UNITED STATES STEEL CORP Form PRE 14A March 02, 2017 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

#### Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities

#### Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

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

#### Check the appropriate box:

pPreliminary Proxy Statement
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# NOTICE OF 2017 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS AND PROXY STATEMENT

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

8:00 A.M. Eastern Time

U.S. Steel Tower 600 Grant Street, 33rd Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15219

## VOTING CAN BE COMPLETED IN ONE OF FOUR WAYS:

Returning the proxyOnline atThrough the telephoneAttending the meetingcard by mailwww.proxyvote.comat 1-800-6903to vote IN PERSON

600 Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2800 March [13], 2017 Mario Longhi Chief Executive Officer

## DEAR FELLOW U.S. STEEL STOCKHOLDER:

I want to thank you for your investment in U. S. Steel and the trust you have placed in the Board of Directors, as stewards of the Corporation. On behalf of the Board and 30,000 employees of our storied Corporation, I am proud to report that we have made significant progress on our strategic transformation in 2016, and we are beginning to see results reflecting our efforts.

We began a journey over three years ago to modernize U. S. Steel into a more agile and innovative organization for the 21<sup>st</sup> century global steel industry. While that journey continues and we have much work to do, we made meaningful progress in 2016 and our performance reflected it with a stock price increase of 300%. Other performance achievements are summarized in the accompanying proxy statement.

We are structuring our transformation around a process we call the "Carnegie Way," a disciplined strategic framework named in honor of our co-founder Andrew Carnegie, the visionary leader who founded U. S. Steel more than 115 years ago. We continue to honor Mr. Carnegie's legacy today by executing our strategy and positioning the Corporation for continued long-term growth. A successful transformation also requires innovation, and we continue to prioritize our innovation efforts, particularly by cultivating collaborative relationships with our customers to develop the solutions they need and to create more opportunities for our business. The Carnegie Way permeates all aspects of our business from our corporate headquarters in Pittsburgh to our steel mills and operations around the world. We are implementing permanent improvements to enable the Corporation to succeed across the volatile business cycles of the evolving global steel industry.

We undertake our transformational efforts as part of an American steel industry that continues to face considerable macro-economic headwinds and unfair global steel trade practices. The persistent presence of low-cost and potentially inferior imports puts undue pressure on the American manufacturing sector and job market, and represents an unsustainable risk to not only our industry, but our national economy and infrastructure.

In addition to executing on our long-term organizational transformation, U. S. Steel continues to lead industry efforts to tackle the effects of unfairly traded steel. We are leveraging legislative, judicial and regulatory channels, as well as the

public arena. For example, in 2015 U. S. Steel along with other domestic steel producers filed three petitions with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the International Trade Commission. In 2016, we saw the successful resolution of those cases, as final determinations imposed duties of significant magnitude on the subject countries. In 2016, we also launched landmark legal action under Section 337 of the Tariff Act to further combat illegal conduct and circumvention of our trade laws. Our progress on this front enables U. S. Steel, and other American steel companies, to compete on a more level playing field with non-U.S. competitors.

Even as difficult conditions may persist, we recognize that we are in a better position today to respond to changing market conditions and we are encouraged by the improving performance of the Corporation. We continue to invest in our people. With employees at all levels working through our multi-level Carnegie Way training, we are enabling all of our workforce to complete projects delivering value to our stakeholders and improve our business. We remain steadfast in our commitment to becoming a consistently profitable company that conducts business in an ethical and sustainable way.

We encourage you to vote your shares on the proposals discussed in the accompanying proxy statement. Your involvement is important to the future of our company and our country.

Our journey continues.

Sincerely,

Mario Longhi

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

## TO STOCKHOLDERS OF UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION:

You are invited to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of United States Steel Corporation. If you plan to attend the meeting, please see the instructions contained in the attached proxy statement.

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 8:00 A.M. Eastern Time U. S. Steel Tower, 600 Grant Street, 33rd Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15219

## **ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

To elect twelve directors nominated by our Board of Directors;	To approve the amended and restated Certificate of Incorporation;
To consider and act on an advisory vote regarding the approval of compensation paid to certain executive officers;	To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Corporation's independent public registered accounting firm for 2017; and
To consider and act on an advisory vote regarding the frequency of the stockholder vote on executive compensation;	To transact any other business properly brought before the meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.
To approve an amendment to the Corporation's 2016 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan to	

issue additional shares;

Only holders of record of the common stock of United States Steel Corporation at the close of business on February 27, 2017, the record date fixed by the Board of Directors, will be entitled to vote on each matter submitted to a vote of stockholders at the meeting. Any stockholder of record attending the Annual Meeting may vote in person, even if she or he has voted over the Internet, by telephone or returned a completed proxy card. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to vote at the meeting, you must obtain a valid form issued in your name from that record holder. Each holder of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of stock held at the close of business on February 27, 2017.

# BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Arden T. Phillips Corporate Secretary March [13], 2017

To assure your representation at the Annual Meeting, you are urged to cast your vote, as instructed in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, over the Internet or by telephone as promptly as possible. You may also request a paper proxy card to submit your vote by mail, if you prefer.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The proxy statement and 2016 annual report of United States Steel Corporation are available at www.proxyvote.com.

**ADMISSION TO MEETING:** Admission to the Annual Meeting will be limited to persons who: (a) are listed on United States Steel Corporation's records as stockholders as of February 27, 2017 (the "record date"); or (b) bring documentation to the meeting that demonstrates their beneficial ownership of the Corporation's common stock through a broker, bank or other nominee as of the record date; and (c) present a form of government-issued photo identification.

# VOTING CAN BE COMPLETED IN ONE OF FOUR WAYS:

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## U. S. Steel Tower I 600 Grant Street I Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**PROXY STATEMENT** 

MARCH [13], 2017

# INFORMATION REGARDING THE ANNUAL MEETING

This proxy statement is provided in connection with a solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of United States Steel Corporation to be used at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 8:00 a.m., Eastern Time, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof. The Annual Meeting will be held at the U. S. Steel Tower, 600 Grant Street, thirty-third floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. This proxy statement is first being provided to our stockholders on or about March [13], 2017. Throughout this proxy statement, "U. S. Steel," the "Corporation," "we," "our," or "us" are intended to refer to United States Steel Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless specifically indicated otherwise. You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and we request that you vote on the proposals

described in this proxy statement as recommended by the Board of Directors. You do not need to attend the meeting to vote your shares. If you have received a printed copy of these materials by mail, you may complete, sign and return your proxy card, or submit your proxy vote by telephone or over the Internet. If you did not receive a printed copy of these materials by mail and are accessing them via the Internet, you may follow the instructions under the heading, "Questions and Answers About the Annual Meeting and Voting" beginning on page [66] of this proxy statement to submit your proxy vote via the Internet or by telephone. Also, other information about voting is provided under the heading, "Questions and Answers About the Annual Meeting and Voting."

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# PROXY SUMMARY

This proxy summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this proxy statement. This summary does not contain all of the information that you should consider, and you should read the entire proxy statement before voting. For more information

regarding the Corporation's 2016 performance, please see the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement and the Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year-ended December 31, 2016.

# **OVERVIEW OF VOTING MATTERS**

Stockholders are being asked to vote on the following matters at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders:

# Board Recommendation Proposal 1. Election of Directors (page [4])

The Board believes that the combination of the various qualifications, skills and experiences of the director nominees contributes to a well-functioning Board and that, individually and as a whole, the director nominees possess the necessary qualifications to provide effective oversight, and quality advice Director to the Corporation's management. Nominee

# Proposal 2. Advisory Vote to Approve Compensation of Certain Executive Officers (page [20])

The Corporation seeks a non-binding advisory vote from its stockholders to approve the compensation of the executive officers listed in the compensation tables of this proxy statement. The Board values the opinions of stockholders and the Compensation & Organization Committee will take into account the outcome of the advisory vote when considering future executive compensation decisions.

# **Proposal 3.** Advisory Vote to Determine the Frequency of the Stockholder Vote on Executive Compensation (page [55])

The Corporation seeks a non-binding advisory vote from its stockholders to determine the frequency of the stockholder vote on the compensation of certain executive officers. The Board will consider the preference of the stockholders when determining how often to conduct the advisory vote on executive compensation – every one, two or three years. The Board believes that conducting an advisory vote on executive on executive compensation annually is appropriate for the Corporation and its stockholders.

# Proposal 4. Approval of an amendment to the Corporation's 2016 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan to issue additional shares (page [56])

The Board recommends the approval of an amendment to the 2016 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (the "Incentive Plan") in order to issue up to 6.3 million additional shares under the Incentive Plan.	FOR
Proposal 5. Approval of the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (page [62])	
The Board recommends the approval of the Corporation's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate language regarding classification of the Board of Directors. The de-classification of the Board of Directors over a three year period was approved in 2014. The declassification process will be complete as of the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders.	FOR

## Proposal 6. Ratification of the Appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (page [64])

The Audit Committee has appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to serve as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Corporation for the 2017 fiscal year. The Audit Committee and the Board believe that the continued retention of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to serve as the independent registered public accounting firm is in the best interests of the Corporation and its stockholders. Stockholders are being asked to ratify the Audit Committee's selection.

On pages [vi], [22] and [31], we refer to our 2016 adjusted EBITDA results. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP measure, which is used as an additional measurement to enhance the understanding of our operating performance and facilitate a comparison with that of our competitors. The adjustments to EBITDA primarily consist of losses associated with U. S. Steel Canada Inc., restructuring and impairment charges. See the reconciliation to net loss set forth in Appendix A of this proxy statement.

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#### CARNEGIE WAY AND 2016 HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS (PAGE [21])

#### The Carnegie Way: Earning the Right to Grow and Driving Sustainable, Profitable Growth

The Carnegie Way, named for our co-founder and famous American industrialist Andrew Carnegie, is a strategic, disciplined approach to transforming the Corporation for the new realities of the marketplace. The Corporation is realizing the benefits of the Carnegie Way today by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well. Since 2013 and the launch of this Board-approved program by our CEO Mario Longhi, the Carnegie Way has driven a dramatic shift in the Corporation that is enabling us to withstand the prolonged downturn in steel prices, and is positioning us for success in a market recovery. With a more intense focus on cash flow and a strong balance sheet, and a revised approach to how we view shipment volume and production, the Corporation is working through a series of transformational initiatives that has enabled us to more effectively add value, get leaner faster, right-size our operations, and improve our performance across core business process capabilities, including: commercial; supply chain; manufacturing; procurement; innovation; and operational and functional support. We are also focused on the development of differentiated, innovative products, processes and approaches to doing business as we create positive solutions for our customers and stakeholders.

2014 was U. S. Steel's first profitable year since 2008, but macroeconomic factors created profound market challenges for the Corporation that negatively affected revenues, earnings and stock price in 2015 and 2016. Despite these difficult conditions, our focus on what we could control was a significant contributor to 2015 and 2016 results and helped to mitigate many of the negative effects of the challenging economic environment. We believe that without the benefits realized through our Carnegie Way initiatives in 2014, 2015 and 2016, the Corporation would have been much more negatively impacted by market headwinds, including high levels of imports and low global commodity prices.

#### 2016 Highlights and Accomplishments

We began 2016 facing many of the same macroeconomic headwinds as 2015, including historically low steel prices. While these financial uncertainties pointed to another challenging year in 2016, we remained focused on using the Carnegie Way as our guide and executed on strategic priorities critical to the Corporation's success amid the industry downturn. The unrelenting focus of our executive team and employees on clear actions to improve our balance sheet, enhance operating efficiency, and create fairness and competition in the marketplace were successfully achieved, as evidenced by improvements in our stock price and earnings. While we are proud of these results, our transformation efforts are still underway.

The following are highlights and accomplishments from 2016:

Our stock price increased by more than 300%, reflecting strong execution on our strategy and improved market conditions

Realized \$745 million of additional Carnegie Way benefits, building upon the \$575 million and \$815 million of Carnegie Way benefits realized in 2014 and 2015, respectively, underscoring the success of this transformational process

Ended 2016 with positive operating cash flow of \$727 million and adjusted EBITDA of \$510 million, despite beginning the year at historically low steel prices and facing the lowest full-year average realized prices since 2004

Strong year-end liquidity of approximately \$2.9 billion, including cash on hand of \$1.5 billion, which supports our goal of maintaining a healthy balance sheet

Reduced long-term debt by over \$100 million in 2016 which contributed to the reduction of net debt by more than 50% since 2013

Successfully completed a \$980 million debt offering and a \$500 million equity offering, which provide for future financial flexibility

Improved working capital by nearly \$600 million, and over \$1 billion over the last two years

Continued to aggressively address unfair trade practices through landmark legal action, including leading industry efforts to clarify and enforce existing laws (see, Proxy Summary section "U. S. Steel's Industry Leading Efforts Against Unfair Trade Practices")

Out-performed the BLS and AISI industry safety benchmarks in both OSHA Recordable Days and Days Away From Work

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# PROXY SUMMARY

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (PAGE [10])**

The Corporation is committed to good corporate governance, which promotes the long-term interests of stockholders, strengthens Board and management accountability, and helps build public trust in the Corporation. Our governance highlights include:

Annual Election of each Director

12 Directors (11 Independent)	Stock Ownership and Holding Guidelines for Directors and Executives
Independent Audit, Compensation & Organization, and Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committees	Best in Compliance Commitment
Regular Executive Sessions of Independent Directors	Annual Stockholder Engagement
Risk Oversight by Full Board and Committees	A robust Code of Ethical Business Conduct that is based on the Corporation's Gary Principles
Annual Board and Committee Self-Evaluations	Our Board and its committees, at their sole discretion, may hire independent advisers, including counsel, at the Corporation's expense
Executive Compensation Driven by Pay-For-Performance Philosophy	Active Board refreshment approach with thoughtful intent to
Adopted a "3-3-20" proxy access provision in Novembe	align director skills with company strategy

Adopted a "3-3-20" proxy access provision in November 2016

Over 100 years ago, we adopted the Gary Principles which were among the first Codes of Conduct adopted by a publicly traded company. The Gary Principles are still in place today, and we remain committed to enhancing our sustainable business practices and ensuring they are maintained in the future.

We also recognize that the Earth is a shared and finite resource that we all must safeguard for generations to come. It is our commitment to sustainability that drives our operations to adopt management systems and best practices that foster continuous improvement in our processes, preserving vital resources and ensuring the future of the industry.

## KEY EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM PRACTICES (PAGE [28])

The Compensation & Organization Committee (the "Committee"), which consists solely of independent directors, has implemented the following best practices with respect to executive compensation:

Considers the results of the most recent say-on-pay advisory vote by stockholders and has implemented proactive communications with stockholders to gain input and feedback when making executive compensation decisions

Undertakes a goal setting process that is used to arrive at rigorous short-term and long-term performance goals under our incentive plans that are aligned to key corporate strategic and financial goals

Engages in and leads a robust CEO performance evaluation process

Engages and consults with its own independent compensation consultant

Has established formal selection criteria for the executive compensation and relative TSR peer groups and annually reviews peer group composition

Annually reviews tally sheets analyzing executive compensation levels and structures, including amounts payable in various termination scenarios

Annually reviews the risks associated with our compensation programs and has implemented various risk mitigating practices and policies, such as:

Targeting the majority of our executives' compensation in long-term performance based awards using multiple equity and cash vehicles

Implementing rigorous executive stock ownership and holding requirements

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Utilizing multiple performance measures that focus on company-wide metrics and placing a cap on potential incentive payments

Our Change in Control Severance Plan establishes a "double trigger," requiring participants to be terminated without "cause," or voluntarily "for good reason" following a change in control prior to receipt of any payment of severance benefits

Maintains a "clawback" policy that applies to executive officers and provides for the recoupment of incentive awards under certain conditions in the event the Corporation's financial statements are restated

Maintains Anti-Hedging and Pledging Policies that prohibit all employees and directors from engaging in any transaction that is designed to hedge or offset any decrease in our stock price and prohibits executive officers and directors from pledging our stock as collateral for a loan or holding shares in a margin account

No payment of tax gross-ups to any executives for any payments relating to a change in control

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# PROXY SUMMARY

#### **Commitment to Stockholder Engagement**

The Board, as well as management, prioritizes constructive communication with our investors to learn about their views of the Corporation and our governance and compensation practices. In addition to the frequent communication our CEO and Investor Relations team has with our stockholders, we have maintained ongoing dialogue with our largest stockholders regarding our corporate governance and executive compensation program since 2012. The feedback we receive from these discussions is carefully considered by the Board and the Committee, and we believe the strong support for our say-on-pay proposal over the last few years is evidence of the careful attention we pay to the feedback given to us by our stockholders, and our ability to decisively take action and incorporate their perspectives in our programs.

In 2016, the Corporation engaged with its largest stockholders both during and outside the proxy season. In April 2016, we contacted stockholders representing more than 50% of our outstanding stock and held telephonic meetings with stockholders holding approximately 25%. These discussions, held prior to our annual meeting, were focused primarily on how our compensation program aligns with our strategy and company performance. In November and December 2016, we contacted stockholders representing approximately 40% of our outstanding stock, and meetings were accepted by those representing approximately 15%. Many of our stockholders indicated they did not believe a call was necessary and were supportive of our compensation and governance practices. Based on our 2016 meetings, we determined that our stockholders are supportive of the strong link between pay and performance embedded in our executive compensation program.

# U. S. Steel's Industry Leading Efforts Against Unfair Trade Practices

In 2016, domestic steel manufacturers continued to face a torrent of low-cost steel imports in violation of U.S. trade laws, which are often subsidized by foreign governments. The persistent presence of these low-cost and potentially inferior imports not only puts undue pressure on the American manufacturing sector and job market, but also is hazardous to long-term sustainable business practices and represents a very real threat to our country's national security and infrastructure.

The volume of steel products imported into the United States by heavily subsidized foreign companies has increased dramatically over the past few years. In light of these circumstances, U. S. Steel has taken a leadership role in an unprecedented effort to reduce the impact of unfairly traded imports on the domestic industry through fierce advocacy before legislative bodies, in the courts, and in the public arena.

Also, in 2015, U. S. Steel collaborated with other domestic steel producers to file a series of three petitions for trade remedies with the Department of Commerce and the International Trade Commission. These petitions sought to level

the playing field for domestic producers by imposing duties on unfairly traded steel products. In 2016, we saw the successful resolution of those three cases, as final determinations imposed duties of significant magnitude on the subject countries.

We took our efforts further in 2016 by launching a landmark legal action under Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 against ten of the largest Chinese producers and their distributors, alleging conspiracy to fix prices, theft of trade secrets, and circumvention of duties. This action, if successful, would result in a total ban on Chinese imports of steel products. Additionally, in 2016, U. S. Steel collaborated with other domestic steel producers to petition the Department of Commerce to investigate Chinese producers' circumvention of duties by diverting steel products to Vietnam en route to the United States. We continue to vigorously pursue every legal avenue available to ensure that our trade laws will be enforced.

We also have: continued our dialogue with the relevant federal agencies to change certain regulatory practices and procedures; commenced substantive work with regional trade partners and organizations; and outlined a robust engagement with the White House to tackle global overcapacity through bilateral and unilateral negotiations. At this critical time for the industry, and for our country, U. S. Steel has been, and will continue to be, a leader on these issues to promote consistent and fair enforcement of our laws.

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## **PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

In 2014, U. S. Steel's Board of Directors and stockholders approved the elimination of the classified board structure. The process to declassify the Board was phased out over a three-year period and will be complete as of the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. At the 2017 Annual Meeting, all twelve directors are up for election. Of the current directors nominated for election, three were previously Class I directors and nine were elected last year for a one-year term. Each nominee will be elected to serve until our next annual meeting of stockholders. All of the nominees are presently members of the Board of Directors. The Board is recommending that all twelve nominees be elected.

Except in the case of contested elections, each director nominee is elected if a majority of the votes are cast for that director's election. The term "a majority of the votes cast" means that the number of votes cast "for" a director's election exceeds the number of votes cast "against" the director's election, with abstentions and broker non-votes not counted as votes cast either "for" or "against" the director's election. A "contested election" is one in which the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected at the meeting.

If a nominee who is currently serving as a director is not re-elected, Delaware law provides that the director would continue to serve on the Board until the director's successor is duly elected and qualified or until the director's earlier resignation or removal. Under our by-laws, in order for any incumbent director to become a nominee for election by the stockholders as a director, that director must tender an irrevocable offer to resign from the Board of Directors, contingent upon acceptance of such offer of resignation by the Board of Directors, if the

director fails to receive a majority of the votes cast in an election that is not a contested election. If an incumbent director fails to receive a majority of the votes cast in an election that is not a contested election, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee, or such other independent committee designated by the Board of Directors, must make a recommendation to the Board of Directors as to whether to accept or reject the offer of resignation of the incumbent director, or to take other action.

The Board of Directors must act on the offer of resignation, taking into account the committee's recommendation, within 90 days following certification of the election results. Each of the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee, in making its recommendation, and the Board of Directors, in making its decision, may consider such factors and other information as it may consider appropriate and relevant to the circumstances.

A brief statement about the background and qualifications of each nominee is provided on the following pages. No director has a familial relationship to any other director, nominee for director or executive officer. The independence of Board members and other information related to the Board of Directors is described under the heading, "Corporate Governance – Independence" in this proxy statement.

If any nominee for whom you have voted becomes unable to serve, your proxy may be voted for another person designated by the Board.

#### The Board recommends a vote "FOR" the election of each nominee.

## **Selection of Director Nominees**

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee is responsible for identifying nominees for election to the Board. The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee may consider nominees suggested by several sources, including outside search firms, incumbent Board members and stockholders.

As provided in its charter, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee seeks candidates with experience and abilities relevant to serving as a director of the Corporation and who will represent the best interests of stockholders as a whole, and not any specific interest group or constituency.

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee, with input from the Chairman of the Board and other directors, evaluates the qualifications of each director candidate in accordance with the criteria described in the director qualification standards section of our Corporate Governance Principles. In evaluating the qualifications of director nominees, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee considers factors including, but not limited to, the following:

**Independence.** Directors should neither have, nor appear to have, a conflict of interest that would impair the director's ability to represent the interests of all the Corporation's stakeholders and to fulfill the responsibilities of a director.

**Commitment.** Directors should be able to contribute the time necessary to be actively involved in the Board and its decision-making and should be able and willing to prepare for and attend Board and committee meetings.

**Diversity.** Though the Board does not have a formal policy regarding the consideration of diversity in identifying nominees for director, directors should be selected so that the Board represents diverse experience at various policy making and executive levels in business, government, education and in industries that are relevant to the Corporation's business operations. The Board considers the term "diversity" to include differences of viewpoint, professional experience, education, skill and other individual qualities and attributes that contribute to board heterogeneity.

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## **Proposal 1: Election of Directors**

**Experience.** Directors should be or have been in leadership positions in their field of endeavor and have a record of excellence in that field.

Integrity. Directors should have a reputation of integrity and be of the highest ethical character.

Judgment. Directors should have the ability to exercise sound business judgment on a large number of matters.

**Knowledge.** Directors should have a firm understanding of business strategy, corporate governance and board operations and other relevant business matters.

**Skills.** Directors should be selected so that the Board has an appropriate mix of skills in critical core areas, including, but not limited to: accounting, compensation, finance, government relations, legal, management, risk oversight and strategic planning.

These director qualification standards are evaluated by the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee each time a new candidate is considered for Board membership. The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee and the Board may take into account such other factors they consider to be relevant to the success of a publicly traded company operating in the steel industry. As part of the annual nomination process, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee reviews the qualifications of each director nominee, including currently serving Board members, and reports its findings to the Board. On February 27, 2017, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee determined that each Board member satisfied the director qualification standards and advised the Board that each of the director nominees listed under "Proposal 1: Election of Directors" was qualified to serve on the Board.

#### **Stockholder Recommendations**

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee will consider director nominees recommended by stockholders. Notice of such recommendation should be sent in writing to the Chair of the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee, c/o the Corporate Secretary of United States Steel Corporation, 600 Grant Street, Suite 1500, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. The recommendation must include: (i) the candidate's name, address, occupation and share ownership; (ii) any other biographical information that will enable the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee to evaluate the candidate in light of the criteria described above; and (iii) information concerning any relationship between the candidate and the stockholder making the recommendation. The recommendation must also identify the writer as a

stockholder of the Corporation and provide sufficient detail for the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee to consider the recommended individual's qualifications. The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee will evaluate the qualifications of candidates recommended by stockholders using the same criteria as used for other Board candidates.

Under the collective bargaining agreement with the United Steelworkers (the "USW"), the USW has the ability to recommend up to two individuals to be considered for Board membership. The agreement recognizes that every director has a fiduciary duty to the Corporation and all of its stockholders, and that each individual recommended by the USW must meet the criteria described above.

## **Director Nominees**

For purposes of the upcoming annual meeting, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee has recommended the election of each nominee as a director. Each nominee has informed the Board that he or she is willing to serve as a director. If any nominee should decline or become unable or unavailable to serve as a director for any reason, your proxy authorizes the persons named in the proxy to vote for a replacement nominee, if the Board names one, as such persons determine in their best judgment.

It is the intention of the proxyholders to vote proxies for the election of the nominees named in this proxy statement, unless such authority is withheld.

The following is a brief description of the age, principal occupation, position and business experience, including other public company directorships, for at least the past five years, and major affiliations of each of the nominees. Each nominee's biographical information includes a description of the director's experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that qualify him or her to serve on the Board.

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# **SNAPSHOT OF 2017 DIRECTOR NOMINEES**

Our Director nominees possess skills and experience aligned to our current and future strategy and business needs. Annual Board evaluations also include an assessment of whether the Board has an appropriate mix of skills, experience and other characteristics.

**All Director Nominees Have:** 

A reputation of high integrity

A proven record of success

An ability to exercise sound judgement

A demonstrated knowledge of business strategy and board operations

An understanding of corporate governance best practices and processess

A commitment to contribute the time necessary to be actively involved in all decision-making activities

Our Director nominees exhibit an effective mix of diversity, experience and fresh perspective

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## The Board of Directors recommends a vote

"FOR" the election of each of the following 2017 Director Nominees for a one-year term:

PATRICIA DIAZ DENNIS AGE: 70

OCCUPATION: Retired Senior Vice President and Assistant General Counsel, AT&T

**DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015** 

BOARD COMMITTEES: Corporate Governance & Public Policy and Compensation & Organization

OTHER BOARDS: Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, Entravision Communication Corporation

**Patricia Diaz Dennis** graduated from the University of California Los Angeles and received her law degree from the Loyola Law School of Loyola Marymount University. Ms. Dennis has held three Senate-confirmed federal government appointments. Former President Ronald Reagan named her to the National Labor Relations Board in 1983 and appointed her as a commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission three years later. After becoming partner and head of the communications section of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue, Ms. Dennis returned to public service in 1992 when former President George H. W. Bush appointed her Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs. Ms. Dennis served in a variety of executive positions with SBC Communications, Inc., which later became AT&T, including General Counsel and Secretary of SBC West from May 2002 until August 2004 and Senior Vice President and Assistant General Counsel of AT&T from 2004 to 2008. Ms. Dennis currently serves on the boards of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company and Entravision Communication Corporation. She also is a trustee of the NHP Foundation and a member of the Advisory Board for LBJ Family Wealth Advisors.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Ms. Dennis' legal expertise and federal government public service contribute to her skills in the areas of risk management, compliance, internal controls, and legislative and administrative issues. Additionally, her National Labor Relations Board experience brings significant union relations insight and expertise to the Board. These factors, along with her long record of demonstrated executive leadership and integrity, provide valued insight and perspective to Board deliberations and in the oversight of the Corporation's operations. Ms. Dennis' experience on the board of directors of a large insurance firm also demonstrates her knowledge of complex financial and operational issues. Ms. Dennis' appointments to three federal government positions provide her with unique insight with respect to regulatory and public policy matters, both of which strengthen the Board's collective knowledge, capabilities and experience.

DAN O. DINGES AGE: 63

OCCUPATION: Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation

## DIRECTOR SINCE: 2010

## BOARD COMMITTEES: Audit and Compensation & Organization

#### OTHER BOARDS: Spitzer Industries, Inc., Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation

**Dan O. Dinges** graduated from The University of Texas with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Petroleum Land Management. Mr. Dinges began his career with Mobil Oil Corporation in 1978. From 1981 to 2001, Mr. Dinges worked in a variety of management positions with Samedan Oil Corporation, a subsidiary of Noble Affiliates, Inc. (now Noble Energy Inc.). In September 2001, Mr. Dinges joined Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation as its President and Chief Operating Officer, and assumed his current position as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer in May 2002. In May 2015, Mr. Dinges was appointed chairman of the American Exploration & Production Council, a national trade association representing 31 of America's premier independent natural gas and oil exploration and production companies. He also serves on the board of directors of API (the American Petroleum Institute), Spitzer Industries, Inc., the American Exploration & Production Council, the Foundation for Energy Education, Houston Methodist Hospital Research Institute, Boy Scouts of America, and Palmer Drug Abuse Program. Mr. Dinges previously served on the board of directors of Lone Star Technologies, Inc. Mr. Dinges is also a member of the All-American Wildcatters Association and serves on the executive committee of the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Center for Energy, Law and Business at The University of Texas at Austin.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Mr. Dinges has substantive experience in managing and overseeing strategic and operational matters as a result of his service as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation. Mr. Dinges also possesses knowledge of and insight into the steel industry through his prior service as a director of Lone Star Technologies, Inc. In addition, he provides the Board with an insightful perspective regarding the energy industry which is an important supplier to, and customer of, the Corporation. Mr. Dinges' experience as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation demonstrates his leadership capability and general business acumen.

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2017 Director Nominees - continued

JOHN G. DROSDICK AGE: 73

OCCUPATION: Retired Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, Sunoco, Inc.

**DIRECTOR SINCE: 2003** 

BOARD COMMITTEES: Compensation & Organization (Chair)

OTHER BOARDS: Triumph Group, Inc.

**John G. Drosdick** graduated from Villanova University with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering and received a Master's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Massachusetts. From 1968 to 1983, Mr. Drosdick worked in a wide variety of management positions with Exxon Corporation. He was named President of Tosco Corporation in 1987 and President of Ultramar Corporation in 1992. In 1996, Mr. Drosdick became President and Chief Operating Officer of Sunoco and was elected Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in May 2000. He retired from his positions as Chief Executive Officer, President and Chairman of Sunoco in 2008. Mr. Drosdick is Chairman of the board of trustees of the PNC Funds and PNC Advantage Funds and a director of Triumph Group, Inc. Mr. Drosdick previously served on the boards of directors of H.J. Heinz Co., Lincoln National Corporation and Sunoco Logistic, Inc.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Mr. Drosdick has valuable experience in managing the many complex issues large public companies face. In addition, he provides the Board with knowledge and insight regarding the energy industry, an important supplier to, and customer of, the Corporation. He also has experience in the chemicals and coke industries. Mr. Drosdick has valuable experience in managing critical operational, financial and strategic matters as a result of his service as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sunoco, Inc.

JOHN J. ENGEL AGE: 55

OCCUPATION: Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, WESCO International, Inc.

**DIRECTOR SINCE:** 2011

BOARD COMMITTEES: Audit (Chair)

**OTHER BOARDS:** WESCO International, Inc.

**John J. Engel** graduated from Villanova University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He received his Master of Business Administration from the University of Rochester in 1991. Mr. Engel has served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of WESCO International, Inc. since 2011. Previously, at WESCO International, Inc., Mr. Engel served as President and Chief Executive Officer from 2009 to 2011, and Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from 2004 to 2009. Before joining WESCO in 2004, Mr. Engel served as Senior Vice President and General Manager of Gateway, Inc.; Executive Vice President and Senior Vice President of Perkin Elmer, Inc.; and Vice President and General Manager of Allied Signal, Inc. Mr. Engel also held various engineering, manufacturing and general management positions at General Electric Company. Mr. Engel is a member of the Business Roundtable and the Business Council, and is a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Manufacturers.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** As a result of his service as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of WESCO International, Inc. and working in a diverse range of industries, Mr. Engel has skills and valuable experience managing the significant operational and financial issues that the Corporation is likely to face. Further, Mr. Engel's demonstrated business acumen, strategic planning and risk oversight experience makes him a valued member of our Board.

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2017 Director Nominees - continued

MURRY S. GERBER AGE: 64

OCCUPATION: Retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, EQT Corporation

**DIRECTOR SINCE:** 2012

BOARD COMMITTEES: Compensation & Organization and Audit

OTHER BOARDS: BlackRock, Inc., Halliburton Company

**Murry S. Gerber** received a Bachelor's degree in geology from Augustana College and a Master's degree in geology from the University of Illinois. From 1979 to 1998, Mr. Gerber served in a series of technical and management positions with Shell Oil Company, including Chief Executive Officer of Coral Energy, L.P. (now Shell Trading North America) from 1995 to 1998. Mr. Gerber served as Chief Executive Officer and President of EQT Corporation from June 1998 through February 2007; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from May 2000 through April 2010; and Executive Chairman from April 2010 until May 2011. Mr. Gerber is also a member of the boards of directors of BlackRock, Inc. and Halliburton Company.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Mr. Gerber has valuable experience in overseeing various managerial, financial and operational issues that face a publicly held company as a result of his service as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of EQT Corporation. Mr. Gerber also provides the Board with knowledge and insight regarding the energy industry, an important supplier to, and customer of, the Corporation. Mr. Gerber's experience on the boards of directors of publicly held companies demonstrates his knowledge of complex strategic financial and operations matters.

STEPHEN J. GIRSKY AGE: 54

OCCUPATION: President, S. J. Girsky & Company

**DIRECTOR SINCE: 2016** 

BOARD COMMITTEES: Audit and Corporate Governance & Public Policy

OTHER BOARDS: Valens Semiconductor Ltd.

**Stephen J. Girsky** received a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from the University of California at Los Angeles and a Master of Business Administration from the Harvard Business School. Mr. Girsky is Managing Partner of VectoIQ, an independent advisory firm based in New York, where he applied more than 30 years of experience working with senior corporate and board executives, labor leaders, OEM leaders, suppliers and dealers, and national and local policy makers. Mr. Girsky served in a number of capacities at General Motors from November 2009 until July 2014, including GM Vice Chairman, having responsibility for global corporate strategy, new business development, global product planning and program management, global connected consumer/OnStar, and GM Ventures LLC, Global Research & Development and Global Purchasing and Supply Chain. Mr. Girsky served as Chairman of the Adam Opel AG Supervisory Board and was President of GM Europe for a period of time. Mr. Girsky is a director at Brookfield Business Partners, Drive.ai, and Valens Semiconductor Ltd. He served on the General Motors Board of Directors following its emergence from bankruptcy in June 2009 until June 2016. He also served as the lead director of Dana Holdings Corp. from 2008-2009.

Mr. Girsky has also served as president of Centerbridge Industrial Partners, an affiliate of Centerbridge Partners, LP, and a multibillion dollar investment fund. Prior to Centerbridge, he was a special advisor to the CEO and CFO of General Motors Corporation from August 2005 to June 2006.

In total, Mr. Girsky has more than 25 years of automotive experience, including serving as managing director at Morgan Stanley and as senior analyst of the Morgan Stanley Global Automotive and Auto Parts Research Team. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley, he was managing director of PaineWebber's Automotive Group and worked as an analyst on the overseas financial staff of GM.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Mr. Girsky's career at GM provided him with extensive experience in global corporate strategy, product development, program management, research and development and business leadership. Mr. Girsky also brings to the Board expertise related to the automotive industry, finance, market and risk analysis, and labor relations which add valuable insight and perspective to Board deliberations and in the oversight of the Corporation's operations. Mr. Girsky's service on the board of directors of a Fortune 100 company also demonstrates his knowledge of complex financial and operational issues, all of which strengthen the Board's collective knowledge, capabilities and experience.

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2017 Director Nominees - continued

MARIO LONGHI AGE: 62

**OCCUPATION:** Chief Executive Officer, United States Steel Corporation

**DIRECTOR SINCE: 2013** 

**Mario Longhi** received a Bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering from the Institute Mauá de Tecnologica in São Paulo, Brazil in 1977. Mr. Longhi was elected: Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of United States Steel Corporation in July 2012; President and Chief Operating Officer in June 2013; President & Chief Executive Officer and a Director in September 2013; and Chief Executive Officer and a Director on February 28, 2017.

Prior to joining U. S. Steel, Mr. Longhi spent six years at Gerdau Ameristeel Corporation, serving first as president from 2005 through 2006 and then additionally in the role of chief executive officer from 2006 until 2011. Before his arrival at Gerdau Ameristeel, Mr. Longhi spent 23 years at Alcoa, Inc., which he joined in 1982 as a construction superintendent for the company's Alumar Refinery in his native Brazil. During his time with Alcoa, he advanced through increasingly responsible positions in Brazil, the United States and Switzerland, including tenures as president – Alcoa Wheels International, president – Alcoa Forgings Division, president and chief executive officer – Howmet Castings, and Alcoa vice president and group president – Global Extrusions.

Mr. Longhi was named 2015 Steelmaker of the Year by the Association for Iron and Steel Technology and CEO of the Year at the 2015 Platts Global Metals Awards. He was also honored by American Metal Market in 2011 with an Award for Steel Excellence as Industry Ambassador/Advocate of the Year.

In January 2017, Mr. Longhi was invited to participate in U.S. President Donald Trump's Manufacturing Jobs Initiative. Mr. Longhi also currently serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the World Steel Association. He is also vice chairman of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), serves as a member of AISI's Board of Directors and is chairman of the association's Policy and Planning Committee. Mr. Longhi serves on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** As the President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Longhi is responsible for all of the business and corporate affairs of U. S. Steel. His diverse experience and deep knowledge of the steel industry is crucial to the Corporation's strategic planning and operational success. As the only employee-director on the Board, Mr. Longhi is able to provide the Board with an

"insider's view" of what is happening in all facets of the Corporation. He shares not only his vision for the Corporation, but also his hands- on experience as a result of his daily management of the Corporation and constant communication with employees at all levels. His insider's perspective provides the Board with invaluable information necessary to direct the business and affairs of the Corporation.

PAUL A. MASCARENAS AGE: 55

OCCUPATION: Retired Chief Technical Officer and Vice President, Ford Motor Company

**DIRECTOR SINCE: 2016** 

BOARD COMMITTEES: Compensation & Organization and Corporate Governance & Public Policy

OTHER BOARDS: ON Semiconductor Corp., Mentor Graphics, Inc.

**Paul A. Mascarenas** received a degree in mechanical engineering from University of London, King's College in England and in June 2013, received an honorary doctorate degree from Chongqing University in China. Mr. Mascarenas served as President and Chairman of the Executive Board of FISITA (Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Ingénieurs des Techniques de l'Automobile) from 2014 to 2016. Previously, Mr. Mascarenas worked for 32 years at Ford Motor Company, holding various development and engineering positions, and most recently serving as Chief Technical Officer and Vice President, leading Ford's worldwide research organization, overseeing the development and implementation of the company's technology strategy and plans. Mr. Mascarenas is a fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and a fellow of the Society of Automotive Engineers. He served as general chairperson for the 2010 SAE World Congress and Convergence and has served on the FISITA board since 2012. Mr. Mascarenas also currently serves on the board of directors at ON Semiconductor and Mentor Graphics, Inc. and is a Special Venture Partner with Fontinalis Partners. In 2015, he was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, for his services to the automotive industry.

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#### 2017 Director Nominees - continued

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Mr. Mascarenas' long career at Ford provided him with extensive experience in product development, program management and business leadership, as well as experience working in an international forum. Mr. Mascarenas also brings to the Board insight and expertise related to the automotive industry. This experience, along with Mr. Mascarenas' record of demonstrated executive leadership, enables him to provide valued insight and perspective to Board deliberations and in the oversight of the Corporation's operations. Mr. Mascarenas' service on the board of directors of a Fortune 1000 semiconductors supplier company also demonstrates his knowledge of complex financial and operational issues, all of which strengthen the Board's collective knowledge, capabilities and experience.

GLENDA G. McNEAL AGE: 56

**OCCUPATION:** Executive Vice President and General Manager - Global Client Group & Strategic Partnerships, American Express Company

**DIRECTOR SINCE: 2007** 

BOARD COMMITTEES: Corporate Governance & Public Policy and Audit

# OTHER BOARDS: RLJ Lodging Trust

**Glenda G. McNeal** received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Dillard University and a Master of Business Administration in Finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Ms. McNeal began her career with Arthur Andersen, LLP in 1982, and was employed by Salomon Brothers, Inc. from 1987 to 1989. In 1989, Ms. McNeal joined American Express Company and since that time has served in a series of increasingly responsible positions for that company. She assumed her current position in 2011. Ms. McNeal is a director of RLJ Lodging Trust, American Hotel and Lodging Association, and the UNCF.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Ms. McNeal has significant and valuable experience in business development, customer relationship management, and financial matters as a result of her current position as a senior executive at American Express Company, along with her prior positions with Arthur Andersen, LLP and Salomon Brothers, Inc. In addition, she provides the Board with knowledge and insight regarding customer management and the financial services industry. Ms. McNeal's considerable senior executive level experience in business and management provides her with an insightful perspective on strategic planning, risk oversight and operational matters that is valuable to our Board.

# **ROBERT J. STEVENS**

AGE: 65

OCCUPATION: Retired Chairman of the Board, President and CEO, Lockheed Martin Corporation

**DIRECTOR SINCE:** 2015

BOARD COMMITTEES: Corporate Governance & Public Policy and Compensation & Organization

**OTHER BOARDS:** Monsanto Company

**Robert J. Stevens** is a summa cum laude graduate of Slippery Rock University, from which he received the Distinguished Alumni Award. He earned a Master's degree in engineering and management from the Polytechnic University of New York and, with a Fairchild Fellowship, earned a Master's degree in business from Columbia University. He is a graduate of the Department of Defense Systems Management College Program Management course and also served in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Stevens is the former Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Lockheed Martin Corporation. He was elected Chairman in April 2005 and served as Executive Chairman from January through December 2013. He also served as Lockheed Martin's Chief Executive Officer from August 2004 through December 2012. Previously, he held a variety of increasingly responsible executive positions with Lockheed Martin, including President and Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and head of Strategic Planning. Mr. Stevens is a member of the board of directors of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and the Atlantic Council, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is a Fellow of the American Astronautical Society, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the International Academy of Astronautics. He served on President Obama's Advisory Committee for Trade Policy Negotiations and is Chairman of the Director of National Intelligence Senior Advisory Group.

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## 2017 Director Nominees - continued

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** Mr. Stevens has valuable experience in managing the issues that face a publicly held company as a result of his service as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Lockheed Martin. Mr. Stevens has significant experience in program management, finance, manufacturing, and operations. Mr. Stevens' experience as Chief Executive Officer of a Fortune 100 company demonstrates his leadership capability, general business acumen and knowledge of complex financial and operational issues that large public companies face.

#### DAVID S. SUTHERLAND (CHAIRMAN) AGE: 67

OCCUPATION: Retired President and Chief Executive Officer, IPSCO, Inc.

## **DIRECTOR SINCE: 2008**

## BOARD COMMITTEES: Corporate Governance & Public Policy and Audit

OTHER BOARDS: GATX Corporation, Imperial Oil, Ltd

**David S. Sutherland** earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Saskatchewan and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Pittsburgh's Katz Graduate School of Business. Mr. Sutherland retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of the former IPSCO, Inc., a leading North American steel producer, in July 2007 after spending 30 years with the company and more than five as President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Sutherland became the independent Chairman of the Board of U. S. Steel on January 1, 2014. Mr. Sutherland is a director of GATX Corporation and Imperial Oil, Ltd. Mr. Sutherland is a former chairman of the American Iron and Steel Institute and served as a member of the boards of directors of IPSCO, Inc., ZCL Composites Inc., the Steel Manufacturers Association, the International Iron and Steel Institute, the Canadian Steel Producers Association and the National Association of Manufacturers.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** By virtue of his diverse background and experience, Mr. Sutherland has an extraordinarily broad and deep knowledge of the steel industry. As a former Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Sutherland understands the issues facing executive management of a major corporation. His prior experiences enable him to provide the Board with valuable insights on a broad range of business, social and governance issues that are relevant to large corporations.

PATRICIA A. TRACEY AGE: 66

OCCUPATION: Ret. Vice President, Homeland Security and Defense Services, HP Enterprise Services

# **DIRECTOR SINCE: 2007**

BOARD COMMITTEES: Corporate Governance & Public Policy (Chair) and Compensation & Organization

**Vice Admiral Tracey** holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from the College of New Rochelle and a Master of Science in Operations Research and Systems Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School. From 1970 to 2004, Vice Admiral Tracey served in increasingly responsible operational and staff positions with the United States Navy, including Chief of Naval Education and Training from 1996 to 1998; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Personnel Policy) from 1998 to 2001; and Director, Navy Headquarters Staff from 2001 to 2004. Vice Admiral Tracey served as a consultant on decision governance processes to the United States Navy from 2004 to 2005 and to the Department of Defense from 2005 to 2006. She took a position as a Client Industry Executive for business development and performance improvement with Electronic Data System Corporation in 2006. Hewlett Packard Co. acquired Electronic Data Systems Corporation in August 2008. Vice Admiral Tracey retired from her position as Vice President, Homeland Security and Defense Services with HP Enterprise Services in October 2016.

**Particular experience, attributes or skills that qualify candidate for Board membership:** As a result of her military service, Vice Admiral Tracey has valuable experience in governmental affairs, human resources, organizational and workforce development, occupational safety and environment compliance, and governance. She also provides the Board with knowledge and insight regarding information technology and information security and also brings experience in planning large-scale transformation, and in executing multi-year turnarounds.

**Corporate Governance** 

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Corporate governance is a continuing focus at U. S. Steel, embraced by the Board of Directors, management, and all employees. The Corporation has a long and rich tradition relating to corporate governance and public company disclosure. For example, U. S. Steel was one of the first publicly traded

companies in United States history to hold an annual meeting of stockholders and to publish an annual report.

In this section, we describe some of our key governance policies and practices.

## **GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

U. S. Steel is committed to maintaining the highest standards of corporate governance and ethical conduct which we believe are essential for sustained success and long-term stockholder value. In light of this goal, the Board oversees, counsels and directs management in the long-term interests of the Corporation, its stockholders and its customers. Our governance framework gives our highly experienced directors the structure necessary to provide oversight, advice and counsel to U. S. Steel. The Board's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- overseeing the management of our business and the assessment of our business risks;
- overseeing the processes for maintaining our integrity with regard to our financial statements and other public disclosures, and compliance with laws and ethical principles;
- reviewing and approving our major financial objectives and strategic and operating plans;
- overseeing our talent management and succession planning for the CEO and other key executives; and
- establishing an effective governance structure, including appropriate board composition and planning for board succession.

The Board discharges its responsibilities through regularly scheduled meetings as well as through telephonic meetings, actions by written consent and other communications with management as appropriate. U. S. Steel expects directors to attend all meetings of the Board and the Board committees

upon which they serve, and all annual meetings of the Corporation's stockholders. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Board held seven meetings and all of the directors attended in excess of 75 percent of the meetings of the Board and the committees on which they served. All of the directors attended the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The Board has long adhered to governance principles designed to assure excellence in the execution of its duties and regularly reviews the Corporation's governance policies and practices. These principles are outlined in our Corporate Governance Principles, which in conjunction with our certificate of incorporation, by-laws, Board committee charters and related policies, form the framework for the effective governance of the Corporation.

The full text of the Corporate Governance Principles, by-laws, the charters for each of the Board committees, and the Corporation's Code of Ethical Business Conduct are available on the Corporation's website, www.ussteel.com. These materials are also available in print to any person, without charge, upon written request to:

Corporate Secretary United States Steel Corporation 600 Grant Street, Suite 1500

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

### **Corporate Governance**

### **Corporate Governance At A Glance**

Leadership Structure	Our Chairman is independent. He interacts closely with our Chief Executive Officer				
	The independent Board members elect our Chairman annually. Among other duties, our Chairman leads executive sessions of the independent directors to discuss certain matters				
	without management present				
Board Composition	Currently, the Board has fixed the number of directors at 12				
	The board regularly assesses its performance through Board and committee self-evaluations				
Board Independence	11 out of 12 of our directors are independent				
	Our CEO is the only management director				
<b>Board Committees</b>	We have four Board committees – Executive, Audit, Corporate Governance & Public Policy, and Compensation & Organization				
	With the exception of the Executive Committee (our Chairman and CEO serve on this				
	committee), all other committees are composed entirely of independent directors				
Management	The Board actively monitors our succession planning and people development and receives				
Succession Planning	regular updates on employee engagement, diversity and retention matters				
	At least twice per year, the Board reviews senior management succession and development				
	plans				
<b>Director Stock</b>	Our directors are required to receive at least half of their annual retainer in shares of our				
Ownership	common stock - and must hold these shares during their entire tenure on the Board				
	Our full Board is responsible for risk oversight, and has designated committees to have				
Risk Oversight	particular oversight of certain key risks. Our Board oversees management as management				
KISK Over signt	fulfills its responsibilities for the assessment and mitigation of risks and for taking appropriate				
	risks				
Accountability to	We use majority voting in uncontested director elections				
Stockholders	We have annual election of directors				
	We implemented a "3-3-20" proxy access by-law provision in November 2016 which enables our				
	stockholders to nominate directors and have their eligible nominees included in the proxy				
	statement with our nominees				
	We actively reach out to our stockholders through our engagement program				
	Stockholders can contact our Board, our Chairman or management by regular mail				

## **BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE**

The Board regularly considers the appropriate leadership structure for the Corporation. It has concluded that the Corporation and its stockholders are best served by the Board retaining discretion to determine whether the same individual should serve as both Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, or whether the Chairman of the Board should be an independent director. The Board believes that it is important to retain the flexibility to make this determination at any given point in time based on what it believes will provide the best leadership structure for the Corporation, taking into account the needs of the Corporation at that time. Due to the high level of transition in the Corporation's executive leadership and the dynamic business environment in 2013 and 2014, the Board chose to implement a non-executive, independent Chairman role in January 2014 to allow the Chief Executive Officer to

strategically focus on the associated business challenges. David S. Sutherland currently serves as the independent Chairman of the Board.

If the Chairman of the Board is not independent, the independent directors annually elect from among themselves a

Lead Director. If the Chairman of the Board is independent, the Chairman's duties also include the duties of the Lead Director. The duties of the Lead Director are as follows:

•chair executive sessions of the non-employee directors;

•serve as a liaison between the Chief Executive Officer and the independent directors;

approve Board meeting agendas and, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and the independent directors, approve Board meeting schedules to ensure there is sufficient time for discussion of all agenda items;

•approve the type of information to be provided to directors for Board meetings;

•be available for consultation and direct communication with the Corporation's stockholders;

•call meetings of the independent directors when necessary and appropriate; and

•perform other duties as the Board may from time to time designate.

**Corporate Governance** 

# **BOARD'S ROLE IN RISK OVERSIGHT**

Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and discussing the Corporation's policies with respect to the assessment of risks and risk management, including the following:

the guidelines and policies that govern the process by which the assessment and management of the Corporation's exposure to risk are handled by senior management; and

•the Corporation's major risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures.

The Corporation's Internal Audit group provides regular reports to the Audit Committee on the results of various internal audit projects and provides recommendations for the enhancement of operational functions in order to reduce certain risks. Although the Audit Committee has primary responsibility for overseeing risk management, each of our other Board committees also considers the risks within their specific areas of responsibility. For example, the charter of the Compensation & Organization Committee gives it responsibility for assessing whether the Corporation's compensation and organization policies and practices for executives and non-executives are reasonably likely to create a risk that could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation. Pursuant to its charter, the Corporate Governance &

Public Policy Committee considers the risks associated with legislative, regulatory and public policy issues affecting the Corporation's businesses and operations. Each committee regularly reports to the full Board on their respective activities, including, when appropriate, those activities related to risk assessment and risk management oversight.

The Board, as a whole, also considers risk assessment and risk management. For example, the Board annually reviews the Corporation's strategic plan which includes a review of risks related to: safety, environmental, operating and competitive matters; political and regulatory issues; employee and labor issues; and financial results and projections. Management regularly provides updates to the Board related to legal and compliance risks and cyber- security matters.

The Chief Risk Officer is responsible for the Corporation's financial and business risk management, including the assessment, analysis and monitoring of business risk and opportunities and the identification of strategies for managing risk. The Chief Risk Officer provides regular reports to the Audit Committee and Board of Directors on these matters.

The Corporation believes that its leadership structure, as described above, supports the Board's role in risk oversight.

### BOARD OVERSIGHT OF SUCCESSION PLANNING

Our Board and management consider succession planning and people development to be an integral part of the Corporation's long-term strategy. The Compensation & Organization Committee is responsible for monitoring our management succession and development plans and receives regular updates on employee engagement, diversity and retention matters, which are reported to the full Board. At least twice annually, our full Board reviews senior management

succession and development plans with our CEO. Our CEO then presents to the independent directors his evaluations and recommendation of future candidates for the CEO position and other senior leadership roles and potential succession timing for those positions, including under emergency circumstances. The Board also reviews and discusses development plans for individuals identified as high-potential candidates for senior leadership positions.

### **BOARD REFRESHMENT**

Our Board maintains a robust process in which the members focus on identifying, considering and evaluating potential board candidates. Our Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee leads this process by considering prospective candidates at its meetings. In identifying appropriate candidates through a thoughtful evaluation, supported by its outside consultants, the committee is focused on aligning the skills, experience and characteristics of our Board with the strategic development of the company. Among other things, the members aim to strike a balance between the knowledge that comes from longer-term service on the Board with the fresh insights that can come from adding new members to the Board. The following shows our board refreshment process:

#### **Identification of Candidates**

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee reviews candidates identified by an independent search firm or recommended by our directors, officers or stockholders, taking

into consideration the qualifications and requirements outlined in our Corporate Governance Principles, as well as the skills and experience already represented on the Board.

#### Assessment and Interviews

The committee seeks input from other Board members and senior management to evaluate nominees for director and interviews appropriate candidates to confirm their qualifications, interest and availability for Board service.

#### Nomination and Election

Upon a recommendation from the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee, the Board determines whether to elect a director candidate and optimal committee placement.

### Onboarding

We conduct a comprehensive onboarding process for new directors, including site visits, to provide an understanding of our business, opportunities and challenges.

### **Corporate Governance**

### **BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENTS**

Each year, the Board conducts annual self-evaluations to determine whether it and its committees are functioning effectively and whether its governing documents continue to remain appropriate. Our Board's self-evaluation is facilitated by a wide range of questions related to topics including operations, composition of the board, responsibilities, governing documents and resources. The Board evaluation also includes an assessment of whether the Board (i) has the appropriate mix of skills, experience and other characteristics, including those

describe above, and (ii) is made up of a sufficiently diverse group of people. The process is designed and overseen by the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee, and the results of the evaluations are discussed by the full Board.

Each committee, other than the Executive Committee, annually reviews its own performance and reports the results and any recommendations to the Board.

## INDEPENDENCE

The following non-employee directors are independent within the definitions of independence of both the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") listing standards and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") standards for Audit Committee members: Patricia Diaz Dennis, Dan O. Dinges, John G. Drosdick, John J. Engel, Murry S. Gerber, Stephen J. Girsky, Paul A. Mascarenas, Glenda G. McNeal, Robert J. Stevens, David S. Sutherland and Patricia A. Tracey. The Corporation has incorporated the NYSE and SEC independence standards into its own categorical standards for independence. The Board has affirmatively determined that none of the directors or nominees for director, other than Mr. Longhi, has a material relationship with the Corporation. The Board made such determination based on all relevant facts and circumstances.

In making its determination of director independence, the Board of Directors considered the fact that U. S. Steel purchased certain goods and services from WESCO International, Inc. (WESCO) in 2016. Mr. Engel is the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of WESCO. The Board determined that Mr. Engel did not have a direct or indirect material interest in these transactions and that the transactions were undertaken in the ordinary course of business. In addition, the value of materials purchased by U. S. Steel in 2016 was less than 2% of WESCO's annual gross revenues. As a result, the Board concluded that these transactions would not affect Mr. Engel's independence.

Additionally, the Board considered the fact that U. S. Steel indirectly sold products to Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation ("Cabot") in 2016. Mr. Dinges is the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cabot. The Board determined that Mr. Dinges did not have a direct or indirect material interest in these transactions and that the transactions were

undertaken in the ordinary course of business, and that the products sold by U. S. Steel were less than 2% of Cabot's annual gross revenues. Accordingly, the Board concluded that these transactions would not affect Mr. Dinges' independence.

The Board affirmatively determined that each member of the Audit Committee: (i) did not accept directly or indirectly any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, (ii) was not an affiliated person of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, and therefore (iii) satisfied the NYSE's enhanced independence standards for audit committee members.

The Board also determined that: (i) no member of the Compensation & Organization Committee has a relationship to the Corporation which is material to that director's ability to be independent from management in connection with the duties of a compensation committee member, and (ii) each member of the Compensation & Organization Committee therefore satisfies the independence requirements of NYSE listing standards.

# **BOARD COMMITTEES**

Under our by-laws and the general corporation law of the State of Delaware, U. S. Steel's state of incorporation, the business and affairs of U. S. Steel are managed under the direction of the Board of Directors. The non-employee directors hold regularly scheduled executive sessions without management. The directors spend considerable time preparing for Board and committee meetings.

The Board has three principal committees, each of which is comprised exclusively of independent directors: (i) the Audit

Committee; (ii) the Compensation & Organization Committee; and (iii) the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee.

Each of these committees has a written charter adopted by the Board, which are available on the Corporation's website (www.ussteel.com). The committee charters are regularly reviewed and updated to incorporate best practices and prevailing governance trends.

### **Corporate Governance**

The table below shows the current committee memberships of non-employee directors:

Director	Audit Committee	Compensation & Organization Committee	Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee
Patricia Diaz Dennis		Х	Х
Dan O. Dinges	Х	Х	
John G. Drosdick		Х	*
John J. Engel	Х	*	
Murry S. Gerber	Х	Х	
Stephen J. Girsky	Х		Х
Paul A. Mascarenas		Х	Х
Glenda G. McNeal	Х		Х
David S. Sutherland**	Х		Х
Robert J. Stevens		Х	Х
Patricia A. Tracey		Х	X*
* Committee Chair.			

\*\*Chairman of the Board.

Each committee may in its sole discretion, retain or obtain the advice of outside advisers, including any consultant, independent legal counsel or other adviser, at the Corporation's expense to assist the committee in fulfilling its duties and

responsibilities. The Board also has an Executive Committee consisting of Messrs. Sutherland and Longhi. The Executive Committee acts on, and reports to the Board on, matters that arise between Board meetings.

#### **Audit Committee**

Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee's duties and responsibilities include:

reviewing and discussing with management and the independent registered public accounting firm matters related to •the annual audited financial statements, quarterly financial statements, earnings press releases and the accounting principles and policies applied;

reviewing and discussing with management and the independent registered public accounting firm matters related to the Corporation's internal controls over financial reporting;

•reviewing the responsibilities, staffing and performance of the Corporation's internal audit function;

reviewing issues that arise with respect to the Corporation's compliance with legal or regulatory requirements and corporate policies dealing with business conduct;

being directly responsible for the appointment (subject to stockholder ratification), compensation, retention, and •oversight of the work of the Corporation's independent registered public accounting firm, while possessing the sole authority to approve all audit engagement fees and terms as well as all non-audit engagements with such firm; and

•discussing policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management.

The charter requires the Audit Committee to perform an annual self-evaluation, review its charter each year and meet at least five times each year. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Audit Committee held five meetings.

The Audit Committee annually requests PwC to prepare a self-assessment utilizing the Center for Audit Quality, External Auditor Assessment Tool. This best practice assists the Audit Committee in its oversight role and annual evaluation of PwC to assess the quality of the audit and to recommend the retention of PwC. Based on this assessment, we believe the quality of PwC's services, communication and interaction with the Audit Committee is of a high standard.

The charter also requires the Audit Committee to be comprised of at least three directors, each of whom is independent and financially literate, and at least one of whom must have accounting or related financial management expertise. Under the charter, no director who serves on the audit committees of more than two other public companies may serve on the Audit Committee, unless the Board determines that such simultaneous service will not impair the ability of such director to effectively serve on the Audit Committee. No member of the Audit Committee serves on the audit committees of more than two other publicly traded companies. The Board has determined that John J. Engel, the Committee's chairman, Dan O. Dinges, Murry S. Gerber, Stephen J. Girsky and David S. Sutherland meet the SEC's definition of audit committee financial expert.

### **Corporate Governance**

#### **Compensation & Organization Committee**

Pursuant to its charter, the Compensation & Organization Committee's duties and responsibilities include:

determining and approving, with the Board, the CEO's compensation level based on the evaluation of the CEO's performance;

approving the compensation of the "executive officers" of the Corporation as defined under Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;

•reviewing the Corporation's executive management succession plans annually with the Board;

administering the plans and programs under which short-term and long-term incentives are awarded to executive officers and approving such awards;

assessing whether the Corporation's compensation and organization policies and practices are reasonably likely to create a risk that could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation;

considering the most recent stockholder advisory vote on executive compensation in connection with determining executive compensation policies and decisions;

reviewing with management and recommending to the Board the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A) section of the proxy statement and producing the committee report for inclusion in the proxy statement; and

•adopting and amending certain employee benefit plans and designating participants therein.

The Compensation & Organization Committee has retained Pay Governance, LLC as its consultant to assist it in evaluating executive compensation. The consultant reports directly to the Compensation & Organization Committee. The Compensation & Organization Committee retains sole authority to hire the consultant, approve its compensation, determine the nature and scope of its services, evaluate its performance, and terminate its engagement. A representative of the consultant attended all meetings of the Compensation & Organization Committee in 2016.

The consultant provides various executive compensation services to the Compensation & Organization Committee, which generally include advising the Compensation & Organization Committee on the principal aspects of our executive compensation program and changing industry practices and providing market information and analysis regarding the competitiveness of our program design and our award values in relationship to their performance.

During 2016, the consultant performed the following specific services:

•provided presentations on executive compensation trends, and best practices and recent developments;

prepared competitive assessments by position for each element of compensation and for compensation in the aggregate;

•reviewed drafts and commented on the CD&A and related compensation tables for the proxy statement;

reviewed the peer group used for compensation benchmarking purposes and recommended changes, if appropriate; and

•attended executive sessions of the Compensation & Organization Committee.

The consultant provided no services to management during 2016.

The Compensation & Organization Committee has assessed the independence of the consultant pursuant to the NYSE listing standards and SEC rules and concluded that no conflict of interest exists that would prevent the consultant from serving as an independent consultant to the Compensation & Organization Committee.

The Compensation & Organization Committee also obtains input from the CEO with regard to compensation for other executives.

Our CEO recommends the level of base salary increase (if any), the annual incentive award, and the long-term incentive award value for all of our executive officers, including the other named executive officers (other than himself). These recommendations are based upon his assessment of each executive officer's performance, the performance of the individual's respective business or function, and employee retention considerations. The Compensation & Organization Committee reviews the CEO's recommendations and approves any compensation changes affecting our Section 16 executive officers.

The Compensation & Organization Committee's charter requires the committee to perform a self-evaluation and charter review annually. The charter also requires that the committee be comprised of at least three directors, each of whom is independent.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Compensation & Organization Committee held six meetings. Committee agendas are established in consultation among management, the Committee chair and the Compensation & Organization Committee's independent compensation consultant. The Compensation & Organization Committee meets in executive session without management for at least a portion of each regular meeting.

In 2016, the Compensation & Organization Committee considered reports and analysis that it had requested of management and its independent consultant concerning risks associated with the Corporation's compensation and

organization policies and practices.

### **Corporate Governance**

### **Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee**

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee serves as the Corporation's governance and nominating committee. Pursuant to its charter, the duties and responsibilities of this committee include:

- Identifying and evaluating nominees for director and selecting, or recommending that the Board select, the director nominees for the next annual meeting of stockholders;
- making recommendations to the Board concerning the appropriate size and composition of the Board and its committees;
- making recommendations to the Board concerning the compensation of non-employee directors;
- recommending to the Board a set of corporate governance principles applicable to the Corporation, reviewing such principles annually and recommending appropriate changes to the Board;
- reviewing relationships with, and communications to and from, the investment community, including the Corporation's stockholders;

reviewing matters and discussing risk relating to legislative, regulatory and public policy issues affecting the Corporation's businesses and operations;

•reviewing and approving codes of conduct applicable to employees and principal operating units; and

assessing and making recommendations concerning overall corporate governance to the extent specific matters are not the assigned responsibility of other board committees.

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee's charter gives the committee the sole authority to retain and terminate any search firm to be used to identify director candidates, including sole authority to approve the search firm's fees and other retention terms.

Under the charter, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee must: (i) be comprised of at least three directors, each of whom is independent, and (ii) perform a self-evaluation and charter review annually. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee held six meetings.

## DIRECTOR RETIREMENT POLICY

Our Corporate Governance Principles require any non-employee director to retire at the first annual meeting of stockholders after he or she reaches the age of 74, however, the Board can grant exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis.

Each employee director must retire from the Board when he or she ceases to be an executive officer of the Corporation, except that the Chief Executive Officer may remain on the Board after retirement as an employee, at the Board's request, through the last day of the month in which he or she turns 70.

Our Corporate Governance Principles also provide that directors who undergo a significant change in their business or professional careers shall volunteer to resign from the Board. In 2016, Ms. Tracey retired from her position at HP Enterprise Services and submitted an offer to resign from our Board in accordance with the provisions of our Corporate Governance Principles. The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee determined that Ms. Tracey's change in status did not impact her qualifications to serve on the Board and recommended that the Board reject her offer of resignation. After consideration, the Board approved that recommendation and agreed to reject her offer of resignation.

**Director Compensation** 

## DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Our Corporate Governance Principles provide that each non-employee director shall be paid compensation as the Board may determine from time to time. Directors who are employees of U. S. Steel receive no compensation for their service on the Board.

The objective of U. S. Steel's director compensation programs is to enable the Corporation to attract and retain as directors individuals of substantial accomplishment with demonstrated leadership capabilities. In order to align the interests of directors with the interests of stockholders, our non-employee directors participate in the Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors and the Non-Employee Director Stock Program, each of which is described below.

For 2016, Non-employee directors were paid an annual retainer fee of \$200,000. Committee Chairs and the Chairman of the Board were paid an additional annual fee of \$20,000 and \$50,000, respectively. No meeting fees or committee membership fees are paid.

Under our Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors, each non-employee director is required to defer at least 50% of his or her retainer in the form of Common Stock Units and may elect to defer up to 100%. A Common Stock Unit is what is sometimes referred to as "phantom stock" because initially no stock is actually issued. Instead, we keep a book entry account for each director that shows how many Common Stock Units he or she has. When a director leaves the Board, he or she receives actual shares of common stock corresponding to the number of Common Stock Units in his or her account. The ongoing value of each Common Stock Unit equals the market price of the common stock. When dividends are paid on the common stock, we credit each account with equivalent amounts in additional Common Stock Units. If U. S. Steel were to undergo a change in control resulting in the removal of a

non-employee director from the Board, that director would receive a cash payment equal to the value of his or her deferred stock account.

Under our Non-Employee Director Stock Program, upon joining our Board, each non-employee director is eligible to receive a grant of up to 1,000 shares of common stock. In order to qualify, each director must first have purchased an equivalent number of shares in the open market during the 60 days following the first date of his or her service on the Board.

The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee reviews and sets director compensation on a semi-annual basis. In 2016, The committee reviewed information and recommendations from Pay Governance, an independent

compensation consultant, for the same comparator group of 24 companies the Compensation & Organization Committee uses for determining compensation for our executives as well as for a larger general comparator group of 151 companies in a similar revenue range as the Corporation. After reviewing the information presented by Pay Governance, as well as other public information on the topic, the committee determined that the plan design was consistent with market trends, but that the amount of our directors' annual base retainer, which was set in 2011, was below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile and significantly below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of both comparator groups. The Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee determined to increase the annual director compensation retainer to \$240,000 beginning in 2017, in order to align the compensation level with the median of both comparator groups. No increase was made to the additional amounts paid to the board chair or to committee chairs.

The following table sets forth certain information concerning the compensation of non-employee directors in 2016:

#### DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (\$)	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	All Other Compensation <sup>(3)</sup> (\$)	Total (\$)
Patricia Diaz Dennis	100,000	100,000	0	0	0	200,000
Dan O. Dinges	50,000	150,000	0	0	0	200,000
John G. Drosdick	110,000	110,000	0	0	0	220,000
John J. Engel	110,000	110,000	0	0	0	220,000
Murry S. Gerber	100,000	100,000	0	0	0	200,000
Stephen J. Girsky	0	152,473	0	0	10,000	162,473
Paul A. Mascarenas	83,333	102,473	0	0	0	185,806
Glenda G. McNeal	100,000	100,000	0	0	0	200,000
Robert J. Stevens	0	200,000	0	0	0	200,000
David S. Sutherland	0	250,000	0	0	0	250,000
Patricia A. Tracey (1)	110,000	110,000	0	0	0	220,000

#### **Stock Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers**

The amount shown represents the aggregate grant date fair value, computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718 (ASC 718), as described in the Corporation's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 included in the Corporation's annual report on Form 10-K for 2016. All of the 2016 stock awards represent Common Stock Units under the Deferred

- (1) Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors, except in the case of: (i) Mr. Girsky, where \$133,333 represents Common Stock Units under the Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors and \$19,140 represents shares awarded under the Non-Employee Director Stock Program; and (ii) Mr. Mascarenas, where \$83,333 represents Common Stock Units under the Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors and \$19,140 represents shares awarded under the Non-Employee Director Stock Program.
- (2) The aggregate stock awards outstanding at the end of 2016 for each director listed in the table represent Common Stock Units under the Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors.

The amounts shown represent contributions made under the U. S. Steel Matching Gift program. Under this (3)program, United States Steel Foundation, Inc. matches charitable contributions made by directors and employees to eligible organizations, subject to certain limitations and conditions as set forth in the program.

## STOCK OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Board has adopted stock ownership and holding requirements for executive officers. These requirements are described under the caption "A Culture of Ownership" in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement.

Non-employee directors are required to hold equity interests in the Corporation in the form of stock-based deferred compensation. This requirement is a part of our Corporate Governance Principles. Each non-employee director is required to defer at least 50% of his or her annual retainer as stock-based compensation under the Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors. Amounts deferred are credited to the director's deferred stock account in the form of Common Stock Units. No amounts are paid to the director from the deferred stock account until the director leaves the Board, at which time he or she receives actual shares of common stock

corresponding to the number of Common Stock Units in his or her account. The Board and management believe that such deferral, by continually building each director's equity interest in the Corporation, provides a meaningful continued interest in the Corporation that is tied to the stockholders' interest because the stock issued upon a director's departure from the Board reflects all changes in the market value of U. S. Steel common stock from the date of deferral. Each non-employee director is in compliance with the requirement described in this paragraph.

The following table sets forth the number of shares of U. S. Steel common stock beneficially owned as of February 27, 2017 by each director and director nominee, by each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table and by all directors and executive officers as a group. No director or executive officer beneficially owned, as of the applicable date, any equity securities of U. S. Steel other than those shown.

	Shares
Name	Beneficially
	Owned*
James E. Bruno <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	68,179
David B. Burritt <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	365,215
Patricia Diaz Dennis <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	22,503
Dan O. Dinges <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	48,859
John G. Drosdick <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	53,267
John J. Engel <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	38,691
Suzanne R. Folsom <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	71,849
Murry S. Gerber <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	164,345
Stephen J. Girsky	19,349
Mario Longhi <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	388,346
Paul A. Mascarenas	10,864
Douglas R. Matthews <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	170,387
Glenda G. McNeal <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	41,383
Robert J. Stevens <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	43,006
David S. Sutherland <sup><math>(2)(3)</math></sup>	88,792
Patricia A. Tracey <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	42,818
All Directors and Executive Officers as a group (22 persons) <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>	2,271,001

\* Does not include fractional shares.

Includes shares which may be acquired upon exercise of outstanding options which are or will become exercisable (1) within 60 days of February 27, 2017 in the following amounts: Mr. Burritt: 222,890; Ms. Folsom: 16,130; Mr. Longhi: 58,100; Mr. Matthews: 104,962; Mr. Bruno: 5,513; and all executive officers as a group: 536,358.

Includes those Common Stock Units granted under the Deferred Compensation Program for Non-Employee Directors that are convertible into shares of common stock upon departure from the Board in the following (2) amounts: Ms. Diaz Dennis: 20,503; Mr. Dinges: 46,859; Mr. Drosdick: 51,267; Mr. Engel: 36,691; Mr. Gerber: 30,145; Mr. Girsky: 16,349; Mr. Mascarenas: 8,864; Ms. McNeal: 39,330; Mr. Stevens: 41,006; Mr. Sutherland: 86,715; Vice Admiral Tracey: 41,160; and all directors as a group: 418,889.

(3) The total number of shares beneficially owned by all directors and executive officers as a group constitutes approximately 1.3% of the outstanding shares of common stock of U. S. Steel.

#### **Communications from Stockholders and Interested Parties**

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM STOCKHOLDERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES

Stockholders and interested parties may send communications through the Secretary of the Corporation to the: (1) Board, (2) Committee Chairs, (3) Chairman of the Board, or (4) outside directors as a group. The Secretary will collect, organize and forward to the directors all communications that are appropriate for consideration by the directors. Examples of communications that would not be considered appropriate for consideration

by the directors include solicitations for products or services, employment matters, and matters not relevant to stockholders generally, to the functioning of the Board, or to the affairs of the Corporation. The Secretary of the Corporation may be contacted at: Corporate Secretary, United States Steel Corporation, 600 Grant Street, Suite 1500, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

## POLICY WITH RESPECT TO RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS

The Board of Directors of the Corporation has adopted a written policy that requires certain transactions with related persons to be approved or ratified by its Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee. For purposes of this policy, related persons include: (i) any person who is, or at any time since the beginning of the Corporation's last fiscal year was, a director or executive officer of the Corporation or a nominee to become a director of the Corporation; (ii) any person who is the beneficial owner of more than 5% of any class of the Corporation's voting securities; and (iii) any immediate family member of any person described in (i) or (ii). The types of transactions that are subject to this policy are transactions, arrangements or relationships (or any series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships) in which the Corporation, or any of its subsidiaries, was, is or will be a participant and in which any related person had, has or will have a direct or indirect material interest and the aggregate amount involved will or may be expected to exceed \$120,000. The standards applied by the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee when reviewing transactions with related persons include: (a) the benefits to the Corporation of the transaction; (b) the terms and conditions of the transaction and whether such terms and conditions are comparable to the terms available to an unrelated third party or to employees generally; and (c) the potential for the transaction to affect the independence or judgment of a director or executive officer of the Corporation. Under the policy, certain transactions are deemed to be automatically pre-approved and do not need

to be brought to the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee for individual approval. The transactions which are automatically pre-approved include: (i) transactions involving compensation to directors and executive officers of the type that is required to be reported in the Corporation's proxy statement; (ii) indebtedness for ordinary business travel and expense payments; (iii) transactions with another company at which a related person's only relationship is as an employee (other than an executive officer), a director or beneficial owner of less than 10 percent of any class of equity securities of that company, provided that the amount involved does not exceed the greater of \$1,000,000 or 2% of that company's consolidated gross annual revenues; (iv) transactions where the interest of the related person arises solely from the ownership of a class of equity securities of the Corporation, and all holders of that class of equity securities receive the same benefit on a pro rata basis; (v) transactions where the rates or charges involved are determined by competitive bid; (vi) transactions involving the rendering of services as a common or

contract carrier or public utility at rates or charges fixed in conformity with law or governmental regulation; and (vii) transactions involving services as a bank depositary of funds, transfer agent, registrar, trustee under a trust indenture or similar services.

There were no transactions that required approval of the Corporate Governance & Public Policy Committee under this policy during 2016.

# SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, our directors and executive officers and persons holding more than ten percent of any class of our equity securities, are required to file with the SEC initial reports of their ownership of our common stock and reports of changes in such ownership. To our

knowledge, based on information furnished to us, there were no late filings by any U. S. Steel directors, executive officers or other persons subject to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 required to be disclosed in this proxy statement.

#### **Proposal 2: Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation**

### **PROPOSAL 2: ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Pursuant to Section 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we are seeking an advisory vote from our stockholders on the following resolution to approve the compensation of the named executive officers (NEOs) listed in the compensation tables of this proxy statement:

RESOLVED, that the stockholders of United States Steel Corporation (the "Corporation") approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Named Executive Officers, as disclosed pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission in the Corporation's proxy statement for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, compensation tables and narrative discussions.

We intend to offer this non-binding advisory vote at each of our annual meetings. Although it is not binding, we and the Board welcome our stockholders' views on our NEOs' compensation and will carefully consider the outcome of this advisory vote consistent with the best interests of all stockholders.

#### **Advisory Vote Discussion**

At the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, approximately 79% of the votes cast were "For" our advisory vote on executive compensation. We value the feedback we receive from regular engagement with our stockholders, and are encouraged by the positive support we have received over the past several years for our compensation program and recognition of our responsiveness to stockholders. In April 2016, we contacted stockholders representing more than 50% of our outstanding stock and held telephonic meetings with stockholders holding approximately 25%. These discussions, held prior to our annual meeting, were focused primarily on how our compensation program aligns with our strategy and company performance. In November and December 2016, we contacted stockholders representing

approximately 40% of our outstanding stock, and meetings were accepted by those representing approximately 15%. All of the stockholders provided positive feedback regarding recent changes to our executive compensation program and support the pay-for-performance nature of our compensation program. The Compensation & Organization Committee considered this feedback when reviewing the incentive compensation programs for 2017.

In considering this advisory vote, we encourage you to read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and other relevant information in this proxy statement for additional details on our executive compensation programs and the 2016 compensation paid to our named executive officers.

The Board recommends that you vote "FOR" the resolution approving the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

# **COMPENSATION & ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Compensation & Organization Committee of the Board of Directors of the Corporation has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management. Based on such review and discussion, the Compensation & Organization Committee recommended to the Board that

the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference into the Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year-ended December 31, 2016.

John G. Drosdick, ChairmanDan O. DingesPatricia Diaz DennisPaul A. MascarenasMurry S. GerberPatricia A. Tracey

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis ("CD&A") contains a discussion of the material elements of compensation awarded to, earned by, or paid to the Corporation's "Named Executive

Officers" ("NEOs"), including our principal executive officer, the principal financial officer, and the next three most highly compensated executive officers of U. S. Steel in 2016. The titles of executives used in this CD&A reflect the title of each executive during 2016.

#### U. S. Steel's Named Executive Officers in 2016

Mario LonghiPresident & Chief Executive OfficerDavid B. BurrittExecutive Vice President & Chief Financial OfficerSuzanne R. FolsomGeneral Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer & Senior Vice President – Government AffairsDouglas R. MatthewsSenior Vice President – Industrial, Service Center and Mining SolutionsJames E. BrunoSenior Vice President – Automotive Solutions

#### **Executive Summary**

Our executive compensation program is designed to attract, reward and retain executives who make significant contributions through operational and financial achievements aligned with the goals and philosophy of our Carnegie Way transformation. The Compensation & Organization Committee (the "Committee") is guided by five compensation principles highlighted below and discussed in more detail on page [28].

•Align Pay with Stockholder Interests

•Fair and Competitive

•Link Pay to Performance

•Retain Executives

•Equity-Focus and Tax-Efficient

These principles reflect a strong pay-for-performance culture. Furthermore, the structure of our compensation program and the pay outcomes for executives demonstrate our commitment to linking compensation to company performance and strategy.

## The Carnegie Way: Earning the Right to Grow and Driving Sustainable Profitable Growth

Over the past few years, U. S. Steel, like the American steel industry in general, has faced difficult market conditions as a result of macroeconomic challenges, including significant reductions in the market price of steel, global overcapacity and record levels of unfairly traded imports, slow growth globally, a strong U.S. dollar, and markedly low energy prices. In the face of these challenging conditions, in 2013 we initiated a transformational process called the Carnegie Way. This process provides the framework for a multi-year journey to return our company to iconic status and sustainable profitability.

The objective of the Carnegie Way is to focus our executives and employees throughout the organization on the factors we can control. Accomplishing this objective includes creating a lower and more flexible cost structure that will produce stronger and more consistent results across industry cycles to mitigate the financial impact of the volatility in our industry. We are focused on the development of differentiated, innovative products, processes and approaches to doing business – through a culture of collaboration, accountability and demonstrating results. As part of this process, we have reorganized our company into commercial entities to facilitate close collaboration with our customers in order to foster innovation and to be more responsive to their needs. The

Carnegie Way is our culture and the way we run the business. We focus on our strengths, how we can create the most value for our stockholders and best serve our customers, with committed and engaged executives and employees.

Our success in this transformation is predicated on having the right leaders to guide the Corporation and successfully execute on our strategy, so it is critical to attract and retain the highest level of executive talent. We believe we have the right leadership team, which includes highly experienced executives from both inside and outside of the steel industry, to continue to lead the Corporation through the operational, market and regulatory hurdles facing our business.

Our executive compensation program has been structured to closely align with the objectives of the Carnegie Way transformation: attract, reward and retain talented executives; focus our executives on the goals that are within their control and support our strategy; and clearly and closely align with company performance, and the long-term interests of stockholders, using measurable financial metrics. We believe both the structure of our compensation programs and the pay outcomes for executives demonstrate our strong commitment to linking compensation to company performance and strategy.

# **Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Executive Summary**

### 2016 Highlights and Accomplishments

We began 2016 facing many of the same macroeconomic headwinds as 2015, including historically low steel prices. While these financial uncertainties pointed to another challenging year in 2016, we remained focused on using the Carnegie Way as our guide and executed on strategic priorities critical to the Corporation's success amid the industry downturn. The unrelenting focus of our executive team and employees on clear actions to improve our balance sheet, enhance operating efficiency, and create fairness and competition in the marketplace were successfully achieved, as evidenced by improvements in our stock price and earnings. While we are proud of these results, our transformation efforts are still underway.

The following are highlights and accomplishments from 2016:

Our stock price increased by more than 300%, reflecting strong execution on our strategy and improved market conditions

Realized \$745 million of additional Carnegie Way benefits in 2016, building upon the \$575 million and \$815 million •in Carnegie Way benefits realized in 2014 and 2015, respectively, underscoring the success of this transformational process

Ended 2016 with positive operating cash flow of \$727 million and adjusted EBITDA of \$510 million, despite beginning the year at historically low steel prices and facing the lowest full-year average realized prices since 2004

Strong year-end liquidity of approximately \$2.9 billion, including cash on hand of \$1.5 billion, which supports our goal of maintaining a healthy balance sheet

Reduced long-term debt by over \$100 million in 2016 which contributed to the reduction of net debt by more than 50% since 2013

Successfully completed a \$980 million debt offering and a \$500 million equity offering, which provide for future financial flexibility

•Improved working capital by nearly \$600 million, and over \$1 billion over the last two years. Continued to aggressively address unfair trade practices through landmark legal action against producers and distributors abroad that continue to violate domestic regulations, and led industry efforts to clarify and enforce existing laws. These actions, if successful, will be instrumental in ensuring U. S. Steel is competing on a level playing field

Out-performed the BLS and AISI industry safety benchmarks in both OSHA Recordable Days and Days Away From Work

Because the challenging market conditions we have faced in recent years are likely to continue in the near-term, we are taking actionable steps now to respond and return the Corporation to stable profitability. We are also planning long-term initiatives that are designed to benefit our business and performance regardless of external market factors.

**Near-Term Steps to Return to Profitability.** Our management team took several critical actions in 2016, including: idling facilities; right-sizing the organization; and exiting parts of the business where it is not possible to earn an economic profit. These were tough decisions for the executive team and, despite the challenging economic •circumstances, U. S. Steel ended 2016 as a more streamlined organization focused on generating economic profit across all business cycles. We continue to focus on improving our product mix with more value-added solutions that differentiate U. S. Steel from our competitors. Our management team is confident that, as market conditions continue to improve, we will realize further benefits from this strategy.

**Longer-Term Steps to Improve Our Position.** We continue to take steps to improve our position for the long-term. In May, we completed a \$980 million offering of senior secured notes, which allowed us to repay near-term debt. In August we completed a \$500 million equity offering. The focus on improving the balance sheet and strategically accessing the

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Executive Summary**

capital markets enables the Corporation to move forward in the Carnegie Way process and open avenues to future growth and investment. We have identified critical assets on which we plan to deploy additional capital investment and increased revitalization spending to continue driving improvements in our reliability and quality while lowering our

ongoing cost basis. We plan to use our strong cash and liquidity positions to expedite the revitalization of our facilities and to fund additional growth projects. This approach will enhance the ongoing development of the differentiated solutions that make us a top strategic business partner for our customers.

#### Maintaining Pay-for-Performance Approach through Industry Cycles

The Committee believes it critical to align our compensation program with the goals of the Carnegie Way as we carry out our strategic turnaround in a challenging operating and unpredictable economic environment. Therefore, our compensation structure balances the following:

a strong pay-for-performance approach that links financial performance to the incentive opportunities realized by our executives;

•measurable performance metrics in our incentive plans that support our strategic and financial goals;

•alignment of management interests with the long-term interests of our stockholders; and our need to retain executives best qualified to guide the Corporation through its transformation.

The elements of compensation provided to our executives include: base salary, short-term annual incentive compensation, long-term incentive compensation, retirement benefits, and other compensation. The distribution of compensation among the various compensation elements is based on the Committee's belief that to link pay to performance, most of an executive's compensation should be paid in the form of performance-based variable compensation with a greater emphasis on variable components for the most senior executives who have greater responsibility for the performance of the business.

Variable, at-risk compensation accounted for 73% of our CEO's target compensation in 2016. Based on this strong pay-for-performance alignment, realizable compensation for our CEO over the last three years is 37% above the

target value granted during the period. Notable aspects of CEO compensation include: (i) the long-term performance awards paid out twice in the last three performance periods, averaging 42% of target; and (ii) the average three-year payout under the annual incentive compensation plan for our CEO is 139% of target, with no payout in 2015.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Executive Summary**

#### **Compensation Elements**

The following table highlights the key elements of our performance-based compensation structure. Goals for each incentive component are set at the beginning of the performance period for the entire period and above market performance is required for the target payout to be made under the relative TSR metric.

Element	Form	<b>Description and Performance Metrics</b>
Base Salary	Fixed Cash	Market competitive levels that take into account scope and complexity of role and individual qualifications, experiences and internal value to the Corporation
Annual Incentive Compensation Plan (AICP)	Performance-Based Cas	Net sales – funding trigger (no payout under plan if not met) <b>EBITDA</b> – weighted 50% <b>Cash flow</b> – weighted 50% Individual performance – modifier on award amount
Long-Term Incentive Program (LTIP)	Performance-Based Awards (60%)* Performance-Based Equit (30%) Performance-Based Cash (30%)	<b>Relative TSR</b> – measured over a 3-year period; requires above market performance for target payout to be made
	Time-Based RSUs (20%)* Stock Options (20%)*	Supports retention and linked to stock price performance Measured relative to appreciation in stock price

\*Percentage of award at target grant

#### **Compensation Decisions and Outcomes Demonstrate Alignment with Performance**

#### **Compensation Decisions for 2016**

In early 2016, the Committee approved the following items based on several factors, including: the Corporation's 2015 performance; outlook for 2016 performance; continued development and execution of the Carnegie Way transformation strategy; and responsibilities of each of our NEOs; among other criteria.

**Salaries:** No change was made to the CEO's base salary for 2016. While the Committee has generally set base salaries above median to support recruitment and retention during the period of transition, no increase was made for •the CEO or any other named executive officers for 2016, other than Mr. Bruno, in recognition of the Corporation's lower financial performance in 2015 and continued market challenges. Mr. Bruno received a base pay increase in 2016 to better align his base salary with other NEOs in the Corporation and comparable roles across our peer group.

**Annual Incentive:** Target incentive percentages for NEOs did not increase for 2016. Our NEOs earned cash •incentives under the AICP based on rigorous goals set in early 2016 that were exceeded through superior performance. These incentives were paid in early 2017.

**Long-Term Incentive:** The grant date value of the 2016 long-term grant for each NEO decreased from 2015. In order to avoid a windfall of shares to any executive during a period of depressed stock price, the Committee adjusted •the target LTIP award using an assumed share price greater than the grant date fair market value to determine the number of shares to be granted. The grant date value of Mr. Longhi's LTIP award decreased from \$7,535,000 in 2015 to \$6,887,837 in 2016.

**Total Compensation:** Mr. Longhi's target pay decreased from 2015 to 2016. However, because payouts were made under the AICP for 2016 performance, his actual total pay for 2016, as disclosed in the Summary Compensation Table, increased from 2015 when the NEOs did not receive cash incentive payouts under the AICP.

The Committee believes pay decisions for 2016 demonstrate the significant link between executive compensation and company performance, and accountability of our executives to deliver value to our stockholders.

# Compensation Outcomes: Payouts Reflect Corporate Performance

The Committee considers a mix of cash and equity awards over both the short-term and long-term as a critical balance in reinforcing U. S. Steel's commitment to performance alignment. This strong pay-for-performance alignment is clearly reflected in amounts actually earned by our NEOs based on the achievement of metrics established by the Committee for the short-term and long-term incentive plans.

The average annual incentive payout over the last three years for our named executive officers is 137% of target, and no payouts were made in 2015 based on actual performance. Below target performance award payouts have been made under our long-term incentive plan during this same time period, with no payouts for the 2012-2014 awards and no payout for the 2014-2016 ROCE performance awards.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Executive Summary**

The following table illustrates how our performance has affected the payout of our short-term incentives and how the performance of our common stock affects the value of the long-term incentives that would be received by our Chief Executive Officer based on our closing stock price of \$33.01 on December 30, 2016:

	Annual Incentive <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Options		Restricted Stock Value as	Performance Awards <sup>(4)</sup>	
Year	% of Target Award Paid	Exercise Price	Intrinsic Value <sup>(2)</sup>	a % of Grant Value	Award Payout as a % of Target	
2016	201%	\$14.780		223 %	97%	
2015	0%	\$24.780		133 %	67.5%	
2014	227%	\$24.285	\$8.725	136 %	75%	

(1) The "Annual Incentive" column indicates the percentage of the Target Award earned under our Annual Incentive Compensation Plan.

The "Intrinsic Value" column shows the amount (if any) by which the market value of our shares underlying an (2)option exceeds the exercise price. If the exercise price exceeds the market price, the stock options have no intrinsic value.

The "Restricted Stock" column shows the market value on December 31, 2016, of the shares underlying the restricted (3) stock units as a percentage of the market value on the grant date. To the extent that the market value has declined, the dollar amount of the value of the restricted stock units reflected in the Summary Compensation Table will also decline.

The "Performance Awards" column indicates the percentage of the performance awards that would be paid out based on our TSR as compared to the TSR of the peer group companies and ROCE. The information in the table reflects the assumption that the performance periods for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 performance awards ended on December 31, 2016.

### **CEO Realizable Pay**

Three-Year (2014 - 2016) Aggregate CEO Compensation

\* The long-term incentive realizable value is greater than the target value primarily due to the dramatic stock price increase ranging between 133% - 233% above grant date values, as illustrated in the table at the top of this page.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Executive Summary**

#### **Changes to Compensation Program**

The Committee approved the following changes to our compensation program in 2016 to more closely align it with our current strategy, position and performance results. These changes were informed, in part, by feedback the Committee received from stockholders during the Corporation's regular engagement with investors.

*Adopted New Performance Peer Group* – In February 2016, the Committee created a second, more industry focused •peer group consisting of 12 domestic steel and steel-related companies against which we measure TSR for purposes of the relative TSR performance awards (described in more detail later under "Peer Group" discussion).

*Adopted a Negative TSR Cap* – In February 2016, the Committee added a cap to the relative TSR performance awards •to address the potential of negative returns over a performance period (described in more detail later under "TSR Performance Awards" discussion).

*Replaced EBIT with EBITDA for AICP Metric* – In February 2016, the Committee replaced EBIT with EBITDA as a •performance metric under our Annual Incentive Compensation Plan to align external and internal communication regarding financial performance.

*Equally Weighted EBITDA and Cash Flow* – For 2016 AICP performance, EBITDA and Cash Flow are equally •weighted, in order to place a greater emphasis on the Corporation's strategic focus on cash flow. In prior years, EBIT accounted for 60% of the award and Cash Flow for 40%.

Alignment of Safety Metric with OSHA Guidance – Recent OSHA guidance indicated that incentive programs that deny or decrease compensation based on the occurrence of work-related injuries discourages injury reporting. As •such, the Committee removed the safety-based component of the AICP. However, as safety remains a core value of the Corporation, the Committee and the Board reserve the right to impose negative discretion on incentive awards depending on certain circumstances.

#### **Commitment to Stockholder Engagement on Executive Compensation**

In 2016, the Corporation engaged with its largest stockholders both during and outside the proxy season. In April 2016, we contacted stockholders representing more than 50% of our outstanding stock and held telephonic meetings with stockholders holding approximately 25%. These discussions, held prior to our annual meeting, were focused primarily on how our compensation program aligns with our strategy and company performance. In November and December 2016, we contacted stockholders representing approximately 40% of our outstanding stock, and meetings were accepted by those representing approximately 15%. Many of our stockholders indicated they did not believe a call was necessary and support our compensation and governance practices.

The Board, as well as management, prioritizes constructive communication with our investors to learn about their views of the Corporation and our governance and compensation practices. In addition to the frequent communication our CEO and Investor Relations team has with our stockholders, we maintain ongoing dialogue with our largest stockholders regarding our corporate governance and executive compensation program since 2012. The feedback we receive from these discussions is carefully considered by the Board and the Committee, and we believe the strong support for our say-on-pay proposal over the last few years is evidence of the careful attention we pay to the feedback given to us by our stockholders, and our ability to decisively take action and incorporate their perspectives in our programs. Based on our 2016 meetings, we determined

that our stockholders are supportive of the strong link between pay and performance embedded in our executive compensation program.

As a result of engagement with investors over the years, the Committee has implemented changes to our compensation practices to further align pay with performance and enhanced disclosure regarding the rationale behind certain compensation decisions. For example, in 2014 we increased the weighting of performance awards in our long-term program to 60% and added ROCE as a second performance metric in the plan (in addition to TSR). These actions were taken in response to feedback we consistently heard from our stockholders that a larger percentage of equity awards should be performance-based and that the long-term program should include a capital return metric.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis – Executive Summary**

#### **Compensation Governance Practices**

Our compensation program is designed to promote exceptional performance and align the interests of our executives with the interests of our stockholders while discouraging executives from excessive risk-taking. Our executive compensation is directly aligned with company performance and measurable financial metrics.

Compensation & Organization Committee Practices

Considers the results of the most recent say-on-pay advisory vote by stockholders and has implemented proactive communications with stockholders to gain input and feedback when making executive compensation decisions

Undertakes a goal setting process that is used to arrive at rigorous short-term and long-term performance goals under our incentive plans that are aligned to key corporate strategic and financial goals

Engages in and leads a robust CEO performance evaluation process

Engages and consults with its own independent compensation consultant

Has established formal selection criteria for the executive compensation and relative TSR peer groups and annually reviews peer group composition

Annually reviews tally sheets analyzing executive compensation levels and structures, including amounts payable in various termination scenarios

Annually reviews the risks associated with our compensation programs and has implemented various risk mitigating practices and policies, such as:

Targeting the majority of our executives' compensation in long-term performance based awards using multiple equity and cash vehicles

•Implementing rigorous executive stock ownership and holding requirements

Utilizing multiple performance measures that focus on company-wide metrics and placing a cap on potential incentive payments

Our Change in Control Severance Plan establishes a "double trigger," requiring participants to be terminated without "cause," or voluntarily "for good reason" following a change in control prior to receipt of any payment of severance benefits

Maintains a "clawback" policy that applies to executive officers and provides for the recoupment of incentive awards under certain conditions in the event the Corporation's financial statements are restated

Maintains Anti-Hedging and Pledging Policies that prohibit all employees and directors from engaging in any transaction that is designed to hedge or offset any decrease in our stock price and prohibits executive officers and directors from pledging our stock as collateral for a loan or holding shares in a margin account

No payment of tax gross-ups to any executives for any payments relating to a change in control

### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

**Executive Compensation in Detail** 

### **Compensation Principles**

Our executive compensation program is designed to attract, reward and retain executives who make significant contributions through operational and financial achievement aligned with the goals and philosophy of our Carnegie Way transformation

and the long-term interests of stockholders. The following five principles support these objectives and guide the design of our compensation program:

Compensation Principle	Compensation Design
	• More than 73% of target compensation opportunity is performance based for our CEO (51%-67% for other NEOs).
Align Pay with	• Equity incentives comprise a significant portion of an executive's compensation.
Stockholder Interests	• Executives are subject to rigorous stock ownership and holding requirements.
	• Performance metrics, applied to 60% of our long-term program, align with our annual and long-term strategic objectives.
	• Executive compensation is targeted to be competitive with our peer group.
Fair and Competitive	<ul> <li>Our compensation programs are focused on objective corporate performance measures and individual performance.</li> <li>Balance of compensation elements that focus on both short-term and long-term</li> </ul>
	performance and goals.
Link Pay to Performance	• Short-term incentives are based on annual financial performance (i.e., EBITDA and cash flow), and individual performance.
	• Long-term incentives are tied to the Corporation's relative TSR and return on capital
Retain Executives	<ul><li>employed (ROCE).</li><li>Our long-term incentive grants include restricted stock units and performance awards that may retain some value in a period of stock market decline.</li></ul>
Equity-Focus and	• The largest portion of an executive's compensation is in the form of long-term equity incentives, which preserves cash.
Tax-Efficient	• Our compensation programs are designed to preserve corporate tax deductions.

### **Compensation Program Elements**

#### **Short-Term Incentive Compensation**

The purpose of our Annual Incentive Compensation Plan (AICP) is to align our executive officers' compensation with the achievement of annual performance goals that support our business strategy. Typically, the short-term incentive awards are paid in cash, but the Committee retains discretion to provide the award in cash, stock, or a combination of both.

The AICP is designed to focus executives primarily on cash generation and profitability. It is funded each year based on the

achievement of a pre-determined net sales performance goal, and once funded, actual amounts earned are based on the achievement of cash flow and earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) performance measures. Final awards may be increased or decreased based on individual performance. The Committee determined that cash flow and EBITDA were the appropriate measures to drive the transformation required to achieve our goal of sustainable profitability.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

Performance Measure	How it Works	Rationale/Description
Net Sales	Determines if plan is funded; no payouts are made if net sales goal is not achieved	The Committee sets the funding threshold as a value of net sales to more fully align the objective with the Corporation's focus on shipping profitable tons, rather than on volume produced
Cash Flow*	Determines 50% of award payout	Financial performance measure intended to focus on the generation of the cash required to reduce debt and fund investments that will yield profitable returns in the future
EBITDA**	Determines 50% of award payout	I Financial performance measure intended to focus the organization on operating at sustainable, profitable levels Based on an assessment of the executive's individual performance,
Individual Performance	increase award by 30% of reduce or eliminate based	y including the contribution to overall corporation results and attainment of r operational and strategic goals, and the priorities of profitability, customer focus, operational excellence and building a high performing organization, eas well as internal equity fairness, and the impact of significant research, development and innovation

Cash flow is defined as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, depletion, and amortization (EBITDA) for consolidated worldwide operations, plus or minus changes in current receivables, inventories, and current accounts payable and accrued expenses, less consolidated worldwide capital expenditures. EBITDA for consolidated

\* worldwide operations means earnings (loss) before interest and income taxes as reported in the consolidated statements of operations of the Corporation, plus or minus the effect of items not allocated to segments (excluding post-retirement benefit expenses) as disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements, plus depreciation, depletion and amortization as reported in the consolidated statements of cash flows of the Corporation.

Total EBITDA shall mean earnings before interest and taxes as reported in the consolidated statements of operations of United States Steel Corporation, plus or minus the effect of items not allocated to segments (excluding postretirement benefit expenses) as disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements of \*\* United States Steel Corporation, plus depreciation, depletion and amortization as reported in the consolidated statements of cash flows of United States Steel Corporation. Segment EBITDA shall mean, for the Performance Period, EBITDA for each business unit. Unless contemplated in the approved performance target, EBITDA excludes charges or credits for business dispositions, acquisitions, asset sales, asset impairments, workforce reductions, shutdowns, and amounts not allocated to business segments.

The target award under the AICP for each NEO is equal to the target percentage applied to the executive's base salary. The following table shows the actual amount awarded by the Committee after consideration of the executive's individual performance.

#### 2016 Annual Incentive Payout

Executive	Target Award as % of Base Salary <sup>(1)</sup>	Target Award <sup>(2)</sup>	Total Payout Rate <sup>(3)</sup>	Actual Amount Awarded <sup>(4)</sup>
Longhi	150%	\$2,250,000	175%	\$4,528,125
Burritt	100%	\$ 800,000	175%	\$1,820,000
Folsom	80%	\$ 560,000	175%	\$1,274,000
Matthews	80%	\$432,800	175%	\$833,140
Bruno	55%	\$221,925	175%	\$466,043

- (1) "Base Salary" is the actual salary earned for 2016.
- (2) The "Target Award" is the amount that would be paid to the executive assuming the Corporation achieves its target performance objectives and before consideration of individual performance.
- (3) The "Total Payout Rate" is determined by the Corporation's actual performance measured against the 2016 performance metrics and before individual performance is considered.
- (4) The "Actual Amount Awarded" is the amount awarded by the Committee after consideration of individual performance.

### Setting Corporate Performance Goals and Determining Results

In setting the goals under the AICP for 2016, the Committee considered the Corporation's performance over the past five years, the business plan for the year, industry performance, and the Corporation's business transformation efforts. In general, the maximum performance goals were set at an amount that would require the Corporation to achieve a substantial level of Carnegie Way benefits and at a level that would generate sufficient earnings to pay the incremental cost of the incentive payments while

maintaining an equivalent amount of cash on the Corporation's balance sheet. The goals were considered a significant stretch given the challenging market conditions impacting the Corporation when the goals were set in early 2016.

In addition to determining individual targets, the Committee approved EBITDA goals for each NEO. For the CEO, CFO and general counsel, the EBITDA goal is based on the total company

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

results, which generally measures the operational results of all business segments. For executives assigned to a specific segment, the EBITDA goal is 50% based on the EBITDA goal for that segment and 50% based on total company EBITDA (for Messrs. Matthews and Bruno, this was the Flat-Rolled segment). This segment allocation of the EBITDA goal is intended to create stronger corporate, business segment and individual accountability by tying an executive's award to the performance of the segments for which he or she is directly responsible.

We concluded 2016 with a total of \$10.3 billion in net sales, therefore the award pool was funded for 2016 because the net sales goal of \$7 billion was achieved. The payout rate (prior to adjustment for individual performance) was determined based on achievement of the performance measures described in the table below. This payout rate demonstrates the performance alignment design of our plan. The 2016 payout under the annual incentive compensation plan averaged 209% of target for our NEOs, and the average payout for our NEOs over the last three years is 137% of target (in each case, including adjustments made for individual performance).

#### 2016 AICP Corporate Performance Targets And Results

(\$ are in Millions)

Performance Measure	N	linimum	1	]	Гarge	t	N	laximun	1	Actual	Payout Rate <sup>(1)</sup> Prior to Adjustment for Individual Performance
Cash Flow	\$	350		\$	386		\$	440		\$ 800	175%
EBITDA:											
Flat-Rolled		(40	)		(15	)		25		345	175%
Tubular		(59	)		(54	)		(48	)	(237)	0%
Europe		153			158			163		265	175%
Total EBITDA	\$	200		\$	236		\$	290		\$ 510	175%

(1) The payout rate is 100% at target increasing to 175% of target for performance at the maximum level and decreasing to 50% of target for performance at the minimum threshold level.

#### Individual Performance Goals and Results

In determining the CEO's annual incentive, the Committee considers, among other things, the CEO's individual performance in delivering results for the established value creation drivers of profitability, customer focus, operational

excellence and high performing organization. The CEO's individual performance objectives are reviewed by the Committee and approved by the Board. A similar evaluation is performed by the CEO with respect to all other executive officers using similar measures and objectives. The Committee sets performance goals for each annual period based on expected business results for the upcoming year, which are intended to be challenging stretch goals. The Committee uses its business judgment in reviewing each of these individual items and does not assign specific quantitative weighting to such items.

The following provides a brief summary of each NEO's individual performance and contribution to the Corporation in 2016:

*Mario Longhi* – Mr. Longhi provided superior leadership of the Corporation's transformation efforts through ongoing implementation and application of the Carnegie Way method as the disciplined and structured approach for improving business performance. The Corporation exceeded the 2016 business plan by delivering significant benefits from our strategic imperatives of working capital improvements, incremental Carnegie Way benefits, financial flexibility and profitability priorities. Mr. Longhi also set the tone for dedicated commitment to the Corporation's long-standing core values, including safety, and developed and implemented a revised Corporate Safety Steering Team to ensure safety is fully integrated into overall business decisions. In 2016 the Corporation's OSHA Recordable Injury and Days Away from Work rates were significantly better than the Bureau of Labor Statistics and American Iron and Steel Institute industry

benchmarks. In addition, Mr. Longhi continued his efforts to strengthen relationships with federal, state and local decision makers and served as a zealous advocate for the steel industry during the negotiation and consideration of essential trade legislation and the Corporation's trade cases in front of the U.S. International Trade Commission. Mr. Longhi continued to provide strong strategic leadership to develop the Corporation's focus on the customer through disciplined concentration on quality, delivery performance and creating customer value through strategic choices. Mr. Longhi also enhanced the overall performance of the organization by attracting, retaining, and developing top talent through improved Carnegie Way leadership training, targeted retention programs, and a continued focus on talent differentiation and diversity.

*David Burritt* – Mr. Burritt provided outstanding leadership in all of U. S. Steel's strategic and financial matters, including those relating to Finance, Strategy & Transformation, Revenue Management, North American Flat-Rolled Commercial Entities, Procurement & Supply Chain, Information Technology, Human Resources, Investor Relations, and Corporate Communications. Mr. Burritt led the design, development and deployment of the corporate strategic imperatives, which along with a greater cash consciousness, were prioritized to improve the Corporation's balance sheet. Under his leadership, the Corporation successfully mitigated its debt risk through a \$980 million debt offering, attained additional capital to invest in the Corporation's assets through a \$500 million public equity offering, and improved the funding of the pension plan by contributing \$100 million of common stock. Mr. Burritt led efforts to increased cash-positive market share by attracting and retaining higher-value customers. Mr. Burritt set rigorous processes and

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

protocols to not only support high integrity financial reporting, but also to drive Carnegie Way benefits and make timely and effective decisions around cost, revenue and staffing to achieve timeless improvements on structural and operating costs. Through Mr. Burritt's financial and strategic leadership, the Corporation achieved positive operating cash flow of \$727 million and positive adjusted EBITDA of \$510 million for the year, significant increases from 2015 despite lower average realized prices and lower revenue for the year.

*Suzanne R. Folsom* – Ms. Folsom provided exceptional leadership to Legal, Compliance, Government Affairs, International Trade and Public Policy, Environmental Affairs, Corporate Security, Aircraft, Real Estate, Labor Relations, and U. S. Steel's joint ventures. Ms. Folsom led several strategic initiatives this year, including: achieving success in the steel industry's trade cases in the United States; filing the unprecedented Section 337 complaint with the U.S. International Trade Commission seeking an investigation into the trade practices of the largest Chinese steel producers; leading the successful public policy efforts to address global overcapacity and the illegal trade practices that have wreaked havoc in the American steel market, threatening our national economic health and our national security; successfully achieving resolution and ratification for the successor collective bargaining agreements with the United Steelworkers; guiding continuing efforts towards a resolution for the complex Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) process for U. S. Steel's unprofitable Canadian subsidiary; and providing sage legal counsel on a number of significant strategic corporate matters. Ms. Folsom is a crucial member of the executive management team who not only provides superior legal and compliance advice and strategy, but also business acumen and analysis to ensure that the Corporation operates with proper protocols, practices and controls to meet global business requirements, mitigate risk and create value for its stakeholders.

*Douglas Matthews* – Mr. Matthews led the North American Flat-Rolled Industrial, Service Center and Mining Solutions commercial entity in 2016. Through his continued successful implementation of Carnegie Way methodology into our largest operating segment, Mr. Matthews realized a significant per ton cost improvement in 2016. Operations led by Mr. Matthews also meaningfully improved process quality, and mining operation production costs. By providing steel-making expertise and deep industry knowledge, Mr. Matthews also played a critical role in the successful final determination hearings with the U.S. International Trade Commission for the three flat-roll trade cases. In addition, Mr. Matthews led the business related aspects of the successful negotiation of three-year collective bargaining agreements with the United Steelworkers that were ratified in early 2016. Mr. Matthews' ability to maintain collaborative relationships with his peers, customers and union contacts benefit the Corporation in all aspects of operations.

*James Bruno* – Mr. Bruno led the North American Flat-Rolled Automotive Solutions commercial entity in 2016, and also provided leadership over the Corporation's innovation program. In this role, he used the Carnegie Way to improve delivery of products to our automotive customers to the highest level in the past five years and quality performance to the best level in two years. Under Mr. Bruno's leadership, Automotive Solutions exceeded its annual goal for growth of advanced high strength steel products, and saw the first shipments of production orders of Gen3 steels. Mr. Bruno also oversaw improvements in working capital for the second consecutive year and a five-year production high for our Great Lakes Works facility. Mr. Bruno also implemented a best in class strategic asset management program. Mr. Bruno's industry knowledge and detail focused leadership has strengthened the Corporation's long-term partnerships in the automotive industry.

### **Long-Term Incentive Compensation**

Equity awards under the long-term incentive program (LTIP) are allocated among:

•Performance-based awards (60% of LTIP award in 2016)

•Stock options (20%)

•Restricted stock units (RSUs) (20%)

20% structure described above.

The Committee believes that these three long-term incentive vehicles best accomplish the objectives of aligning pay with performance and retaining executives. In February and May 2016, the Committee granted the long-term incentive awards set forth in the table below.

# Long-Term Incentive Awards Granted in 2016\*

Executive	Target Equity-Based Performance Awards	Stock Options	Restricted Stock Units	d	Grant Date Fair Value Of Equity Awards	Ca Pe	rget Ish-Based rformance wards
Longhi	140,960	228,300	96,420		\$4,262,837		\$2,625,000
Burritt	44,300	71,750	30,300		\$1,339,672	\$	825,000
Folsom	22,960	37,180	15,700		\$694,229	\$	427,500
Matthews	17,960	29,090	12,290		\$543,221	\$	334,500
Bruno	6,690	10,820	4,570	**	\$202,130	\$	124,500

In 2016, the Long-Term Incentive Award grant values were reduced. In order to avoid the potential of a windfall to executives that could result from awarding shares during a period of depressed stock price (which the Corporation experienced at the beginning of 2016 when the grants were set), the Committee used an assumed higher share price when converting the grant value into shares to be awarded. As a result, the overall LTIP grant decreased by approximately 20% from 2015. Additionally, the performance awards were granted in February 2016, but the time-based stock options and RSUs were not granted until May 2016. Because of the bifurcated grant and because

\*\* Mr. Bruno also received the second installment of his new-hire grant and a retention grant in 2016. These awards are not reported in this table, but are described under the heading "Other Awards" on page 33.

of the method used to reduce the grant value, the overall LTIP grants do not precisely align with the 60%, 20%,

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### Performance-Based Awards (60% of LTIP Award Value)

Performance awards provide an incentive for executives to earn shares and cash based on our performance over a three-year performance period, with goals set at the beginning of each performance period. The performance awards do not pay dividends or carry voting privileges prior to vesting. In 2016, the three-year performance period began on January 1, 2016, and will end on December 31, 2018 (the "2016 Performance Period"). The value of the performance awards granted under the 2016 Performance Period was divided equally between relative TSR performance awards and ROCE performance awards. The three-year goals focus management on driving attractive returns on the capital we employ and on increasing stockholder value.

#### **TSR Performance Awards**

TSR performance awards are based on relative performance, with the payout determined based on the rank of the Corporation's TSR compared to the TSR of peer group companies over the three-year performance period. TSR is determined based on the following formula: final price plus dividends per share for the performance period, divided by the initial price, raised to 1/3, minus 1. The initial price and final price used are the average closing price for the 20 business days prior to the first and last day of the performance period, respectively.

As noted in the table below, above market performance at the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile is required for target payout, and no payout is made for performance below the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Level	2016	Award Payout as a %
Level	<b>Relative TSR Ranking</b>	of Target <sup>(1)</sup>
	<30 <sup>th</sup> percentile	0%
Threshold	30 <sup>th</sup> percentile	50%
Target	60 <sup>th</sup> percentile	100%
Maximum	190 <sup>th</sup> percentile	200%

(1)Interpolation is used to determine actual awards between the threshold, target, and maximum levels.

Beginning with the 2016 performance period, the Committee adopted a new peer group consisting of 12 domestic steel or steel-related companies for use in evaluating relative TSR (described in more detail under "Peer Group" beginning on page 35). In addition, the Committee approved a new policy beginning with 2016 grants to address any potential pay for performance disconnect should the Corporation's TSR be negative over the performance period (regardless of relative performance).

•Payout is capped at target if the Corporation's TSR is 0% to -5% on a compound annual growth rate ("CAGR") basis;

•Payout is capped at threshold if the Corporation's TSR is lower than -5% to -10% on a CAGR basis; and

- Payout is forfeited if the Corporation's TSR is lower than -10% on a CAGR
  - basis.

# 2013 Performance Awards

The performance period for the 2013 performance awards ended on May 12, 2016. The Corporation's relative annualized TSR compared to the selected peer group was at the 31.03 percentile, and resulted in a payout of 51.7% of the target award, as shown in the table below. Messrs. Longhi and Matthews are the only NEOs who received a payout for the 2013 performance awards because Messrs. Burritt and Bruno and Ms. Folsom were not yet employed by the Corporation when the grants were made.

		Shares vested as a	Pavout Rate	<b>Delivered Value</b>	
	at Target	result of payout			
Longhi	29,310	15,153	51.7%	\$212,142	
Matthews	\$12,110	6,261	51.7%	\$87,654	

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### **ROCE Performance Awards**

The payout is determined based on our weighted average cost of capital (noted as return on capital employed or "ROCE"), over the three-year performance period. ROCE is measured based on our consolidated worldwide EBIT, as adjusted, divided by our consolidated worldwide capital employed, as adjusted, over the three-year performance period. The weighted average ROCE is a three-year performance metric calculated based on the ROCE achieved in the first, second, and third years of the performance period, weighted at 20%, 30%, and 50% respectively. The ROCE awards payout at 50% at the threshold level, 100% at the target level, and 200% at the maximum level. ROCE performance goals are not disclosed during an ongoing performance period due to competitive reasons. Beginning in 2015, the ROCE awards were granted in cash, rather than shares, to mitigate dilutive effects of a share grant.

#### 2014 Performance Awards

The performance period for the 2014 performance awards ended on December 31, 2016. The value of the 2014 performance awards was equally divided between relative TSR performance awards and ROCE performance awards. While the relative TSR performance met the performance goals, the ROCE performance did not, resulting in an overall payout of 75% of the target award. Each of the relative TSR and ROCE goals, results and payouts are described below.

#### 2014 TSR Performance Awards

The Corporation's relative annualized TSR compared to the selected peer group for the performance period was at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, and resulted in a payout of 150% of the target award. The payout for our NEOs is shown below. Mr. Bruno did not receive a payout because he was not yet employed by the Corporation when the grant was made.

	<b>Shares Granted</b>	Shares vested as a	Payout	Delivered
	at Target	result of payout	Rate	Value
Longhi	102,820	154,230	150 %	\$5,171,332
Burritt	34,110	51,165	150 %	\$1,715,562
Folsom	15,230	22,845	150 %	\$765,993
Matthews	15,230	22,845	150 %	\$765,993

2014 ROCE Performance Awards

The actual ROCE performance for the performance period was below the threshold for payment, resulting in no payout.

### 2014-2016 Return on Capital Employed (ROCE) Performance Targets and Results

 
 Performance
 Actual Results and Weighting
 Payout Rate

 Threshold
 5
 % Year 1 (20%)
 12.6 %

 Target
 10 % Year 2 (30%)
 -4.9 %

 Maximum
 15 % Year 3 (50%)
 0.0 %

 2014-2016 Period 1.1 % 0.0%

Restricted Stock Units (20% of LTIP Award Value)

Restricted stock units are awards that deliver shares of common stock and accumulated dividends upon vesting. Restricted stock units generally vest ratably on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the grant date, subject to the executive's continued employment on each vesting date.

The Committee believes that restricted stock units provide the best retention benefits among our long-term incentives, especially during times of challenging economic and industry conditions. They also enable our executives to build ownership in the Corporation, which addresses a key compensation objective. Additionally, because of the downside risk of owning stock, restricted stock units discourage executives from taking excessive risks that would not be in the best long-term interest of stockholders.

### Stock Options (20% of LTIP Award Value)

Stock options are "at-risk" awards that reward executives for an increase in the Corporation's stock price over the term of the

option. The value of the options is limited to the appreciation of our stock price, if any, above the option's exercise price after the option becomes exercisable and before it expires. Stock options are:

•exercisable for a term of ten years;

•subject to ratable vesting on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the grant date; and

•subject to continued employment on each vesting date.

On May 31, 2016, the Committee granted traditional stock options with an exercise price based on the fair market value on the date of grant, which was \$14.78.

**Other Awards** 

In February 2016, Mr. Bruno received the second installment of his new hire grant of equity which consisted of 27,450 restricted stock units. Additionally in 2016, Mr. Bruno received a retention grant of equity consisting of 16,915 restricted stock units. In each case the RSUs cliff-vest on the third anniversary of the grant date.

### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### **Fixed Compensation and Benefits**

**Base Salary** 

Base salary is designed to compensate for the required day-to-day activities and responsibilities of each position. Base salary is set at a market competitive level to enable the Corporation to attract and retain talent. Actual salary levels take into account such factors as the contribution of the incumbent, individual qualifications and experiences, and internal value to the Corporation. Base salary is paid in cash.

#### **Benefits**

NEOs participate in many of the benefits provided to non-represented employees generally, including vacation and holiday benefits, insurance benefits, disability benefits, and medical and prescription drug programs. We believe these benefits support our overall retention objectives.

#### **Retirement Programs**

We provide the retirement benefits described below in order to attract and retain talented executive officers. We believe our retirement programs are reasonable in light of competitive pay practices and the total compensation of our executives.

#### **Tax-Qualified Plans**

The Corporation maintains the following tax-qualified retirement programs (together, the "Qualified Plans"):

United States Steel Corporation Plan for Employee Pension Benefits, Revision of 2003 (the "Pension Plan"), which is a defined benefit plan; and

United States Steel Corporation Savings Fund Plan for Salaried Employees (the "Savings Plan"), which is a 401(k) defined contribution plan.

Participation in the Pension Plan was closed to new entrants on July 1, 2003 and benefits under the plan were frozen for all non-represented participants on December 31, 2015. Mr. Matthews was the only NEO covered by the Pension Plan and the related non-qualified plans described below. Beginning in 2016, for all non-represented employees, the Corporation makes a contribution to a "Retirement Account" under the Savings Plan, which is in addition to any matching contributions made under the Savings Plan. Prior to 2016, non-represented employees who were covered by the Pension Plan were not eligible to receive Retirement Account contributions.

In 2016, all of the NEOs received matching contributions and Retirement Account contributions under the Savings Plan and participated in the related non-qualified plans described below.

# Non Tax-Qualified Plans

The Corporation maintains the following non tax-qualified programs (together, the "Non-Qualified Plans") that are designed to provide retirement benefits to executives and other high-level employees of the Corporation and its affiliates:

United States Steel Corporation Non Tax-Qualified Pension Plan (the "Non Tax-Qualified Pension Plan"); United States Steel Corporation Executive Management Supplemental Pension Program (the "Supplemental Pension Program");

•United States Steel Corporation Supplemental Thrift Program (the "Supplemental Thrift Program");

United States Steel Corporation Non Tax-Qualified Retirement Account Program (the "Non Tax-Qualified Retirement Account Program"); and

United States Steel Corporation Supplemental Retirement Account Program (the "Supplemental Retirement Account Program").

Benefits under the Non Tax-Qualified Pension Plan and Supplemental Pension Program were frozen on December 31, 2015 when the tax qualified Pension Plan was frozen for all non-represented participants.

The purpose of the Non Tax-Qualified Pension Plan, the Supplemental Thrift Program, and the Non Tax-Qualified Retirement Account Program is to provide benefits that are not permitted to be provided under the Qualified Plans due to certain limits under the Internal Revenue Code. The benefit accrual formulas under these Non-Qualified Plans are approximately equal to the formulas under the respective Qualified Plans.

The purpose of the Supplemental Pension Program and the Supplemental Retirement Account Program is to provide pension benefits based upon compensation paid under our short-term incentive compensation plans, which is excluded

under the Qualified Plans. We provide a retirement benefit based on incentive pay to enable our executives (who receive more of their pay in the form of incentive compensation) to receive a comparable retirement benefit.

Benefits under the Supplemental Pension Program and the Supplemental Retirement Account Program are subject to service-based and age-based restrictions. Unless the Corporation consents, benefits under the Supplemental Pension Program are not payable if the executive voluntarily terminates employment (1) prior to age 60 or before completing 15 years of service, or (2) within 36 months of the date coverage under the program commenced. Similarly, unless the Corporation consents, benefits under the Supplemental Retirement Account Program are not payable if the executive voluntarily terminates employment (1) prior to age 55 or before completing 10 years of service (or, if earlier, attaining age 65), or (2) within 36 months of the date coverage under the program commenced. We believe that these restrictions help to support our retention objectives.

For more information on our retirement programs, see the *Pension Benefits* table and *Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation* table later in this proxy statement.

### Perquisites and Security

As part of the Carnegie Way initiative, we examined the perquisites that historically have been offered to executives, and have eliminated or reduced many of them, and none have been extended to any executive hired after November 2014. We continue to provide a limited number of reasonable perquisites

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

as a recruiting and retention tool and to ensure the health and safety of our key executives. The perquisites available to our NEOs in 2016 are described in the footnotes to the Summary Compensation Table on page [•] of this proxy statement. In general, the perquisites:

•facilitate the ability of our executives to do their jobs without undue distractions or delays;

•have clear business-related purposes;

•ensure accurate personal tax reporting of the financial intricacies of our compensation programs; and

•provide a measure of security unavailable elsewhere.

The perquisites provided maximize the safe and efficient use of our executives' time and, by facilitating the development of commercial and other business relationships, provide a significant benefit to the Corporation and its stockholders. The perquisites provided to the NEOs in 2016, other than the CEO, were limited to tax preparation and financial planning and relocation benefits.

The perquisites we provide include residential and personal security services to employees who are the subject of a credible and specific threat on account of his or her role with the Corporation. The level of security provided depends upon the nature of the threat. In 2016, Mr. Longhi was the only NEO who was provided with security services. The Board believes that providing personal security in response to threats arising because of employment by the Corporation is business-related.

We do not provide gross-up payments to cover personal income taxes that may be attributable to any of the perquisites except for (a) relocation and (b) tax equalization and travel related to expatriate assignments. These gross-ups are also provided to non-executive employees.

#### Change in Control Arrangements

The Corporation's Change in Control Severance Plan (the "CIC Plan") became effective on January 1, 2016, and generally provides for the payment of severance benefits to certain eligible executives, including each of the named executive officers, in the event their employment with the Corporation terminates involuntarily following a change in control of the Corporation. The Corporation previously maintained individual change in control agreements with certain executives. The CIC Plan supplanted the agreements, but provides for substantially similar terms.

The CIC Plan enables our executives to evaluate corporate transactional opportunities that may be in the best interests of the Corporation's stockholders, while limiting concerns about the potential impact of such opportunities on their job security. Under the CIC Plan, payments require a "double trigger," meaning the named executive officer is eligible for change in control severance payments and benefits in the event that he or she is terminated without cause or voluntarily for good reason in connection with a change in control. In general, upon a change in control and termination each of our named executive officers are entitled to a payment equivalent to a multiple of his or her salary and bonus. For Messrs. Longhi and Burritt and Ms. Folsom, the severance payment multiple is 2.5x and for Messrs. Matthews and Bruno is 2x. We do not provide gross-up payments to cover personal income taxes that may be attributable to payments under the CIC Plan. See "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" for additional information regarding the quantification of these potential payments and benefits.

### Letter Agreements

In general, the Corporation does not enter into long-term employment agreements with its executives, but may enter into agreements for a limited period of time to attract or retain experienced professionals for high level positions. The Corporation does not have any current agreements with its NEOs.

### **The Compensation Process**

#### **Independent Consultant and Management Input**

The Committee retained Pay Governance, LLC as its independent consultant to assist in the evaluation of executive compensation programs and in setting executive officers' compensation. The use of an independent consultant provides additional assurance that the Corporation's executive compensation programs are reasonable and consistent with the Corporation's objectives. The consultant reports directly to the Committee and does not perform services for management without the express approval of the Committee. There were no services performed by the consultant for management in 2016.

The consultant regularly participates in Committee meetings, including executive sessions, and advises the Committee with respect to compensation trends and best practices, plan design, and the reasonableness of individual compensation awards.

With respect to the CEO's compensation, the Committee makes its determinations based upon its evaluation of the CEO's performance and with input from its consultant. Each year, the Committee reviews with the Board of Directors the CEO's goals and objectives, and the evaluation of the CEO's performance

with respect to the prior year's approved CEO goals and objectives. The CEO does not participate in the presentations to, or discussions with, the Committee in connection with the setting of his compensation.

### **Tally Sheets**

The Committee uses tally sheets to evaluate the total compensation and projected payments to the named executive officers under various termination scenarios. This analysis is undertaken annually to assist the Committee in determining whether the compensation package of each named executive officer is appropriately aligned with our compensation philosophy and the compensation practices of our peers.

#### **Peer Group**

The Committee also considers relevant market pay practices in its decision making process. The Committee uses the peer group data below as a frame of reference to guide executive compensation decisions.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### How Peer Group Is Used:

- serve as a market reference when making compensation decisions and designing program features
- assess the competitiveness of each element of compensation and compensation in total
- serve as the standard for evaluating total shareholder return for long-term incentive purposes
- serve as a reference when analyzing pay-for-performance alignment *How Peer Group Was Selected:*

large companies primarily from the Materials sector or Industrials sector •within the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) classification codes

•companies similar in complexity - specifically, companies that have:

•revenues that range from half to double that of the Corporation;

•capital intensive businesses as indicated by lower asset turnover ratios;

•market capitalization reasonably aligned with the Corporation; and

•similar employee levels

acceptable levels of financial and stockholder performance and a higher •company stock price volatility (referred to as "beta") to align with that of the Corporation

elimination of companies with unusual compensation practices (e.g.,company founders who receive little or no compensation and companies that are subsidiaries of other companies)

The Corporation's 2016 peer group included the following companies:

AK Steel Holding Corporation	Lear Corp.
Alcoa Inc.	Masco Corporation
Allegheny Technologies Inc.	Navistar International Corporation

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.	Nucor Corporation
Commercial Metals Company	PACCAR Inc.
Cummins Inc.	Parker-Hannifin Corporation
Deere & Company	PPG Industries Inc.
Eastman Chemical Co.	Reliance Steel & Aluminum Co.
Eaton Corporation plc	Steel Dynamics Inc.
Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc.	Terex Corp.
Illinois Tool Works Inc.	Textron Inc.
Ingersoll-Rand Plc	The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
International Paper Company	Weyerhaeuser Co.
Johnson Controls Inc.	Whirlpool Corp.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

For 2017, the Corporation has removed Johnson Controls Inc., Deere & Company, International Paper Company and PACCAR Inc. from the executive compensation benchmarking peer group. These companies no longer meet the revenue and other guidelines the Corporation uses to select peers.

#### New Long-Term Incentive Plan Performance Peer Group for 2016

In February 2016, the Committee approved the use of a second peer group that will be used for evaluating long-term performance. Therefore, beginning with the 2016 Performance Period, the Corporation will utilize two peer groups as described below:

**Executive Compensation Peer Group.** The executive compensation peer group will continue to be used to benchmark and assess the competitiveness of the compensation of our named executive officers.

**Performance Peer Group.** The performance peer group, which is more industry focused, is used to evaluate the long-term performance of our company for purposes of the relative TSR performance award. The performance peer group is being utilized to evaluate our performance against a targeted group of companies in our industry that we believe we need to outperform to be successful over the long term.

We created the new performance peer group because executive compensation arrangements and practices are influenced by business complexity and company size, and many of our industry competitors are much smaller than U. S. Steel. In setting the executive compensation peer group, the Committee considered a set of broader, industrial peers who might compete with the Corporation for talent as well as companies outside of the material/industrial industry who might attract our executives that have skills transferable outside of the metals industry.

The performance peer group consists of twelve domestic companies in the steel industry. The use of a second peer group or index for evaluating TSR is a common practice among our peers. Because steel industry companies have traded differently from many of our large industrial peers since 2012, the use of a second peer group is more appropriate when evaluating relative TSR performance. Peers were selected based on criteria that included:

•specific domestic steel or steel-related industry;

•five-year stock price correlation greater than 0.50; and

•stock price beta greater than 1.0.

The Performance Peer Group consists of the following companies:

AK Steel Holding Corporation

Allegheny Technologies Inc.

Carpenter Technology Corporation

Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.

Commercial Metals Company

Nucor Corporation

Olympic Steel Inc.

Reliance Steel & Aluminum Co.

Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc.

Steel Dynamics Inc.

TimkenSteel Corporation

Worthington Industries, Inc.

In conjunction with the adoption of the new performance peer group for use in our relative TSR performance award plan, we adopted a negative TSR cap which is explained in further detail in the preceding section entitled "TSR Performance Awards."

### **Compensation Policies and Other Considerations**

#### **Stock Ownership and Holding Guidelines**

We have comprehensive stock ownership and holding guidelines designed to align the interests of our executive officers with those of the Corporation's stockholders. As shown in the table below, our executives are required to accumulate and retain a minimum level of ownership in the Corporation's common stock based upon the salary midpoint for their position:

Executive Ownership Requirement<sup>(1)</sup> (Multiple of Salary Midpoint) Longhi6xBurritt3xFolsom3xMatthews3xBruno3x

(1)Unvested restricted stock units count towards the ownership requirement.

Under our stock ownership guidelines, Mr. Longhi has a stock ownership requirement of six times his salary midpoint. Messrs. Burritt, Matthews and Bruno and Ms. Folsom each have a stock ownership requirement of three times their salary midpoint. The stock ownership guidelines require that an executive must retain

100% of the after-tax value of stock acquired upon the vesting of restricted stock units and performance awards and 100% of the after-tax value of shares issued upon the exercise of stock options until the ownership requirement is satisfied. All of the NEOs are in compliance with the terms of the policy.

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### **Anti-Hedging and Pledging**

We have a policy that prohibits all directors and employees, including the named executive officers, from engaging in any transaction that is designed to hedge or offset any decrease in our stock price. Our anti-pledging policy prohibits directors and executive officers, including the named executive officers, from pledging our stock as collateral for a loan or holding shares in a margin account.

#### **Clawback Policy**

The Board has adopted a policy setting forth procedures to recover payment if an executive engaged in any fraud or misconduct, including gross negligence that caused or partially caused the need for a material restatement of the Corporation's publicly filed financial results. For any periods as to which a performance-based award was paid or credited to the executive, such award shall be subject to reduction, cancellation or reimbursement to the Corporation at the Board's discretion. This policy is set forth in our Corporate Governance Principles which are available on our website www.ussteel.com.

#### **Compensation and Risk Management**

The Committee's compensation consultant annually performs a risk assessment of our executive compensation program and, based on its most recent review, the consultant has determined that our compensation program contains a variety of features that mitigate unnecessary risk taking, including the following:

Compensation Mix: Executive officers receive a mixture of short-term and long-term incentives in addition to base salary. Long-term incentives, which are paid mostly in equity, make up the majority of our executives' compensation;

Capped Awards: Payments under our short-term incentive plan are capped at 227% of target and our performance awards are capped at 200% of target;

•Performance Metrics: Different metrics are used in the short-term and long-term incentive programs; and

Stock Ownership: Executive officers are required to own a significant amount of common stock determined as a multiple of their salary midpoint.

For these reasons, the Committee concluded that our 2016 compensation and organization policies and practices are not reasonably likely to create a risk that could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation.

### Accounting and Tax Considerations

In determining executive compensation, the Committee considers, among other factors, the possible tax consequences to the Corporation. Tax consequences, including but not limited to tax deductibility by the Corporation, are subject to many factors (such as changes in the tax laws and regulations or interpretations thereof) that are beyond the control of the Corporation. In addition, the Committee believes that it is important for it to retain maximum flexibility in designing compensation programs that meet its stated objectives. For these reasons, the Committee, while considering tax deductibility as one of the factors in determining compensation, does not limit compensation to those levels or types of compensation that will be deductible by the Corporation. For a detailed discussion of the accounting impacts on various elements of long-term incentive compensation, see footnote 14 to the Financial Statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 filed with the SEC on February 28, 2017.

#### **Executive Compensation Tables**

### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

The titles of executives used in the compensation tables of this proxy statement reflect the title of each executive during 2016.

#### **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth certain compensation information for U. S. Steel's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and the three other most highly compensated executive officers (referred to as "Named Executive Officers" or "NEOs") who rendered services to U. S. Steel and its subsidiaries during 2016.

Name	Year <sup>(1</sup>	) Salary <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Bonus <sup>(5)</sup> (\$) (\$) (\$)	Option <sup>()</sup> Awards <sup>(4)(6)</sup> (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation <sup>(7)</sup> (\$)	Change in Pension Value & All Other & Compensation Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings <sup>(8)</sup> (\$)	9) Total (\$)
Mario Longhi	2016	\$1,500,000	-\$2,837,507	\$1,425,049	\$4,528,125	N/A \$632,670	\$10,923,351
President & Chief	<sup>2</sup> 2015	\$1,428,750	-\$4,374,953	\$1,749,972	_	N/A \$ 1,054,99	90 \$8,608,665
Executive Officer	2014	\$1,186,250	-\$6,028,882	\$1,507,036	\$ 4,007,981	N/A \$ 481,364	\$13,211,513
David B. Burritt	2016	\$800,000	-\$891,720	\$447,864	\$ 1,820,000	N/A \$ 116,000	\$4,075,589
Executive Vice	2015	\$780,250	-\$1,375,213	\$549,991	_	N/A \$ 291,041	\$2,996,495
President & Chief Financial Officer	<sup>&amp;</sup> 2014	\$715,750	-\$2,000,054	\$499,962	\$ 1,558,261	N/A \$ 137,341	\$4,911,368
Suzanne R. Folsom	2016	\$700,000	-\$462,105	\$232,078	\$ 1,274,000	N/A \$ 124,620	\$2,792,803
General Counsel,	2015	\$668,750	-\$712,364	\$285,036	—	N/A \$ 474,546	\$2,140,696

Chief Compliance Officer & 2014