

WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE INC /DE/  
Form DEF 14A  
March 18, 2015

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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

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

**WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE, INC.**

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

**Wolverine World Wide, Inc.**  
**9341 Courtland Drive, N.E.**  
**Rockford, Michigan 49351**

March 18, 2015

Dear Stockholder,

You are invited to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at Wolverine Worldwide's headquarters in Rockford, Michigan.

The annual meeting will begin with an introduction of management attendees and directors, followed by voting on the matters set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement and any other business matters properly brought before the meeting. The meeting will adjourn for a presentation on the Company's business operations, and then resume for a report on the voting.

Whether or not you plan to attend, you can ensure that your shares are represented at the meeting by promptly voting and submitting your proxy by telephone or through the Internet, or by completing, signing, dating and returning your proxy form in the enclosed envelope.

Sincerely,

Blake W. Krueger  
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

Wolverine Worldwide Notice of 2015 Annual  
Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement

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## NOTICE OF 2015 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

10:00 a.m., April 22, 2015

**Wolverine World Wide, Inc.**  
**9341 Courtland Drive, N.E.**  
**Rockford, Michigan 49351**

March 18, 2015

To our Stockholders:

We invite you to attend Wolverine Worldwide's Annual Meeting of Stockholders at the Company's headquarters located at 9341 Courtland Drive, N.E., Rockford, Michigan, on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The annual meeting will begin with an introduction of management attendees and directors, after which stockholders will:

- (1) vote on the election of the three director nominees named in the proxy statement for three-year terms expiring in 2018;
- (2) vote on the ratification of the Audit Committee's appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2015;
- (3) vote on an advisory resolution approving compensation for the Company's named executive officers; and
- (4) transact other business that may properly come before the meeting.

The meeting will adjourn for a presentation on the Company's business operations, then resume for a report on the voting. You can vote at the meeting and any adjournment of the meeting if you were a stockholder of record on March 2, 2015.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Brendan M. Gibbons  
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on April 22, 2015.**

**Wolverine's Proxy Statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2015, are available at [www.wolverineworldwide.com/2015annualmeeting](http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/2015annualmeeting).**

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Wolverine Worldwide Notice of 2015 Annual

Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

We are furnishing you this proxy statement and enclosed proxy card in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Wolverine World Wide, Inc. ("Wolverine Worldwide" or the "Company") to be used at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company occurring on April 22, 2015 at the Company's corporate headquarters in Rockford, Michigan (the "Annual Meeting"). Distribution of this proxy statement and enclosed proxy card to stockholders is scheduled to begin on or about March 18, 2015.

You can ensure that your shares are voted at the Annual Meeting by submitting your instructions by telephone or through the Internet, or by completing, signing, dating and returning your proxy form in the enclosed envelope. Submitting your instructions or proxy by any of these methods will not affect your right to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting. We encourage stockholders to submit proxies in advance. A stockholder who gives a proxy may revoke it at any time before it is exercised by voting in person at the Annual Meeting, by delivering a subsequent proxy or by notifying the inspectors of election in writing of such revocation. In order to vote any shares at the Annual Meeting that are held for you in a brokerage, bank or other institutional account, you must obtain a proxy from that entity and bring it with you to hand in with your ballot.

References to "2014" or "fiscal year 2014" in this proxy statement are to the Company's fiscal year ended January 3, 2015, unless otherwise noted in the text. References to "2015" or "fiscal year 2015" in this proxy statement are to the Company's fiscal year ending January 2, 2016, unless otherwise noted in the text.

## Board of Directors

The stockholders elect directors to serve on the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board of Directors" or "Board"). The Board oversees the management of the business by the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and senior management. In addition to its general oversight function, the Board's additional responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- » Reviewing, approving and monitoring the implementation of the Company's key strategic and business objectives;
- » reviewing the Company's financial objectives and major corporate plans and actions;
- » selecting, evaluating and compensating the CEO and overseeing CEO succession planning;
- » providing advice and oversight regarding the selection, evaluation, development and compensation of senior management;
- » overseeing the Company's identification, assessment and management of significant risks confronting the Company; and
- » assessing whether adequate policies and procedures are in place to safeguard the integrity of the Company's business operations and financial reporting and to promote compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and monitoring management's administration of those policies and procedures.

The Company expects directors to attend every meeting of the Board and the committees on which they serve and to attend the annual meeting of stockholders. In 2014, 12 directors (all directors then serving on the Board) attended the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, and all directors attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Board and the committees on which they served.

## BOARD COMPOSITION

The Board prides itself on its ability to recruit and retain directors who have high personal and professional integrity and have demonstrated exceptional ability and judgment to effectively serve the stockholders' long-term interests. The Board believes that our directors, including the



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nominees for election as directors with terms expiring in 2018, have valuable skills that provide the Company with the variety and depth of knowledge, judgment and strategic vision necessary to provide effective oversight of the Company. Our directors have extensive experience in different fields, including footwear and apparel, retail, global operations, finance and accounting, and information technology. In addition,

many of our directors have significant leadership experience and experience in public company governance and related matters from their service as directors or senior executives of Wolverine Worldwide or other companies. We believe that all our directors possess the professional and personal qualifications necessary for board service and have highlighted noteworthy attributes for each director in the individual biographies below.

The Board's Governance Committee serves as its nominating committee. The Governance Committee, in anticipation of upcoming director elections and other potential or expected Board vacancies, searches for qualified individuals and recommends candidates to the Board. The Committee may retain a search firm or other external parties to assist it in identifying candidates, and the Committee has the sole authority to retain and terminate any such search firm and to approve the search firm's fees and other retention terms.

The Committee considers candidates suggested by directors, senior management or stockholders. Stockholders may recommend individuals as potential director candidates by communicating with the Committee through one of the Board communication mechanisms described under the heading "**Stockholder Communications Policy**." Stockholders that wish to nominate a director candidate must comply with the procedures set forth in the Company's By-Laws, which are posted on its website. Ultimately, upon the recommendation of the Governance Committee, the Board selects the Company nominees for election at each annual meeting. In selecting director nominees, the Board considers candidates' personal and professional integrity, ability and judgment, and likelihood to be effective, in conjunction with the other nominees and directors, in collectively serving the long-term interests of the stockholders. The Governance Committee also considers candidates' relative skills, background and characteristics; independence under applicable New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") listing standards and the Company's Director Independence Standards; potential contribution to the composition and culture of the Board; and ability and willingness to actively participate in the Board and committee meetings and to otherwise devote sufficient time to Board duties.

The Governance Committee reviews with the Board on an annual basis the appropriate skills and characteristics desired of Board members in the context of the current make-up of the Board. The Board, with the assistance of the Governance Committee, annually assesses the current composition of the Board and considers diversity across many dimensions. As set forth in the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, which are posted on its website, this assessment addresses issues of experience, diversity, age and skills.

## ITEM 1 Election of Directors for Terms Expiring in 2018

The Company's Board consists of 11 directors. The Company's By-Laws establish three classes of directors, with each class being as nearly equal in number as possible and serving three-year terms. At each annual meeting, the term of one class expires. The Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines state that a director must offer to resign from the Board at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders following his or her 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday, subject to the Board waiving this requirement under circumstances determined by the Board. The Board has nominated three directors for election at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on April 22, 2015: Roxane Divol, Joseph R. Gromek and Brenda J. Lauderback. Each director has been nominated to serve for a three-year term expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2018 or until his or her successor, if any, has been elected and is qualified.

Ms. Divol, Mr. Gromek and Ms. Lauderback are independent directors, as determined by the Board under the applicable NYSE listing standards and the Company's Director Independence Standards. Each director nominee currently serves on the Board. The stockholders elected Mr. Gromek and Ms. Lauderback at the Company's 2012 annual meeting, and Ms. Divol was appointed to the Board in October 2014. The Company is not aware of any nominee who will be unable or unwilling to serve as a director. However, if a nominee is unable to serve or is otherwise unavailable for election, the incumbent directors may or may not select a substitute nominee. If the directors select a substitute nominee, the proxy holder will vote the shares represented by all valid proxies for the substitute nominee (unless other instructions are given).

The biographies of the three nominees and the other directors of the Company are below, along with a discussion of the above-described skills and qualifications for each director.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

**Senior Vice President and  
General Manager, Trust  
Services for Symantec  
Corporation**

Since 2014, Ms. Divol has been Senior Vice President and General Manager, Trust Services, for Symantec Corporation, a global leader in information, security, backup and availability solutions, including Norton security products. From 2013 to 2014, Ms. Divol was Senior Vice President of Alliances with Symantec. Ms. Divol joined McKinsey & Company, a global management consulting firm, in 1996 and was a principal in its San Francisco office until 2013, where she led the West Coast marketing and sales practice, with a focus on marketing return on investment and marketing transformation. Ms. Divol's experience with Symantec Corporation and McKinsey & Company provides her with expertise in global operations and information technology, which the Board believes are critical areas in the Company's long-term strategic plans.

**Retired President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director of The Warnaco Group, Inc.**

**Board Committees:**  
Compensation  
Governance

**Public Directorships:**  
Guess?, Inc.  
The Children's Place Retail Stores, Inc.  
Tumi, Inc.

From 2003 until his retirement in 2012, Mr. Gromek served as President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of The Warnaco Group, Inc., a publicly traded company. Mr. Gromek also served as Chief Executive Officer of Brooks Brothers, Inc. from 1995 until 2002. He is currently the Chairman of the Board of Tumi, Inc., a publicly traded company featuring a leading global brand of premium travel, business and lifestyle products and accessories, and serves as a director of Guess?, Inc., an apparel wholesaler and retailer, and The Children's Place Retail Stores, Inc., a children's clothing retailer. Mr. Gromek is also a director of Stanley M. Proctor Company and J. McLaughlin, both privately held companies. Having served for more than 40 years in the retail and apparel industries, including 30 years managing and marketing apparel brands and a collective 15 years as the chief executive officer of two leading, multi-national apparel companies, Mr. Gromek has expertise in apparel, retail and global operations. His service as a senior executive and director at various public companies has given him extensive leadership experience and experience in public company governance and related matters.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

**Retired President of the  
Wholesale and Retail Group of  
Nine West Group, Inc.**

**Board Committees:**  
Audit  
Governance

**Public Directorships:**  
Big Lots, Inc.  
Denny's Corporation  
Select Comfort Corporation

From 1995 until her retirement in 1998, Ms. Lauderback was President of the Wholesale and Retail Group of Nine West Group, Inc., a footwear wholesaler and distributor. She previously was the President of the Wholesale Division of U.S. Shoe Corporation, a footwear manufacturer and distributor, a position that included responsibility for offices in China, Italy and Spain, and she was a Vice President/General Merchandise Manager of Dayton Hudson Corporation (now Target Corporation), a retailer. During the preceding five years, Ms. Lauderback also was, but no longer is, a director of Irwin Financial Corporation, a publicly traded bank holding company. Ms. Lauderback has more than 25 years of experience in the retail industry, with more than 20 years in the footwear, apparel, and accessories industries. In particular, senior leadership positions have provided her with strong footwear, apparel and retail expertise. With her service on publicly traded company boards, including Big Lots, Inc., a retail company, Denny's Corporation, a restaurant company, and Select Comfort Corporation, a bed manufacturer and retailer, and as a director of Wolverine Worldwide, she also has extensive experience with public company governance and related matters.

***BOARD RECOMMENDATION***

**The Board recommends that you vote "FOR" the election of the above nominees for terms expiring in 2018.**

## Directors with Terms Expiring in 2016

**Retired Executive Vice  
President of Kellogg  
International, President of Latin  
America; Senior Vice President  
of Kellogg Company**

**Board Committees:**  
Audit  
Compensation

Mr. Boromisa worked at Kellogg Company, a global food manufacturing company, and its affiliates from 1981 to 2009. From 2008 through his retirement in May 2009, Mr. Boromisa was Executive Vice President of Kellogg International, President of Latin America; Senior Vice President of Kellogg Company. From 2007 until 2008, Mr. Boromisa served as Executive Vice President of Kellogg International, President of Asia Pacific and Senior Vice President of the Kellogg Company. From 2004 through 2006, he was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Kellogg Company. In addition, beginning in 2004 and through his retirement, Mr. Boromisa was a member of Kellogg Company's Global Leadership Team. Prior to 2004, Mr. Boromisa occupied various leadership positions with Kellogg. Mr. Boromisa is also a director at Haworth International, Inc., a privately held, multinational, office furniture design and manufacturing company. With nearly 30 years of experience at Kellogg Company, including serving as its chief financial officer and leading various operational business units, Mr. Boromisa has obtained leadership, retail, global operations and finance expertise.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

<b>Executive Vice President, Personal Care for Unilever PLC / Unilever N.V.</b>	<b>Public Directorships: ManpowerGroup Inc.</b>
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Since 2011, Ms. Boswell has been Executive Vice President, Personal Care for Unilever PLC / Unilever N.V., a global food, personal care, and household products company whose products are sold in more than 190 countries and include such well-known global brands as *Dove*, *Vaseline*, *Lipton* and *Hellman's*. From 2008 to 2011, Ms. Boswell served as President, Global Brands, for The Alberto-Culver Company, a consumer goods company. Ms. Boswell has held numerous other senior leadership positions with other leading global companies, including Avon Products, Inc., Ford Motor Company, and Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. Ms. Boswell is a member of the board of ManpowerGroup Inc., a publicly traded workforce solutions company, where she is also the chairperson of the audit committee. Through senior leadership roles with leading, branded companies, Ms. Boswell has obtained expertise in brand building and leadership, global operations and finance experience; and her service as a director at ManpowerGroup Inc. has provided her with public company governance and related experience.

**President and Chairman of 22, Inc.    Public Directorships:**  
L Brands, Inc.  
Select Comfort Corporation

Mr. Kollat has been Chairman and President of 22, Inc., a company specializing in research and management consulting for retailers and consumer goods manufacturers, since 1987. In addition to his marketing and management experience as Chairman and President of 22, Inc., Mr. Kollat served for 11 years in senior leadership positions at L Brands, Inc. (formerly Limited Brands, Inc.), a publicly traded, multinational apparel and retail company, including as Executive Vice President, Marketing, President of Victoria's Secret Direct, and as a member of its executive committee. Mr. Kollat is Lead Director of Wolverine Worldwide. Mr. Kollat has been a director of L Brands, Inc. since 1976 and a director of Select Comfort Corporation, a bed manufacturer and retailer, since 1994. During the preceding five years, Mr. Kollat was, but no longer is, a director of Big Lots, Inc., a publicly traded retail company. Mr. Kollat's work for L Brands, Inc. and 22, Inc. has provided him with marketing, apparel, retail and leadership expertise. He also has experience with public company governance and related matters through his extensive service on public company boards.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

**Retired Chairman and Chief  
Executive Officer of Wolverine  
World Wide, Inc.**

**Public Directorships:**  
SpartanNash Company

Mr. O'Donovan is a former Chairman of the Board of Wolverine Worldwide and served in that position from April 2005 through December 2009. In April 2007, Mr. O'Donovan retired as Chief Executive Officer of Wolverine Worldwide, a position that he had held since April 2000. Mr. O'Donovan served Wolverine Worldwide as its Chief Executive Officer and President from April 2000 until April 2005, and as Chief Operating Officer and President from 1996 until April 2000. Prior to 1996, Mr. O'Donovan held various positions with the Company, including Executive Vice President of Wolverine Worldwide. During the preceding five years, Mr. O'Donovan was, but no longer is, a director of Kaydon Corporation, a publicly traded company that designed and manufactured custom-engineered products. Mr. O'Donovan has obtained footwear and apparel, retail, leadership, global operations and finance expertise through his more than 40 years with the Company. His service on public company boards has provided him with public company governance and related experience.

## Directors with Terms Expiring in 2017

**Managing Director of Cabrillo  
Point Capital LLC**

**Board Committees:**  
Audit

**Public Directorships:**  
AK Steel Holding Corporation

Mr. Gerber is Managing Director of Cabrillo Point Capital LLC, a private investment fund. He has held that position since 2008. From 1998 to 2007, Mr. Gerber was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Kelly Services, Inc., a publicly traded global staffing solutions company with operations in more than 35 countries. During the preceding five years, Mr. Gerber was, but no longer is, a director of Kaydon Corporation, a publicly traded company that designed and manufactured custom-engineered products. From his 15 years in leadership positions with L Brands, Inc. (formerly Limited Brands, Inc.), a multinational apparel and retail company, and Kelly Services, Inc., Mr. Gerber has obtained extensive experience in apparel, retail, leadership, global operations and finance, and his service as a director of various public companies has given him experience with public company governance and related matters.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

**Chairman, Chief Executive Officer  
and President of Wolverine World  
Wide, Inc.**

Mr. Krueger is Chairman of Wolverine Worldwide, a position he assumed in January 2010, and Chief Executive Officer and President of Wolverine Worldwide, positions he assumed in April 2007. From October 2005 until April 2007, Mr. Krueger served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Wolverine Worldwide. From 2004 to October 2005, he served as Executive Vice President and Secretary of Wolverine Worldwide and President of its Heritage Brands Group. From 2003 to 2004, Mr. Krueger served as Executive Vice President and Secretary of Wolverine Worldwide and President of the Company's Caterpillar Footwear Group. He also previously served as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Wolverine Worldwide with various responsibilities including the human resources, retail, business development, accessory licensing, mergers and acquisitions, and legal areas. Mr. Krueger's more than 15 years in senior leadership roles with the Company have provided him expertise in footwear and apparel, retail, global operations and finance, and his board experience at the Company and Professionals Direct, Inc., a then publicly traded insurance company, has given him extensive experience with public company governance and related matters.

**Chief Executive Officer of  
MillerCoors LLC**

**Board Committees:**  
Compensation  
Governance

Mr. Long has been Chief Executive Officer of MillerCoors LLC ("MillerCoors"), a joint venture between two publicly traded beverage companies, since 2011. In February of 2015, Mr. Long announced his retirement as CEO of MillerCoors, effective June 30, 2015. From 2008 to 2011, Mr. Long served as President and Chief Commercial Officer of MillerCoors. From 2007 to 2008, Mr. Long served as Chief Executive Officer of Miller Brewing Company, a beverage company, and he served as Chief Marketing Officer of Miller Brewing Company from 2005 to 2007. Prior to joining Miller Brewing Company, Mr. Long spent 17 years in various senior leadership positions at The Coca-Cola Company, a beverage company, including Vice President of Strategic Marketing, Global Brands, Vice President Strategic Marketing Research and Trends, President of Coca-Cola's Great Britain and Ireland Division and President of the Northwest Europe Division. Through his more than 20 years in senior positions at category-leading, branded companies, Mr. Long has developed marketing and global operations expertise.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

**Chairman of Herman Miller,  
Inc.**

**Board Committees:**  
Compensation  
Governance

**Public Directorships:**  
Herman Miller, Inc.

Mr. Volkema has been Chairman of Herman Miller, Inc., a publicly traded multinational furniture manufacturer, since 2000. Mr. Volkema became President and Chief Executive Officer of Herman Miller in 1995 and held those positions until 2003 and 2004, respectively. Mr. Volkema has more than 30 collective years of experience on public company boards, including 14 years as Chairman of the Board at Herman Miller, Inc., and including service on the compensation and audit committees of boards of publicly traded companies. Mr. Volkema also is a director at Milliken & Company, a privately held, innovation-based company serving the textile, chemical, and floor covering markets. Mr. Volkema has obtained leadership and global operations expertise from his more than 20 years in senior leadership positions with Herman Miller, Inc. Mr. Volkema also has public company governance and related experience from his extensive service on public company boards.

## Corporate Governance

As part of an annual self-assessment, each director evaluates the performance of the Board, and any committee on which he or she serves, across a number of dimensions. Mr. Kollat, as the Lead Director working with the Governance Committee, reviews the Board self-assessment with directors following the end of each fiscal year. Committee Chairpersons review the committee self-assessments with their respective committee members and discuss them with the Board. In addition, the Lead Director, working with the Governance Committee, develops and implements guidelines for evaluating all directors standing for nomination and re-election.

The Corporate Governance Guidelines (including the Director Independence Standards); the Charter for each Board standing committee (Audit, Compensation and Governance); the Company's Certificate of Incorporation; By-Laws; Code of Conduct & Compliance and its Accounting and Finance Code of Ethics all are available on the Wolverine Worldwide website at:

<http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance/>

The Board and committees annually review these and other key governance documents.

## RISK OVERSIGHT

The Board oversees the Company's risk management and mitigation activities through presentations by and discussions with the CEO, Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), General Counsel, brand and department leaders and other members of management. The Vice President of Internal Audit and Risk Compliance coordinates management's day-to-day risk management and mitigation processes, and reports directly to the Audit Committee and CFO. The Vice President of Internal Audit and Risk Compliance reviews with the Audit Committee quarterly, and with the full Board annually, management's related assessment and mitigation strategies. In addition to the above processes, the Board has delegated the following risk management and mitigation oversight responsibilities to its standing committees, which meet regularly to review and discuss risk topics and then report to the Board:

- » The Audit Committee reviews the Company's policies and systems with respect to risk assessment and risk management. The Committee also oversees the Company's risk policies and processes relating to its financial statements and financial reporting processes, credit risks, and liquidity risks, as well as the Company's management of risks related to cybersecurity. The Committee discusses with management and the independent auditors significant risks or exposures and the steps taken by management to resolve them.
- » The Compensation Committee monitors the risks associated with management resources; organization structure; succession planning, hiring, development and retention processes; and it reviews and evaluates risks associated with the Company's compensation structure.
- » The Governance Committee oversees risks related to the Company's governance structure and processes and potential risks arising from related person transactions.

## RISK CONSIDERATIONS IN COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

The Company reviewed its compensation policies and practices to assess whether they are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. As part of this review, the Company compiled information about the Company's incentive plans, including reviewing the Company's compensation philosophy, evaluating key incentive plan design features and reviewing historic payout levels and pay mix. With assistance from Company management, the Compensation Committee reviewed the executive compensation programs, and managers from the Company's human resources and legal departments reviewed the non-executive compensation programs.

Wolverine Worldwide Notice of 2015 Annual  
Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement

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## BOARD LEADERSHIP

The Company's CEO currently also serves as the Chairman of the Board. Since 1993, the Company has had an independent Lead Director who functions in many ways similar to an independent Chairman. This long-established structure provides the Board with independent oversight of the CEO's leadership. The Board considers the appropriate leadership structure, including whether to separate the roles of Chairman and CEO, based upon the Company's then-current circumstances. The Board believes that separating the Chairman and CEO roles at this time would add unnecessary complexity to the organization structure without adding materially to the Board's independent oversight of the CEO function. The Company's independent directors annually select an independent Lead Director. As outlined in the Corporate Governance Guidelines, the principal duties of the Lead Director include:

- » reviewing and approving the agenda and scheduling for Board and committee meetings;
- » reviewing and approving information and meeting materials sent to the Board;
- » presiding over executive sessions and having the authority to call executive sessions;
- » serving as a liaison between the Chairman and the independent directors;
- » presiding over Board meetings in the absence of the Chairman; and
- » being available for consultation and communication with stockholders, as appropriate.

## DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The Board annually assesses the independence of all directors. To qualify as "independent," the Board must affirmatively determine that the director is independent under the Company's Director Independence Standards, which are modeled after the listing standards of the NYSE. Under NYSE listing standards, the Board has determined that 10 of the Company's 11 directors are independent. Only Mr. Krueger, the Company's CEO, is not independent. All of the Board's committees are comprised entirely of independent directors. The independent directors meet periodically each year in executive session.

The Director Independence Standards define an "Independent Director" as a director who the Board determines otherwise has no material relationship with the Company (either directly or as a partner, stockholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company), and who:

<b>Boromisa</b>	X	X
<b>Boswell</b>	X	X
<b>Divol</b>	X	X
<b>Gerber</b>	X	X
<b>Gromek</b>	X	X



<b>Kollat</b>		X	X
<b>Krueger</b>	X		
<b>Lauderback</b>		X	X
<b>Long</b>		X	X
<b>O'Donovan</b>		X	X
<b>Volkema</b>		X	X

»

is not, and in the past three years has not been, an employee of the Company;

»

does not have, and has not had within the last three years, an immediate family member employed as an executive officer of the Company;

»

has not received, and has not had an immediate family member receive during any 12-month period within the last three years, any direct compensation from the Company in excess of \$120,000 (other than compensation for Board service; compensation received by the director for former service as an interim Chairman, CEO or other executive officer; compensation received by the director's immediate family member

for service as a non-executive employee; or pension and other forms of deferred compensation for prior service if such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service);

»

is not a current employee or partner of a firm that is the Company's internal or external auditor;

»

has not been, and has not had an immediate family member who has been within the last three years, a partner or employee of the Company's internal or external auditor and personally worked on the Company's audit within that time;

»

has not had an immediate family member who is (i) a current partner of the Company's internal or external auditor, or (ii) a

current employee of the Company's internal or external auditor who personally works on the Company's audit;

»

is not, and has not been within the last three years, part of an interlocking directorate in which a current executive officer of Wolverine Worldwide serves or served on the compensation committee of another company where the director or the director's immediate family member concurrently serves or served as an executive officer;

»

is not an employee of, and does not have an immediate family member who is an executive officer of, another company that has made payments to, or received payments from, Wolverine Worldwide for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1,000,000 or 2% of the other company's consolidated gross revenues; or

»

has not had any other direct or indirect relationship with Wolverine Worldwide that the Board determines is material.

"Immediate Family Member" is defined as spouses, parents, children, siblings, in-laws, and any person (other than domestic employees) sharing the household of any director, nominee for director, executive officer, or significant stockholder of a company.

## BOARD COMMITTEES

The following table identifies the current members of the Board and its standing committees and the number of meetings the Board and each committee held in 2014.

<b>Audit Committee</b> (9 Meetings)	<b>Compensation Committee</b> (7 Meetings)	<b>Finance Committee*</b> (2 Meetings)	<b>Governance Committee</b> (6 Meetings)
Gerber (Chair) Boromisa Lauderback	Gromek (Chair) Boromisa Long Volkema	Boromisa (Chair) Gerber Gromek	Lauderback (Chair) Gromek Long Volkema

\*

*The Finance Committee was dissolved in April 2014.*

### Audit Committee

The Board has determined that each Audit Committee member is "independent" as defined by NYSE listing standards and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as applicable to audit committee members, and satisfies the NYSE "financial literacy" requirement. In addition, the Board has determined that Mr. Boromisa and Mr. Gerber are "audit committee financial experts" under Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") rules.

The charter of the Audit Committee is published on the Company's website at <http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance/> and lists all the Audit Committee's duties and responsibilities. In accordance with its charter, the Audit Committee:

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represents and assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibility regarding the Company's financial statements and the financial reporting process, the Company's internal control over financial reporting, the performance of the internal audit function and the independent auditors, the qualifications and independence of the independent auditors, the annual independent audit of the Company's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting, the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and the Company's policies and systems with respect to risk assessment and risk management;

»

appoints, retains, compensates, oversees, evaluates and, if appropriate, terminates the independent auditors;

»

approves in advance all audit and permissible non-audit services to be provided by the independent auditors and establishes policies and procedures for the engagement of the independent auditors to provide audit and permissible non-audit services; annually obtains and reviews the independent auditors' internal quality control report and other reports required by applicable rules, regulations and standards;

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- » annually obtains and reviews the independent auditors' report regarding the auditors' independence;
- » annually reviews and assesses auditor objectivity and independence;
- » annually reviews the performance, effectiveness, objectivity and independence of the independent auditors and the Company's internal audit function;
- » discusses with the internal audit staff and the independent auditors the overall scope and plans for their respective audits;
- » receives, reviews and discusses reports from management, the finance and internal audit staff and the independent auditors regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting;
- » receives, reviews and discusses reports from management regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures;
- » reviews and discusses the Company's policies and processes with respect to risk assessment and risk management and discusses with management and the independent auditors significant risks or exposures and steps taken by management to mitigate them; oversees the Company's risk policies and processes relating to its financial statements and financial reporting processes, credit risks and liquidity risks;
- » oversees the Company's management of risks related to cybersecurity;
- » meets separately, periodically with management, internal audit staff, and the independent auditors;
- » reviews with the independent auditors any audit problems or difficulties and management's response;
- » reviews and discusses with the independent auditors matters required to be discussed by the independent auditors under Accounting Standard No. 16, as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and amended from time to time;
- » meets to review with management and the Company's independent auditors the Company's interim and annual audited financial statements, including disclosures in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, that are included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Annual Reports on Form 10-K;
- » recommends to the Board whether the Company's audited financial statements should be included in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K;
- »

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establishes and oversees procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, auditing or federal securities law matters, and for the confidential, anonymous submission by the Company's employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting, auditing or federal securities law matters;

»

reviews and discusses with management and the independent auditors the Company's earnings press releases and financial information and earnings guidance provided by the Company to analysts and rating agencies;

»

oversees the preparation of the audit committee report required by the SEC rules to be included in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting of stockholders;

»

establishes the Company's hiring policies for employees and former employees of the independent auditors;

»

engages consultants and advisors at the expense of the Company to assist the Committee as it deems necessary in the performance of its functions;

»

oversees the Company's legal and regulatory compliance systems and reviews the Company's codes of conduct and programs to monitor compliance with such codes;

»

at least annually receives a report on the Company's compliance programs, and reviews and discusses the implementation and effectiveness of the Company's compliance programs with the General Counsel, who has the authority to communicate promptly and directly to the Audit Committee and the Board about reports that involve actual and alleged violations of law or the Company's codes of conduct; and

»

conducts and discusses with the Board an annual performance evaluation of the Committee, including the Committee's adherence to its charter.

## Compensation Committee

The Board has determined that each Compensation Committee member is "independent" as defined by NYSE listing standards, as applicable to compensation committee members.

The charter of the Compensation Committee is published on the Company's website at <http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance/> and lists all the Compensation Committee's duties and responsibilities. In accordance with its charter, the Compensation Committee:

- » assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to executive compensation and the Company's compensation and benefit programs and policies;
- » oversees the overall compensation structure, policies and programs, including whether the compensation structure establishes appropriate incentives for management and employees;
- » oversees the Company's management of risks relating to management resources, organization structure, and succession planning, hiring, development and retention processes, as well as those relating to the Company's compensation structure, policies and programs;
- » administers and makes recommendations with respect to incentive compensation plans, including stock incentive plans;
- » assesses the results of the Company's most recent advisory vote on executive compensation;
- » reviews and approves corporate and personal goals and objectives relevant to CEO compensation, evaluates the performance of the CEO in light of these goals and objectives, and, together with the other independent directors, approves the compensation of the CEO based on the evaluation;
- » discusses with the CEO the performance of other executives on the CEO's management team as well as certain brand presidents as it deems appropriate (together with the CEO, the "Executives");
- » reviews the compensation of Executives, and reviews and approves the compensation of Executives who report directly to the CEO;
- » reviews and approves, as appropriate, stock incentive grants and other equity compensation to Executives, including the terms and conditions of any such compensation;
- » reviews and discusses with management Wolverine Worldwide's Compensation Discussion and Analysis and related disclosures required by the SEC rules and recommends to the Board whether such disclosures should be included in the annual report and proxy statement;
- » oversees the preparation of the compensation committee report required by the SEC rules to be included in the annual report and proxy statement;

- » reviews and approves the design of benefit plans pertaining to Executives;
- » reviews and recommends employment agreements and severance arrangements for the CEO, including change in control provisions, plans or agreements;
- » reviews and approves employment agreements and severance agreements for Executives other than the CEO, including change in control provisions, plans or agreements;
- » establishes stock ownership guidelines for directors, Executives and other appropriate employees and monitors compliance with the guidelines;
- » considers and recommends to the Board the frequency of the Company's advisory vote on executive compensation;
- » engages consultants and advisors at the expense of the Company to assist the Committee as it deems necessary in the performance of its functions;
- » appoints, determines compensation for and oversees the work of any consultants and advisors retained by the Committee and oversees compliance with any applicable requirements relating to the independence of such consultants or advisors;
- » at least annually, assesses whether the work of compensation consultants involved in determining or recommending executive or director compensation has raised any conflict of interest that is required to be disclosed in the Company's annual report and proxy statement; and
- » conducts and discusses with the Board an annual performance evaluation of the Committee, including the Committee's adherence to its charter.

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*Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation.* During fiscal year 2014, none of the members of the Compensation Committee was an officer or employee of the Company, was a former officer of the Company, nor had a relationship with the Company requiring disclosure as a related party transaction under Item 404 of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act of 1933. None of the Company's executive officers served on the compensation committee or board of directors of another entity whose executive officer(s) served as a director on the Company's Board or on the Compensation Committee.

See the "**Compensation Discussion and Analysis**" section below for more information regarding the Compensation Committee's processes and procedures.

## Governance Committee

The Board has determined that each Governance Committee member is "independent" as defined by NYSE listing standards.

The charter of the Governance Committee is published on the Company's website at <http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance/> and lists all the Governance Committee's duties and responsibilities. In accordance with its charter, the Governance Committee:

- » assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities on matters and issues related to the Company's corporate governance practices;
- » in conjunction with the Board, establishes qualification standards for membership on the Board and its committees;
- » leads the search for individuals qualified to become members of the Board and reviews the qualifications of candidates for election to the Board;
- » establishes procedures for the consideration of candidates for election to the Board recommended for the Committee's consideration by the Company's stockholders;
- » recommends to the Board the Company's nominees for election or reelection by the stockholders at the annual meeting, and to fill vacancies and newly created directorships on the Board;
- » recommends to the Board qualified individuals to serve as committee members and chairpersons on the various Board committees;
- » develops and recommends to the Board corporate governance guidelines, reviews the guidelines on an annual basis, and recommends any changes to the guidelines as necessary;
- » periodically reviews the Board's leadership structure as part of the succession planning process and recommends changes to the Board as appropriate, and makes recommendations to the independent directors regarding the appointment of the Lead Director;
- » develops and recommends to the Board guidelines, in accordance with applicable rules and regulations, to be applied when assessing the independence of directors;
- »



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reviews related person transactions, as defined in applicable SEC rules, and establishes policies and procedures for the review, approval and ratification of related person transactions;

»

oversees the Company's management of risks related to the Company's governance structure and related person transactions;

»

annually reviews the compensation of directors for service on the Board and committees and makes recommendations to the Board regarding such compensation;

»

annually reviews and makes recommendations to the Board concerning the structure, composition and functioning of the Board and its committees and recommends to the Board directors to serve as committee members and chairpersons;

»

reviews and recommends to the Board retirement and other tenure policies for directors;

»

reviews directorships in other public companies held by or offered to directors and Company employees;

»

develops and recommends to the Board for its approval an annual self-evaluation process for the Board and its committees, and oversees the evaluation process;

»

engages consultants and advisors at the expense of the Company to assist the Committee as it deems necessary in the performance of its functions; and

»

conducts and discusses with the Board an annual performance evaluation of the Committee, including the Committee's adherence to its charter.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT & COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE CODE OF ETHICS**

The Board has adopted a Code of Conduct & Compliance for the Company's directors, officers and employees. The Board also has adopted an Accounting and Finance Code of Ethics ("Accounting and Finance Code") that focuses on the financial reporting process and applies to the Company's CEO, CFO and Corporate Controller.

The Company will disclose amendments to or waivers from its Code of Conduct & Compliance affecting directors or executive officers and amendments to or waivers from its Accounting and Finance Code, on its website at:

[www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance](http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance) .

## **STOCKHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS POLICY**

Stockholders and other interested parties may send correspondence to the Board, the non-management directors as a group, a specific Board committee or a director (including the Lead Director).

The General Counsel will provide a summary and copies of all correspondence (other than solicitations for services, products or publications) to the applicable directors at each regularly scheduled meeting.

Communications may be sent:

By emailing through various links provided on Wolverine Worldwide's website at:

[www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance/](http://www.wolverineworldwide.com/investor-relations/corporate-governance/)

c/o General Counsel and Secretary, Wolverine World Wide, Inc., 9341 Courtland Drive, N.E., Rockford, Michigan 49351

The General Counsel will alert individual directors to items which warrant a prompt response from the individual director prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Items warranting a prompt response, but not addressed to a specific director, will be routed to the applicable Committee Chairperson.

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**Non-Employee Director Compensation in Fiscal Year 2014**

Wolverine Worldwide's director compensation philosophy is to pay compensation competitive with compensation paid by companies of similar size in the same industries and with whom Wolverine Worldwide competes for director candidates. The Governance Committee, with input from management and from Towers Watson, reviewed director compensation and compared it to market data, including a comparison to director compensation data for the Peer Group, as defined on page 31. The following table provides information concerning the compensation of the Company's non-employee directors for fiscal year 2014. Mr. Krueger receives compensation for his services as the Company's CEO and President, but does not receive any additional compensation for his service as a director.

<b>Promisa</b>	\$	105,500	+	-	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	170,500	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	215,500	
<b>oswell</b>	\$	65,000	+	-	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	130,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	175,000	
<b>ivol3</b>		-	+	-	+		-	=		-	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	65,000	
<b>erber</b>	\$	106,000	+	-	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	171,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	216,000	
<b>rimoldi4</b>		-	+	\$	20,357	+	\$	20,357	=	\$	40,714	+		=	\$	40,714	
<b>romek</b>		-	+	\$	110,000	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	175,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	220,000
<b>ollat</b>	\$	120,000	+	-	+	\$	86,000	=	\$	206,000	+	\$	59,000	=	\$	265,000	
<b>auderback</b>	\$	80,250	+	\$	26,750	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	172,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	217,000
<b>ong</b>	\$	89,000	+	-	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	154,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	199,000	
<b>'Donovan</b>	\$	65,000	+	-	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	130,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	175,000	
<b>eterson4</b>	\$	28,813	+	-	+	\$	20,357	=	\$	49,170	+		=	\$	49,170		
<b>olkema</b>		-	+	\$	89,000	+	\$	65,000	=	\$	154,000	+	\$	45,000	=	\$	199,000

1

*Represents cash payments received or deferred by directors for fiscal year 2014. Directors may defer director fees and receive stock units pursuant to the Deferred Compensation Plan. The table shows the Fees Earned or Paid in Cash separated into Fees Paid in Cash, Cash Amounts Voluntarily Deferred, and Cash Amounts Deferred Through Annual Equity Retainers (required as part of the compensation program for directors) that will be paid out in stock.*

2

*Represents the aggregate grant date fair value of stock options granted to non-employee directors in fiscal year 2014, calculated in accordance with Accounting Standard Codification ("ASC") Topic 718. The chart*

*below lists the aggregate outstanding option awards held by non-employee directors at the end of fiscal year 2014. For valuation assumptions, see the Stock-Based Compensation footnote to Wolverine Worldwide's Consolidated Financial Statements for fiscal year 2014.*

3

*Ms. Divol was appointed to the Board in October 2014.*

4

*Mr. Grimoldi and Ms. Peterson retired from the Board at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.*

<b><i>Boromisa</i></b>	70,851	<b><i>Kollat</i></b>	76,274
<b><i>Boswell</i></b>	15,940	<b><i>Lauderback</i></b>	45,617
<b><i>Divol</i></b>	11,207	<b><i>Long</i></b>	31,847
<b><i>Gerber</i></b>	49,079	<b><i>O'Donovan</i></b>	49,379
<b><i>Gromek</i></b>	61,997	<b><i>Volkema</i></b>	33,199

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The following table shows the non-employee director compensation program for 2014:

Newly Appointed or Elected Director	\$0	Number of options equal to \$65,000, determined using the Black-Scholes method. <sup>1</sup>	No change
Annual Director Fee	\$65,000	Number of options equal to \$45,000, determined using the Black-Scholes method. <sup>2</sup>	Cash fee changed to \$70,000. Option award changed to number of options equal to \$50,000 determined using the Black-Scholes method. Stock units changed to the equivalent of \$70,000 determined by dividing the dollar amount by the closing market price of the Company's common stock on the grant date. <sup>3</sup> Units are credited to the Amended and Restated Outside Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan.
Audit Committee Annual Fee	\$15,000		No change
Audit Committee Chairperson Annual Fee	\$20,000		No change
Compensation Committee Annual Fee	\$12,000		No change
Compensation Committee Chairperson Annual Fee	\$15,000		No change

Finance Committee Annual Fee	\$12,000			N/A <sup>4</sup>
Finance Committee Chairperson Annual Fee	\$15,000			N/A <sup>4</sup>
Governance Committee Annual Fee	\$12,000			No change
Governance Committee Chairperson Annual Fee	\$15,000			No change
Lead Director Annual Fee	In lieu of the standard Annual Director Fee, the Lead Director was paid a Cash Retainer of \$120,000.	In lieu of the standard stock option grant, the Lead Director received a quantity of stock options equal to \$59,000, calculated in the same manner as the standard grant. <sup>2</sup>	In lieu of the standard stock unit grant, the Lead Director received stock units equivalent to \$86,000, calculated and credited in the same manner as the standard grant. <sup>3</sup>	In lieu of other compensation for serving on the Board, the Lead Director will be paid a Cash Retainer of \$130,000, receive stock unit grants equal to \$92,000, and receive a stock option award equal to \$63,000, where the grant and award will be calculated as described above for the "Annual Director Fee."

<sup>1</sup> Upon her appointment on October 8, 2014, Ms. Divol received 11,207 options under the Stock Option Plan of 2013. The exercise price of options granted is equal to the closing market price of Wolverine Worldwide's common stock on the date the options were granted.

<sup>2</sup> For fiscal year 2014, Messrs. Boromisa, Gerber, Gromek, Long, O'Donovan and Volkema and Meses. Boswell and Lauderback each received 6,999 options (9,176 for Mr. Kollat) granted in April 2014 under the Stock Incentive Plan of 2013. The exercise price of options granted is equal to the closing market price of Wolverine Worldwide's common stock on the date of grant.

<sup>3</sup> For fiscal year 2014, one grant was made on the first business day of each calendar quarter. For fiscal year 2014, the Company credited each of Messrs. Boromisa, Gerber, Gromek, Long, O'Donovan and Volkema and Meses. Boswell and Lauderback with an aggregate of 2,328 stock units and credited Mr. Kollat with 3,080 stock units. Mr. Grimoldi and Ms. Peterson served for only one full quarter of fiscal year 2014 and the Company credited each of them with 624 stock units with respect to that quarter. Stock units are fully vested on the grant date and are credited under the Amended and Restated Outside Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (described below).

<sup>4</sup> The Finance Committee was dissolved in April 2014.



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The Company also:

- » pays director expenses associated with Board and committee meetings, other Company functions, and industry functions;
- » pays spouse travel expenses associated with international Board strategic planning meetings (there were no such meetings in 2014);
- » provides office space and administrative assistance to directors who visit Company locations;
- » occasionally provides to directors for review and assessment samples of its products that have nominal value; and
- » reimburses directors for some expenses relating to director education.

Management directors do not receive an annual cash or equity retainer or director stock option grant.

*Deferred Compensation Plan.* The Company's Amended and Restated Outside Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Deferred Compensation Plan") is a supplemental nonqualified deferred compensation plan for non-employee directors. A separate non-employee director deferred compensation plan applies to benefits accrued under that plan before January 1, 2005. The Deferred Compensation Plan permits all non-employee directors to defer, at their option, 25%, 50%, 75% or 100% of their director fees. The Company establishes a book account for each non-employee director and treats deferred compensation as if invested in Wolverine Worldwide common stock. The Company credits the director's account with the annual equity retainer amount described above and with a number of stock units equal to the amounts deferred, each divided by the closing market price of common stock on the payment date. The Company also credits director accounts with dividend equivalents in the form of additional stock units.

Upon a director's termination of service, or such later date as a director selects, the Company distributes the stock units in the director's book account in shares of Wolverine Worldwide common stock in either a single, lump-sum distribution or annual installment distributions over a period of up to 20 years (10 years under the plan for benefits accrued before January 1, 2005). The Company converts each stock unit to one share of Wolverine Worldwide common stock.

Upon a "change in control," the Company distributes to the director, in a single, lump-sum distribution, Wolverine Worldwide common stock in a number of shares equal to the stock units credited to a director's book account. The Deferred Compensation Plan defines "change in control" as:

- » the acquisition by any person, or by more than one person acting as a group, of more than 50% of either (i) the then outstanding shares of common stock of Wolverine Worldwide or (ii) the total fair market value of Wolverine Worldwide;
- » the acquisition by any person, or more than one person acting as a group, during the 12-month period from and including the date of the most recent acquisition, of ownership of 30% or more of the outstanding common stock of Wolverine Worldwide;
- » the replacement of a majority of the individuals who constitute the Board during any 12-month period by directors whose appointment or election is not endorsed by a majority of the directors prior to the date of the appointment or election; or
- » the acquisition, during any 12-month period ending on the date of the most recent acquisition, by any person of assets from Wolverine Worldwide having a gross fair market value of at least 40% of the gross fair market value of all the assets of Wolverine Worldwide immediately before the acquisition.



## **NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR STOCK OWNERSHIP GUIDELINES**

Wolverine Worldwide's stock ownership guidelines require each non-employee director to maintain a stock ownership level equal to six times the non-employee director annual cash retainer. Owned shares, vested stock options, to the extent of their in-the-money value, and stock units under the Deferred Compensation Plan count toward the ownership requirements. These guidelines are intended to align the interests of the directors with the stockholders. The guidelines prohibit non-employee directors from transferring Company stock by sale or gift unless he or she has first attained the applicable stockholding requirement and continues to meet that requirement immediately following the proposed transaction. During 2014, all non-employee directors were in compliance with these guidelines.

## Securities Ownership of Officers and Directors and Certain Beneficial Owners FIVE PERCENT STOCKHOLDERS

The following table sets forth information about those holders known by Wolverine Worldwide to be the beneficial owners of more than five percent of Wolverine Worldwide's outstanding shares of common stock as of March 2, 2015:

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Sole Voting Power	Sole Investment Power	Shared Voting or Investment Power	Total Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class <sup>5</sup>
<b>BlackRock, Inc.<sup>1</sup></b> 40 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street New York, NY 10022	8,319,421	8,540,960	0	8,540,960	8.29%
<b>T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc.<sup>2</sup></b> 100 E. Pratt Street Baltimore, MD 21202	2,016,191	10,271,021	0	10,271,021	9.96%
<b>Janus Capital Management LLC<sup>3</sup></b> 151 Detroit Street Denver, CO 80206	10,809,526	10,809,526	119,920	10,929,446	10.60%
<b>The Vanguard Group, Inc.<sup>4</sup></b> 100 Vanguard Boulevard Malvern, PA 19355	135,798	6,374,578	127,398	6,501,976	6.31%

1

*Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed on January 23, 2015. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that BlackRock, Inc. beneficially owns, in the aggregate, 8,540,960 shares of Wolverine Worldwide common stock.*

2

*Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G filed on January 12, 2015. The Schedule 13G indicates that T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. beneficially owns, in the aggregate, 10,271,021 shares of Wolverine Worldwide common stock.*

3

*Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed on February 18, 2015. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that Janus Capital Management LLC, beneficially owns, in the aggregate, 10,929,446 shares of Wolverine Worldwide common stock.*

4

*Based solely on information set forth in a Schedule 13G/A filed on February 10, 2015. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that The Vanguard Group, Inc., beneficially owns, in the*

*aggregate, 6,501,976 shares of Wolverine Worldwide common stock.*

5

*As of March 2, 2015, based on 103,087,484 shares outstanding on that date.*

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**STOCK OWNERSHIP BY MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS**

The following table sets forth the number of shares of common stock beneficially owned as of March 2, 2015, by each of the Company's directors and named executive officers and all of the Company's directors and executive officers as a group:

<b>Jeffrey M. Boromisa</b>	4,000		70,851	74,851	*
<b>Gina R. Boswell</b>			15,940	15,940	*
<b>Roxane Divol</b>			11,207	11,207	*
<b>James A. Gabel</b>	112,758			112,758	*
<b>William K. Gerber</b>	10,000		45,231	55,231	*
<b>Donald T. Grimes</b>	193,385		212,146	405,531	*
<b>Joseph R. Gromek</b>	35,000		61,997	96,997	*
<b>David T. Kollat</b>	215,344		67,784	283,128	*
<b>Blake W. Krueger</b>	1,286,330	59,796	473,197	1,819,323	1.74%
<b>Brenda J. Lauderback</b>	10,200		45,617	55,817	*
<b>Nicholas T. Long</b>			31,847	31,847	*
<b>Timothy J. O'Donovan</b>	724,020	48,960	49,379	822,359	*
<b>Andrew Simister</b>	120,701			120,701	*
<b>Michael A. Volkema</b>	10,000		33,199	43,199	*
<b>James D. Zwiers</b>	182,620	115,144	204,188	501,952	*
<b>All directors and executive officers as a group (19 people)</b>	3,378,082	223,900	1,568,558	5,170,540	4.94%

\*

*Represents beneficial ownership of less than 1%.*

1

*The numbers of shares stated are based on information provided by each person listed and include shares personally owned of record and shares that, under applicable regulations, are*

*considered to be otherwise beneficially owned.*

2

*These numbers include restricted shares and performance shares held, which are subject to forfeiture if the terms of the award are not satisfied.*

3

*These numbers include shares over which the listed person is legally entitled to share voting or investment power by reason of joint ownership, trust or other contract or property right and shares held by spouses, children or other relatives over whom the listed person may have influence by reason of such relationship.*

4

*The numbers represent shares that may be acquired within 60 days after March 2, 2015, by the exercise of stock options granted under Wolverine's various stock option plans. These numbers are also included in the Total Beneficial Ownership column.*

5

*As of March 2, 2015, based on 103,087,474 shares outstanding on that date plus the number of stock options exercisable by the specified person(s) within 60 days of March 2, 2015, as indicated in the "Stock Options" column.*

## Compensation Discussion and Analysis

The Company's Compensation Discussion and Analysis ("CD&A") provides an overview and analysis of Wolverine Worldwide's executive compensation program and policies, the material compensation decisions made with respect to fiscal year 2014 compensation, and the material factors considered in making those decisions. The CD&A refers only to the compensation of Wolverine Worldwide's "named executive officers" ("NEOs") unless noted otherwise:

Blake W. Krueger, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President  
James A. Gabel, President, Performance Group  
Donald T. Grimes, Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer  
Andrew Simister, President, Lifestyle Group  
James D. Zwiers, Senior Vice President and President, International Group

The CD&A is divided into the following four Sections:

- 2014 Overview
- Compensation Program Overview
- 2014 Compensation
- Other Compensation Policies and Practices

### - 2014 OVERVIEW

The Company had another strong year in fiscal 2014. Highlights for the year include:

- » revenues of \$2.76 billion, including fourth quarter revenue growth of 9.2%, marking record full-year revenue for Wolverine Worldwide;
- » record net earnings of \$133.1 million;
- » cash provided by operating activities of \$314.6 million; and
- » three-year total shareholder return in the 60th percentile compared to the Peer Group (defined below).

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## **Strong Financial Performance**

Wolverine Worldwide has a history of delivering strong financial performance. Our 15 brands are marketed in approximately 200 countries and territories around the world, and we believe this brand portfolio approach and the diversified geographic and customer base served by those brands have helped buffer the Company against challenges in any specific economic region or demographic sector and helped deliver strong financial performance in a variety of difficult economic environments.

Over the past five years, the Company's performance, based on cumulative total stockholder return, compared to the S&P SmallCap Index and the S&P Footwear Index, is as shown in the following table:





## Executive Compensation Overview for 2014

### Peer Group

The Compensation Committee (the "Committee"), with input from Towers Watson (the compensation consultant engaged by the Committee, as more fully described below), established the below peer group for use in setting 2014 NEO compensation (the "Peer Group"). As of the end of the 2014 Fiscal Year, companies in the Peer Group had market capitalizations ranging from 0.1 times to 3.7 times Wolverine Worldwide's market capitalization, and Peer Group company revenue ranged from 0.6 times to 3.0 times Wolverine Worldwide's 2014 revenue. Wolverine Worldwide's market capitalization and revenue placed it at the 48<sup>th</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> percentile of the Peer Group, respectively, with respect to these measures.

The following companies comprise the Peer Group:

Aéropostale, Inc.	Carter's, Inc.	DSW Inc.	The Jones Group Inc.
American Eagle Outfitters Inc.	Chico's FAS, Inc.	Foot Locker, Inc.	PVH Corp.
ANN Inc.	Coach, Inc.	Genesco Inc.	Williams-Sonoma, Inc.
Ascena Retail Group, Inc.	Deckers Outdoor Corporation	Guess?, Inc.	
Brown Shoe Company, Inc.	Dick's Sporting Goods, Inc.	Hanesbrands Inc.	

### Demonstrated Pay-for-Performance

The Board and the Committee believe that the Company's executive compensation program should pay for performance. The Committee reviewed the results of the stockholder advisory vote on executive compensation that was held at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in April 2014. The vote was with respect to the 2013 compensation actions and decisions for the Company's NEOs. Over 95 percent of the votes cast on the proposal were voted in support of the compensation of the Company's NEOs set forth in the CD&A, the summary compensation table and the related compensation tables and narratives in the 2014 proxy statement. Based on the results of the "say-on-pay" vote, the Committee concluded that the Company's executive compensation policies and practices enjoy substantial stockholder support. Taking into account the results of the say-on-pay vote, along with other factors such as the Company's corporate business objectives, the Committee's consideration of the Company's compensation philosophy and the Committee's review of competitive data (as discussed in more detail on page 35), the Committee did not make any changes to the structure of the executive compensation program for 2014.

### KEY COMPENSATION AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The Company's executive compensation program includes many contemporary corporate governance practices:

- » authorizing the Compensation Committee to hire an independent consultant;
- » implementing Stock Ownership Guidelines covering all NEOs;
- » prohibiting hedging and pledging of Company securities; and
- » requiring a double-trigger for change-in-control benefits under the Company's Executive Severance Agreements.

### Other Relevant Factors

CEO and other NEO compensation for fiscal year 2014, and, in the case of the long-term incentive compensation for the three-year period ending with fiscal year 2014, reflected the Company's financial performance over the past three years:

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- » over 80% of the CEO's total direct compensation (cash and equity) as reported in the Summary Compensation Table is tied to the Company's stock or performance measures;
- » the ratio of performance-based equity awards (including stock options) to time-vested restricted stock awards for the CEO is 1.8 to 1.0; and
- » each NEO's bonus opportunity was capped at 200% of his Target Percentage for each bonus program.

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## - COMPENSATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

Wolverine Worldwide's compensation philosophy is to provide executives with competitive salaries and incentives to achieve superior business and financial performance. The Committee oversees the Company's executive compensation program. The Committee reviews and approves NEO compensation, other than the CEO's compensation, which is approved by the Board's independent directors. The NEO compensation program has four primary objectives:

- » attract and retain talented NEOs who will lead Wolverine Worldwide and drive for superior business and financial performance;
- » provide incentives for achieving specific, pre-established near-term individual, business-unit and corporate goals and reward the attainment of those goals;
- » provide incentives for achieving pre-established longer-term corporate financial goals and reward the attainment of those goals; and
- » align the interests of NEOs with those of the stockholders through incentives based on increasing stockholder value.

Wolverine Worldwide's executive compensation program balances fixed compensation (base salaries) with performance-based compensation (annual bonuses and long-term incentives) and rewards annual performance while maintaining emphasis on longer-term objectives. The program also blends cash, non-cash (equity and equity-based awards), long- and short-term compensation components, and current and future compensation components. The Committee considers qualitative and quantitative factors when setting the amount and mix of NEO compensation. Each NEO's compensation mix and cash-to-equity ratio depends on his responsibilities, experience, skills, and potential to affect Wolverine Worldwide's overall performance. The Committee and Board believe the CEO has the broadest scope of responsibilities and typically approve higher compensation for the CEO (with a higher proportion of variable compensation) than for any other NEO. The Committee and Board believe this executive compensation philosophy has successfully generated superior performance over the long term.

### Compensation Program Summary

The Company's executive compensation program consists of four key elements, as shown in the accompanying table. First, each NEO receives a base salary. Second, each NEO is eligible to receive a cash-based Annual Bonus. The Annual Bonus has two parts: (i) an annual bonus based on performance

#### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Annual Bonus		Long-Term Incentive Compensation			Benefits	
Base Salary	Performance Bonus	Individual Bonus	Long-Term Incentive Bonus	Equity	Retirement and Welfare Plans	Perquisites

measured against Company or business unit performance criteria established by the Compensation Committee at the beginning of the fiscal year (the "Performance Bonus") under the Annual Bonus Plan, and (ii) an annual bonus based on performance measured against individual performance criteria (the "Individual Bonus") under the Individual Performance Bonus Plan. Third, each NEO is eligible to receive Long-Term Incentive Compensation. The Long-Term Incentive Compensation has two parts: (i) a long-term incentive bonus based on performance

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measured against pre-established Company performance criteria for a three-year period (the "3-Year Bonus"), and (ii) equity in the form of time-vested restricted stock awards and time-vested stock option grants. Fourth, NEOs hired before January 1, 2013 may participate in the Company's defined-benefit plan (subject to certain vesting criteria) and, at the discretion of the Committee, may participate in a supplemental executive retirement plan. In addition, each NEO may receive assistance with tax and estate planning, a matching contribution to his 401(k) account and other perquisites as discussed below under the "Perquisites" heading. The executive compensation program is set out in more detail in the remainder of this CD&A.

## Purposes of Compensation Program Elements

### Pay Element

<b>Base Salary</b>	»  Scope of core responsibilities, years of service with the Company (or experience in similar positions at other companies), skills, and knowledge	»  Provide a regular and stable source of income to NEOs
<b>Annual Incentive Compensation</b>	»  Performance Bonus rewards achieving specific corporate business objectives over which the NEO has reasonable control  »  For certain NEOs, Performance Bonus rewards achieving specific division business objectives over which the NEO has reasonable control  »  Individual Bonus rewards achieving specific personal objectives	»  Focus NEOs on specific annual goals that contribute to the Company's long-term success  »  Provide annual performance-based cash compensation  »  Align participants on important annual corporate, business level and individual performance metrics, with total annual opportunity heavily weighted toward achievement of corporate and business level goals
<b>Long Term Incentive Compensation</b>	»  Focusing on long-term corporate business objectives  »  Focusing on driving long-term stockholder value  »  Continuing employment with the Company during the vesting period	»  More closely align NEOs' interests with stockholders' interests  »  Reward NEOs for building stockholder value  »  Encourage long-term investment in the Company by participating NEOs  »  Retain NEOs
<b>Retirement and Welfare Benefits</b>	»  Focusing on long-term corporate business objectives	»  In the case of the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, provide retirement benefits that NEO participants would have received under the

»

broad-based plan in the absence of the IRS limits

Continuing long-term employment with the  
Company

»

Provide retirement security

»

Encourage long-term commitment to the  
Company by NEOs and assist Wolverine  
Worldwide in retaining talented NEOs

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## Compensation Committee Role

The Committee is responsible for overseeing the development and administration of the Company's compensation and benefits policies and programs. The Committee consists of four independent directors. Among its other responsibilities, the Committee formulates the compensation recommendations to the independent directors of the Board for the Company's CEO, reviews and approves all aspects of compensation for the other NEOs, and sets the Company's NEO compensation program, including:

- » reviewing and approving the Company's incentive goals and objectives relevant to compensation;
- » evaluating individual performance results in light of these goals and objectives;
- » evaluating the competitiveness of each NEO's total compensation package; and
- » approving (or, in the case of the CEO, recommending to the independent directors of the Board) any changes to the NEO's total compensation package, including, but not limited to, base salary, Annual Bonus, and long-term incentive compensation.

When making compensation recommendations or decisions, the Committee considers the CEO's assessment of the performance of each NEO, other than himself; the performance of the individual and the individual's respective business unit or function; the scope of the individual's responsibilities, years of service with the Company (or in similar positions with other companies), skills and knowledge; market data; market and economic conditions; retention considerations; and Wolverine Worldwide's compensation philosophy (collectively, the "Compensation Factors"). The Committee considers these Compensation Factors subjectively, and no single factor or combination of factors is determinative. Following its review and discussion, the Committee approves compensation for all NEOs, except the CEO. The Committee recommends compensation for the CEO to the independent directors of the Board, and those independent directors approve the CEO's compensation. The Lead Director and Compensation Committee Chair meet with the CEO at the end of the year to evaluate his performance compared to his personal objectives set at the beginning of the year. The Committee is supported in its work by the Senior Vice President of Global Human Resources, the General Counsel, and an independent executive compensation consultant as described below.

## CEO Role

Within the framework of the Company's executive compensation program, the CEO recommends the level of base salary, Annual Bonus, long-term incentive compensation, equity awards and other compensation components for his direct reports, including the other NEOs. The CEO bases his recommendation upon his assessment of the Compensation Factors applicable to each NEO. The CEO considers these Compensation Factors subjectively and no single factor is determinative. The Committee discusses these recommendations with the CEO prior to setting the compensation for each NEO, other than the CEO.

## Compensation Consultant Role

The Compensation Committee has retained Towers Watson as its executive compensation consultant. Towers Watson reports directly to the Committee, and the Committee determines the scope of its engagement and may replace it or hire additional consultants at any time. The Committee has evaluated Towers Watson's independence under the rules established by the NYSE and has determined that Towers Watson is "independent" as defined by NYSE rules. In addition, the Committee has evaluated whether the engagement of Towers Watson raises any conflicts of interest and has determined that no such conflicts of interest exist.

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At the Committee's invitation, a representative of Towers Watson generally attends Committee meetings and also communicates with the Compensation Committee Chair between meetings. However, the Committee makes all decisions regarding NEO compensation. Towers Watson provides various executive compensation services to the Committee pursuant to a consulting agreement with the Committee. Generally, these services include advising the Committee on the principal aspects of the Company's executive compensation program, evolving industry practices, and providing market information and analysis regarding the competitiveness of the Company's program design. During 2014, Towers Watson performed the following specific services:

- » advised the Committee on management proposals, as requested;
- » reviewed the CD&A and other executive compensation-related disclosures included in the Company's proxy statement;
- » attended Committee meetings, as requested;
- » reviewed the Company's peer group and advised the Committee on the composition of the peer group;
- » reviewed survey data for competitive comparisons;
- » provided market data and recommendations on CEO and other NEO compensation;
- » advised the Committee on market trends related to compensation policies and programs; and
- » proactively advised the Committee on best-practice approaches for governance of executive compensation.

The total fees the Company paid to Towers Watson for services to the Committee in 2014 were \$115,000. Towers Watson also was engaged by Wolverine Worldwide in 2014 to perform actuarial services, pension plan consulting and risk and financial services that are not part of the executive compensation services provided to the Committee. These services were performed on an interim and annual basis for financial reporting purposes. The total annual expense for this work was approximately \$279,000. The total fees the Company paid to Towers Watson (\$394,000) represent approximately one one hundredth of one percent (0.01%) of Towers Watson's revenue for its 2014 fiscal year (\$3.5 billion).

## Competitive Data Use

The Committee uses surveys and Peer Group information as market reference points. The Committee believes that compensation levels in the footwear, apparel and retail industries typically exceed levels reported in general industry surveys. The Committee also considers information the Company learns through recruiting NEOs and the experience levels and responsibilities of NEOs prior to joining the Company as reference points in setting NEO compensation.

As part of its competitive data review in connection with determining 2014 compensation, the Committee considered information presented by Towers Watson based on publicly-disclosed Peer Group information and on three published compensation surveys: (1) 2013 Towers Watson Data Services Survey Report on Top Management Compensation – Retail and Wholesale Trade Industry Cut, (2) 2013 Towers Watson Compensation Database Executive Database – Retail/Wholesale Executive Database, and (3) 2013 US Mercer Benchmark Database, Executive General, Retail Industry Cut.





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**2014 COMPENSATION****EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM**

<b>Base Salary</b>	<b>Annual Bonus</b>		<b>Long-Term Incentive Compensation</b>		<b>Benefits</b>	
	<b>Performance Bonus</b>	<b>Individual Bonus</b>	<b>Long-Term Incentive Bonus</b>	<b>Equity</b>	<b>Retirement and Welfare Plans</b>	<b>Perquisites</b>

As part of approving an NEO's base salary, the Committee considers the Compensation Factors described above. The Committee considers these Compensation Factors subjectively, and no single factor or combination of factors was determinative for any NEO. Based on these factors, the Committee approved the 2014 base salaries for the NEOs as noted in the table.

<b>Krueger</b>	\$1,150,000	\$1,100,000				
<b>Gabel</b>	\$510,000	N/A				
<b>Grimes</b>	\$580,000	\$560,000				
<b>Simister</b>	\$580,000	N/A				
<b>Zwiers</b>	\$608,000	\$590,000				

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM**

<b>Annual Bonus</b>	<b>Base Salary</b>	<b>Long-Term Incentive Compensation</b>		<b>Benefits</b>	
		<b>Long-Term Incentive Bonus</b>	<b>Equity</b>	<b>Retirement and Welfare</b>	<b>Perquisites</b>

## Plans

In 2014, each NEO had the opportunity to earn annual cash incentive compensation ("Annual Bonus"), consisting of two parts: (i) an annual bonus based on performance measured against Company or business unit performance criteria established by the Committee at the beginning of the fiscal year ("Performance Bonus") under the Annual Bonus Plan, and (ii) an individual performance bonus measured against individual performance criteria ("Individual Bonus") under the Individual Performance Bonus Plan. Each NEO's payout under the two parts was determined by comparing his performance against specific criteria set at the beginning of each year, with 85% of each NEO's payout relating to the Performance Bonus and 15% relating to the Individual Bonus. For the Performance Bonus, each NEO's payout was determined by comparing his performance against four performance levels set for each pre-set criterion: threshold (50% payout), target (100% payout), goal (150% payout) and stretch (200% payout). For the Individual Bonus, each NEO's payout was determined by comparing his performance against each pre-set criterion and scoring it on a scale of 0% to 100%. As shown in further detail below under the heading "Individual Bonus," Individual Bonus payouts can range from 0% to 200% depending on the NEO's cumulative weighted performance score on his individual performance objectives.

The Compensation Committee set a percentage of each NEO's 2014 base salary as his Annual Bonus target percentage (the "Target Bonus Percentage"). The Target Bonus Percentage represents the percentage of each NEO's salary he could earn as annual incentive compensation at a "target" performance level (100% payout) for each of the Performance Bonus and Individual Bonus. As part of approving an NEO's 2014 Target Bonus Percentage, the Committee considered the Compensation Factors described above. The Committee considers these Compensation Factors subjectively, and no single factor or combination of factors was determinative for any NEO. Generally, the Committee set higher Target Bonus Percentages for individuals with greater influence on business strategy, profits or sales. This put a larger percentage of an NEO's total potential cash compensation "at risk."

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## 2015 PROXY STATEMENT

Consistent with the 2013 bonus opportunity, each NEO's total Annual Bonus opportunity for 2014 ranged from 0% to 200% of his Target Bonus Percentage. The accompanying table shows the total aggregate annual incentive compensation payout earned by each NEO for 2014, as well as the portion of that aggregate number that is attributable to the Performance Bonus and Individual Bonus.

125%	15%	85%		\$1,298,229
N/A	15%	20%	65%	\$138,9016
60%	15%	85%		\$314,865
N/A	15%	20%	65%	\$28,7856
55%	15%	20%	65%5	\$400,945

1

*The Committee approved revenue and pretax earnings performance criteria for the Company, as described below under "Annual Incentive Compensation Performance Bonus."*

2

*The Committee approved revenue and pretax earnings as the performance criteria for the International Group.*

3

*The Committee approved revenue and pretax earnings as the performance criteria for the Lifestyle Group.*

4

*The Committee approved revenue and pretax earnings as the performance criteria for the Performance Group.*

5

*Mr. Zwiers' Performance Bonus opportunity relating to business unit performance is prorated between the Performance Group and International Group to reflect that he served a portion of 2014 as president of each of these groups.*

6

*Amounts for Messrs. Gabel and Simister are prorated to reflect that they were not employed by Wolverine for the full fiscal year.*

7

*As part of each's employment arrangement upon hiring, the Company determined to pay at least \$200,000 in total 2014 Annual Bonus for Messrs. Gabel and Simister. This column includes a discretionary bonus*

*(\$33,515 for Mr. Gabel; \$139,845 for Mr. Simister) added to the payout earned under the Annual Bonus so that Annual Bonus amount for each equals \$200,000.*

## Annual Bonus Performance Bonus

In connection with setting the Target Bonus Percentages, the Compensation Committee established the performance criteria for the Company and business units under the Annual Bonus Plan. Each NEO's Performance Bonus was based on performance criteria for the Company, or for the Company and a business unit. The Committee set fiscal year 2014 revenue (weighted 35% of the Company component) and pretax earnings (weighted 65%) as the Company's performance criteria. The Committee selected these criteria because it believed a strong correlation exists between performance on these financial measures and increases in stockholder value. As shown in the accompanying table, the Committee also set four performance levels for each criterion: threshold (50% payout), target (100% payout), goal (150% payout) and stretch (200% payout). The Committee set the revenue and pretax earnings goals for these performance levels (shown in the accompanying table) following discussion with management and a review of the Company's operating plan, historical performance, and economic conditions facing the Company.

<b>Threshold (50%)</b>	\$2,691	\$207.4
<b>Target (100%)</b>	\$2,771	\$221.9
<b>Goal (150%)</b>	\$2,852	\$241.2
<b>Stretch (200%)</b>	\$2,933	\$260.5

1 *The maximum payout an NEO can receive is 200% of the payment earned at his Target Bonus Percentage, even if performance is above Stretch, and an NEO would receive 0% of his Target Bonus Percentage if performance is below Threshold.*

2 *Not including the effect of acquisitions, divestitures, accounting changes, restructuring, or other special charges or extraordinary items excluded by the Compensation Committee. Pretax earnings for 2014 exclude acquisition-related integration, restructuring and debt extinguishment costs.*

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

Two of the NEOs, Messrs. Krueger and Grimes, have significant influence on the Company's overall business performance and, accordingly, all of their respective Performance Bonus opportunities (85% of total Annual Bonus Opportunity) are based on the Company performance criteria. Three of the NEOs, Messrs. Gabel, Simister and Zwiars, are directly responsible for specific business units and exert a significant influence on those business units in particular. Accordingly, for each of those three NEOs, only 20% of their overall Annual Bonus opportunity was based on the Company's performance. The remaining portions of the Performance Bonus portion of the Annual Bonus opportunities for each of these three NEOs were based on the performance of their respective business units, expressed as a percentage of overall Annual Bonus opportunity: Mr. Gabel (65% Performance Group); Mr. Simister (65% Lifestyle Group); and Mr. Zwiars (65% International Group/Performance Group (prorated)). The remaining 15% of each NEOs Annual Bonus opportunity was determined by his respective Individual Bonus criteria.

For each business unit, the Committee set the goals at substantially similar levels of difficulty as the goals for the Company and with a similar degree of difficulty as in prior years. The accompanying table shows historical weighted average revenue and pretax earnings performance levels achieved by the business units using these performance criteria for the years for which a meaningful comparison can be made.

<b>International Group</b>	Between goal and stretch	Between threshold and target	Below threshold	Above stretch	N/A
<b>Lifestyle Group</b>	Below threshold	Between threshold and target	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Performance Group</b>	Between target and goal	Between target and goal	Below threshold	Above stretch	Above stretch

In early 2015, the Committee certified actual 2014 performance compared to the performance levels for the Company and business unit criteria. The Company's fiscal year 2014 revenue was approximately \$2.76 billion, which was between threshold and target performance level. The Company's adjusted pretax earnings for fiscal year 2014 were \$225 million, which was between target and goal performance level. The weighted average results for the applicable performance criterion are shown in the accompanying table:

<b>International Group</b>	Between goal and stretch	151%
<b>Lifestyle Group</b>	Below threshold	0%
<b>Performance Group</b>	Between target and goal	143%
<b>Wolverine Worldwide</b>	Between target and goal	103%

For 2014, the Company paid the NEOs the following amounts relating to the Performance Bonus.

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<b>Krueger</b>	0	200%	103%	\$1,298,229	
<b>Gabel</b>	0	200%	133%	\$138,901	\$33,515
<b>Grimes</b>	0	200%	103%	\$314,865	
<b>Simister</b>	0	200%	24%	\$28,785	\$139,845
<b>Zwiers</b>	0	200%	150%	\$400,945	

1

*Not including Individual Performance Bonus or any other bonus paid.*

2

*As part of each's employment arrangement upon hiring, the Company determined to pay at least \$200,000 in total 2014 Annual Bonus for Messrs. Gabel and Simister.*

## Annual Bonus Individual Bonus

At the same time Target Bonus Percentages are set, the CEO approves for each NEO other than himself, Individual Bonus personal objectives. The CEO recommends, and the Committee approves, personal objectives for himself. Personal objectives may include elements such as executing strategies supporting Wolverine Worldwide's vision, developing employees, growing new business initiatives and driving operational excellence. Each NEO has personal objectives specific to him. Performance is evaluated subjectively, generally based on qualitative and quantitative factors.

<b>Krueger</b>	Employee development, integration, brand and platform building and cash flows
<b>Gabel</b>	Assimilation, growth, direct-to consumer performance and Performance Group development
<b>Grimes</b>	Employee development, growth, profitability and cash flows
<b>Simister</b>	Assimilation, growth, Lifestyle Group development and restructuring management
<b>Zwiers</b>	International group assimilation, employee development, asset management and growth

Each personal objective is given a weight from 0% to 100%. The sum of the weights for each NEO's personal objectives equals 100%. An NEO's cumulative weighted personal objectives score is calculated by multiplying the score for each objective by its weight, and summing those results for all of the NEO's personal objectives. The Individual Bonus payout level ranges from 0% to 200%, determined by the cumulative weighted personal objectives score.

<b>95-100%</b>	200%
<b>90-95%</b>	175%
<b>80-90%</b>	150%
<b>70-80%</b>	100%
<b>60-70%</b>	50%
<b>Less than 60%</b>	0%

The CEO recommended to the Committee the 2014 cumulative weighted personal objectives scores and payout levels for each of the NEOs, other than himself. The Committee and the other independent directors of the Board met with the CEO at the end of the year to evaluate his performance compared to his personal objectives. The Committee determined the cumulative weighted personal objectives score for the CEO and recommended to the independent directors of the Board the CEO's payout level. The Individual Bonus payout for each NEO, as shown in the accompanying table, was determined by multiplying his cumulative weighted performance score payout level by 15 percent (representing the percentage of the Individual Bonus to the total Annual Bonus opportunity) of his Target Bonus Percentage.



<b>Krueger</b>	0	200%	84%	150%	\$332,903
<b>Gabel</b>	0	200%	85%	150%	\$27,584
<b>Grimes</b>	0	200%	82%	150%	\$80,740
<b>Simister</b>	0	200%	81%	150%	\$31,370
<b>Zwiers</b>	0	200%	82%	150%	\$77,663

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM**

**Long-Term Incentive Compensation**

**Annual Bonus**

**Benefits**

**Base Salary**

**Performance Bonus**

**Individual Bonus**

**Retirement and Welfare Plans**

**Perquisites**

In 2014, each NEO had the opportunity to earn long-term incentive compensation, consisting of two parts: (1) performance shares under the Company's stock incentive plan and (2) equity awards in the form of time-vested stock option grants and time-vested restricted stock awards under the stock incentive plan.

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## 2015 PROXY STATEMENT

**Long-Term Incentive Compensation Performance Share Bonuses**

Each NEO had the opportunity to earn long-term incentive compensation in the form of performance shares issued under the Company's stock incentive plan based on performance criteria covering three-year periods ("3-Year Bonus"). The Committee established two performance criteria for the performance period 2012-2014: (1) fully diluted earnings per share ("EPS"), and (2) business value added ("BVA"), each as adjusted to account for and exclude the effects of acquisitions, divestitures, accounting changes, restructuring, or other special charges or extraordinary items excluded by the Committee. BVA is calculated by starting with operating income determined in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), and then reducing operating income by (1) an amount for income taxes where the effective tax rate used to calculate the income tax amount is determined in accordance with GAAP (adjusted as described in the footnote to the table below), and (2) a capital charge equal to a 2-point average of "net operating assets" during the fiscal year (with "net operating assets" defined as the net of trade receivables (net of reserves), inventory (net of reserves), other current assets, property, plant and equipment, trade payables and accrued liabilities) multiplied by 10%. The Committee believes that BVA is useful for determining incentive compensation because it ties the income statement (profit delivery) to the balance sheet (effective asset utilization) and does not focus on one to the exclusion of the other. The Committee further believes that focusing NEOs' interests on increasing BVA aligns their interests more closely with stockholder interests. The Committee believes EPS is a key metric that plays an important role in driving the Company's stock price and that it further aligns the interests of the NEOs with other stockholders. The use of both EPS and BVA balances the NEOs' focus on near-term profitability with longer-term stockholder value. The Committee weights EPS 65% and BVA 35% when determining the overall performance level.

**3-Year Performance Share Bonus (Fiscal 2012-2014)**

The following table lists performance levels set by the Committee for the 2012-2014 performance period:

<b>Threshold (50%)</b>	\$3.57	\$276.2
<b>Target (100%)</b>	\$3.94	\$314.0
<b>Goal (150%)</b>	\$4.57	\$341.2
<b>Stretch (200%)</b>	\$5.19	\$369.2

1

*As adjusted to account for and excluding the effects of acquisitions, divestitures, accounting changes, restructuring, or other special charges or extraordinary items excluded by the Compensation Committee. Excludes transaction and integration expenses related to the PLG acquisition, restructuring charges, store impairment charges, and expenses relating to the October 2013 debt refinancing.*

The Committee evaluated the Company's performance for the 2012-2014 performance period against these criteria and certified that the Company's performance on both the EPS and BVA criteria as noted above fell between target and goal performance levels. The EPS attainment (120.0%) was weighted 65%, and the BVA attainment (135.5%) was weighted 35%, for a weighted average attainment of 125.4%, resulting in the vesting of the number of shares shown for each NEO in the accompanying table under the 3-Year Bonus for the 2012-2014 performance period. Due to Mr. Krueger having been granted fewer shares at the start of the 2012-2014 period than would have vested according to the vesting formula in the applicable agreement, 100% of Mr. Krueger's shares for the 2012-2014 period vested and he received a discretionary cash bonus equal to the difference between the value (including the value of dividends for the performance period) of the number of shares that would have vested under the applicable agreement (that is, the number of shares that would have vested at the 125.4% performance level) and the value (including the value of dividends for the performance period) of the number of shares actually vesting.

<b>Krueger</b>	75,102
<b>Gabel</b>	1,9871
<b>Grimes</b>	21,892
<b>Simister</b>	2,2591
<b>Zwiers</b>	19,124

*1*

*Prorated to reflect employment for less than the full three-year period.*

**3-Year Performance Share Bonus (Fiscal 2014-2016)**

The Committee evaluated each NEO's long-term incentive target payout opportunity expressed as a percentage of base salary, similar to the Annual Bonus. The Committee considered the Compensation Factors noted above in determining 3-year target bonus percentages. The Committee considers these Compensation Factors subjectively, and no single factor or combination of factors was determinative for any NEO. The Committee decided to set the NEOs' Target Percentage for the 2014-2016 3-Year Bonus opportunity, as set out in the accompanying table. In February 2015, the Committee reviewed Mr. Krueger's overall compensation against peer market data provided by Towers Watson, which showed that Mr. Krueger's overall compensation was below median, particularly in his long-term incentive compensation. To address this, rather than making any changes to his base salary or Annual Bonus opportunity, the Committee recommended and the Board approved an increase in Mr. Krueger's Target Percentage for the 2015-2017 3-year period from 125% of his base salary to 200%. In addition, the Committee later recommended and the Board approved new grants of performance shares to Mr. Krueger for a 2015 performance period and a 2015-2016 performance period with Target Percentages of 100% and 75%, respectively, of Mr. Krueger's base salary. The performance targets for each period are based on (i) earnings per share (weighted at 65%) and BVA (weighted at 35%) targets that are consistent with the targets for the same metrics used in the 2013-2015 and 2014-2016 3-year periods, and (ii) threshold revenue targets that must be met before any shares would vest.

<b>Krueger</b>	125%	100%
<b>Gabel<sup>1,2</sup></b>	55%	55%
<b>Grimes<sup>2</sup></b>	65%	65%
<b>Simister<sup>1,2</sup></b>	55%	55%
<b>Zwiers<sup>2</sup></b>	55%	55%

*1*  
Any vesting will be prorated to reflect employment for less than the full three-year period.

*2*  
Upon reviewing overall compensation in February 2015, the Compensation Committee approved an increase to target percentages (as a percentage of base salary) for the 2013-2015 and 2014-2016 performance periods for Messrs. Gabel, Simister and Zwiers from 50% to 55% and an increase from 60% to 65% for Mr. Grimes.

The Committee awarded performance shares to each NEO with a value equal to the estimated maximum bonus payout the NEO could earn as the 3-Year Bonus for the 2014-2016 performance period. The Committee weighted the EPS performance criterion at 65% of the total payout and weighted the BVA performance criterion at 35% of the total payout for the 2014-2016 performance period, which was consistent with the 2012 and 2013 performance share grants. The Committee intended the level of difficulty in attaining Threshold, Target, Goal and Stretch performance levels it set for the 2014-2016 performance period to be substantially similar to the level of difficulty in attaining the performance levels for the 2013-2015 performance period. The Committee granted the awards under the Company's Stock Incentive Plan of 2013. The award details are in the table "Grants of Plan-Based Awards in Fiscal Year 2014" on pages 48-49. The Company accrues, but does not pay, dividends on the performance shares during the performance period. Once the Committee certifies the Company's performance compared to the performance criteria, the restrictions on some, all, or none of the performance shares awarded to each NEO will lapse at that time, and the NEO will receive accrued dividends only on the shares actually earned.

**Long-Term Incentive Compensation    Stock Option Grants and Restricted Stock Awards**

The Compensation Committee believes that NEO stock ownership benefits stockholders. The Committee administers the stock incentive plans for stock option grants and restricted stock awards. It approves the amount of and terms applicable to all grants and awards (except for grants to the CEO, which the Committee recommends for approval by the independent directors). In addition to annual grants and awards, the Committee may approve special grants or awards to NEOs, such as a grant or award to a new hire or for a promotion.

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When granting equity awards, the Committee considered the Compensation Factors described above as well as previous equity grants made to each NEO. The Committee considers these Compensation Factors subjectively, and no single factor or combination of factors was determinative for any NEO. The accompanying table reflects the grant-date value of the regular, annual time-vested restricted stock award and stock option grant to each NEO as a percentage of base salary. The "**Grants of Plan-Based Awards in Fiscal Year 2014**" table on pages 48-49 shows the actual grants and awards for 2014.

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2015 PROXY STATEMENT

A stock option's exercise price is set at the closing market price of the Company's common stock on the grant date. The Committee generally grants annual equity awards at its regularly scheduled February meeting. The independent directors of the Board generally approve equity grants to the CEO on the same day. A stock option grant typically vests one-third each year over three years. The restrictions on restricted stock awards typically lapse 25% on each of the third and fourth anniversary and 50% on the fifth anniversary of the award.

The restricted stock award, not including performance shares, was approximately 60%, and the stock option grants were approximately 40% of the combined value of the regular annual grant awarded to each NEO in 2014, as reflected in the accompanying table. These were the same approximate percentages as in 2013 and in the past five years. The Committee believed this mix was appropriate based on the fact that restricted stock promotes retention and stock options incentivize stock price performance.

<b>Krueger</b>	302%
<b>Gabel</b>	51% <sup>1</sup>
<b>Grimes</b>	100%
<b>Simister</b>	45% <sup>1</sup>
<b>Zwiers</b>	87%

<sup>1</sup>

*Prorated grant percentage reflects employment for less than the full year. See below for information regarding additional sign-on and retention restricted stock grants to Messrs. Gabel and Simister.*

In addition to the regular annual equity grants Messrs. Gabel and Simister each received: a sign-on grant of 15,000 shares of restricted stock; and a retention grant of 15,000 shares of restricted stock. Restrictions on the sign-on share grant lapse 25% on each of the third and fourth anniversary and 50% on the fifth anniversary of the award. Restrictions on the retention share grant lapse on a slightly modified schedule restrictions on 25% of the shares lapse on each of the third and fourth anniversary of the January 1<sup>st</sup> after the date of the award and 50% on the fifth anniversary of the January 1<sup>st</sup> after the date of the award.

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM**

<b>Benefits</b>	<b>Annual Bonus</b>		<b>Long-Term Incentive Compensation</b>	
	<b>Base Salary</b>	<b>Performance Bonus</b>	<b>Individual Bonus</b>	<b>Long-Term Incentive Bonus</b>
				<b>Equity</b>

**Retirement and Welfare Plans**

The NEOs participate in Wolverine Worldwide's medical and dental plans and receive life and disability insurance. Subject to variations to account for requirements in local jurisdictions, variances in local compensation structure (for example, as applicable to Wolverine Worldwide's employees in the United States versus certain overseas offices), and to requirements under collective bargaining agreements, all Wolverine Worldwide employees receive the same health and welfare benefit opportunities. Messers. Krueger, Grimes and Zwiers also participate in the Wolverine Worldwide Employees' Pension Plan (a defined benefit plan) and the Wolverine World Wide, Inc. 409A Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (an unfunded, non-qualified plan). For a description of the benefits under Wolverine Worldwide's retirement plans, see "**Pension Plans and 2014 Pension Benefits**" below.

### Perquisites

The Company provides limited perquisites to NEOs in order to provide a competitive total compensation package. The Company reimbursed NEOs for tax, financial planning and estate planning services, and made 401(k) matching payments in the amounts set forth in footnote 8 to the "**Summary Compensation Table**" on pages 46-47.

## OTHER COMPENSATION POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The dates of the Compensation Committee's and Board's February meetings at which annual grants are made generally are scheduled at least one year in advance. During 2014, the Committee also delegated to the CEO the authority to award restricted stock or grant stock options to employees during the period from the February 2014 regular meeting of the Compensation Committee until the February 2015 regular meeting of the Committee. The CEO may not make such grants or awards to himself or other NEOs. The grants and awards are intended to recognize outstanding performance by employees. The delegation limits the CEO's authority to make such grants and awards for the February 2014 to February 2015 period to an aggregate of 34,000 restricted stock awards and an aggregate of 26,322 stock option awards.

### NEO Stock Ownership Guidelines

Through stock ownership guidelines, the Company requires that NEOs maintain a minimum stock ownership level (including owned shares, restricted stock awards and performance shares (for up to 50% of the applicable ownership requirement), and the in-the-money value of vested stock options) to align further the interests of these individuals with the stockholders. The stock ownership guidelines preclude individuals covered by the policy (including NEOs and directors) from transferring Company stock by sale or gift unless he or she has first attained the applicable holding requirement and continues to meet such requirement immediately following the proposed transaction. During 2014, NEOs were in compliance with these guidelines.

**CEO** 6x Annual Base Salary

**Other NEOs** 2x Annual Base Salary

### Stock Hedging and Pledging Policies

The Company acknowledges that certain forms of hedging, such as zero-cost collars and forward sale contracts, allow a stockholder to lock in much of the value of his or her stock holdings, often in exchange for all or part of the potential for appreciation in the stock. These transactions allow a person to continue to own the covered securities but without the full risks and rewards of ownership. When that occurs, he or she may no longer have the same objectives as the Company's other shareholders. As a result, under the Company's Insider Trading Policy, all directors, officers and other employees are prohibited from engaging in any hedging transactions involving Company securities beneficially owned by them. The Company also considers it inappropriate for any such person to engage in speculative transactions in the Company's securities, including short sales, publicly traded options, margin accounts and pledges and standing and limit orders. Securities that are pledged (or hypothecated) as collateral for a loan may be sold in foreclosure if the borrower defaults on the loan. Because a foreclosure sale may occur at a time when the