

ARBITRON INC
Form DEF 14A
April 12, 2012
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

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

ARBITRON INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

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

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

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11:

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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

(1) Amount previously paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

Dear Stockholder:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Arbitron Inc. (Arbitron), I am pleased to invite you to attend the annual meeting of stockholders. The meeting will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel, New York, 57 East 57th Street, New York, New York 10022, on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 9:00 AM local time.

The Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the proxy statement that follow include information about the proposals recommended by Arbitron s Board of Directors to elect ten (10) individuals to serve as directors of Arbitron, to have an advisory approval of the Company s executive compensation, and to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Arbitron for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.

Our Board of Directors believes a favorable vote for the proposal to elect the ten (10) directors, the compensation of Arbitron s named executive officers, and for ratification of the appointment of KPMG at the annual meeting is in the best interests of Arbitron and its stockholders, and unanimously recommends a vote FOR each the proposals. Accordingly, we urge you to review the accompanying materials carefully and to vote your shares promptly.

It is important your shares be represented at the meeting. I encourage you to vote your shares promptly using Internet or telephone voting, or by following the instructions on the accompanying proxy card to ensure that your vote is counted at the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

William T. Kerr

President and Chief Executive Officer

Table of Contents

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

May 22, 2012

Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012
Time: 9:00 AM local time
Place: The Four Seasons Hotel, New York, 57 East 57th Street, New York, New York 10022
Purposes:

1. To elect ten (10) members of the Board of Directors to serve until the next annual meeting and until their successors have been elected and qualified.
2. To approve, on an advisory basis, the Company's executive compensation.
3. To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Arbitron for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Record Date: March 30, 2012

The matters listed above are fully discussed in the proxy statement accompanying this notice. A copy of our 2011 Annual Report also accompanies this notice.

Stockholders are entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held of record on the record date listed above. A Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or the proxy statement and the accompanying proxy card will be first mailed to stockholders on or about April 12, 2012.

It is important your shares be represented and voted at the meeting. You can vote your shares by completing and returning the accompanying proxy card. Most stockholders can also vote their shares over the Internet or by telephone. If Internet or telephone voting is available to you, voting instructions are printed on the accompanying proxy card. You can revoke a proxy at any time prior to its exercise at the meeting by following the instructions in the accompanying proxy statement. We appreciate your cooperation.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Timothy T. Smith

Executive Vice President, Business Development

and Strategy, Chief Legal Officer, and Secretary

April 12, 2012

Table of Contents**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page No.
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS	
<u>PROXY STATEMENT</u>	1
<u>Information About the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials</u>	1
<u>Who Can Vote</u>	1
<u>Who Can Attend the Annual Meeting</u>	1
<u>Quorum</u>	2
<u>Voting Rights</u>	2
<u>Voting by Participants in Arbitron Benefit Plans</u>	3
<u>Granting Your Proxy</u>	3
<u>Other Business</u>	3
<u>Confidential Voting</u>	3
<u>Revoking Your Proxy</u>	3
<u>CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</u>	4
<u>Corporate Governance Changes for Fiscal Year 2011 and Fiscal Year 2012</u>	4
<u>Corporate Governance Policies and Guidelines and Code of Ethics</u>	4
<u>The Board's Role in Risk Oversight</u>	5
<u>Independence of Directors</u>	5
<u>Board Leadership Structure</u>	6
<u>ELECTION OF DIRECTORS (Proposal 1)</u>	7
<u>Nominees for Election as Directors</u>	7
<u>Recommendation of the Board of Directors</u>	11
<u>Executive Sessions of Nonmanagement Directors</u>	12
<u>Communicating with the Board of Directors</u>	12
<u>Meetings of the Board of Directors</u>	12
<u>Committees of the Board of Directors</u>	12
<u>Executive Committee</u>	13
<u>Audit Committee</u>	13
<u>Compensation and Human Resources Committee</u>	14
<u>Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee</u>	15
<u>Technology Strategy Committee</u>	16
<u>Growth Strategy Committee</u>	16
<u>2011 Director Compensation</u>	16
<u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION</u>	19
<u>Executive Officers</u>	19
<u>COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS</u>	21
<u>Introduction</u>	21
<u>Executive Summary</u>	21
<u>Components</u>	22
<u>Setting 2011 Executive Compensation</u>	23
<u>Base Salary</u>	24
<u>2011 Non-equity Incentive Plan Compensation</u>	24
<u>2012 Non-equity Incentive Plan</u>	27
<u>2011 Long-term Incentive Plan</u>	27
<u>2012 Long-term Incentive Plan</u>	28
<u>Benefits and Perquisites</u>	29
<u>Post-Termination Compensation</u>	29
<u>Retirement Plans</u>	29
<u>Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control</u>	30

Table of Contents

	Page No.
<u>Retention and Employment Agreements</u>	30
<u>Executive Retention Agreements</u>	30
<u>Kerr Executive Employment Agreement</u>	30
<u>Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation</u>	31
<u>Stock Ownership Guidelines</u>	31
<u>Role of Management</u>	32
<u>Compliance with Section 162(m)</u>	32
<u>REPORT OF COMPENSATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE</u>	33
<u>Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation and Other Payments to the NEOs</u>	33
<u>2011 Summary Compensation Table</u>	33
<u>2011 Grants of Plan-Based Awards</u>	35
<u>Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End</u>	37
<u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested</u>	38
<u>2011 Pension Benefits Table</u>	38
<u>2011 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation</u>	39
<u>401(k) Plan</u>	39
<u>POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL</u>	39
<u>Executive Retention Agreements</u>	40
<u>Termination by the Company Other Than for Cause or by Executive for Position Diminishment</u>	40
<u>Termination During Window Period Following a Change of Control</u>	41
<u>Kerr Executive Employment Agreement</u>	42
<u>2011 Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control</u>	43
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	44
<u>CONSIDERATION OF RISK IN OUR COMPENSATION PROGRAMS</u>	44
<u>STOCK OWNERSHIP INFORMATION</u>	45
<u>Stock Ownership of Arbitron's Directors and Executive Officers</u>	45
<u>Stock Ownership of Arbitron's Principal Stockholders</u>	47
<u>CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS</u>	48
<u>ADVISORY APPROVAL OF THE COMPANY'S EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (Proposal 2)</u>	49
<u>RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM (Proposal 3)</u>	50
<u>AUDIT FEES AND PREAPPROVAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</u>	50
<u>Preapproval Policies and Procedures</u>	51
<u>REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>	52
<u>OTHER MATTERS</u>	53
<u>Arbitron Mailing Address</u>	53
<u>Multiple Stockholders Sharing the Same Address</u>	53
<u>Stockholder Proposals for Next Year's Annual Meeting</u>	53
<u>Director Nominations</u>	53
<u>Proxy Solicitation</u>	53
<u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	54
<u>Annual Report</u>	54

Table of Contents

ARBITRON INC.

9705 Patuxent Woods Drive

Columbia, Maryland 21046

April 12, 2012

PROXY STATEMENT

FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD MAY 22, 2012

We will begin mailing our Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials to our stockholders on or about April 12, 2012.

We are furnishing this proxy statement to our stockholders in connection with a solicitation of proxies by our Board of Directors for use at our 2012 annual meeting of stockholders to be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 9:00 AM local time at the Four Seasons Hotel, New York, 57 East 57th Street, New York, New York 10022 (the Annual Meeting).

Information About the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials

The Notice of Annual Meeting and proxy statement are available at http://www.arbitron.com/downloads/proxy_2012.pdf, and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 and our 2012 Stockholder Information letter are available at http://www.arbitron.com/downloads/annual_2011.pdf.

In accordance with rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), instead of mailing a printed copy of our proxy materials, including our annual report to stockholders, to each stockholder of record, we may furnish proxy materials, including our annual report to stockholders, to our stockholders on the Internet. On or about April 12, 2012, we will send electronically a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the E-Proxy Notice) to those stockholders who have previously requested to receive their proxy materials on the Internet. Also on or about April 12, 2012, we will begin mailing the E-Proxy Notice to all other stockholders. If you received the E-Proxy Notice by mail, you will not automatically receive a printed copy of the proxy materials or the annual report to stockholders. Instead, the E-Proxy Notice instructs you as to how you may access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials, including our annual report to stockholders. If you have previously requested to receive proxy materials and other stockholder communications on the Internet instead of by mail, you will be receiving the E-Proxy Notice electronically. The E-Proxy Notice also instructs you as to how you may submit your proxy on the Internet. If you received the E-Proxy Notice by mail and would like to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials, including our annual report to stockholders, you should follow the instructions for requesting such materials included in the E-Proxy Notice. We may choose to mail written proxy materials to one or more stockholders.

Who Can Vote

If you held any of our common stock at the close of business on March 30, 2012, the record date for the Annual Meeting, you are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at our 2012 Annual Meeting. On that date, there were 26,805,299 shares of common stock outstanding. Our common stock constitutes the only class of securities entitled to vote at the meeting.

Who Can Attend the Annual Meeting

All holders of our common stock at the close of business on March 30, 2012, the record date for the Annual Meeting, or their duly appointed proxies, are authorized to attend the Annual Meeting. If you attend the meeting, you may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport, before being admitted. Cameras, recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

Please also note that if you hold your shares in street name (that is, through a bank, broker or other nominee), you will need to bring a copy of the brokerage statement reflecting your stock ownership as of March 30, 2012, the record date for the Annual Meeting.

Table of Contents

Quorum

The presence of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote, in person or by proxy, is necessary to constitute a quorum and conduct business at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker holding common stock for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular matter because the broker does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that item and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner.

Voting Rights

Each share of our common stock you hold entitles you to one vote on all matters that come before the Annual Meeting. Inspectors of election will count votes cast at the Annual Meeting.

The affirmative vote of a plurality of all the votes cast at the Annual Meeting, assuming a quorum is present, is necessary for the election of a director. Therefore, the 10 individuals with the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected to the 10 directorships. Stockholders who do not wish their shares to be voted for a particular nominee may indicate that in the space provided on the proxy card or by following the telephone or Internet instructions. For purposes of the election of directors, broker non-votes, abstentions and other shares not voted (whether by broker non-vote or otherwise) will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the result of the vote.

In an uncontested election if a director nominee receives a greater number of votes withheld from his or her election than votes for that director nominee's election, the nominee shall promptly offer his or her resignation to the Board. Thereafter, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, consisting of independent directors (which will specifically exclude any director who is required to offer his or her own resignation) shall consider all relevant factors and recommend to the Board the action to be taken with respect to such offered resignation, and the Board will consider whether to accept the resignation or take other action.

If you hold your shares through a broker, it is important you cast your vote if you want it to count in the election of directors and the advisory approval of executive compensation. Recent regulatory changes have eliminated the ability of your broker to vote your uninstructed shares in the election of directors and the advisory approval of executive compensation. Thus, if you hold your shares in street name and you do not instruct your broker how to vote with respect to these proposals, no votes will be cast on your behalf.

A broker non-vote occurs when a broker or other nominee does not receive voting instructions from the beneficial owner and does not have the discretion to direct the voting of the shares. Broker non-votes will be counted for purposes of calculating whether a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, but will not be counted for purposes of determining the number of votes present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote with respect to a particular proposal. Thus, a broker non-vote will not impact our ability to obtain a quorum and will not otherwise affect the outcome of the vote on a proposal that requires a plurality of votes cast, a majority of votes cast, or the approval of a majority of the votes present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote.

The advisory approval of the Company's executive compensation requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of common stock present, in person or by proxy, at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote. Abstentions have the same effect as a vote against the advisory resolution. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the advisory vote. The results of this vote are not binding on the Board of Directors.

The affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting is necessary to approve the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

Table of Contents

Voting by Participants in Arbitron Benefit Plans

If you own Arbitron common stock as a participant in one or more of our employee benefit plans, you will receive a single proxy card that covers both the shares credited to your name in your plan account(s) and shares you own that are registered in your name. If any of your plan accounts are not in the same name as your shares of record, you will receive separate proxy cards for your record and plan holdings. Proxies submitted by plan participants in our 401(k) plan will serve as voting instructions to the trustees for the plan whether provided by mail, telephone or the Internet. In the absence of voting instructions from participants in the 401(k) plan, the trustees of the plan will vote the undirected shares in the same proportion as the directed shares.

Granting Your Proxy

You may vote your shares as follows:

in person at the Annual Meeting;

by telephone (see the instructions in the E-Proxy Notice);

by Internet (see the instructions in the E-Proxy Notice); or

if you received a printed copy of these proxy materials by mail, by signing, dating, and mailing the enclosed proxy card. If you vote by proxy, the individuals named on the proxy card (your proxies) will vote your shares in the manner you indicate. You may specify whether your shares should be voted for, against, withhold (in the election of directors), or abstain with respect to all, some or none of the matters submitted for stockholder approval.

If your shares are not registered in your own name and you plan to attend the Annual Meeting and vote your shares in person, you should contact your broker or agent in whose name your shares are registered to obtain a proxy executed in your favor and bring it to the Annual Meeting in order to vote.

Other Business

No other matters are to be presented for action at the Annual Meeting other than the items described in this proxy statement. The enclosed proxy will, however, confer discretionary authority with respect to any other matter that may properly come before the meeting. The persons named in the enclosed proxy intend to vote as recommended by the Board of Directors or, if no recommendation is given, in accordance with their judgment on any matters that may properly come before the meeting.

Confidential Voting

It is our policy that the individual stockholder votes are kept confidential prior to the final tabulation of the vote at our stockholders meeting if the stockholder requests confidential treatment. The only exceptions to this policy involve applicable legal requirements and proxy solicitations in opposition to the Board. Access to proxies and individual stockholder voting records is limited to the independent election inspectors (Broadridge Financial Services, Inc.), who may inform us at any time whether or not a particular stockholder has voted.

Revoking Your Proxy

If you submit a proxy, you can revoke it at any time before it is exercised by giving written notice to our Corporate Secretary prior to the Annual Meeting or by timely delivery of a properly exercised, later-dated proxy (including an Internet or telephone vote). You may also attend the Annual Meeting in person and vote by ballot, which would cancel any proxy that you previously submitted.

You should rely only on the information provided in this proxy statement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information. You should not assume that the information in this proxy statement is accurate as of any date other than the date of this proxy statement or, where information relates to another date set forth in this proxy statement, then as of that date. Unless the context requires otherwise, in this proxy statement, references to the Company, we, us, our, its or similar terms are to Arbitron and its subsidiaries.

Table of Contents**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE****Corporate Governance Changes for Fiscal Year 2011 and Fiscal Year 2012**

Because our Board of Directors and its committees are committed to strong and effective corporate governance and oversight and mitigation of risk, they regularly monitor our corporate governance policies and practices to ensure we meet or exceed the requirements of applicable laws, regulations, and the New York Stock Exchange's listing standards. For fiscal year 2011 and during fiscal year 2012, the Board's Compensation and Human Resources Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees made changes to our corporate governance policies and practices including:

Amending our Bylaws to provide that in an uncontested election if a director nominee receives a greater number of votes withheld from his or her election than votes for that director nominee's election, the nominee shall promptly offer his or her resignation to the Board. Thereafter, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, consisting of independent directors (which will specifically exclude any director who is required to offer his or her own resignation) shall consider all relevant factors and recommend to the Board the action to be taken with respect to such offered resignation, and the Board will consider whether to accept the resignation or take other action.

Amending our Stock Ownership Guidelines to increase the threshold holding requirements for the CEO, COO and CFO, and other executive officers as well as prohibiting sales until the executive officer has exceeded the applicable ownership threshold. During fiscal year 2011, the Board of Directors revised our Policy and Procedure on Trading Securities While in Possession of Material Non-Public Information to expressly prohibit speculation in and hedging of shares of our common stock by persons subject to the policy.

Key Corporate Governance Facts

	*2012
Size of Board	10
Average Age of Directors	62
Number of Independent Directors	9
Number of Board Meetings Held	**7
Diverse Board (as to Gender, Ethnicity, Experience, and Skills)	Yes
Annual Election of All Directors	Yes
Bylaw Requirement for Directors Receiving Less Than a Majority of Votes Cast in Uncontested Elections to Offer Resignation	Yes
Separate Chairman & CEO	Yes
Independent Directors Meet Without Management Present	Yes
Annual Board and Committee Self-Evaluations	Yes
Board Orientation/Education Program	Yes
Disclosure Committee for External Financial Reporting	Yes
Annual Advisory Approval of Executive Compensation	Yes
Director and Executive Stock Ownership Guidelines	Yes
Code of Ethics for all Employees and Directors	Yes

* As of April 12, 2012

** During 2011

Corporate Governance Policies and Guidelines and Codes of Ethics

Corporate Governance Policies and Guidelines. We have adopted corporate governance policies and guidelines, which serve as principles for the conduct of the Board of Directors. Our corporate governance policies and guidelines, which meet the requirements of the New York Stock

Exchange listing standards, address a

Table of Contents

number of topics, including, among other things, director qualification standards, director responsibilities, the responsibilities and composition of the Board committees, director access to management and independent advisors, director compensation, management succession, and evaluations of the performance of the Board.

Codes of Ethics. We have adopted a Code of Ethics and Conduct, which applies to all of our employees, officers and directors, and meets the requirements for such code as set forth in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. We have also adopted a Code of Ethics for the Chief Executive Officer and Financial Managers, which applies to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and all managers in our financial organization, and meets the requirements of a code of ethics as defined by the rules and regulations of the SEC.

Where You Can Find These Documents. Our corporate governance policies and guidelines, Code of Ethics and Conduct and Code of Ethics for the Chief Executive Officer and Financial Managers are available on our Web site at www.arbitron.com, and are also available in print to any stockholder who sends a written request to the Treasury Manager at Arbitron Inc., 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

The Board's Role in Risk Oversight

The Board recognizes the importance of effective risk oversight in running a successful business and in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities to the Company and its stockholders. While the Chief Executive Officer and other members of our senior management team are responsible for the day-to-day management of risk, the Board is responsible for ensuring the appropriate culture of risk management exists within the Company. The Board's role in the Company's risk oversight process includes receiving regular reports from members of senior management on areas of risk material to the Company, including operational, financial, legal and regulatory, strategic, competitive, and reputational risks. The full Board (or the appropriate Committee in the case of risks within the purview of a particular Committee) receives these reports from the appropriate risk owner within the organization to enable it to understand our risk identification, risk management, and risk mitigation strategies.

The Board discusses risks related to the Company's business strategies at strategic planning meetings and at other meetings as appropriate. The Board's administration of the risk oversight function has not affected the leadership structure of the Board.

The Audit Committee considers risks associated with our overall financial reporting and disclosure processes and legal compliance, as well as reviewing the Company's financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor, control, and report such exposures. The Audit Committee reviews with management the Company's guidelines and policies to govern the processes by which risk assessment and risk management are undertaken as well as to monitor and control the Company's exposure to risk. In addition to its regularly scheduled meetings, the Audit Committee meets with the Company's registered independent public accounting firm in executive sessions at least quarterly.

In consideration of risk associated with executive compensation, the Compensation & Human Resources Committee has designed the Company's executive compensation programs with the goal of striking a reasonable balance between annual and long-term performance, with a significant portion of compensation being delivered in the form of long-term equity incentives. The Compensation & Human Resources Committee has the ability to exercise its negative discretion to reduce annual incentives earned by the executives based on approved return metrics, quality of earnings, individual performance, and other factors that are appropriate influences on compensation. Additionally, all equity grants made since 2010 contain clawback provisions, which we believe discourage inappropriate risk-taking.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee oversees risks related to our overall corporate governance, including board and committee composition, board size and structure, and director independence. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also is actively engaged in overseeing risks associated with succession planning for the Board.

Independence of Directors

Under the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange, and pursuant to our corporate governance policies and guidelines, we are required to have a majority of independent directors and a nominating/corporate governance committee, compensation committee, and audit committee, each composed solely of independent

Table of Contents

directors. In determining director independence, the Board broadly considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the rules of the New York Stock Exchange. The Board considers these issues not merely from the standpoint of a director, but also from that of persons or organizations with which the director has an affiliation. An independent director is free of any relationship with Arbitron or its management that may impair the director's ability to make independent judgments.

The Board of Directors has evaluated the status of each director and affirmatively determined that Mss. Archambeau and Farber and Messrs. Devonshire, Dimling, Garriques, Guarascio, Kittelberger, Nogales, and Post are independent. Mr. Kerr is not independent because he is an employee of the Company. In addition, although Mr. Devonshire serves on the audit committee of more than three publicly-traded companies, the Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that such simultaneous service does not impair his ability to serve on our Audit Committee. Each current member of our Compensation and Human Resources Committee, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and our Audit Committee is independent.

In determining Ms. Farber is independent, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board considered Ms. Farber's appointment as Executive Vice President of the Radio Advertising Bureau effective January 1, 2012 as discussed under "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" below. The Board determined Ms. Farber's continued service as a member of the Board while employed as an executive officer of the Radio Advertising Bureau is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders because it will allow Ms. Farber to provide the Board with a unique perspective and deeper insight on issues of importance to many of the Company's customers and the radio industry generally.

Board Leadership Structure

We separate the roles of CEO and Chairman of the Board in order to promote independence, manage the relationship between the Board and the CEO, promote oversight of risk, and mitigate potential conflicts of interest. The CEO is responsible for setting the strategic direction for the Company and the day to day leadership and performance of the Company, while the Chairman of the Board provides guidance to the CEO, sets the agenda for Board meetings, and presides over meetings of the full Board and the executive sessions of nonmanagement directors described below.

Table of Contents

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

(Proposal 1)

Our business is managed under the direction of our Board of Directors (the Board), which currently is composed of ten directors. Our bylaws provide for the annual election of directors. The current terms of office of all of our directors expire at the 2012 Annual Meeting. Our Board has renominated each of the ten directors currently serving on the Board to serve as directors for a one-year term until the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders. Each of the nominees has consented to serve if elected.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR and solicits proxies in favor of each of the nominees named below. Proxies cannot be voted for more than ten persons. Our Board has no reason to believe that any nominee for director will be unable or unavailable to serve. However, if any nominee should for any reason become unable or unavailable to serve, proxies will be voted for another nominee selected by the Board. Alternatively, proxies, at our Board's discretion, may be voted for a fewer number of nominees as a result of a director's inability or unavailability to serve. Each person elected will hold office until the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified, or until earlier resignation or removal.

In an uncontested election if a director nominee receives a greater number of votes withheld from his or her election than votes for that director nominee's election, the nominee shall promptly offer his or her resignation to the Board. Thereafter, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, consisting of independent directors (which will specifically exclude any director who is required to offer his or her own resignation) shall consider all relevant factors and recommend to the Board the action to be taken with respect to such offered resignation, and the Board will consider whether to accept the resignation or take other action.

The following is biographical information concerning the ten nominees for election as directors of Arbitron:

Nominees for Election as Directors

Shellye L. Archambeau, age 49

Director of Arbitron since November 2005

Chief Executive Officer of MetricStream, Inc. (formerly Zaplet, Inc.), a provider of enterprise software that allows corporations in diverse industries to manage quality processes, regulatory and industry-mandated compliance activities, and corporate governance initiatives, since 2002

Chief Marketing Officer and Executive Vice President of Sales of Loudcloud, Inc. (now Opsware Inc.), a leader in Internet infrastructure services, from 2001 to 2002

Chief Marketing Officer of NorthPoint Communications, from 2000 to 2001

Director of the Information Technology Senior Management Forum; director of Watermark, a non-profit organization for women leaders; and director of Silicon Valley Leadership Group, a nonprofit organization that addresses major public policy issues affecting the economic health and quality of life in Silicon Valley

Ms. Archambeau has substantial leadership experience as a chief executive and as a sales and marketing officer. Ms. Archambeau's executive experience includes active supervision of individuals engaged in preparing and analyzing complex financial statements, which experience is valuable as a member of our audit committee. Ms. Archambeau's marketing experience enables her to provide strategic insights for our businesses.

David W. Devonshire, age 66

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Director of Arbitron since August 2007

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Motorola, Inc., a telecommunications company, from March 2002 to March 2007

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Ingersoll-Rand, a diversified industrial company, from December 1997 to March 2002

Table of Contents

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Owens Corning, a fiberglass manufacturing company, from July 1993 to December 1997

Director and chairman of the audit committee and a member of the executive committee of Roper Industries, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange listed diversified industrial company; director and member of the compensation committee and chairman of the audit committee of Meritor, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange listed supplier of integrated systems, modules and components to the commercial trucking industry; director and member of the audit committee and the compensation committee of Career Education Corporation, a NASDAQ-listed educational services company; an advisory board member of L.E.K. Consulting; an advisory board member of CFO Magazine; and the principal financial advisor to Harrison Street Capital LLC.

Mr. Devonshire brings finance, accounting, and financial reporting experience as a public company chief financial officer. Mr. Devonshire also serves on the audit committees of several public companies. Mr. Devonshire's significant financial experience uniquely enables him to provide analysis and insight to our audit committee as well as our finance, strategic planning, accounting, and internal audit functions.

John A. Dimling, age 74

Director of Arbitron since January 2010

Advisor to C3 Metrics, a private company focused on attribution-centered media analytics, since February 2012

Chairman Emeritus of Nielsen Media Research, Inc. (Nielsen), a marketing and media information company, from January 2006 to April 2008

Chairman of Nielsen, from January 2002 to January 2006

President and Chief Executive Officer of Nielsen, from July 1998 to December 2001

President and Chief Operating Officer of Nielsen, from August 1993 to June 1998

Chairman, NetRatings, Inc., a marketing and media information company, from May 2002 to June 2007

Director, Innerscope Research, a private company that uses biometric measures to determine consumers' emotional response to media stimuli, from January 2010 to present

Mr. Dimling has a deep understanding of the media audience ratings marketplace as well as experience running a leading publicly-traded ratings company. Mr. Dimling's experience and insight gained as a chief executive of a media audience ratings company is particularly important as we work to develop new services and enhance existing services.

Erica Farber, age 59

Director of Arbitron since September 2010; and previously a director of Arbitron from March 30, 2001 to July 14, 2006

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Executive Vice President of the Radio Advertising Bureau, since January 1, 2012

Founder and Chief Executive Officer of The Farber Connection LLC, a consulting and internet service provider to the radio industry, from January 2010 to January 2012

Publisher and President of Radio & Records, Inc., a division of Nielsen and publisher and information service provider to the radio industry, from 2006 to February 2009

Publisher and Chief Executive Officer of Radio & Records, Inc. from 1996 to 2006

Chief Operating Officer of Radio & Records, Inc. from January 1994 to 1996

Table of Contents

Ms. Farber has extensive experience in the radio industry and other communications industries, including television and publishing. Ms. Farber's experience in the communications industry, including through her current position with the Radio Advertising Bureau, allows her to provide valuable advice and insight to the Company regarding its current operations and potential areas of expansion.

Ronald G. Garriques, age 48

Director of Arbitron since July 2011

Chief Executive Officer and Director of Gee Holdings LLC, a closely held company, from June 2011 to present

President, Communication Solutions Group of Dell Inc., a NASDAQ-listed technology company, from November 2010 to January 2011

President, Global Consumer Business Group of Dell Inc., a NASDAQ-listed technology company, from February 2007 to November 2010

Executive Vice President and President, Mobile Devices Business of Motorola, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from January 2005 to February 2007

Executive Vice President and President of Personal Communications Sector (PCS) of Motorola, Inc, a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from September 2004 to January 2005

Senior Vice President and General Manager, Personal Communications Sector (PCS), EMEA and South Asia of Motorola, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from September 2002 to September 2004

Corporate Vice President and General Manager of Worldwide Product Line Management PCS of Motorola Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from February 2001 to September 2002

Corporate Vice President and General Manager of Goal Oriented Product Line PCS of Motorola, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from September 2000 to February 2001

Vice President and General Manager of the Program Management Organization of Motorola, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from April 2000 to September 2000

Vice President and General Manager of the Performance Category of Motorola, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed telecommunications company, from December 1998 to April 2000

Management positions with AT&T Network Systems, Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies, and Phillips Consumer Communications, from 1987 to December 1998

Mr. Garriques has extensive experience in the technology and telecommunications industries. Mr. Garriques' experience in those industries enables him to provide us with valuable advice regarding ways to utilize and market technology for our measurement services as well as provide

ideas for growth opportunities.

Philip Guarascio, age 70

Director of Arbitron since March 2001; Chairman of the Board since May 2009

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PG Ventures LLC, a marketing consulting firm, since May 2000

Vice President, General Manager of General Motors Corporation's North America Advertising and Corporate Marketing, from July 1994 to May 2000

A director of Papa John's International Inc., a NASDAQ-listed company and the third-largest pizza company in America; director of Aerva, a private digital to text company; director of AdSpace Networks, Inc., a private Internet company that provides advertising space for a variety of advertising venues; an advisor to VPG Autos, a specialty vehicle company producing vehicles for wheelchair users

Formerly a director of AVP, Inc., a lifestyle sports entertainment company focused on the production, marketing, and distribution of professional beach volleyball events worldwide

Table of Contents

Mr. Guarascio has extensive experience in the advertising and marketing industries, including as a senior executive with General Motors Corporation. Mr. Guarascio's advertising, marketing, and strategic expertise allow him to provide valuable insight on matters important to our customers and other users of our services as well as strategic plans relating to our business.

William T. Kerr, age 70

Director of Arbitron since May 2007

Chief Executive Officer of Meredith Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange listed diversified media company that publishes magazines and special interest publications and also owns and operates local television stations, from January 1996 until June 2006; Chairman of the Board of Directors of Meredith Corporation from January 1996 to February 2010, and a member of the Meredith Corporation Board of Directors from 1994 to March 2010

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Meredith Corporation from January 1996 until June 2006

President and Chief Operating Officer of Meredith Corporation, from 1994 to 1996, President, Magazine Group and Executive Vice President of Meredith, from 1991 to 1994

President, Magazine Group and Vice President of the New York Times Company, a media company, from 1984 to 1991

A member of the Boards of Directors of The Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange listed marketing communications and marketing services company, since November 2006; Whirlpool Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange listed appliance manufacturer, since June 2006; The Principal Financial Group, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange listed financial services company from 2001 to February 2010; and a member of the Board of Penton Media, Inc., a private firm

Having served as the chairman, president and chief executive officer of Meredith Corporation, Mr. Kerr has a wealth of executive management experience leading a publicly-traded media company. Mr. Kerr also has extensive experience serving as a director of the boards of large public companies. His executive leadership experience, his experience as a director, as well as his familiarity with our Company makes him particularly well-suited to be a member of the Board of Directors.

Larry E. Kittelberger, age 63

Director of Arbitron since March 2001

Senior Vice President, Technology and Operations of Honeywell International, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange listed diversified technology and manufacturing company, from September 2006 to April 2010

Senior Vice President, Administration, and Chief Information Officer of Honeywell International, Inc., from August 2001 to September 2006

Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer of Lucent Technologies Inc., a systems, services and software company, from December 1999 to August 2001

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer of Allied Signal, Inc., an advanced technology and manufacturing firm, from 1995 to December 1999

Until its acquisition by affiliates of Texas Pacific Group on December 19, 2006, a director of Aleris International, Inc. (formerly Commonwealth Industries, Inc.), a publicly-traded recycler of aluminum and zinc and manufacturer of aluminum sheet
Mr. Kittelberger has a history of demonstrated leadership as a senior executive of technology and manufacturing companies. His significant experience with technology companies is particularly valuable for us as he can provide strategic input on developing, enhancing, and exploiting our technologies.

Table of Contents

Luis G. Nogales, age 68

Director of Arbitron since March 2001

Managing Partner, Nogales Investors LLC, a private equity investment firm, since 1989

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Embarcadero Media, Inc., a private company that owned and operated radio stations throughout California and Oregon, from 1992 to 1997

A director of KB Home, a New York Stock exchange listed company that is one of America's largest homebuilders; a director and member of the audit committee of Edison International, a New York Stock Exchange listed international electric power generator, distributor and structured finance provider and a director and member of the audit committee of Southern California Edison, a subsidiary of Edison International

Mr. Nogales has an extensive background in the media and broadcasting sector. Mr. Nogales provides a unique perspective as a private equity investor who intimately understands the concerns of stockholders as well as from his experience as a director of other public companies.

Richard A. Post, age 53

Director of Arbitron since March 2001

Since April 2006, a private investor

Managing Member of PL Management LLC, from October 2008 to December 2010

President and Chief Executive Officer of Autobyte Inc., a NASDAQ-listed Internet automotive marketing services company, from April 2005 to March 2006

Private investor, from January 2003 to April 2005

Managing Partner of LoneTree Capital Partners, a venture capital firm, from July 2000 to December 2002

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of MediaOne Group, Inc., a broadband and wireless communications company, and President of MediaOne Capital Corp., a subsidiary of MediaOne Group, Inc., from June 1998 to July 2000

Chief Financial Officer of U S WEST Media, a communications company, from December 1996 to June 1998

President, Corporate Development of U S WEST, Inc., from June 1996 to December 1996

Vice President, Corporate Development of U S WEST Media, from January 1996 to June 1996

President, U S WEST Capital Assets, from July 1993 to June 1998

A director of Autobytel Inc., from 1999 to June 2006

A director of Financial Security Assurance Holdings Ltd., a NYSE-listed company that provides financial guaranty insurance on asset-backed and municipal obligations, from 1993 to June 2000

Mr. Post has extensive experience in the finance and corporate development areas, including as a chief financial officer as well as the chief executive officer of a publicly-traded company. This experience allows Mr. Post to provide guidance and counsel in his role as chairman of our audit committee and in our strategic planning activities.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE NOMINEES SET FORTH ABOVE.

Table of Contents

Executive Sessions of Nonmanagement Directors

Consistent with the New York Stock Exchange listing standards, our corporate governance policies and guidelines provide that, in order to promote open discussion among nonmanagement directors, the Board will devote a portion of each regularly scheduled Board meeting to executive sessions without management participation. Our corporate governance policies and guidelines provide that if the group of nonmanagement directors includes directors who are not independent, as defined in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards, it is the Company's policy that at least one such executive session convened per year shall include only independent directors.

Communicating with the Board of Directors

Interested third parties may communicate with the Board of Directors by e-mailing correspondence directly to our Chair of the Board of Directors at nonmanagementdirectors@arbitron.com. Our Chair will decide what action should be taken with respect to any such communication, including whether such communication will be reported to the Board of Directors.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors held seven meetings in 2011, including meetings by telephone conference, and acted by unanimous written consent two times in 2011. Each director attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Board of Directors and applicable committees on which they served during the period that they served on the Board of Directors or such committees. In addition, pursuant to our corporate governance policies and guidelines, directors are expected to attend the annual meetings of stockholders. Last year, all of our then current directors attended the annual meeting of stockholders.

Committees of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors has established five standing committees to consider designated matters: (i) Audit; (ii) Compensation and Human Resources; (iii) Executive; (iv) Nominating and Corporate Governance; and (v) Technology Strategy. In March 2010, the Board of Directors established the Growth Strategy Committee. After determining that the Growth Strategy Committee had served the purpose for which it had been formed, effective February 9, 2011, the Board discontinued the committee.

During 2011, the following personnel changes were made to the committees:

Mr. Garriques was added to the Technology Strategy and Compensation and Human Resources Committees in August 2011

Mr. Guarascio is no longer on the Compensation and Human Resources Committee, beginning in August 2011

Ms. Farber is no longer on the Compensation and Human Resources Committee, beginning in November 2011

Table of Contents

All committees, with the exception of the Executive Committee and Technology Strategy Committee, are comprised solely of independent directors, as defined in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards and as affirmatively determined by our Board of Directors. The Board annually selects, from its members, the members and chairperson of each committee. The following table sets forth the number of Board and committee meetings (including teleconference meetings) held in 2011, the current members of each committee and the chairman of each committee:

Director	Board	Audit	Compensation		Growth Strategy	Nominating and	
			and Human Resources	Executive Chair		Corporate Governance	Technology Strategy
Philip Guarascio	Chair					Chair	
Shellye L. Archambeau	X	X					X
David W. Devonshire	X	X					X
John A. Dimling	X		X		X		X
Erica Farber	X					X	
Ronald G. Garriques	X		X				X
William T. Kerr	X			X	X		X
Larry E. Kittelberger	X		Chair				Chair
Luis G. Nogales	X		X			X	
Richard A. Post	X	Chair		X	Chair	X	
Meetings Held in 2011	7	14	8	1	1	4	4
Action by Unanimous Written Consent	2	1	1				

The Executive Committee acts on matters that arise between Board meetings and require immediate action. All actions taken by this committee are reported to, and ratified by, the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Audit Committee

As required by the charter of the Audit Committee, our corporate governance guidelines, and the New York Stock Exchange listing standards, all members of the Audit Committee qualify as independent directors within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards and Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), are financially literate within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards, and meet the experience and financial expertise requirements of the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Post is an audit committee financial expert as defined by the rules and regulations of the SEC. The principal purposes of the Audit Committee are to:

possess sole authority regarding the selection, compensation and retention of Arbitron's registered independent public accounting firm;

assist the Board of Directors in the oversight of:

the integrity of Arbitron's financial statements;

Arbitron's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; and

the qualification and independence of Arbitron's registered independent public accounting firm;

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

oversee the performance of Arbitron's internal audit function and registered independent public accounting firm; and

prepare an audit committee report as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission to be included in the annual proxy statement.

Table of Contents

The Audit Committee operates under a written Charter adopted by the Board of Directors. However, it is the responsibility of management and the independent registered public accounting firm to plan and conduct audits and determine that the Company's financial statements and disclosures are presented fairly in all material respects in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A copy of the amended and restated written charter for the Audit Committee is available on our Web site at www.arbitron.com and is available in print, free of charge, to any stockholder who requests it. You may obtain such a print copy by contacting the Treasury Manager at Arbitron Inc., 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

Compensation and Human Resources Committee

Each member of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee qualifies as an independent director under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. The principal responsibilities of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee are to:

review and approve Arbitron's corporate goals and objectives with respect to the compensation of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, and executive officers other than the Chief Executive Officer, evaluate the Chief Executive Officer's performance in light of those goals and objectives, and, either as a committee or together with the other independent directors (as directed by the Board), determine and approve the appropriate level and structure of the Chief Executive Officer's compensation based on this evaluation;

determine and approve non-CEO executive compensation and incentive and equity-based compensation plans;

produce a compensation committee report for inclusion in the Company's annual meeting proxy statement as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission;

review and approve for inclusion in the Company's annual meeting proxy statement or Annual Report on Form 10-K, as the case may be, the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section relating to executive compensation as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission;

review and approve non-employee director compensation; and

assist the Board in management development and succession planning.

The Compensation and Human Resources Committee has retained the firm of Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. as its compensation consultant to assist in the continual development and evaluation of compensation policies and the Compensation and Human Resources Committee's determinations of compensation awards. The role of Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. is to provide independent, third-party advice and expertise on executive and non-employee director compensation issues, including providing assistance with respect to CEO compensation and the terms and conditions of our employment agreement with Mr. Kerr, the sizing of the new equity plan share reserve, and updates on executive compensation trends and regulatory developments, as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section below. Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. maintains no other direct or indirect relationship with the Company.

During 2011, the Compensation and Human Resources Committee delegated authority to the CEO under the Company's 2008 Equity Compensation Plan and 2001 Broad Based Incentive Plan to make incentive awards to non-executive employees of the Company in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 annually and not more than 5,000 shares per participant per calendar year.

The Board of Directors has adopted an amended and restated written charter for the Compensation and Human Resources Committee, a copy of which is available on our Web site at www.arbitron.com and is available in print, free of charge, to any stockholder who requests it. You can obtain such a print copy by contacting the Treasury Manager at Arbitron Inc., 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

Table of Contents

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Each member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee qualifies as an independent director under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. The principal purposes of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are to:

identify, in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee from time to time, individuals who are qualified to serve as directors;

recommend such individuals to the Board of Directors, either to fill vacancies that occur on the Board of Directors from time to time or in connection with the selection of director nominees for each annual meeting of stockholders;

develop, recommend, implement and monitor a set of corporate governance guidelines, a code of business conduct and ethics, and a code of ethics for senior financial officers adopted by the Board of Directors;

oversee the evaluation of the Board of Directors and management; and

ensure that Arbitron is in compliance with all New York Stock Exchange listing requirements.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has approved, and the Board of Directors has adopted, policies and procedures to be used for considering potential director candidates to continue to ensure that our Board of Directors consists of a diversified group of qualified individuals who function effectively as a group. These policies and procedures provide that qualifications and credentials for consideration as a director nominee may vary according to the particular areas of expertise being sought as a complement to the existing composition of the Board of Directors. However, at a minimum, candidates for director must possess: (1) strength of character; (2) an ability to exercise independent thought, practical wisdom and mature judgment; (3) an ability to make independent analytical inquiries; (4) a willingness and ability to devote adequate time and resources to diligently perform Board of Director duties; and (5) a reputation, both personal and professional, consistent with the image and reputation of Arbitron.

In addition to the aforementioned minimum qualifications, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also believes that there are other factors that, while not prerequisites for nomination, should be taken into account when considering whether to recommend a particular person. These factors include: (1) whether the person possesses specific media and marketing expertise and familiarity with general issues affecting Arbitron's business; (2) whether the person's nomination and election would enable the Board of Directors to have a member that qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as such term is defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission; (3) whether the person would qualify as an independent director under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards and the Company's corporate governance policies and guidelines; (4) the importance of continuity of the existing composition of the Board of Directors; and (5) the importance of a diversified Board membership, in terms of both the individuals involved and their various experiences and areas of expertise. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee annually reviews and assesses the adequacy of the Company's policy regarding qualification and nomination of director candidates.

Nominees are not discriminated against on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or any other basis proscribed by law. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee seeks to identify director candidates based on input provided by a number of sources, including (i) Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee members, (ii) other directors of the Company, and (iii) stockholders of the Company. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also has the authority to consult with or retain advisers or search firms to assist in the identification of qualified director candidates.

As part of the identification process, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee takes into account the number of expected director vacancies and whether existing directors have indicated a willingness to continue to serve as directors if renominated. Once a director candidate has been identified, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee then evaluates this candidate in light of his or her qualifications and credentials, and any additional factors that it deems necessary or appropriate. Existing directors who are being considered for renomination will be reevaluated as part of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's process of recommending director candidates.

Table of Contents

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers candidates recommended by stockholders in the same manner as all other director candidates. Stockholders who wish to suggest qualified candidates must comply with the advance notice provisions and other requirements of Article II, Section 13 of our bylaws. These notice provisions require that recommendations for directors must be received not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the date of the annual meeting of stockholders for the preceding year. The notice must follow the guidelines set forth in this proxy statement under the heading, Other Matters Director Nominations.

After completing the identification and evaluation process described above, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommends to the Board of Directors the nomination of a number of candidates equal to the number of director vacancies that will exist at the annual meeting of stockholders. The Board of Directors then selects director nominees for stockholders to consider and vote upon at the stockholders meeting.

The Board of Directors has adopted an amended and restated written charter for the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, a copy of which is available on our Web site at www.arbitron.com and is available in print, free of charge, to any stockholder who requests it. You can obtain a copy in print by contacting the Treasury Manager at Arbitron Inc., 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

Technology Strategy Committee

The principal purposes of the Technology Strategy Committee are to:

review risks, opportunities and priorities as they pertain to Arbitron’s existing technology and strategies for the future;

assess the Company’s capabilities to execute against its agreed priorities; and

make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Directors.

Growth Strategy Committee

The principal purposes of the Growth Strategy Committee were to assist the Board and the Company’s management by providing strategic direction regarding business development and expansion opportunities, and such other matters as were consistent with the Committee’s purpose.

The Growth Strategy Committee was formed in March 2010. The Board terminated the Growth Strategy Committee in February 2011 after determining that the Growth Strategy Committee had provided strategic direction to management and had completed its principal purposes.

2011 Director Compensation

The table below provides information concerning the compensation of our directors for the most recently completed fiscal year. Except as noted below, all of our directors are paid at the same rate. The differences among directors in the table below are a function of additional compensation for chairing a committee, varying numbers of meetings attended and corresponding payments of meeting fees, and the form in which each director elects to receive retainer and meeting fees.

Each director who is not also an employee of Arbitron or its subsidiaries is entitled to receive an annual board retainer fee of \$30,000, which is paid in quarterly installments. In addition, our compensation program for non-employee directors provided for the following additional annual cash retainers in 2011:

Non-Executive Chairman of the Board	\$ 95,000
Audit Committee Chair	\$ 20,000
Technology Strategy Committee Chair	\$ 20,000
Compensation and Human Resources Committee Chair	\$ 15,000
Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Chair	\$ 15,000

Table of Contents

For each Board meeting attended, in person or by telephone, participating non-employee directors receive \$1,500. For each committee meeting attended in person, participating non-employee directors receive \$1,500 and for each committee meeting attended by telephone, participating non-employee directors receive \$750.

Each newly elected non-employee director has received a one-time grant of 4,500 deferred stock units (DSUs), which DSUs vest in three equal installments of 1,500 DSUs beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant and are payable following the director's termination of service as a director of the Company. In addition, beginning the year after first being elected to the Board of Directors, each continuing non-employee director receives an annual grant of DSUs with a grant date fair market value equal to \$100,000, which DSUs vest in three equal installments beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant, and are payable no sooner than six months following the director's termination of service as a director of the Company.

DSUs granted to our directors convert to shares of our common stock after termination from the Board of Directors, based upon a schedule elected by the directors prior to the end of the year in which the compensation is earned and, in the case of DSUs earned on or after January 1, 2010, not sooner than six months following termination of service as a director. In the event that a director elects to receive DSUs, the director will receive dividend equivalent rights on such DSUs to the extent dividends are issued on our common stock. Dividend equivalents are deemed reinvested in additional DSUs (or fractions thereof). The amounts set forth in the table below for each director in the column Fees Earned or Paid in Cash represent the cash payment of annual retainers and fees or, if the director elected to receive equity-based compensation in lieu of all or a portion of such retainers and fees, the amount of cash the director would have received if the director had not elected to receive such equity-based compensation. We report in the column Stock Awards, the grant date fair value of the initial or annual grant of DSUs as described above.

A director who elects to receive DSUs in lieu of cash receives a number of units based on a calculation approved by the Compensation and Human Resources Committee. The formula for determining the number of DSUs is to divide 100% of the cash fees earned in the quarter by the closing price of Arbitron common stock on the date of the grant, which is the last trading day of the quarter.

It is also the philosophy of the Company that directors should have a meaningful equity ownership in the Company. In 2004, the Board established stock ownership guidelines covering directors and the Board reviewed and revised these guidelines during 2011 to require each director to own shares with a value of five times the annual board retainer. These guidelines are expected to be achieved over five years from joining the Board and include all owned shares, as well as DSUs credited to directors. However, outstanding and unexercised stock options are not counted toward the stock ownership guidelines. As of March 30, 2012, all applicable directors met the stock ownership guidelines.

Effective January 1, 2012, we made changes to director compensation. Each newly elected non-employee director will receive a one-time grant of 4,500 deferred stock units, which deferred stock units will vest in three equal annual installments of 1,500 deferred stock units beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant and will be payable within 30 days after the director's termination of service as a director. Beginning the annual meeting after initial election to the Board, each continuing non-employee director will receive, at his or her election, either (a) a grant of deferred stock units with a grant date fair value of \$100,000, which will vest in full on the first anniversary from the date of grant and may be deferred until 30 days after: (1) the first anniversary of the grant date; (2) the third anniversary of the grant date; (3) the fifth anniversary of the grant date; or (4) the director's termination of service as a director of the Company; or (b) a grant of restricted stock units with a grant date fair value of \$100,000, which will vest on the first anniversary of the date of grant and will be payable within 30 days from the vesting date.

All cash retainer fees and meeting fees payable to non-employee directors may be paid, at the election of each director, in the form of deferred stock units or stock, in lieu of cash. The deferred stock units vest immediately. Directors may elect to defer the receipt of shares of common stock from these deferred stock units until 30 days after (1) the first anniversary of the grant date; (2) the third anniversary of the grant date; (3) the fifth anniversary of the grant date; or (4) the director's termination of service as a director of the Company.

Table of Contents**2011 Director Compensation**

Name	Fees Earned or			Total (\$)
	Paid in Cash \$(1)	Stock Awards \$(2)	All Other Compensation \$(3)	
Shellye L. Archambeau(4)	60,750	100,008	3,434	164,192
David W. Devonshire(4)	60,000	100,008	2,128	162,136
John A. Dimling(4)	56,250	100,008	4,068	160,326
Erica Farber(4)	55,500	100,008	2,551	158,059
Ronald G. Garriques	22,725	183,375		206,100
Philip Guarascio(4)	159,750	100,008	4,183	263,941
Larry E. Kittelberger(4)	90,500	100,008	9,627	200,135
Luis G. Nogales(4)	54,750	100,008	5,282	160,040
Richard A. Post(4)	82,250	100,008	6,228	188,486

- (1) We report in this column the cash value of board retainer fees, committee chair fees, and board and committee meeting fees earned by each director in 2011. Pursuant to the terms of our Non-employee Director Incentive Program described above, during 2011 each director could elect to receive cash, DSUs in lieu of annual cash retainers and fees, or a combination of cash and DSUs. For 2011, Mr. Devonshire, Ms. Farber, Mr. Guarascio, and Mr. Nogales received all retainers and fees in cash. Mr. Garriques joined the Board of Directors in 2011 and received all retainers and fees in cash. Ms. Archambeau elected to receive 407 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$15,000 in lieu of board retainer fees, \$15,000 in cash for board retainer fees and \$30,750 in cash for board and committee meeting fees. Mr. Dimling elected to receive 407 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$15,000 in lieu of board retainer fees, \$15,000 in cash for board retainer fees, 351 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$13,125 in lieu of board and committee meeting fees, and \$13,125 in cash for board and committee meeting fees. Mr. Kittelberger elected to receive 813 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$30,000 in lieu of board retainer fees, 949 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$35,000 in lieu of committee chair fees, and 685 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$25,500 in lieu of board and committee meeting fees. Mr. Post elected to receive 813 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$30,000 in lieu of board retainer fees, 542 DSUs with an aggregate fair market value of \$20,000 in lieu of committee chair fees and \$32,250 in cash for board and committee meeting fees.
- (2) Pursuant to the terms of our Non-employee Director Incentive Program, each newly elected non-employee director will receive a one-time grant of 4,500 deferred stock units, which deferred stock units will vest in three equal installments of 1,500 deferred stock units over a three-year period and will be payable no sooner than six months following the director's termination of service as a director of the Company. On May 24, 2011, each continuing director received an annual grant of deferred stock units with a grant date fair value of \$100,000, which deferred stock units will vest in three equal installments over a three-year period and will be payable no sooner than six months following the director's termination of service as a director of the Company. We report in this column the dollar amount with respect to 2011 based on the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718.
- (3) Amounts reported in this column represent dividend equivalent units received in respect of DSUs held by each person who served as a director during 2011. In 2011, Ms. Archambeau received approximately 95 dividend equivalent units, Mr. Devonshire received approximately 59 dividend equivalent units, Mr. Dimling received approximately 112 dividend equivalent units, Ms. Farber received approximately 70 dividend equivalent units, Mr. Garriques did not receive any dividend equivalent units, Mr. Guarascio received approximately 115 dividend equivalent units, Mr. Kittelberger received approximately 265 dividend equivalent units, Mr. Nogales received approximately 145 dividend equivalent units, and Mr. Post received approximately 172 dividend equivalent units.
- (4) This disclosure is additional information and not included in the table above. As of December 31, 2011, the aggregate number of DSUs (including dividend equivalents) held by each person who served as an independent director during 2011 was as follows: Ms. Archambeau

9,524, Mr. Devonshire 5,974,

Table of Contents

Mr. Dimling 11,329, Ms. Farber 7,040, Mr. Guarascio 11,148, Mr. Kittelberger 26,406, Mr. Nogales 13,913, and Mr. Post 17,172. We provide complete beneficial ownership information of Arbitron stock for each of our directors in this proxy statement under the heading, Stock Ownership Information - Stock Ownership of Arbitron's Directors and Executive Officers.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

Executive Officers

Information concerning the persons who currently serve as our executive officers is provided below. Each of the named persons has been elected to the office indicated opposite the person's name. The executive officers serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Officers generally are elected at the meeting of the Board of Directors held immediately following the annual meeting of stockholders. The Board of Directors may elect additional executive officers from time to time.

William T. Kerr, age 70, President and Chief Executive Officer since January 2010

Director of Arbitron since May 2007

Chairman of the Board of Directors of Meredith Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange listed diversified media company that publishes magazines and special interest publications and also owns and operates local television stations, from July 2006 to February 2010, and a member of the Meredith Corporation Board of Directors from 1994 to February 2010

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Meredith Corporation from January 1996 until June 2006

Sean R. Creamer, age 47, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer since August 2011

Executive Vice President, U.S. Media Services from February 2011 to August 2011

Executive Vice President, U.S. Media Services and Chief Financial Officer from April 2010 to February 2011

Executive Vice President of Finance and Planning and Chief Financial Officer from November 2005 to April 2010

Executive Vice President, Finance, from September 2005 to November 2005

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Laureate Education, Inc. (formerly Sylvan Learning Systems, Inc.), a then NASDAQ-listed company focused on providing higher education through a global network of accredited campus-based and online universities, from April 2001 to September 2005

Richard J. Surratt, age 51, Executive Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer since February 2011

Executive Vice President, Finance from February 6, 2011 to February 28, 2011

Director, Cambium Learning Group, a publicly-held company that provides research-based education solutions to students, from December 2009 to present

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Advisor, SPO Partners & Co., a private equity company, from December 2009 to June 2010

President and Chief Executive Officer of Voyager Learning Company (formerly ProQuest Company) from January 2007 to December 2009

Chief Financial Officer of Voyager Learning Company from November 2005 to January 2007

Table of Contents

Timothy T. Smith, age 48, Executive Vice President, Business Development and Strategy, Chief Legal Officer, and Secretary since June 2010

Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, Legal and Business Affairs and Secretary from August 2006 to June 2010

Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Manugistics, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed software company, from January 2000 to July 2006

Carol Hanley, age 45, Executive Vice President, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer since June 2010

Senior Vice President and Chief Sales Officer, U.S. Media Services, from September 2009 to June 2010

Senior Vice President, Sales, U.S. Media Services, from September 2004 to September 2009

Scott Henry, age 50, Executive Vice President, Technology Solutions and Chief Information Officer since June 2010

Executive Vice President, Chief Information Officer, from February 2005 to June 2010

Regional Vice President of Delivery Operations of E5 Systems, a privately held IT services company, from July 2003 to January 2005

Chief Customer Officer of Vitria Technology, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed provider of business process integration solutions, from October 2001 to April 2003

Marilou Legge, age 58, Executive Vice President, Organization Effectiveness and Corporate Communications since June 2010

Chief Talent Officer and Senior Vice President, Organization Effectiveness, from June 2009 to June 2010

Senior Vice President, Organization Effectiveness, from December 2006 to June 2010

Vice President, Talent Acquisition and Development from December 2000 to December 2006

Gregg Lindner, age 55, Executive Vice President, Service Innovation and Chief Research Officer since January 2011

Executive Vice President of Scarborough Research from June 1999 to January 2011

Steven M. Smith, 51, Executive Vice President, Survey Operations, since August 2008

Senior Pilot/Pilot Instructor for Executive Express Aviation, a privately held company, from January 2007 to August 2008

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Chief Operating Officer for Flexi-Mat Corp., a privately held producer, importer and marketer of pet beds, from June 2006 to January 2007

Executive Vice President, North American Operations for Information Resources, Inc., a privately held provider of market information solutions and services, from April 2002 to June 2006

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Introduction

This section describes the compensation programs for our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in fiscal year 2011, our former Chief Financial Officer who currently serves as our Chief Operating Officer, and each of our three most highly compensated executive officers employed at the end of fiscal year 2011, all of whom we refer to collectively as our named executive officers, or NEOs. Our named executive officers for fiscal year 2011 are:

William T. Kerr, President and Chief Executive Officer;

Sean R. Creamer, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer (and formerly our Chief Financial Officer);

Richard J. Surratt, Executive Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer;

Gregg Lindner, Executive Vice President, Chief Research Officer;

Timothy T. Smith, Executive Vice President, Business Development and Strategy, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary; and

Carol Hanley, Executive Vice President, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer

Effective February 28, 2011, Richard J. Surratt was appointed Chief Financial Officer of the Company. Accordingly, Mr. Creamer no longer serves as our Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Creamer was appointed Chief Operating Officer of the Company effective August 10, 2011. As we previously announced, Mr. Surratt will resign as Chief Financial Officer effective May 11, and will remain an employee through June 8, 2012. Mr. Creamer will serve as interim Chief Financial Officer until we appoint a new Chief Financial Officer.

Executive Summary

We design our compensation programs to: (1) support our corporate strategies and business plans by clearly communicating the level of performance we expect from our executives in terms of goals and results and by rewarding achievement against those goals; (2) facilitate our recruitment and retention of the best-qualified executive talent; and, (3) align our named executive officers' interests with those of our long-term stockholders by rewarding performance that meets or exceeds the goals the Compensation and Human Resources Committee (referred to as the Committee in the remainder of this section) establishes with the objective of increasing stockholder value, while mitigating the incentive for excessive risk taking. Consistent with our pay for performance philosophy, the total compensation received by our named executive officers will vary from year to year based on overall corporate performance measured against annual and long-term performance goals. Our named executive officers' total direct compensation is comprised of a mix of base salary, annual incentive compensation, long-term incentive awards, and other compensation as described below.

We design our annual and long-term incentive programs to support and promote our key strategic business objectives of strengthening our syndicated radio ratings business, maintaining a competitive position in our industry, and expanding our other media and cross platform services to a broader range of customers and media, including broadcast television, cable, out-of-home media, satellite radio and television, Internet, mobile, place-based and other media.

Our fiscal 2011 corporate financial performance was a key factor in compensation decisions for the year. Diluted earnings per share was a key performance goal set by the Committee under the 2011 Non-Equity Incentive Plan, which the Committee weighted at 60%. In February 2012, the Company reported earnings per share (diluted) (EPS) for 2011 of \$1.93, computed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). 2011 GAAP earnings per share exceeded the GAAP earnings per share (diluted) of \$1.64 reported for 2010 by 18%. 2011 GAAP earnings were reduced by a \$3.5 million pre-tax, non-cash impairment charge associated with the Company's minority stake in a

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

privately-held media research firm as well as a \$3.3 million pre-tax operating loss for Arbitron Mobile Oy (previously known as Zokem Oy), which we acquired in July 2011. Excluding the impairment charge and expenses and operating losses from Arbitron Mobile, earnings

Table of Contents

per share (diluted) for fiscal year 2011 would have been \$2.10. As explained below, the Committee determined it to be appropriate to use adjusted EPS of \$2.10 in assessing performance under the 2011 Non-Equity Incentive Plan.

During 2011, we exceeded service quality goals established by the Committee. However, as we have previously reported, in February 2012 the Media Rating Council removed accreditation of data produced by our PPM radio ratings service in five local markets where that data had previously been accredited. As a result, in assessing performance against these service quality goals the Committee exercised its negative discretion and substantially decreased its assessment of performance against these goals, as described below.

As a result of the Committee's assessment of performance against the EPS and service quality goals and its assessment of performance against personal goals tied to each executive's deliverables in our strategic plan, annual bonus payments to our NEOs were above target for 2011.

Our compensation program for fiscal years 2011 and 2012 build upon our solid compensation and governance framework and strong pay for performance philosophy, which are exemplified by the following:

We have significant stock ownership guidelines for executive officers and directors, which the Board increased in 2012 for executive officers.

An insider trading policy which contains a no-hedging provision prohibiting covered persons (including our named executive officers) from hedging the economic interest in the Arbitron shares they hold.

Our employment and executive retention agreements do not provide for any executive to receive severance compensation based solely upon a change in control of the Company. Enhanced severance compensation may be payable to some of our named executive officers following a change of control only if the named executive officer is actually or constructively terminated during a limited window period following the change in control.

Since January 1, 2009, we have not entered into any new or materially amended agreements with our named executive officers providing for excise tax gross-up of payments contingent solely upon a change in control of the Company.

The amended employment agreement for our CEO and the Executive Retention Agreement entered into in 2011 with our recently-hired CFO do not provide for any excise tax gross ups in the event of a change of control.

We have a clawback provision in our performance cash awards and newer executive retention agreements to allow the Board of Directors to recoup any excess incentive compensation paid to our named executive officers and other key members of our executive team if the financial results on which the awards were based are materially restated due to fraud or misconduct of the executive.

We provide only limited perquisites to our NEOs.

The Committee engages its own independent consultant, who does not provide any services to management.

We have a strong risk management program with specific responsibilities assigned to management, the Board, and the Board's committees.

For more information regarding the recent changes to our corporate governance policies and practices, see Corporate Governance Corporate Governance Changes for Fiscal Year 2011 and Fiscal Year 2012 above.

Components

We seek to achieve the objectives of our compensation program through the following five key compensation elements:

base salary;

annual performance-based, non-equity incentive plan payments;

annual grants of equity- and cash-based long-term incentive awards;

Table of Contents

benefit programs (e.g., health and welfare and retirement); and

executive retention and, in the case of our CEO only, employment agreements.

In making decisions with respect to any component of a NEO's compensation, we consider the total compensation that may be awarded to the NEO, including the foregoing and any post-termination compensation. Our goal is to award total compensation that is reasonable when all elements of potential compensation are considered.

Setting 2011 Executive Compensation

When making decisions with respect to each component of compensation, the Committee considers the competitive market when recruiting new executives and also looks at the compensation of our CEO and the other NEOs relative to the compensation paid to similarly-situated executives at companies we consider to be our peers. We believe, however, a comparison to peer group compensation information should be one reference point for consideration, but not the determinative factor for setting our executives' compensation. The purpose of the comparison is to augment, and not to supplant, the analyses of relative pay among our NEOs and individual performance we consider when making compensation decisions.

We refer to the current group of 12 comparable media, market-research, and information-based business services companies considered by the Committee in 2011, collectively, as our Compensation Peer Group. With the assistance of its compensation consultant, the Committee reviews the composition of the Compensation Peer Group periodically to ensure that such comparison companies are relevant and appropriate.

The Committee selected the Compensation Peer Group companies based primarily on the following criteria:

U.S.-based public companies in Global Industry Classification System (GICS) Industry Code 254010 (Media) with similar business economics and pay models to Arbitron;

U.S.-based public companies in Global Industry Classification System (GICS) Group Code 2020 (Commercial and Professional Services) and 4510 (Software and Services) with market-research and information-services based business models;

Include market research, advertising, and marketing companies;

Exclude broadcasting, satellite radio, content, print publishing, movie and entertainment companies, and communication-service providers (e.g., broadband and telephone);

Company revenue or market capitalization of approximately one-third to three times Arbitron:

Revenue range between \$100 million to \$1.1 billion or market-capitalization value between \$100 million to \$1.1 billion. Our 2011 Compensation Peer Group consisted of the following companies:

ACXIOM Corporation
CoStar Group, Inc.
Fair Isaac Corporation
Forrester Research, Inc.
Harris Interactive Inc.

comScore, Inc.
Factset Research System, Inc.
Gartner, Inc.
Harte-Hanks, Inc.
Morningstar, Inc.

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

TiVO Inc.

The Corporate Executive Board Company

The 2011 Compensation Peer Group consists of 12 of the 15 companies that were included in the prior year peer group. InfoGROUP, Inc. was not included in the 2011 Compensation Peer Group due to its acquisition. Interactive Data and InVentiv Health, Inc. were not included in the 2011 Compensation Peer Group as they ceased being public companies. The Company's revenue was between the 25th percentile and median of the Compensation Peer Group companies as of May 2011. The Company's market cap approximated the median of the Compensation Peer Group companies as of May 2011.

Table of Contents

Because comparative compensation information is just one of several analytic tools the Committee uses in setting executive compensation, the Committee has discretion in determining the nature and extent of its use. Moreover, given the limitations associated with comparative pay information for setting individual executive compensation, the Committee may elect to not use the comparative compensation information at all in the course of making individual compensation decisions. Other factors considered when making individual executive compensation decisions include the individual's contribution and performance, reporting structure, relative pay among executives, impact on financial results, importance of role and responsibilities, leadership, professional growth potential, and, for new hires, compensation at the prior employer. The Committee makes all executive compensation decisions after input from the CEO (except with regard to his own compensation) and, in most cases, review with the Committee's independent consultant.

In connection with Mr. Creamer's promotion to Chief Operating Officer on August 23, 2011, the Company increased Mr. Creamer's annual base salary to \$500,000, and Mr. Creamer's bonus eligibility to 70% of his annual base salary upon meeting applicable performance criteria set by the Compensation Committee. For performance exceeding such applicable performance criteria, the annual incentive bonus could have been increased up to a maximum of 140% of annual base salary, at the sole discretion of the Committee. The increase in annual base salary and annual incentive bonus eligibility were prorated for 2011. The Committee also granted Mr. Creamer 66,418 stock options with respect to the Company's common stock, par value \$0.50, which stock options will vest and become exercisable in three equal annual installments on the first, second, and third anniversary of the date of grant.

Base Salary

Base salary is the foundation of our executive compensation program and is designed to compensate executives for services rendered during the year. Base salary is the only fixed element of the executive's compensation, and it represents a portion of total target direct compensation, with the annual incentive and long-term incentive representing approximately 75% of target total direct compensation for Mr. Kerr, and approximately 50-70% of target total direct compensation for other NEOs.

Base salaries reflect executive job responsibility, experience, value to the Company, and individual performance. During 2011, the minimum salary for Mr. Kerr was specified in his amended employment agreement. The Committee determines the salaries for our other NEOs based on the following:

the nature and responsibility of the position and, to the extent available, salaries for persons in comparable positions at comparable companies;

the expertise, performance, and expected future contribution of the individual executive;

the competitiveness of the market for the executive's services; and

the recommendations of the CEO.

We periodically consider the base salary component relative to our Compensation Peer Group in an attempt to ensure it is competitive with the market for such executive talent. However, recruiting, retaining, and recognizing performance of specific executives may result in some variation from this market review since we compete for top executive talent with many larger companies not included in our Compensation Peer Group. Salaries are generally reviewed annually, but may be reviewed more frequently in the event of a promotion or significant change in job responsibility.

2011 Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation

Our compensation program provides for annual cash incentive awards based on Company performance and adjusted by the Committee for individual contributions. Our objective is to compensate executives based on the achievement of specific goals we intend to correlate closely with growth of long-term stockholder value.

Provided the Company's return on invested capital for the 12 months ended December 31, 2011 exceeded 12% (i.e., the Company's approximate weighted average cost of capital), the Committee has authority to make cash incentive awards to each NEO in an amount between 0% and 200%

of the NEO s target award under the

Table of Contents

plan. The target award for Mr. Kerr was equal to 100% of his 2011 base salary of \$800,000. The target award for other executive officers ranged from 50-70% of 2011 base salary. In early 2012, the Committee determined the Company's 2011 return on invested capital had exceeded 12% and, therefore, the Committee would have discretion to make awards under the plan.

Once the threshold return on invested capital goal is satisfied the Committee may exercise its discretion in awarding cash payments linked to overall corporate financial targets and other goals established by the Committee early in the year. For 2011 the Committee established the following performance goals:

Performance Goal	Weight
Diluted earnings per share, as adjusted by the Committee to exclude the impact of extraordinary or non-recurring items	60%
Key service quality indicators in PPM and Dairy services	20%
Personal objectives	20%
Total	100%

Awards under the plan can vary from 0% to 200% of the target amount, subject to minimum thresholds of performance and depending on the Committee's assessment of performance against the goals. The Committee may eliminate or reduce the amount of any award under the plan.

If performance goals do not meet the threshold level of performance, no compensation will be awarded for the specific performance category; however, if performance goals are achieved at threshold levels, but not at target levels, the Committee has discretion to award non-equity incentive compensation in an amount between 50% of the target level and the target level, based on the Committee's assessment of the value of the relevant performance. While the Committee exercises its discretion in each case, there is a presumption with respect to each individual goal that performance (i) at the threshold level will result in a performance factor of 0.5, (ii) at the target level will result in a performance factor of 1.0, and (iii) at the superior level will result in a performance factor of 2.0. For performance either between threshold and target or between target and superior, the Committee uses its discretion to assign a performance factor generally utilizing the guidelines set forth above.

We design our annual non-equity incentive plan to reward executives for achieving corporate goals and provide significant upside for exceeding such goals, as well as downside risk for failing to achieve such goals. Early in the fiscal year, the Committee, working with our CEO, COO, and the Committee's independent consultant, sets overall performance goals for the Company.

We selected the earnings per share financial target in order to motivate executives to achieve the Company's overall financial objectives of profitable revenue growth through prudent deployment of the Company's capital, promotion of growth of the business, and cost efficiencies. We emphasized earnings per share in order to focus executives' attention on a financial measure that we believe aligns the interests of management with those of long-term stockholders and rewards management for creating value for such long-term stockholders. We chose to focus 20% on service quality, given the importance of maintaining and enhancing our PPM and Dairy services. We included a personal component, weighted at 20%, to focus each executive's attention on his or her deliverables in our strategic plan.

The Committee ultimately exercises its discretion in assessing corporate performance under the plan. In evaluating awards under the plan, the Committee reviews performance against the goals utilizing a number of metrics and assigns a performance factor for each goal. If the Committee determines that actual performance for any goal fell below the threshold level, it assigns a performance factor of zero for that goal.

After determining a performance factor for each goal, the Committee multiplies the performance factor by the percentage weight it assigned to that goal for the year to determine an overall percentage assessment for corporate performance. This overall performance is then applied to each executive's non-equity incentive potential for the year.

Notwithstanding its overall assessments of corporate performance against the goals, the Committee may authorize an adjusted amount to the extent it determines appropriate and in the best interests of the Company and

Table of Contents

its stockholders based upon its evaluation of a combination of other quantitative and qualitative considerations, including individual executive performance, stock price, and achievement of fundamental organizational change, as determined by the Committee in exercise of its business judgment. See below for specific factors utilized by the Committee in exercising discretion.

The Committee also considered the recommendation of the CEO (for executive officers other than himself) in exercising its judgment. Following consideration of a variety of data regarding 2011 results, and following the guidelines set forth above, the Committee approved the following overall assessment of 2011 corporate performance, with intermediate amounts determined using straight-line interpolation:

Earnings Per Share (weighted 60%)	
Threshold	\$ 1.90
Target	\$ 1.98
Superior	\$ 2.05

For fiscal 2011, the Company reported earnings per share (diluted) of \$1.93. Excluding the impairment charge and expenses and operating losses from Arbitron Mobile, earnings per share (diluted) for 2011 would have been \$2.10. The Committee determined the Arbitron Mobile acquisition to be an important strategic initiative for the Company and the impairment charge to be a non-cash, non-operating item and, therefore, found it appropriate to use adjusted EPS of \$2.10 in assessing performance under the 2011 Non-Equity Incentive Plan. Accordingly, the Committee assessed performance against the adjusted earnings per share goal at Superior. As a result, the Committee assigned a performance factor of 2.0 for the Earnings Per Share goal.

Service Quality (weighted 20% in aggregate)

The Committee established an overall Service Quality goal for 2011, which it weighted 20% in the aggregate. Within the overall Service Quality goal, the Committee weighted (a) PPM Key Performance Indicators at 10% and (b) Diary Service Quality at 10%. The Committee split the Diary Service Quality goal into two equal components, with each of (y) expansion of the service's cell phone sample representation and (z) completion of a test of the Company's Project Leapfrog initiative representing 5% of the overall annual goal.

PPM Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) (weighted 10%)	
85%	Threshold
90%	Target
95%	Superior

Based on a number of factors, the Committee determined an objective assessment of performance against the PPM KPI goal was 98% and would yield a performance factor of 2.0.

Diary Service Quality (weighted 10%)	
Expand cell phone sample on schedule and as budgeted	Weighted 5%
Complete first end to end test of Project Leapfrog	Weighted 5%

The Committee found the Company had expanded its cell phone sample on schedule and below budget during 2011. The Committee objectively determined this performance was 150% of Target and assigned a performance factor of 1.5. The Committee also determined the performance against the Project Leapfrog goal had been at the Target level and assigned a performance factor of 1.0.

These objective assessments of performance against the three components of the overall Service Quality goals would have yielded a percentage assessment of 32.5 as set forth in the table below, well in excess of the overall target of 20.0%. However, notwithstanding its objective assessment of performance against the service quality goals it established in early 2011, the Committee considered the impact of the loss of MRC accreditation in five PPM markets in February 2012. The Committee found the loss of accreditation to be a significant negative outcome for the Company. The Committee determined it to be appropriate and in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to exercise its negative discretion and reduce its overall assessment of performance

Table of Contents

against this goal by 17.5 points, representing approximately 87.5% of the overall 20% target. Following exercise of its negative discretion, the Committee assessed performance against the service quality goals below Target and assigned an overall performance factor of .75 for the goal. The effect of the Committee's exercise of its negative discretion resulted in an overall assessment of 15.0 against this goal.

Personal (weighted at 20%)

The Committee's assessment of each individual's performance against their personal goals ranged between 50% of Target and 150% of Target depending on the executive. Individual goals varied depending on each individual NEO's responsibilities, but included delivering objectives identified in the Company's strategic plan, executing the core business plan, meeting or exceeding revenue, cost and other financial targets, and improving the quality and utility of the Company's services.

Corporate Performance	Assessment	Performance Factor	X	Weight	Negative Discretion Adjustment	Overall Assessment
EPS	Superior	2.0	x	60.0		120.0
Service Quality						
(a) PPM Key Performance Indicators	Superior	2.0	x	10.0	= 20.0	
(b) Diary, Cell Phone Sampling	150% of Target	1.5	x	5.0	= 7.5	
(c) Project Leapfrog	Target	1.0	x	5.0	= 5.0	
Unadjusted Subtotal					32.5	
Negative Discretion Adjustment					(17.5)	
Adjusted Service Quality	75% of Target	.75		20.0	= 15.0	15.00
Overall Corporate Assessment						135.0
Personal	Ranges from 50% of Target to 150% of Target	.5 - 1.5		20.0		10.0 - 30.0
Total				100%		145.0 - 165.0

The Committee determined to pay Mr. Kerr a bonus of \$1,320,000, or 165% of his base salary, and to grant Mr. Kerr 1,181 deferred stock units in consideration of his strong leadership during 2011 in light of the overall corporate performance. See the 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan discussion below regarding Mr. Kerr's 1,181 deferred stock units. In consideration of the foregoing assessments, the Committee approved an overall corporate assessment of 145-165% of target for the 2011 Non-Equity Incentive Plan for all other executives as it varied based on the personal goal. As a result of these determinations, the Company awarded 2011 non-equity incentive plan payments in the amounts set forth in the Summary Compensation Table.

2012 Non-equity Incentive Plan

On February 28, 2012, the Committee approved a non-equity incentive plan for the Company's executive officers for 2012, which would be payable in early 2013 (the 2012 Incentive Plan). The design of the 2012 Incentive Plan is materially the same as the design of the 2011 Incentive Plan, except that if the threshold return on invested capital goal is satisfied, the Committee may exercise its discretion in awarding a cash payment that is linked to performance based upon the Company's diluted earnings per share (weighted 70%), which may be adjusted by the Committee to exclude the impact of extraordinary or non-recurring items, and quality of the Company's ratings services (weighted 30%), which award may be increased or decreased depending on the Committee's assessment of each individual executive's performance during the year.

2011 Long-term Incentive Plan

The long-term incentive program provides a periodic award (typically annual) that is based on competitive grant guidelines and adjusted for individual contributions. The objectives of this program are to align compensation for NEOs over a multiyear period with the interests of stockholders by motivating and rewarding creation and preservation of long-term stockholder value. The level of long-term incentive compensation for each NEO is

Table of Contents

determined based on an evaluation of competitive factors in conjunction with total compensation provided to NEOs and the other goals of the compensation program described above. The Committee meetings at which grants are determined are normally scheduled well in advance and are not scheduled with regards to announcements of material information regarding the Company.

On February 8, 2011, the Committee established the performance objectives and other terms of the Company's 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the 2011 LTI Plan) for officers of the Company. The targeted opportunity for the Company's executive officers, other than Mr. Kerr, is divided into the following three components, with each component representing approximately 33% of the total opportunity: (i) non-qualified stock options, (ii) performance-based restricted stock units, and (iii) performance cash awards. The terms of those awards are substantially similar to those for the 2010 LTI Plan. The targeted opportunity for Mr. Kerr is divided into the following components: (i) 67% performance-based deferred stock units and (ii) 33% performance cash award and differs from the other executive officers due to his retirement eligibility. The target 2011 LTI Plan opportunity for executive officers other than Mr. Kerr range from 100% to 125% of 2011 base salary. Pursuant to the Amendment, the 2011 LTI Plan opportunity for Mr. Kerr is equal to 200% of his 2011 base salary.

The three types of awards received by executives reward stockholder value creation in different ways. Stock options (which have exercise prices equal to the fair market value of the common stock on the date of grant) reward executives only if the stock price increases. Stock option grants to named executive officers vest ratably over three years, beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant and have a term of 10 years.

Performance-Based Restricted Stock contains a one year performance period and expires without vesting if the one-year performance goal is not satisfied by the first anniversary of the date of grant. If the performance goal is met, Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units granted to NEOs vest in equal annual installments over the first four anniversaries of the grant date, based on continued employment. The performance goal requires return on invested capital (as defined in the 2011 LTI Plan) to exceed 12%, which is an approximation of the Company's weighted average cost of capital. The Committee selected this performance goal to ensure that the Company is creating value for stockholders. In February 2012, the Committee determined that, based on the Company's audited consolidated financial statements, the performance goal was satisfied. Performance-Based Restricted stock is also impacted by all stock price changes and, therefore, the value to NEOs is affected by both increases and decreases in stock price. Except as provided in an Executive Retention Agreement or individual employment agreement, all unvested restricted stock units are forfeitable upon termination of employment prior to vesting. See *Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control Executive Retention Agreements* and *Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control Kerr Executive Employment Agreement* below for more information regarding these Executive Retention Agreements and Mr. Kerr's Executive Employment Agreement. The restricted stock units do not provide voting or dividend rights until the units are vested and converted into common stock.

The performance cash award is based on the Company's achievement of cumulative earnings per share over a three year performance period, and the amount of the performance cash award ranges from 0% to 200% based on the achievement of specified results. The Committee considered cumulative earnings per share to be a driver of the Company's stock price since it measures the Company's growth, profitability, and financing decisions.

In determining long-term incentive grants, the Committee considers other components of compensation paid by the Company, any contractual requirements, individual performance, market data on total compensation packages, the retentive effect of long-term incentive grants, recommendations of the Committee's compensation consultant regarding the value of long-term incentive grants at targeted companies within the Compensation Peer Group, total stockholder return, share usage and stockholder dilution and, except in the case of the award to the CEO, the recommendations of the CEO.

2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan

On February 28, 2012, the Committee established the performance objectives and other terms of the Company's 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the 2012 LTI Plan) for certain executive officers of the Company. The targeted opportunity for the Company's participating executive officers, other than Mr. Kerr, is divided into two components: (i) non-qualified stock options (representing approximately 50% of the total

Table of Contents

opportunity) and (ii) performance-based restricted stock units (representing approximately 50% of the total opportunity). Of the executives other than Mr. Kerr who are participating in the 2012 LTI Plan, the target 2012 LTI Plan opportunity is within a range from 50% to 125% of 2012 base salary. We eliminated the performance cash awards for 2012 because stock awards more closely align the executive's interests with that of stockholders.

For Mr. Kerr, the Committee approved an LTI Plan award equal to 250% of his 2012 base salary. For Mr. Kerr only, the 2012 LTI award is entirely in the form of performance-based deferred stock units that contain the same performance measure as the performance-based restricted stock units granted to the executives, but which will be payable only upon his separation from service. The Committee also approved an additional award to Mr. Kerr of fully vested deferred stock units with a grant date fair value of \$40,000 in lieu of a merit increase in base salary.

The non-qualified stock options, performance-based restricted stock units, deferred stock units, and performance-based deferred stock units were granted pursuant to the Company's 2008 Equity Compensation Plan. The 2012 LTI Plan design features are substantially similar to the 2011 LTI Plan except for net settlement of restricted stock units, extended period for exercisability of options if an employee retires, and automatic conversion of expiring options.

In connection with Mr. Creamer's promotion to Chief Operating Officer in August 2011, the Compensation Committee increased Mr. Creamer's annual base salary to \$500,000. The Compensation Committee also granted Mr. Creamer 66,418 stock options with respect to the Company's common stock, par value \$0.50, which stock options will vest and become exercisable in three equal annual installments on the first, second, and third anniversary of the date of grant. This grant is in lieu of a 2012 LTI Plan grant.

Benefits and Perquisites

Consistent with the Company's philosophy, our NEOs are provided benefits and perquisites that are substantially the same as those offered to other employees of the Company, with the following limited exceptions. We offer to reimburse or pay executive officers for the cost of an annual physical examination. We also offer a supplemental long-term disability program for executives, which provides for an additional 10 percent coverage over that which eligible full-time employees receive. Under certain circumstances, our NEOs may travel in first or business class, which is different than for most employees. Mr. Kerr may travel in first or business class at any time.

Post-Termination Compensation

Retirement Plans

Mr. Lindner was employed by the Company and its predecessor from July 1, 1981 to May 5, 1983 and from January 1, 2011 to the present. Ms. Hanley was employed by the Company and its predecessor from February 2, 1987 to May 8, 1998 and from January 2, 2001 to the present. As a result, Mr. Lindner and Ms. Hanley are eligible to participate in a defined benefit pension plan, which has been closed to new participants since January 2, 1995. Also, Mr. Lindner participates in the Arbitron Benefit Equalization Plan (BEP). See 2011 Pension Benefits Table below for a further explanation of the defined benefit pension plan. The amounts payable under such retirement plan to Mr. Lindner and Ms. Hanley are determined by the plan's benefit formula, which we describe in the section 2011 Pension Benefits Table below. The amount of benefit is determined based upon the terms of the plan, the executive's years of service with us, and the executive's compensation.

We offer a qualified 401(k) Plan to provide our employees tax-advantaged savings vehicles. We make matching contributions to the 401(k) Plan to encourage employees to save money for their retirement. This plan and our contributions to it enhance the range of benefits we offer to executives, encourage retirement savings in a cost and tax-efficient way, and further our ability to attract and retain employees.

Under the terms of the 401(k) Plan, employees may defer at least 1% of their eligible earnings, and we make a matching contribution of 50% of before-tax employee contributions up to a maximum of 3% or 6% of eligible employee earnings. We may also make an additional discretionary matching contribution of 0% to 30% of before-tax employee contributions up to a maximum of 3% or 6% of eligible employee earnings (depending on

Table of Contents

the Company's profitability). The 3% maximums referred to in the previous sentences relate to employees who are pension participants and the 6% maximums relate to employees who are not pension participants.

Our matching contributions to the 401(k) Plan for each NEO are set forth in the Summary Compensation Table below. See also Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation and Other Payments to the NEOs 401(k) Plan.

Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control

See Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control below for a discussion of potential payments to be made under each contract, agreement, plan or arrangement that provides for payments to a NEO at, following, or in connection with any termination of employment including by resignation, retirement, disability or a constructive termination of a NEO, or our change in control or a change in the NEO's responsibilities.

Retention and Employment Agreements

Executive Retention Agreements

In August 2008, we entered into Executive Retention Agreements with certain members of our senior executive management, including each of Messrs. Creamer and Smith, that provide for: (i) severance payments under some circumstances, including termination without cause or resignation as a result of position diminishment, (ii) enhanced severance following a change in control, and (iii) accelerated vesting with respect to stock options and restricted stock grants upon a termination during a specified period following a change in control. These agreements have a fixed five-year term and replace prior executive retention agreements, which otherwise would have remained in place indefinitely. Messrs. Lindner and Surratt has also entered into Executive Retention Agreements in 2011 on substantially similar terms. Ms. Hanley has also entered into an Executive Retention Agreement on substantially similar terms, but Ms. Hanley's agreement does not provide for severance compensation as a result of position diminishment.

We entered into the Executive Retention Agreements because we do not want our executives distracted by a rumored or actual change in control of the Company. Further, if a change in control should occur, we want our executives to be focused on the business of the organization and the interests of stockholders. In addition, we believe it is important that our executives should react neutrally to a potential change in control and not be influenced by personal financial concerns. We believe our Retention Agreements assist us in retaining our executive talent. The material terms of the Executive Retention Agreements are discussed in the section Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control Executive Retention Agreements below.

Kerr Executive Employment Agreement

On February 11, 2010, the Company entered into an Executive Employment Agreement (the Agreement) with William T. Kerr relating to Mr. Kerr's employment as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, Mr. Kerr's employment commenced on January 10, 2010 and was scheduled to end on January 10, 2012 (the Initial Term).

On February 8, 2011, the Company entered into an Amended and Restated Executive Employment Agreement (the Amendment) with William T. Kerr relating to Mr. Kerr's employment as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The Amendment replaces the Agreement and extends the expiration of the term of Mr. Kerr's employment from the Initial Term until January 10, 2013 (the Extended Term). The material terms and conditions of the Agreement and Amendment are set forth below.

Salary and Bonus or Incentive Compensation

Pursuant to the Agreement, Mr. Kerr's base salary was \$800,000. His base salary remains \$800,000 under the Amendment. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Agreement, Mr. Kerr is eligible to receive an annual incentive bonus equal to 100% of his annual base salary upon meeting applicable performance criteria set by the Committee. For performance exceeding such applicable performance criteria, the annual incentive bonus could

Table of Contents

be increased up to a maximum of 200% of annual base salary, at the sole discretion of the Committee. The Committee will review the base salary no less frequently than annually.

Long-Term Incentive

In connection with the Amendment, the Committee has granted to Mr. Kerr a 2011 long-term incentive award with a value equal to \$1,600,000 on the date of grant, to be divided into 33% performance-based cash and 67% performance-based deferred stock units which will vest only upon satisfaction of applicable performance objectives established by the Committee and which will be payable only after Mr. Kerr's separation from service. The long-term incentive award to Mr. Kerr also is subject to the accelerated vesting terms described below with regard to potential payment upon early termination.

The Committee, at its sole discretion, will consider the grant of additional compensatory stock awards to Mr. Kerr no less frequently than annually.

The long term incentive awards will vest and/or become exercisable in accordance with the Company's customary terms. However, to the extent more favorable to Mr. Kerr (except in the case of a termination for Cause) the following special acceleration terms will apply. Upon termination of employment as a result of Mr. Kerr's death or disability outstanding equity awards will accelerate. Upon a termination of Mr. Kerr's employment by the Company without Cause, upon Mr. Kerr's Retirement (as defined below), or upon Mr. Kerr ceasing to be employed for any reason (other than Cause) after the Extended Term, any performance-based awards will require satisfaction of the applicable performance objectives but will not be prorated for partial years of service. Upon Mr. Kerr's resignation before the end of the Extended Term other than in connection with his Retirement, all unvested awards will be forfeited. Upon any termination of Mr. Kerr's employment by the Company for Cause, all vested and unvested awards will be forfeited. The new terms apply only to awards made on or after February 8, 2011.

Benefits

Mr. Kerr, to the extent eligible, is entitled to participate at a level commensurate with his position in all employee welfare, benefit, and retirement plans and programs the Company provides to its executives in accordance with Company policies.

Non-Competition, Non-Recruitment, and Non-Disparagement

The Agreement contains provisions pursuant to which Mr. Kerr has agreed that, while employed and for 12 months following termination of employment for any reason, he will not directly or indirectly, subject to certain de minimis exceptions involving the ownership of publicly traded securities, compete with any part of the Company's business. Mr. Kerr has agreed during employment and for 12 months thereafter not to initiate or actively participate in any other employer's recruitment or hiring of Company employees. The Agreement also contains non-disparagement provisions.

Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

At the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders, the stockholders approved, on an advisory basis, the compensation of our named executive officers, as disclosed pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC. The Compensation Committee reviewed the final vote results for that resolution, and we have not made any changes to our executive compensation policies or decisions as a result of the vote. We have determined that our stockholders should cast an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers on an annual basis. Accordingly, our board recommends that you vote FOR Proposal 2 at the annual meeting. For more information, see Proposal 2 Advisory Approval of the Company's Executive Compensation.

Stock Ownership Guidelines

During 2004, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommended and the Board established stock ownership requirements for our executive officers. In August 2009, the Nominating and Corporate

Table of Contents

Governance Committee revised the stock ownership guidelines to include a market volatility provision in the event there is a significant decline in our stock price that causes a director's or executive officer's holdings to fall below the applicable threshold. If there is a significant decline, the director or executive officer will not be required to purchase additional shares to meet the applicable threshold, but such director or executive officer will not be able to sell or transfer any shares until the applicable threshold has again been achieved. In 2011, the Compensation and Human Resources Committee took responsibility for the Stock Ownership Guidelines and revised the holding requirements for executive officers. These officers are expected, over time, to acquire and hold Company stock (including restricted stock units) equal in value to at least the following:

CEO – five times annual salary;

COO and CFO – three times annual salary; and

Other executive officers – two times annual salary.

Executive officers who are subject to the Stock Ownership Guidelines must achieve the applicable ownership threshold within the later to occur of (i) five years of becoming an executive officer or (ii) November 15, 2016, and include owned shares of common stock, restricted shares, and restricted stock units or DSUs that only can be settled in common stock. No outstanding unexercised stock options are taken into account for purposes of satisfying these guidelines. Effective November 15, 2011, except in the case of sales to cover tax obligations arising from vesting, no executive officer may sell shares of common stock unless he or she will exceed holding requirement after the sales. The purpose of stock ownership requirements is to more closely align our key executives' interests with our stockholders. As of March 30, 2012, all NEOs who had been in their positions for more than five years had either satisfied or exceeded the applicable stock ownership guidelines.

Role of Management

The role of our management in executive compensation is to provide reviews and recommendations for the Committee's consideration, and to manage our executive compensation programs, policies, and governance. Direct responsibilities include the following:

Providing an ongoing review of the effectiveness of the compensation programs, including competitiveness and alignment with our objectives;

Providing an assessment of our performance relative to corporate, business unit, and individual performance targets;

Recommending changes, if necessary to ensure achievement of all program objectives; and

Recommending pay levels, payout and/or awards for executive officers other than the CEO.

Compliance with Section 162(m)

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (Section 162(m)), disallows any tax deductions for compensation exceeding \$1 million and paid in a taxable year to any NEO other than the CFO, all of whom are covered employees under Section 162(m). However, certain performance-based compensation, determined under pre-established objective performance goals, can be deducted even in excess of the \$1 million limit. The Committee considers the potential impact of Section 162(m) as one factor to be taken into account in setting total compensation and its component elements. However, the Committee believes that it must retain flexibility, in observing its overall compensation philosophy and objectives, to structure total compensation to include components, such as service-vesting restricted stock units, that would not be treated as performance-based compensation under the Section, both in order to attract and retain top talent and to appropriately gauge the performance of executives. Achieving the desired flexibility in the design and delivery of total compensation, therefore, may result in some compensation not being deductible for federal income tax purposes. In this regard, we estimate that approximately \$25,000 of Mr. Smith's

compensation in 2011 was not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Compensation and Human Resources Committee reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis included in this Proxy Statement with management. Based on such review and discussion, the Compensation and Human Resources Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Submitted by the Compensation and

Human Resources Committee of the

Board of Directors

Larry E. Kittelberger, Chair

John A. Dimling

Ronald Garriques

Luis G. Nogales

Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation and Other Payments to the NEOs

2011 Summary Compensation Table

The following table provides information concerning the compensation of our NEOs for our most recently completed fiscal year.

In the column **Salary**, we disclose the amount of base salary paid to the NEO during the fiscal year.

In the columns **Stock Awards** and **Option Awards**, SEC regulations require us to disclose the aggregate grant date fair value of the awards granted during the fiscal year computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718.

In the column **Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings**, we disclose the sum of the dollar value of (1) the aggregate change in the actuarial present value of the NEO's accumulated benefit under all defined benefit and actuarial pension plans (including supplemental plans) in 2011; and (2) any above-market or preferential earnings on nonqualified deferred compensation, including on nonqualified defined contribution plans.

In the column **All other compensation**, we disclose the sum of the dollar value of:

perquisites and other personal benefits, or property, unless the aggregate amount of such compensation is less than \$10,000;

profit sharing;

the incremental cost associated with business/first class travel when not available to all employees generally; and

our contributions to vested and unvested defined contribution plans.

Table of Contents**2011 Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)(1)	Option Awards (\$)(1)	Non-equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation	All Other Compensation	Total (\$)
						Earnings (\$)	(\$)(2)	
William T. Kerr <i>President and Chief</i>	2011	800,000	1,120,124		1,320,000		27,974	3,268,098
	2010	769,231	2,014,394	845,481	1,000,000		25,934	4,655,040
<i>Executive Officer</i>								
<i>and Director</i>								
Sean R. Creamer* <i>Executive Vice</i> <i>President, Chief</i>	2011	474,500	195,936	989,884	496,760		15,843	2,172,923
	2010	441,584	225,203	218,660	307,784		18,161	1,211,392
	2009	416,880	1,499,999	500,110	398,713		14,317	2,830,019
<i>Operating Officer and</i>								
<i>Formerly Chief</i>								
<i>Financial Officer</i>								
Richard J. Surratt <i>Executive Vice</i> <i>President,</i> <i>Finance and Chief</i> <i>Financial Officer</i>	2011	353,846	169,983	164,785	292,417		7,167	988,198
Gregg Lindner <i>Executive Vice</i> <i>President, Chief</i>	2011	367,789	562,494	187,256	281,250	60,719	17,828	1,477,336
<i>Research Officer</i>								
Timothy T. Smith <i>Executive Vice</i> <i>President, Business</i>	2011	420,000	178,515	173,024	390,600		13,490	1,175,629
	2010	400,000	204,008	198,072	278,800		14,024	1,094,904
	2009	325,728	900,004	300,066	327,034		11,631	1,864,463
<i>Development &</i>								
<i>Strategy and Chief</i>								
<i>Legal Officer</i>								
Carol Hanley <i>Executive Vice</i>	2011	353,000	120,032	116,339	264,750	176,841	9,049	1,040,011
	2010	343,626	116,570	113,187	211,918(3)	84,384	11,617	881,302

President, Chief

Sales and Marketing

Officer Information

Officer

* Mr. Creamer was succeeded as Chief Financial Officer by Richard J. Surratt, who joined the Company as Executive Vice President, Finance on February 6, 2011 and became Executive Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer on February 28, 2011.

- (1) Please refer to note 13 of the notes to our consolidated financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 for a discussion of the assumptions related to the calculation of such value.
- (2) The amounts shown as all other compensation for 2011 consist of the following:

	401(k) Match (\$)	Physical Examination (\$)	Long-Term Disability Supplemental Coverage (\$)	Relocation Expense or Anniversary Award (\$)	Business/First Class Travel and Airline Membership Dues (\$)	Total (\$)
William T. Kerr	10,221		998		16,755	27,974
Sean R. Creamer	10,221	1,598	2,740		1,284	15,843
Richard J. Surratt	2,615	2,125	2,307		120	7,167
Gregg Lindner			2,570	15,000	258	17,828
Timothy T. Smith	9,953		2,831	120	586	13,490
Carol Hanley	5,115		2,520	120	1,294	9,049

- (3) For 2010, this includes Ms. Hanley's 2010 sales commission. Beginning in 2011, following her appointment as an executive officer, she is no longer eligible for a sales commission.

Table of Contents**2011 Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

The following table sets forth certain information concerning plan-based awards granted to the named executive officers during 2011. No options were re-priced or modified during the fiscal year.

In this table, we provide information concerning each grant of an award made to a NEO in the most recently completed fiscal year under any plan. In the **All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units** column, we report the number of restricted, performance-based restricted and deferred stock units granted during the fiscal year. In the **Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards** column, we report the aggregate grant date fair value of all awards granted during 2011. For the performance-based deferred stock units and the performance-based restricted stock units, the grant date fair value was equal to the closing market price of our common stock on the grant date, which was the date on which the Compensation and Human Resources Committee approved the grant, which price we report in the eleventh column. For the stock option awards, the grant date fair value was estimated based upon a Black-Scholes valuation model. The exercise price of the stock options is equal to the closing market price on the date of grant.

2011 Grants of Plan-Based Awards

Name	Estimated Possible Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards				Grant Date	Award Type	All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)	All Other Option Awards; Exercise or Number of Underlying Options (#)	Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh)	Grant Date Fair Value of Option Stock and Option Awards (\$)			
	Threshold \$(1)	Target \$(1)	Superior \$(1)	Maximum \$(1)									
William T. Kerr	400,000	800,000		1,600,000	2/08/11	Non-Equity Incentive Plan							
					2/08/11	Performance-Based Deferred Stock Units(2)	24,122			1,071,982			
					2/08/11	Deferred Stock Units(2)	900			39,996			
					2/08/11	Performance Cash Awards(3)							
Sean R. Creamer	138,300	276,600	792,000	1,056,000	2/08/11	Non-Equity Incentive Plan							
					2/08/11	Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units(4)	4,409			195,936			
					2/08/11	Stock Options(5)		11,133	44.44	189,912			
					8/23/11	Stock Options(5)		66,418	33.73	799,972			
Richard J. Surratt	95,081	190,163	285,244	380,325	2/08/11	Performance Cash Awards(3)							
					110,000	220,000		440,000	2/08/11	Non-Equity Incentive Plan			
					2/08/11	Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units(4)	3,825			169,983			
					2/08/11	Stock Options(5)		9,660	44.44	164,785			
Gregg Lindner	82,500	165,000	247,500	330,000	2/08/11	Performance Cash Awards(3)							
					93,750	187,500		375,000	1/03/11	Restricted Stock Units(6)	13,167		
Timothy T. Smith	126,000	252,000		504,000	1/03/11	Stock Options(5)		11,670	42.72	187,256			
					2/08/11	Non-Equity Incentive Plan							
					2/08/11	Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units(4)	4,017			178,515			
Carol Hanley	86,625	173,250	259,875	346,500	2/08/11	Stock Options(5)		10,143	44.44	173,024			
					2/08/11	Performance Cash Awards(3)							
					88,000	176,000		352,000	2/08/11	Non-Equity Incentive Plan			
	58,245	116,490	174,735	232,980	2/08/11	Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units(4)	2,701			120,032			
					2/08/11	Stock Options(5)		6,820	44.44	116,339			
					2/08/11	Performance Cash Awards(3)							

- (1) We report the amounts earned during 2011 for the bonus in the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table, above. The Performance-Based Cash Awards are part of the 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan and are based on the Company's achievement of a cumulative earnings per share target over a three year performance period, and the amount of the performance cash award ranges from 0% to 200% based on the achievement of specified results.

- (2) Granted under the Arbitron 2008 Equity Compensation Plan. The performance deferred stock units granted on February 8, 2011 to Mr. Kerr vest in equal annual installments over four years beginning on the first anniversary date of the grant (with limited exceptions for termination without Cause or Retirement as defined in Mr. Kerr's employment agreement) and are payable only after Mr. Kerr's separation from service. The performance goal was satisfied for the

Table of Contents

performance-based deferred stock units granted on February 8, 2011. This DSU performance award is convertible to shares of the Company's common stock, subsequent to Mr. Kerr's termination of employment. The deferred stock units granted on February 8, 2011 to Mr. Kerr vest immediately on the date of grant and are convertible to shares of the Company's common stock only after Mr. Kerr's separation from service.

- (3) Granted under the Arbitron 2008 Equity Compensation Plan. The performance cash awards granted in 2011 to the NEOs have a three year period performance target that, if met over the aggregate period, will yield a cash payout in 2015 at certain percentage levels, depending upon the actual performance, and not to exceed 200% of the target grant amount.
- (4) Granted under the Arbitron 2008 Equity Compensation Plan. The performance-based restricted stock units granted in 2011 to the NEOs vest in equal annual installments over four years beginning on the first anniversary date of the grant, subject to continued employment (with limited exceptions for termination of employment due to death, disability, and change in control). The performance goal was satisfied for the performance-based restricted stock units granted on February 8, 2011.
- (5) Granted under the Arbitron 2008 Equity Compensation Plan. The stock options granted in 2011 to NEOs have a 10-year term and vest ratably over three years, subject to continued employment (with limited exceptions for termination of employment due to death, disability, and change in control).
- (6) Granted under the Arbitron 2008 Equity Compensation Plan. The restricted stock units granted on January 3, 2011 to Mr. Lindner vest in equal annual installments over four years beginning on the first anniversary date of the grant, subject to continued employment (with limited exceptions for termination of employment due to death, disability, and change in control).

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

The following table provides information concerning unexercised options and stock that has not vested outstanding as of the end of our most recently completed fiscal year for each NEO. Each outstanding award is represented by a separate row, which indicates the number of securities underlying the award, including awards that have been transferred other than for value (if any).

For option awards, the table discloses the number of shares underlying both exercisable and unexercisable options, as well as the exercise price and the expiration date. For stock awards, the table provides the total number of shares of stock that have not vested and the aggregate market value of shares of stock that have not vested.

We computed the market value of stock awards by multiplying the closing market price of our stock at the end of the most recently completed fiscal year (\$34.41) by the number of shares or units of stock.

Outstanding Equity Awards At Fiscal Year-End 2011

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards	
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable(1)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#) (2)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)
William T. Kerr	15,000		48.25	5/15/2017		
	7,605		46.64	5/13/2018		
	15,719		20.52	5/27/2019		
	15,085	30,169	24.94	2/11/2020		
	24,417	48,834	22.17	3/4/2020		
				86,483	2,975,880	
Sean R. Creamer		11,133	44.44	2/8/2021		
		66,418	33.73	8/23/2021		
	20,000		40.90	9/15/2015		
	15,000		38.88	3/1/2016		
	39,146		41.96	3/3/2018		
	55,097	27,548	20.29	5/20/2019		
	10,111	20,221	22.17	3/4/2020		
				51,612	1,775,969	
Richard J. Surratt		9,660	44.44	2/8/2021		
				3,825	131,618	
Gregg Lindner		11,670	42.72	1/03/2021		
				13,167	453,076	
Timothy T. Smith		10,143	44.44	2/8/2021		
	29,617		41.96	3/3/2018		
	33,058	16,529	20.29	5/20/2019		
	9,159	18,317	22.17	3/4/2020		
				34,409	1,184,014	
Carol Hanley		6,820	44.44	2/8/2021		
	5,000		40.25	1/27/2015		
	5,000		40.36	6/1/2016		
	5,000		48.25	5/15/2017		
	3,000		40.31	1/24/2018		
	5,000		46.64	5/13/2018		
	5,000	2,500	16.49	7/13/2019		

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

5,234

10,467

22.17

3/4/2020

7,018

241,489

37

Table of Contents

- (1) Vesting dates of unvested stock option awards are as follows: Mr. Kerr 15,085 on 2/11/12, 24,417 on 3/4/12, 15,084 on 2/11/13, and 24,417 on 3/4/13; Mr. Creamer 3,711 on 2/8/12, 10,111 on 3/4/12, 27,548 on 5/20/12, 22,140 on 8/23/12, 3,711 on 2/8/13, 10,110 on 3/4/13, 22,139 on 8/23/13, 3,711 on 2/8/14 and 22,139 on 8/23/14; Mr. Surratt 3,220 on 2/8/12, 3,220 on 2/8/13, and 3,220 on 2/8/14; Mr. Lindner 3,890 on 1/3/12, 3,890 on 1/3/13, and 3,890 on 1/3/14; Mr. Smith 3,381 on 2/8/12, 9,159 on 3/4/12, 16,529 on 5/20/12, 3,381 on 2/8/13, 9,158 on 3/4/13 and 3,381 on 2/8/14; and Ms. Hanley 2,274 on 2/8/12, 5,234 on 3/4/12, 2,500 on 7/13/12, 2,273 on 2/8/13, 5,233 on 3/4/13, and 2,273 on 2/8/14.
- (2) Vesting dates of unvested shares of performance-based restricted stock, restricted stock and restricted stock units are as follows: Mr. Kerr 6,031 on 2/8/12, 15,036 on 2/11/12, 5,751 on 3/4/12, 6,031 on 2/8/13, 15,036 on 2/11/13, 5,751 on 3/4/13, 6,030 on 2/8/14, 15,036 on 2/11/14, 5,751 on 3/4/14, and 6,030 on 2/8/15; Mr. Creamer 1,103 on 2/8/12, 2,621 on 3/3/12, 2,540 on 3/4/12, 18,482 on 5/20/12, 1,102 on 2/8/13, 2,539 on 3/4/13, 18,482 on 5/20/13, 1,102 on 2/8/14, 2,539 on 3/4/14, and 1,102 on 2/8/15; Mr. Surratt 957 on 2/8/12, 956 on 2/8/13, 956 on 2/8/14, and 956 on 2/8/15; Mr. Lindner 3,292 on 1/3/12, 3,292 on 1/3/13, 3,292 on 1/3/14, and 3,291 on 1/3/15; Mr. Smith 1,005 on 2/8/12, 1,313 on 3/3/12, 2,301 on 3/4/12, 11,089 on 5/20/12, 1,004 on 2/8/13, 2,300 on 3/4/13, 11,089 on 5/20/13, 1,004 on 2/8/14, 2,300 on 3/4/14, and 1,004 on 2/8/15; and Ms. Hanley 676 on 2/8/12, 1,315 on 3/4/12, 187 on 7/13/12, 675 on 2/8/13, 1,314 on 3/4/13, 187 on 7/13/13, 675 on 2/8/14, 1,314 on 3/4/14, and 675 on 2/8/15.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested

The following table provides information concerning exercises of stock options and similar instruments, and vesting of restricted stock and similar instruments, during the most recently completed fiscal year for each of the NEOs on an aggregated basis. The table reports the number of securities for which the options were exercised; the aggregate dollar value realized upon exercise of options; the number of shares of restricted stock that have vested; and the aggregate dollar value realized upon vesting of stock.

2011 Option Exercises and Stock Vested

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)
William T. Kerr				
Sean R. Creamer			27,059	1,126,134
Richard J. Surratt				
Gregg Lindner				
Timothy T. Smith			17,095	710,255
Carol Hanley			1,503	59,557

2011 Pension Benefits Table

Arbitron has established a voluntary, tax-qualified, defined benefit pension plan funded by employee and employer contributions. The plan covers Arbitron employees who, as of December 31, 2000, were eligible to participate in the Ceridian Corporation (Ceridian) pension plan. The Ceridian plan was closed to new participants effective January 2, 1995. Benefits earned under the Ceridian plan prior to December 31, 2000, are payable from the Arbitron plan for participants employed by Arbitron on December 31, 2000. The amount of the annual benefit under Arbitron's plan is based upon an employee's average annual compensation during the employee's highest consecutive five-year earnings period while participating in the Ceridian plan or the Arbitron plan. Because the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, limits the annual benefit that may be paid from tax-qualified plans such as Arbitron's retirement plan, Arbitron also established aBEP to provide retirees with supplemental benefits so that they will receive, in the aggregate, the benefits they would have been entitled to receive under the retirement plan had these limits not been in effect. Benefits earned under the Ceridian BEP prior to December 31, 2000, are payable from the Arbitron plan for participants employed by Arbitron on December 31, 2000. Arbitron also established and funded a benefit protection trust to pay BEP benefits. Normal

retirement age under the pension plan and the BEP is 65.

Table of Contents

Mr. Lindner and Ms. Hanley are eligible to participate in the pension plan. Only Mr. Lindner elected to participate in the BEP.

Benefit amounts in the Pension Benefits Table below are computed assuming payments are made on the normal life annuity basis and not under any of the various survivor options. Benefits listed in the table are not subject to deduction for Social Security or other offset amounts.

2011 Pension Benefits Table

Name	Plan Name	Number of Years Credited Service (#)	Present Value of Accumulated Benefit (\$)	Payments During Last Fiscal Year (\$)
Gregg Lindner(1)	Pension	1.0	52,643	
Gregg Lindner(1)	BEP	1.0	8,076	
Carol Hanley(2)	Pension	10.88	543,328	

(1) Mr. Lindner was employed by the Company and its predecessor from July 1, 1981 to May 5, 1993 and from January 1, 2011 to present as is therefore eligible for participation in the BEP and Pension Plan. Pursuant to the terms of the BEP and Pension Plan, Mr. Lindner had 1.0 year of credited service as of December 31, 2011.

(2) Ms. Hanley was employed by the Company and its predecessor from February 2, 1987 to May 8, 1998 and from January 2, 2001 to present and is therefore eligible for participation in the Pension Plan. Pursuant to the terms of the Pension Plan, Ms. Hanley had 10.88 years of credited service as of December 31, 2011.

2011 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

No NEO participated in any nonqualified deferred compensation plan during 2011.

401(k) Plan

Arbitron maintains a 401(k) plan that permits participating employees to contribute a portion of their compensation to the plan on a pretax basis. Arbitron makes matching contributions in amounts determined by Arbitron.

The 401(k) plan accounts are invested among a number of available investment options according to the directions of the participating employees. In 2010, we no longer permitted employees to invest in Arbitron common stock in the 401(k) plan but allowed the shares already purchased to remain in the 401(k) plan accounts. Voting and tender rights with respect to shares of Arbitron common stock credited to participants' accounts will be passed through to the participants.

While employed, participating employees may access their accounts through loans and, in some cases, in-service withdrawals. Following termination of employment, benefits are either distributed in a lump-sum payment or, if minimum requirements are met, can be kept in the plan. To the extent a participant's account is invested in full shares of Arbitron's common stock, the shares may be distributed to the participant when the account is distributable.

Arbitron retains the right to amend or terminate the 401(k) plan at any time.

POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL

The following table summarizes the estimated payments to be made under each contract, agreement, plan or arrangement that provides for payments to a NEO at, following, or in connection with any termination of employment including by resignation, retirement, disability or a constructive termination of a NEO, or our change in control or a change in the NEO's responsibilities. However, in accordance with SEC regulations, we do not report any amount to be provided to a NEO under any arrangement that does not discriminate in scope, terms,

Table of Contents

or operation in favor of our executive officers and which is available generally to all salaried employees. Also, the following table does not repeat information disclosed above under the pension benefits table, except to the extent that the amount payable to the NEO would be enhanced by the termination event.

For the purpose of the quantitative disclosure in the following table, and in accordance with SEC regulations, we have assumed that the termination took place on the last business day of our most recently completed fiscal year, and that the price per share of our common stock is the closing market price as of that date \$34.41.

Executive Retention Agreements

Messrs. Creamer and Smith have entered into Executive Retention Agreements with us that provide for severance payments under some circumstances and for accelerated vesting with respect to stock options and restricted stock grants upon a termination following a change of control. Messrs. Lindner and Surratt also entered into an Executive Retention Agreement with us on substantially similar terms. Ms. Hanley also entered into an Executive Retention Agreement with us on substantially similar terms, but it does not provide for severance payments as a result of position diminishment.

The Executive Retention Agreement also provides for a release of claims and enhanced non-competition, non-recruitment, and non-disparagement obligations on the part of the executive for the benefit of the Company as a condition to the Company's obligation to provide any severance or other payments thereunder.

Termination by the Company Other Than for Cause or by Executive for Position Diminishment

The Executive Retention Agreement provides that if the executive's employment is terminated: (A) by the Company other than for cause, or (B) by the executive for Position Diminishment (as defined below), and in either case the date of termination does not occur during a Window Period (as defined below), the executive will receive a lump-sum cash payment in an amount equal to the sum of: (i) 18 times (12 times for Messrs. Lindner and Surratt) the executive's Reference Compensation (a number based in part on monthly salary as described below), plus (ii) the product of (x) a decimal equal to a number between 0.45 and 0.55 (as applicable depending on the individual executive) times the executive's annual salary divided by 12, times (y) the number of full months elapsed in the calendar year before the executive's date of employment termination.

In addition, if the executive is entitled to receive a lump-sum cash payment pursuant to the conditions described in the immediately preceding paragraph, the Company will also provide the executive with certain outplacement services (to a maximum of \$50,000), and for a period of 18 months (24 months for Messrs. Lindner and Surratt) following termination, or, if sooner, until reemployment with an equivalent benefit, with the same or equivalent health, dental, accidental death and dismemberment, short-term and long-term disability, life insurance coverage, and all other insurance and other health and welfare benefits programs he or she was entitled to on the day before the termination, if and to the extent such coverage is available from the Company's benefit plans with respect to former employees. If and to the extent such coverage is not available or ceases to be available, the Company will take commercially reasonable steps to arrange for coverage under individual or conversion policies and will, in any event, pay as premiums the same dollar level of premiums as it paid for the executive as an active employee (with a tax gross up if the payment of premiums would be tax-free for active employees but is taxed for a former employee).

For purposes of the applicable Executive Retention Agreements, **Position Diminishment** means: (i) a change in the executive's reporting responsibilities, titles, duties, or offices as in effect immediately prior to a relevant measurement date, or any removal of executive from, or any failure to re-elect executive to, any of such positions, that has the effect of materially diminishing executive's responsibility, duties, or authority, (ii) a relocation of the executive's principal place of employment to a location more than 25 miles from its then current location and that increases the distance from executive's primary residence by more than 25 miles, or (iii) a material reduction in executive's annual salary.

An eligible executive may only resign as a result of a Position Diminishment that occurs other than during a Window Period if he or she (i) provides notice to the Company within 90 days following the date of Position Diminishment that he or she considers the Position Diminishment grounds to resign; (ii) provides the Company a

Table of Contents

period of 30 days to cure the Position Diminishment; and (iii) actually ceases employment, if the Position Diminishment is not cured, by six months following the date of Position Diminishment.

For purposes of the Executive Retention Agreement, "Window Period" means the one-year period commencing on the date of a Change of Control. For purposes of the Executive Retention Agreement, a "Change of Control" is generally defined as any of the following: (i) a merger or consolidation involving the Company if less than 50% of its voting stock after the merger or consolidation is held by persons who were stockholders before the merger or consolidation; (ii) ownership by a person or group acting in concert of at least 51% of the Company's voting securities; (iii) ownership by a person or group acting in concert of between 25% and 50% of the Company's voting securities if such ownership was not approved in advance by the Company's Board of Directors; (iv) a sale of the assets of the Company substantially as an entirety; (v) the liquidation of the Company; (vi) specified changes in the composition of the Company's Board of Directors; or (vii) any other events or transactions the Company's Board of Directors determines constitute a change of control.

Termination During Window Period Following a Change of Control

The Executive Retention Agreement provides that if the executive's employment terminates: (A) during a Window Period, or (B) because the executive resigns as a result of a Position Diminishment on or before the Position Diminishment Termination Date (as defined below), in either case other than (X) a termination by the Company for cause, (Y) the executive's resignation other than as a result of Position Diminishment, or (Z) the executive's death or disability, the executive will receive a lump-sum cash payment in an amount equal to the sum of: (i) 24 times the executive's Reference Compensation, and (ii) the product of: (a) a decimal equal to a number between 0.45 and 0.55 (as applicable depending on the individual executive) times the executive's annual salary divided by 12, times (b) the number of full months elapsed in the calendar year before the executive's employment termination date.

If the executive's employment terminates and the executive is entitled to receive a lump-sum cash payment pursuant to the conditions described in the immediately preceding paragraph: (i) the Company will provide the executive with the outplacement services, and benefits continuation described above, but for a period of 24 months, and (ii) all outstanding equity incentive awards granted on or after June 1, 2008 and before the expiration of the Agreement will fully and immediately vest (subject to the Board of Directors' ability to suspend exercises or sales until the executive has released all claims).

An executive may only resign as a result of a Position Diminishment and be eligible to receive the severance payments specified in the preceding two paragraphs if: (i) the Position Diminishment occurs during a Window Period, and (ii) he or she (x) provides notice to the Company within 90 days following the date of Position Diminishment that he or she considers the Position Diminishment grounds to resign; (y) provides the Company a period of 30 days to cure the Position Diminishment, and (z) actually ceases employment, if the Position Diminishment is not cured, by the later to occur of: (1) six months following the date of Position Diminishment and (2) the end of the Window Period (the "Position Diminishment Termination Date").

In addition, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Agreement, in the event that the Company determines that any portion of any payment, compensation, or other benefit provided to the executive in connection with his or her employment termination constitutes "nonqualified deferred compensation" within the meaning of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Section 409A" of the Code), and the executive is a specified person as defined in Section 409A, such portion of the payment, compensation, or other benefit shall not be paid before the day that is six months plus one day after the date of "separation from service" as determined under Section 409A.

Other than for Messrs. Surratt and Lindner, if payments to an executive under the Executive Retention Agreement would result in imposition of an excise tax (a "parachute tax") under Section 4999 of the Code, the executive will also be entitled to be paid an amount to compensate for the imposition of the tax. The payment will be in an amount such that after payment of all taxes, income and excise, the executive will be in the same after-tax position as if no parachute tax under the Code, had been imposed.

Table of Contents

Upon a Change of Control, all outstanding equity incentive awards granted on or before May 31, 2008 will fully and immediately vest, without regard to whether the executive's employment terminates (unless the equity incentive cannot be so accelerated under Section 409A, in which case acceleration will only occur in accordance with Section 409A), subject to the Company's Board of Directors' ability to suspend exercises or sales until the executive has released all claims.

Kerr Executive Employment Agreement

If Mr. Kerr's employment is terminated without Cause, Mr. Kerr's Retirement (as defined above) occurs, or Mr. Kerr resigns for Position Diminishment (as defined above), he will be entitled to receive as severance an amount equal to: (i) base salary for the remainder of the Extended Term (plus an additional amount equal to the annual base salary if the termination of employment occurs on or before December 31, 2011), paid in accordance with the Company's standard payroll practices over the remainder of the Extended Term, and (ii) a bonus component. If the annual bonus for the year of termination is determined by the Compensation Committee under a program intended to qualify as performance-based for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (an Exempt Bonus), the bonus component will be determined under the factors for such bonus, with such adjustments as the Compensation Committee makes under such factors (including the ability to adjust downwards but not upwards), but such amount will not be prorated for any partial year of service. If the annual bonus for the year of termination is not intended to be an Exempt Bonus, the bonus component will be equal to the annual base salary, but not prorated for any partial year of service.

Effective as of February 8, 2011, if, within 12 months following a Change of Control (as defined in the Company 2008 Equity Compensation Plan), Mr. Kerr's employment ends on a termination without Cause or for Position Diminishment, in lieu of the severance described in the preceding paragraph, Mr. Kerr will be entitled to receive an aggregate amount equal to 250% of annual base salary plus 250% of his target annual bonus paid in equal installments over a 24 month period in accordance with the Company's standard payroll policies and procedures.

In order to receive any severance benefits or accelerated vesting provided under the Amendment, Mr. Kerr must execute a release in the form provided by the Company of all legally-releasable claims that Mr. Kerr may then have against the Company and any of its affiliates and must continue to comply with the noncompetition and other restrictive covenants.

Table of Contents**2011 Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control**

Name	Benefit	Without	Change in	Voluntary	Death	Disability
		Cause	Control	Termination	Death	Disability
		Termination	Control	Termination	Death	Disability
		(1) (\$)	(2) (\$)	(3) (\$)	(\$)	(\$)
William T. Kerr(4)	Severance	2,503,537	4,903,537			
	Acceleration of Vesting(6)		3,859,309(5)		3,859,309	3,859,309
	Benefits continuation					
	Total	2,503,537	8,762,846		3,859,309	3,859,309
Sean R. Creamer	Severance	1,437,500	1,825,000			
	Acceleration of Vesting(6)		2,457,616		2,457,616	2,457,616
	Benefits continuation	32,404	43,206			
	Parachute payment tax gross-ups					
Total	1,469,904	4,325,822		2,457,616	2,457,616	
Richard J. Surratt	Severance	840,000	1,460,000			
	Acceleration of Vesting(6)		131,618		131,618	131,618
	Benefits continuation	21,939	32,908			
	Parachute payment tax gross-ups					
Total	861,939	1,624,526		131,618	131,618	
Gregg Lindner	Severance	750,000	1,312,500			
	Acceleration of Vesting(6)		453,076		453,076	453,076
	Benefits continuation	22,290	33,435			
	Parachute payment tax gross-ups					
Total	772,290	1,799,011		453,076	453,076	
Timothy T. Smith	Severance	1,102,500	1,407,000			
	Acceleration of Vesting(6)		1,641,603		1,641,603	1,641,603
	Benefits continuation	32,541	43,388			
	Parachute payment tax gross-ups					
Total	1,135,041	3,091,991		1,641,603	1,641,603	
Carol Hanley	Severance	970,750	1,235,500			
	Acceleration of Vesting(6)		414,405		414,405	414,405
	Benefits continuation	32,074	42,766			
	Parachute payment tax gross-ups					
Total	1,002,824	1,692,671		414,405	414,405	

(1) Except for Ms. Hanley, this column also includes payments that would be made if the Executive is permitted to resign and actually terminates employment as a result of Position Diminishment. Ms. Hanley is not entitled to resign and receive severance compensation upon a Position Diminishment.

(2) Except for the final vesting of one tranche of RSUs granted in 2008 to Messrs. Creamer and Smith, no amounts would be payable to any NEO solely as a result of a change of control of the Company. The amounts set forth in this column represent amounts that would be payable if the executive is actually terminated without cause or is permitted to resign and actually terminates employment during a window period following a change of control of the Company. Ms. Hanley is not entitled to resign and receive severance compensation upon a Position Diminishment.

(3) The amounts set forth in this column represent the amount payable pursuant to voluntary terminations other than as a result of a Position Diminishment.

Table of Contents

- (4) Mr. Kerr entered into an Amended Executive Employment Agreement on February 8, 2011. The disclosures in this table are consistent with the terms of the Amended Executive Employment Agreement. For purposes of this table, we assume that Mr. Kerr received an annual incentive bonus in 2011 of 100% of his base salary pursuant to the Executive Employment Agreement.
- (5) Represents the maximum acceleration. Pursuant to the best net provisions of Mr. Kerr's employment agreement, this amount could be reduced.
- (6) Represents the amount of compensation that would have been received on December 31, 2011, upon the acceleration of vesting of all outstanding unvested share-based awards by each NEO. For stock options, the value was determined based upon each option's intrinsic value (i.e., difference between the share's market price on December 31, 2011, and the related option's exercise price). For performance-based restricted stock, performance-based deferred stock, and restricted stock the value was determined based upon the share market price as of December 31, 2011, \$34.41. The compensation amounts are not necessarily equal to the Company's unvested share-based compensation.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

John A. Dimling, Erica Farber, Ronald Garriques, Philip Guarascio, Larry E. Kittelberger and Luis G. Nogales served on the Compensation and Human Resources Committee of the Board of Directors during 2011. Philip Guarascio stopped serving on the Compensation and Human Resources Committee in August 2011. Erica Farber stopped serving on the Compensation and Human Resources Committee in November 2011 prior to her employment with the Radio Advertising Bureau. William T. Kerr served as a member of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee until he resigned on January 11, 2010 upon being appointed President and CEO. No member of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee was at any time during 2011 an officer or employee of Arbitron or any of its subsidiaries, and no member of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee has formerly been an officer of Arbitron or any of its subsidiaries. No member of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee, other than Ms. Farber, had any relationship with Arbitron during 2011 requiring disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K under the Exchange Act. None of our executive officers serves as a member of the Board of Directors or executive compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of our Board of Directors.

CONSIDERATION OF RISK IN OUR COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

We have considered the risk associated with our compensation policies and practices for all employees, and we believe we have designed our compensation policies and practices in a manner that does not create incentives that are likely to lead to excessive risk taking that would have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Table of Contents**STOCK OWNERSHIP INFORMATION****Stock Ownership of Arbitron's Directors and Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, as of April 5, 2012, by (i) each nominee for election as a director, (ii) each person who served as a director during 2011, (iii) the NEOs, and (iv) our directors, nominees, and executive officers as a group. Each person has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares beneficially owned by that person, except as otherwise indicated. The percentages below are based on the number of shares of our common stock issued and outstanding as of April 5, 2012.

Name of Individual or Identity of Group	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership		Other(3)		
	Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned(1)	Percent of Shares of Common Stock Owned(2)	Deferred Stock Units	Dividend Equivalents	Total
Directors:					
Shellye L. Archambeau(4)(5)	58,847	*	3,509	170	62,526
David W. Devonshire(4)(5)	38,341	*	3,102	92	41,535
John A. Dimling(5)	245	*	6,860	189	7,294
Erica Farber(4)	49,114	*	2,320	81	51,515
Ronald G. Garriques		*			
Philip Guarascio(4)(5)	81,057	*	3,102	219	84,378
William T. Kerr(4)(5)	232,901	*			232,901
Larry E. Kittelberger(4)(5)	80,140	*	8,118	520	88,778
Luis G. Nogales(4)(5)	71,359	*	3,102	286	74,747
Richard A. Post(4)(5)	103,058	*	6,162	323	109,543
Named Executive Officers:					
Sean R. Creamer(4)	253,540	*			253,540
Richard J. Surratt(4)	5,377	*			5,377
Gregg Lindner(4)	7,290	*			7,290
Timothy T. Smith(4)	137,808	*			137,808
Carol Hanley(4)	40,771	*			40,771
All Executive Officers and Directors as a Group (18 persons)(4)(5)	1,329,598	4.76%			

* Represents less than 1%.

- (1) In accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act, a person is deemed to be a beneficial owner of a security if he or she has or shares the power to vote or direct the voting of such security or the power to dispose or direct the disposition of such security. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities of which that person has the right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days after April 5, 2012. More than one person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of the same securities.
- (2) For the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of each beneficial owner, any securities that were not outstanding but that were subject to options, warrants, rights or conversion privileges held by such beneficial owner exercisable within 60 days after April 5, 2012, were deemed to be outstanding in determining the percentage owned by such person, but were deemed not to be outstanding in determining the percentage owned by any other person.
- (3) While the amounts in the Other columns for deferred stock units and dividend equivalent units do not represent a right of the holder to acquire beneficial ownership of our common stock within 60 days after April 5, 2012, we disclose these amounts because we believe they

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

further our goal of aligning director and stockholder interests. The deferred stock units and dividend equivalents in the Other column will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012 but do not convert into shares of common stock sooner than six

Table of Contents

months following termination of service as a director. This vesting schedule has applied to all director deferred stock units and corresponding dividend equivalents issued from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011. The value of deferred stock units fluctuates based on changes in Arbitron's stock price. Similarly, the value of dividend equivalent units fluctuates based on changes in Arbitron's stock price.

- (4) Includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Ms. Archambeau to purchase 55,756 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Devonshire to purchase 38,324 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Ms. Farber to purchase 45,988 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Guarascio to purchase 74,979 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Kerr to purchase 117,328 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Kittelberger to purchase 64,415 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Nogales to purchase 63,575 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Post to purchase 93,766 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Creamer to purchase 180,724 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Surratt to purchase 3,220 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Smith to purchase 100,903 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Mr. Lindner to purchase 3,890 shares of common stock; includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for Ms. Hanley to purchase 40,742 shares of common stock; and, includes options exercisable within 60 days from April 5, 2012 for all executive officers and directors as a group to purchase 1,024,031 shares of common stock.
- (5) Includes 3,091 DSUs for Ms. Archambeau, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; includes 17 DSUs for Mr. Devonshire, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; includes 32 DSUs for Mr. Dimling, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; includes 20 DSUs for Ms. Farber, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; includes 5,078 DSUs for Mr. Guarascio, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; includes 114,024 DSUs for Mr. Kerr, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service or are subject to accelerated vesting terms upon retirement in accordance with the terms of his executive employment agreement; includes 15,725 DSUs for Mr. Kittelberger, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; includes 7,784 DSUs for Mr. Nogales, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director; and includes 8,292 DSUs for Mr. Post, which will be fully vested within 60 days of April 5, 2012, and convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following termination of service as a director.

Table of Contents**Stock Ownership of Arbitron's Principal Stockholders**

The following table sets forth the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by each person known to us to beneficially own more than 5% of our outstanding common stock. This information is based solely upon the beneficial ownership of these persons as reported to us as of the date of the most recent Schedule 13D or 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on behalf of such persons. Each person or entity has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares beneficially owned by that person or entity, except as otherwise indicated. The percentages below are based on the number of shares of our common stock issued and outstanding as of April 5, 2012.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Common Stock Owned
Wellington Management Company, LLP 280 Congress Street Boston, Massachusetts 02210	3,786,829(1)	14.2%
Abrams Capital Management, L.P. Abrams Capital Partners II, L.P. Abrams Capital, LLC Abrams Capital Management, LLC Abrams Capital Management, L.P. David C. Abrams 222 Berkley Street, 22(nd) Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02116	2,943,558(2)	11.0%
BlackRock, Inc. BlackRock Japan Co. Ltd. BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A. BlackRock Fund Advisors BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited		
BlackRock Asset Management Australia Limited BlackRock Advisors, LLC BlackRock Asset Management Ireland Limited BlackRock International Limited 142 West 57(th) Street New York, New York 10019	2,087,975(3)	7.8%
Wellington Trust Company, NA, 280 Congress Street Boston, Massachusetts 02210	1,764,140(1)(4)	6.6%
The Vanguard Group, Inc. Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company 100 Vanguard Blvd., Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355	1,459,156(5)	5.5%

- (1) As reported on Schedule 13G/A filed on February 14, 2012. According to the Schedule 13G/A, Wellington Management Company, LLP represents 3,786,829 common shares which it was deemed to beneficially own as a result of acting as investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E) of the Exchange Act, and Wellington Management Company, LLP has shared voting power with respect to 3,278,869 common shares and shared dispositive power with respect to 3,786,829 common shares. According to the Schedule 13G/A, The

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

securities as to which the Schedule 13G/A is filed by Wellington Management, in its capacity as investment adviser, are owned of record by clients of Wellington Management. Those clients have the right to receive, or the power to direct the receipt of, dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, such securities. No such client is known to have such right or power with respect to more than five percent of this class of securities, except as follows: Wellington Trust Company, NA.

Table of Contents

- (2) As reported on Schedule 13G/A filed on February 10, 2012. According to the Schedule 13G/A, (a) Abrams Capital Partners II, L.P. has shared voting and dispositive power with respect to 2,279,667 common shares, (b) Abrams Capital, LLC has shared voting and dispositive power with respect to 2,755,912 common shares, and (c) Abrams Capital Management, LLC, Abrams Capital Management, L.P. and David Abrams each have shared voting and dispositive power with respect to 2,943,558 common shares. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that shares reported herein for Abrams Capital Partners II, L.P. (ACP II) represent shares beneficially owned by ACP II. Shares reported herein for Abrams Capital, LLC (Abrams Capital) represent shares beneficially owned by ACP II and other private investment funds for which Abrams Capital serves as general partner. Shares reported herein for Abrams Capital Management, L.P. (Abrams CM LP) and Abrams Capital Management, LLC (Abrams CM LLC) represent the above-referenced shares beneficially owned by Abrams Capital and shares beneficially owned by another private investment fund for which Abrams CM LP serves as investment manager. Abrams CM LLC is the general partner of Abrams CM LP. Shares reported herein for Mr. Abrams represent the above referenced shares reported for Abrams Capital and Abrams CM LLC. Mr. Abrams is the managing member of Abrams Capital and Abrams CM LLC. Each of the Reporting Persons disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares reported herein except to the extent of its or his pecuniary interest therein.
- (3) As reported on a Schedule 13G/A filed on February 13, 2012. BlackRock, Inc. on its own behalf and on behalf of any subsidiaries listed in the Schedule 13G/A indicated it had sole voting and dispositive power for all 2,087,975 shares.
- (4) As reported on Schedule 13G filed on February 14, 2012. According to the Schedule 13G, The Wellington Trust Company, NA has shared voting and dispositive power with respect to 1,764,140 common shares.
- (5) As reported on Schedule 13G filed on February 8, 2012. According to the Schedule 13G, The Vanguard Group, Inc. has sole voting power with respect to 37,703 shares. The Vanguard Group, Inc. has shared dispositive power with respect to 37,703 common shares and sole dispositive power for 1,421,453 shares. Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Vanguard Group, Inc., is the beneficial owner of 37,703 shares.

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

Review and Approval of Related Person Transactions. The Board of Directors has adopted a written Policy and Procedures with Respect to Related Person Transactions (the Policy), which is administered by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviews all relationships and transactions in which the Company and our directors and executive officers or their immediate family members are participants to determine whether such persons have a direct or indirect material interest. Our legal staff is primarily responsible for the implementation of processes and controls to obtain information from the directors and executive officers with respect to related person transactions and for then determining, based on the facts and circumstances, whether we or a related person has a direct or indirect material interest in the transaction. As required under SEC rules, transactions that are determined to be directly or indirectly material to the Company or a related person are disclosed in our proxy statement. In addition, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviews and approves or ratifies any related person transaction that is required to be disclosed. It is our policy to enter into or ratify disclosable related person transactions only when the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee determines that the related person transaction in question is in, or is not inconsistent with, the best interests of the Company and our stockholders. In the course of its review and approval or ratification of a disclosable related party transaction, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers:

the benefits to the Company;

the impact on a director's independence in the event the related person is a director, an immediate family member of a director or an entity in which a director is a partner, stockholder or executive officer;

the availability of other sources for comparable products or services;

the terms of the transaction;

the terms available to unrelated third parties or to employees generally; and

any other matters the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee deems appropriate.

Table of Contents

Any member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee who is a related person with respect to a transaction under review may not participate in the deliberations or vote to approve or ratify the transaction; provided, however, that such director may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee at which the transaction is considered.

Effective January 1, 2012, Ms. Farber became an Executive Vice President of the Radio Advertising Bureau. Arbitron made payments to the Radio Advisory Bureau approximately in the following amounts: (i) January 1, 2011 – November 11, 2011 – \$215,000; (ii) fiscal 2010 – \$225,000; and (iii) fiscal 2009 – \$237,000. The Board determined that Ms. Farber’s continued service as a member of the Board while employed as an executive officer of the Radio Advertising Bureau is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders because it will allow Ms. Farber to provide the Board with a unique perspective and deeper insight on issues of importance to many of the Company’s customers and the radio industry generally.

Other than as described with respect to Ms. Farber, we have not entered into any related person transactions that meet the requirements for disclosure in this proxy statement.

ADVISORY APPROVAL OF THE COMPANY’S EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

(Proposal 2)

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, or the Dodd-Frank Act, added Section 14A to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act), which enables our stockholders to vote to approve, on an advisory (nonbinding) basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the SEC’s rules.

As described in detail under the heading Executive Compensation and Other Information – Compensation Discussion and Analysis, our executive compensation programs are designed to attract, motivate, and retain our named executive officers, who are critical to our success. Under these programs, our named executive officers are rewarded for the achievement of specific annual, long-term and strategic goals, corporate goals, and the realization of increased stockholder value. Please read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 21 for additional details about our executive compensation programs, including information about the fiscal year 2011 compensation of our named executive officers.

The Compensation Committee continually reviews the compensation programs for our named executive officers to ensure they achieve the desired goals of aligning our executive compensation structure with our stockholders’ interests and current market practices.

We are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for our named executive officer compensation as described in this proxy statement. This proposal, commonly known as a say-on-pay proposal, gives our stockholders the opportunity to express their views on our named executive officers’ compensation. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement. Accordingly, we will ask our stockholders to vote FOR the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the Company’s stockholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company’s Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the 2011 Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and disclosure.

The say-on-pay vote is advisory, and therefore not binding on the Company, the Compensation Committee or our Board of Directors. Our Board of Directors and our Compensation Committee value the opinions of our stockholders and to the extent there is any significant vote against the named executive officer compensation as disclosed in this proxy statement, we will consider our stockholders’ concerns and the Compensation Committee will evaluate whether any actions are necessary to address those concerns.

We have determined that our stockholders should cast an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers on an annual basis. Unless this policy changes, the next advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers will be at the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders.

Table of Contents**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AS DISCLOSED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT, PURSUANT TO THE COMPENSATION DISCLOSURE RULES OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.****RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT****REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM****(Proposal 3)**

We are asking the stockholders to ratify the Audit Committee's appointment of KPMG LLP to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2012. In the event the stockholders fail to ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will reconsider this appointment. Even if the appointment is ratified, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if the Audit Committee determines that such a change would be in Arbitron's and its stockholders' best interests.

KPMG has audited our consolidated financial statements annually since 2001. Representatives of KPMG are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting to respond to appropriate questions. They also will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so.

The affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting is necessary to approve Proposal 3, the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on Proposal 3. The persons named in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote such proxies to ratify the appointment of KPMG unless a contrary choice is indicated.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF KPMG LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012.**AUDIT FEES AND PREAPPROVAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has selected KPMG LLP, our current independent registered public accounting firm, to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2011.

The Board of Directors has requested that representatives of KPMG LLP attend the Annual Meeting, and they are expected to attend. These representatives will have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so, and will be available to respond to stockholder questions.

The following table sets forth the aggregate fees billed to Arbitron for services rendered during, or in connection with, the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, and 2010, by KPMG LLP:

	2011	2010
Audit Fees(1)	\$ 508,000	\$ 480,000
Audit-Related Fees		
Benefit Plan Audits	35,000	34,000
Diligence	53,000	
Total Audit-Related Fees	88,000	34,000
Tax Fees	9,000	3,000
All Other Fees		
Technical Research	6,000	
Continuing Education Seminars	3,000	1,000

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Total All Other Fees	9,000	1,000
Total Fees to Independent Auditors	\$ 614,000	\$ 518,000

Table of Contents

- (1) Audit fees include costs associated with the audit of our financial statements included in our annual report on Form 10-K, the review of financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, the annual audit of our internal control over financial reporting, two foreign statutory audits and consents provided with certain Form S-8 filings.

The Audit Committee, in accordance with the preapproval policies and procedures described below, approved all of the services described in the table above.

Preapproval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee's policy is to specifically review and preapprove any engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm to provide any audit or permissible nonaudit service to Arbitron. In the event that preapproval is required prior to a scheduled meeting, the Audit Committee has delegated authority to its Chairman to specifically preapprove engagements for the performance of nonaudit services, provided that the estimated cost for such services is less than \$25,000. If the Chairman is not available, another member of the Audit Committee may preapprove such nonaudit service engagement. All decisions made under this delegation of authority are required to be reported to the full Audit Committee for ratification at its next scheduled meeting.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The role of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board of Directors in its oversight of the Company's financial reporting process. Management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the systems of internal controls. The Company's independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the Company's financial statements and expressing an opinion as to their conformity to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for fiscal year 2011 with the Company's management and has discussed these financial statements with KPMG LLP, the Company's registered independent public accounting firm. The Audit Committee has also discussed with KPMG LLP the matters required to be discussed by the statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards, Vol. 1. AU section 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. The Audit Committee received the written disclosures and the letter from KPMG required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding KPMG's communications with the audit committee concerning independence, and has discussed with KPMG its independence. In addition, the Audit Committee has considered whether the provision of nonaudit services, and the fees charged for such nonaudit services, by KPMG LLP are compatible with maintaining the independence of KPMG LLP from the Company, and determined that they are compatible with independence.

The Audit Committee discussed with the Company's internal and independent accountants the overall scope and plans for their respective audits. The Audit Committee meets with the internal auditors and independent accountants, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examinations, their evaluations of the Company's internal controls and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting. In addition, the Audit Committee met with the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Accounting Services and Treasury of the Company to discuss the processes they have undertaken to evaluate the accuracy and fair presentation of the Company's financial statements and the effectiveness of the Company's system of disclosure controls and procedures.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above and based on the foregoing, the Audit Committee recommended to the Company's Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements for fiscal year 2011 be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Submitted by the Audit Committee of the Board of

Directors

Richard A. Post, Chair

Shellye L. Archambeau

David W. Devonshire

Table of Contents

OTHER MATTERS

Arbitron Mailing Address

Our current mailing address is 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

Multiple Stockholders Sharing the Same Address

We are sending only one annual report and proxy statement or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials to stockholders who share a single address unless we received contrary instructions from any stockholder at that address. This practice, known as householding, is designed to reduce our printing and postage costs. However, if any stockholder residing at such an address wishes to receive a separate annual report, proxy statement, or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials in the future, they may telephone Arbitron's Treasury Manager at (410) 312-8278 or write to him at 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046. If you did not receive an individual copy of this proxy statement or our annual report or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and you wish to do so, we will send you a copy if you contact Arbitron's Treasury Manager in the same manner. In addition, if you are receiving multiple copies of our annual report and proxy statement or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, you can request householding by contacting Arbitron's Treasury Manager in the same manner.

Stockholder Proposals for Next Year's Annual Meeting

If you want us to consider including a stockholder proposal in next year's proxy statement, you must deliver such proposal *in writing* to Timothy T. Smith, Executive Vice President, Business Development and Strategy, Chief Legal Officer, and Secretary at 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046, no later than December 14, 2012.

Any other matters proposed to be submitted for consideration at next year's annual meeting of stockholders (other than a stockholder proposal included in our proxy materials pursuant to Rule 14a-8 of the rules promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) must be given in writing to our Corporate Secretary and received at our principal executive offices not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the date of the 2012 annual meeting of stockholders. The proposal must contain specific information required by our bylaws, which are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission and may be obtained from our Corporate Secretary upon written request. If a stockholder proposal is received before or after the range of dates specified above, our proxy materials for the next annual meeting of stockholders may confer discretionary authority to vote on such matter without any discussion of the matter in the proxy materials.

Director Nominations

In accordance with procedures and requirements set forth in Article II, Section 13 of our bylaws, stockholders may propose nominees for election to the Board of Directors only after providing timely written notice to the Corporate Secretary, as set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph above. The notice must set forth:

The nominee's name, age, business address and residence address;

The nominee's principal occupation or employment;

Number of shares of Arbitron common stock beneficially owned by the nominee;

Any other information concerning the nominee that would be required, under rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in a proxy statement soliciting proxies for the election of directors; and

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

Name and record address of, and number of shares of Arbitron common stock beneficially owned by, the stockholder making the nomination.

Proxy Solicitation

We have retained Okapi Partners LLC to assist with the solicitation of proxies for a fee not to exceed \$6,500, plus reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. We will pay all expenses of soliciting proxies for the 2011 Annual Meeting. In addition to solicitations by mail, we have made arrangements for brokers, custodians,

Table of Contents

nominees and other fiduciaries to send proxy materials to their principals and we will reimburse them for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in doing so. Certain of our employees, who will receive no additional compensation for their services, may also solicit proxies by telephone, telecopy, personal interview or other means.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires our directors, executive officers, and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities, to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of common stock and other equity securities of Arbitron with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the New York Stock Exchange. Such reporting persons are required by the Securities and Exchange Commission to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) reports they file.

To our knowledge, based solely upon a review of Section 16(a) reports furnished to us for 2011, and/or on written representations from certain reporting persons that no reports were required, we believe that our directors, executive officers and greater than 10% stockholders complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to them with respect to transactions during 2011.

Annual Report

A copy of our annual report for the year ended December 31, 2011 accompanies this proxy statement.

Arbitron has made previous filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Exchange Act that incorporate future filings, including this proxy statement, in whole or in part. However, the Report of the Compensation and Human Resources Committee and the Report of the Audit Committee shall not be incorporated by reference into any such filings.

Table of Contents

ARBITRON INC.
9705 PATUXENT WOODS DR.
COLUMBIA, MD 21046
ATTN: KENNETH PAQUIN

VOTE BY INTERNET - www.proxyvote.com

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an electronic voting instruction form.

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS

If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by our company in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via e-mail or the Internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

VOTE BY PHONE - 1-800-690-6903

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you call and then follow the instructions.

VOTE BY MAIL

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

For All **Withhold All** **For All Except** To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark **For All Except** and write the number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below.

The Board of Directors recommends you vote

FOR the following:

- 1. Election of Directors Nominees

.. ..

Edgar Filing: ARBITRON INC - Form DEF 14A

01 Shellye L. Archambeau 02 David W. Devonshire 03 John A. Dimling 04 Erica Farber 05 Ronald G. Garriques
 06 Philip Guarascio 07 William T. Kerr 08 Larry E. Kittelberger 09 Luis G. Nogales 10 Richard A. Post

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2. and 3.

For Against Abstain

2. To approve, on an advisory basis, the Company's executive compensation.

.. ..

3. To ratify the appointment by the Audit Committee of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year.

.. ..

NOTE: Such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appears(s) hereon. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners should each sign personally. All holders must sign. If a corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or partnership name, by authorized officer.

Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] Date

Signature (Joint Owners)

Date

Table of Contents

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting: The Notice & Proxy Statement, Annual Report is/are available at www.proxyvote.com.

ARBITRON INC.

This proxy is solicited by the board of directors

Annual meeting of Stockholders

5/22/2012 09:00:00

The undersigned hereby appoints Sean R. Creamer and Timothy T. Smith and either of them, as the proxies of the undersigned, with full power of substitution in each, to vote at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on May 22, 2012, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof all of the undersigned's shares of common stock of Arbitron Inc. held of record on March 30, 2012, in the manner indicated on the reverse side hereof. The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement.

Continued and to be signed on reverse side