

POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN
Form DEF 14A
March 09, 2012
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

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

Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

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

Polaris Industries Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

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

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

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

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

- 4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

- 5) Total fee paid:

.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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

- 1) Amount Previously Paid:

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

- 3) Filing Party:

- 4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

Polaris Industries Inc.

2100 Highway 55

Medina, Minnesota 55340

763-542-0500

Fax: 763-542-0599

March 9, 2012

Dear Fellow Shareholder:

The Board of Directors of Polaris Industries Inc. join me in extending a cordial invitation to attend our 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders which will be held at our corporate headquarters, 2100 Highway 55, Medina, Minnesota, 55340, on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. local time.

In addition to voting on the matters described in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement, we will review Polaris' 2011 business and discuss our direction for the coming years. There will also be an opportunity, after conclusion of the formal business of the meeting, to discuss other matters of interest to you as a shareholder.

Again this year, we will be using the Notice and Access method of furnishing proxy materials to you over the Internet. We believe that this process will provide you with a convenient and quick way to access your proxy materials and vote your shares, while allowing us to reduce the environmental impact of our annual meeting and the costs of printing and distributing the proxy materials. On or about March 9, 2012 we will mail to many of our shareholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice) containing instructions on how to access our proxy statement and annual report and vote electronically over the Internet. The Notice also contains instructions on how to receive a paper copy of your proxy materials. We will not be mailing the Notice to shareholders who previously elected to receive paper copies of the proxy materials, but rather will mail them a full set of the proxy materials.

It is important that your shares be represented at the meeting whether or not you plan to attend in person. Please vote electronically over the Internet or, if you receive a paper copy of the proxy card by mail, by telephone or by returning your signed proxy card in the envelope provided. If you do attend the meeting and desire to vote in person, you may do so by following the procedures described in the Proxy Statement even though you have previously sent a proxy.

We hope that you will be able to attend the meeting and we look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

Gregory R. Palen
Chairman of the Board

Enclosures

Table of Contents

POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC.

2100 Highway 55

Medina, Minnesota 55340

March 9, 2012

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Polaris Industries Inc. will hold its 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders at its corporate headquarters located at 2100 Highway 55, Medina, Minnesota, 55340, on Thursday, April 26, 2012. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. local time. The proxy materials were either made available to you over the Internet or mailed to you beginning on or about March 9, 2012. At the meeting, our shareholders will:

1. Elect three Class III directors for three-year terms ending in 2015.
2. Vote on ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012.
3. Submit an advisory vote on approval of the compensation of our Named Executive Officers (as defined in the accompanying Proxy Statement).
4. Act on any other matters that may properly come before the meeting.

The Board recommends that shareholders vote **FOR** each of the following:

1. The director nominees named in the accompanying Proxy Statement.
2. The ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012.
3. The advisory vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

Only shareholders of record at the close of business on February 29, 2012 may vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Stacy L. Bogart
Stacy L. Bogart
Vice President-General Counsel and Secretary

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, we urge you to vote as soon as possible via the Internet as described in the Notice. If you received a copy of the proxy card by mail, you may vote by Internet or telephone as instructed on the proxy card, or you may sign, date and mail the proxy card in the envelope provided.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE 2012 ANNUAL

MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON APRIL 26, 2012.

Our Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, our Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 are available at www.proxydocs.com/pij.

Table of Contents**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<u><i>Questions and Answers About the Annual Meeting and Voting</i></u>	1
<u><i>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management</i></u>	5
<u><i>Corporate Governance</i></u>	7
<u>Board Leadership Structure</u>	7
<u>Risk Oversight</u>	7
<u>Board Diversity</u>	7
<u>Corporate Governance Guidelines and Independence</u>	8
<u>Code of Business Conduct and Ethics</u>	8
<u>Communications with the Board</u>	8
<u>Board Meetings</u>	9
<u>Committees of the Board and Meetings</u>	9
<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions</u>	12
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	13
<u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	13
<u><i>Proposal 1 Election of Directors</i></u>	14
<u>General Information</u>	14
<u>Information Concerning Nominees and Directors</u>	15
<u><i>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</i></u>	19
<u>Executive Summary</u>	19
<u>Objectives of Polaris Compensation Program</u>	21
<u>Executive Compensation Program Components</u>	22
<u>Determining Executive Compensation</u>	24
<u>2011 Compensation Determination for the Named Executive Officers</u>	26
<u>Overview of 2012 Executive Compensation Program</u>	31
<u>Other Executive Compensation Arrangements, Policies and Practices</u>	33
<u><i>Compensation Committee Report</i></u>	36
<u>Compensation Risk Assessment</u>	36
<u><i>Summary Compensation Table</i></u>	37
<u>All Other Compensation Table</u>	38
<u><i>Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011</i></u>	39
<u>Additional Information About Plans and Agreements Affecting Reported Compensation</u>	40
<u><i>Outstanding Equity Awards at 2011 Fiscal Year-End</i></u>	44
<u><i>Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2011</i></u>	46
<u><i>Nonqualified Deferred Compensation in 2011</i></u>	46
<u><i>Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control</i></u>	48
<u>Severance Arrangements with Named Executive Officers</u>	48
<u>Payments Made Upon Retirement</u>	50
<u>Non-Compete and Non-Solicitation Agreements</u>	51
<u>Potential Payments to Named Executive Officers Upon Termination</u>	51
<u>Potential Payments to Mr. Wine</u>	52
<u>Potential Payments to Messrs. Malone, Morgan, Williams and Homan</u>	53
<u><i>Director Compensation</i></u>	54
<u>Non-Employee Directors Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End</u>	55
<u><i>Proposal 2 Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</i></u>	57
<u><i>Audit Committee Report</i></u>	58
<u><i>Fees Paid to Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</i></u>	59
<u><i>Proposal 3 Advisory Vote on Approval of the Compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers</i></u>	60
<u><i>Other Matters</i></u>	61
<u><i>Submission of Shareholder Proposals and Nominations</i></u>	61
<u><i>Additional Information</i></u>	61

Table of Contents

POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC.

2100 Highway 55

Medina, Minnesota 55340

PROXY STATEMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

Q: Who can vote?

A: You can vote if you were a shareholder at the close of business on the record date of February 29, 2012. There were a total of 68,484,065 shares of our common stock outstanding on February 29, 2012. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the *Notice*), this Proxy Statement and any accompanying proxy card, along with the Annual Report for 2011, were first made available to you beginning on or about March 9, 2012. The Proxy Statement summarizes the information you need to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Q: What am I voting on?

A: You are voting on:

Election of three nominees as Class III directors for three-year terms ending in 2015. The Board of Directors' nominees are Annette K. Clayton, Gregory R. Palen and John P. Wiehoff.

Ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012.

Advisory vote on approval of the compensation of our Named Executive Officers (as defined below).

Q: How does the Board recommend I vote on the proposals?

A: The Board is soliciting your proxy and recommends you vote **FOR** the director nominees, **FOR** the ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012, and **FOR** the advisory vote on approval of the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

Q: Why did I receive a notice in the mail regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a paper copy of the proxy materials?

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Notice and Access rules adopted by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) permit us to furnish proxy materials, including this Proxy Statement and our Annual Report for 2011, to our shareholders by providing access to such documents on the Internet instead of mailing printed copies. Most shareholders will not receive printed copies of the proxy materials unless they request them. Instead, the Notice, which was mailed to most of our shareholders, will instruct you as to how you may access and review all of the proxy materials on the Internet. The Notice also instructs you as to how you may submit your proxy on the Internet. If you would like to receive a paper or email copy of our proxy materials, you should follow the instructions for requesting such materials in the Notice. Any request to receive proxy materials by mail will remain in effect until you revoke it.

Q: How many shares must be voted to approve each proposal?

A: *Quorum.* A majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock represented in person or by proxy is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. As of the record date, 68,484,065 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding. A majority of those shares, or 34,242,033 shares of our common stock, will constitute a quorum for the purpose of electing directors, adopting proposals and submitting advisory votes at the Annual Meeting. If you submit a valid proxy or attend the Annual Meeting, your shares will be counted to determine whether there is a quorum.

Vote Required. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast. A plurality means that the nominees with the greatest number of votes are elected as directors up to the maximum number of directors to be chosen at the meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on the voting for the election of directors.

The proposal to ratify the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm will be

Table of Contents

determined by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote, assuming the presence of a quorum (provided that the number of shares voted in favor of such proposals constitutes more than 25% of the outstanding shares of our common stock). We will consider the shareholders to have approved the compensation of our Named Executive Officers if there are more votes cast FOR the proposal than AGAINST. The advisory votes to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers is not binding on the Board, but the Compensation Committee will consider the shareholders' advisory input when establishing compensation for our Named Executive Officers in future years.

Q: What is the effect of broker non-votes and abstentions?

A: A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have or does not exercise discretionary voting power with respect to that item and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner. If a broker returns a non-vote proxy indicating a lack of authority to vote on a proposal, then the shares covered by such a non-vote proxy will be deemed present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum, but not present for purposes of calculating the vote with respect to that proposal. Nominees will not have discretionary voting power with respect to any matter to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting other than the ratification of the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the election of directors, the ratification of the independent registered public accounting firm, or the advisory vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

A properly executed proxy marked ABSTAIN with respect to a proposal will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum and will be considered present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote, but will not be deemed to have been voted in favor of such proposal. Abstentions will have the same effect as voting against the proposal to ratify the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. Abstentions will have no effect on the advisory vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

Q: How will the proxies vote on any other business brought up at the meeting?

A: By submitting your proxy, you authorize the proxies to use their judgment to determine how to vote on any other matter brought before the Annual Meeting. We do not know of any other business to be considered at the Annual Meeting.

The proxies' authority to vote according to their judgment applies only to shares you own as the shareholder of record.

Q: How do I cast my vote?

A: If you are a shareholder whose shares are registered in your name, you may vote your shares in person at the Annual Meeting or by using one of the three following methods:

Vote by Internet, by going to the web address <http://www.eproxy.com/pii> and following the instructions for Internet voting shown on the Notice, or if you requested printed proxy materials or you receive a paper copy of the proxy card, by following the instructions provided with your proxy materials and on your proxy card.

If you elected to receive printed proxy materials, you may also:

Vote by phone by dialing 1-800-560-1965 and following the instructions for telephone voting provided with your printed proxy materials and on your proxy card.

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Vote by completing, signing, dating and mailing the proxy card in the envelope provided. If you vote by phone or Internet, please do not mail your proxy card.

If you are a street-name shareholder (meaning that your shares are registered in the name of your bank or broker), you will receive instructions from your bank, broker or other nominee describing how to vote your shares.

Table of Contents

Whichever method you use, the proxies identified on the proxy will vote the shares of which you are the shareholder of record in accordance with your instructions. If you submit a proxy without giving specific voting instructions, the proxies will vote those shares as recommended by the Board of Directors.

Q: Can I vote my shares by filling out and returning the Notice?

No. The Notice identifies the items to be voted on at the Annual Meeting, but you cannot vote by marking the Notice and returning it. The Notice provides instructions on how to vote by Internet, by requesting and returning a paper proxy card or voting instruction card, or by submitting a ballot in person at the meeting.

Q: Can I revoke or change my vote?

A: You can revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted by:

Submitting a new proxy with a more recent date than that of the first proxy given by (1) following the telephone voting instructions or (2) following the Internet voting instructions or (3) completing, signing, dating and returning a new proxy card to us; or

Giving written notice before the vote at the meeting to our Secretary, stating that you are revoking your proxy. Unless you decide to vote your shares in person, you should revoke your prior proxy in the same way you initially submitted it that is, by telephone, Internet or mail.

Q: Who will count the votes?

A: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., our independent proxy tabulator, will count the votes. A representative of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and Mark McCormick, our corporate controller, will act as inspectors of election for the meeting.

Q: Is my vote confidential?

A: All proxies and all vote tabulations that identify an individual shareholder are confidential. Your vote will not be disclosed except:

To allow Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to tabulate the vote;

To allow Mark McCormick, our corporate controller, and a representative of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to certify the results of the vote; and

To meet applicable legal requirements.

Q: What shares are included on my proxy?

A: Your proxy will represent all shares registered to your account in the same social security number and address, including any full and fractional shares you own under the Polaris 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan, the Polaris Restricted Stock Plan, the Polaris Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as well as shares you own through the Polaris Employee Stock Ownership Plan and the Polaris 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan.

Q: What happens if I don't vote shares that I own?

A: *For shares registered in your name.* If you do not vote shares that are registered in your name by voting in person at the Annual Meeting or by proxy through the Internet, telephone or mail as described on the Notice, the Internet voting site or, if you requested printed proxy materials or receive a paper copy of the proxy card, by following the instructions therein, your shares will *not* be counted in determining the presence of a quorum or in determining the outcome of the vote on the proposals presented at the Annual Meeting.

For shares held in street name. If you hold shares through a broker, you will receive voting instructions from your broker. If you do not submit voting instructions to your broker and your broker does not have discretion to vote your shares on a particular matter, then your shares will not be counted in determining the

Table of Contents

outcome of the vote on that matter at the Annual Meeting. See effect of broker non-votes as described above. Your broker will not have discretion to vote your shares for any matter to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting other than the ratification of the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. Accordingly, it is important that you provide voting instructions to your broker for the matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting.

For shares held in certain employee plans. If you hold shares in the Employee Stock Ownership Plan or the 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan and you do not submit your voting instructions by proxy through the mail, telephone or Internet as described on the proxy card, those shares will be voted in the manner described in the following two questions.

Q: How are common shares in the Polaris Employee Stock Ownership Plan voted?

A: If you hold shares of common stock through the Polaris Employee Stock Ownership Plan, your proxy card will instruct the trustee of the plan how to vote the shares allocated to your plan account. If you do not return your proxy card (or you submit it with an unclear voting designation or with no voting designation at all), then the plan trustee will vote the shares in your account as directed by the committee that administers the plan. Votes under the Polaris Employee Stock Ownership Plan receive the same confidentiality as all other votes.

Q: How are common shares in the Polaris 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan voted?

A: If you hold shares of our common stock through the Polaris 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan, your proxy card will instruct the trustee of the plan how to vote the shares allocated to your plan account. If you do not return your proxy card (or you submit it with an unclear voting designation or with no voting designation at all), then the plan trustee will vote the shares in your account in proportion to the way the other 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan participants vote their shares. Votes under the Polaris 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan receive the same confidentiality as all other votes.

Q: What does it mean if I get more than one Notice or proxy card?

A: Your shares are probably registered in more than one account. You should provide voting instructions for all Notices and proxy cards you receive.

Q: How many votes can I cast?

A: You are entitled to one vote per share on all matters presented at the meeting.

Q: When are shareholder proposals and nominees due for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders?

A: If you want to submit a shareholder proposal or nominee for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, you must submit the proposal in writing to our Secretary, Polaris Industries Inc., 2100 Highway 55, Medina, Minnesota, 55340, so it is received by the relevant date set forth below under *Submission of Shareholder Proposals and Nominations* .

Q: How is this proxy solicitation being conducted?

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

- A:** We hired D.F. King & Co., Inc. to assist in the distribution of proxy materials and the solicitation of votes for a fee of \$16,000, plus out-of-pocket expenses. We will pay for the cost of soliciting proxies and we will reimburse brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding proxy and solicitation materials to our shareholders. In addition, some of our employees may solicit proxies. D.F. King & Co., Inc. and employees may solicit proxies in person, by telephone and by mail. Our employees will not receive special compensation for these services, which the employees will perform as part of their regular duties.

Table of Contents**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN****BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of February 16, 2012 by each person known to us who then beneficially owned more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock, each director, each nominee for director, each Named Executive Officer named in the Summary Compensation Table appearing below and all current executive officers and directors as a group. As of February 16, 2012, there were 68,457,255 shares of common stock outstanding. Except as otherwise indicated, the named beneficial owner has sole voting and investment powers with respect to the shares held by such beneficial owner. The table also includes information with respect to common stock equivalents credited as of February 16, 2012 to the accounts of each director under our Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors that is described in this Proxy Statement under the heading *Director Compensation*. All share and per share information has been adjusted to reflect our two-for-one stock split in September 2011.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Shares Beneficially Owned	Percent of Class	Common Stock Equivalents(12)	Deferred Stock Units(13)
BlackRock, Inc.(1)	5,668,745	8.3%		
Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd.(2)	3,960,000	5.8%		
The Vanguard Group(3)	3,825,896	5.6%		
Scott W. Wine(4)(5)(6) Chief Executive Officer and Director	329,831	*		
Michael W. Malone(5)(7) Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer	350,940	*		
Bennett J. Morgan(4)(5)(8) President and Chief Operating Officer	667,122	*		
James P. Williams(4) Vice President Human Resources	30,000	*		
Matthew J. Homan(4)(5)(9) Vice President Europe, Middle East and Africa	41,236	*		
Robert L. Caulk Director	0	*	12,879	14,664
Annette K. Clayton Director	0	*	25,395	14,664
Gary E. Hendrickson Director	0	*	1,046	1,620
Bernd F. Kessler Director	0	*	4,066	4,216
John R. Menard, Jr. Director	0	*	28,896	14,664
Gregory R. Palen(5)(10) Non-executive Chairman of the Board of Directors	66,854	*	108,586	14,664
R. M. (Mark) Schreck(5) Director	38,780	*	37,243	14,664
William Grant Van Dyke(11) Director	2,000	*	20,365	14,664
John P. Wiehoff Director	0	*	14,431	11,846
All directors and current executive officers as a group (23 persons)(4)-(11)(14)	1,941,719	2.8%	252,907	105,667

* Indicates ownership of less than 1%.

- (1) The address for BlackRock, Inc. and its affiliates (collectively, BlackRock) is 40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022. BlackRock, an investment advisor, has sole voting and dispositive power with respect to

Table of Contents

5,668,745 shares. This information was reported on a Schedule 13G/A filed by BlackRock with the SEC on February 10, 2012.

- (2) The address for Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. (Fuji) is Subaru Building, 1-7-2 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Fuji, a long time engine supplier to Polaris, has sole voting and dispositive power with respect to 3,960,000 shares. This information was reported to Polaris in a direct communication with Fuji. The Company understands that Fuji has held the shares since at least 1994 as a passive investment.
- (3) The address for The Vanguard Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, Vanguard) is 100 Vanguard Boulevard, Malvern, Pennsylvania, 19355. Vanguard has sole voting power with respect to 46,097 shares, shared voting power with respect to 0 shares, sole dispositive power with respect to 3,779,799 shares and shared dispositive power with respect to 46,097 shares. This information was reported on a Schedule 13G filed by Vanguard with the SEC on February 9, 2012.
- (4) Includes 148,000, 50,000, 30,000, and 10,000 restricted shares of common stock awarded to Messrs. Wine, Morgan, Williams and Homan, respectively, and 341,000 aggregate restricted shares of common stock awarded to current executive officers as a group under the Polaris Industries Inc. 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan. All of the 341,000 restricted shares except 48,000 unvested shares granted to Mr. Wine in January 2011 become freely tradable only if we achieve certain financial targets provided that the holder continues to be an employee. The remaining 48,000 unvested restricted shares granted to Mr. Wine become freely tradable on a ratable basis over the next four years.
- (5) Includes shares which could be purchased by the indicated person upon the exercise of vested options within 60 days after February 16, 2012: Mr. Wine, 80,000 shares; Mr. Malone, 217,264 shares; Mr. Morgan, 490,000 shares; Mr. Homan, 21,200 shares; Mr. Palen, 32,000 shares; Mr. Schreck, 32,000 shares; and all directors and executive officers combined, 1,053,138 shares.
- (6) Includes 14,000 shares over which Mr. Wine shares voting and investment power with his spouse.
- (7) Includes 53,700 shares which are held in a revocable trust in the name of Mr. Malone s spouse.
- (8) Includes 6,296 shares held by Mr. Morgan in the Polaris Employee Stock Ownership Plan, over which he holds shared voting power, and 41,066 shares which are held in a revocable trust in the name of Mr. Morgan s spouse.
- (9) Includes 2,510 shares held by Mr. Homan in the Polaris Employee Stock Ownership Plan over which he holds shared voting power.
- (10) Includes 54 shares held by Mr. Palen s daughter, as to which beneficial ownership is disclaimed.
- (11) Includes 2,000 shares which are held in a revocable trust.
- (12) Represents the number of common stock equivalents credited as of February 16, 2012 to the accounts of each non-employee director and the accompanying dividend equivalent units, as maintained by us under the Polaris Industries Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors. A director will receive one share of common stock for every common stock equivalent held by that director upon his or her termination of service as a member of the Board or upon a change of control of our Company. The plan is described in this Proxy Statement under the heading *Director Compensation*.
- (13)

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Represents the number of deferred stock units awarded in May 2007, May 2008, April 2009, April 2010 and April 2011 to each of the non-employee directors under the Polaris Industries Inc. 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan and the accompanying dividend equivalent units. A director will receive one share of common stock for every deferred stock unit upon his or her termination of service as a director or upon a change in control of our Company. The grant of deferred stock units is described in this Proxy Statement under the heading *Director Compensation*.

- (14) Includes 42,044 shares pledged as collateral for loans undertaken by executive officers as a group. As of February 16, 2012, none of the Directors or Named Executive Officers has pledged shares as collateral for loans.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Board Leadership Structure

Since 2002, when Mr. Palen was elected Chairman, we have separated the roles of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of our Company. Although the separation of roles has been appropriate for us during that time period, in the view of the Board, the advisability of the separation of these roles depends upon the specific circumstances and dynamics of our leadership. Separation of the two offices is not mandated by our Corporate Governance Guidelines.

As non-executive Chairman of the Board, Mr. Palen serves as the primary liaison between the CEO and the independent directors and provides strategic input and counseling to the CEO. With input from other members of the Board, committee chairs and management, he develops the agenda for Board meetings, sets meeting schedules of the Board and presides over meetings of the Board and executive sessions of the independent directors. Mr. Palen directs the Board and CEO evaluation processes. As a Board member for over 15 years, Mr. Palen has developed an extensive knowledge of our Company, its challenges and opportunities and has a productive working relationship with our senior management team.

The Board, as a unified body and through committee participation, organizes the execution of its monitoring and oversight roles and does not expect the Chairman to organize those functions. Our primary rationale for separating the positions of Board Chairman and the CEO is the recognition of the time commitments and activities required to function effectively as Chairman and as the CEO of a company with a relatively flat management structure.

Risk Oversight

Our Audit Committee is primarily responsible for reviewing and discussing with management on a regular basis our major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures, including management's guidelines and policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management. In some instances, when the Board deems it appropriate, responsibility of oversight of a specific risk is assigned to another of the Board's committees.

We engage in an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) process. The ERM process consists of periodic risk assessments performed by various functional management groups during the year. Executive management reviews the risk assessments and presents these assessments to the Audit Committee at least twice per year to ensure completeness of the process, appropriate oversight and review of the risks and risk assessments. In addition, the Audit Committee reports regularly to the full Board, which also considers our risk profile. While our management is responsible for day-to-day risk management identification and mitigation, the Board, directly and through its committees, oversees the execution of such process. We believe this division of responsibilities is the most effective approach for addressing the risks facing our Company and that our Board leadership structure supports this approach.

Board Diversity

In consultation with other members of the Board, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying individuals who it considers qualified to become Board members. In considering whether to recommend an individual for election to the Board, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee considers, as required by its charter, the Board's overall balance of diversity of perspectives, backgrounds and experiences, although it does not have a formal policy regarding the consideration of diversity of Board members. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee views diversity expansively and considers among other things, functional areas of experience, educational background, employment experience and leadership performance as well as those intangible factors that it deems appropriate to develop a

Table of Contents

heterogeneous and cohesive Board such as integrity, achievements, judgment, intelligence, personal character, the interplay of the candidate's relevant experience with the experience of other Board members, the willingness of the candidate to devote adequate time to Board duties, and likelihood that he or she will be willing and able to serve on the Board for a sustained period.

Our Board and each of its committees engage in an annual self-evaluation process. As part of that process, directors, including the CEO, provide feedback on, among other things, whether the Board is meeting its diversity objectives and how the composition of the Board should be changed or supplemented in order to enhance its value to our Company and shareholders.

Corporate Governance Guidelines and Independence

Our Board has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, which may be viewed online on our website at www.polarisindustries.com. Under our Corporate Governance Guidelines, which adopt the current standards for independence established by the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), a majority of the members of the Board must be independent as determined by the Board. In making its determination of independence, among other things, the Board must have determined that the director has no material relationship with the Company either directly or indirectly as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with us. The Board of Directors has determined that Ms. Clayton and Messrs. Caulk, Hendrickson, Kessler, Menard, Palen, Schreck, Van Dyke and Wiehoff are independent. Mr. Wine, our CEO, is the only director who is not independent.

The Board based its independence determinations, in part, upon a review by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and the Board of certain transactions between the Company and companies with which certain of our directors have relationships, each of which was made in the ordinary course of business, at arm's length, at prices and on terms customarily available to unrelated third party vendors or customers generally, in amounts that are not material to our business or the business of such unaffiliated corporation, and in which the director had no direct or indirect personal interest, nor received any personal benefit. Specifically, such transactions reviewed by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and the Board included: (a) ordinary course of business purchases by us from C. H. Robinson Worldwide, where Mr. Wiehoff is, and during fiscal 2011 was, the CEO, in the aggregate amount of approximately \$21,000; (b) ordinary course of business purchases by us from Dell Marketing, a subsidiary of Dell Inc., where Ms. Clayton, during a portion of fiscal 2011 was an officer, in the aggregate amount of approximately \$516,000; (c) ordinary course of business purchases by us from Donaldson Company Inc., where Mr. Wiehoff is, and during fiscal 2011 was, a director, in the aggregate amount of approximately \$77,000; (d) ordinary course of business purchases by us from The Valspar Corporation, where Mr. Palen is, and during fiscal 2011 was, a director, and where Mr. Hendrickson is, and during fiscal 2011 was, an executive officer, in the aggregate amount of approximately \$112,000; and (e) tuition payments by us on behalf of certain employees to Carlson School of Management of the University of Minnesota, where Mr. Van Dyke is, and during fiscal 2011 was, a member of the Board of Overseers, in the aggregate amount of approximately \$110,000. In all cases, the payments were less than the greater of \$1,000,000 or 2% of the recipients' gross revenues. Accordingly, a majority of our Board is considered to be independent. Additionally, all current members of our Audit, Compensation and Corporate Governance and Nominating Committees are considered to be independent.

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics applicable to all employees, including our CEO, our Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and all other executive officers, and the Board. A copy of the Polaris Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on our website at www.polarisindustries.com.

Communications with the Board

Under our Corporate Governance Guidelines, a process has been established by which shareholders and other interested parties may communicate with members of the Board. Any shareholder or other interested party who

Table of Contents

desires to communicate with the Board, individually or as a group, may do so by writing to the intended member or members of the Board, c/o Corporate Secretary, Polaris Industries Inc., 2100 Highway 55, Medina, Minnesota, 55340.

All communications received in accordance with these procedures will be reviewed initially by the office of our Corporate Secretary to determine that the communication is a message to one or more of our directors and will be relayed to the appropriate director or directors unless the Corporate Secretary determines that the communication is an advertisement or other promotional material. The director or directors who receive any such communication will have discretion to determine whether the subject matter of the communication should be brought to the attention of the full Board or one or more of its committees and whether any response to the person sending the communication is appropriate.

Board Meetings

During 2011, the full Board met four times in person and held one meeting via teleconference. Each of the in-person meetings was preceded and/or followed by an executive session of the Board without management in attendance, chaired by Mr. Palen. Each of our directors attended at least 75% percent of the meetings of the Board and any committee on which they served in 2011. The Board also took action in writing seven times in 2011. We do not maintain a formal policy regarding the Board's attendance at annual shareholder meetings; however, Board members are expected to regularly attend all Board meetings and meetings of the committees on which they serve as well as the annual shareholder meetings. All members of the Board attended our 2011 Annual Meeting.

Committees of the Board and Meetings

The Board has designated four standing committees. The Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and the Technology Committee each operate under a written charter which is available on our website at www.polarisindustries.com. The current membership of each committee and its principal functions, as well as the number of times it met during fiscal 2011, are described below.

Audit Committee

Members:

William Grant Van Dyke, Chair

Bernd F. Kessler

Gregory R. Palen

John P. Wiehoff

All members of the Audit Committee have been determined to be independent and financially literate by the Board in accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines, SEC rules and the applicable listing requirements of the NYSE. Additionally, Messrs. Van Dyke, Kessler and Wiehoff have each been determined by the Board to be an Audit Committee Financial Expert as that term has been defined by the SEC. None of the members of the Audit Committee currently serve on the audit committees of more than three public companies.

Functions:

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities by overseeing our financial reporting and public disclosure activities. The Audit Committee's primary purposes and responsibilities are to:

Assist the Board of Directors in its oversight of (a) the integrity of our financial statements, (b) our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (c) the independent registered public accounting

Table of Contents

firm's qualifications and independence, (d) the responsibilities, performance, budget and staffing of our internal audit function and (e) the performance of our independent registered public accounting firm;

Prepare the Audit Committee Report that appears later in this Proxy Statement;

Serve as an independent and objective party to oversee our financial reporting process and internal control system; and

Provide an open avenue of communication among the independent registered public accounting firm, financial and senior management, the internal auditors and the Board.

The Audit Committee, in its capacity as a committee of the Board, is directly responsible for the appointment, compensation, and oversight of the work of any independent registered public accounting firm employed by us (including resolution of any disagreements between management and the auditor regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or related work or performing other audit, review or attest services for us, and each such independent registered public accounting firm reports directly to the Audit Committee. This committee met nine times during 2011.

Compensation Committee

Members:

Robert L. Caulk, Chair

Annette K. Clayton

William Grant Van Dyke

All members of the Compensation Committee have been determined to be independent by the Board in accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines and the applicable listing requirements of the NYSE.

Functions:

The Compensation Committee's duties and responsibilities include, among other things, the responsibility to:

Assist the Board in establishing a philosophy and policies regarding executive and director compensation;

Provide oversight to the administration of our director and executive compensation programs;

Administer our stock option, restricted stock and other equity-based and cash incentive plans;

Review and approve the compensation of directors, executive officers and senior management;

Review and discuss the Compensation Discussion and Analysis that appears later in this Proxy Statement and prepare any report on executive compensation required by the rules and regulations of the SEC or other regulatory body, including the Compensation Committee Report that appears later in this Proxy Statement; and

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Review the process for managing executive development and succession, assist the Board in management development and succession planning and review with the CEO the confidential written procedure for the timely and efficient transfer of his or her responsibilities in the event of his or her sudden incapacitation or departure.

The Compensation Committee has the resources and authority appropriate to discharge its duties and responsibilities, including the authority to retain independent counsel and other independent experts or consultants. The committee has the sole authority to select, retain and terminate a compensation consultant and to approve the consultant's fees and other retention terms. The committee may, in its discretion, delegate all or a portion of its duties and responsibilities to a subcommittee of the committee. In particular, the committee may delegate the approval of certain transactions to a subcommittee consisting solely of members of the committee who are (i) Non-Employee Directors for the purposes of Rule 16b-3 of the Securities Exchange

Table of Contents

Act, as in effect from time to time, and/or (ii) outside directors for the purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (Section 162(m)), as in effect from time to time.

The Compensation Committee engaged The Delves Group (Delves) to act as its compensation consultant beginning in May 2009. The Compensation Committee uses Delves in an advisory role for various technical, analytical, and plan design issues related to compensation and benefit programs. Delves does not recommend or determine compensation for any of our executives, which role is reserved to the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee provides the material elements of the instructions to Delves with respect to the performance of Delves' duties under the engagement. For 2011, the Compensation Committee instructed Delves to (a) collect market information on a variety of executive pay and design issues, including the types and amounts of compensation paid to executives at similarly situated companies; (b) assist in the design and review of programs such as our long-term incentive plan and annual cash incentive plan that affect the compensation of executives and other employees; (c) consult on various technical issues related to compensation and benefits; and (d) review and assist the Compensation Committee in the development of offer letters to our senior executives with our CEO from time to time. When necessary, Delves works with management to fully understand the details of various compensation programs and the underlying business and human resources issues they address. We did not use Delves for any non-executive compensation consulting in 2011.

The Compensation Committee works with our CEO, our President and Chief Operating Officer and our Vice President Human Resources in determining the base salary and annual and long-term incentive targets and opportunities for our executive officers, but in each case not including that officer's own compensation arrangements. The Compensation Committee also has the power to delegate the approval of grants of certain stock options and performance-based restricted share awards. The Compensation Committee has delegated to our CEO the approval of the issuance of a limited number of equity awards in connection with the employment of new non-executive employees and the promotion, retention or outstanding achievements of current non-executive employees. The Compensation Committee met five times during 2011 and took action in writing five times.

Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee

Members:

John P. Wiehoff, Chair

Gary E. Hendrickson

John R. Menard, Jr.

R. M. (Mark) Schreck

All members of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee have been determined to be independent by the Board in accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines and the applicable listing requirements of the NYSE.

Functions:

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee provides oversight and guidance to the Board to ensure that the membership, structure, policies and processes of the Board and its committees facilitate the effective exercise of the Board's role in the governance of our Company. The committee reviews and evaluates the policies and practices with respect to the size, composition and function of the Board, evaluates the qualifications of possible candidates for the Board and recommends the nominees for directors to the Board for approval. The committee will consider individuals recommended by shareholders for nomination as a director, applying the standards described in the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee Charter. The committee also is responsible for recommending to the Board any revisions to our Corporate Governance Guidelines. This committee met three times and took action in writing three times during 2011.

Table of Contents

Technology Committee

Members:

R. M. (Mark) Schreck, Chair

Robert L. Caulk

Annette K. Clayton

Gary E. Hendrickson

Bernd F. Kessler

John R. Menard, Jr.

Gregory R. Palen

Scott W. Wine

Functions:

The Technology Committee provides oversight of our product plans, technology development and related business processes. The committee reviews (a) product and technology development plans to ensure the continuous flow of innovative, differentiated, leadership products in the markets we currently serve, (b) plans for growth through new products serving adjacent markets, (c) new technology development and plans for insertion of new technology into the long-range product plan, (d) major competitive moves and our response plan, (e) the adequacy of the processes, tools, facilities and technology leadership of our product and technology development, (f) the costs, benefits and risks associated with major product development programs and related facility investments, (g) plans to address changing regulatory requirements, (h) strategic sourcing plans for products and technology and (i) quality initiatives to ensure that the quality of our products meets or exceeds customer expectations. This committee met two times during 2011.

Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

During 2011, we did not engage in any transactions with related persons that are required to be described in this Proxy Statement pursuant to applicable SEC regulations.

Our written Related-Person Transactions Policy, which is applicable to all of our directors, nominees for directors, executive officers and 5% shareholders and their respective immediate family members, prohibits related-person transactions unless approved or ratified by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.

Matters considered to be a related-person transaction subject to the policy include any transaction in which we are directly or indirectly a participant and the amount involved exceeds or reasonably can be expected to exceed \$120,000, and in which a director, nominee for director, executive officer or 5% shareholder, or any of their respective family members, has or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

Any potential related-person transaction that is raised will be analyzed by the General Counsel, in consultation with management and with outside counsel, as appropriate, to determine whether the transaction or relationship constitutes a related-person transaction requiring compliance with the policy. The potential related-person transaction and the General Counsel's conclusion and the analysis thereof are also to be reported to the chair of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee shall review the material facts of all related-person transactions that require the committee's approval and either approve or disapprove of the related person transaction. If advance committee approval of a related-person transaction is not feasible, then the related-person transaction shall be considered and, if the committee determines it to be appropriate, ratified at the committee's next regularly scheduled meeting. Any related-person transaction that is not approved or ratified, as the case may be, shall be voided, terminated or amended, or such other actions shall be taken, in each case as determined by the committee, so as to avoid or otherwise address any resulting conflict of interest.

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

All current members of the Compensation Committee are considered independent under our Corporate Governance Guidelines. During fiscal year 2011, none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee (or its equivalent) or board of directors of another entity whose executive officers served on our Compensation Committee or Board.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, requires our directors and executive officers to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes of ownership of our common stock with the SEC. Executive officers and directors are required to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) reports that they file. To our knowledge, based solely upon a review of the reports filed by the executive officers and directors during 2011 and written representations that no other reports were required, we believe that, during the year ended December 31, 2011, all filing requirements applicable to its directors, executive officers and 10% beneficial owners, if any, were complied with, except that we failed to timely file a Form 4 to report (i) the exercise of options and same day sale of common stock by William Fisher on February 2, 2011, (ii) the gift of common stock by Bennett Morgan to his spouse's trust account on March 13, 2008, and (iii) the sale of common stock from Michael Dougherty's children's UTMA accounts on May 5, 2011.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

General Information

The Board is divided into three classes. The members of one class are elected at each annual meeting of shareholders to serve three-year terms. The Class III directors currently serving on the Board, whose terms expire at the 2012 Annual Meeting, are Ms. Annette K. Clayton, Mr. Gregory R. Palen and Mr. John P. Wiehoff.

Upon the recommendation of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of the Board, the Board proposes that the following nominees be elected as Class III directors for three-year terms expiring in 2015:

Annette K. Clayton

Gregory R. Palen

John P. Wiehoff

Each of the nominees currently serves as a member of the Board. The persons named in the proxy intend to vote your proxy for the election of each of the three nominees, unless you indicate on the proxy that your vote should be withheld from any or all of the nominees. If you are voting by telephone or on the Internet, you will be told how to withhold your vote from some or all of the nominees. Each nominee elected as a director will continue in office until his or her successor has been elected, or until his or her death, resignation or retirement.

We expect each nominee standing for election as a Class III director to be able to serve if elected. If any nominee is not able to serve, proxies will be voted in favor of the remainder of those nominated and may be voted for substitute nominees designated by the Board, unless an instruction to the contrary is indicated on the proxy. There are no family relationships between or among any of our executive officers, directors or director nominees.

The Board, upon recommendation of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, unanimously recommends a vote FOR the election of these nominees as directors.

Table of Contents

Information Concerning Nominees and Directors

Our directors bring a broad range of leadership and experience to the boardroom and regularly contribute to the dialogue involved in effectively overseeing and guiding our business and affairs. Other than our CEO, all of the members of the Board are independent. Though the members of the Board have been selected to provide a wide range of viewpoints, the atmosphere of our Board is collegial. Preparation, engagement and participation are expected from our directors. We insist on high personal and professional ethics, integrity and values. All of our current directors and the director nominees satisfy such requirements. The Board has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines which are observed by all directors. With a diverse mix of experience, backgrounds and skill sets, the Board believes it is well positioned to represent the best interests of the shareholders. The principal occupation, specific experience, qualifications, attributes or skills and certain other information about the nominees and other directors whose terms of office continue after the Annual Meeting are set forth on the following pages.

If a shareholder wishes to have the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee consider a candidate for nomination as a director, the shareholder's notice must include the information specified in our bylaws, including the shareholder's name and address, the information required to be disclosed by the SEC's proxy rules, a written consent of the candidate to be named in the proxy statement and to serve as a director if elected, specified information regarding the shareholder's interests in our capital stock, and the representations specified in our bylaws. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee will evaluate recommended nominees based on the factors identified in the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee Charter, a copy of which is available on our website at www.polarisindustries.com. Alternatively, shareholders may directly nominate a person for election to our Board by complying with the procedures set forth in our bylaws, any applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and any applicable laws.

Director Nominees Class III (Term Ending 2015)

Annette K. Clayton

Director since 2003

Ms. Clayton, 48, has been the Executive Vice President, Global Supply Chain of Schneider Electric since May 2011. She was Vice President, Global Operations and Supply Chain for Dell Corporation from February 2006 to May 2011. From February 2006 to May 2008, she was Vice President, Dell Americas Operations. From June 2005 until February 2006, Ms. Clayton served as Vice President, General Motors North American Quality and a member of the GM North American Strategy Board. Prior to that assignment she was the President and a director of Saturn Corporation since April 2001 and was the Executive Director of Global Manufacturing Systems Quality of General Motors Corporation from April 2000 to April 2001. From 1983 to 2000, Ms. Clayton held a number of production, engineering and management positions at General Motors assembly plants. She is a member of the External Advisory Board for the College of Engineering and Computer Science at Wright State University. Ms. Clayton is a member of our Compensation Committee and our Technology Committee. As President of Saturn Corporation, Ms. Clayton gained experience leading a large corporation which included overseeing financial and accounting matters as well as profit and loss responsibility. With many years of experience running large scale supply chain manufacturing companies with global presence, Ms. Clayton brings to the Board expertise in supply chain, supply chain strategy, global expansion and consumer durable areas. She also has experience in engineering, production and manufacturing.

Table of Contents**Gregory R. Palen**

Director since 1994

Mr. Palen, 56, was elected to serve as the non-executive Chairman of our Board of Directors in May 2002. He has been Chairman of Spectro Alloys, an aluminum manufacturing company, since 1989 and Chairman of Cureium Healthcare Holdings, Inc., a pharmaceutical and food supplement company, since 2006. He is a director of Valspar Corporation, a painting and coating manufacturing company. Mr. Palen also serves as a director of various private and non-profit organizations. Mr. Palen is a member of our Audit Committee and Technology Committee. As a successful entrepreneur with extensive experience as a board member on numerous public and private companies, Mr. Palen has a comprehensive understanding of the role of an effective board of directors. With more than 15 years of experience on the Board, Mr. Palen is well positioned to serve as the Chairman of the Board.

John P. Wiehoff

Director since 2007

Mr. Wiehoff, 50, has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of C.H. Robinson Worldwide since 2007 and Chief Executive Officer of that company since May 2002, following a three-year succession process during which he was named President in December 1999. He has been a director of C.H. Robinson since December 2001. He was Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from June 1998 to December 1999. Previous positions with C.H. Robinson include Treasurer and Corporate Controller. Prior to joining C.H. Robinson in 1992, he was employed by Arthur Andersen LLP. Mr. Wiehoff also serves on the Board of Directors of Donaldson Company, Inc. Mr. Wiehoff is a member of our Audit Committee and serves as the Chair of our Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. Mr. Wiehoff is an experienced financial leader with skills necessary to serve on our Audit Committee. His previous position as Chief Financial Officer of C.H. Robinson and employment at Arthur Andersen make him a valuable asset on our Board of Directors, Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and our Audit Committee, and his exposure to complex financial issues at such large corporations makes him a skilled advisor. Further, his expertise as a CEO and expertise in logistics adds significant value to the Board.

Directors Continuing in Office Class I (Term Ending 2013)**Robert L. Caulk**

Director since 2004

Mr. Caulk, 60, is the Chairman of Bushnell Outdoor Products, a global manufacturer and marketer of sports optics and outdoor accessories. He was the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of United Industries Corporation, a manufacturer and marketer of consumer products, from 2001 through 2005 and was its President and Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to 2001. He served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Spectrum Brands, North America, following its acquisition of United Industries in 2005, until February 2006. Mr. Caulk also serves as a director on several corporate and non-profit boards, including Bushnell Outdoor Products, Menard, Inc., Hillman Group, Inc., Nature's Variety Inc., Maritz, Inc., Hunter Fan, Inc. and the St. Louis Academy of Science. He is a former director of Sligh Furniture Company. Mr. Caulk serves as the Chair of our Compensation Committee and also is a member of our Technology Committee. With his years of experience as Chief Executive Officer of growth-oriented consumer product companies, Mr. Caulk brings to the Board demonstrated leadership skills at senior levels, insights into the operational requirements of large companies, and significant experience in mergers and acquisitions.

Table of Contents**Bernd F. Kessler**

Director since 2010

Mr. Kessler, 53, was the Chief Executive Officer of SRTechnics AG from January 2008 through January 2010. SRTechnics is a privately-held aircraft, component and engine service provider with facilities located in Switzerland, Ireland, Great Britain, France, Spain, Malta and China. From September 2004 through October 2007, Mr. Kessler was the President and Chief Executive Officer of MTU Aero Engines AG, in Munich, Germany, an aero engine design, development, manufacturing and service company, where he was instrumental in preparing the company for a successful initial public offering on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. Prior to September 2004, Mr. Kessler held management and executive positions for 20 years at Honeywell International and its preceding company AlliedSignal Corp. Among other roles he led Honeywell's Aerospace aftermarket services business with 27 facilities around the world. Mr. Kessler also serves as a director on the board of Finnair Technical Services in Helsinki, Finland as well the board of JorAMCo Ltd. in Amman, Jordan. Mr. Kessler is a member of our Audit Committee and our Technology Committee. Mr. Kessler is based in Europe and has extensive experience in international management and mergers and acquisitions. Through his employment at Honeywell International, Mr. Kessler obtained skills in talent and organization development, engineering and operations management and the ability to build strong and lasting customer relationships. He is recognized as an industry leader in the global aerospace and defense markets, which will be helpful as we strive to grow our military and international business. His experience in operations, service and global business are expected to be a key asset to us as we continue to increase our sales globally and strive to increase operational efficiency.

Scott W. Wine

Director since 2008

Mr. Wine, 44, has been the Chief Executive Officer of Polaris since September 1, 2008, and was appointed as a member of our Board of Directors on October 23, 2008. Prior to joining Polaris, Mr. Wine served for sixteen months as President of Fire Safety Americas, the Fire & Security Division of United Technologies Corporation, and prior to that time, held senior leadership positions at Danaher Corp. from 2003 to 2007, serving as President of its Jacob Vehicle Systems and Veeder-Root subsidiaries. Mr. Wine served as a Supply Officer in the U.S. Navy for seven years, and then held a number of operations and executive positions, both international and domestic, with Allied Signal Corp.'s Aerospace Division, which became Honeywell International after a 1999 merger with Honeywell, Inc. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Terex Corporation and the Greater Twin Cities United Way, and is a member of our Technology Committee. As a proven leader with considerable experience across a variety of industries and three respected international companies, Mr. Wine has a track record of producing outstanding results. He also brings to the Board extensive expertise in mergers and acquisitions in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Mr. Wine's knowledge of all aspects of the Company's business as its CEO, combined with his drive for innovation and excellence, position him well to serve as a Board member. Mr. Wine plays a key role in facilitating the communication and the flow of information between management and the directors on a regular basis.

Table of Contents**Directors Continuing in Office Class II (Term Ending 2014)****Gary E. Hendrickson**

Director since 2011

Mr. Hendrickson, 55, has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Valspar Corporation, a global paints and coatings manufacturer, since June 2011 and was its President and Chief Operating Officer from February 2008 to June 2011. From 2005 to February 2008, Mr. Hendrickson served as the Senior Vice President responsible for several significant business divisions and President, Asia Pacific of The Valspar Corporation and was the Group Vice President, Global Wood Coatings and President, Asia Pacific of The Valspar Corporation from 2004 to 2005. Prior to that, he served as Corporate Vice President and President, Asia Pacific of The Valspar Corporation from 2001 to 2004. He has been a director of The Valspar Corporation since 2009. Mr. Hendrickson is a member of our Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and Technology Committee. Mr. Hendrickson's experience as president and chief executive officer of a global company provides expertise in corporate leadership and development and execution of business growth strategy. Mr. Hendrickson also brings to the Board significant global experience and knowledge of competitive strategy and international competition. As a past director for other public companies, Mr. Hendrickson also provides significant board experience.

R. M. (Mark) Schreck

Director since 2000

Mr. Schreck, 67, is a registered professional engineer and retired Vice President, Technology, General Electric Company. He is currently on the staff of the University of Louisville Speed School of Engineering, and consults through his business, RMS Engineering, LLC. Mr. Schreck also serves as a director of the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation, a private, nonprofit organization. Mr. Schreck serves as the Chair of our Technology Committee and is also a member of our Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. He has 35 years of experience in engineering and product development as well as in large scale manufacturing processes. He also brings knowledge of the latest practices in technology and innovation to our boardroom. Mr. Schreck's expertise in consumer durables design and manufacturing makes him a key contributor to our Board in the product area and as the Chair of the Technology Committee.

William Grant Van Dyke

Director since 2006

Mr. Van Dyke, 66, was the Chairman of the Board of Donaldson Company, Inc., a leading worldwide provider of filtration systems and replacement parts, from August 2004 until his retirement in 2005. He was Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Donaldson Company from 1996 to August 2004 and held various financial and management positions with that company from 1974 to 1996. He served on the board of Black Hills Corp. from 2005 to 2006. Mr. Van Dyke also serves as a director of Graco Inc. and Alliant Techsystems Inc. He also serves on the Board of Overseers of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Van Dyke serves as the Chair of our Audit Committee and is also a member of our Compensation Committee. Mr. Van Dyke brings many years of board and management experience to the Board. He is also an Audit Committee financial expert and an effective leader of the Audit Committee. By previously serving as the CEO and CFO of Donaldson and serving on the Audit, Compensation and Corporate Governance Committees of other companies, Mr. Van Dyke gained valuable experience dealing with accounting principles and financial reporting rules and regulations, evaluating financial results and generally overseeing the financial reporting process of a large corporation as well as risk management, complex succession plans, and innovative cost effective compensation models.

John A. Menard, Jr., a director currently serving a term that ends in 2014, will retire from the Board at the 2012 Annual Meeting pursuant to the director retirement policy in our Corporate Governance Guidelines.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following discussion and analysis describes our compensation objectives and policies and the compensation awarded to the following executive officers (the Named Executive Officers) during 2011:

Scott W. Wine, Chief Executive Officer (CEO);

Michael W. Malone, Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer (CFO);

Bennett J. Morgan, President and Chief Operating Officer (COO);

James P. Williams, Vice President Human Resources (VP HR), who joined our Company in April 2011; and

Matthew J. Homan, Vice President Europe, Middle East and Africa (VP EMEA).

All share and per share information in this Proxy Statement has been adjusted to reflect our two-for-one common stock split effected in the form of a 100% stock dividend paid on September 12, 2011 (the Stock Split).

Executive Summary

While we expected the economic climate to remain challenging, our overall performance during 2011 was once again outstanding, exceeding the expectations we set for ourselves for the second consecutive year. In 2011, the Company, for the first time since its inception in 1954, surpassed a milestone of \$2 billion in sales and attained record sales of \$2.66 billion. We achieved continued market share gains in each region of the world and gross and net margin expansion, due in large measure to innovative new products, our strong dealer network, our differentiated Maximum Velocity Program order management system and our lean transformation initiatives. Additionally, we achieved strong sales growth and market share gains in each of our product lines:

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) sales increased 32% over 2010 due in large part to continued North American market share gains for both ATVs and side-by-side vehicles.

Snowmobile sales increased 48% over 2010. This increase was primarily due to significantly reduced snowmobile dealer inventory levels entering the 2011-2012 selling season compared to the prior year and the success of model year 2012 new product introductions resulting in increased orders from dealers.

On-Road Vehicle sales improved by 79% over 2010, which was predominately due to the increase in sales of Victory motorcycles.

Parts, Garments and Accessories also experienced double digit sales growth coming in at 19% over 2010. The increase was primarily due to increased ORV and Victory related sales and strong international growth.

In determining compensation for 2011, the Compensation Committee considered the economic outlook at the beginning of 2011 coupled with our compensation philosophy of paying for superior performance. In approving compensation payments and awards based on our actual 2011 financial and operating performance, the Compensation Committee took into account a number of key business results, including the following:

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Sales increased to a record amount for the second consecutive year, from \$1,991.1 million to \$2,656.9 million, or 33% over 2010.

Net income increased to a record amount for the second consecutive year, from \$147.1 million to \$227.6 million, or 55% over 2010.

Table of Contents

Net income per diluted share increased to a record amount for the second consecutive year, from \$2.14 to \$3.20, a 50% increase over 2010.

Our stock price closed 2011 at \$55.98, an increase of 44% over the 2010 closing price of \$39.01. Additionally, because significant components of our executive compensation program are linked to the performance of our common stock, our total shareholder return played a considerable role in determining compensation payouts for 2011. This link demonstrates how our pay for performance strategy aligns the interests of our executive officers with the interests of shareholders as reflected in the following chart, which compares our annualized total shareholder return to that of the members of our 2011 Peer Group listed on page 25:

Percentile	Annualized Total Shareholder Return ⁽¹⁾		
	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year
25 th Percentile ⁽²⁾	-17%	13%	-5%
Median ⁽²⁾	-4%	23%	4%
75 th Percentile ⁽²⁾	11%	30%	8%
Polaris Industries	46%	63%	23%
<i>Polaris Percentile</i>	<i>99%</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>Highest</i>

⁽¹⁾ 1-Year, 3-Year and 5-Year Total Shareholder Return are annualized total shareholder rates of return reflecting the stock price appreciation plus reinvestment of dividends, as of December 31, 2011.

⁽²⁾ These percentiles represent Total Shareholder Return of the members of our 2011 Peer Group. The Compensation Committee intends that our executive compensation program be market competitive, fairly reflect our performance over time and align the interests of our executive officers with the interests of our shareholders. Consistent with these principles, the Compensation Committee generally sets base salaries for our executive officers at the market median, adjusted for various factors described below, and generally sets the target level of annual and long-term incentive compensation between the market median and 75th percentile for each component, with the specific target level determined in part based on a review of our performance over the previous year. To assist in determining appropriate target levels, the Compensation Committee reviews year over year financial performance metrics of our peer group, such as: revenue, net income, net profit margin, return on equity, return on assets, return on invested capital, and total shareholder return. The incentive compensation amount actually paid upon the completion of a performance period may be higher or lower than the target amount based on actual performance of the Company and the individual over the specified performance period.

Based upon its assessment of our overall strong growth and financial performance, combined with a review of the economic environment, competitive trends, our internal operating plans and internal pay equity considerations, the Compensation Committee made the following decisions regarding compensation for our Named Executive Officers:

Mr. Wine received an 18% increase in his annual base salary in 2011 to \$800,000, to bring his base salary near the market median and to reward him for our exceptional performance during 2010. Messrs. Malone and Morgan received base salary increases for 2011 of 4% and 8%, respectively, generally to maintain their base salary positions with respect to the market median and also to reward them for our exceptional performance during 2010. Mr. Homan received a 9% increase in his base salary to reward him for his strong performance in leading our ORV business and to keep his salary in line with our other senior executives.

Table of Contents

Annual cash incentives to the Named Executive Officers under our Senior Executive Annual Incentive Plan (Senior Executive Plan) for 2011 paid at or near the maximum amount under the plan as adjusted net income per diluted share exceeded target by approximately 32%.

Long-term cash incentives to the Named Executive Officers under our Long-Term Incentive Plan (LTIP) for the 2009-2011 performance period paid out at the maximum level based on our financial performance over the three year period. The 2009-2011 performance period LTIP payouts are only the second payouts under the LTIP since its inception in 2004. In addition, each Named Executive Officer (except Mr. Williams who was not an employee at the time of the award) had elected to tie the amount of his payout under the LTIP to the performance of our stock price over the three year performance period, during which our share price increased 470% from \$9.815 to \$55.98.

Annual stock option awards to the Named Executive Officers as a group during 2011 involved fewer shares than had been subject to stock option awards to the Named Executive Officer group in 2010. In addition to these stock option awards during 2011, Mr. Wine received a 60,000 share restricted stock award as a retention incentive and to recognize him for our Company's exceptional performance, Mr. Williams received a 30,000 share performance-based restricted stock award in connection with his hiring in April 2011, and Mr. Homan received two 5,000 share performance-based restricted stock awards in connection with his promotion in August 2011.

In deciding to structure our 2012 executive compensation program in a manner similar to that utilized during 2011 and 2010, our Compensation Committee took into account the fact that the holders of over 98% of the shares voted at our 2011 annual meeting of shareholders approved, on an advisory basis, the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as disclosed in the Proxy Statement for that Annual Meeting. During these years, our compensation philosophy has remained consistent and the design of our compensation programs has not changed in any significant manner.

Objectives of Polaris Compensation Program

Our executive compensation philosophy aligns executive compensation decisions with our desired business direction, strategy and performance. The primary objectives and priorities of the compensation program for our Named Executive Officers are the following:

Pay for Performance: Emphasize variable compensation that is tied to our financial and stock price performance in an effort to generate and reward superior individual and collective performance;

Shareholder Alignment: Link executives' incentive goals with the interests of our shareholders, provide equity-based forms of compensation and establish specific stock ownership guidelines for employees in key management positions throughout our Company;

Long-Term Success: Support and reward executives for consistent performance over time and achievement of our long-term strategic goals; and

Retention: Attract and retain highly qualified executives whose abilities are critical to our success and competitive advantage.

To achieve these objectives, we have designed an executive compensation program that is significantly weighted towards long-term goals. This approach aids us in the retention of executive officers and assures the interests of our executive officers and shareholders are aligned. Although the program emphasizes performance-based and equity-based compensation as a percentage of total direct compensation (base salary and annual and long-term incentives), we do not, however, have specific policies governing the allocation of the total direct compensation opportunity among its various components. The following table illustrates the percentage of target

Table of Contents

total direct compensation opportunity for each Named Executive Officer for 2011 represented by each compensation component:

Name	2011 Compensation Allocation Relative to Total Direct Compensation					
	Base Salary (%)	Target Annual Senior Executive Plan (%)	Target Long-Term Incentive Plan (%)	Grant Date Fair Value Stock Options (%)	Grant Date Fair Value Performance-based Restricted Stock (%)	Grant Date Fair Value Restricted Stock (%)
Scott W. Wine	13%	13%	11%	27%	0%	36%
Michael W. Malone	23	19	18	40	0	0
Bennett J. Morgan	17	17	16	50	0	0
James P. Williams ⁽¹⁾	12	9	9	23	47	0
Matthew J. Homan	18	14	11	29	28	0

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Williams joined our Company in April 2011. These percentages do not include Mr. Williams' cash signing bonus received in connection with the commencement of his employment.

Executive Compensation Program Components

The components of our Named Executive Officers' compensation are summarized below. All of the components, individually and collectively, are provided for the general purpose of providing a competitive compensation program that will enable us to meet our objective of attracting and retaining highly qualified executives critical to our success. The more specific reasons for providing each component and each component's key features are summarized below.

Base Salary*Purpose:*

Provide a fixed level of compensation on which executive officers can rely

Key Features:

Salary levels set based on an assessment of:

- i Level of responsibility
- i Experience and time in position
- i Individual performance
- i Future potential
- i Salary level relative to market median
- i Internal pay equity considerations

Salary levels are reviewed annually by the Compensation Committee and adjusted as appropriate

Annual Cash Incentive

Purpose:

Provide explicit incentives to achieve or exceed annual budgeted earnings per share objectives
Links pay to performance
Performance objectives aligned with the interests of our shareholders

Key Features:

Target incentive opportunity expressed as a percentage of executive officer's base salary, based on responsibilities of position, expected level of contribution and consideration of market data

Table of Contents

Maximum potential payouts established for Section 162(m) purposes based on attainment of specified levels of financial performance
Actual payouts may be less than or equal to maximum potential payouts based on degree to which financial performance objectives achieved and on consideration of other company, business unit and individual performance factors, and are determined by the Compensation Committee

Long-Term Incentives (Cash, Stock Options and Restricted Stock)

Purpose:

Provide executive officers with incentives to achieve multi-year financial and operational objectives
Link pay to financial, operational and stock price performance
Align executive officers' interests with the interests of our shareholders
Attract and retain highly qualified executive officers

Key Features:

Cash-based performance awards based on degree to which specified financial objectives are attained over a three-year performance period
Target cash incentive opportunity expressed as a percentage of executive officer's base salary, based on responsibilities of position, expected level of contribution and consideration of market data
Executive officers may elect to tie cash incentive payout amounts to stock price performance over the three-year performance period
Stock options provide value to executive officers only if stock price increases over the stock option term, generally two to four years
Restricted stock vests only upon attainment of specified multi-year financial objectives and/or completion of a specified period of employment
All grants are approved by the Compensation Committee
Actual cash payouts are determined by the Compensation Committee

Benefits and Perquisites

Purpose:

Provide an overall compensation package that is competitive with those offered by companies with whom we compete for executive talent
Provide a level of retirement income and promote retirement savings in a tax-efficient manner

Key Features:

Participation in 401(k) plan and health and welfare plans on same terms as employees generally
Executive officers may participate in a non-qualified supplemental retirement savings plan and will receive an employer match up to 5% when their 401(k) participation has been limited by IRS annual contribution rules
Perquisites described on page 33

Post-Employment Compensation (Severance and Change in Control Arrangements)

Purpose:

Attract and retain highly qualified executives

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Enable executive officers to evaluate potential transactions focused on shareholder interests
Provide continuity of management
Provide a bridge to next professional opportunity in the event of an involuntary termination

Table of Contents

Key Features:

- Double-trigger change in control severance arrangements
- Single-trigger accelerated vesting of equity awards upon change in control
- Severance for termination by the Company without cause (or for good reason by CEO)
- Non-compete and non-solicitation restrictions following termination of employment

Determining Executive Compensation

The Process Followed by the Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee is responsible for the review and approval of all aspects of our executive compensation program for the executive officers, and the Board has an opportunity to provide input to the Compensation Committee on the CEO's compensation. The practice of the Compensation Committee is to meet in January or February of each year to: (i) establish the annual base salary and annual incentive compensation opportunity for each of the executive officers for the current year; (ii) determine the actual annual incentive compensation to be paid to each executive officer for services provided during the prior year; (iii) establish plan targets and performance measures for the three-year performance period beginning on January 1 of the current year for LTIP participants; (iv) determine the payout, if any, to be made under the LTIP for the three-year performance period ended on the immediately preceding December 31st; and (v) determine stock option awards and any other equity-based awards to be granted to executive officers.

When making individual compensation decisions for the executive officers, the Compensation Committee takes many factors into account. These factors include subjective and objective considerations of each individual's skills, performance and level of contribution towards desired business objectives, our overall performance, retention concerns, the individual's tenure and experience with our Company and in his or her current position, the recommendations of management, the individual's current and historical compensation, the Compensation Committee's compensation philosophy, and comparisons to other comparably situated executive officers (both those of the Company and those of the peer group companies). The Compensation Committee's process utilizes input, analysis and review from a number of sources, including our management, other independent directors of the Board, the Compensation Committee's independent compensation consultant, Delves, and market studies and other comparative compensation information as discussed below.

The Compensation Committee uses this information in conjunction with its own review of the various components of our executive compensation program to determine the base salary and annual and long-term incentive targets and opportunities of the executive officers as a group and individually.

Role of Executive Officers in Determining Compensation

The Compensation Committee meets with our CEO annually to review the performance of our other executive officers. The meeting includes an in-depth review of the performance of each executive officer, achievement of individual performance objectives established at the beginning of the year and individual contributions towards achievement of our business goals. A summary of the performance review is presented to the full Board each year.

The Compensation Committee considers input from our CEO, COO, CFO, and VP HR when developing and selecting metrics and performance objectives for our Senior Executive Plan and LTIP, and evaluating performance against such pre-established metrics and objectives. The Compensation Committee also receives recommendations from our CEO, with the assistance of our VP HR (for executive officers other than himself), regarding base salary amounts, annual and long-term incentive award amounts and equity-based incentive awards for our other executive officers. In determining the CEO's compensation, the Compensation Committee considers comparative compensation information and input from Delves and our VP HR.

Table of Contents***Role of the Compensation Consultant***

Delves provides the Compensation Committee with an annual compensation market analysis for the executive officers and directors; makes recommendations on the executive pay programs; reviews, participates and comments on executive and board compensation matters; and provides updates on legal and other developments and trends in executive compensation.

Market Competitiveness Review

The Compensation Committee annually reviews competitive executive compensation data based upon a report compiled by Delves. The Delves report utilized in connection with 2011 compensation actions included compensation data from two nationally recognized surveys, the Towers Watson 2010 General Industry Executive Database and the Watson Wyatt 2010/2011 CompQuest Survey and a peer group of fifteen companies primarily engaged in the manufacturing industry with fiscal 2009 annual sales ranging from \$0.2 billion to \$5.2 billion (the 2010 Peer Group). Companies in the 2010 Peer Group were selected based on size, complexity and business model relative to our Company. We believe that these criteria were effective in identifying a group of companies comparable to our Company. Our annual sales approximated the 42nd percentile and our market capitalization approximated the 46th percentile of the 2010 Peer Group companies. The companies comprising the 2010 Peer Group used to establish the 2011 compensation opportunities of the executive officers are listed below:

Jarden Corporation
Harley-Davidson, Inc.
Brunswick Corporation
Cabelas, Inc.
Snap-On, Inc.
Briggs & Stratton Corporation
Regal-Beloit Corporation
Olin Corporation

The Toro Company
Thor Industries, Inc.
IDEX Corporation
Callaway Golf Company
Arctic Cat, Inc.
Johnson Outdoors
Winnebago Industries, Inc.

Delves and the Compensation Committee periodically review and update the peer group, as necessary. In October of 2011, the peer group was revised to include companies that more accurately reflect Polaris' recent substantial growth in sales and business complexity. Both management and the Compensation Committee believe that the revised peer group of 22 companies (the 2011 Peer Group) provides a more robust statistical set of compensation data to serve as a basis for 2012 compensation decisions. In connection with compensation decisions made in 2012, Delves utilized compensation data from the Towers Watson 2011 General Industry Executive Compensation Data Base and our 2011 Peer Group companies. Fiscal 2010 revenue for the revised peer group ranges from \$ 0.4 billion to \$5.1 billion. Our annual sales approximate the 35th percentile and our market capitalization approximates the 76th percentile of the 2011 Peer Group companies. The companies comprising the 2011 Peer Group used to establish the 2012 compensation opportunities of the executive officers are listed below:

Cooper Industries
SPX Corporation
Harley-Davidson, Inc.
The Timken Company
Flowserve Corporation
Brunswick Corporation
Leggett & Platt, Inc.
The Valspar Company
Pentair
Snap-On, Inc.
Donaldson Company, Inc.

Thor Industries, Inc.
Regal-Beloit Corporation
Briggs & Stratton Corporation
Gardner Denver
The Toro Company
Olin Corporation
IDEX Corporation
H.B. Fuller Company
Callaway Golf Company
Arctic Cat, Inc.
Winnebago Industries, Inc.

Table of Contents

The Delves report provides the Compensation Committee with market information at the 25th, median and 75th percentiles for each executive officer position and pay component, and for total direct compensation, and compares the actual and target compensation provided and intended to be provided to each executive officer to the market amounts, which reflect an averaging of the peer group data and the data contained in the surveys utilized. This market information is an important element reviewed by the Compensation Committee, which generally intends to target base salaries for our executive officers at the market median for comparable positions as set forth in the report. However, for an executive officer who is new in his or her position and job-level, the Compensation Committee's philosophy is to set a base salary below the market median, and to approximate it to the median over an appropriate period of time, assuming performance warrants such increases. The elements of annual and long-term incentive opportunities of total direct compensation are generally set between the market median and 75th percentile for each component, with the specific target level determined in part based on a review of our performance over the previous year. The Compensation Committee can and does, however, use discretion to adjust a component of pay, or total direct compensation generally, above or below these ranges to recognize the specific circumstances of individual executive officers.

2011 Compensation Determinations for the Named Executive Officers***2011 Base Salaries***

The Summary Compensation Table on page 37 sets forth the actual base salary earned by each of our Named Executive Officers during 2011. Actual base salary increases generally go into effect on the anniversary of the executive's date of hire. The following table summarizes their annualized base salaries as established by the Compensation Committee in January 2011, and the percentage change from their previous base salary levels.

Name	Annualized Base Salary 2011 (\$)	Percentage Increase (%)
Scott W. Wine	\$ 800,000	18%
Michael W. Malone	395,000	4
Bennett J. Morgan	460,000	8
James P. Williams	325,000	N/A
Matthew J. Homan	295,000	9

The base salary increases for Messrs. Wine, Malone and Morgan bring their respective base salaries closer to the market median and were intended to reward them for their role in our performance during 2010. The base salary increase for Mr. Homan places him slightly above the market median and was intended to recognize him for his role in leading our ORV business. Mr. Williams' starting base salary upon his hire in April 2011 was positioned slightly above the market median in recognition of his experience.

2011 Annual Incentive Compensation

Our Named Executive Officers and other members of senior management selected by the Compensation Committee are eligible to earn annual cash incentive compensation under our Senior Executive Plan, rather than under our broad-based annual profit sharing plan. Cash incentives to participants in the Senior Executive Plan are payable only if and to the degree we achieve an annual financial performance objective determined by the Compensation Committee.

For 2011, as in previous years, the Compensation Committee selected earnings from continuing operations per diluted share as the performance metric to be used for purposes of the Senior Executive Plan because (i) it is a well-understood financial measure that is communicated in the public disclosure of our financial results, (ii) it is the same metric used for purposes of determining payouts under our broad-based annual profit sharing plan, and (iii) the Compensation Committee believes that this financial measure significantly influences our stock price performance and its use effectively aligns the interests of executive officers and shareholders.

Table of Contents

Cash incentives to our Named Executive Officers under the Senior Executive Plan are intended to be qualified performance-based compensation for purposes of Section 162(m). For that purpose, the Compensation Committee establishes a formula to determine the maximum amount that may be paid under the Senior Executive Plan to each of our Named Executive Officers. For 2011, the maximum Section 162(m) payout established for each Named Executive Officer was equal to 200% of the individual's base salary for 2011, and was payable if earnings from continuing operations per diluted share for 2011 equaled or exceeded the threshold amount of \$1.97.

The Compensation Committee has the discretion to pay incentive amounts to the Named Executive Officers under the Senior Executive Plan that are less than the maximum Section 162(m) payouts, and typically expects to exercise that discretion. In determining whether and to what degree to exercise its discretion to approve payments that are less than the maximum Section 162(m) payouts that could be made, the Compensation Committee gives primary consideration to the annual incentive amount that would be payable to the Named Executive Officers based on the application of a performance matrix described below that is utilized to determine payouts to Senior Executive Plan participants other than the Named Executive Officers and to provide guidance regarding payouts to the Named Executive Officers. The Compensation Committee may also consider factors such as (i) corporate performance against specific strategic priorities established for the year, (ii) corporate performance relative to competitors, (iii) performance of the business unit or department for which the executive is responsible or to which the executive is assigned, and (iv) individual achievement of pre-established objectives and contributions to strengthening our business.

The performance matrix utilized by the Compensation Committee for purposes of the Senior Executive Plan for the 2011 performance period established suggested payout amounts for the Named Executive Officers (expressed as a percentage of annualized base salary for the year in which performance occurs) that correspond to various levels of earnings from continuing operations per diluted share that we might achieve during the annual performance period, as illustrated below:

Recommended Payouts

(as a % of annualized base salary)

	Messrs. Wine and Morgan	Messrs. Malone and Williams	Mr. Homan
Adjusted Earnings from Continuing Operations per Diluted Share	(%)	(%)	(%)
40% or more above target (maximum)	200%	160%	130%
20% above target	150	120	97.5
10% above target	125	100	81.3
Target	100	80	65
10% below target	60	50	42.5
20% below target (threshold)	20	20	20
<20% below target	0	0	0

As disclosed in the above chart, the incremental changes above and below target disproportionately penalize the failure to achieve target level earnings. For example, if earnings from continuing operations per diluted share is 10% below target then payouts for Messrs. Wine and Morgan are reduced to 60% of base salary; however, if earnings from continuing operations per diluted share is 10% above target then payouts only increase to 125% of base salary. To determine the range of earnings from continuing operations per diluted share to be used in 2011 in the performance matrix, the Compensation Committee reviewed the market for the products we sell, the general economic environment and our internal operating plan for the upcoming year. Consistent with our pay-for-performance philosophy, the Compensation Committee sets challenging objectives in order to focus executive officers on delivering a high level of performance. For 2011, the target level of performance as specified in the performance matrix required the company to achieve earnings from continuing operations per diluted share of \$2.46, an amount 15% greater than the \$2.14 amount we achieved in 2010. In determining the Company's performance for purposes of the performance matrix, the Compensation Committee adjusted for certain unusual events (such as acquisitions, dispositions, restructurings, and legal settlements). For 2011 the

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee made adjustments to reflect these unusual events which resulted in adjusted earnings from continuing operations per diluted share of \$3.24 as compared to \$3.20 if applying GAAP standards.

The percentages utilized for any participant for these purposes were based on the respective executive's level of responsibility, expected level of contribution and the Compensation Committee's general intention to target annual incentive compensation between the market median and 75th percentile levels for comparable positions when financial targets are achieved.

Because our adjusted earnings from continuing operations per diluted share for 2011 of \$3.24 per share exceeded the target level performance in the performance matrix by 32%, the suggested payouts derived from the performance matrix for the Named Executive Officers were 180% of base salary for Messrs. Wine and Morgan, 144% of base salary for Messrs. Malone and Williams, and 126% for Mr. Homan. For purposes of assessing whether to pay less than the maximum Section 162(m) payout amounts, the Compensation Committee considered several factors, including the payout amounts suggested by the performance matrix for the Named Executive Officers, our financial performance and total shareholder return relative to our 2011 Peer Group, Mr. Wine's assessment of the individual performance of the other Named Executive Officers, and the Compensation Committee's own assessment of Mr. Wine's individual performance. Messrs. Wine and Morgan received the maximum payout because of their exceptional performance in leading the Company to a record year. Mr. Malone received the recommended payout amount in recognition of his significant contributions to a record-setting year. Messrs. Williams and Homan received a slightly higher than suggested payout amount also in recognition of their exceptional performance. The following table shows the actual amount paid in March 2012 and the payout as percentage of base salary for each of our Named Executive Officers:

Name	2011 Annual Incentive Amount Paid (\$)	2011 Annual Incentive Payout as % of Base Salary
Scott W. Wine	\$ 1,581,538	200%
Michael W. Malone	561,323	144
Bennett J. Morgan	901,154	200
James P. Williams ⁽¹⁾	375,375	154
Matthew J. Homan	377,600	128

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Williams joined the Company in April 2011 and was eligible to receive a pro-rated incentive award for 2011 based on his earned base salary.

2011 Long-Term Compensation

Overview. Long-term compensation awarded by the Company has historically included both long-term cash-based incentive awards under the LTIP and equity-based awards under the Omnibus Plan. In 2011 as in previous years, annual long-term incentive awards to our Named Executive Officers have included stock options in addition to awards under the LTIP. The Compensation Committee believes that stock options effectively align the financial interest of our executive officers with those of our shareholders because stock options provide value only to the extent that the price of our common stock has appreciated over the option term. The Compensation Committee generally expects to provide approximately 60% of the target value of long-term compensation opportunities to Named Executive Officers in the form of stock options, calculated using the grant date fair value of the stock options, and the remaining approximately 40% in the form of LTIP awards, based on the target level payout for such awards. These ratios may vary depending on individual circumstances, as discussed below.

In addition to annual option and LTIP awards, we also make awards of restricted stock from time to time on a selective and limited basis under the Omnibus Plan, generally in connection with promotions, individual outstanding performance, hiring of new executives and extensions of existing employment arrangements. During 2011, Messrs. Wine, Williams and Homan received restricted stock awards as described below.

Table of Contents

Long-term Incentive Plan. Each of the current Named Executive Officers participates in the LTIP. Payouts under the LTIP are made at the beginning of the year following a three consecutive fiscal year performance period, based on the level of achievement of performance objectives specified at the beginning of the performance period. In determining the performance objectives for the LTIP, the Compensation Committee evaluates the external economic environment, the anticipated demand for the products we sell and our long-term business plan. All payouts under the LTIP are made in cash.

Any participant in the LTIP could elect, at the time an award is granted, to have the amount of the cash payout he or she would otherwise receive with respect to a LTIP award adjusted to reflect the change in the market price of our common stock over the course of the performance period. If such an election is made, amounts potentially payable under LTIP awards are effectively converted into stock units, and the amount ultimately payable will be subject to both the upside potential and the downside risk of our stock price movement. All of the Named Executive Officers have, since the LTIP was introduced in 2004, elected to tie their payout cash values to our common stock price movement over the applicable performance period, further aligning their interests with those of our shareholders.

The Compensation Committee approves an LTIP target payout in January or February of each year for each Named Executive Officer expressed as a percentage of that individual's then current annual base salary. For 2011, as in previous years, the Compensation Committee decided to use the same percentage of a Named Executive Officer's base salary for setting LTIP target level payouts as was used for setting target payouts under the performance matrix of the Senior Executive Plan, for the same reasons as discussed in connection with the Senior Executive Plan. For LTIP awards made during 2011, the following table summarizes the approved LTIP threshold, target and maximum payouts for each Named Executive Officer expressed as an amount of cash and in stock units (calculated using a share price of \$39.325 for Messrs. Wine, Malone, Morgan, and Homan and \$44.00 for Mr. Williams, the closing market price on the specified measurement date for each award).

LTIP Performance Period 2011-2013

Name	Threshold Payout			Target Payout		Maximum Payout	
	Dollars (\$)	Stock Units (#)	Percent Base	Dollars (\$)	Stock Units (#)	Dollars (\$)	Stock Units (#)
			Salary (%)				
Scott W. Wine	\$ 85,000	2,161	100%	\$ 680,000	17,292	\$ 1,360,000	34,584
Michael W. Malone	38,000	966	80	304,000	7,730	608,000	15,460
Bennett J. Morgan	53,125	1,351	100	425,000	10,807	850,000	21,614
James P. Williams ⁽¹⁾	29,792	677	80	238,333	5,417	476,667	10,834
Matthew J. Homan	21,938	558	65	175,500	4,463	351,000	8,926

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Williams joined the Company in April 2011 and was eligible to receive a pro-rated LTIP award for the 2011-2013 performance period based on his annualized 2011 base salary.

For 2011 LTIP awards, the Compensation Committee determined that the performance objectives should be based on four financial metrics that emphasize sustained growth in sales as well as profitability over the three-year performance period. Before any payouts can be made with respect to 2011 LTIP awards, we must achieve at least a 15% return on invested capital during 2013, the final year of the three-year performance period. For these purposes, return on invested capital is calculated by dividing the Company's net income from continuing operations by the Company's average total assets minus cash minus current liabilities. If this minimum condition is satisfied, the payouts under the 2011 LTIP awards are a function of the level of Polaris' 2013 sales, net income from continuing operations, and operating income expressed as a percentage of sales. In establishing these financial metrics, the Compensation Committee specified that adjustments would be made if certain unusual events were to occur (such as acquisitions, dispositions, restructurings and legal settlements). The financial objectives established by the Compensation Committee at the beginning of 2011 for the final year of the 2011-2013 performance period are set forth in the following table, and reflect substantial growth in each financial measure as compared to 2010 sales of \$1,991 million, net income from continuing operations of \$147.1 million,

Table of Contents

and operating income as a percentage of sales of 11.1%. The relative weightings of the various financial objectives for purposes of calculating payout amounts are also included in the table.

	2013 Net Income from Continuing Operations		2013 Operating Income as a Percent Of Target		2013 Sales (\$ millions)	Percent of Target Paid Out (%)
	(\$ millions)	Percent of Target Paid Out (%)	Sales (%)	Percent Of Target Paid Out (%)		
Threshold ⁽¹⁾	\$ 170	25.0%	11.5%	12.5%	\$ 2,175	12.5%
Target ⁽¹⁾	205	50.0	12.5	25.0	2,425	25.0
Maximum ⁽¹⁾	250	100.0	13.5	50.0	3,000	50.0

⁽¹⁾ Percentage payouts for performance between any of the specified levels will be determined on a pro rata basis.

As an example of how an LTIP payout would be calculated, assume that the 2013 return on invested capital is greater than 15%, that net income from continuing operations in 2013 is \$205 million, operating income as a percentage of sales in 2013 is 11.5% and sales in 2013 is \$2,425 million. The LTIP payout for an executive officer whose target LTIP payout is 80% of a base salary at award date of \$400,000 would be determined as follows:

$$(80\% \times \$400,000) \times (50\% + 12.5\% + 25\%) = \$280,000$$

As an example of how an LTIP payout would be calculated if the executive officer elected to tie the amount of the LTIP payout to the stock price over the three year performance period, and the stock is priced at the market price on the last day of the performance period (December 31, 2013), assume the stock price on the last day of the performance period is \$70.00. The LTIP payout is determined as follows:

The target payout of \$320,000 (80% x \$400,000) would be converted to 8,137 stock units by dividing \$320,000 by \$39.325, the closing market price of our stock on the measurement date generally used for 2011 awards;

The number of stock units ultimately earned would be 7,120, determined by multiplying 8,137 by the performance factor actually earned of 87.5% (50% + 12.5% + 25%); and

The 7,120 stock units would then be multiplied by the \$70.00 stock price, and the LTIP payout would be \$498,400 (7,120 x \$70.00 = \$498,400).

Because all Named Executive Officers have elected to have their LTIP payouts adjusted to reflect our stock price performance, the awards have been considered share based payment transactions and have been treated as equity incentive awards in the tables included in this proxy. As such, the grant date fair value of each award is reported in the Summary Compensation Table and the Grants of Plan-Based Awards table in the year in which the award is granted, and the amount ultimately paid out, if any, is reported in the Option Exercises and Stock Vested table for the final year of the performance period. Payouts to the Named Executive Officers for the 2009 LTIP grant for the three year performance period that ended December 31, 2011 are summarized in the Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2011 table on page 46.

2011 Stock Option Awards. Annual stock options awards were granted to Messrs. Wine, Malone, Morgan, and Homan on January 31, 2011. Mr. Williams received a stock option award on April 4, 2011, his date of hire. The number of shares subject to each stock option award is based on the Compensation Committee's assessment of our operating performance and each individual's retention risk and performance, considering the same factors described on page 26 in connection with the determination of annual incentive compensation, and on competitive market data provided by Delves as discussed earlier. In the case of Mr. Wine, the number of option shares also reflected the decision to provide him with the restricted stock award described below. The grant date fair value of the 2011 equity awards to the Named Executive Officers was intended to position the target value of each individual's total 2011 long-term compensation at or near the market 75th percentile, in recognition of our

Table of Contents

performance during 2010. The stock options granted have a ten-year life. The awards for Messrs. Wine, Malone, Morgan and Homan vest in two equal installments on the second and fourth anniversaries of the grant date and have an exercise price of \$38.46. Mr. Williams' award vests on the third anniversary of the grant date and has an exercise price of \$44.00. The awards have an exercise price equal to the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of the grant. The number of shares subject to each Named Executive Officer's 2011 stock option award was as follows, adjusted to reflect our two-for-one stock split in September 2011:

Named Executive Officer	Number of Shares Subject to Stock Option
Scott W. Wine	130,000
Michael W. Malone	50,000
Bennett J. Morgan	100,000
James P. Williams	40,000
Matthew J. Homan	36,000

Our stock option grant practices are designed to ensure that stock option awards approved by the Compensation Committee at its January or February meeting, will have an effective grant date occurring after our release of year-end financial results. We do not engage in the backdating, cancellation or re-pricing of stock options and have not engaged in such practices in the past.

2011 Restricted Stock Awards. Mr. Wine was also awarded 60,000 shares of restricted stock effective January 31, 2011. Assuming continuous employment, one-fifth of the award will vest on January 31 each year over the five-year period from 2012 through 2016. The Compensation Committee decided to split the value of equity grants to be provided to Mr. Wine in 2011 between stock options and restricted stock, rather than providing it solely in the form of stock options, to facilitate his compliance with our stock ownership guidelines, to recognize his exceptional performance and to include in his compensation a longer-term retention device.

A performance-based restricted stock award of 30,000 shares was awarded to Mr. Williams on April 4, 2011 upon his commencement of employment as an incentive to join the Company. Assuming continuous employment, all shares will vest on April 4, 2014 if we achieve the specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2013, or will vest on April 4, 2015 if we achieve more rigorous net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for year ending December 31, 2014. If the goals are not achieved by either date, the shares will be forfeited.

Additionally, Mr. Homan received two awards of performance-based restricted stock each for 5,000 shares in connection with his promotion as Vice President EMEA. Assuming continued employment, the full 5,000 shares of the first award will vest on the fourth anniversary of the grant if we achieve the specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2014. The full 5,000 shares of the second award will vest on the fifth anniversary of the grant date if we achieve more rigorous net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for year ending December 31, 2015. If the performance goals are not achieved by the specified date, the shares will be forfeited.

Overview of 2012 Executive Compensation Program

In February 2012, our Compensation Committee determined the components, design and performance objectives of our 2012 executive compensation program.

Table of Contents**2012 Base Salaries**

The Compensation Committee approved the following annualized base salaries for the Named Executive Officers for 2012, which adjustments will be made generally on the anniversary of each executive's date of hire during 2012:

Name	Annualized Base Salary 2012 (\$)	Percentage Increase (%)
Scott W. Wine	\$ 915,000	14%
Michael W. Malone	425,000	8
Bennett J. Morgan	525,000	14
James P. Williams	340,000	5
Matthew J. Homan	310,000	5

The base salary increases for the Named Executive Officers are intended to reward them for their role in our performance during 2011. These increases generally position our Named Executive Officers at or near the market median of the combined average of the Towers Watson compensation survey and our 2011 Peer Group.

2012 Annual Incentive Compensation

The Senior Executive Plan for 2012 has been structured in a manner similar to that in place for 2011, except that Mr. Wine's target will move from 100% of base salary to 125% due to the recent growth of our Company and his increase in responsibility. Earnings from continuing operations per diluted share was again designated as the financial metric to be used for purposes of the performance matrix and calculating the maximum Section 162(m) payout amounts. In determining the Company's performance against this financial metric for these purposes, the Compensation Committee will adjust by taking into account certain unusual events such as acquisitions, dispositions, restructurings, and legal settlements. The earnings performance to be achieved for a target-level payout in the performance matrix was set at a level appreciably higher than our actual 2011 performance. Threshold level payouts of 20% of annualized base salary under the performance matrix were again set at 80% of target-level earnings performance, and a maximum payout level of 200% of target-level payouts was again established at 140% of target-level earnings performance. For purposes of maintaining deductibility of annual incentive compensation under Section 162(m), the maximum Section 162(m) payout amounts for the Named Executive Officers were set at 200% (250% for Mr. Wine) of base salary if a specified level of earnings from continuing operations per diluted share objective were achieved. As in the past, the performance matrix is expected to be used by the Compensation Committee to guide the exercise of its discretion as to whether and to what degree it will reduce annual incentive payouts below the level of the maximum Section 162(m) payout amounts.

2012 Long-Term Compensation

Long-Term Incentive Award (Performance Restricted Stock Units). The 2012 long-term incentive award for the 2012-2014 performance period has been structured in a manner similar to that in place for the 2011-2013 performance period, except that in lieu of being able to earn cash payouts under the LTIP, the amount of which may be linked to the performance of our stock price over the performance period, the Compensation Committee granted performance restricted stock units (PRSUs) some or all of which may be earned and vested at the end of the performance period and will be paid out in the form of one share for each earned and vested PRSU. Additionally, Mr. Wine's target payout moved from 100% of base salary to 125% for 2012 for the same reasons as discussed in connection with the 2012 Annual Incentive Compensation. To maintain deductibility under Section 162(m), the maximum number of PRSUs that may be earned by each Named Executive Officer will be based on our achievement of a specified return on invested capital for the last year of the performance period and will have a grant date fair value equal to 200% of the target for 2012. The Compensation Committee expects to determine whether and to what degree to actually pay out a lesser number of shares based on the degree to which

Table of Contents

goals involving our sales, operating income as a percentage of sales, and net income from continuing operations for the last year of the performance period in 2014 are achieved.

2012 Stock Option Awards. The Compensation Committee also awarded stock options to the Named Executive Officers effective February 1, 2012. The stock options granted have a ten-year life, vest in two equal installments on the second and fourth anniversaries of the date of grant, and have an exercise price of \$65.57 per share, the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of the grant. In 2011, the Compensation Committee awarded Mr. Wine restricted stock and stock options. In 2012, the Compensation Committee decided to award Mr. Wine a greater number of stock options and did not award any restricted stock. The number of shares subject to the stock options granted was as follows:

Named Executive Officer	2012 Stock Options Granted
Scott W. Wine	180,000
Michael W. Malone	38,000
Bennett J. Morgan	75,000
James P. Williams	28,000
Matthew J. Homan	23,000

The grant date fair value of the 2012 long-term compensation provided to our Named Executive Officers was intended to position the target value of each individual's total 2012 long-term compensation at or near the market 75th percentile, in recognition of our performance in 2011.

Other Executive Compensation Arrangements, Policies and Practices*Health, Welfare and Retirement Benefits*

We provide a full range of benefits to our Named Executive Officers, including the standard medical, dental and disability benefits available to our employees generally. We also sponsor a qualified 401(k) Plan in which our Named Executive Officers may participate on the same basis as our employees generally, and which allows participants to make plan contributions on a pre-tax basis and to which we make company-matching contributions dollar-for-dollar with employee contributions up to 5% of covered compensation.

Because the application of the annual compensation limit under Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code prevents our senior executives from fully contributing to the 401(k) Plan and receiving the full Company match, we have adopted a Supplemental Retirement/Savings Plan (SERP) intended to restore contributions lost because of the application of this annual compensation limit. The SERP provides executives who participate in the 401(k) Plan, including the Named Executive Officers, with the opportunity to defer up to 50% of their base salary and up to 100% of amounts payable under the Senior Executive Plan and the cash LTIP by making contributions to the SERP. Typically, base salary and Senior Executive Plan deferral contributions are matched by the Company as if they had been made under the 401(k) Plan on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to 5% of covered compensation. The SERP is provided to assist executives in accumulating funds on a tax-advantaged basis for retirement and is consistent with observed competitive practices of similarly situated companies.

We do not maintain a defined benefit pension plan or a defined benefit supplemental pension plan for our executive officers.

Perquisites

We provide a limited number of perquisites and personal benefits to our executive officers, generally in an effort to remain competitive with similarly situated companies. These perquisites and personal benefits consist of:

Reimbursement of club entrance/initiation fees and monthly club dues;

Table of Contents

Reimbursement of tax, estate and financial planning fees;

Reimbursement of relocation expenses, and tax gross-ups for certain such expenses;

Supplemental family medical and dental coverage up to \$50,000 a year through the Exec-U-Care program, which covers annual expenses not covered under the basic medical and dental benefit plans that are available to Company employees generally, and reimbursement of the cost of annual physicals at the Mayo Clinic for each executive officer and spouse; and

Temporary use of Polaris products to encourage a first-hand understanding of the riding experience of our customers and to provide executive officers with an opportunity to evaluate product design and efficiency, along with related parts, garments and accessories.

Severance Arrangements

We have entered into severance arrangements with the executive officers, which provide for certain benefits in the event an executive officer is involuntarily terminated without cause, terminated in connection with a change in control or, in the case of our CEO, if he terminates his employment for good reason. The severance arrangements with our CEO were established as part of the negotiations of his initial employment terms. The severance arrangements are intended to:

Allow executive officers to weigh potential transactions focused on shareholder interests and not personal interests;

Provide executive officers with a measure of security in the event of an actual or potential change in corporate ownership or control; and

Provide executive officers with a bridge to their next professional opportunity.

The benefits provided under the severance arrangements were determined by reference to common market practices based on a 2007 survey completed by our former compensation consultant, Hewitt Associates, Inc. Although we believe that our current severance arrangements are less generous than the prevailing arrangements for much of our peer group, the Compensation Committee has determined to maintain such arrangements at current levels. The design and structure of the severance arrangements do not have any impact on the other elements of compensation provided to the executive officers.

The severance arrangements are described in more detail beginning on page 48 under the caption entitled *Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control*.

Clawback Policy

Our clawback policy requires reimbursement or cancellation of cash incentive compensation awarded to any of our executive officers subject to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act if we are required to prepare an accounting restatement due to material noncompliance with any financial reporting requirement, and if the award or payout was predicated upon the achievement of financial results that were restated. The policy applies to awards and payouts received during the three-year period prior to the date we are required to prepare the restatement and requires reimbursement or cancellation of the amount of the award or payout, net of taxes, in excess of what would have been granted or paid based on the actual results. The Compensation Committee has authority to reduce the amount subject to clawback as it deems appropriate.

Deductibility of Compensation

Section 162(m) generally does not allow a publicly held company to take a tax deduction for compensation of more than \$1 million paid in any taxable year to certain covered employees unless such compensation is considered performance-based. For purposes of Section 162(m), the group of covered employees consists of a company's chief executive officer and its three other most highly compensated executive officers, other than

Table of Contents

the chief financial officer. The Compensation Committee generally intends to comply with the requirements of Section 162(m) with respect to compensation in excess of \$1 million paid under the Senior Executive Plan, the LTIP and the Omnibus Plan in order to qualify such compensation as performance-based and therefore deductible under Section 162(m). However, the Compensation Committee has and may elect to provide compensation that is not deductible under Section 162(m) when necessary to achieve its compensation objectives, such as the restricted stock award made to Mr. Wine in 2011. The Compensation Committee believes that all compensation actually paid to our Named Executive Officers for 2011 is deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Stock Ownership Guidelines

The Compensation Committee believes that an important means of aligning the interests of our executive officers, including our Named Executive Officers, with the interests of our shareholders is to ensure that they own significant amounts of our common stock. As a result, we have adopted stock ownership guidelines to provide that each executive officer is expected to own, directly or indirectly, a specified number of shares of common stock (which may include unvested shares subject to restricted stock awards). The requirement for our CEO is 120,000 shares, for our COO and our CFO, 60,000 shares, and for each other executive officer 30,000 shares. Each executive officer is expected to satisfy the stock ownership guidelines within four years following the date he or she becomes an executive officer or the adoption of the guidelines, whichever is later. Until the applicable guideline is met, an executive officer is required to retain 50% of the shares (net of taxes) received as the result of a stock option exercise or a restricted stock vesting. The following chart sets forth the stock ownership of each of our Named Executive Officers as of December 31, 2011 relative to the stock ownership guidelines:

Name	Stock Ownership Guidelines (# Shares)	Shares of Common Stock and Restricted Share Awards Held as of		Stock Ownership Guideline Met?
		December 31, 2011		
Scott W. Wine	120,000	209,204		Yes
Michael W. Malone	60,000	133,676		Yes
Bennett J. Morgan	60,000	177,122		Yes
James P. Williams	30,000	30,000		Yes
Matthew J. Homan	30,000	20,036		(1)

(1) We expect that Mr. Homan will satisfy the stock ownership guidelines prior to August 2015.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Compensation Committee assists the Board in establishing a philosophy and policies regarding executive and director compensation, provides oversight of the administration of our director and executive compensation programs and administers our stock option, restricted share and other equity-based plans, reviews the compensation of directors, Named Executive Officers and senior management, and prepares any report on executive compensation required by the rules and regulations of the SEC or other regulatory body, including this Compensation Committee Report.

In performing its oversight responsibilities, the Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management. Based on the review and discussions, we have recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Robert L. Caulk, Chair

Annette K. Clayton

William Grant Van Dyke

Compensation Risk Assessment

Management conducted a risk assessment of our employee compensation policies and practices, including those that apply to our executive officers. Management reviewed our compensation plans, program design and existing practices as well as global and local compensation policies, programs and practices applicable to all employees. Management then analyzed the likelihood and magnitude of potential risks, focusing on whether any of our compensation policies and practices varied significantly from our overall risk and reward structure, whether any such policies and practices incentivized individuals to take risks that were inconsistent with our goals, and whether any such policies and practices have resulted in establishing an inappropriate balance between short-term and long-term incentive arrangements.

Management discussed the findings of the risk assessment with the Compensation Committee. Based on the assessment, we have concluded that our compensation policies and practices are aligned with the interests of shareholders, appropriately reward pay for performance and do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the company.

Table of Contents**SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE**

The following table shows, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, the annual compensation paid to or earned by our CEO, CFO and our three other most highly compensated executive officers, all of whom are our Named Executive Officers.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary \$(1)	Bonus \$(2)	Stock	Option	Non-Equity Incentive Plan	All Other	Total(\$)
				Awards \$(3)	Awards \$(4)	Compensation \$(5)	Compensation \$(6)	
Scott W. Wine Chief Executive Officer	2011	\$ 790,769	\$ 0	\$ 2,987,600	\$ 1,746,310	\$ 1,581,538	\$ 121,133	\$ 7,227,350
	2010	654,558	0	575,000	1,169,776	1,145,476	76,973	3,621,783
	2009	586,058	0	575,000	256,635	445,404	85,417	1,948,514
Michael W. Malone Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer	2011	389,808	0	304,000	671,658	561,323	77,969	2,004,758
	2010	378,269	0	300,000	365,555	484,185	52,101	1,580,110
	2009	382,212	0	300,000	166,170	259,904	51,606	1,159,892
Bennett J. Morgan President and Chief Operating Officer	2011	450,577	0	425,000	1,343,315	901,154	98,467	3,218,513
	2010	418,269	0	400,000	877,332	731,971	56,301	2,483,873
	2009	407,692	0	400,000	249,255	309,846	80,161	1,446,954
James P. Williams ⁽⁷⁾ Vice President	2011	243,750	50,000	1,558,333	634,386	375,375	322,887	3,184,731
Human Resources								
Matthew J. Homan ⁽⁸⁾ Vice President Europe, Middle East and Africa	2011	295,000	0	649,100	483,593	377,600	490,521	2,295,814

⁽¹⁾ Amounts shown in this column include amounts deferred by our Named Executive Officers under the 401(k) Plan and SERP. The amount of salary deferred by each of our Named Executive Officers into the SERP during 2011 is shown in the Executive Contributions in Last FY column of the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation in 2011 table on page 46. Salary amounts shown for 2009 exceed the annualized salary for each Named Executive Officer for that year due to the timing of pay periods; there were 27 pay periods in 2009 compared to 26 pay periods in 2010 and 2011.

⁽²⁾ The amount shown in this column represents a signing bonus paid to Mr. Williams upon commencement of his employment in April 2011.

⁽³⁾ Amounts shown in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of LTIP stock unit awards and time-based and performance-based restricted stock awards granted to each of our Named Executive Officers in the fiscal years indicated. The calculation of the LTIP stock unit grant date fair value amounts assumes target-level performance against the specified LTIP financial goals and is calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 based on the closing market price of our common stock on the applicable measurement date for the award. If instead the amounts were calculated assuming maximum-level performance, the grant date fair value of the LTIP awards would have been as follows: In 2010 for Mr. Wine, \$1,150,000; for Mr. Malone, \$600,000; for Mr. Morgan \$800,000, in 2011 for Mr. Wine, \$1,360,000; for Mr. Malone, \$608,000; for Mr. Morgan \$850,000; for Mr. Williams, \$476,667; and for Mr. Homan, \$351,000. The time-based and performance-based restricted stock awards reported in this column reflect the aggregate grant date fair value of the restricted stock and

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

performance shares granted in 2011, 2010 and 2009 computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, based on the closing market price of our common stock on the grant date. The actual value ultimately realized by our Named Executive Officers with respect to these LTIP and performance-based awards will depend on our actual performance against the specified financial goals and the market value of our common stock on the

Table of Contents

last day of the performance period, and may differ substantially from the grant date fair values shown. Additional information regarding the 2011 awards is set forth below under the caption *Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011* on page 39.

(4) Amounts shown in this column represent the grant date fair value of stock option awards granted to each of our Named Executive Officers in the fiscal years indicated. Grant date fair value is calculated in accordance with the requirements of FASB ASC Topic 718 using the Black-Scholes method. The assumptions used in determining the grant date fair value of the awards are set forth in Note 2 to the financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

(5) Amounts shown in this column represent payments under the Senior Executive Plan, which are reported for the year in which the related services were performed. Additional information about these payments is set forth under the caption *2011 Annual Incentive Compensation* on page 26.

(6) Amounts shown in this column include Company matching contributions to the 401(k) Plan and SERP, life insurance premiums, and the aggregate incremental cost to us of the following perquisites: club memberships and dues, financial planning and tax preparation services, relocation benefits, overseas assignment benefits including housing assistance, goods and services differential pay and education reimbursement, Exec-U-Care supplemental health and dental coverage, annual physicals, the use of Company products, and the receipt of related parts, garments and accessories. These perquisites are described in further detail under the caption *Perquisites* on page 29. Additional detail regarding the components of the amounts shown for 2011 for each of our Named Executive Officers is provided below in the *All Other Compensation Table*.

(7) Mr. Williams was hired in April 2011, so his compensation information for 2011 reflects only the portion of the year after his hiring.

(8) Mr. Homan first became a Named Executive Officer in 2011.

All Other Compensation Table

The following table provides additional information on the amounts reported in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table for 2011.

	2011 Amount of All Other Compensation (\$)				
	S. Wine	M. Malone	B. Morgan	J. Williams	M. Homan
Financial Planning (Reimbursement)	\$ 5,700	\$ 6,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 1,650	\$ 8,525
Club Initiation Fees and Monthly Dues (Reimbursement)	9,029	177	8,252	47,349	400
Relocation Expenses	0	0	0	212,267	39,105
Overseas Assignment Benefits	0	0	0	0	256,518
Tax Gross-Up on Reimbursements for Relocation Expenses and Overseas Assignment Benefits	0	0	0	48,906	153,078
Life Insurance Policy Premiums	546	546	546	546	590
Exec-U-Care Premiums	1,939	17,903	7,039	0	6,988
Annual Physicals (Executive and Spouse)	5,372	8,838	11,420	0	0
401(k) Plan Matching Contributions by Company	12,250	12,250	12,250	11,250	12,250
SERP Matching Contributions by Company	84,562	31,450	46,877	0	12,481
Use of Polaris Products ⁽¹⁾	0	0	0	0	0
Polaris Parts, Garments and Accessories	1,735	806	1,082	918	586
Total	\$ 121,133	\$ 77,969	\$ 98,467	\$ 322,887	\$ 490,521

(1)

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Each year, the CEO and the President and COO are provided with the use of up to 12 Polaris products and other executive officers are provided with use of up to six Polaris products. The products used by our executive officers are either returned to the Company or purchased at a price greater than cost at the end of a defined usage period. We sell the returned products to dealers at an amount greater than the cost of such products to the Company. As a result, there is no aggregate incremental cost to the Company associated with such use.

Table of Contents**GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS IN 2011**

The following table summarizes each grant of an equity or non-equity incentive award during 2011 to each of our Named Executive Officers. All share and per share information has been adjusted to reflect our two-for-one stock split in September 2011.

Name	Grant Date	Approval Date	Estimated Potential Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1)			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards(2)			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares or Units (#)(3)	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)(4)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)(5)
			Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)				
Scott W. Wine	1/19/2011	1/19/2011	\$ 160,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 1,600,000							
Chief Executive Officer	3/4/2011	1/19/2011				2,161	17,292	34,584				\$ 680,000
	1/31/2011	1/19/2011							60,000			2,307,600
	1/31/2011	1/19/2011								130,000	\$ 38.46	1,746,310
Michael W. Malone	1/19/2011	1/19/2011	63,200	316,000	790,000							
Vice President - Finance & Chief Financial Officer	3/4/2011	1/19/2011				966	7,730	15,460				304,000
	1/31/2011	1/19/2011								50,000	38.46	671,658
Bennett J. Morgan	1/19/2011	1/19/2011	92,000	460,000	920,000							
President & Chief Operating Officer	3/4/2011	1/19/2011				1,351	10,807	21,614				425,000
	1/31/2011	1/19/2011								100,000	38.46	1,343,315
James P. Williams(6)	4/4/2011	4/4/2011	39,000	195,000	487,500							
Vice President - Human Resources	4/4/2011	4/4/2011				677	5,417	10,834				238,333
	4/4/2011	4/4/2011					30,000					1,320,000
	4/4/2011	4/4/2011								40,000	44.00	634,386
Matthew J. Homan	1/19/2011	1/19/2011	38,350	191,750	590,000							
Vice President - Europe, Middle East and Africa	3/4/2011	1/19/2011				558	4,463	8,926				175,500
	8/18/2011	8/18/2011					5,000					236,800
	8/18/2011	8/18/2011					5,000					236,800
	1/31/2011	1/19/2011								36,000	38.46	483,593

(1) Amounts in these columns represent potential payouts under the Senior Executive Plan, which is our annual cash incentive plan, based on the achievement of specified financial and other goals. The threshold payouts are 20% of base salary and the target payouts range from 65% to 100% of base salary among our Named Executive Officers. The maximum payouts represent the maximum Section 162(m) payout amounts, which for each individual is 200% of the base salary. See *2011 Annual Incentive Compensation* on page 26. These estimated payout amounts are based on each Named Executive Officer's annualized salary as established for the year in which performance occurs. The actual amount

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

earned in 2011 by each Named Executive Officer (and paid in March 2012) under the Senior Executive Plan is shown in the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table.

⁽²⁾ Amounts in these columns for each Named Executive Officer represent potential payouts, expressed in terms of a number of stock units, under the LTIP for the 2011-2013 performance period based on the achievement of specified financial goals. Because each Named Executive Officer elected to tie the amount of his 2011 LTIP grant cash payout to our stock price performance over the three-year performance period, the threshold, target and maximum cash payout amounts for each individual were converted to a number of stock units at a price of \$39.325 for Messrs. Wine, Malone, Morgan, and Homan, and \$44.00 for Mr. Williams, which in each case was the closing market price of a share of our common stock on the applicable measurement date. The number of stock units earned is based on the degree to which the financial goals are

Table of Contents

attained, and the earned units are valued using the closing market price of a share of our common stock on the last day of the performance period and paid in cash. The threshold payouts are 12.5% of the target payouts, and the maximum payouts are 200% of the target payouts. Target payouts are based on a specified percentage of each Named Executive Officer's salary at the applicable measurement date for the award. The additional amounts shown in the Target column for Messrs. Williams and Homan represent shares of performance-based restricted stock awarded to Mr. Williams on April 4, 2011 and Mr. Homan on August 18, 2011.

- (3) The amount in this column represents shares of time-based restricted stock awarded to Mr. Wine on January 31, 2011.
- (4) Amounts in this column represent the number of shares subject to stock options granted on the dates indicated. The grant date fair value of the options with a grant date of January 31, 2011 was \$38.46 per share, and the grant date fair value of the options with a grant date of April 4, 2011 was \$44.00 per share.
- (5) Each amount reported in this column represents the grant date fair value of the applicable award. The calculation of the grant date fair value of the LTIP stock unit awards and the performance-based restricted stock awards discussed in note (2) is based upon our assessment of the most probable outcome of the respective performance conditions. The actual amounts that will be received by our Named Executive Officers with respect to these performance-based awards will be determined at the end of the performance period based upon our actual performance, which may differ from the performance that was deemed probable at the date of grant.
- (6) Mr. Williams began his employment with the Company on April 4, 2011. His estimated potential payouts under the Senior Executive Plan as described in note (1) are based on his partial year salary from April 4, 2011 through December 31, 2011, and his estimated future payout amounts with respect to his LTIP stock unit award as described in note (2) are prorated amounts based on the portion of the applicable performance period during which he will be employed.

Additional Information About Plans and Agreements Affecting Reported Compensation

The following additional information is provided regarding various plans and agreements that affect the compensation information disclosed in the Summary Compensation Table and the Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011 table above.

Offer Letters

We entered into an offer letter agreement with Mr. Williams in connection with his hiring and with Mr. Homan in connection with his promotion which generally provide for an annual base salary, subject to annual review, and generally provide for ongoing participation in incentive compensation, equity-based compensation and benefit plans. Mr. Williams' letter agreement also provided for payment of a signing bonus that would be repayable on a pro rata basis if he were to resign within one year, and Mr. Homan's letter agreement provides for overseas assignment related benefits such as housing assistance, goods and services differential pay, education reimbursement for his children as well as certain home country allowances for housing maintenance and automobile expenses.

Incentive Plan Awards

Senior Executive Plan. Annual cash incentive compensation awards are made to each of our Named Executive Officers and other eligible employees pursuant to the shareholder-approved Senior Executive Plan. The Senior Executive Plan provides for the payment of awards to participants selected by the Compensation Committee to the degree we, or any subsidiary, business unit or geographic region thereof, achieves performance objectives specified by the Compensation Committee at the beginning of a calendar year performance period. The performance objectives are to be based on one or more shareholder-approved business criteria specified in the Senior Executive Plan. In establishing our performance goals, the Compensation Committee adjusts for certain unusual events such as acquisitions, dispositions, restructurings and legal settlements. Although all awards are payable in cash, they may be denominated in cash and/or in units with a value equivalent to a share of our

Table of Contents

common stock. The maximum amount payable to any participant under the Senior Executive Plan for any one-year performance period is \$2,500,000. The Senior Executive Plan is to be administered by the Compensation Committee in a manner intended to qualify awards as performance-based compensation for purposes of Section 162(m).

Additional information about Senior Incentive Plan awards made in 2011 to our Named Executive Officers, including the performance objectives established by the Compensation Committee and the determination of amounts to be paid, is provided under the caption *2011 Annual Incentive Compensation* on page 26. The estimated threshold, target and maximum payments under the Senior Executive Plan for 2011 are reflected in the *Estimated Potential Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards* columns in the *Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011* table above. The amounts actually paid in connection with Senior Executive Plan awards during each of the years 2009-2011 are set forth in the *Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation* column of the *Summary Compensation Table* above.

LTIP. Long-term cash incentive compensation awards are made to each of our Named Executive Officers and other eligible employees pursuant to the shareholder-approved LTIP. The LTIP is to be administered by the Compensation Committee in a manner intended to qualify awards as performance-based compensation for purposes of Section 162(m). The LTIP provides for the payment of awards to participants selected by the Compensation Committee to the degree that we, or any subsidiary, business unit or geographic region thereof, achieves performance objectives specified by the Compensation Committee at the beginning of a three consecutive calendar year performance period. The performance objectives are to be based on one or more shareholder-approved business criteria specified in the LTIP. In establishing our performance goals, the Compensation Committee specified that adjustments would be made if certain unusual events were to occur such as acquisitions, dispositions, restructurings and legal settlements. Although all LTIP awards are payable in cash, a participant may elect at the beginning of a performance period to have the amount payable adjusted to reflect the change in the market price of our common stock over the applicable performance period. A participant who makes this election effectively chooses to convert the cash amounts that would otherwise be payable at various levels of performance under the LTIP to stock units, each of which has a value equal to one share of our common stock. The number of stock units that may be earned at each performance level is determined by dividing the cash amount of the award that would be payable at that level of performance by the closing market price of a share of our common stock as of a specified measurement date. If such an election is made, the number of stock units that are earned will be based on the degree to which performance objectives are attained, and will be valued using the closing market price of a share of our common stock on the last day of the performance period. All of our Named Executive Officers have elected this payment adjustment feature for LTIP awards made since the inception of the LTIP in 2004.

The maximum amount payable under the LTIP to any participant with respect to a LTIP award made in any calendar year is 200% of the participant's base salary on the applicable measurement date (up to a maximum base salary of \$1,000,000). For any participant who has elected the payout adjustment feature described above, this maximum payment limit will be adjusted to reflect any increase in the market price of our common stock during the applicable performance period, subject to an overall maximum amount payable equal to the value of a number of stock units determined by dividing 200% of the participant's base salary as of the applicable measurement date (subject to the \$1,000,000 maximum) by the closing market price of a share of our common stock on that same date.

Additional information about LTIP awards made in 2011 to our Named Executive Officers for the 2011-2013 performance period, including the performance objectives established by the Compensation Committee, is provided under the caption *2011 Long-Term Compensation* on page 28. The estimated threshold, target and maximum payments under the LTIP for the 2011-2013 performance period and the grant date fair value of such awards are shown in the *Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards* columns in the *Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011* table above.

Table of Contents

Potential payouts for LTIP awards made to our Named Executive Officers in 2010 for the 2010-2012 performance period will depend on the degree to which three performance objectives are achieved. Potential payments will also depend on our stock price performance during the performance period, since our Named Executive Officers all elected to tie their payouts to our stock price, which was \$24.945 on the measurement date used at the time the LTIP awards were granted. No awards will be payable unless we achieve at least a 15% return on invested capital for 2012. If this minimum condition is satisfied, the LTIP award payouts for the 2010-2012 performance period will be a function of the level of our 2012 sales, net income from continuing operations and operating income expressed as a percentage of sales (operating margin percentage), as summarized for our Named Executive Officers in the following table:

Performance Objective ⁽¹⁾	Percentage of Base Salary Payable to Executive Officers Upon Achievement of Performance Objective				
	S. Wine(%)	M. Malone(%)	B. Morgan(%)	J. Williams(%)	M. Homan(%)
Threshold:					
Sales of \$1.7B achieved in 2012	12.5%	10.0%	12.5%	N/A	8.125%
Net income of \$117M achieved in 2012	25.0	20.0	25.0	N/A	16.25
Operating margin percentage of 11.0% achieved in 2012	12.5	10.0	12.5	N/A	8.125
Total	50.0	40.0	50.0	N/A	32.5
Target:					
Sales of \$1.9B achieved in 2012	25.0	20.0	25.0	N/A	16.25
Net income of \$142M achieved in 2012	50.0	40.0	50.0	N/A	32.5
Operating margin percentage of 12.0% achieved in 2012	25.0	20.0	25.0	N/A	16.25
Total	100.0	80.0	100.0	N/A	65.0
Maximum:					
Sales of \$2.3B achieved in 2012	50.0	40.0	50.0	N/A	32.5
Net income of \$170M achieved in 2012	100.0	80.0	100.0	N/A	65.0
Operating margin percentage of 13.0% achieved in 2012	50.0	40.0	50.0	N/A	32.5
Total	200.0	160.0	200.0	N/A	130.0

⁽¹⁾ Company performance between the stated objectives will result in a pro rata payout as a percentage of base salary.

Payouts for LTIP awards made in 2009 for the 2009-2011 performance period were dependent on the degree to which three performance objectives were achieved. No awards were payable unless we achieved in 2011 at least a 15% return on invested capital and at least \$120 million of net income. Since the two conditions were satisfied, the LTIP award payouts for the 2009-2011 were a function of the level of our 2011 net income from continuing operations expressed as a percentage of sales (net margin percentage). The amounts actually paid in connection with LTIP awards for the 2009-2011 performance period reflected performance in excess of the maximum level of 8.5% net margin percentage, meaning that payments equal to 200% of the target payout level were earned. Because all eligible Named Executive Officers elected to tie their payment amounts to our stock price performance, the amounts actually paid were also increased as a result of the 470% increase in our stock price during the performance period. Actual payout amounts are set forth in the *Stock Awards* columns of the table under the caption *Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2011* on page 46.

Equity-Based Awards

Stock Options. Stock option awards granted under the 2007 Omnibus Incentive Plan (*Omnibus Plan*) during 2011 to employees of our Company, including our Named Executive Officers, have an exercise price equal to 100% of the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of grant. Each stock option granted to

Table of Contents

Messrs. Wine, Malone, Morgan and Homan in 2011 vests and becomes exercisable as to 50% of the shares subject to the option on each of the second and fourth anniversaries of the date of grant and has a 10-year term. Mr. Williams' stock option vests and becomes exercisable on the third anniversary of the date of grant and has a 10-year term. The vested portion of an option may be exercised while the participant is employed by the Company, and ordinarily for 30 days (36 months in the case of early retirement) after employment ends (unless employment is terminated for cause). If, however, employment ends due to death, disability or normal retirement, an option will fully vest and will remain exercisable for three years after the date employment ends (one year in the case of death). In no event will an option be exercisable beyond the end of its original term. If a participant's employment ends for any reason other than normal retirement, death or disability, the unvested portion of any outstanding option will terminate at the time the participant's employment ends. Upon a change in control of our Company, each outstanding option will become immediately vested and exercisable in full.

Restricted Stock. Mr. Wine was awarded 60,000 shares of restricted stock effective January 31, 2011. One-fifth of the shares subject to this award will vest on each of the first five anniversaries of the grant date, and all of the shares subject to the award will immediately vest upon a change in control of our Company, in each case so long as Mr. Wine continues to be employed by us. Dividends are not paid on these shares until they vest.

Mr. Williams was awarded 30,000 shares of performance-based restricted stock on April 4, 2011 in connection with his commencement of employment. Assuming continued employment, all shares will vest on the third anniversary of the grant date if we achieve the specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2013, or will vest on fourth anniversary of the grant date if we achieve more rigorous net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2014. Shares that do not vest as of the second scheduled vesting date will be forfeited. On August 18, 2011, Mr. Homan received two awards of performance-based restricted stock each for 5,000 shares in connection with his promotion as Vice President EMEA. Assuming continued employment, the full 5,000 shares of the first award will vest on the fourth anniversary of the grant if we achieve the specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2014. The full 5,000 shares of the second award will vest on the fifth anniversary of the grant date if we achieve more rigorous net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for year ending December 31, 2015. Shares that do not vest as of the scheduled vesting date will be forfeited. Shares subject to these awards may be subject to accelerated vesting in the event of a change in control. Dividends are not paid on these shares until they vest.

Table of Contents**OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT 2011 FISCAL YEAR-END**

The following table sets forth information concerning unexercised stock option awards, unvested restricted stock awards and unvested stock unit awards under the LTIP for each of the Named Executive Officers as of December 31, 2011. All share and per share information has been adjusted to reflect our two-for-one stock split in September 2011.

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards			Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested(15) (\$)
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)	Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#)	
Scott W. Wine, Chief Executive Officer	104,000		\$ 22.545	09/01/2018				
		360,000(1)	22.545	09/01/2018				
		75,000(2)	10.030	02/10/2019				
		160,000(3)	22.330	02/01/2020				
		130,000(4)	38.460	01/31/2021				
					100,000(5)	\$ 5,598,000		
					60,000(6)	3,358,800	46,102(7)	\$ 2,580,790
							34,584(8)	1,936,012
Michael W. Malone, Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer	2,616		14.2475	10/07/2012				
	4,648		21.5075	11/03/2013				
	32,000		29.725	11/01/2014				
	34,000		22.455	11/01/2015				
	44,000		23.330	01/29/2017				
	50,000		21.785	01/31/2018				
	25,000		9.900	02/02/2019				
		50,000(9)	9.900	02/02/2019				
		50,000(3)	22.330	02/01/2020				
		50,000(4)	38.460	01/31/2021				
							24,052(7)	1,346,431
							15,460(8)	865,451
Bennett J. Morgan, President and Chief Operating Officer	20,000		29.725	11/01/2014				
	40,000		32.700	04/11/2015				
	30,000		37.605	04/11/2015				
	70,000		22.455	11/01/2015				
	70,000		23.330	01/29/2017				
	100,000		21.785	01/31/2018				
	50,000		13.635	10/23/2018				
	50,000		9.900	02/02/2019				
		75,000(9)	9.900	02/02/2019				
		120,000(3)	22.330	02/01/2020				
		100,000(4)	38.460	01/31/2021				
					50,000(10)	2,799,000		
							32,070(7)	1,795,279
							21,614(8)	1,209,952
James P. Williams, Vice President Human Resources		40,000(11)	44.00	04/04/2021				
							30,000(12)	1,679,400

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

10,834(8) 606,487

Matthew J. Homan,	4,200	21.900	06/01/2014		
Vice President Europe, Middle		25,000(9)	9.900	02/02/2019	
East and Africa		34,000(3)	22.330	02/01/2020	
		36,000(4)	38.460	01/31/2021	
					5,000(13) 279,900
					5,000(14) 279,900
					14,070(7) 787,639
					8,926(8) 499,677

⁽¹⁾ Represents a stock option granted on September 1, 2008, which will become exercisable in three equal tranches on the fourth, fifth and sixth anniversaries of the grant date.

⁽²⁾ Represents a stock option granted on February 10, 2009, which will vest with respect to the remaining 50% of the shares subject to the option on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.

Table of Contents

- (3) Represents a stock option granted on February 1, 2010, which vests with respect to 50% of the shares subject to the option on the second anniversary of the date of grant and vests with respect to the remaining 50% of the shares subject to the option on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.
- (4) Represents a stock option granted on January 31, 2011, which vests with respect to 50% of the shares subject to the option on the second anniversary of the date of grant and vests with respect to the remaining 50% of the shares subject to the option on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.
- (5) Represents a performance-based restricted stock award granted on September 1, 2008 which vests on February 27, 2012 due to our achievement of the applicable performance goal as of December 31, 2011.
- (6) Represents a time-based restricted stock award granted on January 31, 2011. The shares will vest in five equal tranches on the first, second, third, fourth and fifth anniversaries of the award date.
- (7) Represents awards made on February 1, 2010 under the LTIP for the three-year performance period beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2012 (the 2010 LTIP Grant). Awards under the 2010 LTIP Grant will be payable, if earned, after the end of the three-year performance period and prior to March 15, 2013. The amount shown is the maximum possible payout based on the SEC requirement that disclosure should be based on the next higher performance level than that achieved during the performance period to date. There is no assurance that the maximum amount would be the actual amount ultimately paid.
- (8) Represents a stock unit award made to Messrs. Wine, Malone, Morgan and Homan on March 4, 2011 and to Mr. Williams on April 4, 2011 under the LTIP for the three-year performance period beginning January 1, 2011 and ending December 31, 2013 (the 2011 LTIP Grant). Awards under the 2011 LTIP Grant will be payable, if earned, after the end of the three-year performance period and prior to March 15, 2014. The amount shown is the maximum possible payout based on the SEC requirement that disclosure should be based on the next higher performance level than that achieved during the performance period to date. There is no assurance that the maximum amount would be the actual amount ultimately paid.
- (9) Represents a stock option granted on February 2, 2009, which vests with respect to the remaining 50% of the shares subject to the option on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.
- (10) Represents a performance-based restricted stock award granted on October 23, 2008 which vests on February 27, 2012 due to our achievement of the applicable performance goal as of December 31, 2011.
- (11) Represents a stock option granted on April 4, 2011, which becomes exercisable on April 4, 2014, the third anniversary of the date of grant.
- (12) Represents a performance-based restricted stock award granted on April 4, 2011. The shares are subject to time and performance vesting conditions. The shares will either vest on (i) April 4, 2014 if we achieve specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2013, or (ii) April 4, 2015 if we achieve more rigorous net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2014.
- (13) Represents a performance-based restricted stock award granted on August 18, 2011. The shares are subject to time and performance vesting conditions. The shares will vest on August 18, 2015 if we achieve specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2014.

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

⁽¹⁴⁾Represents a performance-based restricted stock award granted on August 18, 2011. The shares are subject to time and performance vesting conditions. The shares will vest August 18, 2016 if we achieve specified net income and operating income as a percentage of sales goals for the year ending December 31, 2015.

⁽¹⁵⁾These amounts are based upon our stock price of \$55.98 on December 31, 2011. The actual value realized by our Named Executive Officers could be different based upon the eventual stock prices at the time of vesting.

Table of Contents**OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED IN 2011**

The following table provides information concerning the aggregate number of stock options exercised and shares of stock or stock units that vested for each of our Named Executive Officers during 2011, and the aggregate dollar values realized by each of our Named Executive Officers upon such exercise or vesting. All share and per share information has been adjusted to reflect our two-for-one stock split in September 2011.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)(1)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)(2)
Scott W. Wine, Chief Executive Officer	75,000	\$ 3,367,875	117,167 ⁽³⁾	\$ 6,559,042
Michael W. Malone, Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer	38,388	1,489,340	61,131 ⁽³⁾	3,422,109
Bennett J. Morgan, President and Chief Operating Officer	65,000	2,210,153	81,508 ⁽³⁾	4,562,812
James P. Williams, Vice President Human Resources	-	-	-	-
Matthew J. Homan, Vice President Europe, Middle East and Africa	41,000	969,064	33,113 ⁽³⁾	1,853,642

(1) Amounts shown in this column are based on the difference between the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of exercise and the exercise price.

(2) Amounts in this column are based on the \$55.98 fair market value of a share of our common stock on December 31, 2011, the last day of the 2009-2011 performance period under the LTIP.

(3) Represents the number of stock units subject to LTIP awards granted in 2009 that became payable upon the completion of the three year 2009-2011 performance period. Cash payments are expected to be made in March 2012 for the 2009 LTIP grant. The Compensation Committee determined that 200% of the target amount of such awards became payable based on our financial performance over the performance period.

NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION IN 2011

The following table sets forth information regarding the contributions by each Named Executive Officer and the company to the SERP, as well as information regarding earnings, aggregate withdrawals and distributions and balances under the SERP, for each Named Executive Officer as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

Name	Executive Contributions	Registrant Contributions	Aggregate Earnings	Aggregate	Aggregate Balance
	in Last FY (\$)(1)	in Last FY (\$)(2)	in Last FY (\$)(3)	Withdrawals/ Distributions (\$)	at Last FYE (\$)(4)
Scott W. Wine, Chief Executive Officer	\$ 164,257	\$ 84,562	(\$ 18,338)	\$	\$ 430,508

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Michael W. Malone, Vice President Finance and Chief Financial Officer	70,006	31,450	(14,545)	439,016
Bennett J. Morgan, President and Chief Operating Officer	59,128	46,877	(10,096)	366,113
James P. Williams, Vice President Human Resources	10,625	0	(129)	10,496
Matthew J. Homan, Vice President Europe, Middle East and Africa	14,750	12,481	(2,111)	44,571

Table of Contents

- (1) Each of these amounts represents the amount of salary and/or annual incentive compensation deferred by each of the Named Executive Officers into the SERP during 2011. These amounts are included in Salary and Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation columns of the Summary Compensation Table on page 37 for 2011.
- (2) These amounts represent Company matching contributions to the SERP during 2011. The amount in this column for each Named Executive Officer is included in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table for 2011.
- (3) These amounts represent earnings (losses) during 2011 credited to (deducted from) the respective Named Executive Officers' SERP accounts. None of these amounts are included in compensation reported in the Summary Compensation Table because none of the earnings is considered to be above market.
- (4) Of the aggregate balances shown, the following amounts were reported as salary and matching contributions to the SERP previously reported as compensation to our Named Executive Officers in the Summary Compensation Tables in years 2009 and 2010: Mr. Wine, \$133,188; Mr. Malone, \$82,256; Mr. Morgan, \$91,898.

We sponsor a 401(k) Plan that allows employees to make plan contributions on a pre-tax basis. Employees are automatically enrolled at 5% of covered compensation and can affirmatively elect to contribute 0-50% of covered compensation into the 401(k) Plan. We match employee contributions dollar-for-dollar up to 5% of base salary and Senior Executive Plan deferrals. Although Named Executive Officers are eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plan, the application of the annual compensation limit under Section 401(a)(17) of the Code prevents Named Executive Officers from fully contributing to the 401(k) Plan and receiving the full Company match. The SERP provides executives who participate in the 401(k) Plan with the opportunity to defer up to 50% of their base salary and up to 100% of amounts payable under the Senior Executive Plan and the LTIP into the SERP. Typically, base salary and Senior Executive Plan deferral contributions are matched by the Company as if they had been made under the 401(k) Plan on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to 5% of covered compensation. The SERP is intended solely to restore contributions lost because of the application of the annual compensation limit under Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code to the 401(k) Plan.

The SERP account of each Named Executive Officer is deemed to be invested in the fund(s) designated by the Named Executive Officer. For this purpose, the Named Executive Officers may choose among the same funds that are available to our employees generally under the 401(k) Plan. Deemed investment earnings and losses are applied to each Named Executive Officer's SERP account based upon the performance of the applicable investment fund. At December 31, 2011, accounts of the Named Executive Officers were deemed to be invested in the following funds:

Alger Small Cap Growth Fund Institutional Class	American Funds(R) EuroPacific Growth Fund(R)
American Funds(R) The Growth Fund of America(R)	Class R5
Class R5	Artisan Mid Cap Value Inv CL
Fidelity Freedom 2025 Fund	Morgan Stanley Institutional Fund Trust: Mid Cap
Fidelity Fund Class K	Growth Portfolio Class I Shares
Neuberger Berman Genesis Trust CL	PIMCO Total Return Fund Administrative Class
Fidelity Freedom 2030 Fund	T. Rowe Price Equity Income SHS
Vanguard Institutional Index Fund Institutional Shares	Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Inv CL

The Named Executive Officers are required to elect a distribution option upon becoming a participant in the SERP. The Named Executive Officers may elect to receive distributions (i) six months following separation of service or one year after separation of service; (ii) upon the attainment of a certain age, designated by the Named Executive Officer, between 59 1/2 and 70 1/2, provided that the Named Executive Officer will not attain the designated age for at least three years after his election; or (iii) the earlier or later of (i) or (ii). Named Executive Officers may elect to receive the distribution in a lump sum or in monthly, quarterly or annual installments over a period not to exceed 10 years. If the installment method is elected, the Named Executive Officer's account will continue to be credited with a prorated amount of deemed investment earnings and losses during the installment period.

Table of Contents

POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE-IN-CONTROL

Our Named Executive Officers are eligible to receive certain payments and benefits in the event of termination of their employment, including following a change in control pursuant to severance arrangements with the Company. Currently, our arrangements provide for change in control severance payments in an amount equal to two times salary and bonus upon termination subsequent to a change in control.

Severance Arrangements with Named Executive Officers

We have entered into severance arrangements with our Named Executive Officers, which provide certain benefits to the Named Executive Officers upon their termination of employment under certain circumstances, including following a change in control. For this purpose, a change in control is deemed to occur if:

There is a substantial change in the composition of the Board which causes at least one-half of the Board to consist of new directors that were not nominated by the Company; or

A third party acquires ownership of 35% or more of our common stock, unless such acquisition is approved by the Company; or

We engage in certain extraordinary corporate events (such as a liquidation, dissolution, reorganization, merger or sale of all or substantially all of our assets), unless we are the surviving entity after such transaction or at least one-half of our Board continue to serve as directors of the surviving entity after such transaction, as applicable.

Under the severance arrangements, a Named Executive Officer will be considered to have been terminated without cause if he is terminated other than for his willful and continued nonperformance, conviction of a felony or other misconduct or detrimental actions as specified in the applicable agreement. He will be considered to have terminated his employment for good reason if he terminates his employment due to a material reduction in his title, authority, responsibilities or base compensation, a material change in the location of his principal place of employment or nonperformance by the Company of any material obligations owed to him, all as specified in the applicable agreement.

Severance, Proprietary Information and Noncompetition Agreement with Mr. Wine

At December 31, 2011, we were a party to a severance, proprietary information and noncompetition agreement with Mr. Wine, our CEO, dated September 1, 2008 (Wine Severance Agreement). The terms of the Wine Severance Agreement were established during the negotiations leading to his employment by the Company as our CEO. Mr. Wine is entitled to certain payments and benefits under the Wine Severance Agreement if his employment is terminated without cause or if he terminates his employment with good reason. The magnitude of the payments and benefits is dependent upon whether or not the termination was upon or within 24 months following a change in control.

Change in Control Related Payments

In the event of a change in control termination, Mr. Wine is entitled to receive:

A lump sum payment equal to two times his average annual cash compensation (including base salary and cash incentives under the Senior Executive Plan and LTIP, but excluding the award or exercise of stock options or stock grants) for the three fiscal years (or lesser number of fiscal years if employed for a shorter duration) preceding the change in control termination;

Any earned but unpaid cash incentive award under the Senior Executive Plan;

If the termination occurs during the fiscal year after June 30, a payment of the amount of the average cash incentive award under the Senior Executive Plan paid to him for the three fiscal years immediately preceding the change in control, prorated for the full number

of months actually worked in the current fiscal year prior to the termination.

Table of Contents

Non-Change in Control Termination Related Payments

In the case of a termination not in connection with a change in control, Mr. Wine is entitled to receive:

The sum of (i) 100% of his annual base salary as of the termination date plus (ii) the amount of the cash incentive award paid to him under the Senior Executive Plan for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the termination takes place payable over a period of one year;

Any earned but unpaid cash incentive award under the Senior Executive Plan;

If the termination occurs during the fiscal year after June 30, payment of an amount equal to the cash incentive award under the Senior Executive Plan paid to him for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the termination takes place, prorated for the full number of months actually worked in the current fiscal year prior to the termination;

An amount equal to what he would otherwise be eligible to receive pursuant to any outstanding LTIP award had he remained continuously employed through the end of the applicable performance period under the LTIP, prorated for the number of full calendar years actually worked during such performance period;

If he elects to receive benefits under the Consolidated Omnibus Reconciliation Act (COBRA), payment for the premiums for coverage of Mr. Wine, his spouse and/or dependents under our group health plans pursuant to COBRA for a one-year period; and

Reasonable executive outplacement services.

The amount of such payments and benefits are detailed in the table appearing under the caption *Potential Payments to Mr. Wine* on page 52. As a condition to receiving such payments and benefits, Mr. Wine must execute a general waiver and release of any claims against the Company. The Wine Severance Agreement also provides that during and for a period of (i) 60 months following termination, Mr. Wine is prohibited from using or disclosing our proprietary information, except as required by his duties to Polaris and (ii) two years following termination, Mr. Wine must refrain from working for or acquiring an ownership interest (other than an interest of up to 1% of publicly held securities) in our competitors, or soliciting our employees.

Severance Agreements with Messrs. Malone, Morgan, Williams and Homan

Change in Control Related Payments

We have entered into severance agreements with Messrs. Malone, Morgan, Williams and Homan, which provide that if upon or within 24 months after a change in control, any of such Named Executive Officers terminates his employment for good reason or if his employment is terminated by the Company without cause, then he will be entitled to:

A lump sum cash payment equal to two times his average annual cash compensation (including base salary and cash incentives under the Senior Executive Plan and LTIP, but excluding the award or exercise of stock options or stock grants) for our three fiscal years (or lesser number of fiscal years if employed for a shorter duration) immediately preceding such termination; and

Any earned but unpaid cash incentive awards under the Senior Executive Plan.

No cash incentive award will be paid for any part of the fiscal year in which the termination occurs.

Non-Change in Control Termination Related Payments

Under the severance agreements, a non-change in control termination is deemed to occur if the Named Executive Officer is terminated by the Company without cause other than in connection with a change in control. In the event of a non-change in control termination, the Named Executive Officer will be entitled to:

The sum of (i) 100% of his annual base salary as of the termination date (150% for the President and COO) plus (ii) the amount of the cash incentive award under the Senior Executive Plan that was paid to him for the fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the termination takes place;

Table of Contents

Any earned but unpaid cash incentive award under the Senior Executive Plan;

An amount equal to what he would otherwise be eligible to receive pursuant to any outstanding LTIP award had he remained continuously employed through the end of the applicable performance period under the LTIP, prorated for the number of full calendar years actually worked during such performance period;

Eligibility for early retirement benefits under our Early Retirement Benefit Policy for Officers in accordance with the terms and conditions of such policy, which are discussed under the caption *Payments Made Upon Retirement* below;

If he elects to receive benefits under COBRA, payment for the premiums for coverage of the Named Executive Officer, his spouse and/or dependents under our group health plans pursuant to COBRA for a one-year period;

Reasonable executive outplacement services; and

The release of restrictions on all outstanding restricted share awards for which the performance goal has been met and the performance period has expired.

The amounts payable to each Named Executive Officer under the severance agreements are quantified in the tables appearing under the caption *Potential Payments to Messrs. Malone, Morgan, Williams and Homan* on page 53. As a condition to receiving such payments and benefits, the Named Executive Officer must execute a general waiver and release of any claims against the company.

Payments Made Upon Retirement

We maintain the 401(k) Plan and the restorative SERP, as explained in the section entitled *Nonqualified Deferred Compensation in 2011* on page 46. We do not maintain a defined benefit pension plan or a defined benefit supplemental pension plan for our Named Executive Officers.

We do, however, provide certain benefits and perquisites to Named Executive Officers that are retirement-eligible. These benefits and perquisites include:

Medical insurance coverage or cash equivalent for retirees and their spouses from age 55 to 64 with coverage coinciding with Medicare B on and after age 65;

Dental insurance coverage for retirees and their spouses at the same coverage level with the same provider as an active employee;

Continued annual physical exams at the Mayo Clinic for retirees and their spouses in accordance with the active officer benefit;

Continued use of Polaris products in accordance with the active Named Executive Officer benefits, including related parts, garments and accessories;

For Named Executive Officers other than the CEO, prorated LTIP payout based on the time worked during the performance measurement period payable in accordance with the normal payment schedule;

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

For Senior Executive Plan participants, a possible prorated payout under the plan based on the time worked during the incentive compensation award period payable in accordance with the normal payment schedule;

For Named Executive Officers other than the CEO, waiver of vesting period for outstanding stock options that have not yet vested at the date of retirement and an exercise period that is 36 months from the effective date of termination; and

For the CEO only, continued use of our airplane and travel services in accordance with the active officer benefit. To be eligible for full retirement-age benefits, the Named Executive Officer must have attained the age of at least 65. None of our Named Executive Officers were retirement-eligible as of December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

We also provide certain early retirement benefits to Named Executive Officers who have attained the age of at least 55 and have a minimum of 10 years of service to our Company. These benefits include the same benefits available at full retirement age described above, except that for Named Executive Officers other than the CEO, all outstanding stock options that have not yet vested are forfeited.

Non-Compete and Non-Solicitation Agreements

As described in *Severance, Proprietary Information and Noncompetition Agreement with Mr. Wine* on page 48, Mr. Wine has agreed not to engage in competitive activities or solicit employees for a period of two years following his termination of employment. The other Named Executive Officers were required to enter into non-competition agreements as a condition to the receipt of restricted stock and LTIP grants, under which they agree to not engage in competitive activities or soliciting employees for a period of one year following their termination of employment.

Potential Payments to Named Executive Officers Upon Termination

The following tables quantify the amounts and benefits payable to the Named Executive Officers upon termination under various scenarios. In calculating the payments set forth in such tables, we have assumed that (i) the date of termination was December 31, 2011, the last business day of fiscal year 2011, and (ii) the stock price was \$55.98 per share, the closing market price of our common stock on such date. The tables do not reflect payments and benefits that are provided on a non-discriminatory basis to salaried employees generally upon termination, including:

Earned but unpaid base salary through the date of termination;

Accrued but unused vacation pay through the date of termination;

Company matching contributions to the 401(k) Plan in an amount which take into account the final payouts for base salary, incentive awards under the Senior Executive Plan, if any, and accrued vacation;

Distributions of plan balances under the Polaris 401(k) Plan; and

A life insurance benefit equal to two times base salary up to a maximum of \$650,000, payable in the event of termination upon death. The tables also do not reflect amounts attributable to vested, non-forfeitable equity-based awards (see *Outstanding Equity Awards at 2011 Fiscal Year-End* on page 44), or distributions of plan balances under the SERP (see *Nonqualified Deferred Compensation in 2011* on page 46). In addition, the tables do not reflect any applicable tax withholdings or other deductions by the company from the amounts otherwise payable to the Named Executive Officers upon termination of employment. To the extent applicable, the present value of the payments presented in the tables below was calculated using a discount rate of 5%.

We provide a number of lifetime benefits and perquisites to our Named Executive Officers upon retirement or receipt of early retirement benefits. For purposes of quantifying the value of such benefits and perquisites in the tables below, we have used an average life expectancy age of 78 for such individuals. The costs of medical and dental coverage are based on current annual premiums times the number of years between officer age and 78 for those that receive it until then using a discount rate of 5%. Company cars, garments and accessories coverage is based on the average spent for the Named Executive Officers in 2011 multiplied by the number of years between the executive officer's age and 78 (for those who receive it), using a discount rate of 5%.

Table of Contents**Potential Payments to Mr. Wine**

	For Cause or Without Good Reason Termination (\$)	Without Cause or With Good Reason Termination (not in connection with a Change in Control (\$)	Without Cause or With Good Reason Termination (Change in Control) (\$)	Death or Disability (\$)	Retirement (\$)
Scott W. Wine Compensation:					
Cash Compensation	\$ 0	\$ 2,366,979	\$ 3,178,825	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual Cash Incentives (Senior Executive Plan)	0	1,568,440	1,568,440	1,568,440	0
LTIP Incentive Awards		6,948,678 ⁽¹⁾	0	6,948,678 ⁽¹⁾	0
Stock Options (Unvested and Accelerated)	N/A	23,144,450 ⁽²⁾	23,144,450 ⁽²⁾	23,144,450 ⁽²⁾	0
Restricted Stock (Unvested and Accelerated)	N/A	0	8,956,800	0	0
Benefits and Perquisites					
Medical and Dental	N/A	18,276	0	0	0
Use of Polaris Products	N/A	0	0	0	0
Polaris Parts, Garments and Accessories	N/A	0	0	0	0
Physical Exams	N/A	0	0	0	0
Total	\$ 0	\$ 34,046,823	\$ 36,848,515	\$ 31,661,568	\$ 0

⁽¹⁾ The amount reflected for Mr. Wine represents his pro rata target payout for the 2009, 2010 and 2011 LTIP Grants and assumes the payments would be made by March 2012, March 2013 and March 2014, respectively.

⁽²⁾ Represents the market value of unvested stock options less the option exercise price.

Table of Contents**Potential Payments to Messrs. Malone, Morgan, Williams and Homan**

	For Cause (\$)	Without Cause (not in connection with a Change in Control) (\$)	Without Cause or With Good Reason Termination (in connection with a Change in Control) (\$)	Death or Disability (\$)	Retirement(\$)
Mr. Malone					
Cash Compensation	\$ 0	\$ 954,350	\$ 1,848,818	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual Cash Incentives (Senior Executive Plan)	0	556,674	556,674	556,674	0
LTIP Incentive Awards	0	3,503,683 ⁽¹⁾	0	3,603,683 ⁽¹⁾	0
Stock Options (Unvested and Accelerated)	0	0	4,862,500 ⁽²⁾	0	0
Restricted Stock (Unvested and Accelerated)	0	0	0	0	0
Benefits and Perquisites					
Medical and Dental Insurance	0	582,193	0	0	0
Use of Polaris Products	0	0	0	0	0
Polaris Parts, Garments and Accessories	0	12,031	0	0	0
Physical Exams	0	120,408	0	0	0
Total	\$ 0	\$ 5,829,338	\$ 7,267,992	\$ 4,160,357	\$ 0
Mr. Morgan					
Cash Compensation	\$ 0	\$ 1,568,299	\$ 2,341,826	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual Cash Incentives (Senior Executive Plan)	0	893,691	893,691	893,691	0
LTIP Incentive Awards	0	4,813,368 ⁽¹⁾	0	4,813,368 ⁽¹⁾	0
Stock Options (Unvested and Accelerated)	0	0	9,246,000 ⁽²⁾	0	0
Restricted Stock (Unvested and Accelerated)	0	0	2,799,000	0	0
Benefits and Perquisites					
Medical and Dental Insurance	0	627,126	0	0	0
Use of Polaris Products	0	0	0	0	0
Polaris Parts, Garments and Accessories	0	12,925	0	0	0
Physical Exams	0	129,353	0	0	0
Total	\$ 0	\$ 8,044,762	\$ 15,280,517	\$ 5,707,059	\$ 0
Mr. Williams					
Cash Compensation	\$ 0	\$ 626,116	\$ 510,938	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual Cash Incentives (Senior Executive Plan)	0	372,266	372,266	372,266	0
LTIP Incentive Awards	0	90,723 ⁽¹⁾	0	90,723 ⁽¹⁾	0
Stock Options (Unvested and Accelerated)	0	0	479,200 ⁽²⁾	0	0
Restricted Stock (Unvested and Accelerated)	0	0	1,679,400	0	0
Benefits and Perquisites					
Medical and Dental Insurance	0	18,276	0	0	0
Use of Polaris Products	0	0	0	0	0
Polaris Parts, Garments and Accessories	0	0	0	0	0
Physical Exams	0	0	0	0	0

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

Total	\$	0	\$ 1,107,381	\$ 3,041,804	\$ 462,989	\$ 0
Mr. Homan						
Cash Compensation	\$	0	\$ 676,206	\$ 1,102,511	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual Cash Incentives (Senior Executive Plan)		0	374,473	374,473	374,473	0
LTIP Incentive Awards		0	1,974,060 ⁽¹⁾	0	1,974,060 ⁽¹⁾	0
Stock Options (Unvested and Accelerated)		0	0	2,926,820 ⁽²⁾	0	0
Restricted Stock (Unvested and Accelerated)		0	0	559,800	0	0
Benefits and Perquisites						
Medical and Dental Insurance		0	18,276	0	0	0
Use of Polaris Products		0	0	0	0	0
Polaris Parts, Garments and Accessories		0	0	0	0	0
Physical Exams		0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$	0	\$ 3,043,015	\$ 4,963,604	\$ 2,348,533	\$ 0

Table of Contents

(1) The amount reflected for each Named Executive Officer represents the pro rata target award payout for the 2009, 2010 and 2011 LTIP Grants and assumes the payments would be made in March 2012, March 2013 and March 2014, respectively.

(2) Represents the market value of unvested stock options less the option exercise price.

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth the compensation earned for each of the non-employee directors for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid		Total (\$)
	in Cash (\$)(1)	Stock Awards (\$)(2)	
Robert L. Caulk	\$ 69,000	\$ 89,408	\$ 158,408
Annette K. Clayton	66,000	89,408	155,408
Gary E. Hendrickson	36,022	89,408	125,430
Bernd F. Kessler	63,000	89,408	152,408
John R. Menard, Jr.	57,000	89,408	146,408
Gregory R. Palen	169,000	89,408	258,408
R. M. (Mark) Schreck	68,000	89,408	157,408
William Grant Van Dyke	81,000	89,408	170,408
John P. Wiehoff	75,000	89,408	164,408

(1) As described in more detail in the accompanying narrative, directors may defer all or a portion of the fees otherwise payable to them in accordance with our Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors (the "Deferred Compensation Plan"). Each of the current directors, except for Mr. Caulk, deferred all fees otherwise payable to him or her in 2011 in accordance with the Deferred Compensation Plan. The deferred amounts were converted into common stock equivalents at the then current market price per share of our common stock. The aggregate number of common stock equivalents held by each non-employee director as of December 31, 2011 is reflected in the "Stock Awards" column of the "Non-Employee Directors Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End" table appearing below.

(2) On April 28, 2011, the continuing non-employee directors were each awarded under the Omnibus Plan 1,600 deferred stock units, each with a value equal to one share of our common stock. The grant date fair value for these deferred stock units was \$52.755 per unit. In addition, as of each quarterly date on which retainer payments are to be made to non-employee directors, each non-employee director automatically receives an award of common stock equivalents under the Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors having a fair market value of \$1,250, resulting in annual awards to each non-employee director with an aggregate grant date fair value of \$5,000. The aggregate number of deferred stock units and common stock equivalents held by each non-employee director as of December 31, 2011 is reflected in the "Stock Awards" column of the "Non-Employee Directors Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End" table appearing below.

Table of Contents**Non-Employee Directors Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End**

The following table sets forth the number of shares of common stock underlying outstanding stock options and stock awards for each of the non-employee directors as of December 31, 2011.

Name	Stock Options	Stock Awards ⁽¹⁾
Robert L. Caulk		27,520
Annette K. Clayton		39,570
Gary E. Hendrickson		2,359
Bernd F. Kessler		7,839
John R. Menard, Jr.		43,223
Gregory R. Palen	32,000	122,257
R. M. (Mark) Schreck	32,000	51,524
William Grant Van Dyke		34,471
John P. Wiehoff		25,803

⁽¹⁾ Includes common stock equivalents awarded to directors under the Deferred Compensation Plan and deferred stock units awarded under the Omnibus Plan and the accompanying dividend equivalent units issued on each form of award.

Director Fees

Directors who are employees of our Company receive no compensation for their services as directors or as members of committees. Compensation for non-employee directors is divided into cash and stock components. We presently pay each non-employee director other than our Chairman, Mr. Palen, an annual director's retainer of \$57,000. At least \$5,000 (paid in quarterly installments of \$1,250 per quarter) of the annual director's retainer paid to each non-employee director will be payable in common stock equivalents (as described below). Mr. Palen, our non-executive Chairman of the Board, currently receives an annual retainer of \$157,000 in lieu of the annual director's retainer received by other non-employee directors. The Chairs of the Compensation Committee, Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and Technology Committee currently receive an annual committee chairman's fee of \$10,000, and the Chair of the Audit Committee receives an annual committee chairman's fee of \$15,000. Non-employee directors also receive \$1,000 for each committee meeting attended. Any non-employee director may elect to defer the receipt of all or a specified portion of the retainer and fee payments specified in this paragraph under the Deferred Compensation Plan (as described below).

Deferred Compensation Plan

We maintain the Deferred Compensation Plan for non-employee directors. As of each quarterly date on which retainer payments are made to non-employee directors, each non-employee director automatically receives an award of common stock equivalents having a fair market value of \$1,250. A non-employee director can also defer all or a portion of the retainer and fee payments that would otherwise be paid to him or her in cash. Such deferred amounts are converted into additional common stock equivalents based on the then fair market value of the common stock. Each common stock equivalent represents the economic equivalent of one share of common stock. Dividend equivalents are credited to non-employee directors as if the common stock equivalents are outstanding shares of common stock. Such dividend equivalents are deemed invested in additional common stock equivalents.

As soon as practicable after a non-employee director's service on the Board terminates, he or she will receive a distribution of a number of shares of our common stock equal to the number of common stock equivalents then credited to him or her under the Deferred Compensation Plan. Upon the death of a non-employee director, the shares will be issued to his or her beneficiary. Upon a change in control of our Company (as defined in the Deferred Compensation Plan), each non-employee director will receive a cash payment equal to the value of his or her accumulated common stock equivalents.

Table of Contents

A maximum of 500,000 shares of common stock are reserved for issuance under the Deferred Compensation Plan. The Deferred Compensation Plan will remain effective until May 31, 2020, unless terminated earlier by the Board. The Deferred Compensation Plan may be terminated or amended at any time by the Board.

Deferred Stock Units and Stock Options

Since 2007, we have granted our non-employee directors an annual award of deferred stock units in an amount determined by the Board. The deferred stock units are fully vested upon issuance. Upon termination of service as a director or upon an earlier change in control of Polaris, each non-employee director will receive one share of common stock for every deferred stock unit credited to the non-employee director's account. Dividend equivalents are credited to non-employee directors as if the deferred stock units are outstanding shares of common stock. Such dividend equivalents are deemed invested in additional deferred stock units. The annual deferred stock unit awards replaced annual stock option awards, each involving 8,000 shares, provided to non-employee directors prior to 2007. All stock options issued to non-employee directors have a 10-year term and have become fully vested and exercisable. If a non-employee director's term of service ends, any option will be exercisable for 5 years if the non-employee director was then age 65 or older, for 3 years if the non-employee director was less than age 65 but had served as a director for 10 years or more, for one year if the non-employee director died, and for 90 days under any other separation scenario, subject in all cases to the 10-year option term.

Use of Polaris Products

We provide each of the non-employee directors with the use of up to six Polaris products, of his or her choice, at no charge to encourage a first-hand understanding of the riding experience of our customers and to provide the non-employee directors with an opportunity to evaluate product design and efficiency. The products used by the non-employee directors can be returned to the Company or purchased at a price greater than cost at the end of a defined usage period based upon months, miles or hours, depending upon the product line. We sell the returned products to dealers at an amount greater than the cost of such products to the Company. All non-employee directors also receive related parts, garments and accessories.

Director Stock Ownership Guidelines

The Board has adopted stock ownership guidelines, which provide that each non-employee director is expected to own, directly or indirectly, shares of our common stock, common stock equivalents and deferred stock units having a value of at least three times the amount of the annual retainer and, if applicable, any committee chairman fee paid to such director. Compliance with the stock ownership guidelines is voluntary but is monitored by our CFO. All non-employee directors are expected to satisfy the stock ownership guidelines within four years following the date they are first elected to the Board. The following chart sets forth the stock ownership of each of the non-employee directors that were in office as of December 31, 2011 relative to the stock ownership guidelines:

Name	Stock Ownership	Shares of Common	Stock Ownership
	Guidelines	Stock, Common	
	(as a Multiple of	and Deferred Stock	
	Annual Director	Units Held as of	Guideline Met?
	Retainer/Chairman	December 31,	
	Fee)	2011	
Robert L. Caulk	3x	27,520	Yes
Annette K. Clayton	3x	39,570	Yes
Gary E. Hendrickson	3x	2,359	(1)
Bernd F. Kessler	3x	7,839	Yes
John R. Menard, Jr.	3x	43,223	Yes
Gregory R. Palen	3x	157,111	Yes
R.M. (Mark) Schreck	3x	58,304	Yes
William Grant Van Dyke	3x	36,471	Yes
John P. Wiehoff	3x	25,803	Yes

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

⁽¹⁾ Mr. Hendrickson was first appointed to the Board on April 28, 2011. We expect that Mr. Hendrickson will satisfy the stock ownership guidelines on or prior to the fourth anniversary of the date he was first appointed to the Board.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 2 RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Audit Committee has selected Ernst & Young LLP (E&Y) as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012, and the Board is asking shareholders to ratify that selection. Although current law, rules and regulations, as well as the Audit Committee Charter require our independent registered public accounting firm to be engaged, retained, and supervised by the Audit Committee, the Board considers the selection of an independent registered public accounting firm to be an important matter of shareholder concern and considers a proposal for shareholders to ratify such selection to be an opportunity for shareholders to provide direct feedback to the Board on a significant issue of corporate governance.

If the selection of E&Y as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012 is not ratified by our shareholders, the Audit Committee will review its future selection of an independent registered public accounting firm in the light of that vote result.

Representatives of E&Y will be present at the Annual Meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if they so desire, and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

The Board, upon recommendation of the Audit Committee, unanimously recommends a vote FOR the ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2012.

Table of Contents

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit Committee reports to and acts on behalf of the Board by providing oversight of (1) the integrity of our financial statements, (2) the effectiveness of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting, (3) our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (4) the independent registered public accounting firm's performance, qualifications and independence, and (5) the responsibilities, performance, budget and staffing of our internal audit function. The Audit Committee is comprised of four directors, all of whom meet the standards of independence adopted by the SEC and the NYSE.

In performing the Audit Committee oversight responsibilities, we have reviewed and discussed our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 with management and with representatives of the independent registered public accounting firm of E&Y, our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee also reviewed, and discussed with management and representatives of E&Y, management's assessment and report and E&Y's report and attestation on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

The Audit Committee also discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 114, *The Auditor's Communication With Those Charged With Governance*. The Audit Committee has received from our independent registered public accounting firm the written disclosures and the letter required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (the PCAOB) regarding the independent accountant's communication with the audit committee concerning independence, and the Audit Committee has discussed the independence of E&Y with representatives of such firm. The Audit Committee is satisfied that the non-audit services provided to us by the independent registered public accounting firm are compatible with maintaining their independence.

Management is responsible for our system of internal controls and the financial reporting process. E&Y is responsible for performing an audit of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB and issuing a report thereon. The Audit Committee's responsibility is to monitor and oversee these processes.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to in this Report, the Audit Committee recommends to the Board that the audited financial statements be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

William Grant Van Dyke, Chair

Bernd F. Kessler

Gregory R. Palen

John P. Wiehoff

Table of Contents

FEES PAID TO INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Audit Fees. The aggregate audit fees paid to E&Y for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, were \$1,030,000 and \$818,000, respectively. These fees include amounts for the annual audit of our consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting, statutory audits at certain foreign subsidiaries and the reviews of the consolidated financial statements included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, including services related thereto such as attest services and consents.

Audit-Related Fees. The aggregate audit-related fees paid to E&Y for the fiscal years 2011 and 2010 were \$115,000 and \$355,000, respectively. These fees represent amounts reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the consolidated financial statements that are not reported under the Audit Fees category such as the audit of Polaris Acceptance, the audit of employee benefit plans, assistance related to potential transactions and the issuance of certain industry reports.

Tax Fees. The aggregate fees billed by E&Y for tax services rendered for the fiscal years 2011 and 2010 were \$291,000 and \$402,000, respectively. These fees were primarily related to tax planning and compliance services, including assistance related to certain foreign subsidiaries and potential transactions.

All Other Fees. The aggregate fees billed by E&Y for other services rendered for the fiscal years 2011 and 2010 were \$96,000 and \$0, respectively. These fees were related to market assessment and trade compliance consulting services performed.

Audit Committee Pre-Approval Requirements. The Audit Committee's charter provides that it has the sole authority to review in advance and grant any pre-approvals of (i) all auditing services to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, (ii) all significant non-audit services to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm as permitted by Section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, and (iii) all fees and the terms of engagement with respect to such services. All audit and non-audit services performed by E&Y during fiscal 2011 were pre-approved pursuant to the procedures outlined above.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 3 ADVISORY VOTE ON APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION OF THE COMPANY'S NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

General Information

This year, we are again providing our shareholders with the opportunity to vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement. As described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A), our executive compensation philosophy and programs align executive compensation decisions with our desired business direction, strategy and performance. The primary objectives and priorities of the compensation program include:

Emphasizing variable compensation that is tied to our financial and stock price performance to generate and reward superior individual and collective performance,

Linking executives' incentive goals with the interests of our shareholders, providing equity-based forms of compensation and establishing specific stock ownership guidelines for key management employees,

Supporting and rewarding executives for consistent performance over time and achievement of our long-term strategic goals, and

Attracting and retaining highly qualified executives whose abilities are critical to our success and competitive advantages. Our shareholders have a right to cast an advisory vote on our executive compensation program at the Annual Meeting. As a result, we are presenting this proposal, which gives you, as a shareholder, the opportunity to vote FOR or AGAINST the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the shareholders approve the compensation of Polaris Industries Inc. Named Executive Officers, as disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables, and the related disclosure contained in our 2012 proxy statement.

The Board urges shareholders to endorse the compensation programs for our Named Executive Officers by voting FOR the resolution.

The 2011 compensation structure is similar to the 2010 design, which at last year's annual meeting received the approval of 98% of the shares that were voted on the matter. As discussed in the CD&A contained in this Proxy Statement, the Compensation Committee of the Board believes that the executive compensation methodology for 2011 is reasonable and appropriate, is justified by our performance in a difficult economic environment and is the result of our focus on driving innovation, enhancing our product offering and reducing costs, and growth through new global markets and adjacencies. In deciding how to vote on this proposal, the Board advises you to consider the following factors related to the compensation paid to our Named Executive Officers in fiscal 2011, each of which is discussed in the CD&A:

Our sales increased 33% over 2010, to a record amount for the second consecutive year of \$2,656.9 million.

Net income per diluted share increased 50% over 2010 to a record amount for the second consecutive year of \$3.20.

Reported net income increased to \$227.6 million for 2011 55% over 2010.

Our stock price closed 2011 at \$55.98 per share, an increase of 44% from \$39.01 at the end of 2010. Because your vote is advisory, it will not be binding on the Board and will not overrule any decision by the Board or require the Board to take any action. However, the Board and the Compensation Committee will

Table of Contents

carefully review the voting results. To the extent there is any significant negative vote on this proposal, we may consult directly with shareholders to better understand the concerns that influenced the vote. The Board and the Compensation Committee would consider constructive feedback obtained through this process in making future decisions about executive compensation programs.

The Board, upon recommendation of the Compensation Committee, unanimously recommends a vote FOR approval of the resolution to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

Previously we disclosed we would resubmit to shareholders at this annual meeting an advisory vote on the frequency of advisory votes on our executive compensation, but we subsequently decided not to bring the frequency vote back to the shareholders at this time. We will continue to hold an advisory vote on our executive compensation on an annual basis at each annual meeting of our shareholders until the next frequency vote.

OTHER MATTERS

The Board is not aware of any matters that are expected to come before the Annual Meeting other than those referred to in this Proxy Statement. If any other matter should come before the Annual Meeting, the persons named in the accompanying proxy intend to vote the proxies in accordance with their best judgment.

SUBMISSION OF SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS AND NOMINATIONS

Under the rules of the SEC, if a shareholder wants the Company to include a proposal in our proxy statement and form of proxy for presentation at our 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders the proposal must be submitted in writing and received by our Secretary at our principal executive offices by November 9, 2012. The proposal must comply with the rules of the SEC and our bylaws, which are described below. The nominations may also need to comply with our bylaws, if permitted by the final SEC rules. If a shareholder intends to introduce an item of business or director nomination at the 2013 Annual Meeting, without including the proposal or nomination in the proxy statement, we must receive notice of that intention no later than January 26, 2013.

A shareholder's notice to the Company must include the information required by our bylaws, including, if the item of business does not relate to the nomination of a person to serve as a director, a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the meeting and the reasons for conducting the business at the meeting, any material interest of the shareholder or any associated person of the shareholder in the business desired to be brought before the meeting, the name and address of the shareholder and any associated person of the shareholder as they appear on our books, and specified information regarding the shareholder's interests in our capital stock. A shareholder's notice to the Company of the nomination of a person to serve as a director must include, as applicable, similar information as required above, as well as the name of any director nominee, information about the nominee required by SEC rules and the director nominee's consent to be named and serve if elected.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the Annual Report to Shareholders, for the year ended December 31, 2011, as filed with the SEC, will be sent to any shareholder without charge upon written request addressed to:

Corporate Secretary

Polaris Industries Inc.

2100 Highway 55

Medina, MN 55340

(763) 542-0500

Table of Contents

You may also obtain our Annual Report on Form 10-K, including incorporated sections from the Annual Report to Shareholders, over the Internet at the SEC's Internet site, www.sec.gov.

Additional copies of the Annual Report to Shareholders, Annual Report on Form 10-K, the Notice, this Proxy Statement and the accompanying proxy may be obtained from Stacy L. Bogart, the Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of the Company at the address above. Copies of exhibits to Form 10-K may be obtained upon payment to us of the reasonable expense incurred in providing such exhibits.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Stacy L. Bogart
Stacy L. Bogart
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Table of Contents

POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC.

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Thursday, April 26, 2012

9:00 a.m.

2100 Highway 55

Medina, MN 55340

POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC.

2100 Highway 55

Medina, MN 55340

For directions to the Annual Meeting, please call (763) 542-0500.

proxy

This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors for use at the Annual Meeting on April 26, 2012.

The shares of stock you hold in your account or in a dividend reinvestment account will be voted as you specify on the reverse side.

If no choice is specified, the proxy will be voted **FOR** each of the nominees in Item 1 and **FOR** the proposals in Items 2 and 3.

By signing the proxy, you revoke all prior proxies and appoint Bennett J. Morgan and Michael W. Malone, and each of them with full power of substitution, to vote your shares on the matters shown on the reverse side and any other matters which may come before the Annual Meeting and all adjournments.

See reverse for voting instructions.

Table of Contents

Shareowner Services

COMPANY #

P.O. Box 64945

St. Paul, MN 55164-0945

Vote by Internet, Telephone or Mail

24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a Week

Your phone or Internet vote authorizes the named proxies to vote your shares in the same manner as if you marked, signed and returned your proxy card.

INTERNET www.eproxy.com/pii

Use the Internet to vote your proxy until

11:59 p.m. (CT) on April 25, 2012.

PHONE 1-800-560-1965

Use a touch-tone telephone to vote your proxy

until 11:59 p.m. (CT) on April 25, 2012.

MAIL Mark, sign and date your proxy

card and return it in the postage-paid

envelope provided.

If you vote your proxy by Internet or by Telephone, you do NOT need to mail back your Proxy Card.

TO VOTE BY MAIL AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS ON ALL ITEMS BELOW,

SIMPLY SIGN, DATE, AND RETURN THIS PROXY CARD.

Please detach here

The Board of Directors Recommends a Vote FOR Each of the Nominees in Item 1

and FOR the Proposals in Items 2 and 3.

Edgar Filing: POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC/MN - Form DEF 14A

1. Election of directors:
- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| 01 Annette
K. Clayton | 03 John P. Wiehoff | " | Vote FOR all nominees | " | Vote WITHHELD |
| | | | (except as marked) | | from all nominees |
| 02 Gregory R. Palen | | | | | |

(Instructions: To withhold authority to vote for any indicated nominee, write the number(s) of the nominee(s) in the box provided to the right.)

2. Ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for 2012

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----|---|---------|---|---------|
| 3. Advisory vote to approve the compensation of our Named Executive Officers | " | For | " | Against | " | Abstain |
| | " | For | " | Against | " | Abstain |

THIS PROXY WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED OR, IF NO DIRECTION IS GIVEN, WILL BE VOTED AS THE BOARD RECOMMENDS.

Address Change? Mark box, sign, and indicate changes below: "

Date

Signature(s) in Box

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appears on Proxy. If held in joint tenancy, all persons should sign. Trustees, administrators, etc., should include title and authority. Corporations should provide full name of corporation and title of authorized officer signing the Proxy.