RBC Bearings INC Form DEF 14A July 27, 2015

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

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

RBC BEARINGS INCORPORATED

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

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- (1) Amount Previously Paid:
- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:

RBC Bearings Incorporated
One Tribology Center
Oxford, Connecticut 06478
July 26, 2015
To our Stockholders:
You are cordially invited to attend the RBC Bearings Incorporated annual meeting of stockholders at 9:00 a.m., local time, on September 10, 2015 at the offices of RBC Bearings Incorporated, Building B, 102 Willenbrock Road, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478. The attached Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement describes all known items to be acted upon by stockholders at the meeting.
It is important that your shares are represented at the annual meeting, whether or not you plan to attend. To ensure your shares will be represented, we ask that you vote your shares using the enclosed proxy form for registered stockholders or the proxy voting instruction form for stockholders who hold shares through a broker or other nominee. If you vote by internet or telephone, it is not necessary for you to return your proxy form or voting instruction form in the mail. Please vote your shares as soon as possible.
If you are a registered stockholder and plan to attend the annual meeting, you will be required to present the detachable bottom portion of the enclosed proxy form to gain admission. If you hold shares through a broker or other nominee, you will be required to present a current statement from that institution showing an RBC Bearings Incorporated stockholding. Please note that the document evidencing your shareholdings, to be used to gain entry to the meeting, is non-transferable.
Please vote your shares promptly and join us at the meeting.
Sincerely,

Dr. Michael J. Hartnett

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

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The 2015 annual meeting of stockholders of RBC Bearings Incorporated will be held at Building B, 102 Willenbrock Road, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478, on Thursday, September 10, 2015, beginning at 9:00 a.m. local time. At the meeting, the holders of the Company's outstanding common stock will consider and vote on the following matters:

- (1) the election of one director in Class I to serve a term of one year and the election of two directors in Class II to serve a term of three years;
- (2) the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2016;
- (3) to consider a resolution regarding the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation; and
- (4) any other matter that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Stockholders of record at the close of business on July 17, 2015 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. The directions to the meeting can be found in Appendix A of the attached proxy statement.

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT:

Whether or not you expect to be present at the meeting, please vote your shares by following the instructions on the enclosed proxy card or voting instruction card. If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other recordholder, you may be able to vote by telephone or internet. Their procedures should be described in the voting form they send you. Any person voting by proxy has the power to revoke it at any time prior to its exercise at the meeting in accordance with the procedures described in the accompanying proxy statement.

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

Please note that space limitations make it necessary to limit attendance to stockholders and one guest. Admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., and seating will begin at 8:30 a.m. Each stockholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Stockholders holding stock in brokerage accounts ("street name" holders) will also need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting stock ownership as of the record date. Cameras (including cellular phones with photographic capabilities), recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Dr. Michael J. Hartnett
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

July 26, 2015

ONE TRIBOLOGY CENTER

OXFORD, CONNECTICUT 06478

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held September 10, 2015

PROXY STATEMENT

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of RBC Bearings Incorporated (the "Company") is soliciting proxies from its stockholders to be used at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on Thursday, September 10, 2015, beginning at 9:00 a.m., local time, at Building B, 102 Willenbrock Road, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478, and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. This proxy statement, a proxy card and the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 28, 2015 are being mailed, or made available via the internet as described below, to stockholders on or about July 26, 2015. The fiscal years ended March 31, 2012, March 30, 2013, March 29, 2014 and March 28, 2015 are referred to respectively as "fiscal 2012", "fiscal 2013", "fiscal 2014" and "fiscal 2015" in this proxy statement.

This year, the Company is furnishing proxy materials to stockholders via the internet. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials unless you specifically request one. The Notice instructs you on how to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy statement and annual report as well as how to submit your proxy over the internet. If you received the Notice and would still like to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials, you should follow the instructions for requesting these materials included in the Notice. We plan to mail the Notice to stockholders on or about July 26, 2015. We will also continue to mail a printed copy of this proxy statement and form of proxy to certain stockholders and we expect that mailing to also begin on or about July 26, 2015.

ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Why did I receive these materials?

We are soliciting proxies for the 2015 annual meeting of stockholders. You are receiving a proxy statement because you owned shares of our common stock on July 17, 2015 (the "Record Date"), and that entitles you to vote at the meeting. By use of a proxy, you can vote whether or not you attend the meeting. This proxy statement describes the matters on which we would like you to vote and provides information on those matters so that you can make an informed decision.

What information is contained in this proxy statement?

The information in this proxy statement relates to the proposals to be voted on at the annual meeting, the voting process, our Board and committees thereof, the compensation of directors and executive officers and other information that the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") requires us to provide annually to our stockholders.

How may I obtain RBC Bearings' 10-K and other financial information?

A copy of our 2015 Annual Report, which includes our 2015 Form 10-K, is enclosed and incorporated by reference herein.

Stockholders may request another free copy of our 2015 Annual Report, which includes our 2015 Form 10-K, from:

Corporate Secretary

RBC Bearings Incorporated

One Tribology Center

Oxford, CT 06478

We will also furnish any exhibit to the 2015 Form 10-K if specifically requested. Stockholders may also find other filings with the SEC and corporate governance and other information on the investor relations page of our website at

http://investor.rbcbearings.com/.

What is the purpose of the annual meeting?

At our annual meeting, stockholders will act upon the matters outlined in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. In addition, management will be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the Record Date are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. If you were a stockholder of record on the Record Date, you will be entitled to vote all of the shares that you held on that date at the meeting, or any postponements or adjournments of the meeting.

How many votes do I have?

You will be entitled to one vote for each outstanding share of RBC Bearings Incorporated common stock you owned as of the Record Date on each matter considered at the meeting. As of July 17, 2015, there were 23,228,709 shares of the Company's common stock outstanding and eligible to vote. There is no cumulative voting.

Who can attend the meeting?

Subject to space availability, all stockholders as of the Record Date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the meeting, and each may be accompanied by one guest. Since seating is limited, admission to the meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., and seating will begin at 8:30 a.m. If you attend, please note that you may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport. Cameras (including cell phones with photographic capabilities), recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting.

Please also note that if you hold your shares in "street name" (that is, through a broker, bank or other nominee), you will also need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement reflecting your stock ownership as of the Record Date and check in at the registration desk at the meeting.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the meeting by marking the appropriate box on the enclosed proxy card or, if you vote by telephone or internet, indicating your plans when prompted.

What constitutes a quorum?

The presence at the meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares of the common stock outstanding on the Record Date will constitute a quorum, permitting the conduct of business at the meeting. As of July 17, 2015, 23,228,709 shares of common stock, representing the same number of votes, were outstanding and eligible to vote. Thus, the presence of the holders of common stock representing at least 11,614,355 votes will be required to establish a quorum.

Proxies received by the Company but marked as abstentions and broker non-votes will be included in the calculation of the number of votes considered to be present at the meeting.

How do I vote?

If you are a holder of record (that is, your shares are registered in your own name with our transfer agent), you can vote either in person at the annual meeting or by proxy without attending the annual meeting. We urge you to vote by proxy even if you plan to attend the annual meeting so that we will know as soon as possible that enough votes will be present for us to hold the meeting. If you attend the meeting in person, you may vote at the meeting and your proxy will not be counted. You can vote by proxy by completing, dating and signing the enclosed proxy card and returning it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

If you hold your shares in "street name," you must either direct the bank, broker or other record holder of your shares as to how to vote your shares, or obtain a proxy from the bank, broker or other record holder to vote at the meeting. Please refer to the voter instruction cards used by your bank, broker or other record holder for specific instructions on methods of voting, including by telephone or using the internet.

Your shares will be voted as you indicate. If you return the proxy card but you do not indicate your voting preferences, then the individuals named on the proxy card will vote your shares in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board and management do not now intend to present any matters at the annual meeting other than those outlined in the Notice of the Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Should any other matter requiring a vote of stockholders arise, stockholders returning the proxy card confer upon the individuals named on the proxy card discretionary authority to vote the shares represented by such proxy on such other matter in the manner they consider appropriate.

If you do not specify on the enclosed proxy card that is sent to the Company (or when giving your proxy over the internet or telephone) how you want to vote your shares, the proxy holders will vote them "FOR" the election of all nominees for director as set forth under Item 1, "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm under Item 2, and "FOR" the approval of the resolution regarding the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation under Item 3.

Can I change my vote after I return my proxy card?

Yes. If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke or change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with the Secretary of the Company a notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date or by attending the annual meeting and voting in person. For shares you hold beneficially in "street name," you may change your vote by submitting new voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee or, if you have obtained a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other nominee giving you the right to vote your shares, by attending the meeting and voting in person. In either case, the powers of the proxy holders will be suspended if you attend the meeting in person and so request, although attendance at the meeting will not by itself revoke a previously granted proxy.

Who counts the votes?

Votes will be counted by employees of Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and certified by the Inspector of Election present at the meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, your signed proxy card is returned directly to Broadridge for tabulation. If you hold your shares in "street name" through a broker, bank or other nominee, your broker, bank or other nominee will return one proxy card to Broadridge on behalf of all of its clients.

What are the Board's recommendations?

Unless you give other instructions on your proxy card, the persons named as proxy holders on the proxy card will vote in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board's recommendations are set forth together with the description of each item in this proxy statement. In summary, the Board recommends a vote FOR each of the proposals.

Will stockholders be asked to vote on any other matters?

To the knowledge of the Company and its management, stockholders will vote only on the matters described in this proxy statement. However, if any other matters properly come before the meeting, the persons named as proxies for stockholders will vote on those matters in the manner they consider appropriate.

What vote is required to approve each item?

Election of Directors. Directors are elected (Item 1) by a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each of the director nominees. A properly executed proxy marked "withhold authority", with respect to the election of one or more directors, will not be voted with respect to the director or directors indicated, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum.

Approval of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2016 (Item 2) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast.

Approval of the "Say on Pay" proposal. The approval of the resolution regarding the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation in the "Say on Pay" proposal (Item 3) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast.

A properly executed proxy marked "abstain" with respect to any matter will not be voted, although it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum. Accordingly, an abstention will have the effect of a negative vote.

How are votes counted?

In the election of directors, you may vote "FOR" the nominee or your vote may be "WITHHELD" with respect to the nominee. You may not cumulate your votes for the election of directors.

For the ratification of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2016 (Item 2) and the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation in the "Say on Pay" proposal (Item 3) you may vote "FOR," "AGAINST" or "ABSTAIN."

If you elect to "ABSTAIN," the abstention has the same effect as a vote "AGAINST." If you provide specific instructions with regard to certain items, your shares will be voted as you instruct on such items.

If you hold your shares in "street name" through a broker, bank or other nominee rather than directly in your own name, then your broker, bank or other nominee is considered the stockholder of record, and you are considered the beneficial owner of your shares. The Company has supplied copies of its proxy materials for its 2015 annual meeting of stockholders to the broker, bank or other nominee holding your shares of record, and they have the responsibility to send these proxy materials to you. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other nominee on how to vote your shares at the annual meeting. The broker, bank or other nominee that is the stockholder of record for your shares is obligated to provide you with a voting instruction card for you to use for this purpose. If you are a beneficial owner and your broker, bank or other nominee holds your shares in its name, the broker, bank or other nominee is permitted to vote your shares on the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm, even if the broker, bank or other nominee does not receive voting instructions from you.

If the broker, bank or other nominee does not receive voting instructions from you, your shares may constitute "broker non-votes." Generally, broker non-votes occur on a matter when a broker is not permitted to vote on that matter without instructions from the beneficial owner and instructions are not given. In tabulating the voting result for any particular proposal, shares that constitute broker non-votes are not considered present and entitled to vote on that proposal. If a quorum is present at the annual meeting, the persons receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected to serve as directors. As a result, broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of the voting on the election of directors (Item 1) or the stockholder advisory vote on named executive officer compensation in the "Say on Pay" proposal (Item 3). Shares represented by such "broker non-votes" will, however, be counted in determining whether there is a quorum, but will not be considered voted with regard to or treated as present with respect to those proposals

to which the broker non-votes relate. The ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm (Item 2) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal. Brokers are allowed to vote on behalf of beneficial owners without instruction on Item 2, but are not permitted to vote on any other proposals without voting instructions from you.

Shares represented by proxies which indicate that the stockholders abstain as to the election of directors or to other proposals will be treated as being present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum and, other than for the election of directors and the number of votes cast with respect to each proposal. Consequently, an abstention will have the effect of a vote against with respect to proposals other than the election of directors.

What should I do if I receive more than one set of voting materials?

You may receive more than one set of voting materials, including multiple copies of this proxy statement and multiple proxy cards or voting instruction cards. For example, if you hold your shares in more than one brokerage account, you may receive a separate voting instruction card for each brokerage account in which you hold shares. If you are a stockholder of record and your shares are registered in more than one name, you will receive more than one proxy card. Please complete, sign, date and return each proxy card and voting instruction card that you receive.

Where can I find the voting results of the annual meeting?

The Company intends to announce the preliminary voting results at the annual meeting and publish the final results in its Current Report on Form 8-K which will be filed within four business days after the meeting.

Wha	t is	the	dead	lline t	o pro	nose o	ctions	for	· consideration	at next	vear's	s annual	meeting	of	`stockholders?
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You may submit proposals for consideration at future stockholder meetings. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for the annual meeting next year, our Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than March 27, 2016. Such proposals also must comply with Rule 14a-8 of the SEC's regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary
RBC Bearings Incorporated
One Tribology Center
Oxford CT 06478

For a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement, the stockholder must deliver a proxy statement and form of proxy to holders of a sufficient number of shares of our common stock to approve the proposal and provide the information required by our by-laws and give timely notice to the Corporate Secretary in accordance with our by-laws, which, in general, require that the notice be received by the Corporate Secretary:

- " Not less than 60 days prior to the next meeting, and
- " Not more than 90 days prior to the next meeting.

In the event that less than 70 days' notice or prior public announcement of the date of the meeting is given or made to stockholders, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be received not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the date on which such notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or such public announcement was made.

How may I recommend or nominate individuals to serve as directors?

You may propose director candidates for consideration by the Board's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Any such recommendations should include the nominee's name and qualifications for Board membership and should be directed to the Corporate Secretary at the address of our principal executive offices set forth above.

In addition, our by-laws permit stockholders to nominate directors for election at an annual stockholder meeting. To nominate a director, a stockholder must deliver timely notice of such stockholder's intent to make such nomination in writing to the Corporate Secretary. To be timely, a stockholder's notice must be delivered to or mailed and received at our principal executive offices not less than 60 nor more than 90 days prior to the date of the first anniversary of the previous year's annual meeting. In the event that the date of the annual meeting is changed by more than 30 days from such anniversary date, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be so received not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the earlier of the day on which notice of the date of the meeting was mailed or public disclosure of the meeting was made. To be in proper form, a stockholder's notice shall set forth (i) as to each person whom the stockholder proposes to nominate for election as a director at such meeting (A) the name, age, business address and residence address of the person, (B) the principal occupation or employment of the person, (C) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock of the Company which are owned beneficially or of record by the person and (D) any other information relating to the person that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement or other filings required to be made in connection with solicitations of proxies for election of directors pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act; and (ii) as to the stockholder giving the notice (A) the name and record address of such stockholder, (B) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock of the Company which are owned beneficially or of record by such stockholder, (C) a description of all arrangements or understandings between such stockholder and each proposed nominee and any other person or persons (including their names) pursuant to which the nomination(s) are to be made by such stockholder, (D) a representation that such stockholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the persons named in its notice and (E) any other information relating to such stockholder that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement or other filings required to be made in connection with solicitations of proxies for election of directors pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act. Such notice must be accompanied by a written consent of each proposed nominee to being named as a nominee and to serve as a director if elected.

How may I obtain a copy of RBC Bearings' by-law provisions regarding stockholder proposals and director nominations?

You may contact the Corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices for a copy of the relevant by-law provisions regarding the requirements for making stockholder proposals and nominating director candidates.

Who can help answer my questions?

If you have any questions about the annual meeting or how to vote or revoke your proxy or if you need additional copies of this proxy statement or voting materials, you should contact:

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.

Registered Client Services Department

C/O Carolyn Miller

51 Mercedes Way

Edgewood, NY 11717

P 631-254-1638

F 631-254-7760

Carolyn.miller@broadridge.com

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR STOCKHOLDER VOTE

ITEM 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board currently is composed of eight directors serving staggered three-year terms and divided into three classes: Class I currently consists of Dr. Thomas J. O'Brien, Edward D. Stewart and Daniel A. Bergeron, Class II consists of Richard R. Crowell, Mitchell I. Quain and Alan B. Levine and Class III consists of Dr. Michael J. Hartnett and

Dr. Amir Faghri. Class I, Class II and Class III directors will serve until our annual meetings of stockholders in 2016, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Vacancies on the Board may be filled only by persons elected by a majority of the remaining directors. A director elected by the Board to fill a vacancy in a class, including vacancies created by an increase in the number of directors, shall serve for the remainder of the full term of that class, and until the director's successor is duly elected and qualified, or until the director's resignation or removal.

Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has nominated Mitchell I. Quain for re-election as a Class I director and has nominated Richard R. Crowell and Alan B. Levine for re-election as Class II directors. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee reviewed the qualifications of the nominees for election to these classes, and unanimously recommended that these nominees be submitted for election or re-election to the Board. If re-elected, Mitchell I. Quain will be moving from Class II to Class I. The term of office of the Class I directors expires in 2016. Mitchell I. Quain is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in September, 2011. Richard R. Crowell is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in June, 2002. Alan B. Levine is currently a director of RBC Bearings Incorporated and was appointed to the Board in October, 2005. If elected at the annual meeting, the Class I nominee would serve until the 2016 annual meeting and the Class II nominees would serve until the 2018 annual meeting and until their successors are duly elected and qualified, or until the director's resignation or removal.

For a stockholder to nominate an individual for director at the 2016 annual meeting, the stockholder must follow the procedures outlined below under the caption "Stockholder Proposals and Director Nominations for the 2016 Meeting." Stockholders may also nominate a director to be considered by the Board for recommendation to the stockholders in the Company's proxy statement for the 2016 annual meeting by following the procedures outlined below under the caption "Director Nominations to be Considered by the Board."

If you sign your proxy or voting instruction card but do not give instructions with respect to voting for directors, your shares will be voted for the persons recommended by the Board. If you wish to give specific instructions with respect to voting for directors, you may do so by indicating your instructions on your proxy or voting instruction card.

If any nominee named herein for election as a director should for any reason become unavailable to serve prior to the annual meeting, the Board will, prior to the annual meeting, (i) reduce the size of the Board to eliminate the position for which that person was nominated, (ii) nominate a new candidate in place of such person and vote in favor of the new candidate all shares represented by stockholder proxies received by the Board, unless authority to vote for all candidates nominated by the Board is withheld, or (iii) leave the place vacant to be filled at a later time.

Information regarding the nominees, as of July 1, 2015, is set forth below, including his age, the period he has served on the Board and the nominee's business experience. The information presented below for the director nominee and the directors continuing in office has been furnished to the Company by such persons.

The following paragraphs provide information as of the date of this proxy statement about each nominee for director. The information presented includes information each director has provided us about his age (as of July 1, 2015), all positions he holds, his principal occupation and business experience for the past five years and the names of other publicly-held companies for which he currently serves as a director or has served as a director during the past five years. We have also provided below information regarding additional experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that lead our Board to the conclusion that each person should serve as a director. In addition to the information set forth below, we also believe that all of our director nominees have a reputation for integrity, honesty and adherence to high ethical standards. They each have demonstrated business acumen and ability to exercise sound judgment, as well as a commitment of service to our Company and our Board.

Nominee for Election in Class I for a One-year Term Expiring at Our 2016 Annual Meeting

Mitchell I. Quain has been a director since September, 2011. He is a Senior Advisor to the Carlyle Group and was a Partner of One Equity Partners, a private investment firm until December, 2011. From 2006 to 2010, he was a Senior Director of ACI Capital Corp. From 2002 to 2005, he was Chairman of Register.Com, Inc., an internet services provider, and from 1997 to 2001 he was employed with ABN AMRO and its predecessors in several capabilities including Vice Chairman. Mr. Quain has a B.S.E.E. in electrical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.B.A. degree from the Harvard Business School and is a Chartered Financial Analyst. Previously Mr. Quain served on the Boards of publicly traded AstroMed, Inc., DeCrane Aircraft Holdings, Inc., Handy & Harman, Heico Corporation, Mechanical Dynamics, Inc. and Titan International, Inc. Mr. Quain is currently Chairman of the Board of Directors of Magnetek, Inc., and a Director of Hardinge Inc. and Tecumseh Products Company. Mr.Quain's academic background, 30 years of investing experience, working knowledge of capital markets gained from his experiences as an investment banker and his knowledge and experience as a Chartered Financial Analyst qualify him as a "Financial Expert" for the Audit Committee. In addition, his service as a director of other publicly traded industrial products manufacturers are valuable resources to the Board. This collective background and experience makes him an excellent candidate as a member of our Audit Committee and Board.

Nominees for Election in Class II for a Three-year Term Expiring at Our 2018 Annual Meeting

Richard R. Crowell has been a director since June, 2002 and chairman of the Compensation Committee since August, 2005. Mr. Crowell is a Managing Partner of Vance Street Capital LLC, a private equity investment firm he founded in 2007. Previously he was the President of Aurora Capital Group, a private equity investment firm he co-founded in 1991. Prior to establishing Aurora in 1991, Mr. Crowell was a Partner and President of Acadia Partners, a New York-based investment fund. From 1983 to 1987, he was a Managing Director, Corporate Finance for Drexel

Burnham Lambert. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Visitors for the UCLA Anderson School of Management. Mr. Crowell is a director of Micronics, Inc., MCSC and Leading Edge Aviation Services. All are private companies in the businesses of filtration products, precision manufacturing, engineered solutions and related services. Mr. Crowell earned an M.B.A. from UCLA's Anderson School and a B.A. from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Mr. Crowell brings broad business, financial and executive leadership experience to the Board, developed through his leadership roles at Vance Street Capital LLC, Aurora Capital Group LLC, Acadia Partners and Drexel Burnham Lambert. He has extensive experience with a number of precision manufacturing and aerospace companies. In addition, Mr. Crowell's experience in private investment enables him to bring a valuable investor's view to our Board and his relationships across the financial community strengthen the Company's access to capital markets. His board memberships provide deep understanding of trends in the precision manufacturing and aerospace sectors, both of which present ongoing challenges and opportunities for the Company.

Alan B. Levine has been a director and chairman of our Audit Committee since October, 2005. Mr. Levine served as Chief Financial Officer and Director of Virtual Access Networks, Inc. (2001 to 2002) and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of Marathon Technologies Corporation (1998 to 2001). Mr. Levine is currently a Director of Magnetek, Inc. and Dynasil Corporation of America and Chairman of the Audit Committees of both companies. He was also a member of the Board of Directors and Audit Committee Chair of MCK Communications before the company's merger in November, 2003. Prior to this, Mr. Levine was with Ernst & Young LLP from 1974 to 1998, and was Partner from 1986 to 1998, where he established and directed an Entrepreneurial Services practice. From January, 2007 until July, 2011, he served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Graduate Management Admission Council. He is currently retired. He is a former Director and Audit Committee Chair of Nextera Enterprises, Inc. Mr. Levine earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Vermont. He also holds a Master of Accounting degree from the University of Arizona and was a certified public accountant. As chairman of our Audit Committee Mr. Levine has demonstrated that he is valuable to the Audit Committee's function. He is the Company's designated "audit committee financial expert" as defined by SEC regulations. Mr. Levine brings to the Board extensive demonstrated expert knowledge and experience in accounting and finance from his Master of Accounting degree and as a former partner with Ernst & Young LLP and former Chief Financial Officer. This knowledge and experience gives Mr. Levine a perspective that he is able to use to help the Audit Committee and Board understand the highly technical issues management confronts on a daily basis and to serve as a critical resource for management. Mr. Levine's depth of business, accounting and financial experience make him an excellent candidate as a member of our Board.

Vote Required

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting. Accordingly, Mr. Quain, Mr. Crowell and Mr. Levine will be elected if they receive more votes than any other nominees for a place on the Board.

The Board recommends a vote FOR the election to the Board of Directors of the nominees

listed above.

ITEM 2: THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ERNST & YOUNG LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.

The Audit Committee has appointed Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2016, and has further directed that the Board submit the selection of Ernst & Young LLP for ratification by the stockholders at the annual meeting. During fiscal 2015, Ernst & Young LLP served as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and also provided certain tax services. See "Principal Accountant Fees and Services" below.

This proposal is put before the stockholders because the Audit Committee and the Board believe that it is good corporate practice to seek stockholder ratification of the Audit Committee's appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm. If the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP is not ratified, the Audit Committee will consider the stockholders' vote when determining whether to continue the firm's engagement, but may ultimately determine to continue the engagement of the firm or another audit firm without re-submitting the matter to stockholders. Even if the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP is ratified, the Audit Committee may in its sole discretion terminate the engagement of the firm and direct the appointment of another independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it determines that such an appointment would be in the best interests of our Company and our stockholders. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to attend the annual meeting, where they will be available to respond to appropriate questions and, if they desire, to make a statement.

Vote Required

Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2016 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of the Company's common stock present in

person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal.

The Board recommends a vote *FOR* the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2016.

ITEM 3: NON-BINDING VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The Exchange Act requires the Company to hold a separate non-binding advisory stockholder vote (commonly known as a "Say on Pay" proposal) to approve the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the SEC's rules.

At last year's annual meeting, 71.0% of shareholder votes supported the advisory vote to approve executive compensation. The Company is committed to the interests of its shareholders and the delivery of long-term shareholder value through appropriate executive pay programs and governance actions that attract, motivate and retain a highly-qualified executive team. As part of this commitment, we intend to continue to maintain an ongoing dialogue with our shareholders to address any continued concerns they may have.

The Company objective is to ensure its compensation programs:

·Properly align CEO pay to Company performance.

Ensure that no problematic pay practices exist (such as excessive change-in-control or severance packages,

- ·benchmarking compensation above peer medians, repricing or backdating of options or excessive perquisites or tax gross-ups)
- ·Reflect appropriate communication with and responsiveness to shareholders.

During fiscal 2013 a number of changes were made to the Company's compensation programs, including:

- 1. Starting for fiscal 2014, the Company changed its targeted positioning of annual performance bonus and long-term incentive awards from the 60 th percentile of the Company's selected peer group to the median of the Company's selected peer group. Thus all elements of executive officer compensation, starting for fiscal 2014, are targeted to the 50 th percentile of the Company's selected peer group.
- 2. The Company's selected peer group is comprised to make sure that the Company is not being compared to other companies on an arbitrary basis or limitations based on GICS industry classifications and takes into consideration a number of relevant factors such as companies in the highly engineered product/manufacturing industries, revenue ranges, market capitalization and eight digit GICS codes for Company selected peers.
- 3. The Company's employment agreement with Dr. Hartnett was amended starting for fiscal 2014 so that any guaranteed minimum annual increase in his base salary was eliminated and his annual performance bonus formula, based on the Company's performance in relation to an approved operating plan, was changed to eliminate any discretionary performance bonus.

- 4. Starting for fiscal 2014 all grants of stock options as well as restricted stock or units to the CEO are made pursuant to a pay for performance based program with no discretionary awards.
- 5. The Board of Directors approved stock ownership guidelines for Non-Employee Independent Directors and for the Company's Executive Officers.
- 6. The 2013 Long Term Incentive Plan was modified to prohibit share recycling, to limit the number of shares that may be used for restricted stock or restricted unit grants under the Plan to fifty percent (50%) of the total authorized number of Shares pursuant to the Plan and to limit the expiration date of any stock option granted under the Plan to no more than seven years from the date it is granted.
- 7. The Board of Directors approved an Executive Compensation Clawback Policy applicable to all Executive Officers.

As discussed in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of this proxy statement, the Company's compensation program is designed to reward executives based on favorable performance and results. Compensation policies and plans (including benefits) are designed to attract and retain top quality and experienced executives by providing the opportunity to earn competitive cash compensation based on corporate, business unit and individual performance, plus the opportunity to accumulate stock-based wealth commensurate with the long-term growth and value created for the Company's stockholders.

The Company seeks to attract executive talent by offering competitive base salaries and annual and long-term performance incentive opportunities. The Company provides incentives that promote both the short and long-term financial and strategic objectives of the Company. Achievement of short-term objectives is rewarded through base salary and annual performance incentives, while long-term incentive grants (primarily stock options and restricted stock) encourage executives to focus on and align themselves with the Company's long-term goals as well. These incentives are based on financial objectives of importance to the Company, including revenue and earnings growth and creation of stockholder value. The Company's compensation program also accounts for individual performance, which enables the Company to differentiate among executives and emphasize the link between personal performance and compensation.

The Board believes that our compensation program for our named executive officers is appropriately based upon our performance and the individual performance and level of responsibility of the executive officers. We urge you to read the "Executive Compensation" section of this proxy statement for details on the Company's executive compensation programs.

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

"RESOLVED, that the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to Item 402 of Regulation S-K, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and narrative discussion is hereby APPROVED."

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

The Board has adopted a policy providing for annual "Say on Pay" advisory votes. Unless the Board modifies this policy, the next "Say on Pay" advisory vote will be held at our 2016 annual meeting of stockholders.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote *FOR* the approval of the Compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

ITEM 4: OTHER MATTERS

As of the date of this proxy statement, the Company knows of no business that will be presented for consideration at the 2015 annual meeting other than the items referred to above. If any other matter is properly brought before the meeting for action by stockholders, proxies in the enclosed form returned to the Company will be voted in accordance with the recommendation of the Board or, in the absence of such a recommendation, in the manner the proxy holder considers appropriate.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Number of Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board held 5 meetings during fiscal 2015. The standing committees of the Board held an aggregate of 10 meetings during fiscal 2015. Each director attended 99% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board and the Board committees on which he served as a director during fiscal 2015.

Attendance at Annual Meetings of the Stockholders

All directors are encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the stockholders. A majority of directors attended the 2014 annual meeting of stockholders either in person or by teleconference.

Director Independence

Certain rules of the Nasdaq Global Select Market ("Nasdaq") require that the Board be comprised of a majority of "independent directors," and each of the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee be comprised solely of "independent directors" as defined under Nasdaq rules.

Based upon the information submitted by each of the directors, and following the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, the Board has made a determination that all of our current directors, with the exception of Dr. Hartnett and Mr. Bergeron satisfy the "independence" requirements of Nasdaq, SEC regulations and the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines. The standards for determining independence are those set forth in the Nasdaq listing standards and the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines can be found on our website at www.rbcbearings.com.

Executive Sessions

The Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines require the non-management directors to meet in executive sessions on a periodic basis without management. The presiding director, for purposes of leading these meetings, will be the

Chairman of the Audit Committee. The non-employee members of the Board and the Audit Committee, respectively, met in executive session during 1 of the Board and all of the Audit Committee meetings held in fiscal 2015.

Communications between Stockholders and the Board

Stockholders may send communications to the Company's directors as a group or individually, by writing to those individuals or the group at the following address: RBC Bearings Incorporated, c/o the Corporate Secretary, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478. The Corporate Secretary will review all correspondence received and will forward all correspondence that is relevant to the duties and responsibilities of the Board or the business of the Company to the intended director(s). Examples of inappropriate communication include business solicitations, advertising and communication that is frivolous in nature, relates to routine business matters (such as product inquiries, complaints or suggestions), or raises grievances that are personal to the person submitting the communication. Upon request, any director may review communication that is not forwarded to the directors pursuant to this policy.

The Board has adopted a policy for submitting concerns regarding the Company's accounting or auditing matters. Reports may be sent to the Audit Committee through one of the following means: (1) calling the Company's Ethics Hotline at 1-866-247-5449, which is available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, and leaving a recorded message and (2) in writing marked Private & Confidential to the Audit Committee, RBC Bearings Incorporated, c/o the General Counsel, One Tribology Center, Oxford, CT 06478. In each case, reports will be received by the Company's General Counsel who will forward the message to the Audit Committee. The confidentiality of all reports will be maintained to the extent consistent with law.

Committees of the Board of Directors

Our Board currently has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The composition, duties and responsibilities of these committees are described below. Committee members hold office for a term of one year. The charters for each of the committees is available on the Company's website at www.rbcbearings.com.

Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is responsible for (1) selecting the independent registered public accounting firm, (2) approving the overall scope of the audit, (3) assisting the Board in monitoring the integrity of our financial statements, the independent registered public accounting firm's qualifications and independence, the performance of the independent registered public accounting firm and our internal audit function and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (4) annually reviewing an independent registered public accounting firm's report describing the auditing firms' internal quality-control procedures, and any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality-control review, or peer review, of the registered public accounting firm, (5) discussing the annual audited financial and quarterly statements with management and the independent registered public accounting firm, (6) discussing earnings press releases, as well as financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies, (7) discussing policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, (8) meeting separately, periodically, with management and the independent registered public accounting firm, (9) reviewing with the independent registered public accounting firm any audit problems or difficulties and management's response, (10) setting clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent registered public accounting firm, (11) handling such other matters that are specifically delegated to the Audit Committee by the Board from time to time and (12) reporting regularly to the full Board.

Our Audit Committee currently consists of Mr. Levine, Mr. Quain, Mr. Stewart and Dr. O'Brien, each of whom satisfies the current financial literacy requirements and independence requirements for audit committee members of Nasdaq and the SEC. Our Board has determined that Mr. Levine, Mr. Quain, Mr. Stewart and Dr. O'Brien all separately qualify as an "audit committee financial expert," as such term is defined in the regulations under the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee held 4 meetings in fiscal 2015.

Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee is responsible for (1) reviewing key employee compensation goals, policies, plans and programs, (2) reviewing and approving the compensation of our directors, chief executive officer and other executive officers, (3) reviewing and approving employment contracts and other similar arrangements between the Company and our executive officers, (4) reviewing and consulting with the Board on the selection of the chief executive officer and evaluation of such officer's executive performance and other related matters, (5) administration of stock plans and other incentive compensation plans, (6) approving overall compensation policies for the Company and (7) handling such other matters that are specifically delegated to the Compensation Committee by the Board from time to time. Our Compensation Committee currently consists of Messrs. Crowell, Levine and Faghri, each of whom satisfies the independence requirements of Nasdaq. The Compensation Committee held 4 meetings in fiscal 2015.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for: (1) evaluating the composition, size and governance of our Board and its committees and making recommendations regarding future planning and the appointment of directors to committees, (2) establishing a policy for considering stockholder nominees for election to our Board, (3) evaluating and recommending candidates for election to our Board, (4) overseeing our Board's performance and self-evaluation process and developing continuing education programs for our directors, (5) reviewing our corporate governance principles and policies and providing recommendations to the Board regarding possible changes, and (6) reviewing and monitoring compliance with the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the "Code of Ethics") and our Insider Trading Policy. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consists of Mr. Stewart, Dr. O'Brien and Dr. Faghri, each of whom

satisfies the independence requirements of Nasdaq. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee held 2 meetings during fiscal 2015.

The Board seeks to have a diverse group of members who possess the background, skills and expertise to make a significant contribution to the Board, to the Company and its stockholders. Desired qualities include: high-level leadership experience in business or administrative activities, and significant accomplishment; breadth of knowledge about issues affecting the Company; proven ability and willingness to contribute special competencies to Board activities; personal integrity; loyalty to the Company and concern for its success and welfare; willingness to apply sound and independent business judgment; awareness of a director's vital role in assuring the Company's good corporate citizenship and corporate image; no present conflicts of interest; availability for meetings and consultation on Company matters; enthusiasm about the prospect of serving; willingness to assume broad fiduciary responsibility; and willingness to become a Company stockholder.

In evaluating candidates, the committee reviews all candidates in the same manner, regardless of the source of the recommendation. The policy of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is to consider individuals recommended by stockholders for nomination as a director in accordance with the procedures described under "Director Nominations to be Considered by the Board."

Corporate Governance Guidelines

The Board adopted a set of Corporate Governance Guidelines, which, among other things, sets forth the Company's expectations and policies with respect to the roles and responsibilities of the Board, director affiliations and conflicts, director compensation, standards of director conduct, and the qualifications and other criteria for director nominees. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for periodically reviewing and reassessing the adequacy of these guidelines and recommending changes to the Board for approval.

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

The Company's employees, officers and directors are required to abide by the Company's Code of Ethics, which is intended to insure that the Company's business is conducted in a consistently legal and ethical manner. The Code of Ethics covers areas of professional conduct, such as conflicts of interest, fair dealing, the protection of confidential information and compliance with laws, regulations and rules. Any waiver of the policies or procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics in the case of officers or directors may be granted only by the Board and must be promptly disclosed as required by law or the rules and regulations of Nasdaq.

Board Risk and Compensation Risk Oversight

The Board has oversight responsibility of the processes established to report and monitor systems for material risks applicable to the Company. The Board focuses on the Company's general risk management strategy and the most significant risks facing the Company and ensures that appropriate risk mitigation strategies are implemented by management. The Board has delegated to its various committees the oversight of risk management practices for categories of risk relevant to their functions. For example, the Audit Committee oversees risks associated with the Company's systems of disclosure controls and internal controls over financial reporting as well as the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements as well as risks associated with foreign exchange, insurance, credit and debt. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committees oversee risks associated with sustainability. The Compensation Committee considers risks related to the attraction and retention of talent and risks related to the design of compensation programs and arrangements. The full Board is responsible for considering strategic risks and succession planning and receives reports from each Committee as to risk oversight within their areas of responsibility.

The Company's senior management periodically reports on risk management policies and practices to the relevant Board Committee or to the full Board so that any decisions can be made as to any required changes in the Company's risk management and mitigation strategies or in the Board's oversight of these.

Finally, as part of its oversight of the Company's executive compensation programs, the Compensation Committee considers the impact of the Company's executive compensation program, and the incentives created by the compensation awards that it administers, on the Company's risk profile. In addition, the Company reviews all of its compensation policies and procedures, including the incentives that they create and factors that may reduce the likelihood of excessive risk taking, to determine whether they present a significant risk to the Company. Based on this review, the Company has concluded that its compensation policies and procedures are not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Board Diversity

The Company's policy on Board diversity relates to the selection of nominees for the Board. In selecting a nominee for the Board, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers the skills, expertise and background that would complement the existing Board and ensure that its members are of sufficiently diverse and independent backgrounds, recognizing that the Company's businesses and operations are diverse and global in nature. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not have a specific policy regarding diversity when assessing candidates for the Board, but may consider various kinds of diversity such as diversity of professional background and capabilities, knowledge of specific industries and geographic experience, as well as the more traditional diversity concepts of race, gender and national origin experience and industry diversity, when considering whether to nominate an individual for Board membership. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assesses the effectiveness of this objective when evaluating new director candidates and when assessing the composition of the Board. The Board believes it is important that its members represent diverse viewpoints and perspectives in their application of judgment to company matters.

Board Leadership Structure

The Board has no formal policy with respect to the separation of the offices of the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer, which are currently combined. However, the Board understands that no single leadership model is right for all companies and at all times. The Board believes that it should have the flexibility to make decisions as to the Chairman position from time to time in the way that it believes will best provide effective leadership for the Company. Accordingly, the Board periodically reviews its leadership structure, including whether these offices should be separate. The Board has determined that the current structure consisting of combined roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer is an effective and appropriate leadership structure for the Company at this time. All the current members of our Board are independent, except for the CEO and CFO, and all of our Board committees are composed entirely of independent directors.

To promote open discussion among the independent directors, the independent directors routinely meet in executive session without the participation of management at each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. The Board does not have a lead independent director. The Chairman of the Audit Committee leads the sessions of the Board in which management directors and other members of management are not present.

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Independent members of our Board are paid \$50,000 per year, payable quarterly, and are entitled to annual stock option and restricted stock grants for their services at the discretion of the Compensation Committee and upon approval of the Board. During fiscal 2015 each director was granted stock options and shares of restricted stock as indicated in the table below. In addition, the Chairs of the Compensation and Audit Committees are entitled to an additional payment of \$5,000 per year. In addition, our compensation policy provides for reimbursement for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board meetings or of any committee thereof. The Compensation Committee reviews non-employee director compensation annually and recommends changes to the Board for approval.

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

or Paid Stock Option I	Non-Equity and Nonqualified Compensation Deferred Compensation Earnings
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Changain