TETRA TECHNOLOGIES INC Form DEF 14A March 24, 2014 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 [X].
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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 Rule 14a-12.
TETRA TECHNOLOGIES, 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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(3) Filing party:
(4) Date filed:

TETRA Technologies, Inc. 24955 Interstate 45 North The Woodlands, Texas 77380

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held May 6, 2014

To our stockholders:

Where and When. We will hold our 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders at our corporate headquarters, 24955 Interstate 45 North, The Woodlands, Texas on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. local time.

Record Date. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on March 7, 2014 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Purpose of the Meeting. We have called the Annual Meeting for the following purposes:

- To elect nine directors to serve one-year terms ending at the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, or until their successors have been duly elected or appointed;
- 2. To ratify and approve the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014; and
- 3. To conduct an advisory vote on executive compensation.

Additionally, if needed, the stockholders may act upon any other matters that may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments.

You will find more information on our nominees for directors and the other purposes listed above in the attached proxy statement. You will find more instructions on how to vote starting on page 1 of the proxy statement.

Your vote is important! Please promptly vote your shares by telephone, the internet, or, if the proxy statement was mailed to you, by marking, signing, dating, and returning the enclosed proxy card as soon as possible, regardless of whether you plan to attend the Annual Meeting. You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted.

Kimberly M. O'Brien Corporate Secretary

March 24, 2014 The Woodlands, Texas

PROXY STATEMENT

TABLE	OF	CONTENTS	
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General Information	
Internet and Electronic Availability of Proxy Materials	1
General Voting Instructions	1
Voting Rules	2
Proposals	
Proposal No. 1: Election of Directors	5
Proposal No. 2: Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	9
Proposal No. 3: Advisory Vote to Approve Executive Compensation	9
Information About Us	
Corporate Governance	11
Director Independence	11
Board Leadership, Structure, and Risk Oversight	12
Board Meetings and Committees	13
Certain Transactions	16
Equity Compensation Plan Information	17
Insider Stock Sales and Stock Ownership Guidelines	18
Audit Committee Report	19
Fees Paid to Principal Accounting Firm	20
Audit Committee Preapproval Policies and Procedures	20
Executive Officers	21
Compensation Discussion and Analysis	23
Management and Compensation Committee Report	41
Compensation of Executive Officers	42
Grants of Plan Based Awards	43
Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End	44
Option Exercises and Stock Vested	46
Nonqualified Deferred Compensation	46
Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control	47
Compensation Risk	49
Director Compensation	49
Beneficial Stock Ownership of Certain Stockholders and Management	51
Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance	53
Proposals of Stockholders	53
Householding of Annual Meeting Materials	53
Additional Financial Information	54
Other Matters	54

This proxy statement, and the accompanying Notice of the 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and proxy card are

first being made available to our stockholders on or about March 24, 2014.

i

GENERAL INFORMATION

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board of Directors of TETRA Technologies, Inc., to be voted at our Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. local time, and at any adjournment(s) thereof. The purposes of the Annual Meeting are set forth in this proxy statement and in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The complete mailing address of our principal executive offices is 24955 Interstate 45 North, The Woodlands, Texas 77380, and our telephone number is (281) 367-1983.

Attendance at the Annual Meeting is limited to stockholders as of the record date (or their authorized representatives) with evidence of their share ownership and our guests.

Internet and Electronic Availability of Proxy Materials

As permitted by the rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), we are making this proxy statement and related proxy materials available on the internet under the "notice and access" delivery model. The "notice and access" model removes the requirement for public companies to send stockholders a printed set of proxy materials and allows companies instead to deliver to their stockholders a "Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials" and to provide access to the documents over the internet. Our Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials ("Notice") was first mailed to stockholders of record and beneficial owners on or about March 24, 2014. The Notice is not a form for voting, and presents only an overview of the more complex proxy materials. Stockholders are encouraged to access and review the proxy materials before voting.

This proxy statement, the form of proxy, and voting instructions are being made available to stockholders on or about March 24, 2014 at www.envisionreports.com/TTI for registered holders and at www.proxyvote.com for beneficial holders. You may also request a printed copy of this proxy statement and the form of proxy by telephone, over the internet or by email by following the instructions printed on your Notice.

Our Annual Report to Stockholders, including financial statements, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 is being made available at the same time and by the same methods. The Annual Report to Stockholders is not to be considered as a part of the proxy solicitation material or as having been incorporated by reference.

In addition, any stockholder may request to receive proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically by email on an ongoing basis. Receiving future proxy materials by email will save the cost of printing and mailing documents to stockholders and will reduce the impact of annual meetings on the environment. A stockholder's election to receive proxy materials by email will remain in effect unless the stockholder terminates it.

General Voting Instructions

Below are instructions on how to vote as well as information on your rights as a stockholder as they relate to voting. Some of the instructions will differ depending on how your stock is held. It is important to follow the instructions that apply to your situation.

Stockholder of Record. If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., you are considered a stockholder of record and the Notice was sent directly to you by us.

If you are a stockholder of record, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Your Notice will be your evidence of ownership and serve as your authorization to vote in person; we will provide a ballot for you when you arrive at the meeting. If you requested printed copies of the proxy materials, check the appropriate box on the proxy card and bring evidence of your share ownership to the meeting. The proxy card and the evidence of your ownership will serve as your authorization to vote in person.

If you do not wish to vote in person or if you will not be attending the Annual Meeting, you may vote by proxy. You may vote by internet by following the instructions in the Notice or, if you requested printed copies of the proxy materials, you can vote by internet, by telephone, or by delivering your proxy through the mail.

Beneficial Owners. If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer, or other similar organization, then you are the beneficial owner of shares held in "street name," and the Notice was forwarded to you by that organization. The organization holding your account is considered the stockholder of record for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct that organization on how to vote the shares held in your account.

If you are a beneficial owner, in order to vote in person at the Annual Meeting, you must obtain a valid proxy from the organization that holds your shares and bring evidence of your stock ownership from the organization with you to the meeting.

If you do not wish to vote in person or if you will not be attending the Annual Meeting, you may direct the vote of your shares by following the instructions on the Notice delivered to you by the organization holding your account. Many brokerage firms, banks, broker-dealers, or other similar organizations participate in the Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., Online and Telephone Program. This program provides eligible stockholders the opportunity to vote via the internet or by telephone. Voting forms will provide instructions for beneficial owners if the organization holding their account participates in the program or other similar programs.

401(k) Plan Participants. If you participate in our 401(k) Retirement Plan (the "401(k) Plan") and have contributions allocated to the TETRA stock fund, you are entitled to direct the 401(k) Plan trustee to vote the shares of our common stock credited to your account as of the close of business on the record date. You may deliver your voting instructions to the 401(k) Plan trustee by internet or telephone by following the instructions on your proxy card, or by indicating your voting instructions on your proxy card and returning it by mail. All proxy cards that are properly completed, signed, and returned by mail or submitted via the internet or by telephone prior to May 2, 2014 will be voted. If you return your proxy card with no voting instructions marked, or if you do not return a proxy card or submit voting instructions via the internet or by telephone, your shares will be voted by the trustee as directed by our 401(k) Plan Administrator.

How to Revoke Your Proxy. All valid proxies received prior to the Annual Meeting will be voted in accordance with the instructions so indicated. You may revoke your proxy and change your vote at any time before the final vote at the Annual Meeting. A proxy may be revoked by a stockholder of record at any time before it is exercised by submitting a written revocation or a later-dated proxy to our Corporate Secretary at the mailing address provided above, by voting again via the internet or telephone, or by attending the Annual Meeting in person and so notifying the Inspector of Elections. If you are a beneficial owner and wish to change your vote, you must contact the organization that holds your shares prior to the Annual Meeting to assist you with this process. If you are a 401(k) Plan participant, you may revoke your voting instructions by submitting a new proxy containing your voting instructions via the internet, by telephone, or by delivering a later dated proxy card by mail prior to May 2, 2014.

VOTING RULES

Stockholders Entitled to Vote – the Record Date. We fixed the close of business on March 7, 2014 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment(s) thereof. As of the record date, we had issued and outstanding 78,904,914 shares of common stock and no shares of preferred stock.

Quorum Required. A quorum must be present at the Annual Meeting for us to conduct business at the Annual Meeting. To establish a quorum, we need the presence, either in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock issued, outstanding and entitled to vote. We will count abstentions and broker nonvotes to determine whether a quorum is present. Broker nonvotes occur when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power and the nominee has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner.

Number of Votes. You are entitled to one vote per share of our common stock that you own as of the record date on each matter that is called to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Voting to Elect Directors. When voting to elect directors, you have three options:

- vote for all of the nominees;
- vote for one or more of the nominees, but not all; or
- withhold authority to vote for all of the nominees.

If a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, the nine persons receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected to serve as directors. Therefore, any shares that are not voted and votes that are withheld will not influence the outcome of the election of directors. Brokers who have not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner do not have the discretionary authority to vote on the election of directors. Therefore, broker nonvotes will not be considered in the vote totals and will have no effect on the vote. You may not cumulate your votes for any one of the nominees.

Voting on Other Matters. When voting on all other matters, you have three options:

- vote FOR a given proposal;
- vote AGAINST a given proposal; or
- ABSTAIN from voting on a given proposal.

Each matter other than the election of directors requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares having voting power on such matter that are present or represented at the Annual Meeting. For the purpose of determining whether a proposal other than the election of directors has received a majority vote, abstentions will be included in the vote totals with the result that an abstention will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.

With respect to the advisory vote to approve the compensation of executive officers, because your vote on this proposal is advisory in nature, it will not be binding on or overrule any decisions by our Board of Directors or the Management and Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors. However, the Board of Directors and the Management and Compensation Committee value the opinions of our stockholders and, to the extent that there is any significant vote against the compensation of our executive officers, we will consider our stockholders' concerns, and our Board of Directors will evaluate whether any actions are necessary to address those concerns. Brokers do not have discretionary authority to vote on the advisory vote to approve executive compensation. Consequently, broker nonvotes will not be considered in the vote totals for this proposal and will have no effect on the vote.

With respect to the approval of auditors, brokers who have not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner have the discretionary authority to vote on this matter. Therefore, broker nonvotes will be included in the vote totals and have the same effect as a vote against this proposal.

The proxy confers discretionary authority to the persons named in the proxy authorizing those persons to vote, in their discretion, on any other matters properly presented at the Annual Meeting. Our Board of Directors is not currently aware of any such other matters.

Voting of Proxies with Unmarked Votes. All proxies that are properly completed, signed, and returned or submitted via the internet or by telephone prior to the Annual Meeting will be voted. If you return or submit your proxy with no votes marked, your shares will be voted as follows:

FOR the election of each of the nominees for director;

FOR the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm; and

FOR approval of the compensation of executive officers.

It is possible for a proxy to indicate that some of the shares represented are not being voted as to certain proposals. This occurs, for example, when a broker is not permitted to vote on a proposal without instructions from the beneficial

owner of the stock. In such a case, the nonvoted shares will be considered in the manner described above.

Who Counts the Votes. Votes will be counted by Computershare Trust Company, N.A.

Information About the Solicitation of Proxies. Our Board of Directors is soliciting the proxy accompanying this statement in connection with the Annual Meeting. In addition to the solicitation of proxies by use of this proxy statement, our directors, officers, and employees may solicit the return of proxies by mail, personal interview, telephone, or email. Our officers and employees will not receive additional compensation for their solicitation efforts, but they will be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred. Brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries will be requested, in connection with the stock registered in their names, to forward solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of such stock.

We will pay all costs of preparing, printing, assembling, and delivering the Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Notice, this proxy statement, the enclosed form of proxy card and any additional materials, as well as the cost of forwarding solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of stock and all other costs of solicitation.

PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL NO. 1: Election of Directors

On January 14, 2014, our Board of Directors increased the size of the board to eleven members, and appointed Mark E. Baldwin and John F. Glick to fill the vacancies created by the increase. Tom H. Delimitros and Geoffrey M. Hertel, current members of the Board of Directors, will retire from the board upon expiration of their respective terms at the upcoming Annual Meeting, and therefore have not been nominated for reelection. Immediately following the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors expects to set the size of the board at nine members.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors has recommended, and the Board of Directors has nominated and urges you to vote "FOR" the election of the nine persons listed below who have been nominated to serve one-year terms as directors. Each proxy solicited hereby will be so voted unless you specify otherwise in the proxy. A plurality vote is required for the election of directors in Proposal 1. Accordingly, if a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, the nine nominees receiving the greatest numbers of votes will be elected to serve as directors. Proxies cannot be voted for more than nine nominees for election to the Board of Directors.

The terms of office of each of the eleven current directors will expire at the time of the Annual Meeting. Each of the nine nominees listed below has been recommended by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and nominated by the Board of Directors to serve a one-year term as a director. Each of the nominees has consented to be named in this proxy statement and to serve as a director, if elected.

It is intended that the proxies solicited hereby will be voted "FOR" the election of such nominees, unless the authority to do so has been withheld. If, at the time of the Annual Meeting, any of the nominees should be unable or decline to serve, the discretionary authority provided in the proxy will enable the proxy holder to vote for a substitute nominee of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has no reason to believe that any substitute nominee will be required.

Nominees for Director

The nominees for election as directors are as follows:

Name	Age	Position with Us	Director Since
Mark E. Baldwin	60	Director	2014
Thomas R. Bates, Jr.	64	Director	2011
Stuart M. Brightman	57	Director, President and Chief Executive Officer	2009
Paul D. Coombs	58	Director	1994
Ralph S. Cunningham	73	Director	1999
John F. Glick	61	Director	2014
Kenneth P. Mitchell	74	Director	1997
William D. Sullivan	57	Director	2007
Kenneth E. White, Jr.	67	Director	2002

Biographical summaries of the nominees for director, including the experiences, qualifications, attributes and skills of each director that have been considered by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of

Directors in determining that these nominees should serve as directors, are set forth below. See "Beneficial Stock Ownership of Certain Stockholders and Management" below for information regarding the number of shares of our common stock owned by each nominee.

Mark E. Baldwin has served as a member of our Board of Directors since January 2014. Mr. Baldwin served as the executive vice president and chief financial officer of Dresser-Rand Group, Inc., a public company subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), from August 2007 until his retirement in May 2013. Prior to joining Dresser-Rand, he served as the executive vice president, chief financial officer, and treasurer of Veritas DGC Inc., a public company subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, from August 2004 through February 2007, and operating partner at First Reserve Corporation from April 2003 through July 2004. Mr. Baldwin served as executive vice president and chief financial officer for NextiraOne from October 2001 through August 2002, and as chairman of the board and chief executive officer for Pentacon Inc. from 1997 through 2001. From 1980 through 1997, Mr. Baldwin served in a variety of finance and operations positions with Keystone International Inc., including treasurer, chief financial officer, and president of the Industrial Valves and Controls Group. Mr. Baldwin currently serves as a director of Nine Energy Service, a private company providing downhole completions services, and previously served as a director of Seahawk Drilling Inc. from August 2009 until February 2011. Mr. Baldwin has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Duke University and an MBA from Tulane University.

Mr. Baldwin, through his experience in executive financial positions with public companies, brings significant knowledge of accounting, capital structures, finance and financial reporting, strategic planning, and forecasting. Mr. Baldwin has extensive knowledge of the energy industry and his financial management and operations experience provides a significant contribution to our Board of Director's mix of backgrounds and skills.

Thomas R. Bates, Jr., Ph.D., has served as a member of our Board of Directors since November 2011. Dr. Bates has served as a member of our Management and Compensation Committee since May 2012. Dr. Bates is a private investor and currently an adjunct professor in the finance department at Texas Christian University where he teaches in the MBA program at the Neeley School of Business. Prior to that, he joined Lime Rock Management LP, an energy-focused private equity firm, as a managing director in 2001 and became a senior advisor of the firm in 2010 before retiring in 2013. Dr. Bates had 25 years of experience in oil service management and operations before joining Lime Rock. He served from 1998 through 2000 as president of the Discovery Group of Baker Hughes and was responsible for the integration of Western Atlas into Baker Hughes. Earlier, he served as president and chief executive officer of Weatherford Enterra. Previously, Dr. Bates spent 15 years with Schlumberger in both domestic and international locations and was responsible for the Anadrill business unit when early MWD and LWD tools were commercialized. Dr. Bates began his career with Shell Oil Company, where he conducted drilling research. Dr. Bates has been a personal investor and/or a corporate investor in more than a dozen oil service technology startups. Based in Fort Worth, Dr. Bates also serves as chairman of the board of directors of Hercules Offshore, Inc., a public company subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. He previously served on the boards of Natco Group, Inc. from 2003 through 2009, and T-3 Energy Services from 2007 until it was acquired in 2011. Dr. Bates is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering.

Dr. Bates has nearly forty years of experience in the international oil and gas services industry, both as a director and in management positions with operational responsibilities. Dr. Bates' experience serving as a director of other public companies provides cross-board experience and perspective, and his management of a private equity firm provides valuable entrepreneurial insight.

Stuart M. Brightman has served as our President and Chief Executive Officer since May 2009, at which time Mr. Brightman was also elected as a director. He served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from April 2005 through May 2009. Mr. Brightman also serves as a director of our Compressco Partners GP Inc. subsidiary, the general partner of Compressco Partners, L.P., also one of our consolidated subsidiaries and a publicly traded limited partnership subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. From April 2004 to April 2005, Mr. Brightman was self-employed. Mr. Brightman served as president of the Dresser Flow Control division of Dresser, Inc. from April 2002 until April 2004. Dresser Flow Control, which manufactures and sells valves, actuators,

and other equipment and provides related technology and services for the oil and gas industry, had revenues in excess of \$400 million in 2004. From November 1998 to April 2002, Mr. Brightman was president of the Americas Operation of the Dresser Valve Division of Dresser, Inc. He served in other capacities during the earlier portion of his career with Dresser, from 1993 to 1998. From 1982 to 1993, Mr. Brightman served in several financial and operational positions with Cameron Iron Works and its successor, Cooper Oil Tools. Mr. Brightman received his B.S. degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his Master of Business Administration degree from the Wharton School of Business.

Mr. Brightman has more than thirty years of experience in manufacturing and services businesses related to the oil and gas industry. He has experience in corporate finance and in the management of capital intensive operations. Mr. Brightman's prior service as our Chief Operating Officer and his current position with us as President and Chief Executive Officer also provides our Board of Directors with an in-depth source of knowledge regarding our operations, our executive management team, and the effectiveness of our compensation programs.

Paul D. Coombs has served as a member of our Board of Directors since June 1994. Mr. Coombs has served as a member of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee since July 2012. From April 2005 until his retirement in June 2007, Mr. Coombs served as our Executive Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, and from May 2001 to April 2005, as our Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. From January 1994 to May 2001, Mr. Coombs served as our Executive Vice President - Oil & Gas, from 1987 to 1994 he served as Senior Vice President - Oil & Gas, and from 1985 to 1987, as General Manager - Oil & Gas. Mr. Coombs has served in numerous other positions with us since 1982. Mr. Coombs is presently a director and serves on the audit and corporate governance committees of the board of directors of Balchem Corporation, a public company that is subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act.

Mr. Coombs has more than thirty years of experience with us, which, together with his entrepreneurial approach to management, provides the Board of Directors with insight into our capabilities and personnel. Mr. Coombs has substantial experience with the oil and gas services we provide and with oil and gas exploration and production operations in general.

Ralph S. Cunningham, Ph.D., has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 1999, and as Chairman of our Board of Directors since December 2006. Dr. Cunningham currently serves on our Audit Committee and our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Dr. Cunningham has been employed by Enterprise Products Company or its predecessor since 2005. Dr. Cunningham is presently vice chairman of the board of directors of Enterprise Products Holdings LLC, the general partner of Enterprise Products Partners L.P., a publicly traded partnership subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act and a director of Cenovus Energy Inc., a Canadian publicly traded independent integrated oil company that was formerly named EnCana Corporation. From 1996 until May 2013, he served as a director of Agrium, Incorporated, a Canadian publicly traded company involved in the agricultural chemicals business, From August 2007 until November 2010, he served as a director and as president and chief executive officer of EPE Holdings, LLC, the general partner of Enterprise GP Holdings L.P., a publicly traded partnership subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. Dr. Cunningham also served as a director of LE GP, LLC, the general partner of Energy Transfer Equity, L.P., from December 2009 until November 2010, as a director of Enterprise Products GP, LLC, from February 2006 to May 2010, and as a director of DEP Holdings, LLC from August 2007 to May 2010. Dr. Cunningham served as a director of Enterprise Products GP from 1998 until March 2005 and served as chairman and a director of TEPPCO GP from March 2005 until November 2005. He retired in 1997 from CITGO Petroleum Corporation, where he had served as president and chief executive officer since 1995. Dr. Cunningham served as vice chairman of Huntsman Corporation from April 1994 to April 1995; and from August 1990 to April 1994, he served as president of Texaco Chemical Company. Prior to joining Texaco Chemical Company, Dr. Cunningham held various executive positions with Clark Oil & Refining and Tenneco Inc. He began his career in Exxon's refinery operations. Dr. Cunningham received his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from Auburn University and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Chemical Engineering from Ohio State University.

Dr. Cunningham has extensive experience in the international oil and gas industry as well as the chemicals industry, both as a director and in management positions with various operational responsibilities. He has significant board experience, having served as a director of public companies for approximately eighteen years, which provides cross-board experience and perspective.

John F. Glick has served as a member of our Board of Directors since January 2014. From August 2007 until his retirement in July 2013, Mr. Glick served as president and a director of Lufkin Industries, Inc., a public company subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. Additionally, he was elected chief executive officer of Lufkin in March 2008 and served in such capacity until his retirement in July 2013. During his tenure, Mr. Glick oversaw the growth of Lufkin and ultimately, the sale of the company to General Electric in July 2013. From September 1994 through August 2007, Mr. Glick served as the vice president and general manager of Lufkin's Power Transmission Division. He previously served as vice president and general manager of Lufkin's

Oilfield Division from August 2007 through August 2008. Prior to joining Lufkin, from 1974 through 1994, Mr. Glick held several senior management level positions with Cameron Iron Works, Inc. Mr. Glick received a B.S. in Journalism from the University of Kansas and graduated from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Program for Management Development.

Mr. Glick brings extensive energy industry, management, and oversight experience, having served in executive management positions with various public energy services and manufacturing companies. Mr. Glick's broad experience in manufacturing and servicing a variety of oilfield drilling and completion products, both domestically and internationally, provides valuable insight to the Board of Directors from an operational and strategic planning perspective.

Kenneth P. Mitchell has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 1997. Mr. Mitchell is Chairman of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and also serves on our Audit Committee. Mr. Mitchell served as a member of our Management and Compensation Committee until May 2012. In November 2010, Mr. Mitchell retired from the board of directors of Balchem Corporation, a public company subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, where he had served as a director since 1993 and as lead director and chairman of the executive committee since October 2005. Mr. Mitchell served as president and chief executive officer of Oakite Products, Inc., a specialty chemicals company, from 1986 until his retirement in 1993. From 1964 to 1986, he held a number of executive positions with Diamond Shamrock Corporation, all of which were related to various commodity and specialty chemicals businesses. Mr. Mitchell received his B.S. degree in Marketing and Finance from Ohio State University, and he completed the Senior Executive Program at M.I.T. in 1979.

Mr. Mitchell has extensive experience in various management roles in the specialty chemicals industry, including manufacturing, sales, and marketing. In addition, Mr. Mitchell has considerable experience in executive compensation matters.

William D. Sullivan has served as a member of our Board of Directors since August 2007. Mr. Sullivan currently serves on our Management and Compensation Committee and our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Mr. Sullivan currently serves as a director of our Compressco Partners GP Inc. subsidiary, the general partner of Compressco Partners, L.P., also one of our consolidated subsidiaries and a publicly traded limited partnership subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. Mr. Sullivan is the non-executive chairman of the board of directors of SM Energy Company, a publicly traded exploration and production company that is subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. Mr. Sullivan is also a director and serves on the audit, nominating and corporate governance and conflicts, and compensation committees of Legacy Reserves GP, LLC, the general partner of Legacy Reserves, LP, a publicly traded limited partnership holding oil and gas producing assets, primarily in the Permian Basin and Rocky Mountain areas. Mr. Sullivan is a director and serves on the conflicts and audit committees of Targa Resources Partners GP, LLC, the general partner of Targa Resources Partners LP, a publicly traded limited partnership focused on mid-stream gas gathering, processing, liquids fractionation, and transportation. From 1981 through August 2003, Mr. Sullivan was employed in various capacities by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, most recently as executive vice president, exploration and production. Mr. Sullivan has been retired since August 2005. Mr. Sullivan received his B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University.

Mr. Sullivan has significant management experience in mid-stream oil and gas operations and in the exploration and production of oil and gas on an international level. Mr. Sullivan also has substantial experience in executive compensation matters and in serving on the boards of publicly held corporations and publicly traded limited partnerships operating in the oil and gas industry.

Kenneth E. White, Jr. has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2002. Mr. White is Chairman of our Management and Compensation Committee and also serves on our Audit Committee. He served as president and chief

operating officer and a director of Torch Energy Advisors, a private company that owns and operates oil and gas projects on behalf of its investors, until his retirement in January 2001. Prior to his initial employment with Torch in 1989, Mr. White served as executive vice president and general manager of Gruy Engineering, a petroleum consulting firm affiliated with Torch. From 1982 to 1989, Mr. White served in several positions related to Gulf Coast reservoir management and engineering with Tenneco Oil. He received his B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Louisiana State University.

Mr. White has substantial experience in the oil and gas industry, including with regard to the management, operation, and analysis of oil and gas reserves. In addition, Mr. White has significant experience in executive compensation matters.