,386
Enrique Orta	62,689		0	62,689
Josep Fornos	98,987		0	98,987
All executive officers and directors as a group (20 individuals)	2,187,193	(5)	276,900	2,464,093

- (1) Each director and executive officer has sole voting and investment power over the shares beneficially owned (or has the right to acquire shares as described in note (2) below) as set forth in this column, except for restricted shares and except as set forth in notes (6) and (7) below.
- (2) Includes shares of restricted stock. At March 21, 2016, Messrs. Sherrill, Trammell, Kessler, Orta and Fornos held 116,441, 27,436, 141,692, 21,519 and 22,182 shares of restricted stock, respectively, and each outside director held 2,757 shares of restricted stock. Also includes shares that are subject to options that are exercisable within 60 days of March 21, 2016 for Messrs. Sherrill, Trammell, Orta and Fornos to

purchase 331,289, 90,032, 20,820 and 34,911 shares, respectively.

- (3) Each of the individuals listed in the table owns less than 1% of the outstanding shares of our common stock, respectively, except for (a) Mr. Sherrill who beneficially owns approximately 1.5% of the outstanding common stock and (b) all directors and executive officers as a group who beneficially own approximately 3.8% of the outstanding common stock.



**Table of Contents**

- (4) For outside directors, represents common stock equivalents received in payment of director fees. These common stock equivalents are payable in cash or, at our option, shares of common stock after an outside director ceases to serve as a director.
- (5) Includes 637,629 shares that are subject to options that are exercisable within 60 days of March 21, 2016 by all executive officers and directors as a group. Includes 487,460 shares of restricted stock held by all executive officers and directors as a group. Does not include common stock equivalents.
- (6) Includes 1,092 shares held by the Joyce A. Price Revocable Trust and 16,082 shares held by the David B. Price Jr. Revocable Trust.
- (7) Includes 9,274 shares held under the Paul T. Stecko 1994 Declaration of Trust.

**Certain Other Stockholders**

The following table sets forth, as of March 21, 2016, certain information regarding the persons known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our outstanding common stock (the only class of voting securities outstanding).

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner(1)	Shares of Common Stock Owned(1)	Percent of Common Stock Outstanding
FMR LLC, Abigail P. Johnson(2) 245 Summer Street Boston, MA 02210	7,217,155	12.6%
The Vanguard Group, Inc.(3) 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355	3,779,928	6.6%
Boston Partners (4) One Beacon Street Boston, MA 02108	3,520,148	6.1%
BlackRock, Inc.(5) 55 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street New York, NY 10022	3,314,097	5.8%

- (1) This information is based on information contained in filings made with the SEC regarding the ownership of our common stock.

- (2) FMR LLC reports that the following entities beneficially own shares of our common stock: FMR Co., Inc. (owner of greater than 5%), FIAM LLC, Fidelity Institutional Asset Management Trust Company and Strategic Advisers, Inc. Abigail P. Johnson is a Director, the Vice Chairman, the Chief Executive Officer and the President of FMR LLC. Members of the Johnson family, including Abigail P. Johnson, are the predominant owners, directly or through trusts, of Series B voting common shares of FMR LLC, representing 49% of the voting power of FMR LLC. The Johnson family group and all other Series B shareholders have entered into a shareholders' voting agreement under which all Series B voting common shares will be voted in accordance with the majority vote of Series B voting common shares. Accordingly, through their ownership of voting common shares and the execution of the shareholders' voting agreement, members of the Johnson family may be deemed, under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to form a controlling group with respect to FMR LLC. Neither FMR LLC nor Abigail P. Johnson

**Table of Contents**

has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the various investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act ( Fidelity Funds ) advised by Fidelity Management & Research Company ( FMR Co ), a wholly owned subsidiary of FMR LLC, which power resides with the Fidelity Funds Boards of Trustees. FMR Co carries out the voting of the shares under written guidelines established by the Fidelity Funds Boards of Trustees. FMR LLC and Abigail P. Johnson have sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 7,217,555 shares and FMR LLC has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of over 921,390 shares.

- (3) The Vanguard Group, Inc. ( Vanguard ), 100 Vanguard Blvd., Malvern, PA 19355, is the beneficial owner of 3,779,928 shares. Vanguard has the sole power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of 3,653,300 shares and has shared power to dispose of 126,628 shares. Vanguard has sole power to vote 127,211 shares and shared power to vote 3,100 shares. Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vanguard, is the beneficial owner of 123,528 shares as a result of its serving as investment manager of collective trust accounts. Vanguard Investments Australia Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vanguard, is the beneficial owner of 6,783 shares as a result of its serving as investment manager of Australian investment offerings.
- (4) Boston Partners has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of 2,919,309 shares and the sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 3,520,148 shares.
- (5) BlackRock, Inc. ( BlackRock ), 55 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022, is the beneficial owner of 3,314,097 shares through various of its subsidiaries: BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A., BlackRock Fund Advisors, BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited, BlackRock Asset Management Ireland Limited, BlackRock Investment Management (Australia) Limited, BlackRock Advisors, LLC, BlackRock Investment Management, LLC, BlackRock International Limited, BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Ltd., BlackRock Japan Co. Ltd., BlackRock Life Limited, BlackRock (Luxembourg) S.A., BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG, BlackRock Financial Management, Inc., BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Ltd. and Xulu, Inc. BlackRock has sole voting power with respect to 3,168,751 shares and sole dispositive power with respect to 3,314,097 shares.

**Table of Contents**

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

**Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

Our executive compensation philosophy, policies, plans and programs are under the supervision of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee of our Board of Directors. We have an Executive Compensation Subcommittee, which is responsible for making executive compensation determinations with respect to compensation that may qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. For a description of the composition, authority and responsibilities of the committee and subcommittee, see Corporate Governance The Board of Directors and Its Committees Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee and Subcommittee. Unless the context requires otherwise, in this Compensation Discussion and Analysis when we refer to the committee, we are also referring to the subcommittee with respect to performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), and when we refer to named executive officers, we are referring to the named executive officers whose compensation is shown in this proxy statement under Summary Compensation Table.

**Executive Summary**

Our compensation policies are based on the belief that executive and stockholder financial interests should be aligned as closely as possible, and compensation should be designed such that company performance drives the level of pay that our named executive officers and all management employees receive.

***Company Performance in 2015***

The committee believes that 2015 compensation for our named executive officers was appropriate in light of our strong financial performance for 2015, as well as over the 2013 through 2015 performance period for our long-term performance units. Specifically, we achieved:

Our revenue growth of 5% in 2015 (excluding currency), which outpaced industry production;

Our highest-ever Earnings Before Interest and Taxes ( EBIT );

Our sixth consecutive year of improved EBIT margin (adjusted EBIT as a percent of value-add revenue); and

A \$176 million improvement in cash from operations over 2014.

***Executive Compensation Paid for 2015***

Key elements of our 2015 executive compensation program included:

Increases in base salaries that ranged between 2.1% and 7.8% over 2014 levels and consistent with market movement and, in the case of one executive, reflecting a promotion;

As discussed in detail below, annual cash incentives declared at the 97.5% of target level, based 75% on our EVA improvement during 2015 and 25% on the committee's judgment regarding our company's overall performance in 2015; and

As discussed in detail below, long-term performance units for the 2013 through 2015 performance period paying out at the 82.5% of target level, based on our total stockholder return (stock price appreciation adjusted for any dividends) (TSR) during the performance period relative to the TSR of the companies in the S&P 500 and Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) and free cash flow during the performance period.

**Table of Contents**

For 2015, the mix of the key elements of compensation awarded to our named executive officers was as follows (excluding compensation of the type that would fall under "All Other Compensation" in our Summary Compensation Table and excluding a retention award made to Mr. Orta in 2015 and Mr. Kessler's 2015 signing bonus and related awards):

	<b>Base Salary</b>	<b>Annual Cash Incentive Award (at target)</b>	<b>LTPU Award for 2015-2017 (at target)</b>	<b>Fair Value of Restricted Stock Granted</b>
Mr. Sherrill	13.6%	16.9%	33.3%	36.2%
Mr. Trammell	21.7%	18.4%	28.7%	31.2%
Mr. Kessler	17.6%	17.6%	31.0%	33.8%
Mr. Orta	29.0%	23.2%	22.9%	24.9%
Mr. Fornos	22.0%	18.7%	28.4%	30.9%

As the table and charts show, at the targeted level, our incentive compensation awards during 2015 represented approximately 86% of the total compensation awarded to our Chief Executive Officer in 2015 and an average of approximately 77% of the total compensation awarded to our other named executive officers in 2015.

**Results of Say-on-Pay Vote**

Our stockholders hold an annual advisory vote on executive compensation (the "say-on-pay proposal"). At our annual meeting held in May 2015, over 95% of the votes cast on our say-on-pay proposal were voted in favor of the proposal. The committee believes this affirms stockholders' support of our approach to executive compensation for 2015. The committee will continue to consider the outcome of the annual say-on-pay proposal when making future compensation decisions for our executives.

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**Table of Contents**
**Highlights of our Executive Compensation Practices**
*What we do*

- ü **Pay for Performance** We tie pay to performance, with incentive compensation representing approximately 86% of the total compensation awarded to our Chief Executive Officer in 2015.
- ü **Benchmarking** Our policy is to provide salary, annual cash incentive compensation and long-term incentive compensation that is competitive with the market and comparable companies when performance targets are met and is generally targeted to be in the range of the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of compensation for target performance.
- ü **Tally Sheets** The committee uses tally sheets to review the total amount of compensation and benefits provided to the named executive officers annually as well as over a period of years.
- ü **Robust Stock Ownership Requirements** We maintain stock ownership guidelines that apply to all of our directors and senior officers.
- ü **Clawbacks** We have a clawback policy that requires reimbursement of incentive compensation in specified circumstances. We will review our clawback policy as final rulemaking is adopted regarding clawbacks under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.
- ü **Independent Compensation Consulting Firm** The committee engages an independent compensation consulting firm. The committee most recently re-assessed the firm's independence in October 2015 and found the firm to be independent based on the criteria set forth in the NYSE rules regarding compensation consultant independence.
- ü **Advisory Say-on-Pay Vote** Our stockholders hold an annual advisory vote on executive compensation (the say-on-pay proposal). At our annual meeting held in May 2015, over 95% of the votes cast on our say-on-pay proposal were voted in favor of the proposal. The committee believes this affirms stockholders' support of our approach to executive compensation for 2015.

*What we don't do*

- × **Anti-Hedging Policy and Insider Trading Policy** Directors, executive officers and other employees are prohibited from engaging in insider trading, trading in our securities on a short-term basis, purchasing our securities on margin, short-selling our securities or entering into transactions designed to hedge the risks and benefits of ownership of our securities.
- × **Anti-Pledging Policy** Our directors and executive officers are prohibited from pledging our securities as collateral.





## **Table of Contents**

### **Compensation Objectives**

Our compensation policies are based on the belief that executive and stockholder financial interests should be aligned as closely as possible, and compensation should be designed such that company performance drives the level of pay that our named executive officers and all management employees receive. Our executive compensation program has been structured to:

Reinforce a results-oriented management culture with executive pay that varies according to company performance;

Focus executives on annual and long-term business results with the overarching goal of enhancing stockholder value;

Align the interests of our executives and stockholders through equity-based compensation awards; and

Provide executive compensation packages that attract, retain and motivate executives of the highest qualifications, experience and ability.

Based on the guiding principle of aligning executive compensation with the financial interests of our stockholders, our executive compensation program provides competitive levels of compensation derived from several sources: salaries; annual cash incentive awards; stock ownership opportunities through restricted stock awards; and cash-settled long-term performance units.

We also offer other benefits typically offered to executives by major U.S. corporations, including defined benefit retirement plans (under which future benefit accruals were substantially eliminated for senior management in 2006 as described below), defined contribution retirement plans, limited perquisites (substantially all of which were eliminated for U.S. named executive officers in 2013), employment agreements (in limited cases), severance and change in control benefits and health and welfare benefits.

### **Compensation Process**

In determining competitive compensation, the committee engages Meridian Compensation Partners LLC ( Meridian ), a nationally recognized compensation consulting firm that, in order to maintain its independence, reports directly to the committee. For our Chief Executive Officer, Meridian generally provides market data regarding salary, annual cash incentive award targets, and equity-based and other long-term incentive compensation awards directly to the committee as it makes decisions with respect to compensation. For the other named executive officers, our Chief Executive Officer formulates the initial recommendations regarding salary, annual cash incentive award targets and equity-based and other long-term incentive compensation awards. The committee reviews these recommendations in light of market data prepared by Meridian. For other forms of compensation and benefits, management generally makes initial recommendations that are considered by the committee.

Our general policy is to provide salary, annual cash incentive payments and equity-based and other long-term incentive compensation to named executive officers that is competitive with the market and comparable companies when financial and qualitative performance targets are met (i.e., in the range of the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile compensation for

target performance). In making its determinations regarding these elements of compensation, the committee regularly reviews data regarding compensation practices at other companies that it determines to be relevant to compensation matters affecting our company.

**Table of Contents**

The benchmarking information we use in establishing salary, annual cash incentive payments and equity-based and other long-term incentive compensation typically includes the most recently available data regarding publicly traded companies comparable to our company in terms of industry, proximity and/or other factors. For 2015 compensation determinations, specific data was reviewed regarding a comparison group consisting of the following of twenty companies:

***2015 Compensation Peer Group***

American Axle & Mfg. Holdings, Inc.	Johnson Controls, Inc.
Autoliv Inc.	Lear Corporation
BorgWarner Inc.	Lennox International Inc.
Cooper Tire & Rubber Company	Meritor, Inc.
Cummins, Inc.	Terex Corp.
Dana Holding Corporation	The Timken Company
Eastman Chemical Company	Tower International Inc.
Eaton Corp.	TRW Automotive Holdings Corp.
Federal Mogul Corp.	Visteon Corp.
Harley Davidson Inc.	Whirlpool Corporation

In July 2015, the committee undertook a comprehensive review of our compensation comparison group and made changes to the group for 2016 and beyond. Specifically, the committee replaced four companies in the group with companies that the committee believes are more comparable to our company in terms of market capitalization and other business characteristics. Federal-Mogul, Johnson Controls, Tower International and TRW Automotive were replaced by Delphi Automotive, Goodyear Tire & Rubber, Illinois Tool Works and Oshkosh Corporation.

***2016 Compensation Peer Group***

American Axle & Mfg. Holdings, Inc.	Harley Davidson Inc.
Autoliv Inc.	Illinois Tool Works Inc.
BorgWarner Inc.	Lear Corporation
Cooper Tire & Rubber Company	Lennox International Inc.
Cummins, Inc.	Meritor, Inc.
Dana Holding Corporation	Oshkosh Corporation
Delphi Automotive PLC	Terex Corp.
Eastman Chemical Company	The Timken Company
Eaton Corp.	Visteon Corp.
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company	Whirlpool Corporation

In addition, the committee reviewed aggregate data regarding a broader group of durable goods manufacturers (that were not specifically identified to the committee). This data was prepared by Meridian and compared targeted and actual compensation paid by these companies to their executive officers in specified positions to the compensation we pay to named executive officers in the same or similar positions.

In addition to looking at the competitiveness of the elements of pay, the committee uses tally sheets to review the total amount of compensation and benefits provided to the named executive officers annually as well as over a period of years. The tally sheets also help the committee consider pay decisions in the context of an executive's total

compensation.

Each year, our Chief Executive Officer reviews with and recommends to the committee the annual salary, incentive plan target and equity-based and other long-term compensation for each of our

## **Table of Contents**

named executive officers and other key management personnel (excluding the Chief Executive Officer). The committee reviews those recommendations and makes a final determination with respect to such compensation. In general, the compensation that is developed for each of these named executive officers is based on competitive market data and on the Chief Executive Officer's recommendations regarding the executive's overall contributions, past performance and anticipated future contributions. The committee also reviews separately and sets the salary, incentive plan target and equity-based and other long-term compensation of the Chief Executive Officer based on competitive market data as well as the committee's assessment of the Chief Executive Officer's past performance and anticipated future contributions.

## **Design and Elements of Compensation**

Our compensation program generally provides that, as an employee's level of responsibility increases, a greater portion of his or her potential total compensation is based on company performance and varies in accordance with the market price of our common stock. This results in greater potential variability in the individual's total compensation from year-to-year. In designing and administering the components of the executive compensation program, the committee strives to balance short- and long-term incentive objectives and to employ prudent judgment when establishing performance criteria, evaluating performance and determining actual incentive payments.

In general, we use the benchmarking data described above to allocate between annual compensation and long-term compensation (excluding retirement benefits) and between cash compensation and equity compensation. We believe it is customary to have annual and long-term performance awards payable in cash, as well as awards that result in the issuance of shares. The following is a description of each element of our executive compensation program, along with a discussion of the decisions of, and actions taken by, the committee with respect to each such aspect of compensation for 2015.

## ***Salary and Annual Cash Incentive Compensation***

An executive's basic annual cash compensation package consists primarily of a base salary and the opportunity to earn payments under the Tenneco Value Added Incentive Compensation Plan (the "TAVA Plan"). Some of our executive officers participate in a separate executive bonus plan that is designed to meet the requirements of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, but under which payout determinations are made consistent with the payout determinations under the TAVA Plan (subject to maximum limitations established for Section 162(m) purposes). References in this proxy statement to the TAVA Plan also cover this separate plan. The TAVA Plan provides for annual incentive payments based on objective and subjective determinations regarding company performance. These elements of compensation are customary within our industry.

The 2015 salary levels established for our named executive officers were designed to be, in general, in the 50th percentile range when compared to the salaries set by the companies in the compensation surveys reviewed as set forth above. For 2015, salary increases were 3.7% for Mr. Sherrill, 4.3% for Mr. Trammell, 7.8% for Mr. Orta (reflecting an annual increase and a promotion) and 2.1% for Mr. Fornos over 2014 levels and consistent with market movement.

**Table of Contents**

Mr. Kessler joined our company in January 2015. The following table shows the base salary and 2015 annual TAVA Plan bonus target for each named executive officer for 2015:

<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>2015 Salary</b>	<b>2015 Annual Cash Incentive Target as % of Salary</b>
Gregg M. Sherrill	\$ 1,120,500	125%
Kenneth R. Trammell	\$ 605,000	85%
Brian J. Kessler	\$ 850,000	100% <sup>(1)</sup>
Enrique Orta	\$ 475,000	80%
Josep Fornos	\$ 504,162 <sup>(2)</sup>	85%

(1) Excludes \$1,000,000 signing bonus paid to Mr. Kessler.

(2) Converted from Euros at the rate of \$1.1032 per Euro.

The TAVA Plan target payment levels established for our named executive officers for 2015 were also designed to be, in general, in the 50th percentile range when compared to target levels for similar payments set by the companies in the compensation surveys reviewed as described above. Like executives at peer companies, our named executive officers had the potential to earn payouts above or below the target under the TAVA Plan based on our actual company performance. We use EVA improvement as the performance metric for the TAVA Plan because we believe that strong EVA improvement performance is correlated with stockholder returns and that making business and investment decisions based on EVA balances cash-oriented and earnings-oriented results. EVA<sup>®</sup> is defined as net operating profit after taxes minus the annual cost of capital and is a registered trademark of Stern Value Management.

Under the TAVA Plan, each year our management develops EVA improvement goals and recommends them to the committee. The committee reviews those EVA improvement goals, other information provided by management and performance data provided by Meridian and adopts the goals the committee determines appropriate. At the conclusion of each year, the committee approves incentive award payments to named executive officers based on the degree of achievement of the goals established for that year and on judgments of performance. We base 75% of an individual's award on a formula tied to our corporate achievement of pre-established EVA improvement objectives. The terms of the TAVA Plan allow the committee to reduce this portion of the award based on factors that the committee considers relevant. The other 25% of an individual's award is based on the committee's discretionary determination of our company performance and other relevant factors. Each participant's payout under the TAVA Plan is capped at two times his or her target, except as the committee otherwise determines.

For 2015, maintaining EVA for 2015 at the same level as EVA for 2014, including the effects of currency (which had a significant negative impact on our results in 2015), would have resulted in a named executive officer being eligible to receive an EVA-based bonus equal to 100% of the target bonus amount. For 2015, an EVA improvement of \$35 million over EVA for 2014, including the effects of currency, would have resulted in a named executive officer being eligible to receive an EVA-based bonus equal to 200% of the target bonus amount. Our EVA performance for 2015 was slightly lower than target, including the effects of currency, which was the level of performance required for this portion of the TAVA bonus to be paid at 97.5% of the target level.



**Table of Contents**

In determining the actual payout under the TAVA Plan for 2015, the committee also considered various other factors, including the following:

- Revenue increase of 5% over 2014 (excluding currency), outpacing industry production;
- Our highest-ever EBIT of \$519 million in 2015;
- Our sixth consecutive year of improved EBIT margin (adjusted EBIT as a percent of value-add revenue); and
- Our strong working capital management which helped result in a \$176 million improvement in cash flow from operations over 2014.

Weighing all of these factors, the committee declared the EVA-based portion of the bonus at 97.5% of target and also determined that the 25% portion of each executive's TAVA Plan award would be declared at 97.5% of the target level.

The following table illustrates the target, maximum and actual TAVA Plan payments for our named executive officers for 2015:

	Annual TAVA Bonus Plan 2015 Target and Maximum				Annual TAVA Bonus Plan 2015 Payouts		
	75% (EVA Based)		25% Discretionary		75% EVA	Discretionary	Total
	Target	Maximum	Target	Maximum			
Mr. Sherrill	\$ 1,050,469	\$ 2,100,937	\$ 350,156	\$ 700,313	\$ 1,024,207	\$ 341,402	\$ 1,365,609
Mr. Trammell	\$ 385,687	\$ 771,375	\$ 128,563	\$ 257,125	\$ 376,045	\$ 125,348	\$ 501,393
Mr. Kessler	\$ 637,500	\$ 1,275,000	\$ 212,500	\$ 425,000	\$ 621,563	\$ 207,188	\$ 828,751
Mr. Orta	\$ 285,000	\$ 570,000	\$ 95,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 277,875	\$ 92,625	\$ 370,500
Mr. Fornos	\$ 321,403	\$ 642,807	\$ 107,135	\$ 214,269	\$ 313,368	\$ 104,456	\$ 417,824

***Long-Term and Stock-Based Incentives***

Our long-term and stock-based incentive plans have been designed to align a significant portion of executive compensation with stockholder interests. The current plan—the 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan—permits a variety of awards including stock options, restricted stock, stock equivalent units and performance units. These awards are based on an analysis of competitive levels of similar awards.

In October 2014, the committee approved a change to reflect market prevalence among the company's peer group, as reported by Meridian, to adopt the use of two, rather than three, vehicles to deliver long-term incentive compensation for 2015.

The company's long-term and stock-based compensation program is comprised of:



- awards of restricted stock which generally vest in 1/3 increments over three years (subject to acceleration of a portion of the shares to the date of grant as necessary to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to executives who are taxed upon the granting of restricted stock), and
- cash-settled long-term performance units ( LTPUs ) which are generally earned over a three-year performance period and paid after the end of the performance period.

Each year, typically at its meeting in February, the committee reviews and approves LTPU award amounts earned for the most recent performance period, and determines the size and distribution of long-term and stock-based grants for our named executive officers for the new year.

**Table of Contents**

Historically, the amount of these awards has been designed to target value for our named executive officers in the range of the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile when compared to the value of similar awards granted by peer companies to their executives, based on the committee's assumptions regarding future company performance and other factors. The value actually realized from these awards could be above or below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile based on our actual company performance.

LTPUs are denominated in dollar targets ( Target Value ) and are payable 50% based on our total stockholder return (stock price appreciation adjusted for any dividends) ( TSR ) relative to the TSR of the companies in the S&P 500, 30% based on our EBITDA (as described below) and 20% based on our FCF (as described below) during the performance period. The performance is applied against a multiplier that determines the percentage of the dollar target that is earned based on that level of performance. The committee determined to include EBITDA and FCF as part of our LTPU program so that our program would incorporate multiple metrics that are key to our delivering sustainable performance. The LTPUs are payable at the end of a three-year performance period. The LTPUs granted in 2013 were paid in early 2016 based on our 2013 through 2015 performance, as described below. The LTPUs granted in 2014 will be payable in early 2017 based on our 2014 through 2016 performance. The LTPUs granted in 2015 will be payable in early 2018 based on our 2015 through 2017 performance.

For these purposes:

EBITDA is our earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization and non-controlling interests, adjusted for (a) asset write-downs, (b) litigation or claim judgments or settlements, (c) the effect of changes in tax laws, accounting principles, or other laws or provisions affecting reported results, (d) accruals for reorganization and restructuring programs, (e) extraordinary nonrecurring items as described in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 30 and/or in management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations appearing in the company's annual report to stockholders for the applicable year, and (f) acquisitions or divestitures; and

FCF is our operating cash flow less cash interest payments, net cash tax payments and distributions to non-controlling interest partners, excluding the impact of acquisitions and divestitures.

For the LTPUs granted in 2013, 2014 and 2015, a named executive officer earns a percentage of the LTPUs Target Value based on performance as set forth below.

**For Relative TSR Performance 50% of Total Target Value ( TSR Target Value )**

<b>Company TSR Percentile Ranking</b>	<b>Percent of TSR Target Value</b>
<sup>3</sup> 75th	200% (maximum)
50th	100% (target)
40th	50% (threshold)
< 40th	0%

**Table of Contents****For Cumulative EBITDA Performance 30% of Total Target Value ( EBITDA Target Value )**

Cumulative EBITDA as % of Target	Percent of EBITDA Target Value
120%	200% (maximum)
100%	100% (target)
80%	50% (threshold)
< 80%	0%

**For Cumulative FCF Performance 20% of Total Target Value ( FCF Target Value )**

Cumulative FCF as % of Target	Percent of FCF Target Value
120%	200% (maximum)
100%	100% (target)
80%	50% (threshold)
< 80%	0%

Payouts are prorated for performance between the levels presented above.

For the LTPUs granted in 2013, the committee's target levels of performance for the 2013 through 2015 period and our actual level of performance were as follows:

Performance Measure	Percentage of		Actual Performance		
	Total Target Value	Target Performance	Actual Performance	as Percentage of Target Performance	Payout (Percentage of Target)
TSR v. TSR of			44th Percentile (1)		
S&P 500	50%	50th Percentile	(43.9% TSR)	N/A	69.0%
Cumulative EBITDA	30%	\$2.342 billion	\$2.303 billion	98.3%	95.8%
Cumulative FCF	20%	\$457 million	\$450 million	98.5%	96.2%

(1) Based on a 20-day average stock price at the end of 2012 and 2015.

Based on this performance, the scheduled cash payment under these LTPUs was made in early 2016, with award holders receiving payouts equal to approximately 82.5% of the target amount of the applicable award.

In 2015, we made certain grants of restricted stock and LTPUs that were outside of our normal process of targeting in the range of the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. In connection with certain organizational changes and his anticipated promotion to Senior Vice President, Ride Performance, the committee determined to award Mr. Orta a retention grant of 17,787 shares of restricted stock. This stock vests on the fourth anniversary of the grant date (subject to acceleration of a

portion of the shares to the date of grant as necessary to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to Mr. Orta, who is taxed upon the granting of restricted stock). In addition, in connection with the hiring of Mr. Kessler as our Chief Operating Officer, the committee determined to award him a grant of 83,474 shares of restricted stock and LTPUs for the 2013-2015 and 2014-2016 performance periods with a targeted value of \$1,200,000 for each LTPU award. These awards were designed to replace benefits Mr. Kessler forfeited by leaving his prior company to join our company, which the committee believes is customary and appropriate for an executive such as Mr. Kessler. The stock vests 50% on the second and 50% on the fourth anniversary of the grant date.

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**Table of Contents**

***Employment Agreements and Arrangements***

In January 2007, Mr. Sherrill joined us as our Chief Executive Officer. We entered into an employment agreement with him that is described beginning on page 44.

In January 2015, Mr. Kessler joined us as Chief Operating Officer. His offer letter is described beginning on page 45.

Mr. Fornos is employed by our European operations and resides in Europe, where employment agreements are commonplace. As such, he has an employment agreement that is customary for a European employee. Likewise, Mr. Orta is a European employee whose current position is based in the United States and he has an offer letter customary for a European executive on U.S. assignment and a Spanish employment agreement that would be applicable if he returns to his European assignment.

***Retirement Plans***

We offer to our U.S.-based salaried employees, including our U.S.-based named executive officers, a customary, tax-qualified defined contribution retirement (401(k)) plan. For 2015, we provided a company match on employee contributions of 100% on the first three percent of an employee's pay and 50% on the next two percent of an employee's pay, which we believe to be in line with prevailing practices for major U.S. corporations. In addition to this matching contribution, we also provide a company contribution equal to 2% of salary for persons hired on or after April 1, 2005. We established this company contribution when we closed our defined benefit retirement plans to new participants in 2005.

For those U.S.-based executives hired before April 1, 2005, we offered defined benefit retirement plans that we believed were customary for the automotive industry and were consistent with similar plans maintained by the consolidated Tenneco Inc. prior to our becoming a stand-alone public company in 1999. These plans included:

a customary tax-qualified retirement plan that was generally available to all U.S.-based salaried employees (see Post-Employment Compensation ); and

a supplemental executive retirement plan, which we call the SERP (see Post-Employment Compensation Tenneco Supplemental Retirement Plan ).

Effective December 31, 2006, we froze our defined benefit retirement plans for certain employees and replaced them with additional benefits under defined contribution retirement plans. Prior earned benefits under the defined benefit retirement plans were, however, preserved.

To address the loss of future benefits associated with the freeze, we amended our qualified defined contribution retirement plans, effective January 1, 2007, to provide for additional annual company contributions in amounts that increase with the employee's age. These additional contributions, which we refer to as Company Retirement Contributions, are payable for each employee who ceased to accrue benefits or whose benefits were otherwise modified under any defined benefit retirement plan in connection with the freeze. Company Retirement Contributions are also provided to employees hired after the freeze in an amount equal to 2% of compensation. In addition, effective January 1, 2007, we implemented an unfunded non-qualified defined contribution retirement plan. Our named executive officers and other senior managers are eligible to participate in this plan, with allocations under the plan generally calculated in the same manner as under the applicable existing defined contribution retirement plan, except

that (i) Company Retirement Contributions under the plan are made based on compensation that includes bonus compensation payable in accordance with the TAVA Plan formula and (ii) contributions under this

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**Table of Contents**

plan are based on compensation in excess of the Section 401(a)(17) limitations of the Internal Revenue Code.

Under the terms of his employment agreement, our Chief Executive Officer is entitled to an age-graded benefit based on his total compensation (including bonus compensation) in excess of the limitations under Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code and a multiple of 1.5. In addition, in December 2007, the committee granted our Chief Financial Officer an enhanced benefit equal to an age-graded benefit based on his total compensation (including bonus compensation) in excess of the limitations under Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code and a multiple of 2.0. The committee granted these enhanced benefits based on competitive data provided by our compensation consultant. Under the terms of his offer, Mr. Kessler receives a contribution under this plan of 3% of compensation.

Each of Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta participates in our defined contribution retirement plan for senior management based in Spain pursuant to which we make an annual contribution in the amount of 8% of his base salary. Mr. Orta participates in a defined benefit pension plan applicable to certain of our employees in Spain. Under the plan, Mr. Orta is eligible for a defined benefit after retirement based on his base salary frozen at the level of June 30, 2010 (Euro 207,580). Under this plan, at normal retirement age, a participating employee will receive a pension equal to up to 70% of his base salary less the Spanish social security component, depending on the number of years of service as computed under the plan (with an employee achieving maximum benefits at 35 years of service).

***Perquisites***

As is customary for European senior managers, Mr. Fornos receives a housing allowance, company car and tax equalization payments pursuant to his employment agreement. As is customary for a European executive on assignment in the United States, Mr. Orta receives a housing allowance, car allowance, home travel benefits, relocation assistance, tax equalization payments and reimbursement of tuition for his children. The other named executive officers do not receive perquisites or a perquisite allowance.

***Severance Benefits***

We have agreed to pay each of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer two times his then current salary if we terminate his employment other than for disability, cause or in connection with a change in control. We view these benefits as customary and a key element of the recruiting and retention of executives in light of company and industry specific factors.

Under the terms of his employment agreement, Mr. Fornos is entitled to two years of salary and bonus continuation if he is terminated by us other than for serious negligence or serious misconduct, which we believe is customary in the European marketplace. Under applicable law, Mr. Orta receives two years of salary and bonus continuation if he is terminated by us without cause.

Otherwise, we maintain a Severance Benefit Plan that applies to all salaried, full-time employees with at least one month of service who are terminated by us in connection with a reduction in force or similar layoff. The benefits payable under this plan are described under **Other Potential Post-Employment Compensation Severance Benefits**. This plan was originally adopted in the 1990s based on prevailing practices at other major U.S. corporations. We most recently amended the plan in August 2015 to reflect prevailing practices.

## **Table of Contents**

### ***Change in Control***

We maintain a Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives to enable us to retain and motivate highly qualified employees by eliminating, to the maximum practicable extent, any concern that their job security or benefit entitlements will be jeopardized by a change in control of our company.

Our plan applies to our top ten executive officers and generally provides for cash benefits consisting primarily of a multiple (two or three times) of an executive officer's annual salary and annual targeted cash incentive if the executive officer is actually terminated (other than for cause, death or disability) or constructively terminated within two years following a change of control. See Other Potential Post-Employment Compensation Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives. Our current Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives was adopted in 2007. Each of Mr. Sherrill's and Mr. Kessler's cash payment in connection with a change in control termination will equal three times the total of his then current base salary plus his target bonus.

In addition, the terms of our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended (and our prior plans), provide for awards to vest upon a change of control, unless the committee otherwise provides in any award agreement.

### ***Equity Award Policy***

Our Board of Directors has adopted a formal policy regarding compensatory awards in the form of our common stock or any common stock derivative, such as restricted stock, options, stock appreciation rights and stock equivalent units. Under the policy, in general, equity awards must be approved by the committee or the Board of Directors. Typically, the committee will make annual awards that it determines to be appropriate at its meeting held in February. The committee also has the authority to make interim awards in its discretion. The strike price of any option or stock appreciation right must be the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of grant as determined under the 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan (which is the average of the highest and lowest sales price of a share of our common stock on the date of grant).

Our policy also permits a committee of management to make awards in certain cases. The management committee consists of our Chief Executive Officer, General Counsel and our most senior human resources executive. The management committee has the authority to make equity awards to (i) newly hired employees and (ii) employees who are promoted during the course of a year. The awards can be made only in amounts necessary to provide the employee with awards consistent with the amount of awards most recently made to employees of the same salary grade level, pro-rated based on when the employee was hired or promoted. The total number of shares that the management committee can issue under this policy is 100,000. The management committee is not authorized to make awards to new or promoted employees whom we would typically consider to be at the most senior management or executive officer level.

### ***Stock Ownership Guidelines***

We maintain stock ownership guidelines that apply to all of our directors and our senior officers. We believe our guidelines further align management's and stockholders' interests and we based the guidelines on practices at comparable companies. Based upon the committee's review, in July 2013, the guideline for the non-management members of our Board of Directors was



## **Table of Contents**

increased to 5x annual retainer fee, and, in October 2013, the guideline for the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer was increased to 6x annual base salary. The individual guidelines are:

6 x annual base salary for the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer;

4 x annual base salary for the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer;

5 x annual retainer fee for the Non-Management Members of our Board of Directors;

3 x annual base salary for the Executive Vice Presidents and Senior Vice Presidents; and

1 x annual base salary for Vice Presidents.

The committee may, from time to time, temporarily suspend or reevaluate and revise participants' guidelines to give effect to changes in our common stock price or other factors the committee deems relevant. Shares that count towards satisfaction of the guidelines include: (i) shares owned outright by the participant or an immediate family member that shares the same household; (ii) shares held in our defined contribution plans; (iii) restricted stock issued by us, whether or not vested; and (iv) shares or share equivalent units underlying deferred fees paid to directors.

Participants are required to achieve their guideline within five years of becoming subject to the guidelines. The committee has the authority to review each participant's compliance (or progress towards compliance) with the guidelines from time to time. In its discretion, the committee may impose conditions, restrictions or limitations on any non-compliant participant as the committee determines to be necessary or appropriate.

All of our non-management directors and executive officers, including the named executive officers, are in compliance with the guidelines either through maintaining the requisite level of ownership or being within the ramp up period to achieve the requisite level of ownership under the policy.

## **Anti-Hedging Policy and Trading Restrictions**

Our insider trading policy limits the timing and types of transactions in our securities by our directors, executive officers and certain other employees. These persons are permitted to trade in our securities only during window periods (following earnings releases) and, in some cases, only after they have pre-cleared transactions with our General Counsel. In addition, the policy provides that none of our directors, executive officers or other employees may engage in the following transactions:

trading in Tenneco stock on a short-term basis;

trading in Tenneco stock on margin;

short-selling Tenneco stock; and

entering into transactions designed to hedge the risks and benefits of ownership of Tenneco securities, including the purchase and/or sale of derivatives, as well as any other transaction that is designed to hedge or offset, or that has the effect of hedging or offsetting, any change in the value of Tenneco securities.

**Anti-Pledging Policy**

We have adopted a policy under which our directors and executive officers are prohibited from pledging our securities as collateral for a loan.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Clawback Policy**

We have a policy whereby we will, in all appropriate circumstances, require reimbursement of any annual incentive payment or long-term incentive payment to an executive officer where: (1) the payment was predicated upon achieving certain financial results that were subsequently the subject of a substantial restatement of our financial statements filed with the SEC; (2) our Board determines the executive engaged in intentional misconduct that caused or substantially caused the need for the substantial restatement; and (3) a lower payment would have been made to the executive based upon the restated financial results. In each such instance, we will, to the extent practicable, seek to recover from the individual executive the amount by which the individual executive's incentive payments for the relevant period exceeded the lower payment that would have been made based on the restated financial results. The committee will review its clawback policy as final rulemaking is adopted regarding clawbacks under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

### **Impact of Regulatory Requirements on Compensation**

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code imposes a \$1 million limit on the amount that a publicly-traded corporation may deduct for compensation paid to the Chief Executive Officer or one of the company's other three most highly compensated executives who is employed on the last day of the year. Non-discretionary performance-based compensation, as defined under Internal Revenue Service rules and regulations, is excluded from this \$1 million limitation.

Our compensation programs are structured to support organizational goals and priorities and stockholder interests. The committee has not in the past had, and does not currently have, a policy requiring all compensation to be deductible under Section 162(m).

In January 2014, the committee determined that it was in the company's best interests to adopt a new annual cash incentive compensation plan that is designed to meet the requirements for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m). Accordingly, we adopted an Executive Bonus Plan under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

Our restricted stock granted before 2015 is not considered performance-based compensation under Section 162(m). The subcommittee's grants of LTPUs and stock option awards and, beginning in 2015, restricted stock are generally designed to incorporate the applicable requirements for performance-based compensation under IRS rules and regulations.

In general, we seek to preserve the tax deductibility of executive compensation only to the extent practicable and consistent with our overall compensation philosophies. We do not make compensation determinations based on the accounting treatment of any particular type of award.

Table of Contents**Summary Compensation Table**

The following table shows the compensation that we paid to: (1) our Chief Executive Officer; (2) our Chief Financial Officer; and (3) each of our next three most highly compensated executive officers who were serving at the end of 2015 based on total compensation less the increase in actuarial value of defined benefits and any above market or preferential earnings on non tax-qualified deferred compensation. We refer to these individuals collectively as the named executive officers. The table shows amounts paid to the named executive officers for all services provided to our company and its subsidiaries for 2013, 2014 and 2015 (except in the case of Messrs. Kessler and Orta, for whom information is presented only for 2015, as they were not named executive officers in 2013 or 2014).

**Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus(1) (\$)	Stock Awards(2) (\$)	Option Awards(2) (\$)	Non-Equity	Change in	All	Total (\$)
						Incentive Plan Compensation(3) (\$)	Pension Value(4) (\$)	Other Compensation(5) (\$)	
Gregg M. Sherrill <i>Chairman and CEO</i>	2015	1,120,500	341,402	2,992,854		2,806,207		432,944	7,693,907
	2014	1,081,000	503,678	1,637,980	1,317,708	3,486,111		349,819	8,376,296
	2013	1,043,130	342,603	1,679,755	1,583,827	1,425,269		161,856	6,236,440
Kenneth R. Trammell <i>Executive Vice President and CFO</i>	2015	605,000	125,348	870,706		904,045	17,568	187,442	2,710,109
	2014	580,000	183,766	485,321	390,470	1,006,424	155,519	112,952	2,914,452
	2013	559,676	124,997	497,645	469,256	479,710	(129,475)	123,009	2,124,818
Brian J. Kessler <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	2015	850,000	1,207,188	5,791,187		1,611,563		117,738	9,577,676
Enrique Orta <i>Senior Vice President,</i>	2015	475,000	92,625	1,294,234		439,577	(121)	329,624	2,630,939

*Ride**Performance*

Josep Fornos

(6)	2015	504,162	104,456	707,438		725,868	98,152	2,140,076
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*Executive*

<i>Vice</i>	2014	583,026	150,466	333,669	268,384	890,346	108,570	2,334,461
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<i>President,</i>	2013	568,618	119,524	311,042	293,315	437,915	114,199	1,844,613
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*Enterprise**Business**Initiatives*

- (1) The amounts under the column entitled *Bonus* in the table above are comprised of the portion of the named executive officer's bonus under our TAVA Plan that is not tied to EVA performance. See *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Design and Elements of Compensation Salary and Annual Cash Incentive Compensation*. Includes \$1,000,000 signing bonus for Mr. Kessler.
- (2) The stock award totals for a year reflect the grant date fair value of all restricted stock awarded during such year. See note 8 of our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2013 for a description of how the 2013 data was computed; note 8 of our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 for a description of how the 2014 data was computed; and note 8 of our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a description of how the 2015 data was computed. Includes, in the case of Mr. Orta, a retention stock award and, in the case of Mr. Kessler, an equity replacement award made in connection with his hiring. See *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Design and Elements of Compensation Long-Term and Stock-Based Incentives*.
- (3) The amounts under the column entitled *Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation* in the table above are comprised of (a) the portion of the named executive officer's payment under our TAVA Plan that is linked to EVA performance and (b) the named executive officer's long-term performance unit payment for the 2011 through 2013 performance

**Table of Contents**

period, the 2012 through 2014 performance period and the 2013 through 2015 performance period, respectively. See Compensation Discussion and Analysis Design and Elements of Compensation Salary and Annual Cash Incentive Compensation. The amounts for 2015 are set forth below:

Name	Non-Discretionary	
	TAVA Payout	LTPU Payout
Mr. Sherrill	\$ 1,024,207	\$ 1,782,000
Mr. Trammell	\$ 376,045	\$ 528,000
Mr. Kessler	\$ 621,563	\$ 990,000
Mr. Orta	\$ 277,875	\$ 161,702
Mr. Fornos	\$ 313,368	\$ 412,500

- (4) As described below under Post-Employment Compensation, we traditionally maintained defined benefit and supplemental pension plans for our U.S. senior management (although future benefit accruals were frozen for most employees as of December 31, 2006 as described below under Post-Employment Compensation 2006 Changes in Defined Benefits ). Messrs. Sherrill and Fornos do not participate in any defined benefit plan sponsored by us.
- (5) The amounts under the column entitled All Other Compensation in the table above for 2015 are comprised of the following:

Name	Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits(a)	Life Insurance		Registrant Contributions to Defined Contribution Plans(c)
		Premiums	Other(b)	
Mr. Sherrill		\$ 4,075		\$ 428,869
Mr. Trammell		\$ 2,201		\$ 185,241
Mr. Kessler		\$ 3,091	\$ 68,787	\$ 45,860
Mr. Orta	\$ 237,702	\$ 4,808(d)	\$ 35,302	\$ 51,812
Mr. Fornos	\$ 37,314	\$ 20,505(d)		\$ 40,333

(a) Perquisites and other personal benefits for Mr. Fornos reflect his company car allowance and a housing allowance and for Mr. Orta reflect his company car allowance, a housing allowance, tax equalization payments and reimbursement of tuition for his children. The amount of the perquisite allowances and personal benefits reflected in the table equals actual cash expenditures made by our company.

(b) Represents relocation benefits.

- (c) For our U.S. named executive officers, we offer retirement benefits through a 401(k) savings plan. Under the plan, subject to limitations in the Internal Revenue Code, participants may elect to defer up to 75% of their salary through contributions to the plan, which are invested in selected mutual funds or used to buy our common stock. For 2015, we provided a company match on an employee's contribution of 100% on the first three percent of an employee's pay and 50% on the next two percent of an employee's pay. In addition, as described below under Post-Employment Compensation 2006 Changes in Defined Benefits, we implemented additional company contributions and a new excess defined contribution plan in connection with the December 31, 2006 freezing of our defined benefit plans. All matching contributions vest immediately. Additional company contributions vest upon the

**Table of Contents**

named executive officer's third anniversary with Tenneco. For Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta, we maintain a defined contribution retirement plan to which we make an annual contribution on behalf of Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta equal to 8% of their respective salaries. All contributions vest immediately.

(d) Represents the cost of one policy covering both life and disability.

- (6) Mr. Fornos is paid in Euros. Cash payments and contributions have been converted to U.S. Dollars based on an average exchange rate from Euro to U.S. Dollar of 1.1032/1 for 2015; 1.320/1 for 2014; and 1.330/1 for 2013.

**Grants of Plan-Based Awards During 2015**

The following table shows certain information regarding grants of plan-based awards we made to the named executive officers during 2015.

**Grants of Plan-Based Awards During 2015**

Name	Grant Date	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Estimated Future Payout Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards	All Other Stock Awards:	Grant Date
					Number of Shares of Stock or	Fair Value of Stock	
					Units(1)	Awards	
					(\$)	(\$)	
Mr. Sherrill	01/15/2015	(2)	1,050,469	2,100,937			
	01/15/2015	(3)	1,375,000	2,750,000			
	02/04/2015				53,838	2,992,854	
Mr. Trammell	01/15/2015	(2)	385,687	771,375			
	01/15/2015	(3)	400,000	800,000	1,600,000		
	02/04/2015				15,633	870,706	
Mr. Kessler	01/15/2015	(2)	750,000	637,500	1,275,000	83,474	4,158,675



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	01/15/2015	(3)	600,000	1,500,000	3,000,000	29,367	1,632,512
	01/15/2015	(3)(4)	600,000	1,200,000	2,400,000		
	01/15/2015	(3)(4)		1,200,000	2,400,000		
	01/15/2015	(5)					
	02/04/2015						
Mr. Orta	01/15/2015			285,000	570,000		
	01/15/2015			375,000	750,000		
	01/15/2015		187,500			17,787	886,148
	02/04/2015	(6)				7,341	408,086
Mr. Fornos	01/15/2015	(2)		321,403	642,807		
	01/15/2015	(3)	325,000	650,000	1,300,000		
	02/04/2015					12,726	707,438

- (1) Represents awards of restricted stock under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. One-third of the restricted stock vest on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date (subject to acceleration of a portion of the shares to the date of grant as necessary to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to executives who are taxed upon the granting of restricted stock).
- (2) Represents targeted and maximum incentive payouts that are paid based on our corporate performance against Economic Value Added (EVA®) goals under the TAVA Plan as described below under Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table Annual Bonus and Non-Equity

**Table of Contents**

Incentive Plan Awards. These amounts represent 75% of each named executive officer's total opportunity under the TAVA Plan related to EVA performance (the remaining 25% being discretionary). There is no threshold payout.

- (3) Represents threshold, targeted and maximum payouts that are paid based on our company performance against goals relating to relative total stockholder return, EBITDA and free cash flow under long-term performance units granted for the 2015-2017 performance period under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan as described below under Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table Annual Bonus and Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards.
- (4) Represents awards of long-term performance units for the 2013-2015 and 2014-2016 performance periods that were designed to replace certain benefits forfeited when Mr. Kessler left his prior position.
- (5) Award designed to replace certain equity forfeited when Mr. Kessler left his prior position and vests 50% on each of the second and fourth anniversaries of the grant date.
- (6) Reflects special retention grant which vests 100% on the fourth anniversary of the grant date.

**Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table**

**Annual Bonus and Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards**

Amounts reflected in the Summary Compensation Table for 2013 through 2015 under the column entitled Bonus and Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation are (a) payments under the Tenneco Value Added Incentive Plan (TAVA Plan) and (b) payments in respect of our long-term performance units for the 2011 through 2013 performance period, the 2012 through 2014 performance period and the 2013 through 2015 performance period.

The TAVA Plan was developed initially with Stern Value Management (then known as Stern Stewart & Co.), a firm with expertise in EVA<sup>®</sup> based incentive programs. Each year, the committee establishes an EVA improvement target under the TAVA Plan. At the conclusion of each year, the committee approves incentive award payments based on the degree of achievement of the goals established for that year and on judgments of performance. We base 75% of an individual's award on a formula tied to our corporate achievement of pre-established EVA objectives. We use EVA as the performance metric for the TAVA Plan because we believe that strong EVA performance is correlated with stockholder returns and that making business and investment decisions based on EVA balances cash-oriented and earnings-oriented results. However, the TAVA Plan also provides the committee the discretion to adjust this portion of the award based on other factors that the committee considers relevant. We base 25% of an individual's award on the committee's discretionary determination of our company performance and other relevant factors. In general, a participant is entitled to a pro rata bonus if his or her employment is terminated due to death, disability or retirement. Some of our executive officers participate in a separate executive bonus plan that is designed to meet the requirements of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, but under which payout determinations are made consistent with the payout determinations under the TAVA Plan (subject to maximum limitations established for Section 162(m) purposes). References in this proxy statement to the TAVA Plan also cover this separate plan. See Compensation Discussion and Analysis for a discussion of specific determinations under the TAVA Plan for 2015. EVA<sup>®</sup> is defined

as net operating profit after taxes minus the annual cost of capital and is a registered trademark of Stern Value Management.

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## **Table of Contents**

We award long-term performance units ( LTPUs ) under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan that are denominated in dollars. These LTPUs are payable in cash as follows: 50% based on our relative TSR compared to the TSR of the companies in the S&P 500, 30% based on our EBITDA and 20% based on our FCF. The performance is applied against a multiplier that determines the percentage of the dollar target that is earned based on that level of performance. These LTPUs are payable at the end of a three-year performance period. Subject to the terms of any employment agreement, these LTPUs are generally forfeited by a participant if his or her employment is terminated other than due to death, disability or retirement, unless the committee determines otherwise. In the event of termination due to death or disability, the LTPUs pay out at 100% of target. In the event of retirement, the award holder receives a pro rata payment equal to the amount he would have earned had he continued employment until the end of the applicable performance period multiplied by the percentage of the performance period during which he was employed by us.

## **Stock Awards**

Amounts reflected in the Summary Compensation Table under the column entitled Stock Awards represent awards of restricted common stock under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. See Grants of Plan-Based Awards During 2015. Our restricted stock awards vest one-third per year during the three years after the grant date, subject to the officer's continued employment (subject to acceleration of a portion of the shares to the date of grant as necessary to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to executives who are taxed upon the granting of restricted stock). In 2015, in connection with certain organizational changes and his anticipated promotion to Senior Vice President, Ride Performance, we awarded Mr. Orta a retention grant of 17,787 shares of restricted stock. This stock vests on the fourth anniversary of the grant date (subject to acceleration of a portion of the shares to the date of grant as necessary to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to Mr. Orta, who is taxed upon the granting of restricted stock). In addition, in connection with the hiring of Mr. Kessler as our Chief Operating Officer, we awarded him a grant of 83,474 shares of restricted stock designed to replace benefits Mr. Kessler forfeited by leaving his prior company to join our company. This stock vests 50% on the second and 50% on the fourth anniversary of the grant date. Subject to the terms of any employment agreement, the unvested portion of these awards is generally forfeited by a participant if his or her employment is terminated other than due to death, disability or retirement. All restrictions lapse upon death, disability or retirement.

## **Option Awards**

Amounts reflected in the Summary Compensation Table under the column entitled Option Awards represent awards of nonqualified options to purchase common stock granted to each named executive officer under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. See Grants of Plan-Based Awards During 2015. The awards vest one-third per year during the three years after the grant date, subject to the officer's continued employment, and have a seven-year term. Subject to the terms of any employment agreement, the unexercised portion of these awards is generally forfeited by a participant on the date his or her employment is terminated other than due to death, disability or retirement. In the event of death, disability or retirement, the options become fully exercisable and remain exercisable for a period specified in the applicable award agreement.

## **Employment Agreements and Other Employment Arrangements**

In January 2007, we entered into an agreement with Mr. Sherrill that sets forth certain terms and conditions of his employment with our company. The agreement provides that, under our Change in



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**Table of Contents**

Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives, Mr. Sherrill's cash payment in connection with a change in control termination will equal three times the total of his then current base salary plus his target bonus. See Post-Employment Compensation Other Potential Post-Employment Compensation for a discussion of the other benefits afforded under the Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives. The agreement also provides that, other than in connection with a change in control, if Mr. Sherrill's employment is terminated by us other than for disability or cause, he will be paid two times his then current annual salary. The employment agreement also provides for participation in an excess non-qualified defined contribution plan as described elsewhere herein and for participation in other benefit plans we offer our employees generally.

In December 2014, we provided Mr. Kessler an offer letter that sets forth certain terms and conditions of his employment with our company. The letter provides that, under our Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives, Mr. Kessler's cash payment in connection with a change in control termination would be equal to three times the total of his then current base salary plus targeted annual bonus in effect immediately prior to the change in control. The agreement also provides that, other than in connection with a change in control, if Mr. Kessler's employment is terminated by us other than for disability or for cause, he will be paid two times his then current annual base salary. Pursuant to the letter, we paid Mr. Kessler a one-time signing bonus of \$1,000,000 and an award of 83,474 restricted shares that vests 50% on each of the second and fourth anniversaries of the grant date to replace equity forfeited when he left his prior position. In addition, Mr. Kessler received full LTPU grants for the 2013-2015 and 2014-2016 performance periods to replace foregone benefits. Pursuant to the letter, Mr. Kessler is eligible to participate in the benefit plans we offer to our employees generally as well as our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. In addition, he will receive an additional 2% of base pay contribution into the 401(k) Plan after one year of service and participates in our non-qualified defined contribution plan at the rate of 3% of compensation.

Mr. Fornos is party to an agreement with us, entered in 2012, that set forth certain terms and conditions of his employment with our company. The agreement provides that if Mr. Fornos is terminated by us other than for serious negligence or serious misconduct, a two-year severance program will be provided. Mr. Fornos' compensation may also include long-term incentives such as stock options, restricted stock and a LTPU target, and targets for all of these incentives will require annual Board approvals. The agreement provides that Mr. Fornos will receive medical insurance for himself, his spouse and any dependent children. The agreement also provides for participation in benefit plans covering pension, life and disability and certain perquisites, such as reimbursements for reasonable travel costs from Mr. Fornos' home residence in Spain to different locations, such as Belgium.

Mr. Orta is party to two letter agreements with us that govern his employment. His 2010 letter agreement governs his participation in the defined contribution and defined benefit plans as described herein and provides for life, disability and accident insurance. His 2015 letter agreement governs the terms of his assignment in the United States, which commenced on January 1, 2015. Under the letter agreement, his salary is established at \$475,000 per year, and his bonus under the TAVA Plan and targeted long-term award grant value is targeted at \$380,000 and \$750,000, respectively. The 2015 letter agreement also provides for a housing allowance, car allowance, home travel benefits, relocation assistance, tax equalization payments and reimbursement of tuition for his children.

Table of Contents**Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2015**

The following table shows certain information regarding the outstanding equity awards held by the named executive officers at the end of 2015.

**Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2015**

Name	Options Awards			Stock Awards		
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable (1)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)(1)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)
Mr. Sherrill	80,672		19.48	1/14/2017		
	49,210		45.42	1/18/2018		
	88,377		29.83	1/17/2019	15,429	708,345
	53,320	26,610	36.29	1/15/2020	19,420	891,572
	16,600	33,200	56.23	1/14/2021	53,838	2,471,703
Mr. Trammell	21,080		19.48	1/14/2017	4,571	209,855
	12,966		45.42	1/18/2018	5,754	264,166
	22,496		29.83	1/17/2019	15,663	719,088

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	15,768	7,884	36.29	1/15/2020		
	4,919	9,838	56.23	1/14/2021		
Mr. Kessler					29,367	1,348,239
					83,474	3,832,291
Mr. Orta	3,579		22.58	7/12/2017		
	3,654		45.42	1/18/2018		
	266		43.20	7/19/2018	1,029	47,241
	5,785		29.83	1/17/2019	1,164	53,439
	3,548	1,774	36.29	1/15/2020	4,404	202,188
	1,107	2,214	56.23	1/14/2021	10,672	489,952
Mr. Fornos	7,072		45.42	1/18/2018		
	6,293		29.83	1/17/2019	2,857	131,165
	9,865	4,928	36.29	1/15/2020	3,956	181,620
	3,381	6,762	56.23	1/14/2021	8,908	408,966



**Table of Contents**

- (1) The vesting dates and number of shares vesting for the unvested options and restricted stock reflected above as of December 31, 2015 are as set forth below.

Name	Option Vesting Date	Number of Options Vesting	Stock Vesting Date	Number of Shares Vesting
Mr. Sherrill	1/15/2016	16,600	1/15/2016	9,710
	1/16/2016	26,610	1/16/2016	15,429
	1/15/2017	16,600	2/4/2016	17,946
			1/15/2017	9,710
			2/4/2017	17,946
			2/4/2018	17,946
Mr. Trammell	1/15/2016	4,919	1/15/2016	2,877
	1/16/2016	7,884	1/16/2016	4,571
	1/15/2017	4,919	2/4/2016	5,221
			1/15/2017	2,877
			2/4/2017	5,221
			2/4/2018	5,221
Mr. Kessler			2/4/2016	9,789
			1/14/2017	41,737
			2/4/2017	9,789
			2/4/2018	9,789
Mr. Orta			1/14/2019	41,737
	1/15/2016	1,107	1/15/2016	517
	1/16/2016	1,774	1/16/2016	1,029
	1/15/2017	1,107	1/15/2017	647
			2/4/2017	1,957
		2/4/2018	2,447	

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			1/14/2019	10,672
Mr. Fornos	1/15/2016	3,381	1/15/2016	1,978
	1/16/2016	4,928	1/16/2016	2,857
	1/15/2017	3,381	2/4/2016	424
			1/15/2017	1,978
			2/4/2017	4,242
			2/4/2018	4,242

**Table of Contents****Option Exercises and Stock Vested During 2015**

The following table shows certain information regarding options exercised and stock vested during 2015 for the named executive officers.

**Option Exercises and Stock Vested During 2015**

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of		Number of	
	Shares	Value	Shares	Value
	Acquired on	Realized on	Acquired on	Realized on
	Exercise	Exercise	Vesting(1)	Vesting(1)
(#)	(\$)	(#)	(\$)	
Mr. Sherrill			43,373	2,168,223
Mr. Trammell			12,088	604,296
Mr. Kessler				
Mr. Orta			12,274	630,478
Mr. Fornos			10,766	559,452

(1) Does not give effect to shares withheld to satisfy tax obligations.

**Post-Employment Compensation****Pension Benefits Table**

The following table shows certain information regarding potential benefits as of December 31, 2015 for Mr. Trammell and Mr. Orta under each of our defined benefit retirement plans.

**Pension Benefits**

Name(1)	Plan Name(2)	Number of	Present Value
		Years	of

		<b>Credited</b>	<b>Accumulated</b>
		<b>Service(3)</b>	<b>Benefit</b>
		(#)	(\$)
Mr. Trammell	Plan 1	9.7	284,077 (4)
	Plan 2	9.7	602,695 (4)
Mr. Orta	Plan 3	16.0	688,166 (5)

- (1) No other named executive officer participates in any defined benefit plan sponsored by us.
- (2) Plan 1 represents the Tenneco Retirement Plan, Plan 2 represents the Tenneco Supplemental Retirement Plan (which includes, for purposes of these disclosures, its predecessor plan, the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan) and Plan 3 represents the Spanish defined benefit plan.
- (3) The named executive officer's years of service credited under the plans is less than his actual years of service with Tenneco and its predecessors.
- (4) The present value of accrued benefits was calculated as of December 31, 2015, using the RP-2014 Mortality Table with improvement scale MP-2015 and a 4.30% discount rate, deferred to the unreduced retirement age, with no deferral if the participant's age on

**Table of Contents**

the calculation date is greater than the unreduced retirement age. The unreduced retirement age for Plan 1 is age 62 (normal retirement age is 65). For Plan 2, the unreduced retirement age is age 62 (normal retirement age is 65). For Plan 1 and Plan 2, the first year of service is generally excluded as credited service under the plan. For Plan 2, lump sum amounts payable at the earliest unreduced retirement age were valued based on the plan's lump sum provisions, namely the GAR94 mortality table and a 3.03% interest rate along with a 4.30% discount rate and using the RP-2014 Mortality Table with improvement scale MP-2015 for the period between December 31, 2015 and earliest unreduced retirement age.

- (5) The present value of accrued benefits was calculated as of November 30, 2015 using GRMF95 Spanish Mortality Table considering retirement age of 65 and applying a regularization interest rate of 2.19% over 2015 annual premium.

**Tenneco Employees Retirement Plan (formerly Tenneco Retirement Plan for Salaried Employees)**

The benefit under the Tenneco Employees Retirement Plan, in which all U.S. salaried employees were eligible to participate until it was frozen as to new participants on April 1, 2005, is based on the participant's years of service, salary and age at retirement. The monthly benefit formula is 55% of the participant's final average base pay multiplied by the years of credited service (up to a maximum of 35 years) and divided by 35 and then by 12. This amount is then reduced by any benefits accrued under the Pactiv Retirement Plan. (In 1999, we spun off our packaging and administrative services operations. The resulting company, now known as Pactiv Corporation (a subsidiary of Reynolds Group Holdings Limited), became the sponsor of our then-existing qualified defined benefit plan for salaried employees. We adopted the Tenneco Retirement Plan for Salaried Employees (name changed to the Tenneco Employees Retirement Plan effective January 1, 2013), which was patterned after the Pactiv-sponsored plan.) The final average base pay excludes all bonus payments and is the average pay for the last 60 full months of participation in the plan (prior to the plan being frozen). Pay is subject to the Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a)(17) pay limits. If the participant retires prior to the age of 62, the benefit is reduced by an early reduction factor.

Benefits paid under this plan are payable as an annuity only (other than small amounts which may be paid in a lump sum and special lump sums offered to terminated participants in a special window program). The default form of payment for a single participant is the Single Life Annuity, and for a married participant is a Qualified 50% Joint and Survivor Annuity. Other forms of benefit payments available include the 100% Joint and Survivor Annuity, the 75% Joint and Survivor Annuity, and the Ten Year Certain and Life Annuity.

As described below, we froze this plan for salaried employees effective December 31, 2006 so that benefits were frozen for salaried employees at the level in effect as of that date, and no future benefits will be accrued under the plan.

**Tenneco Supplemental Retirement Plan**

The benefit under the Tenneco Supplemental Retirement Plan (which includes, for purposes of these disclosures, its predecessor plan, the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan), is based on the participant's years of service, salary and bonus and age at retirement. The purpose of the plan is to include bonuses in determining retirement payments, which is not done under the Tenneco Employees Retirement Plan and which we believe provided a level of retirement benefit

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**Table of Contents**

that was common in manufacturing companies. The monthly benefit formula is 55% of the participant's final average compensation multiplied by the years of credited service (up to a maximum of 35 years) and divided by 35 and then by 12. This amount is then reduced by the accrued benefits from the Tenneco Employees Retirement Plan and the Pactiv Retirement Plan. The final average compensation for this plan is the sum of the participant's average base pay plus the average bonus pay, where the average is determined as the highest three out of the past five calendar years (prior to the plan being frozen, as applicable, and without regard to Internal Revenue Code limits). If the participant retires prior to the age of 62, the benefit will be reduced by an early reduction factor.

Benefits paid under this plan are payable as a lump sum only. To calculate the lump sum payment amount, the accrued benefit after offsets, as calculated above, is multiplied by a lump sum factor. This factor is determined using the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Tables at an interest rate that is the average of the 30-year Treasury Bond yields for the November preceding the year of distribution.

This plan applied to our approximately top 60 managers. As described below, effective December 31, 2006, this plan was frozen as to substantially all managers at the level in effect as of that date so that no future benefits will be accrued under the plan.

**Spanish Defined Benefit Plan**

Mr. Orta participates in a defined benefit pension plan applicable to certain of our employees in Spain. Under the plan, Mr. Orta is eligible for a defined benefit after retirement based on his base salary frozen at the level of June 30, 2010 (207,580 Euro). Under this plan, at normal retirement age, a participating employee will receive a pension equal to up to 70% of his base salary less the Spanish social security component, depending on the number of years of service as computed under the plan (with an employee achieving maximum benefits at 35 years of service).

**2006 Changes in Defined Benefits**

In August 2006, we froze, effective December 31, 2006, benefits under our defined benefit pension plans for certain employees and replaced them with additional benefits under defined contribution plans beginning in 2007. Prior earned benefits under the defined benefit plans were, however, preserved. With the exception of certain senior managers, none of whom is currently a named executive officer, who had employment contracts providing for specified benefits (each of whom voluntarily accepted a benefits reduction under non-qualified plans), this freeze impacted all U.S.-based salaried employees (including the U.S. named executive officers) and non-union hourly employees who participated in any of the plans.

To address the loss of benefits associated with the freeze, we amended our existing qualified defined contribution plans, effective January 1, 2007, to provide for additional annual company contributions in amounts that increase with the employee's age. Employees, including executive officers, hired after 2005 receive a fixed 2% contribution. These additional contributions, which we refer to as Company Retirement Contributions, are payable for each employee who ceased to accrue benefits or whose benefits were otherwise modified under any defined benefit plan in connection with the freeze or who was hired after eligibility for the defined benefit plans was frozen in 2005. In addition, effective January 1, 2007, we implemented an unfunded non-qualified defined contribution pension plan as described in Compensation Discussion and Analysis Design and Elements of Compensation Retirement Plans.

**Table of Contents****Nonqualified Defined Contribution and Other Deferred Compensation Plans Table**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding potential benefits as of the end of 2015 for the named executive officers under our nonqualified defined contribution plans.

**Nonqualified Deferred Compensation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Registrant Contributions in 2015(1) (\$)</b>	<b>Aggregate Earnings in 2015(2) (\$)</b>	<b>Aggregate Withdrawals/ Distributions (\$)</b>	<b>Aggregate Balance at 12/31/15(3) (\$)</b>
Mr. Sherrill	388,969	42,095	0	2,723,126
Mr. Trammell	132,091	11,987	0	884,077
Mr. Kessler	17,260	83	0	17,343

- (1) Included in All Other Compensation in the Summary Compensation Table.
- (2) Reflects earnings on contributions under our non-qualified defined contribution plan based on the individual's selected investments.
- (3) Includes amounts reported in the 2015 Summary Compensation Table for: Mr. Sherrill - \$388,969 for 2015, \$345,887 for 2014 and \$158,069 for 2013; Mr. Trammell - \$132,091 for 2015, \$110,843 for 2014 and \$120,976 for 2013; and Mr. Kessler - \$17,260 for 2015.

We maintain a U.S. non-qualified defined contribution retirement plan. As described above in Compensation Discussion and Analysis Design and Elements of Compensation Retirement Plans, effective January 1, 2007, our U.S. named executive officers and other senior managers became eligible to participate in this plan, with allocations under the plan calculated in the same manner as under the applicable existing defined contribution retirement plan, except that (i) Company Retirement Contributions under the plan are made based on compensation that includes bonus compensation payable in accordance with the TAVA Plan formula, (ii) contributions under this plan are based on compensation in excess of the Section 401(a)(17) limitations of the Internal Revenue Code and (iii) our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer have special benefits under the plan as described above.

Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta participate in a defined contribution retirement plan we maintain for our senior management based in Spain. We make annual contributions to this plan on behalf of each of Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta in an amount equal to 8% of his salary. This plan is administered by a third party insurer who determines how the funds will be invested. As of December 31, 2015, Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta's balances in this plan were \$214,920 and \$50,887, respectively, and under the terms of the plan they would be guaranteed a payment upon retirement (eligibility for which begins at age 65) of \$243,757 and \$100,652, respectively. In case of death before retirement age, a calculation of the earned capital will be made and then settled to Mr. Fornos and Mr. Orta's respective heirs.

**Other Potential Post-Employment Compensation**

*Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives*

We maintain a Change in Control Severance Benefit Plan for Key Executives, which was amended and restated effective as of December 2007. The purpose of the plan is to enable us to continue to attract, retain and motivate highly qualified employees by eliminating, to the maximum practicable extent, any concern on the part of such employees that their job security or benefit entitlements will be jeopardized by a change in control of our company.



**Table of Contents**

Under the amended plan, a change in control happens if:

any person or group acquires 20% or more of our then-outstanding common stock or the combined voting power of our then-outstanding securities having general voting rights subject to limited exceptions;

our incumbent board of directors ceases to constitute a majority of our board of directors;

there is a merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all the assets in which our stockholders own less than 50% of the new company; or

we are liquidated or dissolved.

Benefits under the plan are payable to a key employee who is discharged (either actually or constructively) within two years after a change in control. Under the plan, we must pay an eligible executive a lump sum cash payment equal to one, two or three times, depending on his or her grouping under the plan, (i) his or her base salary and (ii) his or her targeted annual bonus in effect immediately prior to the change in control. In addition, we must provide the executive with (a) a pro rata bonus at target (payable in a lump sum), (b) one, two or three years (depending on his or her grouping under the plan) of health and welfare benefits continuation, (c) out placement services and (d) all deferred compensation (payable in a lump sum). We eliminated the tax gross up as to employees who become subject to the plan on or after January 1, 2014. Benefits under this plan are not conditioned on any action by the participant.

Under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan (and its predecessor, the 2002 Long-Term Incentive Plan), upon a change in control, all options will immediately vest and remain exercisable for up to 36 months. All restrictions on outstanding restricted stock will lapse and our LTPUs shall be deemed fully earned on the date of the change in control and paid based on assumed achievement of targeted performance goals.

We expect that Messrs. Sherrill, Trammell, Kessler, Orta and Fornos would have become entitled to receive payments from us as follows had we experienced a change in control on December 31, 2015 (assuming termination on that date, other than with respect to LTPUs, options and restricted stock, as described above):

Name	Severance Amount	Bonus Amount	Long Term	Early	Early	Excise Tax Other Gross	Total(4)
			Performance Unit Payout(1)	Vesting of Stock Options(2)	Vesting of Restricted Stock(2)		

Mr. Sherrill	\$ 7,563,375	\$ 1,400,625	\$ 7,070,000	\$ 255,988	\$ 4,071,620	\$ 110,679	\$ 20,472,287
Mr. Trammell	\$ 2,238,500	\$ 514,250	\$ 2,080,000	\$ 75,844	\$ 1,193,109	\$ 78,372	\$ 6,180,075
Mr. Kessler	\$ 5,100,000	\$ 850,000	\$ 3,900,000	\$	\$ 5,180,530	\$ 80,151	\$ 15,110,681
Mr. Orta	\$ 1,710,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 819,053	\$ 17,066	\$ 792,820	\$ 69,962	\$ 3,788,901
Mr. Fornos	\$ 1,865,400	\$ 428,538	\$ 1,590,000	\$ 47,407	\$ 721,751	\$ 88,542	\$ 4,741,638

- (1) Represents full value of all unpaid long term performance units at target that would have vested upon a change in control.
- (2) Represents the difference between the option exercise price and the closing price of a share of our common stock on December 31, 2015 for all unvested options and the value of all unvested restricted shares based on that price.
- (3) Represents welfare benefits and outplacement services.
- (4) The amounts presented are estimated without any allocation of amounts payable to service prior to or after the change in control.

**Table of Contents****Severance Benefits**

If Mr. Sherrill or Mr. Kessler is involuntarily terminated by us other than for disability or cause or in connection with a change in control, each is entitled to receive a lump sum payment equal to two times his annual base salary (which lump sum amount would have been \$2,241,000 for Mr. Sherrill and \$1,700,000 for Mr. Kessler as of December 31, 2015). Under Mr. Fornos' employment agreement, if he is involuntarily terminated by us other than for serious negligence or serious misconduct, he is entitled to two years of severance (which would have been \$1,843,974 as of December 31, 2015). Under applicable law, Mr. Orta is entitled to two years of severance (which would have been \$1,691,000 as of December 31, 2015) if he is terminated without cause.

We maintain a Severance Benefit Plan that applies to all U.S. salaried, full-time employees with at least one month of service who are terminated by us in connection with a reduction in force or similar layoff. Under this plan, eligible employees receive a severance payment in a lump sum equal to the total of (1) 1 week of pay for each full year of service up to and including 15 years, and (2) an additional 1.5 weeks of pay for each full year of service exceeding 15 years, in each case subject to a minimum of 4 weeks and a maximum of 52 weeks pay. This plan would apply to Mr. Trammell, who we expect would have received \$244,327 if his employment had been terminated by us on December 31, 2015 in connection with a reduction in force or similar layoff. We require participants to sign a customary release to receive benefits under this plan.

**Death or Disability**

Under our TAVA Plan, a participant, including any named executive officer, is entitled to a pro rata bonus if his or her employment is terminated due to death or disability. Under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan, in the event of death or disability, all LTPUs pay out at 100% of target, all restricted stock vests and all options vest. In addition, Mr. Fornos is entitled to some salary continuation in the event of death or disability. Our named executive officers would have been entitled to the following payments from us in the event of their death or disability on December 31, 2015:

Name	Salary		Bonus	Long Term Performance Unit	Early Vesting of Stock	Early Vesting of Restricted	Total
	Continuation	(1)	Amount	Payout(6)	Options (7)	Stock (7)	
Mr. Sherrill	\$ 513,563	(1)	\$ 1,365,609	\$ 7,070,000	\$ 255,988	\$ 4,071,620	\$ 13,276,780
Mr. Trammell	\$ 302,500	(2)	\$ 501,393	\$ 2,080,000	\$ 75,844	\$ 1,193,109	\$ 4,152,846
Mr. Kessler	\$ 254,999	(3)	\$ 828,750	\$ 3,900,000	\$	\$ 5,180,530	\$ 10,164,279
Mr. Orta	\$ 237,500	(4)	\$ 370,500	\$ 819,053	\$ 17,066	\$ 792,820	\$ 2,236,939
Mr. Fornos	\$ 504,162	(5)	\$ 417,824	\$ 1,590,000	\$ 47,407	\$ 721,751	\$ 3,281,144

- (1) Represents four months salary continuation for disability at 100% and two months salary continuation for disability at 75%. The executive receives no continuation of salary upon death.

- (2) Represents six months salary continuation for disability at 100%. The executive would receive no continuation of salary upon death.
- (3) Represents six months salary continuation for disability at 60%. The executive receives no continuation of salary upon death.
- (4) Represents maximum of six months of salary continuation for disability. There is only three months salary continuation available upon death.

**Table of Contents**

- (5) Represents maximum of 12 months of salary continuation for disability. There is only four months salary continuation available upon death.
- (6) Includes the full value of long-term performance units at target.
- (7) Represents the difference between the option exercise price and the closing price of a share of our common stock on December 31, 2015 for all unvested options and the value of all unvested restricted shares based on that price.

**Retirement**

Mr. Trammell and Mr. Fornos are eligible to retire. Under our TAVA Plan, a participant, including any named executive officer, is entitled to a pro rata bonus if his or her employment is terminated due to retirement. Under our 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan, in the event of retirement, a participant is entitled to a pro rata LTPU pay out, all restricted stock vests and all options vest. Mr. Trammell and Mr. Fornos would have been entitled to the following payments from us in the event of his retirement on December 31, 2015:

Name	Salary Continuation	Bonus Amount	Long Term	Early	Early	Total
			Performance Unit Payout(1)	Vesting of Stock Options(2)	Vesting of Restricted Stock(2)	
Mr. Trammell		\$ 501,393	\$ 1,221,334	\$ 75,844	\$ 1,193,109	\$ 2,991,680
Mr. Fornos		\$ 417,824	\$ 922,500	\$ 47,407	\$ 721,751	\$ 2,109,482

- (1) Reflects payout for 2013-2015 performance period and adjusted targets for pro rata participation for 2014-2016 and 2015-2017 performance periods. Adjusted targets for the 2014-2016 and 2015-2017 performance periods would be subject to actual performance factors, as determined.
- (2) Represents the difference between the option exercise price and the closing price of a share of our common stock on December 31, 2015 for all unvested options and the value of all unvested restricted shares based on that price.

**Compensation-Related Risk**

We believe that our compensation programs for our named executive officers and other employees incentivize the creation of stockholder value on both an annual and long-term basis. As a result, we believe our programs do not encourage excessive or inappropriate risk-taking and are not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us.

Our annual cash incentives for most salaried and some hourly employees are based primarily on the achievement of EVA performance, which we believe is a key driver of stockholder value. Each individual incentive target is not excessive in relation to the participant's base salary. Subject to the discretion of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee, these annual cash incentives are capped at 200% of target.

Our long-term cash incentive payments are also capped at 200% of target. They are based on free cash flow, EBITDA and total stockholder return measures. We believe that these measures are key indicators of the value generated for stockholders. We attempt to set ranges for these measures that encourage success without encouraging excessive risk taking to achieve results. We award restricted stock to our senior and middle managers to further align the interests of our employees and stockholders. These awards vest over a three-year period. We believe our long-term compensation programs encourage the delivery of sustained performance over multiple periods, rather than performance in a single period.

**Table of Contents****Director Compensation**

The following table and related narrative shows the compensation we paid for 2015 to each of our outside directors for all services provided to our company and its subsidiaries.

**Director Compensation for 2015**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Stock</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Earned</b>	<b>Awards</b>	
	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>	<b>(\$)</b>
Mr. Freyman	113,000	100,000	213,000
Mr. Letham	128,500	100,000	228,500
Mr. Metcalf	111,500	100,000	211,500
Mr. Porter	127,500	100,000	227,500
Mr. Price	108,500	100,000	208,500
Mr. Stecko	131,500	100,000	231,500
Ms. Warner	112,000	100,000	212,000
Mr. Wood (1)			

(1) New director in 2016.

**Fee Structure**

For 2015, each outside director was paid an annual cash retainer fee of \$95,000 for service on the Board of Directors which, at the option of a director, may be paid in cash or common stock equivalents. The outside directors receive meeting attendance fees, committee chair fees and reimbursement of their expenses for attending meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees. The fees are generally paid in cash but, at the option of the director may be deferred as described below. Outside directors receive \$1,000 for each in-person meeting of the Board of Directors attended and \$500 for each telephonic meeting. Outside directors who are members of the Audit Committee or the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee receive \$1,000 for each in-person meeting and \$500 for each telephonic meeting attended. In 2015, the outside directors who served as the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Chairman of the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee each received a fee of \$16,000. Also, the lead independent director received a \$20,000 fee for serving as the chairman and primary spokesman when the Board of Directors met in executive session.

**Restricted Stock**

In 2015, each outside director received an award of restricted stock with a target value of \$100,000. The restricted stock granted in 2015 vested six months after the grant date.

### **Deferred Compensation Plan**

We have a voluntary deferred compensation plan for outside directors. Under the plan, an outside director may elect, prior to commencement of the next calendar year, to have some or all of his or her cash retainer fee and some or all of his or her meeting or other fees credited to a deferred compensation account. The plan provides these directors with various investment options. The investment options include common stock equivalents, which may be paid out in either cash or, at



**Table of Contents**

our option, shares of common stock after an outside director ceases to serve as a director. Final distribution of these amounts may be made either in a lump sum or in installments over a period of years. The common stock equivalents are issued at 100% of the fair market value on the date of the grant.

**Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During 2015, Messrs. Price, Stecko and Porter served on the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee. From November 1998 to April 1999, Mr. Stecko served as our President and Chief Operating Officer, at a time when we held the former Tenneco Inc.'s automotive and packaging operations. Prior to that time, he served in other executive officer capacities in the former packaging operations. Mr. Stecko, having left our employment in April 1999 to become Chief Executive Officer of Packaging Corporation of America (which simultaneously purchased our former paperboard packaging operations), meets the independence standards for compensation and nominating committee membership under the NYSE listing standards.

**Table of Contents**

**COMPENSATION/NOMINATING/GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE  
REPORT ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis contained in this proxy statement with management and, based on such review and discussion, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and in this proxy statement.

*Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee for 2015*

*Roger B. Porter Chairman*

*David B. Price, Jr.*

*Paul T. Stecko*

**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**General**

The Audit Committee is comprised of four directors and operates under a written charter. All of the members of the Audit Committee meet the definition of independence for purposes of the NYSE listing standards. In addition, the Board has designated each of Messrs. Letham and Freyman as an audit committee financial expert under the applicable SEC rules. All of the members of the Audit Committee satisfy the NYSE's financial literacy requirements.

**Report**

The Audit Committee has furnished the following report:

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements of our company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 with our management and with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ( PwC ), our independent public accountants for 2015;

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, management's assessment thereof, and PwC's report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting with management, PwC and our executive director of Internal Audit;

The Audit Committee has discussed with PwC the matters required to be discussed with the Audit Committee by PCAOB Audit Standard No. 16, *Communications with Audit Committees*, Statement on Auditing Standards No. 114, *The Auditor's Communication with Those Charged with Governance*, and SEC Regulation S-X, Rule 2-07, *Communication with Audit Committees*;

The Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from PwC required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) regarding PwC's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and has discussed with PwC its independence from our company;

The Audit Committee has considered whether the services rendered by our independent public accountants with respect to audit and tax fees are compatible with maintaining their independence; and

Based on the review and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements for our company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 for filing with the SEC.

*Audit Committee*

*Dennis J. Letham*    *Chairman*

*Thomas C. Freyman*

*James S. Metcalf*

*Jane L. Warner*

**Table of Contents**

**RATIFY APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
(Item 2)**

**The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR this proposal.**

Financial statements of our company and our consolidated subsidiaries will be included in our Form 10-K furnished to all stockholders. The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ( PwC ) as independent public accountants to examine our consolidated financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2016, and has determined that it would be desirable to request that the stockholders ratify the appointment. You may vote for, vote against or abstain from voting with respect to this proposal. PwC has served as our independent public accountants since 2010. Assuming the presence of a quorum, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present, in person or by proxy, at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote is required to ratify the appointment. If the stockholders do not ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will reconsider the appointment. Representatives of PwC are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting and will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are also expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

**Audit, Audit-Related, Tax and All Other Fees**

The following table summarizes the aggregate audit and tax fees and expenses billed to us for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 by PwC. PwC provided no audit-related or other services to us for those years.

<b>Audit and Tax Fees and Expenses</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Audit fees(a)	\$ 5,210,000	\$ 5,226,700
Tax fees(b)	982,400	619,500
	<b>\$ 6,192,400</b>	<b>\$ 5,846,200</b>

(a) Audit services in 2015 and 2014 consisted of:

Audit of our annual financial statements, including audits of subsidiary financial statements required by local country laws

Audit of our internal controls over financial reporting in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Reviews of our quarterly financial statements

Comfort letters, consents and other services related to SEC matters

- (b) Tax services in 2015 and 2014 consisted primarily of tax compliance (e.g., tax return preparation) and other tax advice on transactions that have already occurred to document, compute, support and obtain government approval for amounts to be included in tax filings.

In considering the nature of the services provided by PwC for 2015 and 2014, the Audit Committee determined that such services were compatible with the provision of independent audit services. The Audit Committee discussed these services with PwC and our management to determine that they were permitted under the rules and regulations concerning auditor independence promulgated by the SEC to implement the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as well as by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

**Table of Contents**

**Pre-Approval Policy**

The Audit Committee maintains a pre-approval policy regarding the provision of non-audit services by our independent public accounting firm. All of the services performed by PwC in 2015 were pre-approved in accordance with the pre-approval policy adopted by the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee's pre-approval policy describes the permitted audit, audit-related, tax and other services (collectively, the Disclosure Categories) that our independent auditor may perform. The policy requires that, each fiscal year, a description of the services (the Service List) expected to be performed by our independent auditor in each of the Disclosure Categories, as well as related budgeted fee amounts, be presented to the Audit Committee for approval. Providing a range of fees for a service incorporates appropriate oversight and control of the independent auditor relationship while permitting us to receive immediate assistance from the independent auditor when time is of the essence.

Any requests for audit, audit-related, tax and other services not included on the Service List must be submitted to the Audit Committee for specific pre-approval and cannot commence until such approval has been granted. Normally, pre-approval is provided at regularly scheduled meetings. However, the authority to grant specific pre-approval between meetings, as necessary, has been delegated to the Chairman of the Audit Committee. The Chairman must update the Audit Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting of any services that were granted specific pre-approval. The Audit Committee will monitor the Service List as necessary, but no less than on a quarterly basis. Any proposed service exceeding 110% of the pre-approved cost level or budgeted amount requires specific additional pre-approval by the Audit Committee.

Table of Contents

**APPROVE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION IN AN ADVISORY VOTE  
(Item 3)**

**The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR approval of the compensation of our named executive officers.**

In accordance with the requirements of Section 14A of the Exchange Act (which was added by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Dodd-Frank Act )) and the related rules of the SEC, we are asking our stockholders to cast an advisory, non-binding vote on the compensation of our named executive officers. This proposal, commonly referred to as a say-on-pay proposal, gives stockholders the opportunity to endorse, not endorse or abstain from voting on our executive compensation programs and policies. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation but, rather, the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the compensation principles, policies and practices described in this proxy statement. The Dodd-Frank Act requires that we submit a proposal to stockholders similar to this proposal at least every three years.

Our executive compensation program is designed to attract and retain officers of the highest qualifications, experience and ability and to motivate them to increase stockholder value on both an annual and a longer-term basis primarily by improving our total stockholder return, EBITDA and free cash flow. The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee, to which we refer as the committee, believes that our executive compensation program reflects a strong pay-for-performance philosophy and drives the alignment of stockholder and management interests. The key features of our executive compensation program include:

Compensation for our executives is weighted primarily toward incentive forms of compensation, including annual and long-term cash incentive compensation and equity compensation. This reinforces a results-oriented management culture with the overarching goal of enhancing stockholder value.

Our general policy is to provide salary, annual cash incentive payments and long-term incentive compensation to executives based on performance that is competitive and at market levels with comparable companies when financial and qualitative targets are met (i.e. in the range of the 50th percentile compensation for target performance).

We maintain stock ownership guidelines that apply to all of our directors and our senior officers. As of March 21, 2016, the record date for our Annual Meeting, our executive officers collectively beneficially owned approximately 3.5% of our outstanding common stock, which significantly aligns their interests with the interests of our stockholders.

Our committee has directly retained and receives advice from Meridian Compensation Partners LLC, an independent compensation consulting firm that provides no other services to our company. As noted in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis of this proxy statement, we believe our compensation program for our named executive officers has been effective in driving outstanding financial results in 2015.



Accordingly, we are submitting the following resolution for stockholder vote at the Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Tenneco approve, on an advisory basis, the 2015 compensation of Tenneco's named executive officers as disclosed in the Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting under the heading Executive Compensation, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table, and the other tables and narrative disclosures set forth thereunder.

This vote is an advisory vote, and therefore the result will not be binding on us. Although the vote is non-binding, the committee, which is comprised of independent directors and is responsible for designing and administering our executive compensation program, values the opinions expressed by stockholders. Accordingly, the committee will review the results of voting on this proposal, seek to determine the cause or causes of any significant negative voting results and will take these matters into consideration when making future compensation decisions for named executive officers.

**Table of Contents**

**INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

To the extent that this proxy statement is incorporated by reference in any other filing by us under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the information included or incorporated in the sections of this proxy statement entitled Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee Report on Executive Compensation and Report of Audit Committee will not be deemed to be incorporated, unless specifically provided otherwise in such filing.

**DIRECTIONS TO ANNUAL MEETING**

If you plan to attend the annual meeting in person, below are directions to our headquarters located at 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045.

**From North**

Take 294 South

Exit Route 60 (Town Line Road) (left/east)

Left on Field Drive (2nd light)

Tenneco on Left Side

**From O'Hare Airport and South**

Take 294 North

Exit Route 60 (Town Line Road) (right/east)

Left on Field Drive (1st light)

Tenneco on Left Side

**From Downtown Chicago**

Kennedy Expressway, I-90, west

To Edens Expressway, I-94, toward Milwaukee

To 294 North

Exit Route 60 (Town Line Road) (right/east)

Left on Field Drive (1st light)

Tenneco on Left Side

### **DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS TO STOCKHOLDERS SHARING AN ADDRESS**

We and some brokers have adopted householding, a procedure under which stockholders who have the same address will receive a single Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or set of proxy materials, unless one or more of these stockholders provides notice that they wish to continue receiving individual copies. Stockholders who participate in householding will continue to receive separate proxy cards. This procedure can result in significant savings to our company by reducing printing and postage costs.

If you participate in householding and wish to receive a separate Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or set of these proxy materials, or if you wish to receive separate copies of future Notices, annual reports and proxy statements, please call 1-800-579-1639 or write to: Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., Household Department, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, New York 11717. We will deliver the requested documents to you promptly upon your request.

Any stockholders of record who share the same address and currently receive multiple copies of proxy materials who wish to receive only one copy of these materials per household in the future may contact Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. at the address or telephone number listed above. If you hold your shares through a broker, bank or other nominee, please contact your broker, bank or other nominee to request information about householding.

**Table of Contents**

**SUBMISSION OF STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS**

**Stockholder Proposals Inclusion in Company Proxy Statement**

For a stockholder proposal to be considered by us for inclusion in our proxy statement and form of proxy relating to the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2017, the proposal must be received by December 2, 2016.

**Other Stockholder Proposals Discretionary Voting Authority and By-Laws**

With respect to stockholder proposals not included in the Company's proxy statement and form of proxy, we may utilize discretionary authority conferred by proxy in voting on any such proposals if, among other situations, the stockholder does not give timely notice of the matter to us by the date determined under our By-Laws for the submission of business by stockholders. This notice requirement and deadline are independent of the notice requirement and deadline described above for a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement. Our By-Laws state that, to be timely, notice and certain related information must be received at the principal executive offices not later than the close of business on the 90th day nor earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting. However, in the event that the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 70 days after the anniversary date, the notice must be delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90th day prior to such annual meeting or the 10th day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made. Therefore, to be timely under our By-Laws, a proposal for the 2017 annual meeting not included by or at the direction of the Board must be received not earlier than January 18, 2017, nor later than February 17, 2017.

The Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee will consider director candidates recommended by stockholders provided the procedures set forth below are followed by stockholders in submitting recommendations. The committee does not intend to alter the manner in which it evaluates candidates, including the minimum criteria set forth elsewhere in this proxy statement, based on whether the candidate was recommended by a stockholder. A stockholder of our company may nominate persons for election to the Board of Directors at an annual meeting if the stockholder submits such nomination, together with certain related information required by our By-Laws, in writing to our Corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices within the time period described in the prior paragraph. Following verification of the stockholder's status, the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee will perform an initial analysis of the qualifications of the nominee pursuant to the criteria listed in this proxy statement to determine whether the nominee is qualified for service on our Board of Directors before deciding to undertake a complete evaluation of the nominee. Other than the verification of compliance with the procedures set forth in our By-Laws and stockholder status, and the initial analysis performed by the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee, a person nominated by a stockholder for election to the Board of Directors is treated like any other potential candidate during the review process by the Compensation/Nominating/Governance Committee.

JAMES D. HARRINGTON



**Table of Contents**

**The Company has made available to you its Form 10-K which you may access by following the instructions contained in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. We will furnish without charge to each person whose proxy is being solicited, upon the written request of any such person, a copy of our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the financial statements and schedules thereto. Requests for copies of such report should be directed to General Counsel, Tenneco Inc., 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045.**

Table of Contents

NOTICE OF ANNUAL  
MEETING AND  
PROXY STATEMENT

**Annual Meeting  
of Stockholders  
May 18, 2016**

**Tenneco Inc.**

**500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045**

**Table of Contents**

April 1, 2016

Dear Benefit Plan Participant:

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of Tenneco Inc. is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., Central Time, at our headquarters located at 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045. A Notice and proxy statement, which is being sent to all benefit plan participants in connection with the Annual Meeting, is enclosed for your information.

Also enclosed with this letter is a form of proxy card, which designates the number of shares held in your benefit plan account. By executing the proxy card you instruct the benefit plan trustee (the Trustee) how to vote the shares of Tenneco Inc. stock in your account which you are entitled to vote. The Trustee will vote all shares eligible to be voted by benefit plan participants in accordance with their instructions. Please submit your vote by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 15, 2016 so that the Trustee can vote the shares in your benefit plan account in accordance with your instructions.

If you return your form of proxy executed but without furnishing voting instructions, the eligible shares in your account will be voted by the Trustee, as holder of record of the shares in your account,

FOR the election of the nominees for director named in the proxy statement

FOR the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as independent public accountants for 2016

FOR the approval, in an advisory vote, of the Company's executive compensation

In the discretion of the proxies on all other matters as may be properly brought before the Annual Meeting If you do not return your executed form of proxy to the Trustee, then your shares will be voted by the Trustee in accordance with the requirements of your benefit plan. Under the plan, the Trustee will vote all such shares in the same proportion as the instructions that it receives from participants who vote their shares.

Your vote will generally be kept confidential, except as necessary to meet applicable legal requirements and to allow for the tabulation of votes and certification of the vote.

Your vote is important. Please send your executed form of proxy card with your voting instructions at your earliest opportunity. For your convenience, a return envelope is enclosed.

Your Benefits Committee



**Table of Contents**

***TENNECO INC.***

***500 N. FIELD DRIVE***

***LAKE FOREST, IL 60045***

***ATTN: JAMES D. HARRINGTON***

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

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. 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 our 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 the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. 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:

E06678-P77418-Z67523

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

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

**TENNECO INC.**

**The Board of Directors  
recommends you vote  
FOR the following:**

1. Election of Directors

Nominees:	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
1a. Thomas C. Freyman	..	..	..	<b>The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2 and 3.</b>			
1b. Dennis J. Letham	..	..	..		For	Against	Abstain
1c. James S. Metcalf	..	..	..	2. Ratify appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers	..	..	..
1d. Roger B. Porter	..	..	..	LLP as independent public accountants for 2016. Approve executive compensation in an			
1e. David B. Price, Jr.	..	..	..	3. advisory vote.	..	..	..
1f. Gregg M. Sherrill	..	..	..				
1g. Paul T. Stecko	..	..	..	<b>NOTE:</b> In the discretion of the Proxies named herein, the Proxies are authorized to vote upon such other matters as may properly come before the meeting (or any			
1h. Jane L. Warner	..	..	..				

1i. Roger J. Wood

adjournment or  
postponement thereof).

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) hereon.  
When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or  
other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners  
should each sign personally. All holders must sign. If a  
corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or  
partnership name by authorized officer.

Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX]

Signature (Joint  
Owners)

Date

**Table of Contents**

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:**

The Notice and Proxy Statement, Form 10-K and 2015 Summary Annual Report are available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).

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**TENNECO INC.**

**THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Stockholder(s) hereby appoint(s) Gregg M. Sherrill and James D. Harrington, or either of them, as proxies, each with the power to appoint his substitute, and hereby authorizes them to represent and to vote, as designated on the reverse side of this ballot, all of the shares of common stock of Tenneco Inc. that the Stockholder(s) is/are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at 10:00 a.m., Central Time, on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at our headquarters located at 500 North Field Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045.

**THIS PROXY, WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED, WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED BY THE STOCKHOLDER(S). IF NO SUCH DIRECTIONS ARE MADE, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NOMINEES LISTED ON THE REVERSE SIDE FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND FOR PROPOSALS TWO AND THREE.**

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