ITRON INC /WA/ Form DEF 14A March 13, 2014 Table of Contents

### **UNITED STATES**

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### **SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

**Securities Exchange Act of 1934** 

(Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant " Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

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

ITRON, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

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### ITRON, INC.

#### 2111 N. Molter Road

### Liberty Lake, Washington 99019

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

### TO BE HELD ON MAY 1, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Itron, Inc. will be held at The Davenport Hotel in the Porter Room, at 10 South Post Street, Spokane, Washington, at 8:00 a.m., local time, on Thursday, May 1, 2014, for the following purposes:

- (1) to elect four directors to the Itron, Inc. Board of Directors;
- (2) to approve the Itron, Inc. Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan;
- (3) to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company s named executive officers for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013;
- (4) to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for the 2014 fiscal year; and
- (5) to transact any other business that may properly come before the annual meeting. The Board of Directors has established the close of business on February 25, 2014 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Members of the Company s management will not make any formal presentation as part of the annual meeting, but will be available, in addition to all of our directors, to address questions from shareholders, as appropriate.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SHAREHOLDER ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 1, 2014:

Our proxy statement is attached. Financial and other information concerning Itron is contained in our Annual Report to Shareholders for the 2013 fiscal year. The proxy statement and our Annual Report are available for all shareholders at www.edocumentview.com/itri

<u>Your vote is very important.</u> To ensure representation at the annual meeting, shareholders are urged to vote as promptly as possible. To vote your shares, please refer to the voting instruction form on the website noted above, or review the section titled Quorum and Voting beginning on page one of the accompanying proxy statement. Any

shareholder attending the annual meeting may vote in person even if that shareholder has returned a proxy.

By Order of the Board of Directors, Shannon M. Votava Corporate Secretary

Liberty Lake, Washington

March 13, 2014

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#### PROXY STATEMENT

This proxy statement is being furnished to shareholders of Itron, Inc. in connection with the solicitation by our Board of Directors of proxies for use at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The meeting will be held in the Porter Room of The Davenport Hotel, located at 10 South Post Street, Spokane, Washington, at 8:00 a.m., local time, on Thursday, May 1, 2014, for the purposes listed in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Company s principal executive office is at 2111 North Molter Road, Liberty Lake, Washington 99019.

### **Internet Availability of Annual Meeting Materials**

Our proxy materials will be available for you to access over the Internet. On or about March 20, 2014, we will mail to our shareholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (Notice) directing shareholders to the web site provided on the Notice where they can access our proxy materials and view instructions on how to vote via the Internet or by phone. The Notice will also provide instructions for obtaining paper copies of the proxy materials and a proxy card, if requested by a shareholder.

The following proxy materials will be available for you to review online:

- The Company s Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders;
- The Company s 2014 Proxy Statement;
- The Company s Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2013 (which is not deemed to be part of the official proxy soliciting materials); and
- Any amendments to the foregoing materials that may be required to be furnished to the shareholders by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

### **Proposals to Be Voted On at the Annual Meeting**

At the annual meeting, we will consider and vote on the following proposals:

- (1) to elect four directors to the Itron, Inc. Board of Directors; each for a term of three years (until our 2017 annual meeting of shareholders);
- (2) to approve the adoption of the Itron, Inc. Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan;
- (3) to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company s named executive officers for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 (the Say-on-Pay vote);

- (4) to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for the 2014 fiscal year; and
- (5) to transact any other business that may properly come before the annual meeting.

### **Record Date and Outstanding Shares**

Holders of record of our common stock at the close of business on February 25, 2014, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting. On the record date, there were 39,324,203 shares of our common stock outstanding. Each outstanding share of our common stock will entitle its holder to one vote on each of the four directors to be elected and one vote on each other matter to be voted on at the annual meeting. Each of our directors and executive officers intends to vote or direct the vote of all shares of common stock over which he or

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she has voting control in favor of: (1) the election of the nominees for director; (2) the approval of the Itron, Inc. Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan; (3) the advisory approval of the compensation we pay our named executive officers; and (4) the ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm.

### **Quorum and Voting**

Each shareholder is entitled to one vote per share of common stock held on each matter to be voted on. The presence at the annual meeting, in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock on the record date will constitute a quorum. Abstentions and broker non-votes (shares held by a broker or nominee who does not have the authority, express or discretionary, to vote on a particular matter) on any of the proposals to be voted on will be counted only for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum.

You may vote your shares in one of several ways, depending on how you own your shares.

### Registered Shareholders (Shares held in your name)

Registered shareholders can vote in person, by Internet, by telephone or by mail, by casting their vote by:

- 1) Attending and voting in person at the annual meeting;
- Accessing the Internet website specified in the Notice of Internet Availability and following the instructions
  provided on the website (or if printed copies of the proxy materials were requested, as specified in the
  printed proxy card);
- 3) Calling the telephone number specified in the Notice of Internet Availability and voting by following the instructions provided on the phone line (or if copies of the proxy materials were requested, as specified in the printed proxy card); or
- 4) Requesting a printed proxy card and completing, signing, dating and promptly mailing the proxy card in the envelope provided.

Beneficial Shareholders (Shares held in the name of a broker, bank or other holder of record on your behalf)

If your shares are held in the name of a broker, bank, or other nominee or holder of record, follow the voting instructions on the voting instruction form provided to you by the holder of record, to vote your shares.

<u>Proposal One Election of Directors</u>: Each nominee for director is elected by the vote of the majority of the votes cast with respect to that director s election. Holders of common stock are not entitled to cumulative votes in the election of directors. Abstentions from voting on this matter will not be counted. Brokers and other holders of record do not have discretionary voting authority to vote your shares in the election of directors, absent voting instructions from you. Therefore, if you are a beneficial shareholder and do not provide voting instructions on proposal number one to the holder of record for your shares, they will *not* be voted in the election of directors.

<u>Proposal Two</u> <u>Itron, Inc. Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan</u>: The Itron, Inc. Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (Plan) will be adopted if the number of votes cast for the Plan exceeds the number of votes cast against approval of the Plan. Abstentions from voting on this matter will not be counted. Brokers and other holders of record do not have discretionary voting authority to vote your shares on the approval of the Itron, Inc. Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan, absent voting instructions from you. Therefore, if you are a beneficial shareholder and do not provide voting instructions on proposal number two to the holder of record for your shares, they will *not* be counted in the vote for this proposal.

<u>Proposal Three Say-on-Pay Vote (non-binding)</u>: The affirmative vote of the majority of our shares represented at the meeting, either in person or by proxy and eligible to vote on the proposal, is required for the advisory (non-binding) approval of this proposal. Abstentions from voting on this matter will not be counted. Brokers and other

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holders of record do not have discretionary voting authority to vote your shares for this proposal, absent voting instructions from you. Therefore, if you are a beneficial shareholder and do not provide voting instructions on proposal number three to the holder of record for your shares, they will *not* be counted in the vote for this proposal.

<u>Proposal Four Ratification of Appointment of Independent Auditor</u>: The appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for 2014 will be ratified if the majority of the votes cast are in favor of the proposal. Abstentions from voting on this matter will not be counted. Brokers and other holders of record *do* have discretionary authority to vote shares on this matter. Therefore, there will be no broker non-votes on the ratification of the Company s independent registered public accounting firm.

Unless contrary instructions are specified, if the proxy is completed and submitted (and not revoked) prior to the annual meeting, the shares represented by the proxy will be voted as follows: (i) FOR all four proposals; and (ii) in accordance with the best judgment of the named proxies on any other matters properly brought before the annual meeting.

### **Revocability of Proxies**

Shares represented at the annual meeting by properly signed proxies will be voted at the annual meeting in accordance with the instructions given in the proxy. A shareholder may revoke a proxy at any time before the vote. Mere attendance at the annual meeting will not revoke a proxy. A proxy may be revoked only by:

- submitting a later-dated proxy for the same shares at any time before the proxy is voted;
- delivering written notice of revocation to the Corporate Secretary of Itron at any time before the vote; or
- attending the annual meeting *and* voting in person.

If you voted by telephone or the Internet and wish to change your vote, you may call the toll-free number or go to the Internet site, whichever is applicable to your earlier vote, and follow the directions for changing your vote. If the annual meeting is postponed or adjourned for any reason, at any subsequent reconvening of the annual meeting, all proxies will be voted in the same manner as the proxies would have been voted at the original convening of the annual meeting (except for any proxies that have at that time effectively been revoked or withdrawn).

### **Proxy Solicitation Costs**

We have retained Innisfree M&A Incorporated to aid in the solicitation of proxies. We will bear the cost of such solicitation of proxies, which we estimate will be approximately \$10,000 plus expenses. Proxies may be solicited by personal contact, mail, email, telephone, or facsimile. In addition, we may reimburse brokerage firms and other persons representing beneficial owners of our common stock for their reasonable expenses in forwarding solicitation materials to the beneficial owners. Our directors, officers, and employees may also solicit proxies personally or by telephone, without additional compensation.

### PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (Board) is divided into three classes, with each director holding office for a three-year term or until his or her successor has been elected and qualified. Unless authority is withheld, the persons named as proxies will vote for the election of the nominees listed below. If any of the nominees become unavailable to serve, the persons named as proxies will have discretionary authority to vote for a substitute nominee.

Our Board has nominated the following persons for election to the Board. Each nominee is currently a director and has indicated that he is willing and able to continue to serve as a director.

### Class 1 (to serve until 2017 annual meeting)

Jon E. Eliassen

Charles H. Gaylord, Jr.

Gary E. Pruitt

Michael V. Pulli

We have concluded that each of the nominees for re-election, as well as the other directors who will continue in office, have the skills, experience, knowledge, and personal attributes that are necessary to effectively serve on our Board. As described below in their biographies and the section *Director and Director Nominee Qualifications* that follows, the qualifications of our directors and director nominees support our conclusion that each of the individuals should serve as a director in light of our current business operations and structure.

### THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR

### THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE FOUR NOMINEES FOR DIRECTOR.

### Appointment of New Director by the Board Increase in Size of Board

Effective January 1, 2014, the Board elected Michael V. Pulli to the Board, which increased the number of directors serving on our Board from nine to ten. As stated above, Mr. Pulli is a nominee for election by the shareholders at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

### Nominee to Serve until 2017 (Class 1)

Jon E. Eliassen (age 67) has been a director since 1987 and has served as our Chairman of the Board since January 1, 2010. He recently retired on September 30, 2013, as the president, chief executive officer and member of the Board of Directors of Red Lion Hotels Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) traded company headquartered in Spokane, Washington, a position he had held since January 2010. From 2003 until 2007, Mr. Eliassen was president and chief executive officer of the Spokane Area Economic Development Council, and from 1970 until 2003, he held numerous positions within Avista Corporation, a company involved in the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity and natural gas, before retiring in 2003 as senior vice president and chief financial officer, a position he had held since 1986. In addition, Mr. Eliassen is a member of the board of directors of ITL, Inc., a privately held technology company, and was a member of the Board of Red Lion Hotels Corporation from September 2003 to September 2013.

In addition to his experience as President and CEO of a NYSE traded hospitality company, Mr. Eliassen has an extensive background with public utilities and the utility industry in general. He contributes to our Board the knowledge gained from his association with a public utility that includes extensive financial experience with accounting, audit, strategic planning, business development, and financing strategy, as well as merger and acquisition involvement that has included due diligence processes, company and business valuation techniques, and financial analyses. In addition, Mr. Eliassen has been a principal or general partner in venture capital firms with expertise in evaluating businesses and has several years—experience as an expert witness before utility regulatory commissions in matters relating to financial strategy and policy, credit ratings, cost of capital, and capital structure.

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Charles H. Gaylord, Jr. (age 68) has been a director since 2006. Mr. Gaylord has been a private technology investor focusing on software and communications since 1994. Until his retirement in 1994, Mr. Gaylord was executive vice president for Intuit Inc., a leading developer of personal and small business finance software programs such as Quicken and QuickBooks. From 1990 to 1993, he served as chairman and chief executive officer of ChipSoft, Inc., the original publisher of the tax preparation software program. TurboTax. Mr. Gaylord is a member of the board of directors and a member of the compensation committee of Proximetry Inc., a privately-held company, and a member of the advisory board of Technology Crossover Ventures I, an investment firm that invests primarily in private and public information technology companies.

During various periods from 1990 to approximately 2002, Mr. Gaylord was a member of the boards of directors and served on the compensation committees of the following public companies: Stac, Inc.; HNC Software, Inc.; Maxis, Inc.; and Retek, Inc.; and also served as a director of a number of private technology companies. His wealth of knowledge of software services, brand marketing, IT technology, and business development adds to the diverse business backgrounds of our other members of the Board.

Gary E. Pruitt (age 64) has been a director since 2006. From 2002 until his retirement in October 2009, Mr. Pruitt was chairman and chief executive officer of Univar N.V., a chemical distribution company with distribution centers in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. He had been associated with Univar and related entities since 1978 and held a variety of senior management positions within Univar and Van Waters & Rogers, Inc., which ultimately became Vopak USA Inc. Mr. Pruitt worked at Arthur Andersen & Co. as a chartered accountant from 1973 through 1977. He currently serves on the board of Premera Blue Cross, and on the boards of directors of the following NYSE traded companies: Public Storage, Inc.; Esterline Technologies Corporation; and PS Business Parks, Inc.

Mr. Pruitt brings to the Board his experience as a chief executive officer of a multi-national company and all the business attributes required of that position, along with operational and manufacturing expertise through his various other management positions held with Univar. His public accounting financial background and other public board experiences provide strategic and global perspectives on our business as well.

Michael V. Pulli (age 49) has been a director since January of 2014. Mr. Pulli currently serves as chief executive officer of Pace Plc, a London-based company that creates world-wide technologies, products and services for the broadcast and broadband industries, including media servers, gateways, and other digital services to its customers. Pace is also the world s market leader in set-top boxes for the television industry. Mr. Pulli was appointed CEO of Pace in December 2011, after nearly eight years as president of Pace Americas, where he was responsible for the company s businesses in the USA, Canada and Latin America. In his role as CEO, Mr. Pulli is responsible for leading Pace s global strategy. Prior to joining Pace in 2004, Mr. Pulli was CEO of the broadcasting company Digital Latin America. Previous to that, he spent eight years at Motorola in various senior management positions, including vice president of international operations. Mr. Pulli also serves on the Board of Directors of Pace, which is traded on the London Stock Exchange under the symbol PIC.

Mr. Pulli brings to the Board his ongoing experience as a chief executive officer of an international company with global operations and international strategies. He has extensive experience with Latin American technology companies and processes, where Itron has a business presence. Mr. Pulli s strong background in technology innovation, including the design and development of software solutions and products, together with his experience in working with over 160 of the world s leading managed service operators, brings a wealth of global business experience, diversity and talent to the Board.

**Directors Continuing in Office until 2016 (Class 3)** 

Lynda L. Ziegler (age 61) has been a director since February of 2013. Ms. Ziegler recently retired from Southern California Edison (SCE), one of the largest electric utilities in the U.S., whose parent is Edison International. During her tenure at SCE, she held various management positions related to customer program offerings, customer service, development, communication and implementation of energy efficiency programs, marketing

and communication of smart meters, and generally led all aspects of delivering power to almost 5 million customers. From 2006 to 2011, Ms. Ziegler was Senior Vice President of Customer Service, and from January 1, 2011 until her retirement in September of 2012, she served as Executive Vice President of Power Delivery Services, where she was responsible for transmission and distribution construction and maintenance, customer service, information technology (IT), and support services including procurement and real estate management. In the past she has served on the advisory committee for power delivery and utilization at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and currently serves as a founding member of the Board of the Association for Women in Water and Energy.

Ms. Ziegler brings to the Board her extensive background with public utilities, especially with her recent responsibilities in the industry related to smart meters and customer relations from the utility perspective. Her breadth of knowledge of software services, transmission and distribution construction and maintenance, IT, and business development adds to the diverse business backgrounds of our other members of the Board.

Thomas S. Glanville (age 55) has been a director since 2001. Since 2003, Mr. Glanville has been managing partner of Eschelon Energy Partners, LP, Eschelon Advisors, LP, and affiliates, providing energy and private equity investment and advisory services. From 1999 to 2002, Mr. Glanville served as vice president of technology and new ventures for Reliant Energy, Inc., one of the world s largest international energy services companies, and its affiliate, Reliant Resources, Inc. He currently serves on the boards of directors of privately-held oil and gas exploration and production companies Chroma Exploration and Production, Inc. and Strand Energy, L.L.C. He also serves as chairman of the Texas Tri-Cities branch (Houston, Austin, San Antonio) of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD).

Mr. Glanville brings to the Board financial expertise, industry-related experience through his association with Reliant Energy, energy sector exposure through the Eschelon entities, and technology skills that include his involvement with electric metering studies and research while he was vice president of technology for Reliant Energy.

Sharon L. Nelson (age 67) has been a director since 2003. Ms. Nelson is an attorney and served as chief of the Consumer Protection Division of the Washington State Attorney General s Office from 2003 to 2006, and as director of the Shidler Center for Law, Commerce, and Technology at the University of Washington from 2000 to 2003. In addition, Ms. Nelson has been a consultant to both corporations and nonprofit organizations specializing in advice on public policy and regulation. In the past she has served as chair of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and as president of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. She served as a commissioner on the National Commission on Energy Policy from 2002 to 2010, and in 2011 she was co-chair of the State Energy Strategy Advisory Committee for the State of Washington. Previously, Ms. Nelson was a member of the Board of Trustees of the North American Electrical Reliability Corporation (NERC) based in Princeton, New Jersey. NERC s members consist of the owners, operators, and users of the North American bulk electrical system. The U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission granted NERC the legal authority to enforce reliability standards on users of the bulk power system.

Ms. Nelson has also served on the boards of two other public corporations, XO Telecommunications (now private) and Covad Communications. Her experience as an executive and as a board member of other public companies, her legal background, and her knowledge of public policy and the utility and energy regulatory environment are of great value in her role as a director of Itron.

### **Directors Continuing in Office until 2015 (Class 2)**

Kirby A. Dyess (age 67) has been a director since 2006. Ms. Dyess is a principal in Austin Capital Management LLC where she invests in and assists early stage companies. Prior to forming Austin Capital Management LLC in 2003, Ms. Dyess spent 23 years at Intel Corporation where she most recently served as its corporate vice president and as

director of operations for Intel Capital, until her retirement in December 2002. While at Intel, she also served as vice president and director of new business development and corporate vice president and director of human resources worldwide. Ms. Dyess serves on the board of directors of Viasystems Group Inc.,

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a public company whose shares are traded on NASDAQ. She also serves on the board of Complí, a privately-held company that provides compliance software to companies, and chairs the board of Prolifiq SW Inc., a privately-held enterprise software company. She has served as vice president and president of the Oregon Board of Higher Education, and served on its board from 2004 to 2009. In 2009, Ms. Dyess was elected to the board of directors of Portland General Electric (PGE), a public utility whose shares are traded on NYSE.

Due to her positions at Intel Corporation and her more recent due diligence and investment in numerous early stage technology companies, Ms. Dyess provides the Board with a strong background in technology, brand marketing, human resources, mergers and acquisitions, and business development, in addition to business innovation and research and development knowledge.

Philip C. Mezey, age 54, was President and Chief Operating Officer (COO), Energy, from March 2011 until December 31, 2012, and effective January 1, 2013, he was elected our President and Chief Executive Officer, and a member of our Board of Directors. Mr. Mezey joined Itron in March 2003 as Managing Director of Software Development for Itron s Energy Management Solutions Group as part of Itron s acquisition of Silicon Energy Corp., where he had most recently served as its President of Product Development and Sales. Mr. Mezey was promoted to Group Vice President and Manager of Software Solutions in 2004. In 2005, he became Sr. Vice President Software Solutions, and in 2007 Mr. Mezey became Sr. Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Itron North America.

Mr. Mezey brings to the Board more than 13 years of experience in research and development, manufacturing, and business development for metering software and related services. While at Silicon Energy Corp., he managed the marketing and sales departments and was directly involved with a number of mergers and acquisitions prior to Itron s acquisition of that company. During his tenure at Itron, he has had extensive exposure to international systems and utilities throughout the world, and as the only employee director, Mr. Mezey provides the Board with valuable insight into management s views and perspectives, as well as the day-to-day operations of Itron.

Graham M. Wilson (age 69) has been a director since 1990. Mr. Wilson has been sole shareholder and chairman of GraWil Consultants Inc., a management and financial consultant firm, since 2002. Prior to that, he was employed by Westcoast Energy Inc., an integrated energy company, where he held the positions of executive vice president and chief financial officer, and president and chief executive officer of services. Mr. Wilson also serves on the boards of directors of the following public Canadian companies: British Columbia Ferries Services Inc., Naikun Wind Energy Group Inc., and Hardwoods Distribution, Inc.

A Canadian citizen, Mr. Wilson has extensive financial and senior leadership experience, particularly with energy businesses such as Westcoast Energy which focuses primarily on natural gas in the U.S. and Canada. He served as vice president of finance for two other public Canadian companies and currently serves on the audit committees of the aforementioned three public companies and on the investment committee of Fierra Axiom Infrastructure Fund in Canada. In addition, through his consulting firm, GraWil Consultants Inc., Mr. Wilson assists various business enterprises with their operations and finances. His Canadian business and financial acumen brings an international perspective to our Board.

#### **Director and Director Nominee Qualifications**

Our Corporate Governance Committee assists the Board in reviewing the business and personal background of each of our directors with respect to Itron s business and its business goals. Our skill criteria for our Board members includes the following: executive leadership experience; functional knowledge of technology and technology applications; international business experience; knowledge of the utility and energy industry; marketing and sales experience; financial experience gained from a chief financial officer position, a CPA or other financial reporting background;

expertise in manufacturing or software services; experience as an independent board member with a public company; experience in business integrations, including mergers and acquisitions; and legal or corporate law background. In addition, we look for the following personal criteria: an effective negotiator, listener, and team player; a visionary with a strategic and global perspective; a successful leader with a proven record of accomplishments; a problem-solver; an effective decision-maker; and a person who will take a strong interest in the Company.

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Our Corporate Governance Committee generally considers diversity as one of several factors relating to overall composition when making nominations to our Board. While we do not have a formal policy governing how diversity is considered, the Corporate Governance Committee generally considers diversity by examining the entire Board membership and, when making nominations to our Board, by reviewing the diversity of the entire Board. The Corporate Governance Committee construes Board diversity broadly to include many factors. As a result, the Corporate Governance Committee strives to ensure that our Board is represented by individuals with a variety of different opinions, perspectives, personal, professional, and industry experience and backgrounds, skills, and expertise.

When the Corporate Governance Committee considers candidates to be recommended to the Board for inclusion on the slate of director nominees for the next annual meeting of shareholders, it creates a matrix for each candidate to address our criteria. In addition to the qualities described in the individual director biographies, the following matrix summarizes the skills and attributes of our directors and director nominees for 2014 that we believe are essential to our business:

### **Director Qualifications and Attributes**

	Kirby	Jon	Charles	Thomas	Philip	Sharon	Mike	Gary	Graham	Lynda
	<b>Dyess</b>	Eliasser	ıGaylord	Glanville	Mezey	Nelson	Pulli	Pruitt	Wilson	Ziegler
Senior leadership/ CEO/COO										
experience	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
Business development experience	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö		Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
Financial expertise/CFO		Ö	Ö	Ö			Ö	Ö	Ö	
Public board experience	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö		Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	
Independence	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö		Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
Industry expertise		Ö		Ö	Ö	Ö			Ö	Ö
Industry expertise global	Ö			Ö	Ö	Ö		Ö	Ö	
Operational manufacturing										
expertise					Ö			Ö		
IT/technology/R&D/ Telecom										
expertise	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	
Marketing/sales expertise	Ö				Ö		Ö	Ö		Ö
Hardware/software services										
expertise	Ö		Ö		Ö	Ö	Ö			Ö
Government expertise						Ö				Ö
Legal expertise						Ö				
Mergers and Acquisitions	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	
Demonstrated integrity-personal										
and professional	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö

We have concluded that all of our directors, including the nominees for re-election, have the skills, experience, knowledge, and personal attributes that are necessary to effectively serve on our Board and to contribute to the overall success of our Company. We believe that the diverse background of each of our Board members ensures that we have a Board that has a broad range of industry-related knowledge, experience, and business acumen. See also *CORPORATE GOVERNANCE Director Nominations by Shareholders* in this proxy statement.

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### MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR DIRECTORS

#### COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

<u>Director Fees.</u> Our non-employee directors (other than our Chairman) receive an annual retainer of \$165,000, with \$65,000 paid in cash and \$100,000 paid in shares of our common stock. For our Chairman, the annual retainer paid is \$230,000, with \$110,000 paid in cash and \$120,000 paid in shares of our common stock. Members of the Audit/Finance Committee receive an additional annual retainer of \$10,000, paid in cash, and members of our Compensation and Corporate Governance Committees receive an additional annual retainer of \$6,500 and \$5,000, respectively, paid in cash. The committee chairs for the Corporate Governance and Compensation Committees receive an additional annual retainer of \$15,000, and the chair of the Audit/Finance Committee receives an additional annual retainers for serving on any of our committees.

For new non-employee directors, we issue restricted stock units (RSUs) equal in value to fifty percent of the annual cash retainer (currently at \$65,000 for directors other than the Chairman) upon the individual s election to the Board, with the RSUs vesting ratably over three years. Shares of our common stock and RSUs granted to non-employee directors that are issued as compensation are issued under our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan.

<u>Stock Ownership Guidelines.</u> Since 2006, we have maintained stock ownership guidelines for our non-employee directors, including our Chairman. We expect our directors and Chairman to purchase (or hold) shares equal to five times their annual cash retainer within five years from their initial appointment or election as a director, or to be making substantial progress towards meeting the guidelines. For our Chairman that equates to \$550,000 worth of stock, and for the other directors, it equates to \$325,000 worth of stock. All of our non-employee directors currently comply with these ownership guidelines, with the exception of our two recently elected non-employee directors, Lynda Ziegler and Michael Pulli, who joined the Board in February of 2013 and January of 2014, respectively, both of whom are making progress towards their goal.

<u>Deferred Compensation Plan.</u> Pursuant to the Company s Amended and Restated Executive Deferred Compensation Plan dated January 1, 2012, our non-employee directors are eligible to participate in that plan, and may defer up to 100% of any director fees and 100% of any RSUs that he or she anticipates receiving into a nonqualified account.

### **2013 Director Compensation Table (for all non-employee Directors)**

Director Compensation							
					Change		
					in		
					Pension		
					Value		
	Fees		1	Non-Equi	tynd Nonqualified	l	
	Earned			Incentive	e Deferred	All	
	or Paid	Stock	Option	Plan	Compensation	Other	
	in Cash	Awards	<b>Award</b> C	ompensat	ion Earnings Co	mpensation	Total
Name	(\$)	(\$)(9)	(\$)(10)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Kirby Dyess (1)	80,000	99,937					179,937
Jon Eliassen (2)(3)	110,000	119,948					229,948

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Charles Gaylord (3)(4)	76,500	99,937	176,437
Thomas Glanville (5)	80,000	99,937	179,937
Sharon Nelson (6)(7)	88,250	99,937	188,187
Gary Pruitt (6)	75,000	99,937	174,937
Graham Wilson (4)(6)	85,000	99,937	184,937
Lynda Ziegler (3)(8)	64,458	124,082	188,540

- (1) Chairman of the Compensation Committee.
- (2) Chairman of the Board.
- (3) Member of the Compensation Committee.

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- (4) Member of the Corporate Governance Committee.
- (5) Chairman of the Audit/Finance Committee.
- (6) Member of the Audit/Finance Committee.
- (7) Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee.
- (8) Ms. Ziegler was appointed to the Board on February 21, 2013 and her compensation reflects the partial year of service.
- (9) The amounts in this column reflect the aggregate grant date fair value of the awards determined in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718 (FASB ASC Topic 718); awards are fully vested at grant.
- (10) No options were granted to non-employee directors in 2013. As of December 31, 2013, the following directors had the following options outstanding: K. Dyess 9,099; J. Eliassen 7,644; C. Gaylord 8,486; T. Glanville 7,212; S. Nelson 5,986; G. Pruitt 8,486; G. Wilson 8,486; L. Ziegler 0.

#### LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The leadership of our Board is managed by our Chairman of the Board (Chairman). Our Corporate Governance Guiding Principles (Governance Principles) require the role of Chairman to be held by an independent director who meets the independence requirements of NASDAQ. The Board believes having separate roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) allows for a more balanced workload between the Chairman and the CEO, especially in light of the current duties and responsibilities of the Chairman, which include the following:

- Preside over all meetings of the Board (including executive sessions of the Board) and meetings of the shareholders;
- Review the agendas of each Board and committee meeting;
- Prepare agendas as needed for executive sessions of the independent directors;
- Perform the responsibilities of the Lead Independent Director as set forth in the Corporate Governance Guiding Principles;

- Serve as a liaison between the independent directors and the CEO;
- In consultation with the CEO, make recommendations to the Corporate Governance Committee as to membership of Board committees and appointment of Board committee chairs; and
- Perform such other duties as the Board may require.

Pursuant to the Company s Governance Principles, which may be found online at www.itron.com, the Chairman must be an independent director unless the Board determines that the best interests of shareholders would otherwise be better served. The Chairman is elected by the members of the Board following the annual meeting of shareholders (or at such other time as a vacancy for the role of Chairman may occur). The Chairman serves for a term of three years (provided such director is re-elected by shareholders if his or her term as a director does not coincide with his or her term as Chairman). The Chairman does not serve more than two consecutive terms, unless the Board approves an extended term. Our current Chairman, Jon Eliassen, is serving his second term that will expire at the 2016 annual meeting.

If the Board determines that it is in the best interests of the shareholders to combine the roles of CEO and Chairman, the Board will appoint a Lead Independent Director with the duties set forth in the Governance Principles.

See CORPORATE GOVERNANCE in this proxy statement for additional information on our Board of Directors.

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### PROPOSAL 2 APPROVAL OF THE ITRON, INC. AMENDED AND RESTATED

### 2010 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

We are seeking shareholder approval of amendments to the 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (the **Amended and Restated Itron, Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan** or **2010 Plan**) to autho<u>rize 4,375,000 additional shares of common stock for issuance under the 2010 Plan, to comply with changes in applicable law, to improve the Company s corporate governance, to implement other best practices and to eliminate provisions that are no longer relevant.</u>

The Board believes it is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to continue offering equity-based awards to our management-level employees. In order to have an appropriate supply of shares available for equity awards under the 2010 Plan to recruit, hire, and retain the talent necessary to achieve strong performance in the future, our Board believes the Company will need to reserve under the 2010 Plan the additional shares for which shareholder approval is being requested. By approving the 2010 Plan, shareholders are approving the performance criteria for Performance Awards as set forth in the 2010 Plan.

The 2010 Plan is the Company s only active employee equity plan (other than its Employee Stock Purchase Plan), and as of February 25, 2014, we had approximately 65,732 shares remaining for issuance under the 2010 Plan. If the shareholders approve the amendment, then at February 25, 2014, we would have had approximately 4,440,732 shares available for the grant of new awards. As of February 25, 2014, there were 1,322,322 options outstanding in aggregate under the 2010 Plan and the Amended and Restated 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (the **Prior Plan**) with a weighted average exercise price of \$52.91 and a weighted average remaining term of 5.2 years, and 723,812 full value awards under the 2010 Plan that were unvested and outstanding. Shares under the Company s 2012 Employee Stock Purchase Plan have been excluded from the above share totals.

### Material Changes to the 2010 Plan

The following summary highlights the proposed material changes to the 2010 Plan.

- The aggregate number of shares reserved for issuance pursuant to awards granted under the 2010 Plan has been increased by 4,375,000 additional shares.
- The share counting provision in the 2010 Plan has been amended to clarify that certain shares will be counted against the maximum number of shares reserved for issuance and will not be returned to the 2010 Plan for future awards.
- The change in control provision has been amended to eliminate the single-trigger vesting acceleration of awards upon a change in control and to clarify that any vesting acceleration that is triggered by a change in control is subject to the consummation of the transaction.
- A clawback provision has been added so that in certain circumstances the Company may recover from participants awards or payments made under the 2010 Plan.

- A provision has been added to clarify that dividend equivalents that are payable under a performance-based award will be subject to the same vesting restrictions applicable to the underlying performance-based award.
- A provision that is no longer applicable that limited the Company s authority to accelerate vesting acceleration upon certain circumstances with respect to a portion of the Company s outstanding shares has been deleted.
- The provision limiting transferability of awards has been revised to clarify the limited circumstances under which awards may be transferred.

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### **Key Terms of the Plan at a Glance**

The following is a summary of the key provisions of the 2010 Plan, as set forth and stated herein.

Plan Term: The 2010 Plan, as amended, will become effective on the date the shareholders

approve the 2010 Plan and will continue in effect until terminated by the board

of directors.

Eligible Participants: Employees, non-employee directors, and consultants of the Company or a

related corporation generally are eligible to receive each type of award offered

under the 2010 Plan.

Only employees of the Company or a related corporation are eligible to receive incentive stock options, within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (ISOs), under the 2010 Plan.

Shares Available for Awards: 7,875,000 shares of common stock over the term of the 2010 Plan (after giving

effect to the increase of 4,375,000 shares if the amendments are approved), subject

to adjustment in the event of certain changes in the capitalization of the Company.

If the amendments are approved by the shareholders, approximately 4,440,732 shares of common stock will be available for the grant of new awards

under the 2010 Plan as of February 25, 2014.

Award Types (1) Options

(2) Restricted stock

(3) Restricted stock units

(4) Stock appreciation rights

(5) Performance-based awards

Award Terms Options and Stock Appreciation Rights (SARs) have a term of no longer than

10 years

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ISOs granted to ten percent owners will have a term of no longer than 5 years.

All other awards have the terms set forth in the applicable award agreement and in the 2010 Plan.

**ISO Limits:** 

No more than 7,875,000 shares of common stock may be issued upon the exercise of ISOs granted under the 2010 Plan.

162(m) Share Limits:

Section 162(m) of the Code requires, among other things, that the maximum number of shares awarded to an individual during a specified period must be approved by the shareholders in order for the awards granted under the plan to be eligible for treatment as performance-based compensation that will not be subject to the \$1 million limitation on tax deductibility for compensation paid to certain specified senior executives.

Accordingly, the 2010 Plan limits awards granted to an individual participant in any fiscal year to:

- (1) No more than 300,000 shares subject to any award;
- (2) Up to 300,000 additional shares subject to awards to new hires
- (3) No more than \$4,000,000 payable in cash with respect to any award. Determined by the Compensation Committee within limits set forth in the 2010 Plan.

Vesting:

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Not Permitted:

- (1) Repricing or reducing the exercise price of a share option or SAR below the per share exercise price as of the date of grant without shareholder approval.
- (2) Canceling, surrendering or substituting an outstanding option or SAR (at any time when the then-current fair market value of a share is less than the exercise price) in exchange for the grant of a new award with a lower exercise price, a cash payment or any other award.
- (3) Adding shares back to the number of shares available for issuance when (i) shares covered by an award are surrendered in payment of the purchase price of awards or tax withholding for the exercise or settlement of an option or stock appreciation right, (ii) shares are not issued or delivered as a result of net settlement of an outstanding option or stock appreciation right, and (iii) shares are repurchased on the open market with the proceeds of the exercise of an option.

Change in Control:

Summary of the 2010 Plan

No single-trigger vesting acceleration.

The following description of the 2010 Plan is a summary, does not purport to be fully descriptive and is subject to the terms of the 2010 Plan, which is attached to this proxy statement as *Appendix A*.

### Purpose of the 2010 Plan

The purpose of the 2010 Plan is to enhance the long-term shareholder value of the Company by offering opportunities to selected persons to participate in the Company s growth and success, and to encourage them to remain in the service of the Company and to acquire and maintain stock ownership in the Company. The 2010 Plan allows us to utilize multiple types of equity incentives and performance incentives in order to secure and retain the services of our employees, consultants and directors, and to provide long-term incentives that align the interests of award recipients with the interests of our shareholders.

*Awards*. The 2010 Plan allows us to grant incentive and nonqualified stock options, stock appreciation rights (SARs), performance shares, performance units, restricted shares, restricted units, and unrestricted shares plus dividend equivalents. Awards may be granted singly or in combination with other awards.

Stock Subject to the 2010 Plan. A maximum of 7,875,000 shares of common stock (after giving effect to the increase of 4,375,000 shares if the amendments are approved) will be authorized for issuance under the 2010 Plan, all of which shares may be issued pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options granted under the 2010 Plan. The maximum number of shares, including the number of shares that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options, are subject to adjustment upon certain capitalization events of the Company as described in more detail below.

The 2010 Plan uses a fungible share concept where the awards of options and SARs cause one available share to be removed from the available share pool, while the award of restricted stock, restricted stock units, or other full-value

stock-based awards will be counted against the pool as 1.7 shares for each such award.

Shares covered by awards under the 2010 Plan and the Prior Plan that are forfeited, cancelled or otherwise expire without having been exercised or settled, or that are settled by cash or other non-share consideration, become available for issuance pursuant to a new award and will be credited back to the pool at the same one share or 1.7 shares ratio used for the awards. In addition, in the event that tax withholding liabilities arising under a full-value award under the 2010 Plan or Prior Plan are satisfied by surrendering of shares subject to an award, the surrendered shares will be added back to the pool at the same one share or 1.7 shares ratio used for the awards.

The following are not available for issuance pursuant to new awards: (i) shares that are surrendered to pay the exercise price of an award or, with regard to options or SARs, to satisfy tax withholding obligations; (ii) shares that are not issued as a result of a net settlement of an option or SARs; (iii) shares reacquired by the Company on the open market or otherwise using cash proceeds from the exercise of options.

Administration. Our Compensation Committee will administer the 2010 Plan (the Plan Administrator), unless the Board appoints another committee to administer the 2010 Plan. Subject to the terms of the 2010 Plan, the Plan Administrator selects the individuals to receive awards, determines the terms and conditions of all awards, and interprets the provisions of the 2010 Plan.

The Plan Administrator has the authority, in its sole discretion, to determine the type or types of awards to be made under the 2010 Plan. Except for adjustments to reflect stock splits and similar events, without shareholder approval, (i) no option or SAR may be amended to reduce the exercise price of such option or SAR below the per share fair market value of the common stock as of the date the option or SAR was granted, and (ii) at any time when the then-current fair market value of a share is less than the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date that an outstanding option or SAR was granted, such outstanding option or SAR may not be cancelled or surrendered in exchange for (i) cash, (ii) an option or SAR having an exercise price that is less than the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date that the original option or SAR was granted, or (ii) any other Award.

Eligible Participants. Awards may be granted under the 2010 Plan to those officers, directors, and employees of the Company and its Related Corporations (as defined in the 2010 Plan, generally Company subsidiaries) as the Plan Administrator selects. Awards may also be made to consultants, agents, advisors, and independent contractors who provide services to the Company and its Related Corporations; provided, however, that such participants render bona fide services that are not in connection with the offer and sale of the Company s securities in a capital-raising transaction and do not directly or indirectly promote or maintain a market for the Company s securities. As of February 25, 2014, nine non-employee directors, and approximately 500 employees would be eligible to participate in the 2010 Plan.

Stock Options. Options granted under the 2010 Plan may be incentive stock options (as defined in Section 422 of the Code) or nonqualified stock options. Under the 2010 Plan, the exercise price for each Option is determined by the Plan Administrator, but cannot be less than 100% of the common stock s fair market value on the date of grant. For purposes of the 2010 Plan, fair market value generally means the closing sales price of our common stock as reported by The NASDAQ Global Select Market for a single trading day. As of February 25, 2014, the fair market value of a share of our common stock was \$35.02.

The term of each option may not be greater than ten years from the date of grant. The Plan Administrator will establish and set forth in each instrument that evidences an Option the time at which, or the installments in which, the Option will vest and become exercisable, which provisions may be waived or modified by the Plan Administrator at any time.

The Plan Administrator will establish and set forth in each instrument that evidences an Option whether the Option will continue to be exercisable, and the terms and conditions of such exercise, if a participant ceases to be employed by, or to provide services to, the Company or its Related Corporations. If not so established in the instrument evidencing the Option, the Option will be exercisable according to the following terms and conditions, which may be waived or modified by the Plan Administrator at any time:

- (a) Any portion of an Option that is not vested and exercisable on the date of termination of the participant s employment or service relationship (the Termination Date ) will expire on such date.
- (b) Any portion of an Option that is vested and exercisable on the Termination Date will expire upon the earliest to occur of:
  - (i) the last day of the Option Term;

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- (ii) if the participant s Termination Date occurs for reasons other than Cause, Retirement, death or Disability, the three-month anniversary of such Termination Date; and
- (iii) if the participant s Termination Date occurs by reason of Retirement, Disability or death, the one-year anniversary of such Termination Date.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the participant dies after the Termination Date while the Option is otherwise exercisable, the portion of the Option that is vested and exercisable on such Termination Date will expire upon the earlier to occur of (a) the last day of the Option Term or (b) the first anniversary of the date of death, unless the Plan Administrator determines otherwise.

Also notwithstanding the foregoing, in case of termination of the participant s employment or service relationship for Cause (as defined in the 2010 Plan), the Option will automatically expire upon first notification to the participant of such termination, unless the Plan Administrator determines otherwise.

Stock Awards and Stock Units. The Plan Administrator is authorized to make awards of common stock on such terms and conditions and subject to such restrictions (which may be based on continuous service with the Company and/or a Related Corporation or the achievement of performance goals) as the Plan Administrator will determine, in its sole discretion, and as set forth in the instrument evidencing the Award ( Restricted Stock ). The terms, conditions and restrictions determined by the Plan Administrator will include, without limitation, the manner in which shares of Restricted Stock are held during the periods they are subject to restrictions and the circumstances under which forfeiture of the Restricted Stock will occur by reason of termination of the participant s employment or service relationship, if any.

The Plan Administrator is also authorized to make awards of common stock as described above but without imposing any restrictions (whether based on continuous service with the Company and/or a Related Corporation or the achievement of performance goals) on the shares of common stock subject to the award ( *Unrestricted Stock* ).

The Plan Administrator is authorized to make awards denominated in units of common stock ( *Stock Units* ) on such terms and conditions and subject to such restrictions (which may be based on continuous service with the Company and/or a Related Corporation or the achievement of performance goals) as the Plan Administrator will determine, in its sole discretion. The terms, conditions and restrictions include, without limitation, the conditions which must be satisfied prior to the issuance of the shares subject to the Stock Units to the participant and the circumstances under which forfeiture of the Stock Units will occur by reason of termination of the participant s employment or service relationship.

Performance Share and Performance Unit Awards. The Plan Administrator may grant awards of performance shares ( Performance Shares ) and designate the participants to whom Performance Shares are to be awarded and determine the number of Performance Shares and the terms and conditions of each such award. Performance Shares consist of a unit valued by reference to a designated number of shares of common stock, the value of which may be paid to the participant by delivery of such property as the Plan Administrator will determine, including, without limitation, cash, shares of common stock, other property, or any combination thereof, upon the attainment of performance goals, as established by the Plan Administrator, and other terms and conditions specified by the Plan Administrator.

The Plan Administrator may grant awards of performance units ( *Performance Units* ) and designate the participants to whom Performance Units are to be awarded and determine the number of Performance Units and the terms and conditions of each such award. Performance Units consist of a unit valued by reference to a designated amount of property other than shares of common stock, which value may be paid to the participant by delivery of such property

as the Plan Administrator will determine, including, without limitation, cash, shares of common stock, other property, or any combination thereof, upon the attainment of performance goals, as established by the Plan Administrator, and other terms and conditions specified by the Plan Administrator.

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*Dividend Equivalents*. The Plan Administrator is authorized to grant dividend equivalents, which are rights under the 2010 Plan entitling a participant to receive credits based on dividends that would have been paid on shares of Common stock subject to an award if such shares had been held by the participant at the time the dividend was declared. Dividend equivalents cannot be granted as part of options or SARs. Any dividend equivalents granted with respect to performance-based awards (or dividends distributed on performance-based restricted stock awards) will be subject to the same vesting conditions applicable to the underlying performance-based award.

*U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code (Code) Section 162(m) Provisions.* If the Plan Administrator determines at the time a Stock Award or a Performance Award is granted to a participant who is then an officer, that such participant is, or is likely to be as of the end of the tax year in which the Company would claim a tax deduction in connection with such award, a Covered Employee (as defined under Code Section 162(m), then the Plan Administrator may provide that Code Section 162(m) is applicable to such award and require the following:

- (a) If a Stock Award or a Performance Award is subject to Code Section 162(m), then the lapsing of restrictions thereon and the distribution of cash, shares of common stock or other property pursuant thereto, as applicable, will be subject to the achievement of one or more objective performance goals established by the Plan Administrator, which will be based on the following business criteria, either individually, alternatively or in any combination, as reported or calculated by the Company: net earnings (either before or after interest, taxes, depreciation and/or amortization), sales or revenue, income or net income (either before or after taxes), operating income or net operating income, operating profit or net operating profit, cash flow (including, but not limited to, operating cash flow and free cash flow), economic profit (including economic profit margin), return on assets, return on capital, return on investment, return on operating revenue, return on equity or average shareholders equity, total shareholder return, growth in sales or return on sales, gross, operating or net profit margin, working capital, earnings per share, growth in earnings or earnings per share, price per share of common stock, market share, overhead or other expense reduction, growth in shareholder value relative to various indices, safety, and strategic plan development and implementation, any of which may be used to measure the performance of the Company as a whole or with respect to any business unit, Subsidiary or business segment of the Company, either individually, alternatively or in any combination, and may be measured either annually or cumulatively over a period of years, on an absolute basis or relative to a pre-established target, to previous period results or to a designated comparison group. Such performance goals will be set by the Plan Administrator within the time period prescribed by, and will otherwise comply with the requirements of, Section 162(m) of the Code, or any successor provision thereto, and the regulations thereunder.
- (b) The Plan Administrator (notwithstanding certain other provisions of the 2010 Plan) may adjust downwards, but not upwards, the amount payable pursuant to any Stock Award or Performance Award, but the Plan Administrator may not waive the achievement of the applicable performance goals except in the case of the death or Disability of the Covered Employee.
- (c) The Plan Administrator may impose such other restrictions on awards subject to Code Section 162(m) as it may deem necessary or appropriate to ensure that such awards satisfy all requirements for performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m)(4)(C) of the Code, or any successor provision thereto.

(d) Subject to adjustment from time to time as provided in the 2010 Plan, no participant may be granted Options, SARs, Stock Awards or Performance Shares subject to Code Section 162(m) in any calendar year period with respect to more than 300,000 shares of common stock for such award, except that the Company may make additional one time grants of such awards for up to 300,000 shares to newly hired individuals, and the maximum dollar value payable with respect to Performance Units subject to Code Section 162(m) granted to any participant in any one calendar year is \$4,000,000.

Assignability. Except as otherwise determined by the Plan Administrator in accordance with the terms of the 2010 Plan and to the extent permitted by Section 422 of the Code, awards may not be pledged, assigned, or

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transferred other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, except that a participant may designate a beneficiary who may exercise an award or receive payment under an award after the participant s death. During the participant s lifetime, awards may be exercised only by the participant. Any transfer of an award that is authorized under the 2010 Plan must comply with the requirements applicable to offerings registered under a registration statement on Form S-8.

Adjustment of Shares. In the event of stock dividends, stock splits, spin-offs, combinations, or exchange of shares, recapitalization, mergers, consolidations, distributions to shareholders other than a normal cash dividend, or other change in the Company corporate or capital structure or similar changes in our corporate or capital structure, the Plan Administrator, will make proportional adjustments in (a) the maximum number and kind of securities subject to the 2010 Plan and the maximum number and kind of securities that may be made subject to awards to any participant, (b) the number and kind of securities that are subject to any outstanding award and the per share price of such securities, without any change in the aggregate price to be paid therefor, (c) the number and kind of securities automatically granted pursuant to a formula program established under the 2010 Plan, and (d) the maximum number of securities subject to an award to which Code Section 162(m) applies, as set forth in the 2010 Plan. Such adjustments will not be deemed an option repricing under the 2010 Plan.

Change in Control Transactions. Except as otherwise provided in the instrument evidencing the award or in a written employment or services agreement or other agreement between a participant and the Company or a Related Corporation in connection with an award, if in the event of a Change in Control Transaction (as defined in the 2010 Plan), a Participant s Award is not assumed, continued, replaced or an equivalent award is not substituted for the Award by the surviving corporation, the successor corporation or its parent corporation, as applicable, the Award will become fully vested and, if applicable, exercisable whether or not the vesting requirements set forth in the applicable agreement evidencing the Award have been satisfied.

The vesting and payout of Performance Awards resulting from a Change in Control Transaction will be as provided in the instrument evidencing the award or in a written employment or services agreement between a participant and the Company or a Related Corporation.

The Plan Administrator will have the discretion, exercisable at any time before a sale, merger, consolidation, reorganization, liquidation, or change in control of the Company, as defined by the Plan Administrator, to take such further action as it determines to be necessary or advisable, and fair and equitable to the participants, with respect to awards.

Amendment and Termination of 2010 Plan. The Board may suspend or terminate the 2010 Plan at any time. The 2010 Plan will have no fixed expiration date; provided, however, that no Incentive Stock Options may be granted more than ten years after the later of (a) the 2010 Plan s adoption by the Board and (b) the adoption by the Board of any amendment to the 2010 Plan that constitutes the adoption of a new plan for purposes of Section 422 of the Code.

The 2010 Plan may be amended only by the Board in such respects as it will deem advisable; provided, however, that to the extent required for compliance with Section 422 of the Code or any applicable law or regulation, shareholder approval will be required for any amendment that would (a) increase the total number of shares available for issuance under the 2010 Plan, (b) modify the class of persons eligible to receive Options, or (c) otherwise require shareholder approval under any applicable law or regulation.

Clawback/Recovery. Awards are subject to recoupment under any clawback policy that the Company is required to adopt under stock exchange rules or as otherwise required by applicable law. The Company may also impose other recoupment provisions as the Plan Administrator may determine are necessary or appropriate.

Section 409A. To the extent applicable, the 2010 Plan and any written instrument evidencing any award will be interpreted in accordance with Section 409A of the Code and U.S. Department of Treasury regulations and other interpretive guidance issued thereunder, including without limitation any such regulations or other guidance that may be issued after the effective date of the 2010 Plan.

## Federal Income Tax Consequences of the 2010 Plan

The following is a summary of the U.S. federal income tax consequences that generally will arise with respect to awards granted under the 2010 Plan. This summary is based on the federal tax laws in effect as of the date of this proxy statement. In addition, this summary assumes that all awards are exempt from, or comply with, the rules under Section 409A of the Code regarding nonqualified deferred compensation.

Incentive Stock Options. A participant will not have income upon the grant of an incentive stock option. Also, except as described below, a participant will not have income upon exercise of an incentive stock option if the participant has been employed by the Company or a 50% or more-owned corporate subsidiary at all times beginning with the option grant date and ending three months before the date the participant exercises the option. If the participant has not been so employed during that time, then the participant will be taxed as described below under Nonstatutory Stock Options. The exercise of an incentive stock option may subject the participant to the alternative minimum tax.

A participant will have income upon the sale of the stock acquired under an incentive stock option at a profit (if sales proceeds exceed the exercise price). The type of income will depend on when the participant sells the stock. If a participant sells the stock more than two years after the option was granted and more than one year after the option was exercised, then all of the profit will be long-term capital gain. If a participant sells the stock prior to satisfying these waiting periods, then the participant will have engaged in a disqualifying disposition and a portion of the profit will be ordinary income and a portion may be capital gain. This capital gain will be long-term if the participant has held the stock for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term. If a participant sells the stock at a loss (sales proceeds are less than the exercise price), then the loss will be a capital loss. This capital loss will be long-term if the participant held the stock for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term.

Nonstatutory (nonqualified) Stock Options. A participant will not have income upon the grant of a nonstatutory stock option. A participant will have compensation income upon the exercise of a nonstatutory stock option equal to the value of the stock on the day the participant exercised the option less the exercise price. Upon sale of the stock, the participant will have capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the sales proceeds and the value of the stock on the day the option was exercised. This capital gain or loss will be long-term if the participant has held the stock for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term.

Stock Appreciation Rights. A participant will not have income upon the grant of a stock appreciation right. A participant generally will recognize compensation income upon the exercise of a SAR equal to the amount of the cash and the fair market value of any stock received. Upon the sale of the stock, the participant will have capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the sales proceeds and the value of the stock on the day the SAR was exercised. This capital gain or loss will be long-term if the participant held the stock for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term.

Restricted Stock Awards. A participant will not have income upon the grant of restricted stock unless an election under Section 83(b) of the Code is made within 30 days of the date of grant. If a timely 83(b) election is made, then a participant will have compensation income equal to the value of the stock less the purchase price. When the stock is sold, the participant will have capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the sales proceeds and the value of the stock on the date of grant. If the participant does not make an 83(b) election, then when the stock vests the participant will have compensation income equal to the value of the stock on the vesting date less the purchase price. When the stock is sold, the participant will have capital gain or loss equal to the sales proceeds less the value of the stock on the vesting date. Any capital gain or loss will be long-term if the participant held the stock for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term.

Restricted Stock Units. A participant will not have income upon the grant of a restricted stock unit. A participant is not permitted to make a Section 83(b) election with respect to a restricted stock unit award. When the stock is distributed with respect to a restricted stock unit, the participant will have income in an amount equal to the fair market value of the stock less the purchase price, if any. When the stock is sold, the participant will have capital gain or loss equal to the sales proceeds less the value of the stock previously taxed. Any capital gain or loss will be long-term if the participant held the stock for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term.

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Other Stock-Based Awards. The tax consequences associated with any other stock-based award granted under the 2010 Plan will vary depending on the specific terms of such award. Among the relevant factors are whether or not the award has a readily ascertainable fair market value, whether or not the award is subject to forfeiture provisions or restrictions on transfer, the nature of the property to be received by the participant under the award and the participant sholding period and tax basis for the award or underlying common stock.

Tax Consequences to the Company. There will be no tax consequences to the Company except that the Company will be entitled to a deduction when a participant has compensation income. Any such deduction will be subject to the limitations of Section 162(m) of the Code.

## **Future Plan Benefits**

All awards to employees, officer, directors and consultants under the 2010 Plan are made at the discretion of the Plan Administrator. Therefore, the benefits and amounts that will be received or allocated under the 2010 Plan in the future are not determinable at this time.

#### Past Grants under the 2010 Plan

As of February 25, 2014, awards covering 2,468,503 shares of the common stock had been granted under the 2010 Plan. The following table shows information regarding the grants of those awards among the persons and groups identified below.

N 10 10	Option	RSU	<b>7</b> 5. 4. 1.
Name and Position	Grants	Grants	Total
Named Executive Officers:			
Philip Mezey President and CEO	279,615	73,634	353,249
John Holleran Executive Vice President and COO	91,052	61,355	152,407
Steven Helmbrecht Executive Vice President and CFO	61,663	44,706	106,369
Russell Vanos, Senior VP, Strategy and Business Development	13,830	20,634	34,464
Shannon Votava VP, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary	27,853	8,782	36,635
Marcel Reginer President Gas	0	50,144	50,144
Current Executive Officer Group (including all of the Named Executive Officers and all other executive officers)	474,013	259,255	733.268
Non-employee Director Group:			
Kirby Dyess	3,099	7,424	10,523
Jon Eliassen	4,144	9,069	13,213
Charles Gaylord	2,486	7,268	9,754
Thomas Glanville	3,712	7,268	10,980
Sharon Nelson	2,486	7,268	9,754
Gary Pruitt	2,486	7,424	9,910
Michael Pulli	0	1,414	1,414
Graham Wilson	2,486	7,424	9,910
Lynda Ziegler	0	3,462	3,462
Total for Non-Executive Director Group (nine individuals)	20,899	58,021	78,920

All employees who are not executive officers, as a group	160,683	1,495,632	1,656,315	
Total 2010 Plan Shares	655,595	1,812,908	2,468,503	

THE BOARD BELIEVES APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2010 PLAN IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE SHAREHOLDERS AND RECOMMENDS A VOTE <u>FO</u>R THE APPROVAL OF THE ITRON, INC. AMENDED AND RESTATED 2010 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN.

## PROPOSAL 3 APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (Say-on-Pay)

We are asking our shareholders to approve a non-binding advisory resolution on the Company s executive compensation programs for our Named Executive Officers (NEOs) (commonly known as say-on-pay) as we have described them in this proxy statement. Although this advisory vote is nonbinding, the Board and the Compensation Committee will take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future compensation decisions for our executives. In addition, the Board has determined that it will seek say-on-pay votes annually, with the next vote occurring at the Company s 2015 annual meeting.

As discussed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A) section of this proxy statement beginning on page <u>28</u>, we believe our compensation programs are reasonable, competitive, and strongly focused on pay-for-performance principles that will result in the creation of long-term shareholder value. Some of the features of our compensation programs that illustrate our philosophy are:

- A significant portion of an NEO s compensation is at-risk or performance-based, and subject to the Company s operating and financial performance. We consider annual cash-based incentives, equity long-term incentives, and stock options to be performance-based, because each of these three elements is valuable to the executive only if performance goals are achieved and/or our share price improves. In fiscal year 2013, the executive compensation package (base salary, short- and long-term incentives at target) included 84% of at-risk compensation for the CEO and an average of 73% of at-risk compensation for the other NEOs.
- Our long-term performance plan (LTPP) has three-year performance periods to encourage NEOs to make decisions that align our long-term goals with shareholder interests, and to discourage taking excessive risks.
- Stock ownership guidelines require executive officers to acquire and hold certain amounts of Itron stock to further strengthen alignment of management s interest with those of our shareholders.
- We have established a Clawback Policy that covers awards under all of our incentive programs, and provides that if a bonus or equity award is paid that is conditioned on meeting certain financial metrics, and, subsequently, there is a required financial restatement, which had the correct information been known at the time would have resulted in a lower award, then the Board will have the right to demand repayment of the excess amount of the award, net of taxes.
- We maintain our long-standing commitment to strong corporate governance by continuing our policies of (i) separate Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) roles, (ii) majority voting for directors, (iii) all independent Board members (except our CEO) and all independent committee members, (iv) executive sessions of independent directors after each quarterly Board meeting, and (v) forbidding the hedging or pledging of Itron stock by our executives.
- The compensation of our NEOs varies depending upon the achievement of pre-established performance goals determined by the Compensation Committee, which are intended to serve as incentives for our executives.

When performance does not meet the pre-established target goals, as was the case in 2013, then the amount of compensation paid to our executives is correspondingly reduced or eliminated. See 2013 Compensation Paid to Our NEOs in the CD&A. See also Supplemental Tables of NEO Realizable Compensation in the CD&A section of this proxy statement for a five-year analysis of the current value of our NEOs equity compensation as compared to grant date fair value.

We believe our executive compensation policies have enabled us to retain exceptional senior executives whose talent and experience have helped Itron become a leader in our industry. Our Compensation Committee, which provides overall direction for our compensation programs, believes the fiscal year 2013 compensation paid to our NEOs was reasonable and appropriate and adequately reflects the Company s overall performance in 2013.

Shareholders are encouraged to read the full details of our executive compensation programs as described in the CD&A section of this proxy statement.

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For the reasons provided above, we recommend that the shareholders vote in favor of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the shareholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company s NEOs, as disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A) section of the Company s proxy statement for the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (which disclosure includes the CD&A, the Executive Compensation Tables, and the accompanying footnotes and narratives within the CD&A section of the proxy statement).

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE <u>FOR</u> THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION OF OUR NEOs.

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## PROPOSAL 4 RATIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board, upon the recommendation of its Audit/Finance Committee, has selected Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for 2014, subject to ratification by our shareholders. Although not required to do so, the Board is submitting the selection of Ernst & Young LLP for ratification by the Company s shareholders for their views on the Company s independent registered public accounting firm and as a matter of good corporate practice. Ernst & Young LLP has advised the Company that it has no direct, nor any material indirect, financial interest in the Company or any of its subsidiaries. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP will be present at the annual meeting to answer questions and will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so.

In the event that our shareholders fail to ratify the selection, it will be considered as a direction to the Board and the Audit/Finance Committee to consider the selection of a different firm. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit/Finance Committee in its discretion may select a different independent registered public accounting firm, subject to ratification by the Board, at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in the best interest of the Company and our shareholders.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE <u>FOR</u> THE RATIFICATION

OF ERNST & YOUNG LLP AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED

PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR 2014.

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## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

## **Corporate Governance Principles**

The Company has adopted Corporate Governance Principles, which are available on the Company s website, www.itron.com, by selecting About Itron, Investors and then Corporate Governance.

## **Board Matters** Meeting Attendance

Our business, property, and affairs are managed under the direction of our Board. Members of our Board are kept informed of our business through discussions with our CEO and other officers, by reviewing materials provided to them, by visiting our offices, and by participating in meetings of the Board and its committees.

In accordance with our Corporate Governance Principles, directors are expected to attend the Company s annual meeting of shareholders. All of our directors attended the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders. During 2013, the Board met thirteen times. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Board and 75% of the meetings of each committee of which he or she was a member during the periods in which they were directors or members of such committees.

Also in accordance with our Corporate Governance Principles, our independent directors meet in an executive session as often as necessary, but no less than four times annually.

### **Committees of the Board**

We have three committees to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities: Corporate Governance, Audit/Finance, and Compensation. Each of the three committees operates under a written charter that has been approved by the Board. The charters are available on our website, *www.itron.com*, by selecting About Itron , Investors and then Corporate Governance . The committee charters are reviewed annually and are updated as necessary to reflect changes in regulatory requirements and evolving oversight practices.

The following table shows the current membership of each committee at the end of fiscal 2013:

	Compensation	Corporate Governance	Audit/Finance
Director	Committee	Committee	Committee
Kirby Dyess	Chair		
Jon Eliassen	X	X	
Charles Gaylord	X	X	
Thomas Glanville			Chair
Sharon Nelson		Chair	X
Gary Pruitt			X
Graham Wilson		X	X
Lynda Ziegler	X		

Director Mike Pulli was elected to the Board in January of 2014 and he will be appointed to one or more committees at the annual meeting of the Board in May following his re-election to the Board. Our sole employee director, Philip Mezey, does not sit on any committees.

Corporate Governance Committee. The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for developing and implementing our Corporate Governance Guiding Principles, evaluating the performance of our Chairman of the Board and the CEO, soliciting recommendations for candidates for the Board, determining the qualification and independence of the directors serving on the Board, making recommendations to the Board regarding candidates to serve on the Board, and reviewing and making recommendations to the Board with respect to candidates for directors proposed by shareholders. It also reviews the compensation paid to our directors, and makes recommendations to the Board on director fees and other compensation payable to the Board members.

The Corporate Governance Committee has determined that all of the non-employee directors of the Board are independent under SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards. The Corporate Governance Committee held eleven meetings during 2013.

<u>Audit/Finance Committee</u>. The Audit/Finance Committee monitors our accounting practices, internal controls over financial reporting, and financial results, and reviews at least quarterly our business financial risks to determine if management and our internal controls are identifying and mitigating risks associated with our business operations. In addition, the Committee has sole authority to retain, compensate, and terminate our independent auditors. The Corporate Governance Committee has determined that all members of the Audit/Finance Committee are independent under SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards.

The Corporate Governance Committee has also determined that three of the four members of the Audit/Finance Committee (Messrs Glanville, Pruitt and Wilson) are financially literate in accordance with the Standards of NASDAQ Rule 5605(c) (2) (A) (iv), and that the same three members are also audit committee financial experts as defined in Item 407(d) (5) of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). The Audit/Finance Committee held nine meetings during 2013.

<u>Compensation Committee.</u> The Compensation Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board for our CEO s total annual and long-term incentive compensation and setting compensation levels for our other executive officers. The Committee also oversees the administration of various incentive compensation and benefit plans, which includes an annual evaluation of our compensation plans and policies. In addition, the Committee performs any other functions regarding compensation that the Board may delegate to it.

The Corporate Governance Committee has determined that all members of the Compensation Committee are independent under SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards. The Compensation Committee held eight meetings during 2013. See EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION CD&A in this proxy statement for more information on the Compensation Committee s responsibilities regarding the compensation of our executives.

## **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

No member of our Board s Compensation Committee has served as an officer or employee of the Company. None of our executive officers serve as a member of the compensation committee of any other company that has an executive officer serving as a member of our Board. None of our executive officers serve as a member of the board of directors of any other company that has an executive officer serving as a member of our Board s Compensation Committee.

### **Transactions with Related Persons**

There were no related person transactions required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K in fiscal year 2013. In order to determine this, the Board requires our executive officers, directors, or director nominees to disclose certain information related to related person transactions. A related person transaction generally is a transaction (including any indebtedness or a guarantee of indebtedness) that involves the Company s directors, executive officers, director nominees, 5% or more beneficial owners of the Company s common stock, immediate family members of these persons, or entities in which one of these persons has a direct or indirect material interest. The current threshold required to be disclosed under SEC regulations is \$120,000. Under its charter, the Corporate Governance Committee of the Board has been delegated with the responsibility of reviewing and approving any related person transactions.

## Our Board s Role in Risk Oversight

The Board has overall responsibility for risk oversight, including, as part of regular Board and committee meetings, general oversight of our executives management of risks relevant to the Company. The Board routinely satisfies itself, directly or through Board committees, that: (i) there are adequate processes designed and implemented by Company management such that risks have been identified and are being managed; (ii) the risk

management processes function is intended to ensure that Company risks are taken into account in corporate decision-making; and (iii) the risk management system ensures that material risks to the Company are brought to the attention of the Board or an appropriate committee of the Board. Each of the Company s risk management processes are reviewed periodically (but at least once a year) by either the Board or an appropriate committee to which the Board has delegated specific oversight responsibility, as described below. Throughout the year, the Board and each committee spend a portion of their time reviewing and discussing specific risk topics. Committee chairs regularly report to the full Board on actions taken at committee meetings. At least annually, the Board conducts a review of our long-term strategic plans, and at each of our quarterly meetings, our General Counsel updates the Board on material legal and regulatory matters.

The Audit/Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing our major financial risk exposures, financial reporting, internal controls, credit and liquidity risk, compliance risk, and key operational risks. It meets regularly with our independent auditors and in executive session to facilitate a full and candid discussion of risk and other issues. Our Compensation Committee is responsible for overseeing compensation risks, including assessing possible risks from our compensation plans and policies for our executives and ensuring that our executive compensation is aligned with Company performance. The Compensation Committee reviews a summary and assessment of such risks annually and in connection with discussions of various compensation elements and benefits throughout the year. Our Corporate Governance Committee oversees risks related to our overall corporate governance, including Board and committee composition, Board size and structure, and our director independence. The Corporate Governance Committee is also involved with succession planning for the Board and management, and its charter requires it to review annually our Corporate Governance Principles.

Following a review of the Company s current risk management systems and processes, the Board has concluded that the current allocation of oversight responsibilities between the Board and its committees is adequate, provided that the committees continue to coordinate their risk oversight responsibilities, share information appropriately with the other Board members, and provide timely and adequate reports to the full Board. The Board will continually evaluate its risk oversight role.

## **Code of Conduct**

The Company has adopted a Code of Conduct that applies to all directors, officers, and employees of the Company and any subsidiary of the Company, including the CEO and chief financial officer (CFO), and is available on the Company s website, *www.itron.com*, by selecting About Itron, Investors and then Corporate Governance. In addition, we have adopted policies and procedures for reporting and investigating suspected violations of the Code of Conduct. The Company intends to satisfy any future disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to or waiver from application of the code of ethics or provisions of the Code of Conduct, that applies to the CEO or the CFO, by posting such information on our website, *www.itron.com*.

## **Anti-Hedging Policy**

The Company has adopted a Hedging Policy that prohibits our directors, officers, and employees from entering into transactions involving our securities that are designed to hedge or offset any decrease in the market value of Itron securities. See *EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION CD&A Anti-Hedging Policy* in this proxy statement for more information on this policy.

## **Clawback Policy**

The Company has adopted a repayment or clawback policy, which provides that if a bonus or equity award (award) is paid that is conditioned on meeting certain financial metrics, and, subsequently, there is a required financial restatement, which had the correct information been known at the time would have resulted in a lower award, then the Board has the right to demand repayment of the excess amount of the award, net of taxes, from an executive officer who has received an award.

## **Director Nominations by Shareholders**

In accordance with the Company s Amended and Restated Bylaws, in order to nominate a director for election to the Board at an annual meeting of shareholders, a shareholder must deliver written notice of such nomination to the Corporate Secretary of the Company at the Company s executive offices no fewer than 60 days nor more than 90 days prior to the date of the annual meeting (or if less than 60 days notice or prior public disclosure of the date of such annual meeting is given or made to the shareholders, not later than the tenth day following the day on which notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or public disclosure was made). The notice of a shareholder s intention to nominate a director must include:

i	the name	and	address	of the	shareholder;
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- a representation that the shareholder is entitled to vote at the meeting at which directors will be elected;
- a statement of the number of shares of the Company that are beneficially owned by the shareholder;
- a representation that the shareholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the person or persons specified in the notice;

and the following information with respect to the person nominated by the shareholder:

- ; name and address;
- other information regarding such nominee as would be required in a proxy statement filed pursuant to applicable SEC rules;
- a description of any arrangements or understandings between the shareholder and the nominee and any other persons (including their names), pursuant to which the nomination is made; and
- the consent of such nominee to serve as a director, if elected.

Other directors and senior management of the Company may also recommend director nominees for consideration by the Corporate Governance Committee. The Corporate Governance Committee evaluates director nominees, including nominees that are submitted to the Company by a shareholder, taking into consideration the qualification criteria set forth under *ELECTION OF DIRECTORS Director and Director Nominee Qualifications* in this proxy statement. In the event of a shareholder recommendation, the Corporate Governance Committee screens and evaluates the person recommended in the same manner as other candidates. In addition, the Corporate Governance Committee determines if the proposed director nominee will have sufficient time available to carry out his or her Board duties and responsibilities effectively. The Corporate Governance Committee may then recommend the director candidate to the Board for its consideration, if deemed appropriate.

### **Shareholder Communications with the Board**

The Company s Board provides a process whereby shareholders may contact the Board or any committee as a group or any committee chair or individual director, by email addressed to *boardofdirectors@itron.com*. Shareholders should clearly specify in each communication the name of the director to whom the communication is addressed. Shareholders may also write to the Board or any committee as a group or any committee chair or individual director by sending the communication to: Itron, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, 2111 N. Molter Road, Liberty Lake, WA 99019. Communications may also be submitted through our website at *www.itron.com* by selecting About Itron , Investors, Corporate Governance, and then Contact the Board .

Shareholder communications are delivered directly to the Corporate Secretary of the Company, who then determines whether to forward such communications to the specified director addressees. You can access a description of the process that the Corporate Secretary uses for determining whether to forward shareholders communications to directors at our website, *www.itron.com*, by selecting About Itron , Investors, Corporate Governance, and then Conta the Board.

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Shareholders wishing to submit proposals for inclusion in the proxy statement relating to the 2015 annual shareholders meeting should follow the procedures specified under SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR 2015 in this proxy statement. Shareholders wishing to nominate directors should follow the procedures specified under CORPORATE GOVERNANCE Director Nominations by Shareholders in this proxy statement.

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## **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

## Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A)

In the following CD&A, we will present (1) an executive summary that provides an overview of our 2013 financial and operational performance, as well as significant aspects of our 2013 compensation program; (2) our compensation philosophy and the processes we use to make compensation decisions for our NEOs; (3) the components of our compensation and benefits plans; and (4) detailed 2013 compensation information for our NEOs.

Our 2013 NEOs, as determined by SEC rules, are as follows:

- Philip C. Mezey President and CEO;
- John W. Holleran Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO);
- Steven M. Helmbrecht Executive Vice President and CFO;
- ; Shannon M. Votava Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary;
- Russell E. Vanos Senior Vice President, Strategy and Business Development; and
- ; Marcel Regnier President Gas (formerly, President and COO Water)

## **Executive Summary**

### Overview of our 2013 Financial and Operational Performance

Fiscal 2013 was a challenging year. Although the global transition to smart metering continues throughout the world, the slow global economic recovery negatively impacted business and therefore affected our 2013 financial performance. The substantial completion of several of our large smart grid projects in North America contributed to an 11% reduction in our overall revenue year-over-year. Excluding the impact of these large smart grid projects, our total revenues increased approximately 1% compared with last year. Our gross margin of 31.5% decreased over the prior year, primarily due to lower volumes associated with the wind down of the large smart grid projects. In addition, our GAAP earnings were negatively impacted by restructuring charges and a goodwill impairment charge related to our Electricity business segment. This impairment resulted from a decrease in the segment s long-term forecast due to delays in global smart grid projects as well as competitive pressures that impacted our pricing and profits. The lower forecast also required us to write-down a deferred tax asset. Despite these challenges, we ended 2013 with \$1.1 billion in total backlog, which is a 3% increase compared with the backlog at the end of 2012.

During the year, we continued to focus on reducing our operating costs and streamlining our business operations. In 2013 we completed the restructuring project begun in 2011 to both reduce our manufacturing and operating expenses and to increase efficiencies, and in September of 2013, we initiated another project to further restructure our

operations to improve profitability and efficiencies. We continue to prioritize our research and development investment regarding new and improved products as part of our ongoing efforts to improve and solidify our uniquely broad portfolio of energy and water solutions. We anticipate these efforts will help us capture new worldwide opportunities as they become available, while at the same time maximizing and improving our portfolio of products and services currently provided to our utility customers.

Some of our 2013 business highlights include the following;

- Revenues grew each quarter during the year and our fourth quarter revenues were the highest in the last six fiscal quarters. Excluding the impact of the substantial completion of several large smart grid projects in North America, our total revenues increased approximately 1% over last year with growth in both the Water and Electricity businesses, offset by a decline in the Gas business.
- Bookings increased 5% year-over-year and we ended the year with \$1.1 billion in total backlog, which represents a 3% increase from the end of 2012.

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- We completed a restructuring project in June 2013 and initiated a second project in September 2013 to further consolidate and reorganize our operations to increase efficiencies and profitability. At the end of 2013, approximately 50 percent of the workforce reductions planned under the second project had been completed.
- We began to realize benefits during the year from the restructurings and other efficiency projects which offset some, but not all, of the impact of the lower volumes and revenues.
- We continue to make progress in our global enterprise resources system rollout which will improve efficiencies throughout our organization.
- We continue to be a leading worldwide meter and data management provider, as well as a leading North American communications provider. Currently, approximately 50% of North America has automated meters and the rest of the world, approximately 12%.

## Significant 2013 Compensation Programs

Compensation paid to our NEOs in 2013 was consistent with and reflective of our pay-for-performance philosophy. Each year our Compensation Committee (Committee) sets specific compensation targets and goals consistent with our pay for performance philosophy. Given our financial performance in 2013, payouts under our annual cash incentive plan were substantially reduced from the prior year (payouts for Mr. Holleran and Mr. Mezey were zero), and there were no payouts under our equity-based Long-Term Performance Plan (LTPP).

None of the minimum threshold requirements for a payout (consolidated revenue and adjusted earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) for the annual cash incentive plan were achieved. As a result, cash payouts for our NEOs were based solely on their performance against personal objectives, with the exception of Messrs. Mezey and Holleran, who did not earn any payout since their minimum threshold requirements did not include personal objectives. Similarly, since the Company failed to meet the threshold for earnings per share (EPS) with respect to the Company s LTPP, there were no equity payouts to any of the NEOs under these awards. The LTPP accounts for 50% of an NEO s long-term incentive opportunity.

As part of our long-standing commitment to strong corporate governance, many of the changes we implemented in 2012 to our compensation plans and governance policies (as described in last year s CD&A) became effective in 2013, which included the following:

- All of our change-in-control (CIC) agreements now provide for double trigger treatment of equity awards after January 1, 2014 rather than single trigger.
- None of our CIC agreements include excise tax gross-up provisions.
- The 2013 LTPP awards are based on a three-year performance period with vesting to occur upon certification of performance at the end of the third year, rather than a one-year performance period with a three-year vesting period (Prior LTPP). The financial metrics are based upon non-GAAP EPS and are subject to a

multiplier depending on our relative total shareholder return (TSR) performance ranking compared to the Russell 3000 index. In order to transition from the Prior LTPP design, the Committee adopted, for 2013 only, an LTPP with a 2-year (33.3% of the potential) and a 3-year (66.7% of the potential) component. Both components are identical in their design, with the only difference being the length of the performance period.

- We revised the list of companies included in our peer companies group to consist of those we consider to be more reflective of companies in our industry with characteristics like Itron, such as similar market capitalization, international business, and technology footprint.
- i Since 2011, we have been and will continue to seek shareholder votes on our executive compensation on an annual basis. For this year s meeting, see *Proposal No. 3 Approval of Executive Compensation Say-on-Pay* ir this proxy statement.

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## Say-on-Pay Shareholder Outreach

In 2013, shareholders were presented with an advisory vote to approve our executive compensation paid in 2012. Approximately 74% of our shareholders who voted were in favor of our executive compensation programs. Prior to the vote, our Chairman of the Board and Chair of the Committee, together with other senior executive officers of the Company, engaged with our major shareholders and proxy advisory firms to review the changes to our compensation programs that we approved in 2012 and implemented in 2013. These changes were meant to reinforce our strong corporate governance policies and continue our policy aligning our executive compensation to the financial performance of the Company, and included the following: (a) our CIC agreements contain double-trigger provisions and no tax gross-up obligations; (b) our LTPP program was revised to increase the performance period from one-year to three-years, with new performance metrics tied to the Company s EPS, subject also to a multiplier based on the Company s TSR as compared to the Russell 3000 index; (c) adoption of a Clawback Policy and a Severance Policy for our executive officers; (d) expiration of our shareholder rights plan; and (e) continuation of strong stock ownership guidelines for our NEOs and directors, as well as the prohibition of hedging and pledging of Itron stock, Our shareholders indicated their support of our continued strong corporate governance and of our executive compensation being aligned so closely to the Company s financial performance, including non-GAAP EPS with a TSR multiplier tied to our LTPP plan. Since we seek shareholder votes on our executive compensation on an annual basis, we intend to continue seeking input and feedback from our shareholders so we can address their concerns and issues related to our compensation programs each year. In early 2014, we will again meet with our major shareholders to discuss our compensation programs, and to solicit feedback from them on our compensation and governance policies.

## **Executive Compensation Philosophy and Objectives**

#### *Philosophy*

The philosophy underlying the Company s compensation plans is to provide compensation that rewards both individual and Company or business line performance and that aligns such compensation with our shareholders interests. Our programs provide a competitive package of annual base pay, annual cash incentives, and long-term equity based incentives. We design our executive incentive compensation plans to correlate with the Company s performance, which is generally defined in terms of revenue, profitability, and shareholder return as reflected by EPS. Annual and long-term incentives are based on a pay-for-performance philosophy and are directly tied to the Company s financial performance. The Committee also provides for compensation tied to individual performance objectives for certain NEOs. These are objectives set by the CEO (and for Mr. Regnier, by the COO) and agreed to by the executive. *See* 2013 Compensation Paid to our NEOs 2013 Compensation Annual Cash Incentives EMIP and 2013 EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLAN Metrics, Weighting, Targets, Actual Results table in this CD&A.

Because Itron is widely recognized as a world leader in our industry, we recruit, motivate, and retain exceptional people who are key to our continued leadership and success. We focus on creating a pay-for-performance culture, but one that does not encourage excessive or unnecessary risk-taking. Our executive compensation programs are reviewed annually, and targets and metrics may be changed to support Itron s business goals and promote both short-and long-term profitable growth of the Company. We design our compensation programs to achieve the following objectives through a combination of fixed and variable cash and equity-based elements:

*Performance (Company)* motivating performance by creating a direct link between compensation and the Company's performance, as measured against pre-set financial goals;

- *Performance (Individual)* motivating performance by rewarding those NEOs who contribute their skills, talent and perseverance to the Company s business in ways that may be tied directly or indirectly to financial goals;
- *Alignment* aligning our NEOs interests with those of our shareholders by fostering stock ownership and paying a significant portion of compensation with equity; and
- *Retention* providing a competitive total compensation package of annual base pay, annual cash incentives, and long-term equity incentives so we can attract and retain qualified executives.

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## Role of Compensation Committee, Compensation Consultant, and Executive Officers

The Committee provides oversight and direction for our executive compensation plans, policies, and programs, and determines the components of compensation for each of our NEOs. Each member of the Committee qualifies as an independent director under NASDAQ listing standards and SEC rules, including the recently enacted listing standards for compensation committees and compensation advisors. In addition, each member is a non-employee director within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and an outside director within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (Code).

The Committee makes all final compensation and equity award decisions regarding our NEOs, except for the CEO, whose compensation is determined by the full Board based upon recommendations of the Committee. The Committee engages an independent compensation consultant to provide expertise on competitive pay practices, program design, and an objective assessment of any inherent risks of any programs. Pursuant to authority granted to it under its charter, the Committee has hired Frederic W. Cook & Co. (FWC) as its independent consultant. FWC reports directly to the Committee and does not provide any additional services to management. The Committee has conducted an independence assessment of FWC in accordance with recently adopted SEC rules.

Members of our management team typically attend meetings where executive compensation, Company and individual performances, and competitive compensation levels and practices are discussed and evaluated; however, only the Committee members are allowed to vote on decisions regarding executive compensation. The Committee also receives recommendations from the CEO regarding the compensation of our other executive officers. The Committee meets in executive session to discuss other compensation matters, including its recommendations to the full Board on the CEO s compensation.

### Peer Data as it Relates to Compensation Decisions

To determine market-based compensation for our executives, the Committee, after consultation with FWC, identified a relevant group of peer companies for which there is publicly available compensation information and which are part of the same broad Standard & Poor s (S&P) industry classification, and are similar in size and scope of operations (Peer Companies). Many of our direct competitors (Elster, Sensus, and Landis & Gyr) are private, and there is no publicly available compensation information about them. For 2013, our Peer Companies are named below, with those we consider to be direct competitors of Itron identified with an asterisk. The Committee reviews our Peer Companies annually, and for 2013, some new companies were added to replace those the Committee felt were no longer direct competitors (marked below). The companies in our Peer Group, like Itron, are in the S&P industry classification of technology hardware and equipment, and also have significant international operations. The size criteria generally ranged from one-third to three times Itron s revenues and market capitalization.

Ametek, Inc. \*ESCO Technologies, Inc. +Pentair, Ltd.

AVX Corporation FLIR Systems, Inc. +Plexus Corp.

+Belden Inc. \*Roper Industries,

Molex, Inc. Inc.

+Benchmark Electric LLC Trimble Navigation

\*Mueller Water Products, Inc. Limited

Diebold Inc. NCR Corporation

+Vishay Intertechnology, Inc.

+ new for 2013

For each of the Peer Companies, FWC obtained data regarding base salaries, annual incentives, and long-term incentives from their annual proxy statements. This data was supplemented with survey data prepared by Radford Survey & Consulting (Radford Survey), a unit of Aon Consulting, which provides compensation market information

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<sup>\*</sup> direct competitors

on more than 700 technology companies, presented anonymously. Itron participates in this survey. The Radford Survey is well-known within the technology industry, and it provides total direct compensation levels for specific executive-level positions, including base salary, annual short-term incentive compensation, and long-term incentive compensation. The Radford Survey data was narrowed to those technology companies with revenues similar to Itron s of between \$1 billion and \$3 billion.

The Committee uses the Peer Companies and the Radford Survey data as benchmarks to establish a range of competitive compensation for our NEOs. For each NEO, the Committee determined the mid-point of a salary range, annual incentive target, and long-term incentive based upon the 50th percentile of the market data for the position being evaluated. Then, taking into account the experience, performance, responsibilities, and contributions to the Company by each executive, the Committee makes a decision for each executive (other than the CEO) on base pay, annual incentive pay opportunity, and long-term incentive opportunity. For the CEO, the Committee makes a recommendation to the full Board and the Board reviews and approves the CEO s compensation.

### **Components of Our Compensation Program**

Total Compensation. The Committee designs the compensation plans to reward performance and encourage the achievement of the Company s near-term objectives and long-term strategic goals. Base salary provides a stable amount of fixed compensation to the executive, while annual cash incentive awards are used to reward the achievement of the Company s annual, near-term financial performance objectives together with an individual NEO s personal objectives, where applicable. The Committee uses long-term equity-based compensation to reward our NEOs for overall Company performance and to align a significant portion of their overall compensation with the long-term interests of our shareholders. Because of our pay-for-performance philosophy, we overweight the executive s long-term incentive opportunity towards performance-based restricted stock units (RSUs) under our LTPP when compared to that of our Peer Companies. Finally, for NEOs, the Committee oversees severance, retirement, and other benefits intended to promote the objectives of our compensation plans.

<u>Base Salary</u>. We believe that an executive s total compensation should have an element of compensation that provides a stable, base salary which is competitive and enables the Company to attract and retain executives. The Committee reviews base salaries annually and at the time of promotions or other changes in responsibilities, and determines base salary based on peer company information and the market, as well as the experience and performance of the executive and internal equity, if applicable.

Annual Cash Incentives. The Committee provides the NEOs with an opportunity to earn annual variable cash compensation under the Itron Executive Management Incentive Plan (EMIP). Awards are generally based on the Company s annual financial performance on a non-GAAP basis. A portion of the EMIP is also tied to some NEOs personal objectives (20% for Steve Helmbrecht, Russ Vanos and Shannon Votava, and 10% for Mr. Regnier whose performance award is also based in part on the financial performance of his business division). For Mr. Mezey and Mr. Holleran, their EMIP awards were based entirely on the Company s 2013 financial performance.

In the first quarter of each year, the Committee identifies financial performance criteria that the Company must meet for any awards to become payable under the EMIP, and establishes threshold, target, and maximum payout levels for each performance element. In accordance with the terms of the EMIP, the Committee may adjust the financial performance levels during the year for items such as restructurings, acquisitions, dispositions, and the effects of foreign currency translation. If the threshold level of performance for any financial element of the EMIP during the performance period is not achieved, management is not entitled to an award for that element. Awards under the EMIP are paid in cash and are designed to incentivize and reward attainment of annual business and financial goals.

In addition, the CEO (and the COO for Mr. Regnier) develops functional and operational goals for each NEO, which are reviewed with and agreed to by the NEO. *See* 2013 Compensation Paid to Our NEOs Annual Cash Incentives EMIP and 2013 EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLAN Metrics, Weighting, Targets, Actual Results table in this CD&A.

<u>Long-Term Incentives</u>. We use equity awards as long-term incentives for our NEOs to help create a strong alignment between the compensation provided to our executives and the investment objectives of our shareholders, which is to create long-term, sustainable value. In addition, vesting provisions imposed on the time-vested RSU equity awards and stock options help retain eligible executives and reward achievement of long-term business objectives that also benefit our shareholders. Our variable long-term compensation is paid with the following three types of long-term equity awards:

*Stock Options*. Stock options are granted with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant, generally provide for ratable vesting over a three-year period, and expire ten years from the date of grant.

Performance-Based RSUs. Performance-based RSUs are issued under our LTPP and provide equity award opportunities to our executives based on the Company attaining certain pre-determined financial and stock price performance criteria over a three-year performance cycle. The criteria are established each year by the Committee. Once actual performance is determined and approved by the Committee at the end of the three-year period, RSU awards are issued and vest immediately. Prior to 2013, our LTPP provided for a one-year performance period, with any RSUs earned at the end of that period vesting ratably over three years. Because 2013 was the first year of the newly designed performance period, the Committee adopted an LTPP for that year only with a two-year and a three-year performance component in order to transition into the three-year cycle. See Compensation Paid in 2013 Long-Term Incentives LTPP in this CD&A for further details and discussion.

*Time-Vested RSUs*. Time-vested RSUs are granted annually as part of the executive s compensation to reinforce our emphasis on equity ownership in the Company and to help us retain our talented leadership. Typically, these RSUs vest ratably over a period of three years.

## Other Benefits

### Executive Deferred Compensation Plan

NEOs located in the U.S. are eligible to participate in our Executive Deferred Compensation Plan (EDCP). We offer the EDCP to our highly compensated employees to give them the benefit of being able to defer some of their taxable income, which also encourages their retention with the Company. Participants may defer up to 50% of their base salary and annual cash incentive into a nonqualified account. Executives are also permitted to elect to defer an additional portion of their base salary equal to the amount of any contributions returned to them during the year from the Company s 401(k) Plan. In 2013, the Company made matching contributions to the account of each participating executive at the rate of 50% of the first 6% of base salary and annual incentive deferred by the executive during that year, which is the same matching formula as the Company s 401(k) Plan. The executives account balances are adjusted for hypothetical investment earnings or losses according to the returns of the specified measurement funds selected by the executives. The measurement funds correspond to the mutual funds available for investment under the 401(k) Plan (but currently do not include a Company stock fund). Refer also to the narrative following the 2013 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table in this section under EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES.

## 401(k) Plan and Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Executives located in the U.S. are eligible to participate in our 401(k) Plan which provides our employees, including executives, with a 50% Company match on the first 6% of compensation deferred, subject to qualified plan limits. Similarly, executives located in the U.S. may participate in the Company s Employee Stock Purchase Plan, along with our other U.S. employees.

We do not maintain any defined benefit or supplemental retirement programs for our NEOs, with the exception of Mr. Regnier, who resides in France and whose plan (also described below) is customary for executives in that country. See also EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES Summary Compensation Table in this section for more information on those benefits.

## Change-in-Control Agreements

We have entered into CIC agreements with our executives to encourage their full attention and dedication to the Company during a change-in-control of the Company, and to provide them with reasonable compensation and benefits in the event of a change-in-control and a subsequent loss of employment. All equity awards granted after January 1, 2014 will have double trigger requirements before vesting upon a change-in-control. See *EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES Potential Payments upon Change-in-Control* in this CD&A for descriptions of the benefits provided under the CIC agreements.

### **Employment Agreements**

We do not have formal employment agreements with our executives other than with Mr. Regnier, whose employment agreement is described under *Other Benefits in Effect in 2013 Marcel Regnier Benefits* in this CD&A.

## Other Components Related to Compensation of Our Executives

## Stock Ownership Guidelines & Policies

Since 2006, we have had stock ownership guidelines to encourage our key executives to own stock at least equal in value to: (i) six times base salary for our CEO; (ii) three times each NEO s base salary for our senior or executive VPs; and (iii) one times base salary for our other executive officers. Common stock, restricted stock awards, RSUs, and stock held in the 401(k) Plan and the Employee Stock Purchase Plan all count towards satisfaction of the guidelines; however, unexercised stock options do not. We believe that when our executives hold an equity interest in the Company, they will be less inclined to take excessive business risks. We annually review the levels of stock ownership of our executives, and based on a rolling 12-month average of our stock price as of the end of 2013, all of the NEOs had met the guidelines, with the exception of Mr. Mezey, who is new to his position in 2013, and Ms. Votava, who has been an executive officer for just three years. Both, however, are making progress towards meeting those guidelines. We also have stock ownership guidelines for the members of our Board (see *COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS* in this proxy statement).

## Anti-Hedging Policy

Since a primary objective of our compensation programs is to create a strong alignment between our officers and directors and the interests of our shareholders, we prohibit our officers and directors from engaging in transactions designed to insulate them from changes in the Company s stock price. Therefore, the Company has adopted a Hedging Policy that prohibits our directors, officers, and employees from entering into transactions that include (without limitation) equity swaps or short sales of our securities, margin accounts or pledges of our securities, and hedges or monetization transactions involving our securities that are designed to hedge or offset any decrease in the market value of Itron securities. In addition, the purchase or sale of puts, calls, options, or other derivative securities based on the Company s securities is prohibited under this policy, and borrowing against any account in which our securities are held is prohibited.

## Impact of Tax and Accounting

We regularly consider the various tax and accounting implications of our compensation plans. When determining the amount of long-term incentives and equity grants to executives and employees, the compensation costs associated with the grants are reviewed, as required by FASB ASC Topic 718.

We generally seek to maximize the tax deductibility for all elements of compensation. For example, Section 162(m) of the Code generally prohibits any publicly held corporation from taking a federal income tax deduction for compensation paid in excess of \$1 million in any taxable year to the CEO and the next three highest compensated officers (other than the CFO). Under the current tax laws, exceptions are made for qualified performance-based compensation. Our stock options and LTPP awards are designed to meet the definition of

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performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), as are our annual cash-based awards payable under the EMIP. The Committee, however, believes that it is important for it to retain maximum flexibility in designing compensation programs that are in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders. Therefore, the Committee, while considering tax deductibility as a factor in determining compensation, may not limit compensation to those levels or types of compensation that will be deductible if it believes that the compensation is commensurate with the performance of the covered employee.

### **2013 Compensation Paid to Our NEOs**

### Compensation Tied to Performance.

We tie a majority of our NEOs compensation to the Company's financial performance, so that our NEOs interests are aligned with those of our shareholders. The following charts highlight that portion of the CEO's 2013 total compensation and the percentage of our total, averaged NEOs 2013 compensation which is variable or at risk (including equity grants of RSUs and stock options, and annual cash incentives under the EMIP).

### 2013 Compensation

<u>Base Salaries</u>. In November 2012, the Board elected Mr. Mezey as our President and CEO, effective January 1, 2013, and determined his 2013 compensation at that time, based upon the Committee s recommendations. At the same time, the Committee recommended and the Board approved the promotion of two of our NEOs to newly created positions for 2013. Mr. Holleran was elected Executive Vice President and COO, effective January 1, 2013, and Russell Vanos was elected Senior Vice President Strategy and Business Development, also effective

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January 1, 2013. The Committee reviewed the Peer Companies and Radford Survey data available and consulted with its compensation consultant before determining the salaries and other compensation payable to Messrs. Holleran and Vanos, whose compensation (including their base salaries) is set forth in the *Summary Compensation Table* in this section of the CD&A. Additionally, at its December 2012 meeting, the Committee increased the base salary of Shannon Votava by approximately 1.5%, effective January 1, 2013, in recognition of her additional duties as Corporate Secretary, a position she was elected to hold effective January 1, 2013.

In February 2013, Steve Helmbrecht was promoted from Senior Vice President and CFO to Executive Vice President and CFO. Due to the additional duties and responsibilities of an executive vice president, the Committee, in consultation with its compensation consultant, elected to increase Mr. Helmbrecht s base salary by approximately 9.5%, as shown in the *Summary Compensation Table* in this section of the CD&A.

Mr. Regnier served as President and COO-Water until April 1, 2013, at which time he assumed the new position of President Gas and ceased to be an executive officer of the Company.

<u>Annual Cash Incentives</u> <u>EMIP</u>. For Mr. Mezey, the targeted annual cash award under the EMIP for 2013 was 125% of his base salary, and for Mr. Holleran, it was 100% of his base salary. The Committee (and the Board for the CEO) determined these payout percentages were appropriate given the elements of their annual incentive plan that are entirely based on the financial performance of the Company, as described in the next paragraph. The remaining NEOs incentive plans included additional elements also described below. For Mr. Helmbrecht, the targeted payout was 85% of his base salary. For Messrs. Regnier and Vanos, the target payout was 75% of their base salaries, and for Ms. Votava, it was 50% of her base salary.

For Messrs. Mezey and Holleran, there were two elements in their annual incentive plan: (i) Company consolidated revenue (50%), and (ii) Company consolidated adjusted EBITDA (50%). For Ms. Votava and Messrs. Helmbrecht and Vanos, there were three elements in their annual incentive plan: (i) Company consolidated revenue (40%); (ii) Company consolidated adjusted EBITDA (40%); and (iii) personal objectives established with, and approved by, the CEO (20%). For Mr. Regnier, there were five elements in his annual incentive plan: (i) Company consolidated revenue (15%); (ii) Company consolidated adjusted EBITDA (15%); (iii) Gas business line revenue (30%); (iv) Gas business line gross margin (30%), and (v) personal objectives established with the COO (10%). Mr. Regnier s new position reports to our COO. Therefore his personal objectives were determined in consultation with our COO, Mr. Holleran, rather than our CEO. *See also* the following table, 2013 EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLAN Metrics, Weighting, Targets, Actual Results .

The individual goals for each executive, as determined in consultation with the CEO (and for Mr. Regnier, the COO), encompassed the following priorities for the Company: (i) explore strategic alternatives that enhance our vision and roadmap for Itron s success; (ii) extend our intellectual property strategy to support business interests beyond our core metering business; (iii) continue to foster a culture of risk management and compliance throughout the Company; (iv) continue to build and facilitate financial competencies within the Company; and (v) strengthen our organizational capabilities through efficient alignment and accountability. These individual goals are designed to encourage the NEOs to focus on internal corporate efficiencies and global collaborative processes that we believe will help drive future growth of the Company.

We use adjusted EBITDA as a performance metric in the EMIP because we believe that it is important to focus on both revenue as well as profitability to better understand our core business. Non-GAAP adjustments exclude certain expenses that may not be indicative of our recurring core operating results. These non-GAAP financial measures facilitate management s internal comparisons to our historical performance as well as comparisons to our competitors operating results. We believe this is a better measurement of our core business and enhances the overall understanding

of our current and future performance. We define adjusted EBITDA as GAAP net income or loss minus interest income, plus interest expense, depreciation, and amortization of intangible asset expenses, restructuring expense, acquisition-related expense and goodwill impairment, and we exclude the tax expense or benefit. We believe this adjusted EBITDA metric, when included with consolidated revenue, provides a more

balanced illustration of our financial performance and the ongoing operations of our business. A schedule reconciling GAAP to non-GAAP results is available on our website at *www.itron.com*.

The first table below shows for each NEO the fiscal 2013 financial and operational performance targets and actual results for awards under the EMIP. The second table indicates the actual awards and bonus paid for each NEO s attained results.

# 2013 EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLAN (EMIP)

# Metrics, Weighting, Targets, Actual Results

		Results Re	2013 Actual Percentage			
Payout Factor		Threshold	(in millions) Target	Maximum	2013 Actual	Attainment (% attainment of
Metrics	Weighting Factor	(50%)	(100%)	(200%)	Results (millions)	Target Bonus)
<u>Philip Mezey</u> Consolidated Revenue Consolidated Adjusted	50.0%	\$ 2,090.5	\$ 2,161.8	\$ 2,352.5	\$ 1,948.7	0.0%
EBITDA	50.0%	\$ 247.9	\$ 256.9	\$ 290.7	\$ 168.5	0.0%
Total						0.0%
John Holleran Consolidated Revenue Consolidated Adjusted	50.0%	\$ 2,090.5	\$2,161.8	\$ 2,352.5	\$ 1,948.7	0.0%
EBITDA	50.0%	\$ 247.9	\$ 256.9	\$ 290.7	\$ 168.5	0.0%
Total						0.0%
Steve Helmbrecht Consolidated Revenue Consolidated Adjusted	40.0%	\$ 2,090.5	\$2,161.8	\$ 2,352.5	\$ 1,948.7	0.0%
EBITDA Individual Objectives	40.0% 20.0%	\$ 247.9	\$ 256.9	\$ 290.7	\$ 168.5 99%	0.0% 19.8%
Total						19.8%
Shannon Votava Consolidated Revenue Consolidated Adjusted	40.0%	\$ 2,090.5	\$2,161.8	\$ 2,352.5	\$ 1,948.7	0.0%
EBITDA Individual Objectives	40.0% 20.0%	\$ 247.9	\$ 256.9	\$ 290.7	\$ 168.5 96.5%	0.0% 19.3%
Total						19.3%

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<u>Russell Vanos</u> Consolidated Revenue	40.0%	\$ 2	2,090.5	\$ 2	2,161.8	\$ 2,352.5	\$ 1,948.7	0.0%
Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA	40.0%	\$	247.9	\$	256.9	\$ 290.7	\$ 168.5	0.0%
Individual Objectives	20.0%						92%	18.4%
Total								18.4%
Marcel Regnier								
<b>Consolidated Revenue</b>	15.0%	\$ 2	2,090.5	\$ 2	2,161.8	\$ 2,352.5	\$ 1,948.7	0.0%
Consolidated Adjusted								
EBITDA	15.0%	\$	247.9	\$	256.9	\$ 290.7	\$ 168.5	0.0%
Gas Business Line Revenue	30.0%	\$	656.2	\$	678.6	\$ 738.5	\$ 570.3	0.0%
Gas Business Line Gross								
Margin Percent	30.0%		40.4%		42.1%	45.9%	36.5%	0.0%
<b>Individual Objectives</b>	10.0%						100%	10.0%
Total								10.0%

### 2013 EMIP NEO Actual Awards

	EMIP Attainment	EMIP Target, % of Base	Actual Payout, % of		
NEO	%	Salary	Base Salary	Cas	h Award
Philip Mezey	0.0%	125%	0.0%		0
John Holleran	0.0%	100%	0.0%		0
Steve Helmbrecht	19.8%	85%	16.8%	\$	80,868
Shannon Votava	19.3%	50%	9.7%	\$	33,775
Russell Vanos	18.4%	75%	13.8%	\$	44,850
Marcel Regnier	10.0%	75%	7.5%	\$	30,314

<u>Long-term Incentives</u>. In accordance with our compensation philosophy and objectives, for long-term incentives we use a mix of stock options (25%), time-vested RSUs (25%), and performance-based RSUs under our LTPP (50%). Individual award amounts for stock options are calculated based on Black-Scholes values, and award amounts for time-vested RSUs and LTPP RSUs are determined based on the closing price of our common stock on the date of grant. For time-vested RSUs, LTPP awards, and stock options, the date of grant and approval by the Committee for the NEOs was February 21, 2013, and our closing stock price was \$42.35 per share, and the date of grant and approval by the Board for our CEO Mr. Mezey was February 22, 2013, and our closing stock price on that date was \$43.38.

Upon his promotion to President and CEO effective January 1, 2013, Mr. Mezey s LTPP opportunity at target was increased from \$425,000 to \$1,600,000. At the same time, upon his promotion to Executive Vice President and COO, Mr. Holleran s LTPP opportunity at target was increased from \$425,000 to \$900,000. In February 2013 when Mr. Helmbrecht was promoted to Executive Vice President and CFO, his LTPP opportunity at target was increased from \$425,000 to \$475,000. As stated, the LTPP opportunity represents 50% of an NEO s long-term incentive.

	LTPP RSUs Value			otions **	Time-ve RSU Valu	S	Long-term Incentive ( LTI ) Target		
NEO	Value *	LTI %	Value	LTI %	Value	LTI %	Award (\$ s)	<b>%</b>	
Philip Mezey	\$ 1,600,000	50%	\$800,000	25%	\$800,000	25%	3,200,000	100%	
John Holleran	\$ 900,000	50%	\$450,000	25%	\$450,000	25%	1,800,000	100%	
Steve Helmbrecht	\$ 475,000	50%	\$237,500	25%	\$237,500	25%	950,000	100%	
Shannon Votava	\$ 200,000	50%	\$ 100,000	25%	\$ 100,000	25%	400,000	100%	
Russell Vanos	\$ 200,000	50%	\$ 100,000	25%	\$ 100,000	25%	400,000	100%	
Marcel Regnier	\$ 425,000	50%	\$	0%**	\$ 289,420	50%	850,000	100%	

<sup>\*</sup> Value based on performance at target. Actual awards are rounded down to the nearest whole share.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Due to their complexity, Itron has chosen not to issue Stock Options outside the US. For Mr. Regnier a larger time-based RSU amount is used to equalize values. The equalization amount added to Mr. Regnier s time-vested RSU value was roughly the equivalent of the Black-Scholes (BS) value. (i.e. \$212,500 × 36.2% BS discount

factor)

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### 2013 LTPP.

For 2013, the Committee implemented a new LTPP, moving away from a one-year performance period with RSU awards granted upon attainment and vesting ratably over three years, to a three-year performance period with RSU awards vesting immediately upon attainment at the end of year three. In order to transition to the new three-year performance period LTPP, the Committee adopted awards for 2013 under which 33.3% of the total LTPP opportunity is based on a two-year performance period, and 66.7% is based on the three-year performance period. Both tranches of the 2013 LTPP are identical in their design, with the length of the performance period along with the related vesting schedule being the only difference. The components for the 2013 LTPP awards are as follows:

- (1) At the beginning of each year in the performance cycle, the Committee sets the annual non-GAAP EPS target levels for that year. A performance percentage (ranging from 50% to 160%) for each year in the performance cycle is determined based on our achievement of the annual non-GAAP EPS target set by the Committee (Board for CEO). If the minimum or threshold level is met, the performance percentage is 50%; if the target level for the measure is met, the performance percentage is 100%; and if the maximum level for the measure is met, the performance percentage is 160%. Performance for levels achieved between threshold, target and maximum are linearly interpolated.
- (2) At the end of the two and three-year performance cycles, the performance percentages for the individual years are averaged.
- (3) This average is then adjusted based on our achievement of TSR for the two and three-year performance cycles relative to the Russell 3000 index. If our TSR for the two and three-year performance cycles is at the 25th percentile of the Russell 3000 index, the average performance percentage of the performance-related component is adjusted down by 25%. If our TSR is at the 50th percentile, there is no change to the average performance percentage. If our TSR is at or above the 75th percentile, the average performance percentage of the performance-related component is increased by 25%. The adjustments for levels achieved between the 25th, 50th and 75th percentiles are linearly interpolated. These TSR targets and point multipliers were all established in February 2013 by the Committee (and by the Board for the CEO.)

The following table shows the target for annual non-GAAP EPS (weighted 100%) set by the Committee at the beginning of each year, and our actual results for these measures for 2013:

					Absolute	Weighted
					Performance	Performance
	Threshold	Target	Maximum	2013 Actual	Percentage	Percentage
Metrics	<b>(50%)</b>	(100%)	(160%)	Results	<b>Achieved</b>	Achieved
Non-GAAP Earnings Per						
Share (EPS) 2013	\$ 3.17	\$ 3.42	\$ 4.35	\$ 1.90	0.0%	0.0%
Non-GAAP Earnings Per						
Share (EPS) 2014	Approved	l annually by	y the Compens	sation Committ	ee	
Non-GAAP Earnings Per						
Share (EPS) 2015	Approved	l annually by	y the Compens	sation Committ	ee	

For our NEOs, the following table shows the target number of shares awarded in 2013 under the LTPP (including shares under the 2013-2014 performance cycle and the 2013-2015 performance cycle), as well as the maximum number of shares that can be earned after giving effect to the performance results for the first year (2013) of the performance cycle (which was zero attainment), and assuming maximum performance for 2014 and 2015 under the performance measure and maximum performance under the TSR multiplier:

	Target Shares	Maximum Shares opportunity (at beginning of Performance	Maximum Shares opportunity (as of January 1,
NEO	Award	Period)	2014)
Philip Mezey	36,883	73,766	45,100
John Holleran	21,251	42,502	25,986
Steve Helmbrecht	11,216	22,432	13,716
Shannon Votava	4,722	9,444	5,776
Russell Vanos	4,722	9,444	5,776
Marcel Regnier	10,035	20,070	12,272

As indicated above, we use non-GAAP diluted EPS as the performance metric for our LTPP. We define non-GAAP diluted EPS as non-GAAP net income (net income excluding the expenses associated with amortization of intangible assets, restructuring, acquisitions, goodwill impairment and amortization of debt placement fees) divided by the weighted average shares outstanding, on a diluted basis, during each period. We consider these financial measures to be useful metrics for management and investors for the same reasons that we use adjusted EBITDA metrics for our EMIP. We believe this is a better measurement of our core business and enhances the overall understanding of our current and future performance. Therefore, we provide specific information regarding the GAAP amounts excluded from these non-GAAP measures and evaluate non-GAAP diluted EPS together with GAAP diluted EPS. A schedule reconciling GAAP to non-GAAP results is available on our website at www.itron.com.

### Risk and Incentive Compensation.

It is our belief that a majority of an executive s total compensation should be variable at risk compensation, meaning it is tied to the Company s financial performance. However, because performance-based incentives play a large role in our compensation program, we strive to ensure that incentives do not result in actions that may conflict with the long-term best interests of the Company and our shareholders. Therefore, the Committee evaluated all of our executive plans and policies in 2013 for attributes that could cause excessive risk-taking by our executives. We concluded that our programs and policies do not encourage excessive risk-taking because: (a) the salary component of our program is a fixed amount; (b) the majority of the compensation paid to our executives is delivered in the form of equity ownership, which aligns the interest of our executives with those of our shareholders; (c) executive officers are subject to our executive stock ownership guidelines; and (d) the annual cash-based incentive plan and long-term incentive plans are designed with risk-mitigating characteristics such as (i) maximum award payouts based on the attainment of various and continually evolving Company financial objectives which diversify risks associated with a single indicator of performance, (ii) our equity-based incentives encourage a longer-term focus through multi-year performance periods, (iii) there are risk-mitigating policies in place such as insider trading and hedging prohibitions and clawbacks, and (iv) final awards are reviewed and approved by our Committee (and the full Board in the case of the CEO), which is composed entirely of independent directors who have discretion under our plans to approve, modify, or eliminate any award earned. See also CORPORATE GOVERNANCE Our Board s Role in Risk Oversight

in this proxy statement.

# Other Benefits in Effect For NEOs in 2013

# Marcel Regnier Benefits

*Employment Agreement.* We have entered into an Employment Agreement with Mr. Regnier, who resides and works in France. French laws require us to document the terms of Mr. Regnier s employment in a written

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agreement. This agreement generally sets forth compensation and other employment provisions generally applicable to employees in France. In addition, Mr. Regnier is provided the use of a Company car which is typical for executives residing in France.

French Retirement Indemnity Plan. Under French law, Mr. Regnier is eligible to participate in a retirement indemnity plan required for all employees with an employment contract. The terms of the indemnity provide for a lump sum payout upon voluntary retirement only, equal to the average monthly salary of the employee (including all bonuses) for the last 12 months prior to retirement, multiplied by a multiplier based on the number of years employed. The full amount is paid by the employer, and it is not paid if retirement is not initiated by the employee. In addition, no payments are owed in the event of other terminations, including death or disability. See also EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES Potential Payments upon Change-in-Control and Termination Payment Tables for NEOs in this CD&A.

Profit Sharing Plan. In addition, Mr. Regnier participates in a discretionary profit plan, the scheme of which mirrors a plan prescribed by French law and local labor contracts. All employees in France participate in this plan. See also EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES Summary Compensation Table in this CD&A.

### Supplemental Tables of NEO Realizable Compensation

In this section, we are presenting supplemental information to the CD&A EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES that begin on page 43. The following table and bar graph show realizable long-term compensation paid to our NEOs for the past five years and indicate what we believe are more accurate statements of our NEOs actual compensation value as compared to the grant date fair value of these awards.

The table summarizes the long-term compensation that our NEOs received in 2013 and the prior four years. It shows grant date fair market value of the stock options, time-vested RSUs, and LTPP performance RSUs for each of our NEOs (three years of which are shown in the *Summary Compensation Table* of the *EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES* ) and supplements that information with what the fair market value of the same stock options, time-vested RSUs and LTPP RSUs was at the end of fiscal 2013 (2013 Values). Because the 2013 Values are based in part on the market value of our stock at year end, we believe the 2013 Values more accurately reflect the current value of the long-term compensation we have paid to our NEOs.

The bar graph underscores the difference between grant date fair market value and the 2013 Values of the annual long-term compensation earned by our NEOs for the years 2009-2013. This also reflects the alignment of our at-risk compensation with the value of our stock and hence, the long-term interests of our NEOs with those of our shareholders.

### 2009-2013 Long-Term Incentive Grant Value vs. Actual Value at 12-31-13

2009-2013 LTI Grants (\$000s) **Time-Vested LTPP Total LTI RSUs Stock Options** Actual **Grant-**12-31-13 Value Grant- 12-31-13 Grant-12-31-13 Grant-12-31-13 Date Actual Date Actual Date Actual Date Actual VS. Fair Value Value\*Grant ValueFair Value Value\*Fair Value Value\* Fair Value Value\*

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MEZEY	\$7,980	\$ 2,815	-65%	\$3,667	\$ 10	\$ 1,438	\$ 1,245	\$2,875	\$ 1,560
HELMBRECHT	\$3,523	\$ 1,786	-49%	\$ 897	\$ 0	\$ 875	\$ 714	\$1,750	\$ 1,073
HOLLERAN	\$4,573	\$ 2,417	-47%	\$1,110	\$ 0	\$1,288	\$ 1,154	\$ 2,175	\$ 1,263
VOTAVA	\$ 962	\$ 394	-59%	\$ 318	\$ 58	\$ 279	\$ 236	\$ 365	\$ 100
VANOS	\$ 1,217	\$ 825	-32%	\$ 100	\$ 0	\$ 801	\$ 669	\$ 316	\$ 156
REGNIER	\$ 2.889	\$ 2.011	-30%	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1.189	\$ 961	\$ 1.700	\$ 1.050

<sup>\*</sup> Assumes all grants held until end of the period; for 2013 LTPP grants, assumes no shares are earned for the 2013 performance period, target shares for the 2014 and 2015 performance periods, and a TSR Modifier of 0.75x based on relative TSR performance vs. Russell 3000 through 12/31/13.

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# **Compensation Committee Report**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with Itron s management. Based on the review and discussions, the Compensation Committee has recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company s 2014 Proxy Statement.

Compensation Committee

Kirby Dyess, Chair

Jon Eliassen

Charles Gaylord

Lynda Ziegler

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# **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES**

# **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table provides information regarding compensation of the Company s NEOs. The amounts shown include amounts deferred at the executives election. All numbers are rounded to the nearest dollar.

	Summary Compensation Table										
				N	Non-Equity						
			a		Incentive	All					
		G 1	Stock	Option	Plan	Other	<b>7</b> 0. 4. 1.				
Name and Driveral Desition	Vaan	Salary	Awards		-	mpensation	Total				
Name and Principal Position	Year	(\$)	(\$) (2) (3)	(\$) (2)	(\$) (4)	(\$)	(\$)				
Philip Mezey (1)	2013	800,000	1,507,739	799,997	0	29,330(5)	3,137,066				
President and CEO	2012	500,000	637,468	2,419,315	138,700	18,453	3,713,936				
	2011	483,173	637,313	212,364	345,863	49,617	1,728,330				
John Holleran (6)	2013	600,000	845,638	449,995	0	24,153(5)	1,919,786				
Executive Vice President and	2012	444,500	637,468	212,491	115,848	21,363	1,431,670				
COO	2011	444,125	837,310	212,364	307,472	7,350	1,808,621				
Steve Helmbrecht	2013	480,500	446,301	237,496	80,868	13,944(5)	1,259,109				
Senior Vice President and CFO	2012	437,500	637,468	212,491	118,125	10,996	1,415,680				
	2011	437,260	637,313	212,364	302,630	47,158	1,636,725				
Shannon Votava (7) Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary	2013	350,000	187,895	100,007	33,775	7,650(5)	679,327				
Russell Vanos (7) Senior Vice President Strategy and Business Development	2013	325,000	187,895	100,007	44,850	7,650(5)	665,402				
Marcel Regnier (8)	2013	404,192	476,245	0	30,314	45,722(5)	956,473				
President Gas	2012	437,487	719,604	0	86,474	494,982	1,738,547				
	2011	406,415	727,386	0	281,117	128,827	1,543,745				

<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. Mezey was appointed President and CEO effective January 1, 2013.

(3)

<sup>(2)</sup> These columns reflect the aggregate grant date fair value of awards granted under our Long-Term Performance Plan and 2010 Stock Incentive Plan determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. See Note 9 of the consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 regarding assumptions underlying the valuation of these equity awards.

Includes the grant date fair value of 2013 LTPP awards assuming target performance achievement. As the performance-contingent awards are based on separate measurements of the Company's financial performance for each year in the two- and three-year performance cycles, FASB ASC Topic 718 requires the grant date fair value to be calculated for the portion of the award related to performance in 2013. Therefore, the value includes one-half of the target RSUs under the two-year performance cycle and one-third of the target RSUs under the three-year performance cycle. For more details on how performance is calculated under the LTPP, refer to *Compensation Paid in 2013 Long-term Incentives* in this CD&A.

The grant date fair value of the performance related component is based upon the probable outcome for the award and is consistent with the estimate of aggregate compensation cost to be recognized over the service period determined as of the grant date under FASB ASC Topic 718. As required under FASB ASC Topic 718, the full grant date fair value for the TSR multiplier for the entire two- and three-year performance cycles is included in the amounts shown for 2013 (the year of grant) and was determined using a Monte Carlo valuation model on the date the performance RSUs were awarded. Grant date fair values assuming maximum performance achievement for the 2013 portion of the two- and three-year LTPP awards would be: P. Mezey \$1,329,968; J. Holleran \$745,650; S. Helmbrecht \$393,491; S. Votava \$165,662; R. Vanos \$165,662; M. Regnier \$352,075.

- (4) This column reflects the cash awards earned by the NEO s under our annual incentive program.
- (5) We value these benefits based on the actual costs or charges incurred by us for the benefits. The amounts shown under All Other Compensation consist of the following:

			E	<b>xecutive</b>							
		D	efer	red Comp	<b>p.</b>		Group				
	4	01(k)		Plan					Insurance		
	Company			ompany	Compa	any		Housing	Retirement	<b>Profit</b>	
Name	Cont	ributions	M	atch (9)	Car	Transp	ortatio	nAllowanc <b>©</b>	ontributions (10	0)Sharing	
Philip Mezey	\$	7,650	\$	21,680							
John Holleran		7,650		6,124			5,006	5,373			
Steve Helmbrecht		7,650		6,294							
Shannon Votava		7,650									
Russell Vanos		7,650									
Marcel Regnier					4,06	65			34,479	7,178	

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- (6) Mr. Holleran was promoted to Executive Vice President and COO effective January 1, 2013.
- (7) Ms. Votava and Mr. Vanos were not NEOs prior to 2013, therefore compensation data for those years is not disclosed.
- (8) Mr. Regnier s compensation is paid in Euros and has been converted to US dollars (\$USD) using an exchange rate of 1 Euro to 1.2631 \$USD. This exchange rate represents the approximate average exchange rate of 2012 Q4, and is the rate used by the Company for 2013 budgeting purposes.
- (9) Deferred compensation plan details are discussed following the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table.
- (10) Represents increase in value of retirement indemnity (France) and Company contributions to a savings plan and a group insurance arrangement which provides retirement and death benefits for our executives in France.

### 2013 Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table

The following table provides information regarding grants of plan-based awards to the NEOs during 2013.

		Board or Committee		No	Grants o ed Future l on-Equity I lan Award	Pay Inc	outs	Under I	d Futur	e Payouts ncentive rds	Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock	All Other	Price of gOption	
	Grant Date	Action Date	Threshold (\$)(1)		<b>Target</b> (\$)(1)	N	<b>Saximum</b> (\$)(1)	Threshold (#)(2)	Target (#)(2)	<b>Maximum</b> (#)(2)	Units (#) (3)	<b>Options</b> (#) (4)	Awards (\$/Sh)	
I	n/a	n/a	\$ 500,000	\$	1,000,000	\$	2,000,000		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	
	2/22/2013	2/22/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18,441	n/a	n/a	
	2/22/2013	2/22/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a		n/a		n/a	51,270	\$43.38	
	2/22/2013	2/22/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	36,883	•	n/a		n/a	
n	n/a	n/a	\$ 300,000	\$	,	\$	1,200,000	n/a	n/a		n/a		n/a	
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a		10,625	n/a	n/a	(
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a		n/a		n/a	-	\$ 42.35	
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a		21,251		n/a		n/a	(
recht	n/a	n/a	\$ 204,213	\$	· ·	\$	816,850		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a		5,608		n/a	
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	15,486		
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a		n/a		n/a	•	11,216	•	n/a	n/a	n/a	
ava	n/a	n/a	\$ 87,500	\$	175,000	\$	350,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	

	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,361	n/a	n/a	9
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,521	\$42.35	9
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,770	4,722	9,444	n/a	n/a	n/a	9
os	n/a	n/a	\$ 121,875	\$ 243,750	\$ 487,500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,361	n/a	n/a	9
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,521	\$42.35	9
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,770	4,722	9,444	n/a	n/a	n/a	9
ier	n/a	n/a	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,834	n/a	n/a	9
	2/21/2013	2/21/2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.763	10.035	20.070	n/a	n/a	n/a	9

- (1) Represents threshold, target and maximum opportunity under the Company s annual incentive program for fiscal 2013. Our annual incentive program is discussed under the caption *Annual Cash Incentives* in the CD&A.
- (2) Represents range of possible payouts under the LTPP for the two- and three-year performance cycles beginning in 2013; awards earned under the LTPP are paid in RSUs. Our LTPP is discussed under the caption *Compensation Paid in 2013 Long-Term Incentives* in the CD&A.
- (3) Amounts shown in this column reflect the number of time-based RSU s granted to each named executive under our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (2010 SIP).
- (4) Amounts shown in this column reflect the number of options granted to each named executive officer under our 2010 SIP.
- (5) Amounts shown are based on target performance achievement for the 2013 portion for each of the two- and three-year performance cycles. As required under FASB ASC Topic 718, includes the value of the award contingent upon the Company s financial performance and the full grant date fair value for the TSR multiplier. See footnote 3 of the Summary Compensation Table for further details.

The non-equity incentive awards included in this table and also set forth in the Summary Compensation Table represent the annual incentive component of our executives compensation. These potential payout awards are paid in cash as a percentage of each of the NEO s salary, based upon achievement of certain pre-determined performance criteria. For more details, refer to the EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION CD&A Components of our Compensation Program section of this proxy statement.

Under the Company s 2013 LTPP for the 2013 performance period, the threshold level of performance was not achieved so no awards were earned for year one of the two-year and three-year performance period. For more

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details, refer to the EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION CD&A 2013 Compensation Paid to Our NEOs section of the proxy statement. The amounts included in the All Other Stock Awards column and in the All Other Option Awards column represent time-vested RSUs and stock options, respectively, both of which were issued under the Company s 2010 SIP. For further details on these awards, refer to the EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES CD&A Components of Our Compensation Program Long-Term Incentives . Because of the adverse tax consequences in France on stock options, Mr. Regnier received additional time-vested RSUs in lieu of the options granted to the other NEOs. For further details on the compensation and benefits paid to our NEO residing in France, Mr. Regnier, refer to the EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION CD&A 2013 Compensation Paid to Our NEOs Marcel Regnier Benefits .

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# 2013 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End Table

The following table provides information regarding outstanding equity awards held by each NEO as of December 31, 2013.

		Outst	_	quity Awa on Awards	l Year End	Awards			
		of Securities Underlyin Unexercise	gnderlyin Inhexercise	g	Option Expiration	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested
Name		Exercisabl	` /		Date	(#)	(\$) ( <b>5</b> )	(#)	( <b>\$</b> )
Philip Mezey	5/3/2005 8/7/2006 5/14/2007 5/5/2008 2/11/2010 2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/16/2012 2/16/2012 11/15/2012 2/22/2013 2/22/2013 2/22/2013	5,000 16,000 20,000 20,000 8,610 5,873 3,799 46,856	2,937 7,599 93,714 51,270	\$ 37.40 \$ 48.51 \$ 67.43 \$ 95.78 \$ 61.56 \$ 56.65 \$ 48.23 \$ 41.36 \$ 43.38	5/3/2015 8/7/2016 5/14/2017 5/5/2018 2/11/2020 2/24/2021 2/16/2022 11/15/2022 2/22/2023	1,250(2) 2,311(3) 2,938(2)	\$ 51,788 \$ 95,745 \$ 121,721 \$ 764,011		
John Holleran	2/22/2007 5/14/2007 5/5/2008 2/11/2010 2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/16/2012	8,610 5,873	2,937 7,599	\$ 62.52 \$ 67.43 \$ 95.78 \$ 61.56 \$ 56.65	2/22/2017 5/14/2017 5/5/2018 2/11/2020 2/24/2021 2/16/2022		\$ 51,788 \$ 95,745		

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	2/16/2012 2/21/2013 2/21/2013 2/21/2013		29,342	\$ 42.35	2/21/2023		\$ 121,721 \$ 440,194	7,969 <sup>(4)</sup> \$ 330,156
Steve Helmbrecht	12/6/2004 5/3/2005 8/7/2006 5/14/2007 5/5/2008	8,333 2,327 13,333 20,000 20,000		\$ 21.18 \$ 37.40 \$ 48.51 \$ 67.43 \$ 95.78	12/6/2014 5/3/2015 8/7/2016 5/14/2017 5/5/2018			
	2/11/2010 2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/16/2012	8,610 5,873 3,799	2,937 7,599	\$ 61.56 \$ 56.65 \$ 48.23	2/11/2020 2/24/2021 2/16/2022	1,250(2) 2,311(3)	•	
	2/16/2012 2/21/2013 2/21/2013 2/21/2013		15,486	\$ 42.35	2/21/2023	5,608(2)	\$ 121,721 \$ 232,339	4,206 <sup>(4)</sup> \$ 174,255
Shannon Votava	2/24/2011 2/24/2011 12/12/2011 2/16/2012 2/16/2012 2/21/2013	6,666 1,341	3,334 2,682 6,521	\$ 35.65 \$ 48.23 \$ 42.35	12/12/2021 2/16/2022 2/21/2023	260(2) 81(3) 1,037(2)		
	2/21/2013 2/21/2013					2,361(2)	\$ 97,816	1,770 <sup>(4)</sup> \$ 73,331

Outstanding Equity Awards At Fiscal Year End										
			)ption .	Awards			Stock	Awards		
			umber of curities derlyin exercise	s g edOption	Option	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not	Market	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not		
Name	Grant Date	Options (#) Exercisablexe	(#)	Price	Expiration Date	Vested (#)	Vested	Vested	Vested	
Russell	Date	Exercisamiexe	rcisabi	e (1)(\$)	Date	(#)	(\$) (5)	(#)	(\$)	
Vanos	2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/16/2012 12/13/2012 2/21/2013		6,521	\$ 42.35	2/21/2023	1,508(2)	•	I		
	2/21/2013 2/21/2013		,				\$ 97,816	1,770 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 73,331	
Marcel Regnier	2/24/2011 2/24/2011 2/16/2012 2/21/2013 2/21/2013						\$ 73,745 \$ 95,745 \$ 168,744 \$ 283,133		\$ 155,901	

- (1) One third of the options granted on February 24, 2011 vest on each of February 24, 2012, 2013 and 2014. One third of the options granted on December 12, 2011 vest on each of December 12, 2012, 2013 and 2014. One third of the options granted on February 16, 2012 vest on each of February 16, 2013, 2014 and 2015. One third of the options granted on November 15, 2012 vest on each of November 15, 2013, 2014 and 2015. One third of the options granted on February 21, 2013 vest on each of February 21, 2014, 2015 and 2016. One third of the options granted on February 22, 2013 vest on each of February 22, 2014, 2015 and 2016.
- (2) Represents RSUs granted under the 2010 SIP. One third of the RSUs granted on February 24, 2011 vest on each of February 24, 2012, 2013 and 2014. One third of the RSUs granted on February 16, 2012 vest on each of February 16, 2013, 2014 and 2015. One third of the RSUs granted on December 13, 2012 vest on each of December 13, 2013, 2014 and 2015. One third of the RSUs granted on February 21, 2013 vest on each of February 21, 2014, 2015 and 2016. One third of the RSUs granted on February 22, 2013 vest on each of February 22, 2014, 2015 and

2016.

- (3) Represents RSUs granted under the LTPP for the 2011 performance cycle. One-third of the RSUs granted on February 24, 2011 vest on each of December 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014.
- (4) Represents RSUs granted under the LTPP for the two- and three-year performance cycles beginning in 2013 assuming achievement at threshold levels of performance.
- (5) Based on the closing price of our common stock on December 31, 2013 (\$41.43).

# 2013 Option Exercises and Stock Vested Table

The following table provides information regarding stock option exercises and shares acquired upon the vesting of stock awards by the NEOs during the 2013 fiscal year.

	Option Exercises and Stock Vested								
	Option A	Option Awards							
		ľ	Number of Shar	es					
	<b>Number of Shares</b>	Value Realized	Acquired on						
	Acquired on	<b>Upon Exercise</b>	Vesting	Value Realized					
Name	Exercise (#)	(\$)	(#)	on Vesting (\$)(1)					
Philip Mezey			10,791	459,544					
John Holleran			13,596	568,770					
Steve Helmbrecht			10,791	459,544					
Shannon Votava			1,196	50,912					
Russell Vanos			5,148	219,908					
Marcel Regnier			12,372	530,182					

(1) Based on the fair market value of our common stock on the vest date.