# **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the registrant  $\boxtimes$ 

Filed by a party other than the registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary proxy statement 0
- Confidential, for use of the Commission only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) 0
- $\times$ Definitive proxy statement
- Definitive additional materials 0
- Soliciting material pursuant to section 240.14a-12 0

# JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Registrant

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

Payment of filing fee (Check the appropriate box):

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- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11. 0
  - Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: (1)
  - (2)Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
  - Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the (3) amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
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- 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 0 offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
  - Amount previously paid: (1)
  - Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.: (2)
  - Filing Party: (3)

(4)Date Filed:



JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 555 MAIN STREET RACINE, WISCONSIN 53403

January 10, 2020

Dear Fellow Stockholders:

You are cordially invited to join us for our 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be held at the Company's headquarters, located at 555 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin on Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., local time.

The Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the Proxy Statement that follow describe the business to be conducted at the annual meeting. Members of our Board of Directors and executive officer team will be present at the meeting and will be available to answer questions regarding the Company.

*Your vote is very important.* Whether or not you attend the meeting, we encourage you to submit your proxy through the Internet or by mail. This will ensure that your shares are represented at the meeting. Even if you submit a proxy, you may revoke it at any time before it is voted. If you attend the meeting and wish to vote in person, you will be able to do so even if you have previously submitted a proxy through the Internet or by mail.

We appreciate your continued support of our Company.

Sincerely

HELEN P. JOHNSON-LEIPOLD Chairman of the Board



JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 555 MAIN STREET RACINE, WISCONSIN 53403

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Date: February 27, 2020	Agenda:
Time:	(1) To elect nine directors to serve for the ensuing year.
10:00 a.m., local time	(2) To ratify the appointment of RSM US LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as auditors of the Company for its fiscal year ending
Place: Company's headquarters	October 2, 2020.
555 Main Street Racine, Wisconsin 53403	(3) To approve a non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation.
Record Date: December 20, 2019	(4) To consider and act upon a proposal to approve and adopt the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the "JOI 2020 LTIP").
	(5) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Shareholders of record at the close of business on Friday, December 20, 2019, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. Holders of Class A common stock, voting as a separate class, are entitled to elect three directors and holders of Class B common stock, voting as a separate class, are entitled to elect the remaining directors. The holders of Class A common stock and Class B common stock, voting together, as a single class, are entitled to vote on (1) the proposal to ratify the appointment of RSM US LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the 2020 fiscal year, (2) the non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation, and (3) the proposal to adopt and approve the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan. All shareholders of record are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting in person, please complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy in the accompanying self-addressed postage pre-paid envelope or complete your proxy by following the instructions supplied on the proxy card for voting by telephone or via the Internet (or, if your shares are held in "street name" by a broker, nominee, fiduciary or other custodian, follow the directions given by the broker, nominee, fiduciary or other custodian regarding how to instruct it to vote your shares) as soon as possible.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Secretary & General Counsel

Racine, Wisconsin January 10, 2020

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# **PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY**

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this proxy statement. This summary does not contain all the information you should consider, and you should read the entire proxy statement and our 2019 Annual Report carefully before voting.

### 2020 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Date and Time:	February 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., local time					
Place:	Company's Headquarters, 555 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53403					
Record Date:	December 20, 2019					

#### VOTING MATTERS AND BOARD RECOMMENDATION

Voting Matter		Board Recommendation	Page Number with More Information		
Proposal 1:	To elect nine directors to serve for the ensuing year.	FOR each nominee	<u>6</u>		
Proposal 2:	To ratify the appointment of RSM US LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as auditors of the Company for its fiscal year ending October 2, 2020.	FOR	<u>20</u>		
Proposal 3:	To approve a non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation.	FOR	<u>43</u>		
Proposal 4:	To consider and act upon a proposal to approve and adopt the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the "JOI 2020 LTIP").	FOR	<u>46</u>		

#### **DIRECTOR NOMINEES**

				Committee Memberships			ships
Nominee	Age	Director Since	Independent	Α	С	E	NCGC
Class A							
Terry E. London	70	1999	1	С	1		
John M. Fahey, Jr.	68	2001	✓		1		С
William ("Bill") D. Perez	72	2018	✓				
Class B							
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	63	1994				1	
Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.	78	1987	✓	1	С	1	1
Katherine Button Bell	61	2014	1		1		
Edward Stevens	51	2016	✓				1
Edward F. Lang	57	2006	✓	1			1
Richard ("Casey") Sheahan	64	2014	✓	1			1
A Audit Committee							

**C** Compensation Committee

E Executive Committee

NCGC Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee



## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE HIGHLIGHTS**

•	8 of 9 Director Nominees are Independent	•	Code of Ethics for Senior Officers		
•	Annual Election of All Directors	Non-Employee Directors Regularly Meet Without Management Present			
•	Annual Board and Committee Evaluations		Code of Conduct for Employees and Directors		
•	Oversight of Risk Management				

#### **2019 COMPENSATION**

#### SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus		Stock Awards	Ion-Equity Incentive Plan Inpensation	All Other mpensation	Total
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold,	2019	\$754,120	\$50,903	\$ 3	1,000,023	\$ 703,820	\$ 80,653	\$2,589,519
Chairman and Chief	2018	\$729,457	\$66,472	\$	700,029	\$ 1,077,006	\$ 86,737	\$2,659,701
Executive Officer	2017	\$704,323	\$80,821	\$	400,021	\$ 1,077,614	\$ 73,193	\$2,335,972
David W. Johnson,	2019	\$396,292	\$27,790	\$	349,958	\$ 226,025	\$ 42,209	\$1,042,274
Vice President and Chief	2018	\$384,043	\$23,763	\$	249,955	\$ 346,513	\$ 48,506	\$1,052,780
Financial Officer	2017	\$365,812	\$25,351	\$	140,038	\$ 342,034	\$ 36,023	\$ 909,258

For more information, visit page  $\underline{34}$ .



#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION HIGHLIGHTS**

- ✓ Members of Compensation Committee are independent
- ✓ Pay for performance
- No tax gross-up for compensation programs
- Clawback policy
- ✓ No employment agreements
- ✓ No severance or termination pay to named executive officers



#### JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 555 Main Street Racine, Wisconsin 53403

# PROXY STATEMENT For The 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders To Be Held On February 27, 2020

# Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the 2020 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on February 27, 2020:

#### The Notice of Annual Meeting, this Proxy Statement and the Accompanying Annual Report on Form 10-K are Available at <u>www.proxyvote.com</u>

This Proxy Statement, which is first being mailed on or about January 10, 2020, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on December 20, 2019, is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Johnson Outdoors Inc., (the "Company"), for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be used at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Company to be held on Thursday, **February 27, 2020** at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Company's headquarters, located at 555 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof (the "Annual Meeting").

You may vote in any of the following ways:

- 1) attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person by ballot;
- 2) complete the enclosed proxy card and then sign, date and return it in the postage pre-paid envelope provided; or
- 3) vote by telephone or the Internet by following the instructions supplied on the proxy card.

If you submit a proxy now, your right to vote at the Annual Meeting is not waived should you decide to attend and vote in person.

Shares represented by a properly executed proxy will be voted at the Annual Meeting and, when instructions have been given by the shareholder, will be voted in accordance with those instructions. If you submit a proxy without giving voting instructions, the persons named as proxies on the proxy card will vote your shares: (1) **FOR** the election of the directors named in this Proxy Statement, (2) **FOR** the ratification of RSM US LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending October 2, 2020, (3) **FOR** approval of the non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation, and (4) **FOR** the approval and adoption of the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the "JOI 2020 LTIP").

As of the date of this Proxy Statement, the Company does not expect any matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting other than the proposals set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. If any other matters properly come before the Annual Meeting, including, among other things, consideration of a motion to adjourn the meeting to another time or place, a properly executed proxy gives the persons named as proxies on the proxy card authority to vote on such matters. The individuals named and acting as proxies will have the authority to vote on those matters according to their best judgment to the same extent as the person delivering the proxy would be entitled to vote. If the Annual Meeting is adjourned or postponed, a proxy will remain valid and may be voted at the adjourned or postponed meeting.

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is actually voted by giving written notice to the Secretary of the Company, requesting a ballot at the Annual Meeting and voting in person or by submitting a duly executed proxy bearing a later date. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy. If you have given voting instructions to a broker, nominee, fiduciary or other custodian that holds your shares in "street name," you may revoke those instructions by following the directions given by the broker, nominee, fiduciary or other



custodian. If a shareholder properly signs and returns the proxy card but does not specify how to vote, then the shareholder's shares will be voted **FOR** the election of the directors listed in the enclosed proxy, **FOR** the ratification of RSM US LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the 2020 fiscal year, **FOR** approval of the non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation, and **FOR** the approval and adoption of the JOI 2020 LTIP.

Telephone and Internet voting procedures are designed to authenticate shareholders' identities, to allow shareholders to give their voting instructions and to confirm that shareholders' instructions have been properly recorded. Shareholders voting via the Internet should understand that there might be costs associated with electronic access, such as usage charges from Internet access providers and telephone companies that the shareholder must bear.

The record date for shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting is December 20, 2019. On the record date, the Company had outstanding and entitled to vote 8,858,611 shares of Class A common stock and 1,211,602 shares of Class B common stock. A majority of the votes entitled to be cast at the Annual Meeting, represented either in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum with respect to the meeting. Holders of Class A common stock, voting as a separate class, elect three directors and are entitled to one vote per share for directors designated to be elected by holders of Class A common stock. Holders of Class B common stock elect the remaining directors and are entitled to one vote per share for directors designated to be elected by holders of Class B common stock. Holders of Class A common stock and Class B common stock voting together as a single voting group are entitled to vote on the proposal to ratify RSM US LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the 2020 fiscal year, to vote to approve the non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation, and to vote to approve and adopt the JOI 2020 LTIP. The holders of Class A common stock are entitled to one vote per share, while holders of Class B common stock are entitled to ten votes per share on these three proposals. Approval of any other matter not specified in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders that may properly be presented at the Annual Meeting will require that the number of votes properly cast in favor of such matter exceed the number of votes properly cast against such matter, with the holders of the Class A common stock entitled to one vote per share and the holders of Class B common stock entitled to ten votes per share. Abstentions and broker non-votes (i.e., shares held by brokers in "street name," voting on certain matters due to discretionary authority or instructions from the beneficial owners but not voting on other matters due to lack of authority to vote on such matters without instructions from the beneficial owner) will count toward the quorum requirement but will not count toward the determination of whether the directors are elected or whether such other matters are approved. The Inspector of Election appointed by our Board of Directors will count the votes and ballots.

Notice: The Annual Report to Shareholders, which contains certain additional information about the Company not required to be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, is available this year to shareholders at https://www.johnsonoutdoors.com/annual-report, 24 hours a day and free of charge. The Company is not including the information contained on or available through its website as part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this Proxy Statement.



# **PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Nine directors are to be elected at the Annual Meeting to serve until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until their respective successors have been duly elected. The Company's Articles of Incorporation provide that holders of the Company's Class A common stock have the right to elect 25 percent, or the next highest whole number, of the authorized number of directors and the holders of the Company's Class B common stock are entitled to elect the remaining directors. At the Annual Meeting, holders of Class A common stock will be entitled to elect three directors and holders of Class B common stock will be entitled to elect six directors. Terry E. London, John M. Fahey, Jr., and William ("Bill") D. Perez (the "Class A Directors") are the Board nominees designated to be voted on by the holders of Class A common stock, and Helen P. Johnson-Leipold, Thomas F. Pyle, Jr., Katherine Button Bell, Edward F. Lang, Richard ("Casey") Sheahan, and Edward Stevens (the "Class B Directors") are the Board nominees designated to be voted on by the holders or by the holders of Class B common stock. As indicated below, the individuals nominated by our Board of Directors are all incumbent directors.

Properly completed proxies (whether by Internet, telephone or mail) received from holders of Class A common stock will, unless otherwise directed, be voted for the three nominee Class A Directors and properly completed proxies (whether by Internet, telephone or mail) received from holders of Class B common stock will, unless otherwise directed, be voted for the six nominee Class B Directors. Proxies of holders of Class A common stock cannot be voted for more than three persons and proxies of holders of Class B common stock cannot be voted for more than six persons. Class A Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of Class B common stock, in each case assuming a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting. "Plurality" means that the individuals who receive the largest number of votes cast by holders of the class of common stock entitled to vote in the election of such directors are elected as directors up to the maximum number of directors to be chosen at the Annual Meeting by such class. Consequently, the nine directors receiving the most votes, taking into account the Company's two class voting structure, will be elected to the Board of Directors.

#### **Director Qualifications**

The following table provides information as of the date of this Proxy Statement about each nominee for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. The Company anticipates the nominees for election as directors will be candidates when the election is held. However, if any of the nominees should be unable or unwilling to serve, the proxies, pursuant to the authority granted to them by the Board of Directors and taking into account our two class voting structure, will have discretionary authority to select and vote for substituted nominees (except where the proxy withholds authority with respect to the election of directors). The information presented includes information each nominee or director has given the Company about his or her age, his or her principal occupation and business experience for at least the past five years, and the names of other publicly-held companies of which he or she currently serves as a director or has served as a director during the past five years. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee regularly evaluates the mix of experience, qualifications, attributes and skills of the Company's directors using a matrix of areas that the Committee considers important for the Company's business and its strategic objectives. In addition to the information presented below regarding the nominee's specific experience, gualifications, attributes and skills that led the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee to the conclusion that the nominee should serve as a director, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also considered the qualifications and criteria described below under "Corporate Governance Matters - Director Nominations" with the objective of creating a complementary mix of directors.



#### Class A Directors Terry E. London

Age: 70 Director Since: 1999

#### John M. Fahey, Jr.



Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of Pier 1 Imports, Inc., from January 1, 2017 to May 1, 2017. Mr. London has also served as the non-executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pier 1 since June, 2012 and has been a director since 2003. Retired as Chairman of London Broadcasting Company LP, a television broadcasting and media company in June 2015; also served as its President and Chief Executive Officer from 2007 through 2015. Served as Chairman of LBK Entertainment Holdings, Inc., a company that creates and produces entertainment programming and live events, from 2014 until his resignation in June 2015 and previously served as its President and Chief Executive Officer from 2004 through 2014. Mr. London brings extensive experience in management, corporate transactions and integration and enterprise risk management from his tenure as a President and Chief Executive Officer of various companies. In addition, Mr. London's experience in entertainment and media content production includes long-running programming for the outdoor industry, with which he has been involved professionally for more than two decades. Mr. London is a CPA and is experience led to the conclusion that he should serve as a director of Johnson Outdoors.

Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Time Inc., from June 28, 2017 to April 2018, previously serving as Lead Independent Director. Retired as Chairman of the National Geographic Society, a nonprofit scientific and educational organization, in 2016; served as its CEO from 1998 through 2013. President of the National Geographic Society from 1998 to December 2010. Regent of the Smithsonian Institution and Director of Lindblad Expeditions Holdings. The skills and experience acquired by Mr. Fahey through these positions, which led to the conclusion that he should serve as a director, include leadership, strategic planning, international business, corporate transactions and enterprise risk management, together with familiarity with several of the Company's markets and industries.

#### Age: 68 Director Since: 2001

#### William ("Bill") D. Perez



Age: 72 Director Since: 2018



Founder of FamGen, a professional services firm specializing in consulting for family owned businesses on all matters from strategy and planning to growth and global expansion. Mr. Perez was formerly with Greenhill & Co. Inc., an investment banking firm, after serving as a Senior Advisor for seven years. He retired as President and Chief Executive Officer for the Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company in December 2008. Before joining the Wrigley Company, he served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Nike, Inc. And, prior to that, Mr. Perez spent 34 years with S.C. Johnson, including eight years as President and Chief Executive Officer. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Johnson & Johnson, and Whirlpool Corporation. In addition, he is a Presidential Counselor at Cornell University and a Member of the Director's Circle for The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Mr. Perez's experience provides him with an extensive background in corporate transactions, international business, operations and manufacturing, financial matters, strategic planning, and brand marketing, all of which led to the conclusion that he should serve as a director.

### **Class B Directors**

#### Helen P. Johnson-Leipold



Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since 1999. Chairman and Director of Johnson Bank and Johnson Financial Group, Inc., Director of S.C. Johnson, a global manufacturer of household consumer products. Chairman of The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread and its Board of Trustees. These experiences, along with 15 years in various executive positions at S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc. and 8 years at Foote, Cone & Belding Advertising, have provided Ms. Johnson-Leipold with extensive leadership and management experience; including, strategic planning, marketing, new product development, market research, operations, manufacturing, corporate communication, corporate transactions, international business, as well as a deep knowledge of the Company's industry, businesses and strategic evolution, all of which led to the determination that she is particularly qualified to serve as a director.

#### Age: 63 Director Since: 1994



Vice Chairman of the Board of the Company since 1997. Chairman of The Pyle Group, a financial services and investments firm, since 1996. Non-Executive Chairman of Uniek, Inc. since 1998. Director of Sub Zero Wolf, Inc. Emeritus Trustee, Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, Vice President and Trustee, University Research Park, Inc. and Trustee, Morgridge Institute for Research. These experiences, together with Mr. Pyle's previous experience as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, and principal owner of Rayovac Corporation (a manufacturer of batteries and lighting products), provide Mr. Pyle with an extensive background in corporate transactions, international business, operations and manufacturing, financial matters, strategic planning, enterprise risk management and brand marketing, all of which led to the conclusion that he should serve as a director.

#### Age: 78 Director Since: 1987

#### Katherine Button Bell



Age: 61 Director Since: 2014 Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of Emerson Electric Co. since 1999. In 2016, she was appointed to Emerson's Office of the Chief Executive. Past Director and member of the Compensation Committee of Sally Beauty Holdings. Director of the Board of Business Marketing Association from 2010 to 2017, Chairwoman for 2013 to 2014, and Vice Chairwoman from 2012 to 2013. Serves on the Foundation Board of St. Louis Children's Hospital. Ms. Button Bell previously served as President of Button Brand Development, a strategic marketing consulting firm, and held senior marketing positions at Converse Inc. and Wilson Sporting Goods. Ms. Button Bell's expertise in global marketing, digital strategy and market research, as well as her outdoor industry experience, led to the determination that she should serve as a director.

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#### **PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Edward Stevens**



Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Preciate, Inc., a software-based workplace recognition and feedback solution, since July 2017. Chairman of the Board for Demand Q, a software-based peak demand energy solution since March 2018. Strategic Board Advisor for KIBO Software, Inc., an eCommerce platform from November, 2016 to October, 2017, and Chief Operating Officer of KIBO from December 2015 to November 2016. Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Shopatron, a leading provider of cloud-based, eCommerce order management systems from 2001 to 2015. Mr. Stevens' extensive experience in digital strategy, ecommerce, and omni-channel distribution, along with his international business strategy skills, led to the determination that he should serve as a director.

Age: 51 Director Since: 2016

#### Edward F. Lang



Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the New Orleans Saints, a National Football League team, and the New Orleans Pelicans, a National Basketball Association team, since 2012. President of Business Operations and Alternate Governor of the Nashville Predators, a National Hockey League team, from 2007 to 2010. Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer of the Nashville Predators from 2004 until 2007 and Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Nashville Predators from 1997 until 2003. Mr. Lang has broad experience in financial matters, accounting and auditing from his activities as a chief financial officer, together with experience in corporate transactions, operations and enterprise risk management. Mr. Lang also has experience in leisure industries and consumer products. This broad financial and other business experience led to the conclusion that he should serve as a director.

#### Age: 57 Director Since: 2006

#### Richard ("Casey") Sheahan



Chief Executive Officer of Simms Fishing Products LLC, a company engaged in the manufacturing, marketing and sale of fishing related products for anglers to stay dry and protected from the elements, beginning on November 1, 2017. President of Keen Footwear, a company engaged in the business of the marketing, sale and distribution of footwear, from October 1, 2016 to October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. President and CEO of Patagonia, Inc. and Lost Arrow Corporation from 2005 to 2014. Director and member of the Executive Committee of the Outdoor Industry Association from 2009 to 2014. Mr. Sheahan previously held senior leadership and marketing positions at Kelty, Inc., Wolverine Worldwide, Inc., Merrell Outdoor Division and Nike, Inc., and served in a variety of senior positions with several outdoor-oriented publications. Mr. Sheahan's extensive experience in the outdoor industry, along with his skills in marketing, leadership and sustainable business practices led to the determination that he should serve as a director.

Age: 64 Director Since: 2014

#### **Board of Directors Recommendation**

The Company's Board of Directors recommends that shareholders vote "FOR" the election of each nominee listed above as a director of Johnson Outdoors Inc.



#### **Meetings and Attendance**

The Board of Directors has standing Executive, Audit, Compensation, and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees. During the year ended September 27, 2019 ("fiscal 2019"), there were 5 meetings of the Board of Directors, 6 meetings of the Audit Committee, 4 meetings of the Compensation Committee, 3 meetings of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and no meetings of the Executive Committee. Each director attended at least 75 percent of the aggregate number of (i) meetings of the Board of Directors held during the period for which he or she was a director during fiscal 2019 and (ii) meetings of the committees on which the director served during fiscal 2019.

Executive sessions or meetings of outside (non-management) directors without management present are held regularly for a general discussion of relevant subjects. In fiscal 2019, the outside directors met in executive session at least two times in accordance with the requirements of the NASDAQ Stock Market.

Name	Executive Committee	Audit Committee	Compensation Committee	Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
	Committee		Committee	Commutee
Terry E. London		G	-	
John M. Fahey, Jr.				G
William ("Bill") D. Perez				
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	•			
Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.	l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l	•	G	•
Katherine Button Bell				
Edward Stevens				
Edward F. Lang				
Richard ("Casey") Sheehan		•		

#### **Committees**

Executive Committee	Key Responsibilities
Committee Members	The Executive Committee assists the Board of Directors in developing and evaluating general corporate policies and objectives and in discharging the Board of Directors' responsibilities with respect to the management of the
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.	business and affairs of the Company when it is impracticable for the full Board to act. Present members of the Executive Committee are Ms. Johnson-Leipold and
Number of meetings in 2019: 0	Mr. Pyle.

JOHNSON

#### Audit Committee

#### **Committee Members**

Terry E. London C Thomas F. Pyle, Jr. Edward F. Lang Richard ("Casey") Sheahan

Number of meetings in 2019: 6

#### Key Responsibilities

The Audit Committee presently consists of Messrs. London (Chairman), Pyle, Lang and Sheahan. The Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities are to: (1) appoint the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and determine its compensation; (2) serve as an independent and objective party to monitor the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and the Company's financial reporting, disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls and procedures; (3) review, evaluate and oversee the audit efforts of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and internal auditors; (4) provide an open avenue of communication among the independent registered public accounting firm, management, the internal auditors and the Board of Directors; and (5) prepare the Audit Committee Report required to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement. The Audit Committee has the direct authority and responsibility to select, evaluate and, where appropriate, replace the independent registered public accounting firm, and is an "audit committee" for purposes of Section 3(a) (58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The Audit Committee's report required by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") appears beginning on page 18.

#### Key Responsibilities

Compensation Committee

#### **Committee Members**



Number of meetings in 2019: 4

The Compensation Committee presently consists of Messrs. Pyle (Chairman), Fahey, London and Ms. Button Bell. The Compensation Committee administers the Company's compensation programs and the compensation of the Company's directors, officers and, at the option of the Committee, other managerial personnel of the Company and its subsidiaries, including, without limitation, fixing the cash compensation of such persons, establishing and administering benefit plans for such persons and determining benefits thereunder. Generally, the Compensation Committee also administers all incentive compensation and equity-based plans, such as stock option, restricted stock and restricted stock unit plans (including the JOI 2020 LTIP if approved and adopted by the Company's shareholders at the Annual Meeting), in accordance with the terms of such plans, and approves awards under the incentive compensation and equity-based plans. The Compensation Committee also reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to the compensation of the Company's outside directors.

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### DIRECTORS' MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES

Nominating and Corporate	Key Responsibilities
Governance Committee	The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee presently consists of Messrs. Fahey (Chairman), Lang, Pyle, Sheahan and Stevens. The Nominating
Committee Members John M. Fahey, Jr. C. Edward F. Lang Thomas F. Pyle, Jr. Edward Stevens Richard ("Casey") Sheahan Number of meetings in 2019: <b>3</b>	and Corporate Governance Committee provides assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibilities by: (1) identifying individuals qualified to become directors and recommending to the Board of Directors candidates for all directorships to be filled by the Board of Directors or by the shareholders of the Company; (2) identifying directors qualified to serve on the committees established by the Board of Directors and recommending to the Board of Directors members for each committee to be filled by the Board of Directors; (3) reporting annually to the Board of Directors regarding the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's evaluation and assessment of the performance of the Board, and (4) taking a leadership role in shaping the corporate governance of the Company.

#### **Charters of Committees**

The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for each of its Committees which may be amended from time to time. The Company makes available copies of each of these charters on its website at www.johnsonoutdoors.com, 24 hours a day and free of charge. The Company is not including the information contained on or available through its website as part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this Proxy Statement.



The Company is committed to establishing and maintaining high standards of corporate governance, which are intended to serve the long-term interests of the Company and its shareholders. The Board of Directors has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines which the Company has published on its website at www.johnsonoutdoors.com.

#### **Director Independence**

The Board of Directors has determined that the Company is a "Controlled Company," as defined in NASDAQ Stock Market Listing Rule 5615(c)(1). The Board has based this determination on the fact that Helen P. Johnson-Leipold is deemed to be the beneficial owner of more than 50 percent of the voting power of the Company. The Company, therefore, is exempt from certain independence requirements of the NASDAQ Stock Market rules, including the requirement to maintain a majority of independent directors on the Company's Board of Directors and the requirement to maintain a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and a Compensation Committee composed entirely of independent directors. Notwithstanding such exemption, the Board of Directors has reviewed the independence of the nominees for election to the Board at the Annual Meeting under the applicable standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market. Based upon this review, of the nine nominees, the Board of Directors has determined that each of the following directors was independent under the NASDAQ listing standards:

Katherine Button Bell John M. Fahey, Jr. Edward F. Lang Terry E. London William ("Bill") D. Perez Thomas F. Pyle, Jr. Richard ("Casey") Sheahan Edward Stevens

The Board of Directors determined that Ms. Johnson-Leipold was not independent in accordance with the NASDAQ standards because she is an executive officer of the Company.

#### **Board Leadership Structure**

The Board of Directors determines whether it is appropriate to combine or separate the roles of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer depending on the Company's circumstances at the time. Ms. Johnson-Leipold currently serves as the Company's Chief Executive Officer and as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Ms. Johnson-Leipold possesses extensive experience in the industries in which the Company operates, and in-depth knowledge of the issues, opportunities and challenges the Company faces, and is thus best positioned to develop agendas and highlight issues that ensure that the Board of Directors' time and attention are focused on the most critical matters. In addition, the Board of Directors has determined that this leadership structure is optimal because it believes that having one leader serving as both the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer provides decisive, consistent and effective leadership, as well as clear accountability. Having one person serve as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer also enhances the Company's ability to communicate its message and strategy clearly and consistently to its shareholders, employees, and business partners, particularly during times of turbulent economic and industry conditions. Although the Company believes that the combination of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer roles is appropriate under current circumstances, it will continue to review this issue periodically to determine whether, based on the relevant facts and circumstances, separation of these offices would serve the Company's best interests and the best interests of its shareholders.

Thomas F. Pyle, Jr., the Company's Vice Chairman of the Board, serves as the Company's lead outside or independent director. In his capacity as lead outside or independent director, Mr. Pyle coordinates the activities



of the independent directors and serves as a liaison between the Chairman and the independent directors. Mr. Pyle also presides at the executive sessions of the independent directors and has the authority to call additional executive sessions or meetings of the independent directors.

#### The Board's Role in Risk Oversight

The Company has established a Risk Committee, which is primarily responsible for the Company's enterprise risk assessment and enterprise risk management policies. The Risk Committee is co-chaired by the Company's Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel and includes various other members of senior management. The role of the Board of Directors in the Company's risk oversight process includes receiving reports and presentations from the Risk Committee on areas of material risk to the Company, including operational, financial, legal and regulatory, strategic and reputational risks, and any measures taken to mitigate such risks. In addition, the Board of Directors regularly reviews and discusses areas of material risk at its meetings.

As noted above, the Company has established a Risk Committee, which is primarily responsible for the Company's enterprise risk assessment and overseeing enterprise risk management. Notwithstanding such delegation of responsibility by the Company's Board of Directors, the Board has reserved to the Company's Compensation Committee primary oversight responsibility to ensure that compensation programs and practices of the Company do not encourage unreasonable or excessive risk-taking and that any risks are subject to appropriate controls. As part of this process, the Company (with the oversight of the Compensation Committee) designs the Company's overall compensation programs and practices, including incentive compensation for both executives and non-executive employees, in a manner intended to support its strategic priorities and initiatives to enhance long-term sustainable value without encouraging unnecessary or unreasonable risk-taking. At the same time, the Company recognizes that its goals cannot be fully achieved while avoiding all risk. The Compensation Committee (along with assistance from management) periodically reviews the Company's compensation programs and practices in the context of its risk profile, together with its other risk mitigation and risk management programs, to ensure that these programs and practices work together for the long-term benefit of the Company and its shareholders. Based on its recently completed review of the Company's compensation programs, the Compensation Committee concluded that the Company's incentive compensation policies for both executive and non-executive employees have not materially and adversely affected the Company by encouraging unreasonable or excessive risk-taking in the recent past, are not likely to have a material adverse effect in the future and provide for multiple and reasonably effective safeguards to protect against unnecessary or unreasonable risk-taking.

#### **Director Nominations**

The Company has a standing Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Based upon the review described under "Corporate Governance Matters – Director Independence," the Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is independent under the applicable standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider director nominees recommended by shareholders. Recommendations for consideration by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee should be sent to the Secretary of the Company in writing, together with appropriate biographical information concerning each proposed nominee, including the following information: (1) the name, address (business and residence), date of birth and principal occupation or employment (present and for the past five years) of each person whom the shareholder proposes to be considered as a nominee; (2) the number of shares of the common stock (of each class) beneficially owned (as defined by section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) by each such proposed nominee; (3) any other information regarding such proposed nominee that would be required to be disclosed in a definitive proxy statement to shareholders prepared in connection with an election of directors pursuant to section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) by the shareholder making the recommendation and the number of shares of the common stock (regardless of class) beneficially owned (as defined by section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) by the shareholder making the recommendation and the number of shares of the common stock (regardless of class) beneficially owned (as defined by section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) by the shareholder making the recommendation and the number of shares of the common stock (regardless of class) beneficially owned (as defined by section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) by the shareholder making the recommendation. The Company may require any proposed nominee to furnish additional information as may be reasonably required to determine the



qualifications of such proposed nominee to serve as a director of the Company. The Company's Bylaws also set forth certain requirements for shareholders wishing to nominate director candidates directly for consideration by the shareholders. With respect to an election of directors to be held at an annual meeting, a shareholder must, among other things, give notice of intent to make such a nomination to the Secretary of the Company in advance of the meeting in compliance with the terms and within the time period specified in the Bylaws. Pursuant to these requirements, a shareholder must give a written notice of intent to the Secretary of the Company not earlier than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day and not later than the close of business on the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the first anniversary date of the preceding year's annual meeting; provided, however, that in the event that the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder must be so delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than the close of business of such annual meeting or, if the first public announcement of the date of such annual meeting, the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is first made by the Company.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider any nominee recommended by a shareholder in accordance with the preceding paragraph under the same criteria as any other potential nominee. In identifying and evaluating nominees for director, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors seeks to ensure that the Board of Directors possesses, in the aggregate, the strategic, managerial and financial skills and experience necessary to fulfill its duties and to achieve its objectives, and seeks to ensure that the Board of Directors is comprised of directors who have broad and diverse backgrounds, possessing knowledge in areas that are of importance to the Company. In addition, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes it is important that at least one director have the requisite experience and expertise to be designated as an "audit committee financial expert." The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee looks at each nominee on a case-by-case basis regardless of who recommended the nominee. In looking at the qualifications of each candidate to determine if their election would further the goals described above, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee takes into account all factors it considers appropriate, which may include strength of character, mature judgment, career specialization, relevant technical skills or financial acumen, diversity of viewpoint and industry knowledge. At a minimum, each director nominee must have displayed the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity, values and sound business judgment. In addition, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes that the following specific qualities and skills are necessary for all Company directors to possess:

- A director should be highly accomplished in his or her respective field, with superior credentials and recognition.
- A director should have expertise and experience relevant to the Company's business and strategic objectives, and be able to offer advice and guidance to the Chief Executive Officer based on that expertise and experience.
- A director must have time available to devote to activities of the Board of Directors and to enhance his or her knowledge of the Company's business.
- A director should have demonstrated the ability to work well with others. The Company does not have a formal
  policy for the consideration of diversity by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee in identifying
  nominees for director. Diversity is one of the factors the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
  may consider and in this respect diversity may include race, gender, national origin or other characteristics.

On August 27, 2019, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors the addition of a director retirement age of 75 to the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, excluding from such requirement directors who attained the age of 75 as of the 2019 Annual Shareholder meeting. On September 26, 2019, The Board of Directors approved and adopted this recommendation and accordingly, the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, which are posted on the Company's website located at www.johnsonoutdoors.com, now include a director retirement age of 75.



# Communications between Shareholders and the Board of Directors; Director Attendance at Annual Meetings

Shareholders may communicate with the Board of Directors by writing to the Board of Directors (or, at the shareholder's option, to a specific director) care of the Secretary of the Company at Johnson Outdoors Inc., 555 Main Street, Suite 342, Racine, Wisconsin 53403. Subject to the conditions described below, the Secretary will ensure that this communication (assuming it is properly addressed *to the Board of Directors* or *to a specific director*) is delivered to the Board of Directors or the specified director, as the case may be. Each such communication should indicate that the sender is a shareholder of the Company and that the sender is directing the communication to one or more individual directors or to the Board of Directors as a whole.

All communications will be compiled by the Company's Secretary and submitted to the Board of Directors or the individual directors on an as needed basis unless such communications are considered, in the reasonable judgment of the Secretary, to be improper for submission to the intended recipient(s). Examples of shareholder communications that would be considered improper for submission include, without limitation, customer complaints, solicitations, communications that do not relate directly or indirectly to the Company or its business or communications that relate to improper or irrelevant topics. The Secretary may also attempt to handle a communication directly where appropriate, such as where the communication is a request for information about the Company or where it is a stock-related matter.

Directors are encouraged to attend the Company's Annual Meeting of Shareholders. All of the incumbent directors who were serving as a director at the time of the meeting attended the Company's Annual Meeting of Shareholders that occurred on February 28, 2019.

# Employee Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics; Corporate Governance Guidelines; and Procedures for Reporting of Accounting Concerns

The Company has adopted an Employee Code of Business Conduct (the "Code of Conduct"). The Company requires all directors, officers and employees to adhere to the Code of Conduct in addressing legal and ethical issues encountered in conducting their work. The Code of Conduct requires the Company's directors, officers and employees to avoid conflicts of interest, comply with all applicable laws and other legal requirements, conduct business in an honest and ethical manner and otherwise act with integrity and in the Company's best interests. The Company has placed a copy of the Code of Conduct on its website located at <u>www.johnsonoutdoors.com</u>. In addition, all directors, officers and salaried employees are required to complete compliance training on the Code of Conduct and certain other subjects.

The Company also adopted a Code of Ethics for the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Financial and Accounting Officers (the "Code of Ethics"), which governs the conduct of the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and its other senior financial and accounting officers and executives. The Code of Ethics supplements the Code of Conduct and is intended to deter wrongdoing and to promote honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of conflicts of interest; provide full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in the Company's public documents; promote compliance with applicable laws and regulations; ensure the prompt reporting of violations of the Code of Ethics; and provide accountability for adherence to the Code of Ethics. The Company has placed a copy of the Code of Ethics on its website located at <u>www.johnsonoutdoors.com</u>. The Company intends to disclose any amendments to, or waivers from, the Code of Ethics on its corporate website.

In addition, the Company has adopted a set of Corporate Governance Guidelines (the "Corporate Governance Guidelines"). The Corporate Governance Guidelines have been established to assist the Board of Directors in the exercise of its responsibilities and to reflect the Board's commitment to monitoring the effectiveness of policy and decision making at both the Board and management levels. The Corporate Governance Guidelines address issues such as composition of the Board, director retirement requirements, independence criteria for Board members, Board leadership, evaluating performance of the Board, directors' responsibilities, the Board's relationship with senior management, Committee matters and director continuing education. The Company has placed a copy of the Corporate Governance Guidelines on its website located at <u>www.johnsonoutdoors.com</u>.



Further, the Company has established "whistle-blower procedures" which provide a process for the confidential and anonymous submission, receipt, retention and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters. These procedures provide protections to employees who report possible Company misconduct.

#### Assessing the Performance of the Board and Individual Directors

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for annually reporting to the Board of Directors regarding the Committee's assessment and evaluation of the performance of the Board as a whole. This report and assessment is discussed with the full Board and includes specific review of performance areas in which the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes a better contribution could be made. The purpose of this assessment and evaluation is to increase the effectiveness of the Board as a whole and not necessarily to focus on individual Board members.

#### **Hedging and Margin Account Policies**

The Company's stock trading policies prohibit directors and the Company's employees, including its executive officers, from (i) purchasing any financial instrument that is designed to hedge or offset any decrease in the market value of the Company's common stock, including zero-cost collars and forward sale contracts; (ii) engaging in short sales related to the Company's common stock; and (iii) maintaining margin accounts. All transactions in Johnson Outdoors securities by directors and executive officers must be pre-cleared with the Company's Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel.



#### **Audit Committee Report**

The Audit Committee is comprised of four members of the Company's Board of Directors. Based upon the review described under "Corporate Governance Matters – Director Independence," the Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is independent under the applicable standards and rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market and the rules of the SEC. The duties and responsibilities of the Company's Audit Committee are set forth in the Audit Committee Charter, which may be found on the Company's website at <u>www.johnsonoutdoors.com</u>.

In accordance with its written charter adopted by the Board of Directors, the Audit Committee has oversight responsibility for the quality and integrity of the financial reporting practices of the Company. While the Audit Committee has oversight responsibility, the primary responsibility for the Company's financial reporting, disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting and related internal controls and procedures rests with management, and the Company's independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the Company's financial statements. In discharging its oversight responsibility as to the audit process, the Audit Committee has:

- reviewed and discussed the Company's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2019 with the Company's management and with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm;
- discussed with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm the matters required to be discussed by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and the SEC;
- received and discussed with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm the written disclosures and the letter from the Company's independent registered public accounting firm required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent registered public accounting firm's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence; and
- discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm without management present the firm's independence.

Based upon the above-described review and discussions with management and the independent registered public accounting firm, the Audit Committee recommended to the Company's Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2019 for filing with the SEC.

#### The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors:

Terry E. London, Chairman Thomas F. Pyle, Jr. Edward F. Lang Richard ("Casey") Sheahan



#### **Audit Committee Financial Expert**

The Company's Board of Directors has determined that at least one of the members of the Audit Committee, Terry E. London, qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined by the rules of the SEC based on his work experience and education.

#### Fees of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The following table summarizes the fees the Company was billed for audit and non-audit services rendered by the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, RSM US LLP, related to fiscal years 2019 and 2018.

		RSM US LLP			
Service Type	20	19	2018		
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1,	058,000 \$	1,073,000		
All Other Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	\$	47,000 \$	36,000		
Total Fees Billed	\$ 1,	105,000 \$	1,109,000		

(1) Includes fees for: professional services rendered in connection with the audit of the Company's financial statements for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2019 and September 28, 2018; review of the financial statements included in each of the Company's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q during such fiscal years; and consents and assistance with documents filed by the Company with the SEC. These fees include the services provided by affiliate firms as part of the consolidated audit and for foreign statutory audits.

(2) All other fees relate to the financial statement audits of the Company's employee benefit plans.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company considered that the provision of the services and the payment of the fees described above are compatible with maintaining the independence of RSM US LLP.

The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and pre-approving any non-audit services to be performed by the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. These non-audit services are evaluated by the Audit Committee taking into account scope, fees, and applicable laws and regulations (including SEC rules) related to the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee has delegated its pre-approval authority to the Chairman of the Audit Committee to act between meetings of the Audit Committee for amounts up to \$50,000. Any pre-approval given by the Chairman of the Audit Committee pursuant to this delegation is presented to the full Audit Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Each new engagement of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm to perform non-audit services has been approved in advance by the Audit Committee or the Chairman of the Audit Committee pursuant to the foregoing procedures.



## PROPOSAL 2: RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Our Audit Committee has appointed RSM US LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm to audit the Company's consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ending October 2, 2020. Unless otherwise directed, proxies will be voted **FOR** the ratification of such appointment.

Although this appointment is not required to be submitted to a vote of shareholders, our Board of Directors believes it appropriate as a matter of policy to request that our shareholders ratify the appointment. If shareholder ratification is not received, the Board of Directors will reconsider the appointment, and may retain that firm or another firm without resubmitting the matter to the Company's shareholders. Even if the appointment is ratified, the Audit Committee may, in its discretion, direct the appointment of a different firm at any time during the fiscal year if it determines that such change would be in the Company's best interests.

It is expected that a representative of RSM US LLP will be present at the Annual Meeting, will have the opportunity to make a statement if he or she desires to do so and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

If a quorum exists, the approval of the ratification of RSM US LLP requires that the number of votes properly cast for this proposal exceed the number of votes properly cast against this proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not count toward the determination of whether this proposal is approved and will have no impact on the vote.

#### **Board of Directors Recommendation**

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm to audit the Company's consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ending October 2, 2020.



### TABLE OF CONTENTS STOCK OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS

The following table sets forth certain information as of September 27, 2019 regarding the beneficial ownership of each class of Company common stock by each director, each person known by the Company to own beneficially more than 5 percent of either class of the Company's common stock (including any "group" as set forth in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act), each of the officers named in the Summary Compensation Table in this Proxy Statement (the "named executive officers"), and all directors and current Section 16 executive officers as a group based upon information furnished by such persons or in information otherwise publicly available in filings with the SEC.

The Company has determined beneficial ownership in accordance with the rules of the SEC. Except as indicated in the footnotes, the persons listed below have sole voting and investment power over the shares beneficially owned. Shares of common stock subject to options that are either currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of September 27, 2019 or restricted stock units (with each unit representing one share of Class A common stock issuable on such vesting date) which are vested or which vest within 60 days of September 27, 2019 are treated as outstanding (but only to the extent the reporting person has not made an election to defer receipt of the underlying shares as of such vesting date) and beneficially owned by the holder for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of the holder. However, these shares are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person, except with respect to restricted stock units that have vested and been issued as shares of Class A common stock. The table lists applicable percentage ownership based on 8,834,169 shares of Class A common stock outstanding as of September 27, 2019 plus restricted stock units which vested within 60 days of that date and 1,211,602 shares of Class B common stock outstanding as of September 27, 2019.

	Class A Com	mon Stock <sup>(1)</sup>	Class B Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>			
Name and Address	Number of Shares	Percentage of Class Outstanding	Number of Shares	Percentage of Class Outstanding		
Johnson Bank 555 Main Street Racine, Wisconsin 53403	2,652,441(2)	30.0%	36,580 <sup>(2)</sup>	3.0%		
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold 555 Main Street Racine, Wisconsin 53403	1,509,983(3)	17.1%	1,168,366 <sup>(3)</sup>	96.4%		
Dr. H. Fisk Johnson 555 Main Street Racine, Wisconsin 53403	770,467 <sup>(4)</sup>	8.7%	—	—		
Winifred J. Marquart 555 Main Street Racine, WI 53403	470,786 <sup>(5)</sup>	5.3%	_	_		
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP Building One, 6300 Bee Cave Road Austin, Texas 78746	691,579(6)	7.8%	—	—		
David W. Johnson	13,963	*	_			
Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.	54,935(7)	*		_		
John M. Fahey, Jr.	23,651 <sup>(8)</sup>	*	_			
Terry E. London	21,685(9)	*				
Edward F. Lang	17,755(10)	*		_		
Katherine Button Bell	1,048(11)	*				
Richard ("Casey") Sheahan	2,327(12)	*				
Edward Stevens	1,048(13)	*	—	_		
William ("Bill") D. Perez	980(14)	*				
All directors and current executive officers as a group (10 persons)	1,647,375	18.6%	—	—		

\* The amount shown is less than 1 percent of the outstanding shares of such class.



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#### STOCK OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS

- (1) Shares of Class B common stock ("Class B Shares") are convertible on a share-for-share basis into shares of Class A common stock ("Class A Shares") at any time at the discretion of the holder thereof. As a result, a holder of Class B Shares is deemed to beneficially own an equal number of Class A Shares. However, in order to avoid overstatement of the aggregate beneficial ownership of Class A Shares and Class B Shares, the Class A Shares reported in the table does not include Class A Shares which may be acquired upon the conversion of Class B Shares.
- (2) Johnson Bank reports sole voting and investment power with respect to 491,398 Class A Shares and 21,772 Class B Shares, and shared voting and investment power with respect to 2,161,043 Class A Shares and 14,808 Class B Shares. Of the 2,161,043 Class A Shares for which Johnson Bank reports shared voting and investment power, Ms. Johnson-Leipold also reports beneficial ownership of 1,060,138 of these shares and Dr. Johnson also reports beneficial ownership of 572,827 of these shares. Ms. Johnson-Leipold is indirectly the controlling shareholder of Johnson Bank.
- (3) Ms. Johnson-Leipold reports sole voting and investment power with respect to 335,381 Class A Shares and shared voting and investment power with respect to 1,174,602 Class A Shares. Ms. Johnson-Leipold beneficially owns such Class A Shares indirectly as the settlor and beneficiary of a trust and through such trust as a general partner of certain limited partnerships controlled by certain members of Samuel C. Johnson's family or related entities (the "Johnson Family") and as a controlling shareholder, with trusts for the benefit of the Johnson Family, of certain corporations. Of the 1,174,602 Class A shares for which Ms. Johnson-Leipold reports shared voting and investment power, Johnson Bank also reports beneficial ownership of 1,060,138 of these shares and Dr. Johnson also reports beneficial ownership of 29,308 of these shares. Ms. Johnson-Leipold reports shared voting and investment power with respect to 1,168,366 Class B Shares directly held by the Johnson Outdoors Inc. Class B Common Stock Voting Trust, of which she is voting trustee. The 335,381 Class A Shares for which Ms. Johnson-Leipold reports sole voting and investment power include 65,613 shares of restricted stock previously awarded to Ms. Johnson-Leipold. 241,731 of the Class A shares for which Ms. Johnson-Leipold reports shared voting and investment power with Johnson Bank are pledged as collateral to secure a non-Johnson Outdoors business line of credit and a non-Johnson Outdoors business note.
- (4) Dr. Johnson reports shared voting and investment power with respect to 770,467 Class A Shares, which are held either by Dr. Johnson's revocable trusts or by certain partnerships or corporations in which Dr. Johnson or his revocable trust are general partners or shareholders. Of the 770,467 Class A Shares for which Dr. Johnson reports shared voting and investment power, Johnson Bank reports beneficial ownership of 572,827 of these shares and Ms. Johnson-Leipold also reports beneficial ownership of 29,308 of these shares.
- (5) Ms. Marquart reports shared voting and investment power with respect to 470,786 Class A Shares, which are held by (1) a trust of which Ms. Marquart serves as trustee and (2) entities of which Ms. Marquart serves as the manager and for which voting control is held by a trust of which she is the settlor. Of the Class A Shares for which Ms. Marquart reports shared voting and investment power, Johnson Bank also reports beneficial ownership of 379,530 of these shares.
- (6) The information is based on a Schedule 13G/A dated December 31, 2018 and filed on February 8, 2019 by Dimensional Fund Advisors LP ("Dimensional") reporting its beneficial ownership as of December 31, 2018. Dimensional is a registered investment adviser and reported sole voting power with respect to 671,702 of the reported shares and sole dispositive power with respect to all 691,579 of the reported shares. Dimensional disclaims beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares, which are owned by advisory clients of Dimensional.
- (7) Includes 1,048 unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested.
- (8) Includes 1,048 unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested. However, this does not include 4,429 shares related to vested restricted stock units for which an election has been made to defer receipt of underlying shares.
- (9) Includes 1,048 unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested. However, this does not include 8,405 shares related to vested restricted stock units for which an election has been made to defer receipt of underlying shares.
- (10) Includes 1,048 unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested. However, this does not include 7,085 shares related to vested restricted stock units for which and election has been made to defer receipt of underlying shares.
- (11) Includes 1,048 unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested. However, this does not include 6,853 shares related to vested restricted stock units for which an election has been made to defer receipt of underlying shares.
- (12) Includes 1,048 unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested. However, this does not include 1,140 shares related to vested restricted stock units for which an election has been made to defer receipt of underlying shares.
- (13) The 1,048 are unvested restricted shares that vest on March 1, 2020 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shares while they are unvested. However, this does not include 2,397 shares related to restricted stock units for which an election has been made to defer receipt of underlying shares.
- (14) Includes 980 unvested restricted shares that vest on December 4, 2019 and over which the director has voting power but may not transfer such restricted shared while they are unvested.

As of September 27, 2019, the Johnson Family beneficially owned 3,571,199 Class A Shares, or approximately 40.4% of the outstanding Class A Shares, and 1,204,946 Class B Shares, or approximately 99.5% of the outstanding Class B Shares.



# **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The following table provides information as of the date of this Proxy Statement about each of the Company's current executive officers who are not nominees for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. The information presented includes information each executive officer has given the Company about his or her age and his or her principal occupation and business experience for the past five years:

Name	Age	Current Position	Other Positions				
David W. Johnson	56	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company since November 2005.	From July 2005 to November 2005, Mr. Johnson served as Interim Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company. From December 2001 to July 2005, he served as Director of Operations Analysis of the Company. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Johnson was employed by Procter & Gamble in a series of finance positions with increasing responsibility. In July, 2016, Mr. Johnson was appointed to the Board of Directors of Twin Disc, Inc. and currently serves on the following three committees of the Board of Directors of Twin Disc, Inc.: (1) the Audit Committee (Chair), (2) the Nomination and Governance Committee, and (3) the Finance and Risk Management Committee.				

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#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### **Overview**

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis addresses the Company's compensation philosophy, objectives, process and actions specific to fiscal 2019, and the first part of fiscal 2020 prior to the date of this Proxy Statement, for the Company's current Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Throughout this Proxy Statement, these two executive officers are referred to as the "named executive officers." Ultimate responsibility for establishing, implementing and monitoring the total compensation of the named executive officers rests with the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. The named executive officers for fiscal 2019 were:

- Helen P. Johnson-Leipold, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer; and
- David W. Johnson, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

The compensation of these individuals is presented in the tables and other quantitative information that follows this section.

#### Our Compensation Philosophy

Johnson Outdoors believes it is important to provide compensation that at a minimum reflects base salary levels which are competitive with executive officers in other industry-related public companies of similar structure and size. The Company further believes that it is appropriate and desirable to have meaningful performance-based incentive plans for our named executive officers to help attract and retain high performing individuals and drive positive economic performance and enhanced shareholder value. Further, these incentive plans should constitute a meaningful portion of the total compensation opportunity for the Company's named executive officers, with a balanced focus on short and long-term performance. This philosophy is the foundation for the following objectives.

#### **Our Compensation Objectives**

The objectives of the Compensation Committee in establishing compensation arrangements for the Company's named executive officers are to:

- Attract, retain and motivate qualified executives who are important to the success of Johnson Outdoors with a straightforward, understandable compensation program;
- Provide strong financial incentives, at reasonable cost, for positive financial performance and enhanced value of a shareholders' investment in the Company; and
- Create compensation packages which provide strong incentives for long-term success and performance without encouraging unreasonable or excessive risk-taking.

The compensation program that has been developed and implemented by the Compensation Committee to achieve these objectives for the named executive officers has the following features:

- The compensation paid to our named executive officers on a yearly basis consists mainly of three components:

   base salary; 2) potential annual cash bonuses based on performance; and 3) equity-based compensation in
  the form of grants of performance-based restricted stock units which are tied to achieving certain financial
  objectives to be measured over a three-year performance period, and with the exception of the CEO, grants of
  shares of restricted stock with service-based vesting criteria.
- We provide our named executive officers with a modest level of "perquisites" or other benefits that are not available to all of our employees. "All Other Compensation" reported in the Summary Compensation Table in this Proxy Statement constituted less than 5% of "Total Compensation" for our named executive officers for fiscal 2019.



- Base salaries are based on a periodic review of comparable compensation levels in the market which we believe to be competitive and fair. See "Peer Group Benchmarking" below.
- Total compensation is higher for individuals with greater responsibility and a greater ability to influence company-wide performance. In addition, the compensation program is designed so that a significant portion of total potential compensation for our named executive officers is at risk, in that it is contingent on actual company and personal performance.
- The Johnson Outdoors Inc. Worldwide Key Executives Discretionary Bonus Plan (the "Cash Bonus Plan") provides for annual bonus payouts based on (1) achieving specific company-wide objective financial criteria, including minimum financial performance targets that must be met as a condition to payouts under the Plan, and (2) achieving individual performance objectives.
- The Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2010 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the "Stock Incentive Plan") and the JOI 2020 LTIP proposed to be adopted by our shareholders at the Annual Meeting each specifically prohibits discounted stock options.
- Johnson Outdoors does not currently provide our named executive officers with any supplemental executive retirement plan or similar benefits or any severance or other special benefits (other than certain vesting of equity compensation under the terms of the Stock Incentive Plan) triggered by a change of control.

The above noted compensation program features are described in detail in the following sections of this Compensation Discussion and Analysis, entitled "Our Compensation Process," "Peer Group Benchmarking," "Components of Executive Compensation" and "Change of Control and Severance Benefits."

At our 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, pursuant to a non-binding, advisory vote, shareholders approved the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in the Proxy Statement for the 2019 Annual Meeting by a vote of 19,548,570 shares in favor to 38,590 against (taking into account the fact that holders of Class B shares of common stock are entitled to 10 votes per share when voting together with holders of Class A shares of common stock). The Compensation Committee has reviewed and considered the results of this advisory shareholder vote and believes it shows support by the shareholders for the Company's compensation philosophy and the executive compensation programs that implement this compensation philosophy. The Company's Board of Directors has determined that shareholder advisory votes on executive compensation will occur on an annual basis. The rules of the SEC require that we submit to a vote of our shareholders once every six years a non-binding advisory proposal on the frequency of future shareholder advisory votes on executive compensation (called "Say on Pay" votes). At the 2017 Annual Meeting, a plurality of shareholders voted in favor of annual advisory votes on executive compensation.

As described above under the Section "Corporate Governance Matters - The Board's Role in Risk Oversight," the Compensation Committee has primary oversight responsibility to ensure that the Company's compensation programs and practices do not encourage unreasonable or excessive risk-taking and that any risks are subject to appropriate controls.

#### **Our Compensation Process**

Compensation for the Company's named executive officers and, at the option of the Compensation Committee, other officers and senior managers, is evaluated and determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee consists of four independent directors under the applicable standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market. Thomas F. Pyle, Jr. is the Chairman of the Compensation Committee and the other members of the Compensation Committee are Terry E. London, John M. Fahey, Jr. and Katherine Button Bell. Additional information regarding the Compensation Committee is disclosed under the section "Directors' Meetings and Committees – Compensation Committee" included elsewhere in this Proxy Statement.

The Compensation Committee views compensation as an ongoing process and may convene special meetings in addition to its regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year for purposes of evaluation, planning and appropriate action. Many key compensation decisions for a fiscal year are made during the fourth fiscal quarter of the prior fiscal year (typically in September) as the Compensation Committee sets certain compensation



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targets and objectives for the coming fiscal year or other performance period. Additional compensation decisions are made during the first quarter of the fiscal year as the Compensation Committee meets to review performance for the prior fiscal year and calculate and set target awards under the Cash Bonus Plan and Stock Incentive Plan (and going forward under the JOI 2020 LTIP if approved by the shareholders at the Annual Meeting) for the current fiscal year or other performance period. Finally, at the first quarterly meeting held after the fiscal year (typically in December of the following fiscal year), the Compensation Committee reviews performance for the prior fiscal year, and calculates and confirms bonus payouts, if any, under the Cash Bonus Plan with respect to the prior fiscal year, and calculates the number or amount of equity incentive compensation to be granted, if any, under the Stock Incentive Plan (and going forward under the JOI 2020 LTIP if approved by the shareholders at the Annual Meeting) with respect to the target awards for the prior fiscal year or other performance period. The Compensation Committee held four meetings during fiscal 2019, as well as a meeting held on December 4, 2019 (the first quarter of fiscal 2020) in part to review performance for fiscal 2019. The Compensation Committee typically holds an executive session without management present. The Compensation Committee receives and reviews materials in advance of each meeting, including materials that management believes will be helpful to the Committee as well as materials specifically requested by members of the Committee.

The Company's management assists the Compensation Committee in its oversight and determination of compensation. Management's role includes assisting the Compensation Committee with evaluating employee performance, assisting with establishing individual and company-wide performance targets and objectives, recommending salary levels and equity incentive grants, providing financial data on Company performance, providing calculations and reports on achievement of performance objectives and furnishing other information as requested by the Committee. The Company's Chief Executive Officer works with the Compensation Committee in making recommendations regarding overall compensation policies and plans as well as specific compensation levels for the Company's executive officers and other key employees, other than the Chief Executive Officer. Members of management who were present during Compensation Committee meetings held in fiscal 2019, and the first quarter of fiscal 2020, included the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Vice President – Human Resources, and Senior Managing Director, Legal Affairs. The Compensation Committee makes all decisions regarding the compensation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer without the Company's Chief Executive Officer or any other member of the Company's management present.

The Compensation Committee's Charter authorizes the Committee to engage any compensation consultants and other advisers as the Committee may deem appropriate, and requires that the Company provide the Committee with adequate funding to engage any compensation consultants or other advisers the Committee deems it appropriate to engage. During fiscal 2019, the Compensation Committee directly engaged Pearl Meyer, an independent compensation consultant, to assist the Company with reviewing its compensation practices and levels. Pearl Meyer did not provide any other services to the Company or its affiliates during fiscal 2019 or during fiscal 2020 to date and the Company's Compensation Committee determined that the engagement of Pearl Meyer to assist the Company with reviewing its compensation practices and levels did not create any conflicts of interest. See "Peer Group Benchmarking" below for additional information regarding this engagement.

#### Peer Group Benchmarking

As noted above, during fiscal 2019 (as well as in prior years) the Company engaged Pearl Meyer to prepare comparative compensation reports for the Compensation Committee to assist the Committee and the Company in setting compensation levels and targets for the named executive officers, directors and other members of senior management. The Pearl Meyer comparative compensation reviews were based upon publicly-disclosed data from a peer group described below, as well as general industry compensation survey data. Pearl Meyer's reports included detailed analysis showing how the Company's compensation elements for each of (a) the Company's named executive officers and senior management, including the base salary, short-term cash incentive compensation, equity incentive compensation levels, compared in each case to the peer group companies and general industry data included within the benchmark data. The comparative compensation reports also contained recommendations on the Company's compensation policies for both its named executive

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#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

officers and senior management and for its directors. Pearl Meyer also provided the Compensation Committee with detailed analysis on the Company's compensation programs in terms of design, metrics and time horizons for payouts (including long-term incentive vesting schedules) to evaluate how the Company's programs compare with (i) the peer group companies and general industry data included within the benchmark data and (ii) the consultant's assessment of best practices. Representatives of Pearl Meyer participated in person for two of the Compensation Committee's meetings during fiscal 2019 to describe and discuss the results of their analysis during such year. The Compensation Committee used the results of these reports and analysis in setting the compensation levels and target compensation awards, including performance- and service-based vesting criteria, where applicable, for the Company's named executive officers and directors for fiscal 2019 and 2020. See "Components of Executive Compensation" below for additional information.

The companies comprising the peer group in the 2019 Pearl Meyer comparative report were:

Peer Group for 2019 Compensation					
G-III Apparel Group, Ltd.	iRobot Corporation				
Deckers Outdoor Corp.	Twin Disc, Incorporated				
Callaway Golf Co.	Rocky Brands, Inc.				
Acushnet Holdings Corp.	Nautilus Inc.				
YETI Holdings Inc.	Clarus Corporation				
Vista Outdoor Inc.	Marine Products Corp.				
American Outdoor Brands Corporation	Escalade, Inc.				
Delta Apparel Inc.					

While the peer group companies do not necessarily compete in the Company's specific industry or industries, they generally have similar characteristics to Johnson Outdoors, including in terms of size and scale, a consumer discretionary product focus, the manufacturing of engineered products, and global operations.

#### **Components of Executive Compensation**

For our named executive officers, the primary components of total compensation for fiscal 2019 were:

- base salary;
- annual cash incentive compensation under the Cash Bonus Plan; and
- long-term incentive compensation in the form of equity awards granted under the Stock Incentive Plan.

The Compensation Committee evaluates targeted total compensation levels for the named executive officers as well as how each component fits within the targeted total compensation levels. This evaluation is guided by the compensation objectives described above. A large portion of potential compensation for the named executive officers is performance-based compensation, the Company combines annual cash incentives with long-term equity-based incentives. The cash incentives are tied to a combination of annual, company-wide measures of operating performance and individual performance goals. The long-term equity-based compensation for fiscal 2019 was split, for executives other than the CEO, between the issuance of shares of restricted stock tied to service-based vesting criteria and an award of performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain financial objectives and provide an incentive for long-term appreciation in our stock price, whereas the annual cash incentives promote short-term financial growth and achievement of individual performance goals over a single fiscal year.

*Base Salary*. Base salary is a key component of executive compensation. In determining base salaries, the Compensation Committee considers the named executive officer's qualifications and experience, responsibilities, past performance and goals and objectives, together with salary levels for comparable positions



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at peer group companies and other similarly sized companies nationally, as covered in the above-referenced Pearl Meyer comparative report. Base salaries of the named executive officers are reviewed annually by the Compensation Committee to determine whether any adjustments are necessary. Base salary levels for our named executive officers are generally positioned to be competitive with market, as described above.

Annual Cash Incentives. The named executive officers and other officers and senior managers determined by the Compensation Committee are eligible to receive annual cash incentives under the Cash Bonus Plan. While the Company principally relies on this Cash Bonus Plan for annual cash incentives, the Compensation Committee, on rare occasions, may decide to grant discretionary cash bonuses outside of this Plan based on special circumstances. Although no such discretionary bonuses were granted in fiscal 2019, as described below, our Compensation Committee determined to exclude the impact of recently enacted tariffs on Chinese origin goods and components when determining whether the Company wide financial targets under the Cash Bonus Plan were met with respect to our fiscal 2019 financial results.

The purpose of the Cash Bonus Plan is to drive continuous improvement year over year, enhance shareholder value and provide a framework for determining cash incentive compensation for our named executive officers and other officers and senior managers that financially rewards them for achieving various short-term Company and individual performance objectives. As such, the Cash Bonus Plan is generally comprised of the following two components:

- certain pre-determined Company financial performance goals ("Company financial component"); and
- individual pre-established objectives for a participant (the "individual objectives component").

The Company financial component promotes achieving Company-wide financial goals. For fiscal 2019, we used a target level of pre-tax income and achieving a specified level of working capital as a percentage of net sales as the Company financial component. The Compensation Committee's purpose in using various performance measures for the Cash Bonus Plan is to support the attainment of increased shareholder returns while being able to respond to changes both in our business and the overall economic environment each fiscal year. For fiscal 2019, the Company financial component constituted 85% of the named executive officer's total bonus opportunity under the Cash Bonus Plan.

The individual objectives component is typically tied to financial performance measures that the participant can best impact, including profitability, working capital levels, sales growth, operational efficiency, market share growth, organizational development and innovation. For fiscal 2019, the individual objectives component constituted 15% of the named executive officer's total bonus opportunity under the Cash Bonus Plan.

The Company financial component and the individual objectives component under the Cash Bonus Plan for the coming fiscal year are chosen and set annually by the Compensation Committee at the last quarterly Compensation Committee meeting for the prior fiscal year (typically occurring in September). Target bonus awards for the coming fiscal year for each named executive officer are also generally approved at this meeting. Target awards for each participant have historically ranged from 55% to 90% of the participant's base salary. For fiscal 2019, the target was 90% of base salary for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 55% of base salary for Mr. Johnson. The Compensation Committee believes these target award opportunities are competitive with industry practices as reflected by the Pearl Meyer comparative report described above. The threshold or minimum financial performance level for payment of the fiscal 2019 awards under the Cash Bonus Plan was 70% of the financial performance target, in which event the participant would receive a payout for the Company financial component at 25% of the target bonus amount.

The Compensation Committee retains the final authority to approve individual bonus payments after completion of the applicable fiscal year and may, in its sole discretion, reduce or eliminate bonuses which are otherwise earned during the fiscal year using the foregoing components or formula, including with respect to approving certain adjustments to our financial results in connection with determining cash bonus amounts (such as described below with respect to removal of the impact of tariffs on Chinese origin goods and components in fiscal 2019 results). In determining whether to reduce or eliminate a bonus which was otherwise earned during a given fiscal year, the Compensation Committee considers factors such as a minimum level of Company profitability and return of profits to shareholders.



With respect to awards made before November 2, 2017, the maximum amount payable under the Cash Bonus Plan during any fiscal year to any person whom the Compensation Committee considered a covered employee within the meaning of section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended (the "Code") was equal to \$2,000,000. For the Company financial component of the fiscal 2019 bonus, the eligible bonus could have been paid out from 0 to 200% of the target bonus award allocated to this component. The actual percentage earned inside this range is based on how well the Company performs compared to the goals for pre-tax income and working capital as a percentage of net sales. For fiscal 2019, our Compensation Committee determined to exclude the impact of recently enacted tariffs on Chinese origin goods and components in determining the amount of the Company's pre-tax income and its working capital as a percentage of net sales when verifying whether bonuses were earned under the company financial component of the Cash Bonus Plan. Accordingly, as adjusted in accordance with the foregoing sentence, for fiscal 2019, the Company financial component exceeded goals and the bonuses were paid at 122% of the target bonus award for this component. With respect to the individual objectives component of the annual bonus, payouts also range from 0 to 200% of the target bonus award allocated to this component, provided that the Company maintains a certain level of shareholder return and a minimum level of net income for the applicable fiscal year. The actual percentage earned inside this range is based on how well the individual objectives are satisfied compared to applicable goals as determined by the Compensation Committee. For fiscal 2019, the individual objectives component of the bonus was paid at 50% of target bonus for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 85% of target bonus for Mr. Johnson.

Accordingly, for fiscal 2019, the Compensation Committee paid the following annual incentive bonuses to the named executive officers under the Cash Bonus Plan, after excluding the impact of tariffs on Chinese origin goods and components on the Company's financial results for purposes of determining bonuses under the Company financial component:

	2019 Target Bonus - Company Financial Component			2019 Target Bonus - Individual Objectives Component				
Name		Target		Payout		Target		Payout
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	\$	576,902	\$	703,820	\$	101,806	\$	50,903
David W. Johnson	\$	185,267	\$	226,025	\$	32,694	\$	27,790

Based upon Pearl Meyer's report prepared during fiscal 2019 as described above, the Compensation Committee has decided to generally keep the Cash Bonus Plan in place for fiscal 2020 and to continue to have target awards split between an individual objectives component (15% of total bonus opportunity) and a Company financial component (85% of total bonus opportunity). Additionally, with respect to the Company financial component for fiscal 2020, the Compensation Committee has determined to: (1) continue to use a target level of pre-tax income and a specified level of working capital as a percentage of net sales; (2) set the threshold or minimum level for payouts of bonus awards at 70% of the target financial performance; (3) set the payment or funding amount at 25% of the target bonus amount for financial performance at 70% of target, which is the minimum performance level for payouts of bonus awards; and (4) set the payment or funding amount at 200% of the target bonus amount at the maximum financial performance level. With respect to the individual objectives component of the Cash Bonus Plan, the Compensation Committee has determined for fiscal 2020 to continue to set the payment or funding amount at 0-200% of the target bonus amount for that component provided that the Company maintains a certain level of shareholder return and a minimum level of net income for that fiscal year. The Company believes that the foregoing elements of the Cash Bonus Plan mitigate against potential unnecessary risk taking because the plan contains a payout curve such that there is no one cliff event that has the potential to make a significant difference in the payout opportunity.

*Equity Based Compensation*. The Company believes that equity-based compensation is an effective means of aligning the long-term interests of Company employees, including the named executive officers with Company shareholders. The Stock Incentive Plan authorizes the Compensation Committee to issue stock options, shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units, as well as other forms of equity-based compensation. With respect to fiscal 2019, awards to the named executive officers (other than the CEO) under the Stock Incentive Plan consisted of an award of shares of restricted stock subject to service-based vesting criteria to promote our retention objectives and an award of performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain



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Company financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance period. With respect to fiscal 2019, for the CEO, the long-term equity-based compensation consisted solely of an award of performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance period.

With respect to the portion of the equity-based award that is tied to Company performance, the Compensation Committee establishes pre-determined financial performance goals for the Company at the last quarterly Compensation Committee meeting held during the prior fiscal year (typically in September). The amount of the target award for each participant is set by the Compensation Committee during the first quarterly Compensation Committee meeting held during the fiscal year (typically in September).

For fiscal 2019, the portion (or the entire award for the CEO) of the long-term equity-based incentive award that is performance-based is tied to three-year sales and operating profit goals aligned with our strategic plan and consisted of an award of performance-based restricted stock units. These performance-based restricted stock units include the following general provisions:

- Fifty percent of the performance-based piece of the award is tied to achievement of cumulative net sales over a three year period (fiscal 2019 2021) and the remaining fifty percent is tied to achievement of cumulative operating profit over the same three year period (fiscal 2019 2021);
- Awards are only paid if at least 80% of the target level of net sales or operating profit are met and maximum payouts are made if 120% or more of target levels of net sales or operating profit are achieved;
- The payouts for achievement of the threshold levels of performance are equal to 50% of the target award amount. The payouts for achievement of maximum levels of performance are equal to 150% of the target award amount. Each of the financial metrics receives a fifty percent weighting in determining the aggregate award amount;
- To the extent earned, awards are issued in shares of Company common stock after the end of the three year performance period; and
- Awards are subject to downward adjustments in the event the Company has not achieved a specified minimum average return on invested capital per year during the three year performance period.

As noted above, the performance-based equity awards granted at the Compensation Committee meeting held in December 2018 to our named executive officers cover a three-year performance period consisting of fiscal years 2019 through 2021, with vesting in December, 2021, depending on whether the performance criteria are satisfied. The Compensation Committee again approved performance-based equity-based awards to our named executive officers at the beginning of fiscal 2020 at the Compensation meeting held in December. These awards consisted of performance-based restricted stock units and also cover a three-year performance period consisting of fiscal years 2020 through 2022 with vesting in December 2022, depending on whether the performance criteria are satisfied.

As noted above, the Company splits the long-term equity-based incentive award for participants other than our CEO between shares of restricted stock tied to four year service-based cliff vesting and performance-based restricted stock unit equity grants described above. With respect to the portion of an equity-based award that is service-based, the Compensation Committee establishes the amount of the target award at its first quarterly Compensation Committee meeting held during the prior fiscal year (typically in December). At the following December meeting, the Compensation Committee has discretion, depending upon Company and participant performance for the fiscal year. The Compensation Committee has discretion, depending upon Company and participant performance for the applicable fiscal year, to reduce the value of the equity award which is tied to service-based vesting with respect to any fiscal year. Any restricted shares which are granted for this service-based component are subject to at least four year cliff vesting periods from the date of grant.

On December 4, 2018, consistent with the methodology described above, the Compensation Committee established a \$1,000,000 performance award target for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and a \$175,000 performance award target for Mr. Johnson for fiscal 2019. For these performance-based awards, the number of restricted

stock units granted was determined using a share price of \$71.42 and resulted in a target grant of 14,002 units for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 2,450 units for Mr. Johnson. The actual number of shares tied to the performance-based awards to be earned, if any, will be determined based on performance over the three year performance period, *i.e.* fiscal 2019-2021. The Compensation Committee also approved a service-based award for Mr. Johnson at a value of \$175,000. The number of shares under the service-based award was determined using a share price of \$71.42 and resulted in a grant of 2,450 restricted shares for Mr. Johnson on December 4, 2018.

On December 4, 2019, consistent with the methodology described above, the Compensation Committee established a \$1,000,000 performance award target for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and a \$250,000 performance award target for Mr. Johnson for fiscal 2020. For these performance-based awards, the number of restricted stock units granted was determined using a share price of \$64.505 and resulted in a target grant of 15,503 units for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 3,876 units for Mr. Johnson. The actual number of shares tied to the performance-based awards to be earned, if any, will be determined based on performance over the three year performance period, *i.e.* fiscal 2020-2022. The Compensation Committee also approved a service-based award for Mr. Johnson at a value of \$175,000. The number of shares under the service-based award was determined using a share price of \$64.505 and resulted in a grant of 2,713 restricted shares for Mr. Johnson on December 4, 2019.

The Compensation Committee approved performance-based equity awards to our named executive officers at the beginning of fiscal 2017 with fifty percent of the performance-based award tied to achievement of cumulative net sales over a three year period (fiscal 2017 - 2019) and the remaining fifty percent tied to achievement of cumulative operating profit over the same three year period (fiscal 2017 - 2019). These awards consisted of performance-based restricted stock units covering this three-year performance period with vesting in December 2019, depending on whether the performance criteria were satisfied for this three year performance period. These performance-based restricted stock units were awarded on December 6, 2016, and consisted of a performance award target to Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson of \$400,000 and \$75,000, respectively, or 9,278 and 1,740 performance-based restricted stock units, respectively. The performance-based restricted stock units were granted on terms as were consistent with the general terms and conditions described above for the fiscal 2019 performance-based equity award. Under the terms of the award agreements, the payout of these performance-based equity awards could range from 0% to 150% of the target performance restricted stock unit award amount referenced above and were to be paid only if at least 80% of the target level of net sales or operating profit were met and maximum payouts were made if 120% or more of target levels of net sales or operating profit were achieved. In addition, a certain minimum return on invested capital was required, with a reduction to actual awards made if not fully achieved. On December 4, 2019, after reviewing the Company's performance over the three year performance period ending with fiscal 2019, the Compensation Committee approved payment of these performance-based equity awards at 140.2% of the target award for each of Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson, respectively, or at 13,008 and 2,439 shares of the Company's Class A common stock for each of Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson, respectively.

The Compensation Committee approved performance-based equity awards to our named executive officers at the beginning of fiscal 2018 with fifty percent of the performance-based award tied to achievement of cumulative net sales over a three year period (fiscal 2018 - 2020) and the remaining fifty percent tied to achievement of cumulative operating profit over the same three year period (fiscal 2018 - 2020). These performance-based awards consisted of restricted stock units covering this three-year performance period with vesting in December 2020 (following completion of the results for the three year performance period ending with fiscal 2020), depending on whether the performance criteria will be satisfied for this three year performance period. These performance-based restricted stock units were awarded on December 6, 2017, and consisted of a performance award target to Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson of \$700,000 and \$175,000, respectively, or a target award of 9,945 and 2,486 performance-based restricted stock units, respectively. The performance-based restricted stock units were granted on terms as were consistent with the general terms and conditions described above for the fiscal 2019 performance-based equity award. Under the terms of the award agreements, the payout of these performance-based equity awards can range from 0% to 150% of the target level



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of net sales or operating profit are met and maximum payouts are made if 120% or more of target levels of net sales or operating profit are achieved. In addition, a certain minimum return on invested capital is required, with a reduction to actual awards made if not fully achieved. Determination of any applicable awards under these grants will be made in December 2020.

The Compensation Committee approved performance-based equity awards to our named executive officers at the beginning of fiscal 2019 with fifty percent of the performance-based award tied to achievement of cumulative net sales over a three year period (fiscal 2019 - 2021) and the remaining fifty percent tied to achievement of cumulative operating profit over the same three year period (fiscal 2019 - 2021). These performance-based awards consisted of restricted stock units covering this three-year performance period with vesting in December 2021 (following completion of the results for the three year performance period ending with fiscal 2021), depending on whether the performance criteria will be satisfied for this three year performance period. These performance-based restricted stock units were awarded on December 4, 2018, and consisted of a performance award target to Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson of \$1,000,000 and \$175,000, respectively, or a target award of 14,002 and 2,450 performance-based restricted stock units, respectively. The performance-based restricted stock units were granted on terms as were consistent with the general terms and conditions described above for this performance-based equity award. Under the terms of the award agreements, the payout of these performance-based equity awards can range from 0% to 150% of the target performance restricted stock unit award amount referenced above and are to be paid only if at least 80% of the target level of net sales or operating profit are met and maximum payouts are made if 120% or more of target levels of net sales or operating profit are achieved. In addition, a certain minimum return on invested capital is required, with a reduction to actual awards made if not fully achieved. Determination of any applicable awards under these grants will be made in December 2021.

*Perquisites and Other Compensation*. The named executive officers participate in other benefit plans generally available to all employees on the same terms as similarly situated employees, including participation in medical, health, dental, disability, life insurance, 401(k) plans and other qualified and non-qualified retirement plans. These benefits are included in the Summary Compensation Table provided below under the "All Other Compensation" column. In addition, named executive officers also participate in the Company's discretionary Executive Flexible Spending Account Plan which provides for reimbursement for certain expenses that relate to an executive's personal financial planning and/or for purchases of office equipment. This program is available to other key executives as well and the amounts typically range from \$5,000 to \$8,500 of potential reimbursement each calendar year, provided the eligible participant submits the appropriate documentation. Reimbursement under this plan is taxable income. See the notes to the Summary Compensation Table for additional information on payments to the named executive officers during fiscal 2019 in connection with this compensation program.

#### **Change of Control and Severance Benefits**

Historically, Johnson Outdoors has not entered into employment agreements with any named executive officers and does not have contractual obligations to provide severance benefits to either of the named executive officers. In the past, Johnson Outdoors has negotiated payment of certain severance benefits on a case-by-case basis with terminated named executive officers. The amount and type of severance benefits provided to these former named executive officers has depended upon the circumstances of the termination, the position of the former named executive officer and certain other performance-related factors. Should Johnson Outdoors pay severance benefits in the future to former named executive officers, we expect to do so on a case-by-case basis in accordance with prior practice.

#### Tax and Accounting Considerations

Code section 162(m) generally disallows a tax deduction to a public corporation for non-performance-based compensation over \$1,000,000 paid for any fiscal year to each of the individuals who were, at the end of the fiscal year, the corporation's chief executive officer and the four other most highly compensated executive officers, excluding the principal financial officer. Prior to January 1, 2018 there was an exception to this limit for "performance-based" compensation and most grants under the Stock Incentive Plan and Cash Bonus Plan are intended to satisfy the requirements for "performance-based compensation" under Code section 162(m),

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including the requirement that such plans be approved by shareholders. As a result, the Compensation Committee believes that such awards under these plans intended to satisfy the requirements for "performance-based compensation" under Code section 162(m) will not count against the \$1,000,000 limit and will be deductible by Johnson Outdoors. Other grants or compensation paid or imputed to individual executive officers covered by Code section 162(m) may not satisfy the requirements for "performance-based compensation" and may cause "non-performance-based compensation" to exceed the \$1,000,000 limit, and would then not be deductible by Johnson Outdoors to the extent it exceeds the \$1,000,000 limit. Although the Compensation Committee designs certain components of executive compensation to preserve income tax deductibility, it believes that it is not in the shareholders' interest to restrict the Compensation Committee's discretion and flexibility in developing appropriate compensation programs and establishing compensation levels and, in some instances, the Compensation Committee may approve compensation that is not fully deductible.

#### Timing of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Unit Grants

Generally, grants of shares of restricted stock and performance-based restricted stock units to employees (other than inducement grants to new employees) are made annually on the date of the first quarterly meeting of the Compensation Committee held in December of each year, after prior fiscal year earnings have been determined, and the amount of the actual grant can be calculated. The grant date is always the date of approval of the grant by the Compensation Committee. Accordingly, to maintain flexibility and promote retention or individual goals, other compensation arrangements such as restricted stock grants and certain annual incentive cash payments are not designed to satisfy the conditions of Code section 162(m) and therefore may not be deductible.

#### **Report of the Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this Proxy Statement with our management and, based on such review and discussions with management, the Compensation Committee recommended to our Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement.

#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE:**

Thomas F. Pyle, Jr. (Chairman) John M. Fahey, Jr. Terry E. London Katherine Button Bell



## **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table provides information for fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017 concerning the compensation paid by Johnson Outdoors to the individual who served as our principal executive officer during fiscal 2019 and the person who served as our principal financial officer in fiscal 2019. We refer to these two executive officers as our "named executive officers" in this Proxy Statement.

	Fiscal				Stock	Non-Equity centive Plan	A	ll Other	
Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus <sup>(1)</sup>		wards <sup>(2)</sup>	Comp. <sup>(3)</sup>	С	omp. <sup>(4)</sup>	Total
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold,	2019	\$ 754,120	\$ 50,903	\$ 1	1,000,023	\$ 703,820	\$	80,653	\$ 2,589,519
Chairman and Chief Executive	2018	\$ 729,457	\$ 66,472	\$	700,029	\$ 1,077,006	\$	86,737	\$ 2,659,701
Officer	2017	\$ 704,323	\$ 80,821	\$	400,021	\$ 1,077,614	\$	73,193	\$ 2,335,972
David W. Johnson,	2019	\$ 396,292	\$ 27,790	\$	349,958	\$ 226,025	\$	42,209	\$ 1,042,274
Vice President and Chief	2018	\$ 384,043	\$ 23,763	\$	249,955	\$ 346,513	\$	48,506	\$ 1,052,780
Financial Officer	2017	\$ 365,812	\$ 25,351	\$	140,038	\$ 342,034	\$	36,023	\$ 909,258

(1) The named executive officers are eligible to receive annual incentive cash bonuses under the Cash Bonus Plan. The award of annual incentive cash bonuses under the Cash Bonus Plan is generally comprised of two components. The first component is based on the executive achieving pre-established individual objectives. The second component is based on the Company achieving specified financial performance measures. The amounts in this column reflect the individual objectives component of the named executive officer's annual bonus under the Cash Bonus Plan. The second component based on the Company achieving specified financial performance measures is included in the column under the heading "Non-equity Incentive Plan Comp." when the specified financial performance measures are met.

In determining each named executive officer's annual incentive cash bonus amount for fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017 performance, our Compensation Committee allocated 15% of the target bonus to achieving the pre-established individual objectives component, and 85% to the Company achieving the Company financial component. For each of the individual objectives component and the Company financial component under the Cash Bonus Plan, the eligible bonus can be paid out from 0-200% of the target bonus amount for that component. The target bonus amounts for 2019, 2018, and 2017 for Ms. Johnson-Leipold were \$678,708, \$656,511, and \$633,891, and for Mr. Johnson were \$217,961, \$211,224, and \$201,197, respectively. If either or both components (individual objectives component and Company financial component) are achieved at targeted performance levels, the payout equals 100% of the eligible bonus for such component.

For fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, the annual cash bonus under the Cash Bonus Plan with respect to achieving the individual objectives component was \$50,903, \$66,472, and \$80,821, for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and \$27,790, \$23,763, and \$25,351 for Mr. Johnson, respectively.

For fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, the annual cash bonus under the Cash Bonus Plan with respect to achieving the Company financial component related to achieving a minimum level of net income and achieving a specified level of working capital as a percentage of sales. See footnote (3) below for a discussion of the payouts during fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017 to the named executive officers in connection with this Company financial component.

- (2) The amounts in this column reflect the dollar value of long-term equity based compensation awards pursuant to the Stock Incentive Plan granted during the fiscal years indicated in the table. These amounts for each of fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017 equal the fair value of restricted stock units or shares of restricted stock computed in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718-10 on the date the restricted stock units or shares of restricted stock were granted. Assumptions used in the calculation of the grant date fair value are included under the caption "Stock Ownership Plans" in the Notes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements in the fiscal 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on December 6, 2019 and such information is incorporated herein by reference. With respect to fiscal 2019, the Company awarded Mr. Johnson 2,450 shares of restricted stock units on December 4, 2018. Additionally, Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson were granted 14,002 and 2,450, respectively, performance-based restricted stock units on December 4, 2018. The table above includes the value of restricted stock units on the grant date based upon the probable outcome of the performance conditions as reasonably determined by the Company. The grant date fair value of each performance-based restricted stock unit award assuming the highest level of performance was achieved over the performance period (i.e., the maximum amount) would have equaled \$1,500,000 and \$262,500 for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson, respectively.
- (3) This column includes the dollar value of all amounts earned by the named executive officers under our Cash Bonus Plan which are based upon the specified Company financial component for the applicable fiscal year. For fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, both of the Company's financial performance measures were exceeded and, therefore, payout amounts are included in this column. For fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, the annual cash bonus under the Cash Bonus Plan with respect to achieving the Company financial component was \$703,820, \$1,077,006, and \$1,077,614, for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and \$226,025, \$346,513, and \$342,034, for Mr. Johnson, respectively. With respect to the bonus payments made for fiscal 2019 under the Company financial component of our Cash Bonus Plan, our Compensation Committee determined to exclude the impact of recently enacted tariffs on Chinese goods and components in determining the amount of the Company's pre-tax income and its working capital as a percentage of net sales when verifying whether bonuses were earned (and in determining the amount of the bonuses). The amounts in the table under this column were therefore determined without including the impact of Chinese tariffs on the Company's financial results.



(4) The table below shows the components of this column, which include an approved match for each named executive officer's 401(k) plan contributions, approved contributions credited to the individual's qualified retirement plan, approved contributions to the individual's non-qualified retirement plan account and perquisites provided to each individual for fiscal 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively.

Name	Year	01(k) Aatch	Qualified Plan Contributions		on-Qualified Plan ontributions	Perquisites <sup>(a)</sup>			Total "All Other Compensation"		
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	2019	\$ 8,184	\$	11,200	\$ 52,769	\$	8,500	\$	80,653		
	2018	\$ 7,984	\$	16,200	\$ 61,153	\$	1,400	\$	86,737		
	2017	\$ 7,771	\$	10,800	\$ 37,622	\$	17,000	\$	73,193		
David W. Johnson	2019	\$ 8,194	\$	11,200	\$ 15,603	\$	7,212	\$	42,209		
	2018	\$ 7,984	\$	16,200	\$ 17,322	\$	7,000	\$	48,506		
	2017	\$ 8,113	\$	10,800	\$ 9,995	\$	7,115	\$	36,023		

(a) Perquisites consist of reimbursements made to the named executive officer under the Executive Flexible Spending Account Plan for personal financial planning services, for purchases of office equipment for business needs and/or for certain association membership dues. Ms. Johnson-Leipold is allowed reimbursements of up to \$8,500 per calendar year for covered expenses. Mr. Johnson is allowed reimbursements of up to \$7,000 per calendar year for covered expenses.

## **Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

The following table sets forth information regarding all incentive plan awards that were granted to the named executive officers during fiscal 2019 including equity-based, non-equity based and other plan-based awards. Disclosure on a separate line item is provided for each grant made to a named executive officer during the fiscal year. Non-equity incentive plan awards are awards that are not subject to FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718 and are intended to serve as an incentive for performance to occur over a specified period, and include performance bonus awards under the Cash Bonus Plan. Equity incentive plan awards include the service-based award to our CFO and the performance-based restricted stock units awarded under the Stock Incentive Plan and are awards subject to a performance condition or a market condition as those terms are defined by FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. We did not grant any stock options during fiscal 2019.

			d Future Pay ty Incentive F (\$ value <sup>(1)</sup> )	Plan Awards	Under Ed	ed Future F quity Incen number of s	tive Plan	All Other Stock Awards: Number of	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and	
Name	Grant Date	Threshold	Target	Maximum	Threshold	Target	Maximum	Shares of Stock	Option Awards <sup>(4)</sup>	
Helen P. Johnson-	—	\$169,678	\$678,708	\$ 1,357,416	—	—	—	—	—	
Leipold	12/4/18	_	_	_	7,001	14,002	21,003	_	\$1,000,023	
David W. Johnson	12/4/18			_		_		2,450(3)	\$ 174,979	
	_	\$ 54,490	\$217,961	\$ 435,922		_	_	_	_	
	12/4/18	_	_	_	1,225	2,450	3,675	_	\$ 174,979	

1. These amounts show the range of payouts targeted for fiscal 2019 performance under the Cash Bonus Plan as described in the section of this Proxy Statement titled "Compensation Discussion and Analysis." The Cash Bonus Plan entitles participants to earn bonus awards based upon Company financial performance and the participant's individual objectives for a given fiscal year. The targeted bonus amounts are equal to a percentage of the named executive officer's base salary. The target was set at 90% of the base salary for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 55% of the base salary for Mr. Johnson for fiscal 2019. For both the individual objectives component and the Company financial performance component of our annual bonus under the Cash Bonus Plan, the eligible bonus can be paid out from 0-200% of the target bonus amounts for fiscal 2019 are set in the table above and represent the aggregate target under both the Company performance component and the individual objectives component. If either or both components are met at targeted performance levels, the payout equals 100% of the eligible bonus for such component. A participant may earn up to a maximum of 200% of the target bonus amount if the Company performance component is met at 160% of goal. A participant may earn a minimum of 25% of the target bonus amount if the Company performance component reaches 70% of the goal. The amount under the column "Maximum" is limited to 200% of the target bonus award. See the following sections for additional information: "Summary Compensation Table" and "Compensation Discussion and Analysis."

2. These awards were issued under the Stock Incentive Plan and consisted of an award of performance-based restricted stock units tied to achievement of certain Company financial objectives to be measured over a three-year performance period. For fiscal 2019, the



performance-based award is tied to three-year sales and operating profit goals aligned with our strategic plan. Fifty percent of the performancebased piece of the award is tied to achievement of cumulative net sales over a three year period (fiscal 2019 - 2021) and the remaining fifty percent is tied to achievement of cumulative operating profit over the same three year period (fiscal 2019 - 2021). Awards are only paid if at least 80% of the target level of net sales and operating profit are met and maximum payouts are made if 120% or more of target levels of net sales and operating profit are achieved. The payouts for achievement of the threshold levels of performance are equal to 50% of the target award amount. The payouts for achievement of maximum levels of performance are equal to 150% of the target award amount. Each of the financial metrics receives a fifty percent weighting in determining the aggregate award amount. Awards are subject to downward adjustments in the event the Company has not achieved a specified minimum average return on invested capital per year during the three year performance period. See "Compensation Discussion & Analysis" above for additional information on the terms of the performance-based restricted stock units issued to the named executive officers during fiscal 2019. On December 4, 2018, consistent with the methodology described above, the Compensation Committee established a \$1,000,000 performance award target for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and a \$175,000 performance award target for Mr. Johnson. The number of performance-based restricted stock units at target was determined using a grant date share price of \$71.42 and resulted in a target grant of 14,002 units for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 2,450 units for Mr. Johnson. The actual number of shares tied to the performance-based awards to be earned, if any, will be determined based on performance over the fiscal 2019-2021 period. The threshold number of shares equals 50% of the target number of shares and the maximum number of shares e

- 3. The service-based restricted stock award was granted on December 4, 2018 and vests on December 4, 2022, the fourth anniversary of the grant date. This award was issued by the Compensation Committee to further the Company's retention objectives and was based upon a target award value of \$175,000 for Mr. Johnson established by the Compensation Committee on December 6, 2017. On December 4, 2018 the Compensation Committee approved the issuance of the award at the target level with the number of shares of restricted stock issued under the award being based upon the grant date fair value per share of \$71.42.
- 4. The value of the restricted stock and restricted stock units is based upon the December 4, 2018 grant date fair value of \$71.42 per share for each share of restricted stock and each restricted stock unit (based upon the target number of shares issued as part of the award), determined pursuant to FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. The grant date fair value is the amount the Company expenses in the financial statements over the award's vesting schedule. See the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements in the fiscal year 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on December 6, 2019 for the assumptions relied on in determining the value of these awards.

## **Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End**

The following table provides information regarding unvested shares of restricted stock or restricted stock units held by the named executive officers at September 27, 2019. Neither of the named executive officers held any unexercised stock options as of September 27, 2019.

	Stock Awards									
Named Executive Officer	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	0	Market Value f Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested <sup>(1)</sup>							
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	9,278(2)		543,969							
	9,945 <sup>(4)</sup>		583,075							
	14,002(7)	\$	820,937							
David W. Johnson	2,690(3)	\$	157,715							
	1,740 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$	102,016							
	1,508(5)	\$	88,414							
	2,486 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$	145,754							
	1,065(6)	\$	62,441							
	2,450(7)	\$	143,644							
	2,450 <sup>(8)</sup>	\$	143,644							

(1) Market value equals the closing per share market price of our Class A common stock on September 27, 2019, which was \$58.63, multiplied by the number of shares of restricted stock or the number of restricted stock units, as applicable.

- (2) This award constitutes restricted stock units that represent one share of Class A common stock for each restricted stock unit. The restricted stock units are subject to performance-based vesting criteria over a three year performance period (fiscal 2017 through fiscal 2019). See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" above for additional information on these awards. The number of restricted stock units identified in the table above represent the number of shares of Class A common stock issuable at 100% of the target grant level.
- (3) The shares of restricted stock vest on December 1, 2019, the fourth anniversary of the grant date.
- (4) This award constitutes restricted stock units that represent one share of Class A common stock for each restricted stock unit. The restricted stock units are subject to performance-based vesting criteria over a three year performance period (fiscal 2018 through fiscal 2020). See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" above for additional information on these awards. The number of restricted stock units identified in the table above represent the number of shares of Class A common stock issuable at 100% of the target grant level.

- (5) The shares of restricted stock vest on December 6, 2020, the fourth anniversary of the grant date.
- (6) The shares of restricted stock vest on December 6, 2021, the fourth anniversary of the grant date.
- (7) This award constitutes restricted stock units that represent one share of Class A common stock for each restricted stock unit. The restricted stock units are subject to performance-based vesting criteria over a three year performance period (fiscal 2019 through fiscal 2021). See "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" above for additional information on these awards. The number of restricted stock units identified in the table above represent the number of shares of Class A common stock issuable at 100% of the target grant level.
- (8) The shares of restricted stock vest on December 4, 2022, the fourth anniversary of the grant date.

### **Option Exercises and Stock Vested**

The following table sets forth information relating to the restricted stock awards and restricted stock units that vested during fiscal 2019 for each of the named executive officers on an aggregate basis. No common stock options were exercised by the named executive officers during fiscal 2019.

	Stock	Stock Awards									
Number of Shares Acquired on											
Name	Vesting (#)		Value Realized on Vesting (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>								
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	27,663	\$	1,959,402								
David W. Johnson	5,456	\$	386,905								

(1) Value realized equals the closing market price of our Class A common stock on as of the vesting date or, if not a trading date, on the last trading date, multiplied by the number of shares that vested on such date.

## Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation

Named Executive Officer	Con	xecutive htributions ast Fiscal Year	Co	Registrant ontributions Last Fiscal Year <sup>(1)</sup>	Aggregate Earnings Last Fiscal Year <sup>(2)</sup>	Aggregate Withdrawals/ Distributions	E	Aggregate Balance at Last Fiscal Year End
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	\$	178,585	\$	52,769	\$ 169,978	None	\$	5,766,087
David W. Johnson	\$	45,994	\$	15,603	\$ 24,303	None	\$	773,474

(1) The amounts included in the column titled "Registrant Contributions in Last Fiscal Year" for each named executive officer are included in the "All Other Compensation" column of the Summary Compensation Table.

(2) None of the earnings on assets in the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan were above market or preferential.

A description of our Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan is provided below under the heading "Nonqualified Deferred Compensation."

## **Employment Agreements**

The Company has not entered into any employment agreements with the named executive officers.

## Incentive Compensation Recovery (Clawback) Policy

The Company's Board of Directors has adopted an Incentive Compensation Recovery (Clawback) Policy effective as of December 2, 2015. A copy of this policy is available on the Company's website at www.johnsonoutdoors.com, 24 hours a day and free of charge. The Company is not including the information contained on or available through its website as part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this Proxy Statement. The policy is administered by our Board of Directors and covers all current and former executive officers. Under this policy, the Board of Directors will require reimbursement or forfeiture of any excess incentive compensation awarded or paid in the event of an accounting restatement resulting from material noncompliance with financial reporting requirements under federal securities laws. The incentive compensation covers all awards granted or paid during the last three completed fiscal years including, but not limited to, annual performance bonuses (including any amounts deferred) and long-term incentive grants, including any of the following, provided that, such compensation is granted, earned or vested based wholly or in part on the attainment of a financial reporting measure (as defined in the policy): cash bonuses and incentive cash compensation; stock options; restricted stock;



restricted stock units; and performance-based units. The amount to be recovered is the excess amount of the incentive compensation received by the executive officer based on the erroneous data from the accounting restatement. The policy applies to all incentive compensation approved, awarded or granted after the effective date of the policy.

### **Post-Employment Compensation**

#### **Pension Benefits**

Currently, Johnson Outdoors does not provide the named executive officers with pension benefits. U.S.-based executive officers are eligible to participate in the Johnson Outdoors Retirement and Savings 401(k) Plan on the same terms as other U.S.-based employees. In any plan year, the Company may make matching contributions to a participant's account equal to 50 percent of the first six percent of an employee's annual wages. All named executive officers participated in the 401(k) Plan during fiscal 2019 and received Company provided matching contributions. In addition, the Company also has a discretionary retirement contribution component to its 401(k) program in which the named executive officers are also eligible to participate. Under this component, a discretionary retirement contribution can be made to the participant's 401(k) Plan account. This discretionary contribution ranges from 0-6% of an employee's eligible base calendar year earnings. The Company made a discretionary contribution of 4% in 2019 for all participants.

#### Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation

The Johnson Outdoors' Deferred Compensation Plan was amended and restated on September 18, 2007. The Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan provides an opportunity for the named executive officers to defer a portion of their compensation and uses such deferral to encourage the continued loyalty and service of such persons to the Company. Eligible participants of this plan are designated by the Compensation Committee as Highly Compensated Employees (HCE) under the definition of the Internal Revenue Code as well as employees with designated titles, including executive, director, senior manager or employees whose positions are recognized as key technical lead positions. The Compensation Committee has delegated authority to the Retirement Plan Committee to determine annual eligibility based upon the criteria noted above. A participant's election shall specify the percentage (in increments of one percent to a maximum of 13 percent) of the participant's base compensation. Participants may also specify the percentage (in increments of one percent to a maximum of seven percent) of their cash bonus for deferral under the plan. A participant who makes a bonus deferral under this plan may be entitled to a matching contribution credit, determined and credited following the conclusion of each plan year, equal to 50 percent of the first six percent of the participant's annual bonus award that the participant elects to have contributed to his/her account as a bonus deferral. Participants designate how his or her account shall be deemed to be invested among the investment options. Each day that the U.S. financial markets are open, the account of each participant will be credited (or charged) based upon the investment gain (or loss) that the participant would have realized with respect to his or her account since the immediately preceding valuation date had the account been invested in accordance with the participant's investment election. The named executive officers have made elections for distributions allowed by the Non-Oualified Deferred Compensation Plan upon separation from service. The distribution of the named participant's pre-2005 account, if applicable, would be made or commence on the first day of the month that is at least 60 days following the date the participant separates from service. Named participants' post-2004 account distributions, if applicable, would commence on the first day of the month following the six month anniversary of the participant's separation from service.

#### Potential Payments/Benefits Upon Termination or Change of Control

Pursuant to the terms of the Stock Incentive Plan, the Compensation Committee in its discretion may, at the time of an award or at any time thereafter, provide (1) for the immediate vesting of all outstanding stock options and shares of restricted stock upon a change of control of the Company or (2) that any outstanding performance-based restricted stock units shall be deemed earned at the target grant amount. The grant agreements for shares of restricted stock have generally provided for immediate vesting upon a change of control of the Company and the grant agreements for performance-based restricted stock units have generally provided that

100% of the target grant is deemed earned upon a change of control of the Company. The following table sets forth the unvested stock options, shares of restricted stock and restricted stock units held by the named executive officers as of September 27, 2019, that would become vested or earned as of such date in the event of a change of control of Johnson Outdoors.

Named Executive Officer	Number of Shares Underlying Unvested Options	Unrealized Value Of Unvested Options <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Restricted Shares or RSUs that are Unvested or Unearned	Unrealized Value of Unvested or Unearned Restricted Stock or RSUs <sup>(2)</sup>
Helen P. Johnson-Leipold	— \$	;	33,225	\$ 1,947,982
David W. Johnson	— \$	; —	14,389	\$ 843,627

(1) The named executive officers held no unvested options at fiscal year-end. Had they held unvested options at year end, unrealized value would equal the closing market value of the Class A common stock as of September 27, 2019 minus the exercise price, multiplied by the number of unvested shares of the Class A common stock as of such date. The closing market value of the Class A common stock on September 27, 2019 was \$58.63.

(2) With respect to shares of restricted stock, unrealized value equals the closing per share market value of the Class A common stock as of September 27, 2019, multiplied by the number of unvested shares of the Class A common stock as of such date. With respect to unearned, outstanding performance-based restricted stock units, the number of restricted stock units included in the table above represent the number of shares of Class A common stock issuable at achievement of 100% of the target grant level (i.e., 33,225 and 6,676 shares for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and Mr. Johnson, respectively). The unrealized value of such units equals the number of shares of Class A common stock underlying the outstanding unearned restricted stock units at 100% of target grant multiplied by the closing per share market value of the Class A common stock as of September 27, 2019. The closing market value of the Class A common stock on September 27, 2019 was \$58.63.



## **DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

Johnson Outdoors seeks to attract and retain highly qualified individuals to serve on the Board of Directors. To that end, the Company maintains a philosophy of paying outside Directors fairly and consistently with respect to the external market. Moreover, the Company adheres to a process for reviewing the market and considering revisions to its Director compensation program that is consistent with good governance practices.

Approximately every other year, the Compensation Committee tasks its independent compensation consultant, Pearl Meyer, with reviewing the external market with respect to Director compensation levels, mix, and practices among our peers and more broadly among public companies of similar size to Johnson Outdoors, including a review of the companies listed above under the section "Peer Group Benchmarking". For the latter perspective, Pearl Meyer makes use of the National Association of Corporate Directors' (NACD) annual survey of director compensation. Generally, the Committee seeks to deliver an overall compensation package near the market median. Based on this review, the Committee considers potential changes to the level of various compensation elements.

Johnson Outdoors uses a combination of cash and stock-based compensation to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on the Board of Directors. With respect to fiscal 2019 and based upon the recommendations of Pearl Meyer, the outside directors received a \$40,000 annual retainer and an equity award of restricted stock having a grant date value of \$70,000. For fiscal 2019, the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee chairs received additional annual retainers of \$15,000, \$10,000 and \$7,000, respectively. Each director who is not an employee of Johnson Outdoors or one of its subsidiaries ("an outside director") is generally also entitled to receive \$1,500 for each meeting of the Board of Directors or committee he or she attends (non-committee board members receive 75 percent of this amount when such individuals attend a committee meeting). The Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors receives an additional annual retainer of \$40,000.

In connection with the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the Board of Directors and the Company's shareholders approved the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2012 Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Plan. The plan provides that upon first being elected or appointed as one of the Company's directors, and thereafter on the first business day after the annual meeting of shareholders, the Company has the option of granting equity awards to such persons containing a value determined by the Compensation Committee. Equity awards may be granted under the plan in the form of stock options, shares of restricted stock or restricted stock units. For any award made under the Plan, the number of shares granted is based on the fair market value per share on the date of the award or, in the case of restricted stock units, at the fair market value per share of the underlying Class A common stock on the date of the award.

Our Compensation Committee again evaluated director compensation at the end of fiscal 2019, taking into account the input and analysis of Pearl Meyer, our compensation consultant. Following such review, effective at the start of fiscal 2020, our Compensation Committee and Board of Directors formally approved changes relating to the compensation of our directors, which are summarized below:

- eliminate board and committee meeting fees;
- increase the annual cash retainer for each director from \$40,000 to \$60,000;
- increase the annual cash retainer for committee chairs from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for the Audit Committee Chair; from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the Compensation Committee Chair; and from \$7,000 to \$10,000 for the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Chair;
- add an annual cash retainer for each committee member (other than the chairperson) as follows: Audit: \$10,000; Compensation: \$7,500; and Nominating and Corporate Governance: \$5,000;
- increase the annual retainer amount paid to the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors from \$40,000 to \$50,000; and
- increase the amount of the annual equity award value to the directors from \$70,000 to \$75,000.



## **Director Summary Compensation Table**

The following table provides information concerning the compensation paid by Johnson Outdoors in fiscal 2019 to each of the outside directors.

Name	Fees E	arned or Paid in Cash	Stock Awards <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.	\$	118,500	\$ 70,022	\$ 188,522
John M. Fahey, Jr.	\$	69,500	\$ 70,022	\$ 139,522
Terry E. London	\$	81,625	\$ 70,022	\$ 151,647
Edward F. Lang	\$	67,000	\$ 70,022	\$ 137,022
Richard ("Casey") Sheahan	\$	65,500	\$ 70,022	\$ 135,522
Katherine Button Bell	\$	57,625	\$ 70,022	\$ 127,647
Edward Stevens	\$	61,000	\$ 70,022	\$ 131,022
William Perez	\$	42,375	\$ 69,992	\$ 112,367

(1) The amounts in this column reflect the dollar value of long-term equity based compensation awards granted pursuant to our 2012 Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Plan during fiscal 2019. These amounts equal the grant date fair value of shares of common stock in the case of an award of shares of restricted stock or the grant date fair value of the underlying shares of restricted stock in the case of an award of shares of restricted stock or the grant date fair value of the underlying shares of restricted stock in the case of an award of restricted stock units, computed in each case in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718-10. Assumptions used in the calculation of the grant date fair value are included under the caption "Stock Ownership Plans" in the Notes to our Consolidated Financial Statements in the fiscal 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on December 6, 2019 and such information is incorporated herein by reference.

The following table provides certain information regarding restricted stock issued to our outside directors in fiscal 2019 pursuant to the 2012 Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Plan. The shares of restricted stock vest on the first anniversary of the date of grant (i.e.; March 2, 2019 for all directors except for Mr. Perez whose restricted stock grant vests one year from December 4, 2018).

Director	Number of Shares	Grant Date	Grant Date Fair Market Value <sup>(*)</sup>
Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
John M. Fahey, Jr.	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
Terry E. London	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
Edward F. Lang	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
Richard ("Casey") Sheahan	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
Katherine Button Bell	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
Edward Stevens	1,048	03/01/2019	\$ 70,022
William D. Perez	980	12/04/2018	\$ 69,992

\* The value of the award is based upon the grant date fair value of the award determined in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718-10. See the Notes to our Consolidated Financial Statements filed with the SEC on December 6, 2019 as part of the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the assumptions relied on in determining the value of these awards.

The following table identifies the aggregate number of stock options, shares of restricted Class A common stock (all of which are fully vested as of September 27, 2019) and shares of Class A common stock underlying unvested restricted stock units held by each outside director as of September 27, 2019 for which an election to defer receipt of such vested restricted stock units is not in effect.

Name of Outside Director	Number of Shares of Class A Common Stock Subject to Common Stock Options Outstanding as of September 27, 2019 Stock Units Outstanding as of September 27, 2019		Number of Shares of Unvested Restricted Stock Outstanding as of September 27, 2019	
Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.		—	1	1,048
John M. Fahey, Jr.			1	1,048
Terry E. London			1	1,048
Edward F. Lang		_	1	1,048
Richard Casey Sheahan			1	1,048
Katherine Button Bell			1	1,048
Edward Stevens		_	1	1,048
William D. Perez				980



## TABLE OF CONTENTS CEO PAY RELATIVE TO MEDIAN PAY OF OUR EMPLOYEES

The compensation for our CEO in fiscal 2019 (\$2,589,519 as disclosed in the 2019 Summary Compensation Table above) was approximately 47 to 1 times to the annual "total compensation" as defined by Item 402(u) of Regulation S-K of our median employee (\$55,057). Total compensation includes base salary, bonus compensation, equity awards and other perquisites and allowances. Our CEO to median employee ratio is calculated in accordance with Item 402(u) of Regulation S-K and represents a reasonable estimate calculated in accordance with SEC regulations and guidance. We used the same median employee as was identified in fiscal 2018. This median employee was identified by examining the annual wage and target bonus amount reflected in our payroll records as reported to the Internal Revenue Service on Form W-2 for all individuals, excluding our CEO, who were employed by us on September 14, 2018. We included all our global employees across eleven countries, whether employed on a full-time, part time, temporary or seasonal basis. After identifying the median employee, we calculated annual total compensation for such employee using the same methodology we use for our named executive officers as set forth in the 2019 Summary Compensation Table.

## **CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS**

## **Related Person Transactions**

The Company purchases certain services primarily from S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc. ("S.C. Johnson") and, to a lesser extent, from other organizations controlled by Johnson Family members (including Ms. Johnson-Leipold) and other related parties. For example, the Company leases its headquarters facility from Johnson Bank and S.C. Johnson provides the Company with administrative services, conference facilities and transportation services. The Company believes that the amounts paid to these organizations are no greater than the fair market value of the services. The total amount incurred by the Company for the foregoing services during fiscal 2019 was approximately \$1,261,000.

## **Review and Approval of Related Person Transactions**

The charter for the Audit Committee provides that it is responsible for the review and approval of related party transactions in accordance with NASDAQ listing requirements. Based upon the Audit Committee's review, the Company believes that all related person transactions described above were at arms-length and contained terms that were no less favorable than what could have been obtained from an unaffiliated third party. The Board of Directors has also adopted a formal written set of policies and procedures for the review, approval and ratification of related person transactions.

## **DELINQUENT SECTION 16(a) REPORTS**

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires the Company's executive officers, directors, and more than 10 percent shareholders to file with the SEC reports on prescribed forms of their beneficial ownership and changes in beneficial ownership of Company stock and furnish copies of such forms to the Company. Based solely on a review of the copies of such forms furnished to the Company, or written representations that no Form 5 reports were required to be filed, the Company believes that during fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2020 to date, other than the transaction disclosed in the prior year's proxy statement that occurred following the end of fiscal 2018 and Mr. David W. Johnson filing a Form 5 report on November 12, 2019 reporting one Form 4 transaction occurring during fiscal 2019, all reports required by Section 16(a) to be filed by the Company's officers, directors and more than 10 percent shareholders were filed on a timely basis.



## PROPOSAL 3: NON-BINDING ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

## The Proposal

As required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and SEC rules and regulations (and consistent with the similar proposal on executive compensation submitted to the Company's shareholders in connection with prior Annual Meetings of Shareholders), the Company's Board of Directors has authorized a non-binding advisory shareholder vote to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as reflected in the section herein titled "Executive Compensation," the disclosures regarding named executive officer compensation provided in the various tables included in this Proxy Statement, the accompanying narrative disclosures and the other executive compensation information provided in this Proxy Statement. This proposal, commonly known as a "Say on Pay" proposal, gives the Company's shareholders the opportunity to endorse or not endorse the Company's executive pay programs and policies.

The Company believes its compensation policies and procedures align the executive officers' compensation with the Company's short-term and long-term performance and provide the compensation and incentives needed to attract, motivate and retain key executives who are important to the Company's continued success. The Compensation Committee periodically reviews and approves the Company's compensation policies and procedures, and periodically reviews its executive compensation programs and takes any steps it deems necessary to continue to fulfill the objectives of the Company's compensation programs.

Shareholders are encouraged to carefully review the "Executive Compensation" section of this Proxy Statement for a detailed discussion of our executive compensation programs. These programs have been designed to promote a performance-based culture which aligns the interests of our named executive officers and other managers with the interests of the shareholders. This includes annual incentive cash compensation based on the named executive officers achieving their individual goals and objectives, together with incentive compensation based on the Company achieving specified financial performance measures. A substantial portion of our named executive officers' compensation is also based on equity awards with long-term vesting or performance-based requirements.

Highlights of the Company's compensation programs include the following:

- Neither of the named executive officers have any employment agreements with the Company;
- The Company is not required to provide any severance or termination pay or benefits to any named executive officer;
- The named executive officers are not entitled to any tax gross-up payments in connection with any Company compensation programs;
- Although the Company is a "Controlled Company," and is therefore exempt from certain independence requirements of the NASDAQ Stock Market rules, including the requirement to maintain a Compensation Committee composed entirely of independent directors, each member of the Company's Compensation Committee is independent under the applicable standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market;
- The Company's compensation focuses on performance, with base pay accounting for only 21% of total compensation opportunity for Ms. Johnson-Leipold and 29% of total compensation opportunity for Mr. Johnson for fiscal 2019. The remainder of their total compensation opportunity is comprised of cash incentive bonuses based on achieving individual goals and Company financial performance, and long-term equity awards;



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#### PROPOSAL 3: NON-BINDING ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

- A substantial portion of the named executive officers' compensation consists of annual cash incentives based upon achieving specific goals and objectives under our Cash Bonus Plan. In order for named executive officers to receive an annual incentive cash bonus, the Company must also meet an additional hurdle based on a minimum level of net income and return of profit to shareholders;
- The Company has a "clawback" or compensation recovery policy which provides for the recoupment of
  incentive compensation in the event of certain accounting restatements;
- The Compensation Committee continually monitors Company performance and adjusts compensation
  practices accordingly. For example, beginning with fiscal 2016, all the equity awards made to our CEO are
  based on achieving a specified level of financial performance for the Company. Beginning in fiscal 2016, the
  Compensation Committee also modified the portion of the long-term equity incentive awards (i.e., the portion
  issued in the form of performance-based restricted stock units) that are linked to achieving Company
  performance goals to be based on a three-year performance period rather than a one year period, to better
  coincide with the Company's three year strategic plan; and
- The Compensation Committee regularly assesses the Company's individual and total compensation programs against peer companies, the general marketplace and other industry data points and the Compensation Committee utilizes an independent consultant to engage in ongoing independent review of all aspects of our executive compensation programs.

Accordingly, shareholders are being asked to vote on the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the compensation paid to Johnson Outdoors' named executive officers, as disclosed in this Proxy Statement pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC, including the compensation tables and narrative disclosures, is hereby approved by the shareholders of Johnson Outdoors Inc."

Because this shareholder vote is advisory, it will not be binding on the Board of Directors. However, the Compensation Committee will take into account the outcome of the vote when considering future executive compensation arrangements.

### Vote Required for Approval

If a quorum exists, the approval of the non-binding advisory proposal on our executive compensation described in this Proxy Statement requires the votes cast, in person or by proxy, and entitled to vote thereon, for this proposal to exceed the votes against this proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not count toward the determination of whether this proposal is approved and will have no impact on the vote.

### **Board of Directors Recommendation**

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the non-binding advisory resolution approving our executive compensation.



## **EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

The following table summarizes share information, as of September 27, 2019, for the Company's equity compensation plans, including the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2012 Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Plan, the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2010 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan and the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. All of these plans have been approved by the Company's shareholders.

Plan Category	Number of Common Shares to Be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted-average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Number of Common Shares Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans
2010 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan	—	\$ —	490,682
2012 Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Plan	30,309	_	45,975
2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan	—	—	86,030
Total All Plans	30,309	_	622,687



## PROPOSAL 4: TO ADOPT AND APPROVE THE JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 2020 LONG-TERM STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

The Board of Directors (the "Board") unanimously approved the adoption of the 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the "JOI 2020 LTIP") on December 5, 2019 and is submitting the JOI LTIP to shareholders for their approval and adoption at the 2020 Annual Meeting. The purpose of the JOI LTIP is to enhance the ability of the Company and its Affiliates (as defined below) to attract and retain employees who will make substantial contributions to the Company's long-term business growth and to provide meaningful incentives to such employees which are directly linked to the profitability of the Company's businesses and increases in shareholder value. In addition, the JOI LTIP is designed to encourage and provide opportunities for stock ownership by such employees, which will increase their proprietary interest in the Company and, consequently, their identification with the interests of the shareholders of the Company.

Prior to the effective date of this Plan, the Company had in effect the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2010 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan ("JOI 2010 LTIP"), which was effective December 14, 2009. The JOI 2010 LTIP Plan terminated December 13, 2019, and as of such date no shares remain available for issuance thereunder, and no new awards are eligible to be granted thereunder. Awards granted under the JOI 2010 LTIP and still outstanding as of the December 13, 2019 termination date will continue to remain outstanding and be subject to all terms and conditions of the JOI 2010 LTIP and the award agreement entered into in connection with such awards. A summary of the JOI 2020 LTIP appears below. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the JOI 2020 LTIP which is attached as Appendix A to this proxy statement.

## **Plan Administration Description**

The JOI 2020 LTIP shall be administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board. The Compensation Committee shall be composed of not fewer than two members of the Board, each of whom shall (a) meet the independence requirements established by the Board and applicable laws, regulations and listing requirements and (b) be a "non-employee director" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or any successor rule. If at any time the Compensation Committee shall not be in existence, the Board shall administer the JOI 2020 LTIP. The Compensation Committee shall have full discretionary power and authority to: (i) designate Participants; (ii) determine the type or types of awards to be granted to each Participant under the JOI 2020 LTIP; (iii) determine the number of shares to be covered by awards granted to Participants; (iv) determine the terms and conditions of any award granted to a Participant; (v) determine under what circumstances awards granted to Participants may be amended, modified, or cancelled; (vi) interpret and administer the JOI 2020 LTIP and any instrument, agreement or award made under the JOI 2020 LTIP; (vii) establish, amend, suspend or waive such rules and regulations and appoint agents for the proper administration of the JOI 2020 LTIP; and (viii) make any other determination and take any other action that the Compensation Committee deems necessary or desirable for the administration of the JOI 2020 LTIP. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the JOI 2020 LTIP, all designations, determinations, interpretations and other decisions under the JOI 2020 LTIP shall be within the sole discretion of the Compensation Committee, and will be binding on all parties.

## **Effective Date**

The JOI 2020 LTIP shall be effective as of December 14, 2019 ("Effective Date,") subject to the approval by the shareholders of the Company within twelve (12) months of the date the Plan was adopted by the Board. No Awards may be made under the JOI 2020 LTIP after December 13, 2029, or earlier if terminated by the Board. However, unless otherwise expressly provided in the JOI 2020 LTIP or in an applicable Award, any Award granted prior to the termination date may extend beyond such date, and, to the extent set forth in the JOI 2020 LTIP, the authority of the Compensation Committee to amend, alter, adjust, suspend, discontinue or terminate any such Award, or to waive any conditions or restrictions with respect to any such Award shall extend beyond the termination date.



## Shares Available Under the JOI 2020 LTIP

Subject to adjustment in accordance with the terms of the JOI 2020 LTIP, the maximum number of shares of common stock available for Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock awards or Restricted Stock Units granted under the JOI 2020 LTIP ("Awards") shall be 500,000. The total number of shares subject to Awards to any one Participant during any fiscal year of the Company shall not exceed 150,000 shares (reduced, in the initial Fiscal Year in which the JOI 2020 LTIP is effective, by the number of shares granted to a Participant under the JOI 2010 LTIP in such year).

## **Eligible Participant**

The Compensation Committee may designate any of the following as a participant under the JOI 2020 LTIP (a "Participant"): any officer or other employee of the Company or any entity that, directly or through one or more intermediaries, is controlled by the Company (individually, an "Affiliate", and collectively, "Affiliates") or an individual that the Company or an Affiliate has engaged to become an officer or other employee. The Compensation Committee's designation of a Participant in any year will not require the Compensation Committee to designate such person to receive an Award in any other year.

## **Terms of Awards**

*Stock Options*. Subject to the terms of the JOI 2020 LTIP, the Compensation Committee shall determine all terms and conditions of each stock option, including but not limited to: (i) whether the stock option is an Incentive Stock Option ("ISO") which meets the requirements of Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") section 422 or a Nonstatutory Stock Option ("NSO") which does not meet the requirements of Code section 422; (ii) the grant date; (iii) the number of shares subject to the stock option; (iv) the exercise price, which may never be less than the fair market value of the shares subject to the option as determined on the date of grant; (v) the terms and conditions of exercise, provided that, unless the Compensation Committee provides otherwise in an Award or in rules and regulations relating to the JOI 2020 LTIP, a stock option shall be exercised by delivery of a written notice of exercise to the Company and provision for payment of the full exercise price of the shares being purchased pursuant to the stock option and any withholding taxes due; (vi) the termination date, except that each stock option must terminate no later than ten (10) years after the date of grant; (vii) any vesting criteria and the vesting period; and (viii) the exercise period following a Participant's termination of employment.

Stock Appreciation Rights. Subject to the terms of the JOI 2020 LTIP, the Compensation Committee shall determine all terms and conditions of each Stock Appreciation Right ("SAR"), including but not limited to: (i) whether the SAR is granted independently of a stock option or relates to a stock option; (ii) the grant date; (iii) the number of shares to which the SAR relates; (iv) the grant price, provided that the grant price shall never be less than the fair market value of the shares subject to the SAR as determined on the date of grant; (v) the terms and conditions of exercise or maturity; (vi) the term, provided that an SAR must terminate no later than 10 years after the date of grant; (vii) any vesting criteria and the vesting period; and (viii) the exercise period following a Participant's termination of employment.

Restricted Stock Awards and Restricted Stock Units. Subject to the terms of the JOI 2020 LTIP, the Compensation Committee shall determine all terms and conditions of each Award to a Participant of the right to receive cash or shares with a fair market value, which may vest upon the achievement or partial achievement of performance goals or upon the completion of a period of service ("Restricted Stock Units"), or shares that are subject to a risk of forfeiture or restrictions on transfer, which may lapse upon the achievement or partial achievement of performance goals or upon the completion of a period of service ("Restricted Stock Units"), or shares that are subject to a risk of forfeiture or restrictions on transfer, which may lapse upon the achievement or partial achievement of performance goals or upon the completion of a period of service ("Restricted Stock Units"), or shares that are subject to a risk of forfeiture or restrictions on transfer, which may lapse upon the achievement or partial achievement of performance goals or upon the completion of a period of service ("Restricted Stock" and along with Restricted Stock Units, collectively "Restricted Stock Awards"). The Restricted Stock Units and Restricted Stock terms and conditions may include, but are not limited to: (i) the number of shares to which such Award relates; and (ii) the period of time, if any, over which, the Award can be earned. However, if an Award requires the achievement of performance goals, then the period to which such performance goals relate must be at least one year in length, and if an Award of Restricted Stock is not subject to performance goals, then such Award must have a restriction period of at least one year.



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With regard to Restricted Stock Awards, the Compensation Committee may at any time adjust performance goals (up or down), adjust the manner in which performance goals are measured, or shorten any performance period or waive in whole or in part any or all remaining restrictions if the Compensation Committee determines that conditions, including changes in the economy, changes in competitive conditions, changes in laws or governmental regulations, changes in generally accepted accounting principles, changes in the Company's accounting policies, acquisitions or dispositions by the Company or its Affiliates, or the occurrence of other unusual, unforeseen or extraordinary events, so warrant.

## **Change in Control**

In order to preserve a Participant's rights under an Award in the event of a Change in Control of the Company, the Compensation Committee in its discretion may take one or more of the following actions: (i) adjust the terms of the Award in a manner determined by the Compensation Committee to reflect the Change in Control (ii) cause the Award to be assumed, or new rights substituted therefor, by another entity, or (iii) subject to the limitations of Code section 409A, accelerate or cash out Awards. For purposes of the JOI 2020 LTIP, a Change in Control shall be deemed to have occurred if the Johnson Family shall at any time fail to own stock of the Company having, in the aggregate, votes sufficient to elect at least a fifty-one percent (51%) majority of the directors of the Company. "Johnson Family" shall mean at any time, collectively, the estate of Samuel C. Johnson, the widow of Samuel C. Johnson and the children and grandchildren of Samuel C. Johnson, the executor or administrator of the estate or other legal representative of any such person, all trusts for the benefit of the foregoing or their heirs or any one or more of them, and all partnerships, corporations or other entities directly or indirectly controlled by the foregoing or any one or more of them.

## **Restriction on Transferability**

No Award subject to the JOI 2020 LTIP and no right under the Award shall be assignable, alienable, saleable or otherwise transferable by the Participant other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution. The Compensation Committee may allow a Participant to designate a beneficiary or beneficiaries to exercise the Participant's rights and receive any distributions under the JOI 2020 LTIP upon the Participant's death. However, these transfer restrictions will not prevent a gift or transfer to (i) any trust or other estate in which the Participant has a substantial beneficial interest or serves as trustee; or (ii) any relative or spouse of a Participant, or any relative of the Participant's spouse.

## **Termination and Amendment**

The Board may amend, alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate the JOI 2020 LTIP as it deems necessary or appropriate to better achieve the purposes of the JOI 2020 LTIP; provided, however, that no amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuation or termination of the JOI 2020 LTIP shall in any manner (except as otherwise provided in the JOI 2020 LTIP) adversely affect any Award granted and then outstanding under the JOI 2020 LTIP without the consent of the respective Participant and no amendment, alteration, suspension or termination of the JOI 2020 LTIP may be effected without the approval of our shareholders except to the extent necessary to comply with applicable law or the rules of any exchange on which the Company's common stock is listed. However, the Compensation Committee need not obtain Participant consent for the cancellation, modification or amendment of an Award: (i) to the extent the modification or amendment is deemed necessary by the Compensation Committee to comply with any applicable law (including Code section 409A) or the listing requirements of any principal securities exchange or market on which the Shares are then traded; (ii) to the extent the modification or amendment is deemed necessary by the Compensation Committee to preserve favorable accounting treatment of any Award for the Company; or (iii) to the extent the Compensation Committee determines that such modification or amendment does not materially and adversely affect the value of an Award or that such modification or amendment is in the best interest of the affected Participant or any heir, beneficiary, or assign thereof.



## Adjustments

In the event of any stock dividend, stock split, combination or exchange of shares of our Class A common stock, merger, consolidation, spin-off or other distribution (other than normal cash dividends) of Company assets to shareholders, or any other change affecting such shares, such that an adjustment is determined by the Compensation Committee to be appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the JOI 2020 LTIP or any Award, then the Compensation Committee may, in such manner as it may deem equitable, adjust any or all of (i) the aggregate number and type of shares of our Class A common stock that may be issued under the JOI 2020 LTIP, that may be issued as Restricted Stock Awards and Stock Appreciation Rights, or that may be issued to one Participant during any fiscal year; (ii) the number and type of shares of our Class A common stock covered by each outstanding Award made under the JOI 2020 LTIP; and (iii) the exercise, base or purchase price per share for any outstanding Stock Option, Stock Appreciation Right and other Awards granted under the JOI 2020 LTIP.

## Federal Income Tax Consequences under the JOI 2020 LTIP

The following summary briefly describes certain material U.S. federal income tax consequences of rights under the JOI 2020 LTIP, but is not a detailed or complete description of all U.S. federal tax laws or regulations that may apply, and does not address any local, state or other country laws.

Pursuant to the JOI 2020 LTIP, Participants may be granted the following benefits: stock options (including ISOs and NSOs), SARs, shares of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units. The Company shall have the right, upon issuance of shares or payment of cash in respect of an Award, to reduce the number of shares or amount of cash, as the case may be, otherwise issuable or payable by the amount necessary to satisfy any federal, state or local withholding taxes or to take such other actions as may be necessary to satisfy any such withholding obligations.

*Incentive Stock Options.* No income is realized by the Participant upon the grant or exercise of an option that qualifies as an ISO under Section 422 of the Code. If common stock is issued to a Participant upon exercise of an ISO, and if the Participant does not dispose of those shares in a disqualifying disposition within two years after the date of the option grant or within one year after the shares are issued to the Participant, then (i) on the sale of the shares, any amount realized in excess of the option price will be taxed to the participant as a long-term capital gain and any loss sustained will be a long-term capital loss, and (ii) no deduction will be allowed to the Company for federal income tax purposes. The exercise of an ISO will generally give rise to an item of tax preference that may result in alternative tax liability for the Participant.

If shares of common stock acquired upon the exercise of an ISO are disposed of prior to the expiration of either holding period described above, then generally (i) the Participant will realize ordinary income in the year of disposition in an amount equal to the excess (if any) of the fair market value of the shares at exercise (or, if less, the amount realized on the disposition of the shares if a sale or exchange) over the option price paid for the shares, and (ii) the Company will be entitled to deduct the amount of ordinary income taxed to the participant for federal income tax purposes if the amount represents an ordinary and necessary business expense. Any further gain (or loss) realized by the Participant will be taxed as short-term or long-term capital gain (or loss), as the case may be, and will not result in any deduction by the Company.

If an ISO is exercised more than three months after termination of employment, the option will be taxed in the same manner as the exercise of a NSO, except when termination of employment is due to disability or death. In the case of termination as a result of disability, if an ISO is exercised more than one year after termination of employment, the option will be taxed in the same manner as a NSO. In the case of termination as a result of death, the ISO retains its characterization if exercised during the option term. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any stock option awarded under the Plan will be subject to the terms of the Plan, which generally allows a Participant to exercise an Option within ninety days of termination of employment or, in the case of termination as a result of death.

Further, if an ISO becomes first exercisable in any one year for shares having an aggregate value in excess of \$100,000 (based on the date of grant value), the portion of the ISO in respect of those excess shares will be treated as NSO for federal income tax purposes.



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# PROPOSAL 4: TO ADOPT AND APPROVE THE JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 2020 LONG-TERM STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

*Nonstatutory Stock Options*. With respect to options that do not qualify as ISOs under section 422 of the Code, (i) no income is realized by the Participant at the time the option is granted, (ii) generally, at exercise, ordinary income is realized by the Participant in an amount equal to the difference between the option price paid for the shares and the fair market value of the shares on the date of exercise, (iii) the Company will generally be entitled to a federal income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income taxed to the Participant, (iv) prior to (or contemporaneous with) the exercise of an option, the Participant shall make an appropriate payment or other provision (which may include the withholding of shares of common stock) with respect to any withholding or similar tax requirement, and (iv) upon disposition of the common stock acquired by exercise of the NSO, appreciation (or depreciation) occurring after the date of exercise is treated as either short-term or long-term capital gain (or loss), depending on how long the shares have been held.

*Stock Appreciation Rights*. With respect to SARs, (i) in general, no income is realized by the participant at the time the SAR is granted, (ii) generally, at exercise, the Participant will be required to include as ordinary income an amount equal to the cash received and/or the fair market value of any shares of common stock received on the exercise, (iii) the Company will generally be entitled to a federal income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income taxed to the Participant, and (iv) the Participant shall make an appropriate payment or other provision with respect to any withholding or similar tax requirement.

*Restricted Stock Awards; Restricted Stock Units.* With respect to Restricted Stock, (i) in general, no income is realized by the Participant at the time the Restricted Stock is granted and (ii) when the Restricted Stock becomes transferable or no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture, the Participant will be subject to tax at ordinary income rates on the amount by which the fair market value of the Restricted Stock at such time exceeds the amount, if any, paid for the stock by the Participant. However, a Participant may elect under Code section 83(b) (which election must be made within 30 days after the date of receipt of the Restricted Stock) to be taxed differently. In such a case (i) ordinary income is realized by the Participant at the time the Restricted Stock is granted, in an amount equal to the amount by which the fair market value of such shares of Restricted Stock at grant exceeds the amount, if any, paid for the stock by the Participant and (ii) upon disposition of the shares, the Participant will recognize short-term or long-term capital gain (or loss), depending on how long the shares have been held, measured by the difference between the amount realized on the disposition and the basis of the Restricted Stock, which basis will equal the sum of the purchase price and the amount included in gross income under Code section 83(b).

With respect to a sale or exchange of the shares after the forfeiture period has expired, the holding period to determine whether the grantee has long-term or short-term capital gain or loss generally begins when the restrictions expire and the tax basis for such shares will generally be based on the fair market value of such shares on such date (except that a section 83(b) election will cause the holding period commencement and the tax basis to be determined as of the date of grant). The Company generally will be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount that is taxable as ordinary income to the Participant and the Participant shall make an appropriate payment or other provision with respect to any withholding or similar tax requirement when the amount is subject to ordinary income to the Participant.

With respect to Restricted Stock Units, (i) in general, no income is realized by the participant at the time the Restricted Stock Unit is granted, (ii) generally, upon the delivery of shares or cash pursuant to a Restricted Stock Unit award, the Participant will be required to include as ordinary income an amount equal to the cash and/or fair market value of any shares of common stock received, (iii) the Company will generally be entitled to a federal income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income taxed to the Participant, and (iv) the Participant shall make an appropriate payment or other provision with respect to any withholding or similar tax requirement.

## **JOI 2020 LTIP Benefits**

Because the Compensation Committee has full discretion to determine who will be a Participant, there is no way to predict how many Participants may ultimately receive Awards under the JOI 2020 LTIP or determine in advance the benefits or amounts that will be received in the future by or allocated to specific officers or employees, or groups thereof under the JOI 2020 LTIP. As a result, the benefits that will be received under the JOI 2020 LTIP by the Company's current executive officers and by all eligible Participants are not currently determinable.



## **Vote Required**

If a quorum exists, the proposed JOI 2020 LTIP will be adopted and approved if the votes cast at the Annual Meeting in favor of approval and adoption of the JOI 2020 LTIP exceed the votes cast against approval and adoption of the JOI 2020 LTIP. Any shares not voted at the meeting (whether by broker non-votes or otherwise) and any abstentions will have no impact on the vote.

## **Recommendation of Our Board of Directors**

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE 2020 LONG-TERM STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN.



## SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

All shareholder proposals pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Rule 14a-8"), for presentation at the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must be received at the offices of the Company, Attention: Corporate Secretary, 555 Main Street, Racine, Suite 342, Wisconsin 53403 by September 12, 2020 (120 days prior to the anniversary date of the mailing of this Proxy Statement) for inclusion in the proxy statement and form of proxy relating to the meeting. In addition, a shareholder who otherwise (other than pursuant to SEC Rule 14a-8) intends to present business at the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must comply with the requirements set forth in the Company's Bylaws. Among other things, to bring business before an annual meeting, a shareholder must give written notice thereof, complying with the Bylaws, to the Secretary of the Company not more than 120 days prior to the first anniversary date of the preceding year's annual meeting and not less than the close of business on the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the first anniversary date of the preceding year's annual meeting; provided, however, that in the event that the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder must be so delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting or, if the first public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is less than 100 days prior to the date of such annual meeting, the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made by the corporation. Under the Bylaws, if the Company does not receive notice of a shareholder proposal submitted otherwise than pursuant to Rule 14a-8 (namely, proposals shareholders intend to present at the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders but do not intend to have included in the Company's proxy statement and form of proxy for such meeting) prior to the close of business on November 29, 2020, then the notice will be considered untimely and the Company will not be required to present such proposal at the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. If the Board of Directors chooses to present such proposal at the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, then the persons named in the proxies solicited by the Board of Directors for the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders may exercise discretionary voting power with respect to such proposal.



## **OTHER MATTERS**

The Company has filed an Annual Report on Form 10-K with the SEC for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2019. This Form 10-K will be mailed on or around January 10, 2020, to each person who is a record or beneficial holder of shares of Class A common stock or Class B common stock on the record date for the Annual Meeting. Pursuant to, and in accordance with, the rules of the SEC, the Company, where allowed, is delivering only one copy of the Company's 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K and this Proxy Statement to multiple shareholders sharing an address unless the Company will promptly deliver a separate copy of the Company's 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K and/or this Proxy Statement to any shareholder at a shared address to which a single copy of the document was delivered. If you are a shareholder residing at a shared address and would like to request an additional copy of the Company's 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K and/or this Proxy Statement now or with respect to future mailings (or to request to receive only one copy of the Annual Report and Proxy Statement if you are currently receiving multiple copies), then you may notify the Company (1) by writing to the Corporate Secretary, Johnson Outdoors Inc., 555 Main Street, Suite 342, Racine, Wisconsin 53403 or (2) via email to: proxy@johnsonoutdoors.com.

The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by the Company. The Company expects to solicit proxies primarily by mail. Proxies may also be solicited in person or by telephone by certain officers and employees of the Company. It is not anticipated that anyone will be specially engaged to solicit proxies or that special compensation will be paid for that purpose. The Company will also reimburse brokerage firms, custodians, nominees, fiduciaries and others for expenses incurred in forwarding proxy material to the beneficial owners of the Company's common stock.

Neither the Board of Directors nor management intends to bring before the Annual Meeting any matters other than those referred to in the Notice of Annual Meeting and this Proxy Statement. In the event that any other matters shall properly come before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the proxy forms to vote the shares represented by each such proxy in accordance with their judgment on such matters.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Secretary & General Counsel

January 10, 2020



## APPENDIX A

## JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 2020 LONG-TERM STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

#### Section 1: Purpose

The purpose of the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan") is to enhance the ability of Johnson Outdoors Inc. (the "Company") and its Affiliates (as defined below) to attract and retain employees who will make substantial contributions to the Company's long-term business growth and to provide meaningful incentives to such employees which are more directly linked to the profitability of the Company's businesses and increases in shareholder value. In addition, the Plan is designed to encourage and provide opportunities for stock ownership by such employees which will increase their proprietary interest in the Company and, consequently, their identification with the interests of the shareholders of the Company.

# Section 2: History and Status of the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2010 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan

Prior to the effective date of this Plan, the Company had in effect the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2010 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan ("JOI 2010 LTIP"), which was effective December 14, 2009. The JOI 2010 LTIP Plan terminated December 13, 2019, and as of such date no shares remain available for issuance thereunder, and no new awards are eligible to be granted thereunder after such date. Awards granted under the JOI 2010 LTIP and still outstanding as of the December 13, 2019 termination date will continue to remain outstanding and be subject to all terms and conditions of the JOI 2010 LTIP and the award agreement entered into in connection with such awards.

## **Section 3: Effective Date**

The Plan shall be effective as of December 14, 2019 ("Effective Date"), subject, however, to the approval of the Plan by the shareholders of the Company within twelve (12) months of the date the Plan is adopted (the adoption date by the Board of December 5, 2019, is referred to herein as the "Adoption Date"). No Awards may be made under the Plan after December 13, 2029, or if earlier, after termination of the Plan by the Board. However, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Plan or in an applicable Award, any Award granted prior to the termination date may extend beyond such date, and, to the extent set forth in the Plan, the authority of the Compensation Committee to amend, alter, adjust, suspend, discontinue or terminate any such Award, or to waive any conditions or restrictions with respect to any such Award, and the authority of the Board and the Compensation Committee to amend the Plan, shall extend beyond such date.

## **Section 4: Definitions**

As used in the Plan, the following terms have the respective meanings set forth below:

- (a) Affiliate means any entity that, directly or through one or more intermediaries, is controlled by the Company.
- (b) Award means any Stock Option, Stock Appreciation Right or Stock Award granted under the Plan.
- (c) Board means the Board of Directors of the Company.
- (d) Code means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time.
- (e) *Compensation Committee* means the Compensation Committee selected by the Board to administer the Plan which shall be composed of not fewer than two members of the Board, each of whom shall (a) meet the independence requirements established by the Board and applicable laws, regulations and



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listing requirements and (b) be a "non-employee director" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the 1934 Act (or any successor rule), unless administration of the Plan by "non-employee directors" is not then required in order for exemptions under Rule I6b-3 to apply to transactions under the Plan.

- (f) Common Stock means the Class A Common Stock, \$.05 par value, of the Company.
- (g) *Company* means Johnson Outdoors Inc., a corporation established under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, and its Affiliates.
- (h) Fair Market Value means, with respect to Common Stock, the fair market value of such property determined by such methods or procedures as shall be established from time to time by the Compensation Committee; provided, however, that the Fair Market Value shall not be less than the par value of the Common Stock; and provided further, that so long as the Common Stock is listed on any national securities exchange, including, without limitation, the NASDAQ Stock Market, Fair Market Value means the average of the high and low sale prices of a share of Common Stock as quoted on such exchange for the day of determination, or, if otherwise determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee, based upon the average of the high and low sale prices of a share of Common Stock over a series of consecutive trading days prior to the award date, as reported in The Wall Street Journal or such other source as the Compensation Committee deems reliable (or if no sales occurred on such date, the last preceding date on which sales occurred); provided, however, if a share of Common Stock is regularly quoted by a recognized securities dealer but selling prices are not reported, the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock shall be the mean between the high bid and low asked prices for such share for the day of determination, or, if otherwise determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee, based upon the average of the high and low bid prices of a share of Common Stock over a series of consecutive trading days prior to the award date, as reported in The Wall Street Journal or such other source as the Compensation Committee deems reliable. In the absence of an established market for a share of Common Stock, the Fair Market Value shall be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee.
- (i) *Incentive Stock Option, or ISO*, means an option to purchase Shares granted under Section 8(b) of the Plan that is intended to meet the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision.
- (j) 1934 Act means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time.
- (k) *Nonstatutory Stock Option, or NSO*, means an option to purchase Shares granted under Section 8(b) of the Plan that is not intended to meet the requirements of Section 422 of the Code or any successor provision.
- (I) *Participant* means a person selected by the Compensation Committee as provided under Sections 5 and 6) to receive an Award under the Plan.
- (m) Reporting Person means an individual who is subject to Section 16 under the 1934 Act or any successor rule.
- (n) Restricted Stock means Shares that are subject to a risk of forfeiture or restrictions on transfer, which may lapse upon the achievement or partial achievement of performance goals or upon the completion of a period of service.
- (o) Restricted Stock Unit means the right to receive cash or Shares with a Fair Market Value, valued in relation to a unit that has a value equal to the Fair Market Value of a Share, which right may vest upon the achievement or partial achievement of performance goals or upon the completion of a period of service.
- (p) Shares means shares of Common Stock of the Company.
- (q) Stock Appreciation Right, or SAR, means any right granted under Section 8(c) of the Plan.
- (r) Stock Award means an award granted under Section 8(d) of the Plan.



(s) Stock Option or Option means an Incentive Stock Option or a Nonstatutory Stock Option.

## **Section 5: Administration**

#### **Compensation Committee Administration**

The Plan shall be administered by the Compensation Committee; provided, however, that except as otherwise expressly provided in this Plan, the Board may exercise any power or authority granted to the Compensation Committee under this Plan and, in that case, references herein shall be deemed to include references to the Board. If at any time the Compensation Committee shall not be in existence, the Board shall administer the Plan, and in such case, all references to the Compensation Committee herein shall include the Board.

Subject to the terms of the Plan and applicable law, the Compensation Committee shall have full discretionary power and authority to: (i) designate Participants; (ii) determine the type or types of Awards to be granted to each Participant under the Plan; (iii) determine the number of Shares to be covered by (or with respect to which payments, rights or other matters are to be calculated in connection with) Awards granted to Participants; (iv) determine the terms and conditions of any Award granted to a Participant, including any Award agreement related thereto; (v) determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances Awards granted to Participants may be amended, modified, or cancelled under Section 10(d) of the Plan; (vi) construe, interpret and administer the Plan and any instrument or agreement relating to, or Award made under, the Plan; (vii) establish, amend, suspend or waive such rules and regulations and appoint such agents as it shall deem appropriate for the proper administration of the Plan; and (viii) make any other determination and take any other action that the Compensation Committee deems necessary or desirable for the administration of the Plan.

Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, all designations, determinations, interpretations and other decisions under or with respect to the Plan or any Award shall be within the sole discretion of the Compensation Committee, may be made at any time, and shall be final, conclusive and binding upon all persons, including the Company, any Affiliate, any Participant, any holder or beneficiary of any Award, any shareholder and any employee of the Company or of any Affiliate. The express grant of any specific power to the Compensation Committee, and the taking of any action by the Compensation Committee, shall not be construed as limiting any power or authority of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee may delegate to members of the Board, or committee thereof, or officers or managers of the Company, the authority subject to such terms and conditions as the Compensation Committee shall determine, to perform such functions, including administrative functions, as the Compensation Committee may determine to the extent that such delegation will not result in the loss of an exemption under Rule 16b-3(d)(1) of the 1934 Act for Awards granted to Participants who are then Reporting Persons in respect of the Company.

The Compensation Committee, and not the Board, shall exercise sole and exclusive discretion on any matter relating to a Participant who is then a Reporting Person with respect to the Company to the extent necessary in order that transactions by such Participant shall be exempt under Rule 16b-3 under the 1934 Act.

The Compensation Committee and the Board and each member thereof shall be entitled to, in good faith, rely or act upon any report or other information furnished to him or her by any officer or employee of the Company, the Company's independent auditors, Company consultants or any other agents assisting in the administration of the Plan. Members of the Compensation Committee and the Board, and any officer or employee of the Company acting at the direction or on behalf of the Compensation Committee or the Board, shall not be personally liable for any action or determination taken or made in good faith with respect to the Plan, and shall, to the extent permitted by law, be fully indemnified and protected by the Company with respect to any such action or determination.



## Section 6: Eligibility

The Compensation Committee may designate any of the following as a Participant from time to time: any officer or other employee of the Company or any of its Affiliates or an individual that the Company or an Affiliate has engaged to become an officer or other employee. The Compensation Committee's designation of a Participant in any year will not require the Compensation Committee to designate such person to receive an Award in any other year.

## Section 7: Shares Available for Awards under this Plan

- (a) Common Shares Available. Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 7(c) below, the maximum number of Shares available for Awards under the Plan shall be 500,000.
- (b) Participant Award Limitations. Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 7(c), no Participant may be granted Awards that could result in such Participant receiving, in any fiscal year of the Company ("Fiscal Year") Options for, Stock Appreciation Rights with respect to, or Stock Awards of more than 150,000 Shares (reduced, in the initial Fiscal Year in which this Plan is effective, by the number of Shares covered by awards granted to a Participant under the JOI 2010 LTIP Plan in such fiscal year, if any).
- (c) Adjustments. In the event of any stock dividend, stock split, combination or exchange of Shares, merger, consolidation, spin-off or other distribution (other than normal cash dividends) of Company assets to shareholders, or any other change affecting Shares, such that an adjustment is determined by the Compensation Committee to be appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the Plan or any Award, then the Compensation Committee may, in such manner as it may deem equitable, adjust any or all of (i) the aggregate number and type of Shares that may be issued under the Plan, that may be issued as Stock Awards and Stock Appreciation Rights, or that may be issued to one Participant during any fiscal year; (ii) the number and type of Shares price per Share for any outstanding Stock Option, Stock Appreciation Right and other Awards granted under the Plan.
- (d) Replenishment of Shares Under the Plan. If, after the Effective Date of the Plan, any Shares covered by an Award granted under the Plan, or to which any Award relates, are forfeited or if an Award otherwise terminates, expires or is cancelled prior to the delivery of all of the Shares or of other consideration issuable or payable pursuant to such Award, then the number of Shares counted against the number of Shares available under the Plan in connection with the grant of such Award, to the extent of any such forfeiture, termination, expiration or cancellation, shall again be available for granting of additional Awards under the Plan. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, Shares subject to an Award under the Plan shall not again be made available for issuance or delivery under the Plan if such Shares are (A) Shares tendered in payment of an Option, (B) Shares delivered or withheld by the Company to satisfy any tax withholding obligation or (C) Shares covered by a stock-settled Stock Appreciation Right or other Awards that were not issued upon the settlement of the Award.
- (e) Application of Limitation to Grants of Awards. No Award may be granted if the number of Shares to be delivered in connection with such an Award exceeds the number of Shares remaining available for delivery under the Plan, minus the number of Shares deliverable in settlement of or relating to then outstanding Awards. The Compensation Committee may adopt reasonable counting procedures to ensure appropriate counting, avoid double counting (as, for example, in the case of tandem or substitute awards) and make adjustments if the number of Shares actually delivered differs from the number of Shares previously counted in connection with an Award.

## **Section 8: Awards**

(a) *General.* The Compensation Committee shall determine the type or types of Award(s) (as set forth below) to be made to each Participant and shall approve the terms and conditions of all such Awards in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Awards may be granted singularly, in combination, or in



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tandem such that the settlement of one Award automatically reduces or cancels the other. Awards may also be made in replacement of, as alternatives to, or as form of payment for grants or rights under any other employee compensation plan or arrangement of the Company, including the plans of any acquired entity.

- (b) *Stock Options.* Subject to the terms of this Plan, the Compensation Committee shall determine all terms and conditions of each Option, including but not limited to:
  - (i) Whether the Option is an Incentive Stock Option or a Nonstatutory Stock Option; provided that in the case of an Incentive Stock Option, if the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined on the date of grant) of the Shares with respect to which all Incentive Stock Options (within the meaning of Code Section 422) are first exercisable by the Participant during any calendar year (under this Plan and under all other Incentive Stock Option plans of the Company or any Affiliate that is required to be included under Code Section 422) exceeds \$100,000, such Option automatically shall be treated as a Nonstatutory Stock Option to the extent this limit is exceeded.
  - (ii) The grant date, which may not be any day prior to the date that the Compensation Committee approves the grant.
  - (iii) The number of Shares subject to the Option.
  - (iv) The exercise price, which may never be less than the Fair Market Value of the Shares subject to the Option as determined on the date of grant; provided that no Incentive Stock Option shall be granted to any employee who, at the time the Option is granted, owns (directly or indirectly, within the meaning of Code Section 424(d)) more than ten percent of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or of any subsidiary of the Company unless the exercise price is at least 110 percent of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant.
  - (v) The terms and conditions of exercise; provided that, unless the Compensation Committee provides otherwise in an Award or in rules and regulations relating to this Plan, an Option, or portion thereof, shall be exercised by delivery of a written notice of exercise to the Company (or its designee) and provision (in a manner acceptable to the Compensation Committee) for payment of the full exercise price of the Shares being purchased pursuant to the Option and any withholding taxes due thereon, including by tendering, by either actual delivery of shares or by attestation, shares valued at their Fair Market Value on the date of exercise, or in a combination of forms. The Compensation Committee may also permit Participants to have the option price delivered to the Company by a broker pursuant to an arrangement whereby the Company, upon irrevocable instructions from a Participant, delivers the exercised Shares to the broker.
  - (vi) The termination date, except that each Option must terminate no later than ten (10) years after the date of grant, and each Incentive Stock Option granted to any employee who, at the time the Option is granted, owns (directly or indirectly, within the meaning of Code Section 424(d)) more than ten percent of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or of any Affiliate must terminate no later than five (5) years after the date of grant.
  - (vii) The exercise period following a Participant's termination of employment, provided that:
    - a. Unless the Compensation Committee provides otherwise, if a Participant shall cease to be employed by the Company or any of its Affiliates, (I) the portion of the Option that is not vested shall terminate on the date of such cessation of employment and (II) the Participant shall have a period ending on the earlier of the Option's termination date or 90 days from the date of cessation of employment to exercise the vested portion of the Option to the extent not previously exercised. At the end of such period, the Option shall terminate.



- b. In the event of the death of the Participant while employed by the Company or any of its Affiliates, the Option may be exercised at any time prior to the earlier of the Option's termination date or the first anniversary of the date of the Participant's death to the extent that the Participant was entitled to exercise such Option on the Participant's date of death.
- (c) Stock Appreciation Rights. Subject to the terms of this Plan, the Compensation Committee shall determine all terms and conditions of each SAR, including but not limited to:
  - (i) Whether the SAR is granted independently of an Option or relates to an Option.
  - (ii) The grant date, which may not be any day prior to the date that the Compensation Committee approves the grant.
  - (iii) The number of Shares to which the SAR relates.
  - (iv) The grant price, provided that the grant price shall never be less than the Fair Market Value of the Shares subject to the SAR as determined on the date of grant.
  - (v) The terms and conditions of exercise or maturity.
  - (vi) The term, provided that an SAR must terminate no later than 10 years after the date of grant.
  - (vii) The exercise period following a Participant's termination of employment.
- (d) *Stock Awards.* Subject to the terms of this Plan, the Compensation Committee shall determine all terms and conditions of each Award of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, including but not limited to:
  - (i) The number of Shares to which such Stock Award relates.
  - (ii) The period of time, if any, over which, with respect to Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, the risk of forfeiture or restrictions imposed on the Award will lapse, or over which the Award will vest, and whether, as a condition for the Participant to realize all or a portion of the benefit provided under the Award, one or more performance goals must be achieved during such period, if any, as the Compensation Committee specifies; provided that, subject to the provisions of Section 8(d)(iii), if an Award requires the achievement of performance goals, then the period to which such performance goals relate must be at least one year in length, and if an Award of Restricted Stock is not subject to performance goals, then such Award must have a restriction period of at least one year.
  - (iii) Whether, with respect to Restricted Stock, all or any portion of the period of forfeiture or restrictions imposed on the Award will lapse, or whether the vesting of the Award will be accelerated, upon a Participant's death, disability or retirement.
  - (iv) With respect to Restricted Stock, the manner of registration of certificates for such Shares, and whether to hold such Shares in escrow pending lapse of the period of forfeiture or restrictions or to issue such Shares with an appropriate legend referring to such restrictions.
  - (v) Whether dividends paid with respect to the Shares subject to or underlying an Award of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units will be immediately paid or held in escrow or otherwise deferred and whether such dividends shall be subject to the same terms and conditions as the Award to which they relate.

With regard to Restricted Stock Awards, the Compensation Committee may at any time adjust performance goals (up or down) and minimum or full performance levels (and any intermediate levels and proportion of payments related thereto), adjust the manner in which performance goals are measured, or shorten any performance period or waive in whole or in part any or all remaining restrictions with respect to Shares subject to restrictions, if the Compensation Committee determines that conditions, including but not limited to, changes in the economy, changes in competitive

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conditions, changes in laws or governmental regulations, changes in generally accepted accounting principles, changes in the Company's accounting policies, acquisitions or dispositions by the Company or its Affiliates, or the occurrence of other unusual, unforeseen or extraordinary events, so warrant.

(e) Awards to Reporting Persons. It is the intent of the Company that the grant of any Awards to, or other transaction by, a Participant who is a Reporting Person shall be exempt from Section 16 pursuant to an applicable exemption (except for transactions acknowledged in writing to be non-exempt by such Participant). Accordingly, if any provision of this Plan or any agreement covering an Award does not comply with the requirements of Rule 16b-3 then applicable to any such transaction, such provision shall be construed or deemed amended to the extent necessary to conform to the applicable requirements of Rule 16b-3 so that such Participant shall avoid liability under Section 16(b).

## Section 9: Amendment of Minimum Vesting and Performance Periods; Other Adjustment.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan that requires a minimum vesting or performance period for an Award, the Compensation Committee, at the time an Award is granted or any later date, may subject an Award to a shorter vesting or performance period to take into account a Participant's promotion, or may accelerate the vesting or deem an Award to be earned, in whole or in part, in the event of a Participant's death, disability or retirement provided that with respect to an Award that is subject to Code Section 409A, the Compensation Committee shall not exercise such authority to the extent that exercise of such authority would cause the Award to fail to satisfy the requirements of Code Section 409A. In the event that any extraordinary dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash, Shares or other property), recapitalization, forward or reverse split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination, repurchase, share exchange, liquidation, dissolution or other similar corporate transaction or event affects the Shares and/or such other securities of the Company or any other issuer, then the Compensation Committee shall, in such manner as it may deem appropriate and equitable (and subject to compliance with Section 409A of the Code), substitute, exchange or adjust any or all of (A) the number and kind of Shares which may be delivered in connection with Awards granted thereafter, (B) the number and kind of Shares by which annual per person Award limitations are measured hereunder, (C) the number and kind of Shares subject to or deliverable in respect of outstanding Awards, (D) the exercise price, grant price or purchase price relating to any Award and/or make provision for payment of cash or other property in respect of any outstanding Award and (E) any other aspect of any Award that the Compensation Committee determines to be appropriate.

### Section 10: General Provisions Applicable to Awards

- (a) *No Consideration for Awards.* Awards shall be granted to Participants for no cash consideration unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee.
- (b) Transferability and Exercisability. No Award subject to the Plan and no right under any such Award shall be assignable, alienable, saleable or otherwise transferable by the Participant other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution; provided, however, that if so permitted by the Compensation Committee, a Participant may (i) designate a beneficiary or beneficiaries to exercise the Participant's rights and receive any distributions under the Plan and Awards upon the Participant's death and (ii) transfer an Award. Notwithstanding the preceding, the following transfers or other dispositions shall not be deemed to be a violation of the transfer restrictions set forth herein:

A gift or other transfer of Awards issued to (i) any trust or other estate in which such Recipient has a substantial beneficial interest or as to which such Recipient serves as a trustee or in a similar capacity or (ii) any relative or spouse of such Recipient, or any relative of such spouse; provided that any Awards transferred by gift or otherwise pursuant to this subparagraph will continue to be subject to the non-transfer restrictions of this section 10 as though such Awards were held by the Recipient.

(c) *General Restrictions.* Each Award shall be subject to the requirement that, if at any time the Compensation Committee shall determine, in its sole discretion, that the listing, registration or



qualification of any Award under the Plan upon any securities exchange or under any state or federal law, or the consent or approval of any government regulatory body, is necessary or desirable as a condition of, or in connection with, the granting of such Award or the grant or settlement thereof, such Award may not be exercised or settled in whole or in part unless such listing, registration, qualification, consent or approval have been effected or obtained free of any conditions not acceptable to the Compensation Committee.

- (d) Amendments, Modification, or Cancellation of Awards. Subject to the requirements of the Plan, the Compensation Committee may modify or amend any Award or waive any restrictions or conditions applicable to any Award or the exercise of the Award, and the terms and conditions applicable to any Awards may at any time be amended, modified or canceled by mutual agreement between the Compensation Committee and the Participant or any permissible heir, beneficiary or assign thereto as may then have an interest in the Award, so long as any amendment or modification does not increase the number of Shares issuable under this Plan (except as permitted by Section 10(k)), but the Compensation Committee need not obtain Participant (or other interested party) consent for the cancellation of an Award or for the modification or amendment of an Award: (i) to the extent the modification or amendment is deemed necessary by the Compensation Committee to comply with any applicable law (including Code Section 409A) or the listing requirements of any principal securities exchange or market on which the Shares are then traded; (ii) to the extent the modification or amendment is deemed necessary by the Compensation Committee to preserve favorable accounting treatment of any Award for the Company; or (iii) to the extent the Compensation Committee determines that such modification or amendment does not materially and adversely affect the value of an Award or that such modification or amendment is in the best interest of the affected Participant or any heir, beneficiary, or assign thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, unless determined otherwise by the Compensation Committee, any such amendment shall be made in a manner that will enable an Award intended to be exempt from Code Section 409A to continue to be so exempt, or to enable an Award intended to comply with Code Section 409A to continue to so comply.
- (e) *Survival of Authority and Awards.* Notwithstanding the foregoing, the authority of the Board and the Compensation Committee under this Section 10 will extend beyond the date of this Plan's termination. In addition, termination of this Plan will not affect the rights of Participants with respect to Awards previously granted to them, and all unexpired Awards will continue in full force and effect after termination of this Plan except as they may lapse or be terminated by their own terms and conditions.
- (f) Repricing Prohibited. Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, and except for the adjustments provided in Section 4 or Section 7(c), the terms of outstanding Awards may not be amended to reduce the exercise price of outstanding Options, Restricted Stock Units, or SARs or cancel outstanding Options or SARs in exchange for cash, other awards or Options or SARs with an exercise price that is less than the exercise price of the original Options or SARs without shareholder approval. Additionally, the Compensation Committee shall not be permitted to (A) lower the exercise price per Share of an Option after it is granted, (B) cancel an Option when the exercise price per Share exceeds the Fair Market Value of the underlying Shares in exchange for cash or another Award, (C) cancel an outstanding Option in exchange for an Option with an exercise price of the original Options or (D) take any other action with respect to an Option that may be treated as a repricing pursuant to the applicable rules of the national securities exchange on which any securities of the Company are listed for trading, and if not listed for trading, by the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market, without approval of the Company's shareholders.
- (g) Foreign Participation. To assure the viability of Awards granted to Participants employed in foreign countries, the Compensation Committee may provide for such special terms as it may consider necessary or appropriate to accommodate differences in local law, tax policy or custom. Moreover, the Compensation Committee may approve such supplements to, or amendments, restatements or



alternative versions of, this Plan as it determines is necessary or appropriate for such purposes. Any such amendment, restatement or alternative versions that the Compensation Committee approves for purposes of using this Plan in a foreign country will not affect the terms of this Plan for any other country.

- (h) Tax Withholding. The Company shall have the right, upon issuance of Shares or payment of cash in respect of an Award, to reduce the number of Shares or amount of cash, as the case may be, otherwise issuable or payable by the amount necessary to satisfy any federal, state or local withholding taxes or to take such other actions as may be necessary to satisfy any such withholding obligations. The Compensation Committee may require or permit Shares, including previously acquired Shares and Shares that are part of, or are received upon exercise or upon a lapse of forfeiture restrictions of the Award, to be used to satisfy required tax withholding and such Shares shall be valued at their Fair Market Value on the date the tax withholding is effective.
- (i) Documentation of Grants. Awards made under the Plan shall be evidenced by written agreements in such form (consistent with the terms of the Plan) or such other appropriate documentation as shall be approved by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee need not require the execution of any instrument or acknowledgement of notice of an Award under the Plan, in which case acceptance of such Award by the respective Participant will constitute agreement to the terms of the Award.
- (j) *Settlement.* Subject to the terms of the Plan and any applicable Award, the Compensation Committee shall determine whether Awards are settled in whole or in part in cash, Shares, or other Awards.
- In order to preserve a Participant's rights under an Award in the event of a Change in Change in Control. Control (as defined below) of the Company, the Compensation Committee in its discretion may, at the time an Award is made or at any time thereafter, take one or more of the following actions: (i) adjust the terms of the Award in a manner determined by the Compensation Committee to reflect the Change in Control, including as contemplated by Section 9, (ii) cause the Award to be assumed, or new rights substituted therefore, by another entity, or (iii) subject to the limitations of Code Section 409A, accelerate or cash out Awards. For purposes of this Plan, a Change in Control shall be deemed to have occurred if the Johnson Family (as defined below) shall at any time fail to own stock of the Company having, in the aggregate, votes sufficient to elect at least a fiftyone percent (51%) majority of the directors of the Company. Johnson Family shall mean at any time, collectively, the estate of Samuel C. Johnson, the widow of Samuel C. Johnson and the children and grandchildren of Samuel C. Johnson, the executor or administrator of the estate or other legal representative of any such person, all trusts for the benefit of the foregoing or their heirs or any one or more of them, and all partnerships, corporations or other entities directly or indirectly controlled by the foregoing or any one or more of them. Notwithstanding the foregoing, with respect to an Award that is deferred compensation subject to Code Section 409A, then solely for purposes of determining the timing of payment of such Award, the term, "Change in Control" as defined herein shall be deemed amended to the extent necessary to satisfy the defining of "change in control event" under Coder Section 409A.
- (I) Code Section 409A. The provisions of Code Section 409A are incorporated herein by reference to the extent necessary for any Award that is subject to Code Section 409A to comply therewith. Without limiting the foregoing, the agreement for any Award that the Compensation Committee reasonably determines to constitute a "nonqualified deferred compensation plan" under Section 409A of the Code, and the provisions of this Plan and the agreement applicable to that Award, shall be construed in a manner consistent with the applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code, and the Compensation Committee, in its sole discretion and without the consent of any Participant, may amend any agreement covering such Award (and the provisions of the Plan applicable thereto) if and to the extent that the Compensation Committee determines that such amendment is necessary or appropriate to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Code.



## Section 11: Miscellaneous

- (a) Plan Amendment. The Board may amend, alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate the Plan as it deems necessary or appropriate to better achieve the purposes of the Plan; provided, however, that no amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuation or termination of the Plan shall in any manner (except as otherwise provided in the Plan) adversely affect any Award granted and then outstanding under the Plan without the consent of the respective Participant.
- (b) *Employment.* No person shall have any claim or right to be granted an Award, and the grant of an Award shall not be construed as giving a Participant the right to continued employment. The Company expressly reserves the right at any time to dismiss a Participant free from any liability or claim under the Plan, except as expressly provided by an applicable Award.
  - (i) A Participant who transfers employment between the Company and any Affiliate of the Company, or between the Company's Affiliates, will not be considered to have terminated employment;
  - (ii) A Participant who ceases to be employed by the Company or an Affiliate of the Company and immediately thereafter becomes a non-employee Director, a non-employee director of any of its Affiliates, or a consultant to the Company or any of its Affiliates shall not be considered to have terminated employment until such Participant's service as a director of, or consultant to, the Company and its Affiliates has ceased; and
  - (iii) A Participant employed by an Affiliate of the Company will be considered to have terminated employment when such entity ceases to be an Affiliate of the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, for purposes of an Award that is subject to Code Section 409A, if a Participant's termination of employment or service triggers the payment of compensation under such Award, then the Participant will be deemed to have terminated employment or service upon a "separation from service" within the meaning of Code Section 409A.

- (c) *No Rights as Shareholder.* Only upon issuance of Shares to a Participant (and only in respect to such Shares) shall the Participant obtain the rights of a shareholder, subject, however, to any limitations imposed by the terms of the applicable Award.
- (d) No Fractional Shares. No fractional Shares or other securities may be issued or delivered pursuant to this Plan, and the Compensation Committee may determine whether cash, other securities or other property will be paid or transferred in lieu of any fractional Shares or other securities, or whether such fractional Shares or other securities or any rights to fractional Shares or other securities will be canceled, terminated or otherwise eliminated.
- (e) No Guarantee of Tax Treatment. Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan to the contrary, the Company does not guarantee to any Participant or any other Person(s) with an interest in an Award that (i) any Award intended to be exempt from Code Section 409A shall be so exempt, (ii) any Award intended to comply with Code Section 409A or Code Section 422 shall so comply, or (iii) any Award shall otherwise receive a specific tax treatment under any other applicable tax law, nor in any such case will the Company or any Affiliate indemnify, defend or hold harmless any individual with respect to the tax consequences of any Award.
- (f) Other Company Benefit and Compensation Programs. Except as expressly determined by the Compensation Committee, settlements of Awards received by Participants under this Plan shall not be deemed as part of a Participant's regular, recurring compensation for purposes of calculating payments or benefits from any Company benefit or severance program (or severance pay law of any country). The above notwithstanding, the Company may adopt other compensation programs, plans or arrangements as it deems appropriate or necessary.
- (g) *Unfunded Plan.* Unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee, the Plan shall be unfunded and shall not create (or be construed to create) a trust or a separate fund(s). The Plan shall not create any fiduciary relationship between the Company and any Participant or other person. To the



extent any person holds any rights by virtue of an Award granted under the Plan, such right shall be no greater than the right of an unsecured general creditor of the Company.

- (h) Successors and Assignees. The Plan shall be binding on all successors and assignees of a Participant, including, without limitation, the estate of such Participant and the executor, administrator or trustee of such estate, or any receiver or trustee in bankruptcy or representative of the Participant's creditors.
- (i) Governing Law Jurisdiction and Venue. This Plan, and all Awards under this Plan, will be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Wisconsin, without reference to any conflict of law principles. The exclusive venue for any legal action or proceeding with respect to this Plan, any Award, or for recognition and enforcement of any judgment in respect of this Plan, shall be a court sitting in the County of Racine, or the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin sitting in the County of Milwaukee, in the State of Wisconsin.
- (j) Other Terms and Conditions. The grant of any Award may also be subject to other provisions (whether or not applicable to the Award granted to any other Participant) as the Compensation Committee determines appropriate, including, without limitation, provisions for:
  - (i) Conditioning the grant or benefit of an Award on the Participant's agreement to comply with covenants not to compete, not to solicit employees and customers and not to disclose confidential information that may be effective during or after the Participant's employment, or provisions requiring the Participant to disgorge any profit, gain or other benefit received in connection with an Award as a result of the breach of such covenant;
  - (ii) The payment of the purchase price of Options, (A) by delivery of cash or other Shares or other securities of the Company (including by attestation) having a then Fair Market Value equal to the purchase price of such Shares, (B) by delivery (including by fax) to the Company or its designated agent of an executed irrevocable option exercise form together with irrevocable instructions to a broker-dealer to sell a sufficient portion of the Shares and deliver the sale proceeds directly to the Company to pay for the exercise price, (C) by surrendering the right to receive Shares otherwise deliverable to the Participant upon exercise of the Award having a Fair Market Value at the time of exercise equal to the total exercise price, or (D) by any combination of (A), (B) or (C);
  - (iii) Restrictions on resale or other disposition of Shares, including imposition of a retention period;
  - (iv) Compliance with federal or state securities laws and stock listing requirements; and
  - (v) Provisions requiring the Participant to disgorge any profit, gain or other benefit received in connection with an Award under other circumstances, including restatement of Company financial statements. Without limiting the foregoing, the Company may (A) cause the cancellation of any Award, (B) require reimbursement of any Award by a Participant or his or her beneficiary and (C) effect any other right of recoupment of equity or other compensation provided under this Plan or otherwise in accordance with any Company policies that currently exist or that may from time to time be adopted or modified in the future by the Company and/or applicable law (each, a "Clawback Policy"), provided that the following conditions are satisfied: (1) there is an accounting restatement of the Company's financial statements or results and (2) the restatement results from a noncompliance by the Company with any requirements under or related to the federal securities laws. In such an event, the clawback will be in an amount of up to the total economic gain from any stock-based grants within the three-year period preceding the restatement. By accepting an Award, a Participant is also agreeing to be bound by any existing or future Clawback Policy adopted by the Company, or any amendments that may from time to time be made to the Clawback Policy in the future by the Company in its discretion (including without limitation any Clawback Policy adopted or amended to comply with applicable laws or stock exchange requirements) and is further agreeing that all of the Participant's Award agreements may be unilaterally amended by the Company, without the Participant's consent, to the extent that the Company, in its discretion, determines to be necessary or appropriate to comply with any Clawback Policy.



- (k) Construction. Whenever any words are used herein in the masculine, they shall be construed as though they were used in the feminine in all cases where they would so apply; and wherever any words are used in the singular or plural, they shall be construed as though they were used in the plural or singular, as the case may be, in all cases where they would so apply. Titles of sections are for general information only, and this Plan is not to be construed with reference to such titles.
- (I) Severability. If any provision of this Plan or any Award (i) is or becomes or is deemed to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable or as to any person or Award or (ii) would disqualify this Plan, any Award under any law the Compensation Committee deems applicable, then such provision should be construed or deemed amended to conform to applicable laws, or if it cannot be so construed or deemed amended without, in the determination of the Compensation Committee, materially altering the intent of this Plan, such Award, then such provision should be stricken as to such, person or Award, and the remainder of this Plan, such Award will remain in full force and effect.





JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 555 MAIN ST., SUITE 342 RACINE, WI 53403

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS If you would like to stop receiving paper 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 below to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

VOTE BY INTERNET - <u>www.proxyvote.com</u> 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.

#### 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:

,					E86222-P30063 KEEP	THIS PC	ORTION I	FOR YOU	
	THIS PRO	XY CA	ARD IS VA	ALID ONI	LY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.	H AND F	RETURN	THIS POI	RTION ONLY
The	ON OUTDOORS INC. e Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the owing:	All	Withhold 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.				
		Ο	O	Ο					
1.	Election of Directors								
	Nominees:								
	01) Terry E. London 02) John M. Fahey, Jr. 03) William (*Bill*) D. Perez								
The	Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the foll	owing	proposals	s:			For A	Against	Abstain
2.	To ratify the appointment of RSM US LLP, an independe October 2, 2020.	nt regi	stered publ	lic account	ting firm, as auditors of the Company for its fiscal year er	nding	0	Ο	Ο
3.	To approve a non-binding advisory proposal on executive	compe	nsation.				Ο	Ο	Ο
4.	To approve and adopt the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Lo	ng-Teri	m Stock Inc	centive Pla	n (the "JOI 2020 LTIP").		Ο	Ο	Ο
5.	To transact such other business as may properly come bef	ore the	meeting o	or any adjo	urnment or postponement thereof.				
					1				
Sigr	nature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] Date				Signature (Joint Owners) Date				

#### CLASS A

Dear Shareholder:

Enclosed are proxy materials for Johnson Outdoors Inc.'s Annual Shareholders' Meeting, which will be held at the Company's headquarters in Racine, Wisconsin on Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST). These materials include our 2020 Proxy Statement, a proxy voting card and return envelope, as well as a CD with our Form 10-K Annual Report saved as an Adobe Acrobat document. A link to a free download of Adobe Acrobat Reader is also included, if required. A printed copy of our Form 10-K is available upon request. Please contact us with your request via email at proxy@johnsonoutdoors.com, phone 262.631.6655 or write care of Secretary of the Company at Johnson Outdoors Inc., 555 Main Street, Suite 342, Racine, Wisconsin 53403.

Information about Johnson Outdoors' business performance, innovative quality products and future plans for profitable growth and enhanced shareholder value is available in the Company's Fiscal 2019 Annual Report, which is available online at https://www.johnsonoutdoors.com/annual-report.

Every shareholder's vote is important. Shares may be voted by signing, dating and returning this card. You may also vote by telephone or via the Internet by following the instructions supplied on this proxy card.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:

The Notice and Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K are also available at www.proxyvote.com.

F86223-P30063

#### JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. Annual Meeting of Shareholders February 27, 2020 10:00 a.m. This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors

The undersigned constitutes and appoints HELEN P. JOHNSON-LEIPOLD and KHALAF M. KHALAF, and each of them, each with full power to act without the other, and each with full power of substitution, the true and lawful proxies of the undersigned, to represent and vote, as designated on the reverse side, all shares of Class A common stock of Johnson Outdoors Inc. that the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of such corporation to be held at its headquarters, located at 555 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin, on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. CST, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof:

THIS PROXY WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED WILL BE VOTED IN THE MANNER DIRECTED HEREIN BY THE UNDERSIGNED SHAREHOLDER. IF NO DIRECTION IS MADE, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NOMINEES SPECIFIED IN ITEM 1; FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF RSM US LLP, AN INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM, AS AUDITORS OF THE COMPANY FOR ITS FISCAL YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 2, 2020; FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE NON-BINDING ADVISORY PROPOSAL ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION; FOR THE APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 2020 LONG-TERM STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN (THE "JOI 2020 LTIP"); AND IN THE DISCRETION OF THE PROXY HOLDERS AS TO ANY OTHER MATTER THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.



JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 555 MAIN ST., SUITE 342 RACINE, WI 53403

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS If you would like to stop receiving paper 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 below to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

VOTE BY INTERNET - <u>www.proxyvote.com</u> 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.

#### 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:

,					E86224-P30063 KEEF	P THIS PC	ORTION	FOR YOU	IR RECORD	
	THIS PRO	XY CA	RD IS VA	ALID ON	LY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.	CH AND F	RETURN	THIS PO	RTION ONL	
The	JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the following:		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.			_		
1.	Election of Directors	_	_	-					1	
	Nominees:									
	01)         Helen P. Johnson-Leipold         04)         Edward F. Lang           02)         Thomas F. Pyle, Jr.         05)         Richard (*Case           03)         Katherine Button Bell         06)         Edward Steven	ey") Shea	ahan							
The	The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the following proposals:							For Against Abstain		
2.	To ratify the appointment of RSM US LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as auditors of the Company for its fiscal year ending October 2, 2020.						0	Ο	Ο	
3.	To approve a non-binding advisory proposal on executive compensation.						Ο	Ο	Ο	
4.	To approve and adopt the Johnson Outdoors Inc. 2020 Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan (the *JOI 2020 LTIP*).							Ο	Ο	
5.	To transact such other business as may properly come before	fore the i	meeting c	or any adjo	urnment or postponement thereof.					
Sig	Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] Date				Signature (Joint Owners) Date					

#### CLASS B

Dear Shareholder:

Enclosed are proxy materials for Johnson Outdoors Inc.'s Annual Shareholders' Meeting, which will be held at the Company's headquarters in Racine, Wisconsin on Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST). These materials include our 2020 Proxy Statement, a proxy voting card and return envelope, as well as a CD with our Form 10-K Annual Report saved as an Adobe Acrobat document. A link to a free download of Adobe Acrobat Reader is also included, if required. A printed copy of our Form 10-K is available upon request. Please contact us with your request via email at proxy@johnsonoutdoors.com, phone 262.631.6655 or write care of Secretary of the Company at Johnson Outdoors Inc., 555 Main Street, Suite 342, Racine, Wisconsin 53403.

Information about Johnson Outdoors' business performance, innovative quality products and future plans for profitable growth and enhanced shareholder value is available in the Company's Fiscal 2019 Annual Report, which is available online at https://www.johnsonoutdoors.com/annual-report.

Every shareholder's vote is important. Shares may be voted by signing, dating and returning this card. You may also vote by telephone or via the Internet by following the instructions supplied on this proxy card.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:

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F86225-P30063

#### JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. Annual Meeting of Shareholders February 27, 2020 10:00 a.m. This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors

The undersigned constitutes and appoints HELEN P. JOHNSON-LEIPOLD and KHALAF M. KHALAF, and each of them, each with full power to act without the other, and each with full power of substitution, the true and lawful proxies of the undersigned, to represent and vote, as designated on the reverse side, all shares of Class B common stock of Johnson Outdoors Inc. that the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of such corporation to be held at its headquarters, located at 555 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin, on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. CST, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof:

THIS PROXY WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED WILL BE VOTED IN THE MANNER DIRECTED HEREIN BY THE UNDERSIGNED SHAREHOLDER. IF NO DIRECTION IS MADE, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NOMINEES SPECIFIED IN ITEM 1; FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF RSM US LLP, AN INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM, AS AUDITORS OF THE COMPANY FOR ITS FISCAL YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 2, 2020; FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE NON-BINDING ADVISORY PROPOSAL ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION; FOR THE APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. 2020 LONG-TERM STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN (THE "JOI 2020 LTIP"); AND IN THE DISCRETION OF THE PROXY HOLDERS AS TO ANY OTHER MATTER THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.