FULLER H B CO Form 10-Q March 28, 2014

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

X QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 1, 2014

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from ______ to _____

Commission file number: 001-09225

H.B. FULLER COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota (State or other jurisdiction of

41-0268370 (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

Identification No.)

1200 Willow Lake Boulevard, St. Paul, Minnesota (Address of principal executive offices)

55110-5101 (**Zip Code**)

(651) 236-5900

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer , accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer x

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer "(Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company "Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes "No x

The number of shares outstanding of the Registrant s Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share, was 50,097,024 as of March 20, 2014.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

H.B. FULLER COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

	13 Weeks Ended			ded
	M	arch 1,		arch 2,
		2014		2013
Net revenue	\$	485,981	\$ 4	479,842
Cost of sales	(352,936)	(.	346,466)
Gross profit		133,045		133,376
Selling, general and administrative expenses		(96,799)		(97,640)
Special charges, net		(11,734)		(5,333)
Other income (expense), net		(1,050)		378
Interest expense		(4,126)		(5,327)
Income before income taxes and income from equity method investments		19,336		25,454
Income taxes		(6,541)		(7,120)
Income from equity method investments		1,854		2,440
Net income including non-controlling interests		14,649		20,774
Net income attributable to non-controlling interests		(78)		(97)
Net income attributable to H.B. Fuller	\$	14,571	\$	20,677
Earnings per share attributable to H.B. Fuller common stockholders:				
Basic	\$	0.29	\$	0.42
Diluted	\$	0.28	\$	0.41
Weighted-average common shares outstanding:				
Basic		49,910		49,817
Diluted		51,255		51,027
Dividends declared per common share	\$	0.100	\$	0.085
See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.	•			

H.B. FULLER COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	13 Weeks Ende	
	March 1,	March 2,
	2014	2013
Net income including non-controlling interests	\$ 14,649	\$ 20,774
Other comprehensive income (loss)		
Foreign currency translation	547	(3,462)
Defined benefit pension plans adjustment, net of tax	1,018	1,976
Interest rate swaps, net of tax	10	10
Cash-flow hedges, net of tax	3	210
Other comprehensive income (loss)	1,578	(1,266)
Comprehensive income	16,227	19,508
Less: Comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests	67	104
Comprehensive income attributable to H.B. Fuller	\$ 16,160	\$ 19,404

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

H.B. FULLER COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In thousands, except share and per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

		arch 1, 2014	No	vember 30, 2013
Assets				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	113,047	\$	155,121
Trade receivables (net of allowances - \$8,991 and \$8,539, for March 1, 2014 and				
November 30, 2013, respectively)		327,314		331,125
Inventories		260,763		221,537
Other current assets		98,510		85,046
Current assets of discontinued operations		1,865		1,865
Total current assets		801,499		794,694
Property, plant and equipment	1.	,069,069		1,032,792
Accumulated depreciation		(606,697)		(598,405)
Property, plant and equipment, net		462,372		434,387
1 1 1 1		,		·
Goodwill		265,444		263,103
Other intangibles, net		214,568		219,401
Other assets		165,224		161,443
Total assets	\$1	,909,107	\$	1,873,028
Liabilities, redeemable non-controlling interest and total equity Current liabilities:				
Notes payable	\$	21,846	\$	20,589
Trade payables		208,099		201,575
Accrued compensation		53,802		76,218
Income taxes payable		13,115		10,830
Other accrued expenses		50,238		46,566
Current liabilities of discontinued operations		5,000		5,000
Total current liabilities		352,100		360,778
Long-term debt, excluding current maturities		511,851		472,315
Accrued pension liabilities		52,135		52,922
Other liabilities		54,151		51,835
Total liabilities		970,237		937,850

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Commitments and contingencies		
Redeemable non-controlling interest	4,862	4,717
Equity:		
H.B. Fuller stockholders equity:		
Preferred stock (no shares outstanding) Shares authorized 10,045,900		
Common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, Shares authorized 160,000,000, Shares outstanding 50,074,010 and 50,228,543, for March 1, 2014 and November 30,		
2013, respectively	50,074	50,229
Additional paid-in capital	37,076	44,490
Retained earnings	916,838	907,308
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(70,373)	(71,962)
Total H.B. Fuller stockholders equity	933,615	930,065
Non-controlling interests	393	396
Total equity	934,008	930,461
Total liabilities, redeemable non-controlling interest and total equity	\$ 1,909,107	\$ 1,873,028

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

H.B. FULLER COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Total Equity

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

H.B. Fuller Company Shareholders

					A	ccumulated			
						Other			
		A	dditional		Coı	nprehensive	ľ	Non-	
	Common]	Paid-in	Retained		Income	Con	trolling	
	Stock		Capital	Earnings		(Loss)	Int	erests	Total
Balance at December 1, 2012	\$49,903	\$	37,965	\$ 830,031	\$	(139,626)	\$	425	\$778,698
Comprehensive income				96,761		67,664		370	164,795
Dividends				(19,484)					(19,484)
Stock option exercises	462		8,429						8,891
Share-based compensation plans									
other, net	301		12,621						12,922
Excess tax benefit on share-based									
compensation			2,676						2,676
Repurchases of common stock	(437)		(17,201)						(17,638)
Redeemable non-controlling interest								(399)	(399)
Balance at November 30, 2013	50,229		44,490	907,308		(71,962)		396	930,461
Comprehensive income				14,571		1,589		67	16,227
Dividends				(5,041)					(5,041)
Stock option exercises	94		1,911						2,005
Share-based compensation plans									
other, net	65		4,095						4,160
Excess tax benefit on share-based									
compensation			1,613						1,613
Repurchases of common stock	(314)		(15,033)						(15,347)
Redeemable non-controlling interest								(70)	(70)
Balance at March 1, 2014	\$50,074	\$	37,076	\$ 916,838	\$	(70,373)	\$	393	\$ 934,008

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

H.B. FULLER COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	10 Week	5 Liic
	March 1, 2011	Arch
lows from operating activities from continuing operations:		
ome including non-controlling interests	\$ 14,649	\$ 20
ments to reconcile net income including non-controlling interests to net cash provided by operating activities from		
ing operations:		
iation	10,353	10
zation	5,775	:
ed income taxes	14	
e from equity method investments	(1,854)	(2
pased compensation	3,985	
tax benefit from share-based compensation	(1,613)	(
e in assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and discontinued operations:		
eceivables, net	3,749	1
pries	(38,735)	(22)
issets	(11,978)	(
payables	17,265	
d compensation	(22,837)	(13
iccrued expenses	3,452	(2
taxes payable	1,754	(9
d / prepaid pensions	(2,291)	(2
iabilities	1,359	(.
	(155)	
sh used in operating activities from continuing operations	(17,108)	(1)
lows from investing activities from continuing operations:		,
sed property, plant and equipment	(50,879)	(19
sed businesses	, , ,	
ds from sale of property, plant and equipment	610	
sh used in investing activities from continuing operations	(50,269)	(1'
lows from financing activities from continuing operations:	` , ,	
ds from long-term debt	40,000	30
nent of long-term debt	.,	(43
oceeds (repayments) from notes payable	1,283	
nds paid	(5,004)	(4
ds from stock options exercised	2,005	1
tax benefit from share-based compensation	1,613	
hases of common stock	(15,347)	(2

13 Weeks End

sh provided by (used in) financing activities from continuing operations	2	4,550	(
of exchange rate changes		753	
ange in cash and cash equivalents from continuing operations	(4)	2,074)	(3'
sed in operating activities of discontinued operations			
ange in cash and cash equivalents	(4:	2,074)	(3'
nd cash equivalents at beginning of period	15:	5,121	200
nd cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 113	3,047	\$ 163
mental disclosure of cash flow information:			
nds paid with company stock	\$	37	\$
aid for interest, net of amount capitalized of \$983 and \$84 for the periods ended March 1, 2014 and March 2, 2013,			
ively	\$:	3,898	\$ 4
sation for AAM Executive Officers and Other AAM Executives: The Compensation Committee specifically approves the base salaries and vards for AAM Executive Officers. The Compensation Committee concluded that the approved base salaries and bonus awards were ive with base salaries and bonus awards paid to individuals in comparable positions at Peer Group Companies and certain other companies not d as Peer Group Companies, based on the size, locale, industry, and activities of such companies based on data available from recognized			

negensation Committee specifically approved an overall 2001 Base Salary Merit Budget for Other AAM Executives which is based on data and salaries of Other AAM Executives and the overall 2001 Base Salary Merit Budget with available survey data covering Peer Group ites as well as certain other companies that are not identified as Peer Group Companies, based on the size, locale, industry, and activities of appanies. The base salary for each Other AAM Executive is based on the duties, experience, and performance of such Other AAM Executive, constraints of the 2001 Base Salary Merit Budget. The Compensation Committee concluded that the 2001 Base Salary Merit Budget was ive based on available survey data covering both Peer Group Companies as well as certain other companies that are not identified as Peer ompanies, based on the size, locale, industry, and activities of such companies.

22

ation surveys, taking into consideration the duties, experience, and performance of each such AAM Executive Officer.

f Contents

During 2001, Mr. Richard E. Dauch received compensation in excess of the \$1 million limitation on deductibility under Section 162(m) of the Revenue Code. Consequently, a portion of the compensation earned by Mr. Richard E. Dauch was not deductible by AAM in the ation of its 2001 income tax expense. Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code did not impact AAM s ability to take a tax deduction for ration paid to any other AAM Executive Officer, Other AAM Executive or other salaried associates eligible for bonus or stock options.

nepensation Committee periodically reviews AAM s executive compensation plans to determine their compliance with Section 162(m) of the Revenue Code. The Compensation Committee may, as was the case in 2001, recommend that non-deductible compensation be paid to one or AM Executive Officer when such compensation is deemed to be in the best interests of AAM stockholders.

sation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation: There are none.

illy submitted by the members of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors:

Thomas K. Walker, Chairman Forest J. Farmer John P. Reilly

23

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION, RETIREMENT PROGRAM AND EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS

ry Compensation Table

owing table sets forth the compensation awarded or paid to, or earned by, AAM s Chief Executive Officer and each of AAM s other four most ompensated executive officers during 2001 (collectively, the Named Executive Officers).

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

		Annual Con	nnensation		Long Term Compensation Awards	
e and Principal Position(a)	Year	Base Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)(b)	Other Annual Compensation (\$)(c)	Securities Underlying Options(#)	All Other Compensation (\$)(d)
E. Dauch	2001	920,833	2,805,000	2,360,873	300,000	30,796
ounder, Chairman & Executive Officer	2000 1999	833,333 750,000	1,870,000 1,700,000		215,000	25,794 24,841
Robinson	2001	300,000	400,000		100,000	6,906
lent & Chief	2000	265,008	360,000		45,000	6,906
ting Officer	1999	250,008	310,000		81,086	7,278
Adams	2001	237,552	300,000		60,000	5,730
tive Vice President	2000	228,378	260,000		40,000	5,730
ce & Chief cial Officer	1999	109,943	225,000		100,000	2,049
. Lancaster	2001	220,000	240,000		35,000	7,266
Vice President,	2000	196,347	225,000		18,000	7,107
Administrative er & Secretary	1999	168,000	200,000			6,760
A. Cumo	2001	229,300	240,000		22,000	7,594
President Materials	2000	220,500	225,000		20,000	7,899
gement & Logistics	1999	210,000	220,000			7,514

Table:

es shown are as of January 1, 2002.

uses are paid in the year subsequent to the year in which they are earned.

ments pursuant to Supplemental Compensation Agreement as described further on page 29 hereof Employment Agreements. er compensation includes for the year 2001: (1) the Company matching contributions in the Company squalified section 401(k) plan and a equalified deferred compensation plan and (2) the dollar value of life insurance premiums and benefits. These amounts, expressed in the same er as identified above are as follows: Mr. Dauch \$5,100 and \$25,696; Mr. Robinson \$5,100 and \$1,806; Mr. Adams \$5,100 and \$630; Lancaster \$5,760 and \$1,506; and Mr. Cumo \$5,788 and \$1,806. The amounts shown for 2000 represent: (1) the Company matching ributions in the Company s qualified section 401(k) plan and a non-qualified deferred compensation plan and (2) the dollar value of life rance premiums and benefits. These amounts, expressed in the same order as identified above are as follows: Mr. Dauch \$9,238 and \$16,556; Robinson \$5,100 and \$1,806; Mr. Adams \$5,100 and \$630; Mr. Lancaster \$5,634 and \$1,473; and Mr. Cumo \$6,093 and \$1,806. The punts shown for 1999 represent (1) the Company matching contributions in the Company s qualified section 401(k) plan and a non-qualified

rred compensation plan and (2) the dollar value of life insurance premiums and benefits. These amounts, expressed in the same order as tified above are as follows: Mr. Dauch \$7,613 and \$17,228; Mr. Robinson \$4,800 and \$2,478; Mr. Adams \$1,125 and \$924; Mr. Lancaster 26 and \$1,834; and Mr. Cumo \$5,036 and \$2,478.

24

ption Grants

owing table presents additional information concerning the option awards shown in the Summary Compensation Table for 2001. These awards of nonqualified stock options to purchase common stock and were granted to the Named Executive Officers listed below under the 1999 Plan are year ended December 31, 2001.

OPTION GRANT TABLE

		In	Potential Realizable Value at Assumed Annual Rates of Stock Price Appreciation for Option Term (3)				
	Securities Underlying Options Granted (2)		Percent of Total Options Granted to	Exercise		5% Stock	10% Stock
Name and ipal Position (1)	Date	Number	Employees in Fiscal Year	or Base Price (\$/share)	Expiration Date	Price \$13.90	Price \$21.39
E. Dauch, der, Chairman & ecutive Officer	04/02/2001	300,000	18.6%	8.85	04/02/2011	\$1,515,684	\$3,763,146
obinson, & Chief g Officer	04/02/2001	100,000	6.2%	8.85	04/02/2011	\$ 505,228	\$1,254,382
Adams, e Vice President & Chief Financial	04/02/2001	60,000	3.7%	8.85	04/02/2011	\$ 303,137	\$ 752,629
. Lancaster, ice President, ministrative a Secretary	04/02/2001	35,000	2.2%	8.85	04/02/2011	\$ 176,830	\$ 439,034
a. Cumo, sident, Materials nent & Logistics	04/02/2001	22,000	1.4%	8.85	04/02/2011	\$ 111,150	\$ 275,964

Table:

tles shown are as of January 1, 2002.

ese options were granted with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of a share of AAM common stock on the date of grant. These tions will become exercisable in three substantially equal annual installments beginning on April 2, 2002.

accordance with SEC regulatory requirements, hypothetical gains that would exist for the respective options are shown using assumed rates of preciation of 5% and 10%, respectively. The ultimate value of the options will depend on the actual market value of AAM s common stock at a ture date. The potential realizable value is shown net of the option exercise or base price, but before income taxes associated with exercise. The estimated amounts presented represent assumed annual compounded rates of appreciation in the market price for AAM s common stock of the date of grant through the expiration of the options (in each case, although exercisable as described in Note (2) above, the options expire

the 10th anniversary of the date of grant). Based on the closing price of \$8.85 per share for the AAM common stock as reported on the New ork Stock Exchange on

25

f Contents

oril 2, 2001, the 5% and 10% rates of appreciation for a period of 10 years from such date would result in per share prices of \$13.90 and 1.39 respectively. This presentation is based on the disclosure format prescribed by the SEC and is not intended to forecast future appreciation the common stock price. In addition, the Named Executive Officers listed above will not benefit unless the common stock price increases ove the exercise or base price for each stock option.

ted Option Exercises and Option Values

owing table presents additional information with respect to the Named Executive Officers concerning the exercise of stock options during the ed December 31, 2001 and the unexercised options held as of December 31, 2001:

AGGREGATED OPTION EXERCISES AND OPTION VALUES

	Shares Acquired On Value		Underlying Op	of Securities g Unexercised otions (#)	Value of Unexercised In-the-Money Options (3) (\$)		
Name and acipal Position (1)	Exercise (#)	Realized (2) (\$)	Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable	Unexercisable	
E. Dauch, der, Chairman & ecutive Officer			1,307,134	1,062,141	21,593,422	15,213,666	
cobinson, & Chief Operating			152,054	208,888	1,904,433	2,401,922	
Adams, e Vice President & Chief Financial			79,200	120,800	501,072	1,131,128	
. Lancaster, ice President, Chief rative Officer &			95,844	92,012	1,575,153	1,281,212	
A. Cumo, sident Materials nent & Logistics			423,939	80,352	8,497,854	1,126,442	

Table:

tles shown are as of January 1, 2002.

ent Program and Pension Plan Tables

aintains the following defined benefit plans for AAM Executive Officers and certain Other AAM Executives (Eligible AAM Executives :

Table of Contents 15

57

due realized is equal to the difference between the stock option exercise price and the fair market value of AAM common stock at the date of ercise multiplied by the number of stock options exercised.

due is equal to the difference between the stock option exercise price and the closing market price of AAM common stock reported on the ew York Stock Exchange on December 31, 2001 of \$21.38 multiplied by the number of stock options held by the Named Executive Officer. He dollar values in this table are calculated on a pre-tax basis.

nerican Axle & Manufacturing, Inc. Retirement Program for Salaried Employees, which is a qualified plan (the RPSE); and

f Contents

nerican Axle & Manufacturing, Inc. Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (the SERP), which is a non-qualified plan. Benefits paid from an are from current earnings of AAM.

The RPSE covers substantially all AAM salaried associates and consists of noncontributory benefits and optional contributory benefits.

le AAM Executives do not elect to contribute to the RPSE, they are only entitled to receive basic retirement benefits equal to a flat dollar per year of credited service, which are essentially equivalent to the benefits under the American Axle & Manufacturing Hourly-Rate per year of service Pension Plan maintained by AAM for its hourly associates. All Eligible AAM Executives are entitled to this flat dollar per year of service in accordance with its terms, benefits under the RPSE fully vest after five years of credited service and are payable at the normal retirement of the participant. Supplemental early retirement benefits are available for certain employees force 1988.

ributory portion of the RPSE provides defined benefits under a formula based on eligible years of credited service (maximum 35 years) and age monthly base salary received in the highest sixty months out of the final ten years of service. In addition, upon retirement at or after age oyees receive an annual retirement benefit that is equal to the sum of their contributions to the RPSE. The benefits are subject to certain Revenue Code limitations that change from time to time. For the twelve month period ending December 31, 2001, the Internal Revenue Code he total remuneration that may be included for purposes of determining benefits under the RPSE to \$170,000 on an annualized basis.

Under the SERP, Eligible AAM Executives who made the optional specified contributions to the RPSE are also eligible to receive the greater gular form of the SERP benefit or an alternative form of the SERP benefit.

onthly retirement benefits for an Eligible AAM Executive receiving the regular form of the SERP benefit are equal to the sum of the following: if the average monthly base salary received in the highest sixty months out of the final ten years of service; (2) multiplied by the eligible years ed service as an employee of AAM (as calculated for purposes of the RPSE); and (3) less the sum of all benefits payable under the RPSE eduction for any survivor option) plus the product of 2%, multiplied by the number of years of credited service as an employee of AAM (as an employee of AAM (as an employee of AAM) (as an employee of AAM)

onthly retirement benefits for an Eligible AAM Executive receiving the alternative form of the SERP benefit are computed such that the sum PSE benefits and the alternative form of RPSE benefits equal the sum of the following: (1) the product of 1.5% multiplied by the average compensation (including bonus) of the Eligible AAM Executive s highest five years of total direct compensation out of the last ten years; plied by eligible years of credited service as an employee of AAM (as calculated for purposes of the RPSE); and (3) less 100% of the m monthly Social Security benefit payable to a person in the year of retirement. Supplemental executive retirement benefits otherwise payable alternative formula can be reduced or eliminated at the discretion of the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors.

e SERP is not subject to ERISA, neither the average monthly base salary used as a factor in determining benefits under the regular form nor direct compensation (including bonus) used as a factor in determining benefits under the alternative form is subject to a limitation under the Revenue Code.

27

f Contents

ed Total Retirement Benefit: The total estimated annual retirement benefits payable to the Eligible AAM Executives, including the Named to Officers, under both the RPSE and the SERP are set forth in the following tables:

RPSE and Regular SERP: Table I shows the estimated total annual retirement benefit under both the RPSE and the regular form of the lated to final base salary as of December 31, 2001, that would be payable in 12 equal monthly installments per annum as a single life annuity le AAM Executives retiring in 2002 at age 65. The benefits shown are based upon participation in the optional contributory portion of the ad maximum annual Social Security benefits of \$19,920 payable to persons retiring in 2002. If the Eligible AAM Executive elects to receive in the form of a 65% joint and survivor annuity to the Eligible AAM Executive and his spouse, the amounts shown would generally be by 5%, subject to certain adjustments depending on the age differential between the Eligible AAM Executive and his spouse.

TABLE I

Projected Total Annual Retirement Benefits RPSE plus Regular SERP

Highest Five-Year Average Annual Total Base Salary	Years of Eligible Contributory Credited Service						
	15	20	25	30	35*		
150,000	44,540	59,390	74,240	89,090	103,940		
200,000	54,024	72,032	90,040	108,048	126,056		
300,000	84,024	112,032	140,040	168,048	196,056		
400,000	114,024	152,032	190,040	228,048	266,056		
600,000	174,024	232,032	290,040	348,048	406,056		
800,000	234,024	312,032	390,040	468,048	546,056		
1,000,000	294,024	392,032	490,040	588,048	686,056		
1,200,000	354,024	472,032	590,040	708,048	826,056		

num contributory credited service under the contributory portion of the RPSE and SERP is 35 years. As of December 31, 2001, the Named tive Officers had the following years of Contributory Credited Service: Mr. R.E. Dauch, 7.8333 years; Mr. J.D. Robinson, 7.8333 years; J.J. Adams, 2.5000 years; Mr. P.S. Lancaster, 7.5833 years; and Mr. M.A. Cumo, 7.8333 years.

hal base salaries are reported for the most recent year(s) considered in the calculations of the averages reported in the Summary Compensation the column labeled Base Salary.

RPSE and Alternative SERP: Table II shows the estimated total annual retirement benefit under both the RPSE and the alternative form of P related to final average total direct compensation (including bonus) as of December 31, 2001, that would be payable in 12 equal monthly ents per annum as a single annuity to senior executives retiring in 2002 at age 65. The benefits shown are based upon participation in the contributory portion of the RPSE and maximum Social Security benefits of \$19,920 payable to persons retiring in 2002. If the Eligible AAM re elects to receive benefits in the form of a 65% joint and survivor annuity to the Eligible AAM Executive and his spouse, the amounts shown renerally be reduced by 5%, subject to certain adjustments depending on the age differential between the Eligible AAM Executive and his

28

TABLE II

Projected Total Annual Retirement Benefits RPSE plus Alternative SERP

Highest Five-Year Average Annual Total Direct Compensation		Years of El	igible Contributory Cı	redited Service	
	15	20	25	30	35*
400,000	70,080	100,080	130,080	160,080	190,080
600,000	115,080	160,080	205,080	250,080	295,080
800,000	160,080	220,080	280,080	340,080	400,080
1,000,000	205,080	280,080	355,080	430,080	505,080
1,400,000	295,080	400,080	505,080	610,080	715,080
1,800,000	385,080	520,080	655,080	790,080	925,080
2,200,000	475,080	640,080	805,080	970,080	1,135,080
2,600,000	565,080	760,080	955,080	1,150,080	1,345,080
3,000,000	655,080	880,080	1,105,080	1,330,080	1,555,080
3,400,000	745,080	1,000,080	1,255,080	1,510,080	1,765,080

num contributory credited service under the contributory portion of the RPSE and SERP is 35 years. As of December 31, 2001, the Named tive Officers had the following years of Contributory Credited Service: Mr. R.E. Dauch, 7.8333 years; Mr. J.D. Robinson, 7.8333 years; J. Adams, 2.5000 years; Mr. P.S. Lancaster, 7.5833 years; and Mr. M.A. Cumo, 7.8333 years.

all total direct compensation for the most recent year considered in Table II in the calculation of the sum of the averages of salary and of come, (which is reported here as average annual total direct compensation), will be found in the Summary Compensation Table in the columns Base Salary and Bonus.

ment Agreements

s an Employment Agreement with Richard E. Dauch to serve as Co-Founder, Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer. The ment Agreement expires on December 31, 2006, subject to periodic renewal, as more particularly discussed in the Compensation Committee AAM and Mr. Dauch also entered into a Supplemental Compensation Agreement in December 2000, which is also more particularly described ompensation Committee Report.

as an Employment Agreement with Robin J. Adams to serve as Executive Vice President-Finance & Chief Financial Officer. This agreement on July 5, 2002. The agreement provides for, among other things, an annual base salary, an annual bonus, and provides that AAM will grant ms a certain number of options pursuant to the American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc. 1999 Stock Incentive Plan to purchase shares common stock at the closing price of AAM stock on the date of grant, which options will vest at a substantially equal rate over the three-year der the terms of his Employment Agreement, Mr. Adams is bound by confidentiality and non-competition covenants for a period of as following the expiration of the Employment Agreement. AAM may terminate Mr. Adams Employment Agreement for Cause as defined in

loyment Agreement.

29

OTHER INFORMATION

rs & Officers Indemnification

itted by Delaware Law, AAM s Certificate of Incorporation eliminates the personal liability of a director of AAM for monetary damages for fiduciary duty of care as a director, except for (i) any breach of the director s duty of loyalty to AAM or its stockholders, (ii) acts or as not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) unlawful payment of dividends or stock as or redemptions pursuant to Delaware Law and (iv) any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. In AAM s Certificate of Incorporation provides for indemnification, to the full extent specifically authorized under Delaware Law, of directors are of AAM and persons who serve at the request of AAM as a director, officer, employee, agent or trustee of another corporation, hip, joint venture, trust or other enterprise. The provisions of AAM s Certificate of Incorporation on the subject of indemnification are deemed contract between AAM and each director or officer. AAM also maintains an insurance policy that insures directors and officers against claims from alleged wrongful acts in their respective capacities as directors and officers of AAM.

Party Transactions

ction with a leveraged recapitalization transaction in 1997 through which Blackstone Capital Partners II Merchant Banking Fund L.P. and f its affiliates (collectively Blackstone) acquired a majority ownership interest in AAM, AAM entered into an agreement pursuant to which me provides certain advisory and consulting services to AAM and is paid an annual fee therefor (the Monitoring Agreement). The Monitoring ent has been amended effective January 1, 2002, to modify the term and provide a different fee structure payable to Blackstone. Under the new ture, fees payable to Blackstone under the Monitoring Agreement decrease based on a decrease in Blackstone s ownership interest in AAM. In ackstone was paid \$4.1 Million by AAM for such advisory and consulting services. Messrs. Friedman, Lappin, and Pearlman are each is of Blackstone and are also members of the AAM Board of Directors. This amendment to the Monitoring Agreement was approved by the sommittee.

16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

dieves that during 2001, all SEC filings of its officers, directors and owners of more than 10% of a registered class of AAM sequity securities with the requirements of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act, except that Yogen N. Rahangdale made a delayed Form 4 filing with a transaction which occurred in 2000, and Blackstone Management Associates II L.L.C. and Blackstone Capital Partners II Merchant Fund L.P. (and Blackstone Offshore Capital Partners II L.P. and Blackstone Family Investment Partnership II L.P., as joint filers) each made I Form 4 filing with respect to AAM s follow-on stock offering which occurred in August, 2001.

latters

e date of this proxy statement, management is not aware of any matters to be presented for action at the Annual Meeting other than those d above, except for routine matters. If such other matters do properly come before the Annual Meeting, however, the persons named in the mying proxy intend to vote the proxy in accordance with their best judgment on such matters.

30

f Contents

nformation

rd of Directors is soliciting the enclosed proxy card, and the expense of the solicitation will be borne by AAM. No proxy solicitor has been by AAM. Proxy materials were distributed by mail by EquiServe, as part of its responsibilities as AAM s transfer agent. AAM reimbursed to houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding proxy materials to ders.

furnish, without charge, to each person whose proxy is being solicited, upon request of such person, one copy of our Annual Report 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Requests for copies of such hould be directed to the Investor Relations Department, American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc., 1840 Holbrook Avenue, MI 48212.

r of the Board of Directors,

k S. Lancaster

S. Lancaster
ice President, Chief
trative Officer & Secretary
n Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc.
lbrook Avenue
MI 48212

8, 2002

31

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CAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING NGS, INC. UISERVE X 43068 DENCE, RI 02940 American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc.
World Headquarters
Corporate Town Hall Room
1840 Holbrook Avenue
Detroit, MI 48212
(313) 974-2000

[LOCATION MAP]

DETACH HERE

Please mark votes as in this example

> Election of Class III Directors (01) Richard E. Dauch, (02) Larry W. McCurdy and (03) John P. Reilly

2. Approval of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as independent auditors.

FOR AGAINST ABSTAIN

FOR ALL NOMINEES (except as marked to the contrary on the line below) WITHHOLD AUTHORITY To vote for all nominees

To withhold authority for any individual nominee or nominees, write his or their name or names in the space above

> MARK HERE FOR ADDRESS CHANGE AND NOTE BELOW

MARK HERE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING

In their discretion, the proxies are also authorized to the extent permitted by law, to vote on any and all other matters as may properly come before the meeting. The undersigned hereby revokes any proxy or proxies heretofore given to vote upon or act with respect to said stock and hereby ratifies and confirms all that the proxies names herein and their substitutes, or any of them, may lawfully do by virtue hereof. The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the Notice of Annual Meeting and the 2002 Proxy Statement, both dated March 28, 2002, and the 2001 Annual

Report to Stockholders.

NOTE: Please date this Proxy and sign it exactly as the name or names appear at left. All joint owners of shares should sign. State full title when signing as executor, administrator, trustee, guardian, et cetera. Please return the signed proxy in the enclosed envelope.

Date:	Signature:	Date:	
	e		

DETACH HERE ZAAHC2

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.

PROXY FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS ON MAY 16, 2002 SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

indersigned appoints Richard E. Dauch and Patrick S. Lancaster, or either of them, with full power of substitution, as proxies of the ned, with full power and authority to vote upon and act with respect to all shares of stock of American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc. Impany), which the undersigned is entitled in any capacity to vote, at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company, to be held in the te Town Hall Room at its World Headquarters complex, located at 1840 Holbrook Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, beginning at 2:00 p.m. on 2002, and at any and all adjournments or postponements thereof, in accordance with the instructions set forth in the Proxy and with the same though the undersigned were present in person and voting such shares. The proxies are authorized in their discretion to vote for the election of or persons to the Board of Directors if any nominee named herein becomes unable to serve or for good cause will not serve, upon all matters to the conduct of the Annual Meeting, and upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

ROXY, WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED, WILL BE VOTED AS SPECIFIED HEREIN. IF THIS PROXY DOES NOT INDICATE FRARY CHOICE, IT WILL BE VOTED FOR ALL THE NOMINEES FOR DIRECTOR AS LISTED IN ITEM 1, FOR THE CATION OF AUDITORS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 2, AND IN THE DISCRETION OF THE PERSONS NAMED AS PROXIES WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL OTHER MATTERS BROUGHT BEFORE THE MEETING TO THE EXTENT ITED BY APPLICABLE LAW.

E REVERSE SIDE CONTINUED AND TO BE SIGNED ON REVERSE SIDE

SEE REVERSE SIDE