TRANS LUX Corp Form 10-K/A April 29, 2016

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C.

#### **FORM 10-K/A**

#### Amendment No. 1

(Mark One)

[X]	ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
	1934

For the fiscal year ended <u>December 31, 2015</u>

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to\_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number <u>1-2257</u>

### **TRANS-LUX CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<u>Delaware</u> 13-1394750

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer incorporation or organization)

Identification No.)

445 Park Avenue, Suite 2001, New York, NY 10022

(Address of registrant s principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (800) 243-5544

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock, \$0.001 par value
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.  Yes No _X
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.  Yes No _X
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.  Yes X No
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files.)  Yes X No

# CONTINUED

# TRANS-LUX CORPORATION

2015 Form 10-K/A Cover Page Continued

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [ ]
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12(b)-2 of the Exchange Act.
Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company_X
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  Yes No _X
The aggregate market value of the registrant s voting Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant based upon the last sale price of the registrant s Common Stock reported on OTCQB on June 30, 2015, was approximately \$5,018,000, which value solely for the purposes of this calculation excludes shares held by the registrant s officers and directors. Such exclusion should not be deemed a determination by the registrant that all of such individuals are, in fact, affiliates of the registrant. The registrant has no non-voting common stock.
The number of shares outstanding of the registrant s Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, as of the latest practicable date, on April 28, 2016, was 1,710,671 shares of Common Stock.
DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:
None.
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A amends our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, which was filed with the SEC on March 29, 2016 (the Original Filing ). We are filing this Amendment solely for the limited purpose of amending Part III, Items 10 14 to reflect the inclusion of the information required by Form 10-K. The Original Filing contemplated the incorporation by reference of such information from the Corporation s definitive proxy statement relating to the Corporation s 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Corporation s definitive proxy statement will not be filed within the requisite 120 days after the Corporation s 2015 fiscal year end, and accordingly, the Corporation is including the information required by Part III, Items 10 14 of Form 10-K through this Amendment as contemplated by instruction G (3) to Form 10-K.

Except as contained herein, this Amendment speaks as of the filing date of the Original Filing and does not modify or update disclosures contained in the Original Filing. Accordingly, this Amendment should be read in conjunction with the Original Filing.

# TRANS-LUX CORPORATION

2015 Form 10-K/A Annual Report

Amendment No. 1

# **Table of Contents**

		<u>Page</u>
	<u>PART III</u>	
ITEM 10.	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	1
<u>ITEM 11.</u>	Executive Compensation	6
	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and	
<u>ITEM 12.</u>	Management and Related Stockholder Matters	12
	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director	
<u>ITEM 13.</u>	<u>Independence</u>	14
<u>ITEM 14.</u>	Principal Accountant Fees and Services	15
	<u>PART IV</u>	
ITEM 15.	Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules	15
Signatures		18

#### **PART III**

ITEM 10.

#### DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The directors of Trans-Lux Corporation (the "Corporation" or the "Company") and their ages are as follows:

Name	Age
Jean-Marc (J.M.) Allain	46
Marco Elser	57
Ryan J. Morris	31
Alan K. Greene	76
George W. Schiele	84
Alberto Shaio	67
Yaozhong Shi	47
Salvatore J. Zizza	70

Directors:

**J.M.** Allain became the President and CEO of the Corporation on February 16, 2010 and has served as a director since June 2011. Mr. Allain served as President of Panasonic Solutions Company from July 2008 through October 2009; Vice President of Duos Technologies from August 2007 through June 2008; General Manager of Netversant Solutions from October 2004 through June 2005; and Vice President of Adesta, LLC from May 2002 through September 2004. Mr. Allain has familiarity with the operational requirements of complex organizations and has experience dealing with reorganizations and turnarounds. Mr. Allain s experience and deep understanding of the operations of the Corporation allow him to make valuable contributions to the Board.

Marco M. Elser has served as a director since May 25, 2012. Since 2015, Mr. Elser currently serves as a partner with Lonsin Capital, a London-based investment banking firm. Mr. Elser also serves on the Board of Directors of Protalex, a Florham Park, NY-based biotechnology company, since 2014. He is also one of the independent directors of North Hills Signal Processing Corporation, a Long Island, NY based technology company. Mr. Elser previously had been a partner with AdviCorp Plc, a London-based investment banking firm; served as International Vice President of Northeast Securities, managing distressed funds for family offices and small institutions from 1994 to 2001; and

served as a first Vice President of Merrill Lynch Capital Markets in Rome and London until 1994. Mr. Elser was formerly Chairman of the Board of Pine Brook Capital, a Shelton, CT based engineering company and has served in that role for over five years. Mr. Elser was also the president of the Harvard Club of Italy until 2014, an association he founded in 2002 with other Alumni in Italy where he has been living since 1984. He received his BA in Economics from Harvard College in 1981. Mr. Elser s extensive knowledge of international finance and commerce allows him to make valuable contributions to the Board.

**Ryan J. Morris** was appointed as an independent director on April 23, 2016. Mr. Morris serves as President of Meson Capital Partners LLC, a San Francisco-based investment partnership, which he founded in February 2009. Mr. Morris currently serves on the board of directors of InfuSystem Holdings, Inc. since April 2012 (and served as Executive Chairman from April 2012 to May 2015) and Sevcon, Inc. since December 2013. Previously, Mr. Morris served as a director of Lucas Energy, Inc. from October 2012 to October 2014 (and was Chairman of the Board from December 2012 to November 2013). From June 2011 to July 2012, Mr. Morris served as a member of the equity committee of HearUSA, Inc., responsible for maximizing value to the stockholders. Mr. Morris extensive knowledge of finance and his service to other boards of directors allow him to make valuable contributions to the Board.

Alan K. Greene has served as an independent director since October 2, 2013. Mr. Greene has previously served as a Partner of Price Waterhouse from 1974 to 1995, acting at various times as Managing Partner for cross border transactions and as National Director of tax services for M&A, and in connection with foreign banks and mutual funds with respect to acquisition and investment strategies. Currently, Mr. Greene serves on the board of directors of Intellicorp, Inc. (since 2001) and RAVE, Inc. (since 2005). Previously, he was a director of Connecticut Innovations, Inc. from 2005 until 2015, the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund from 2007 until 2011, Metromedia International Group, Inc. from 2007 until 2011, Enduro Medical Technologies LLC from 2005 until 2013 and Greene Rees Technologies, LLC from 1995 until 2013. Mr. Greene has also held prior board positions at Fortistar Capital, Oswego Hydro, Access Shipping and various other public and private companies through the years. Mr. Greene s experience serving as chairman of various audit committees of many of these organizations and strong aptitude for technologies allow him to provide valuable contributions to the Board.

1

George W. Schiele has served as a director since 2009. Mr. Schiele was elected Chairman of the Board (a non-executive position) of the Corporation on September 29, 2010. Mr. Schiele currently serves as President of George W. Schiele, Inc., a trust management and private investment company and has held such position since 1974. He is also President of four other private companies since 1999, 2005, 2006, 2009, and 2015, respectively; from 2003 until 2013 he was a Director of Connecticut Innovations, Inc., one of the nation s five most active venture capital firms, and was Chairman of its Investment Advisory and Investment Committees from 2004 until 2013, responsible during his tenure for more than 200 VC investments. Mr. Schiele additionally serves as Trustee of ten private trusts since 1974 through the present. Mr. Schiele serves as an officer of two charitable foundations since 2006 and is Managing Partner of two investment partnerships since 2008, and as a Director of The Yankee Institute since 1998. Mr. Schiele s long experience in previous start-ups and corporate restructurings and his service to other boards of directors allow him to make valuable contributions to the Board.

Alberto Shaio became the Chief Operating Officer of the Corporation on October 6, 2014 and has served as a director since October 2, 2013. He also serves on the Board of Advisors of Scorpion Capital. Previously, Mr. Shaio served as President and CEO of Craftsmen Industries from January 1, 2011 through September 1, 2013. Previously he held various posts with Farrel Corporation (Ansonia CT and Rochdale England) from 1986 until December 31, 2010, including the role of President and CEO since 2003. Mr. Shaio was a Director of the HF Mixing Group (Germany) from 2002 until 2010. From 1970 through 1986, Mr. Shaio was General Manager, Vice President or President of various companies such as Pavco, Filmtex (Columbia SA), and the Interamerican Investment Group. He has served on the board of directors of New Energy Corporation, Farrel Corporation, Interactive Systems, Polifilm, Filmtex, PAVCO SA, and Harburg Freudenberg Maschinenbau GmbH (Germany). Mr. Shaio s extensive international experience and service to numerous other boards of directors allow him to provide valuable contributions to the Board.

**Yaozhong Shi** has served as a director since June 29, 2014. Mr. Shi was appointed as a director of the Corporation pursuant to the terms of that certain Securities Purchase Agreement dated as of June 27, 2014 between the Company and Transtech LED Company Limited ("Transtech"). Mr. Shi has over 25 years of experience in the LED industry. Mr. Shi s contributions to Transtech have resulted in a successful, well-known brand in the LED display total solution industry that provides solutions for multiple indoor & outdoor applications primarily in the media, entertainment and sports sectors. Mr. Shi s strong business knowledge and extensive history and resources in the LED display arena allow him to provide valuable contributions to the Board.

Salvatore J. Zizza has served as an independent director since 2009. Mr. Zizza was elected Vice Chairman of the Board (a non-executive position) of the Corporation on September 29, 2010. Mr. Zizza has previously served as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of General Employment Enterprises Inc. from December 23, 2009 until December 26, 2012. Mr. Zizza had served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Bion Environmental Technologies Inc. from January 13, 2003 until December 31, 2005, and has served as Non Executive Chairman of

Harbor BioSciences, Inc. since March 27, 2009. He currently serves as the Chairman of Zizza & Associates, LLC. Mr. Zizza serves as the Chairman of Bethlehem Advanced Materials. Additionally, Mr. Zizza serves as a Director of GAMCO Westwood Funds. He has been an Independent Trustee of GAMCO Global Gold, Natural Resources & Income Trust by Gabelli since November 2005 and serves as a Director/trustee of 26 funds in the fund complex of Gabelli Funds, He has been Director of General Employment Enterprises Inc. since January 8, 2010 and has been an Independent Trustee of Gabelli Dividend & Income Trust since 2003. Mr. Zizza has been Independent Director of Gabelli Convertible & Income Securities Fund Inc. since April 24, 1991 and has been a Director of Gabelli Equity Trust, Inc. since 1986 and a Trustee of Gabelli Utility Trust since 1999. He served as Lead Independent Director of Hollis-Eden Pharmaceuticals from March 2006 to March 2009 and as a Director of Earl Scheib Inc. from March 1, 2004 to April 2009. As previously disclosed in the Company s Prospectus filed on October 14, 2015, the SEC issued a cease and desist order which provides that Mr. Zizza violated Rule 13b2.2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and in connection therewith Mr. Zizza agreed to pay a \$150,000 fine. Mr. Zizza received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and his Master of Business Administration in Finance from St. John's University, which also has awarded him an Honorary Doctorate in Commercial Sciences. Mr. Zizza s extensive experience and service to numerous other boards of directors allow him to provide valuable contributions to the Board. In addition, Mr. Zizza also serves as Chairman of the Audit Committee and is the audit committee financial expert as required under the rules of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC).

#### **Meetings of the Board of Directors and Certain Committees:**

The Board of Directors held five meetings during 2015. All directors attended 60% or more of such meetings and of the committee meetings for which they were members. The Corporation does not have a formal policy regarding directors attendance at annual stockholders meetings, but strongly encourages and prefers that directors attend regular and special Board meetings as well as the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in person, although attendance by teleconference is considered adequate. The Corporation recognizes that attendance of the board members at all meetings may not be possible and excuses absences for good cause.

Non-employee directors (other than our Chairman and Vice Chairman) are due to receive an annual fee of \$10,000, as well as \$1,000 for each meeting of the Board attended in person and \$500 for each telephonic meeting attended, while employee directors are not entitled to receive any fees for their attendance to any meetings. Mr. George W. Schiele and Mr. Salvatore J. Zizza, the Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively, receive an annual fee of \$15,000 each, monthly fees of \$3,000 each, \$1,500 for each meeting of the Board attended in person and \$750 for each telephonic meeting attended. Fees for members of the Board and Committees are determined annually by the entire Board of Directors based on review of compensation paid by other similar size companies, the amounts currently paid by the Company, the overall policy for determining compensation paid to officers and employees of the Company and the general financial condition of the Company. During 2015 and 2014, certain board members deferred payment of their fees. In lieu of a cash payment, certain board members and former board members have agreed to receive restricted shares of Common Stock of the Company or a combination of cash and restricted shares of Common Stock of the Company, which such restricted shares shall contain a legend under the Securities Act of 1933 and shall not be transferable unless and until registered or otherwise in accordance with applicable securities laws. Certain of these restricted shares were issued in December 2013.

#### **Corporate Governance Policies and Procedures**

The Board of Directors has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics Guidelines (the Ethics Code ) that applies specifically to board members and executive officers. The Ethics Code is designed to promote compliance with applicable laws and regulations, to promote honest and ethical conduct, including full, fair, accurate and timely disclosure in reports and communications with the public. The Ethics Code is available for viewing on the Corporation s website at www.trans-lux.com. Any amendments to, or waivers from, the Ethics Code will be posted on the website. In addition, the Board of Directors adopted a Whistle Blowing policy, which provides procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Corporation regarding accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters, as well as the confidential, anonymous submission of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing practices.

#### **Corporate Leadership Structure**

Two separate individuals serve as the Corporation s Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. The Chairman is not an executive officer. The Chairman provides leadership to the Board in the fulfillment of his responsibilities in presiding over Board meetings. The Chairman also presides over all meetings of the stockholders. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for directing the operational activities of the Corporation.

# **Risk Management**

Our Board of Directors and its Audit Committee are actively involved in risk management. Both the Board and Audit Committee regularly review the financial position of the Corporation and its operations, and other relevant information, including cash management and the risks associated with the Corporation s financial position and operations.

#### **Communication with the Board of Directors**

Security holders are permitted to communicate with the members of the Board by forwarding written communications to the Corporation s Chief Financial Officer at the Corporation s headquarters in New York, New York. The Chief Financial Officer will present all communications, as received and without screening, to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### **Committees of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors has appointed a Compensation Committee, an Audit Committee, an Executive Committee and a Nominating Committee.

#### **Compensation Committee**

The members of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors are Messrs. Elser, Greene and Zizza. The Compensation Committee operates under a formal written charter approved by the Compensation Committee and adopted by the Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee reviews compensation and other benefits. The Compensation Committee did not hold any meetings in 2015. None of the members of the Compensation Committee is or has been an officer or employee of the Corporation. There are no Compensation Committee interlock relationships with respect to the Corporation. Members of said Committee receive a fee of \$320 for each meeting of the Committee they attend and the Chairman, Mr. Greene, receives an annual fee of \$1,600.

#### **Audit Committee**

The members of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors are Messrs. Greene and Zizza. The Audit Committee operates under a formal written charter approved by the Committee and adopted by the Board of Directors, a copy of which is available on the Corporation s website at http://www.trans-lux.com/about/investor-information. The Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Greene and Zizza, are independent directors. The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Zizza meets the definition of audit committee financial expert set forth in Item 407 of Regulation S-K, as promulgated by the SEC. The Audit Committee held 4 telephonic meetings with the independent auditors in 2015. The responsibilities of the Audit Committee include the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm, review of the audit function and the material aspects thereof with the Corporation s independent registered public accounting firm, and compliance with the Corporation s policies and applicable laws and regulations. Members of said Committee receive a fee of \$400 for each meeting of the Committee they attend (other than the quarterly telephonic meetings held with the independent auditors) and the Chairman, Mr. Zizza, receives an annual fee of \$2,400 and a fee of \$100 for his participation in each quarterly telephonic meeting held with the independent auditors.

#### **Executive Committee**

The members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors are Messrs. Elser, Schiele and Zizza. The Executive Committee operates under a formal written charter approved by the Committee and adopted by the Board of Directors. Messrs. Schiele and Zizza are independent, meeting the requirements of Section 952 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Each of the members of the Executive Committee qualify as "non-employee directors" for the purposes of Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and

Messrs. Schiele and Zizza qualify as "outside directors" for the purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. The primary purpose of the Executive Committee is to provide the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company with a confidential sounding board for insights and advice, and to provide the Board with a more active formal interface with management and its day to day policy and actions. Additionally, the secondary objective of the Executive Committee is to exercise the powers and authority of the Board, subject to certain limitations set forth in the charter, during the intervals between meetings of the Board, when, based on the business needs of the Company, it is desirable for the Board to meet but the convening of a special board meeting is not warranted as determined by the Chairman of the Board. It is the general intention that all substantive matters in the ordinary course of business be brought before the full Board for action, but the Board recognizes the need for flexibility to act on substantive matters where action may be necessary between Board meetings, which, in the opinion of the Chairman of the Board, should not be postponed until the next previously scheduled meeting of the Board. The Executive Committee did not hold any meetings in 2015. Members of the Executive Committee do not receive any fees for their participation.

#### **Nominating Committee**

The members of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors are Messrs. Elser, Schiele and Shaio. The Nominating Committee operates under a formal written charter approved by the Committee and adopted by the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee recommends for consideration by the Board of Directors, nominees for election of directors at the Corporation s Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Director nominees are considered on the basis of, among other things, experience, expertise, skills, knowledge, integrity, understanding the Corporation s business and willingness to devote time and effort to Board responsibilities. Members of the Nominating Committee do not receive any fees for their participation. The Nominating Committee does not have a separate policy regarding diversity of the Board.

#### **Corporate Governance Committee**

The Board of Directors has not established a corporate governance committee. The Board of Directors acts as the corporate governance committee.

#### **Independence of Non-Employee Directors**

While the Corporation s Common Stock is traded on the OTCQB, the Corporation follows the NYSE MKT Company Guide regarding the independence of directors. A director is considered independent if the Board of Directors determines that the director does not have any direct or indirect material relationship with the Corporation. Mr. Allain and Mr. Shaio are employees of the Corporation and therefore have been determined by the Board to fall outside the definition of independent director. Messrs. Elser, Greene, Morris, Schiele, Shi and Zizza are non-employee directors of the Corporation. Mr. Elser, via Carlisle Investments, Inc. ("Carlisle") over which he exercised voting and dispositive power as investment manager, and Mr. Schiele have made loans to the Corporation and therefore have been determined by the Board to fall outside the definition of independent director. Mr. Shi is a Director of Transtech, which is the Corporation s main supplier of LED modules and therefore has been determined by the Board to fall outside the definition of independent director. The Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Greene, Morris and Zizza are independent directors since they had no relationship with the Corporation other than their status and payment as non-employee directors and as stockholders. The Board of Directors has determined that its two Audit Committee members, Messrs. Greene and Zizza, are independent directors.

#### Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan

The Board of Directors has previously established a Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan which, as amended, covers a maximum of 800 shares for grant. Such options are granted for a term of six years and are priced at fair market value on the grant date. The determination as to the amount of options to be granted to directors is based on years of service, and are calculated on a yearly basis as follows: a minimum of 20 stock options are granted for each director; an additional 20 stock options are granted if a director has served for five years or more; an additional 20 stock options are granted if a director has served for ten years or more; and an additional 40 stock options are granted if a director has served for twenty years or more. Such options are exercisable at any time upon the first anniversary of the grant date. The Corporation grants additional stock options upon the expiration or exercise of any such option if such exercise or expiration occurs no earlier than four years after date of grant, in an amount equal to the number of

options that have been exercised or that have expired. In addition to the foregoing, the shareholders approved a proposal to grant warrants to purchase 20,000, 20,000 and 2,000 shares to Messrs. Zizza and Schiele and Ms. Firstenberg, respectively, which warrants were granted in 2013.

#### Compliance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

The Corporation s executive officers and directors are required under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the SEC. Copies of those reports must also be furnished to the Corporation. Based solely on a review of the copies of reports furnished to the Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation s executive officers and directors have complied with the Section 16(a) filing requirements, except that purchases in November 2015 by Mr. Shaio, Mr. Greene and Mr. Schiele of 252, 252 and 250 shares, respectively, of the Company s Series B Preferred Stock were reported on Form 5 s filed in February 2016 rather than Form 4 s filed within two business days of the purchase.

The following executive officers were elected by the Board of Directors for the ensuing year and until their respective successors are elected:

Name	Office	Age
Jean-Marc (J.M.) Allain	President and Chief Executive Officer	46
Robert J. Conologue	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	67
Alberto Shaio	Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer	67
Alexandro Gomez	Senior Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer	46
Todd Dupee	Vice President and Controller	43

The biographical information for Mr. Allain and Mr. Shaio is provided at the beginning of Item 10. Mr. Conologue became Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation on May 29, 2014. Mr. Conologue has previously served as Chief Financial Officer for Utrecht Art Supplies from June 2012 to November 2013. Prior to that, he worked at Twinlab Corporation in the role of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from May 2005 to December 2011. Mr. Gomez became Senior Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer of the Corporation on October 13, 2014. Mr. Alex Gomez previously worked for xclr8 Media from 2011 to 2014, Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment form 2003 to 2011, One-On-One Sports Radio Network from 2000 to 2001, Foot Locker Worldwide from 1998-2000 and News Corporation s Fox Sports and Fox Video from 1992 to 1998. Mr. Dupee became Vice President of the Corporation in 2009, has been Controller since 2004 (except when he served as Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer between December 3, 2012 and May 29, 2014) and has been with the Company since 1994.

ITEM 11.

**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION** 

#### **Compensation of Executive Officers**

Compensation Discussion and Analysis. All matters concerning executive compensation for the Chief Executive Officer and other executive officers whose annual base salaries are over \$200,000 per year are considered by the Corporation's Compensation Committee. Our compensation structure for our executives is designed to attract individuals with the skills necessary for us to achieve our business plan, to reward those individuals for successful performance over time, and to retain those executives who continue to perform at or above our expectations, without incurring risk-taking incentives that may adversely affect the Corporation. Our executives compensation has three primary components: a base salary, cash incentive bonuses and equity awards.

Base Salary. We fix the base salary of each of our executives at a level we believe enables us to hire and retain individuals in a competitive environment and rewards satisfactory individual performance and a satisfactory level of

contribution to our overall business goals. We also take into account the base salaries paid by similarly sized companies and the base salaries of other companies with which we believe we compete for talent. Named executive officer compensation currently reflects amounts of cash consistent with periods of economic stress and lower earnings, as we focus on actions to stabilize the Company and to position it for a continued recovery.

Cash Incentive Bonuses. We design the cash incentive bonuses for our executives to focus the executive on achieving key financial and/or operational objectives within a yearly time horizon, as described in more detail below. Cash incentive bonuses for our executives are established as part of their respective individual employment agreements, as applicable. Currently, J.M. Allain, our President and Chief Executive Officer, and Alberto Shaio, our Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, are the only executive officers of the Corporation entitled to a cash incentive bonuses; their cash incentive bonuses are determined in accordance with the terms of their employment agreements with the Company. As a general matter, the Compensation Committee is responsible for determining all criteria for the provision of any cash incentive bonuses awarded by the Corporation, and any such decisions by the Compensation Committee must be approved by the Board of Directors at the time any employment agreement contemplating a cash incentive bonus is entered into. Based on the financial standing of the Corporation, no cash incentive bonuses were paid for the year ended December 31, 2015.

#### **Table of Contents**

Equity Awards. We occasionally grant stock options, restricted stock or warrants relating to employment agreements and/or to reward long-term performance. We believe that such compensation incentivizes each executive to create value for the Corporation, and ties executive performance directly to the financial performance of the Corporation as a whole. We take into consideration the executives—tenure with the Corporation, as well as the availability of equity awards, in addition to the executive—s performance in determining grants of equity awards.

We view the three primary components of our executive compensation as related but distinct. Although we review total compensation, we do not believe that significant compensation derived from one component of compensation should negate or reduce compensation from other components. We determine the appropriate level for each compensation component based in part, but not exclusively, on our view of internal equity and consistency, individual performance and other information we deem relevant. We believe that salary and cash incentive bonuses are primary considerations and that equity awards are secondary considerations. Except as described below, we have not adopted any formal policies or guidelines for allocating compensation between long-term and currently paid out compensation, between cash and non-cash compensation, or among different forms of compensation. This is due to the small size of our executive team, and our need to remain flexible and to tailor each executive s award to attract and retain that executive.

Other Benefits. In addition to the three primary components of compensation described above, we provide our executives with benefits that are generally available to our salaried employees. Our executives are eligible to participate in all of our employee benefit plans, such as medical, group life and disability insurance, flexible spending plans, and our 401(k) plan, in each case on the same basis as our other employees. Additionally, as a special perquisite for our executives we provide additional life insurance benefits which are paid for the Company. If there is a Change in Control of the Company, as defined in their employment agreements, Mr. Allain and Mr. Shaio would also be entitled to severance payments equal to their current annual salaries of \$300,000 and \$250,000, respectively.

Supplemental Executive Retirement Agreement. In accordance with the former President and Chief Executive Officer s agreement, he was due a supplemental executive retirement payment on July 1, 2010 in the amount of \$353,000 plus tax effect of approximately \$170,000, but has not yet been paid.

Compensation Consultants. The Corporation has not engaged the services of any outside compensation consultant for 2015.

#### **Compensation Committee Report**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the foregoing Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management and, based on such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee has recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

This report is submitted by the Compensation Committee. Its members are:

Alan L. Greene, Chairperson

Marco Elser

Salvatore J. Zizza

### **Compensation of Executive Officers**

The following table provides certain summary information for the last two fiscal years of the Corporation concerning compensation paid or accrued by the Corporation and its subsidiaries to or on behalf of the Corporation s Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other Named Executive Officers of the Corporation whose compensation exceeded \$100,000:

# **Summary Compensation Table**

# **Annual Compensation**

Name and Principal Position J.M. Allain President and Chief Executive Officer	<b>Year</b> 2015 2014	Salary (\$) 301,405 285,576	Bonus (\$) -	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value of Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	<b>Total</b> (\$) 319,405 303,576
Robert J. Conologue (2). Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	2015 2014	195,522 105,924	- -	-	-	-	-	195,522 105,924
Alberto Shaio (3) Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer	2015 2014	180,002 41,539	- -	 -	 -			_180,002 54,539
	2015	150,003	-	-	-	- -	- -	 150,003

Alexandro Gomez <sup>(4)</sup> Senior Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer	2014	31,732	-	-	-	-	-	- 31,732
(1)								
See All Ot	her Con	npensation	below for	further det	ails.			
(2)								
Elected an E	Executiv	e Officer on	May 29, 2	014.				
(3)								
Elected an E	Executiv	e Officer on	November	r 4, 2014.				
(4)								
Elected an E	Executiv	e Officer on	November	r 4, 2014.				
					0			
					8			

#### **All Other Compensation**

During 2015 and 2014, All Other Compensation consisted of director fees and other items. The following is a table of amounts per named individual:

	Director and/or		
	<b>Trustee Fees</b>	Other	<b>Total All Other</b>
Name Year	(\$)	(\$)	Compensation (\$)
J.M. Allain <sup>(1)</sup> 2015	_	18,000_	18,000
2014	-	18,000	18,000
Robert J Conologue 2015	_		-
2014	-	-	-
Alberto Shaio 2015	_		-
2014	13,000	-	13,000
Alexandro Gomez 2015			-
2014	-	-	-

<sup>(1)</sup> Other consists of vehicle allowance.

#### **Stock Option Plans and Stock Options**

#### 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan

The Company has adopted the 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan to allow for an aggregate of 200,000 shares of Common Stock that may be issued under the 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan. The 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan was adopted by the Corporation s Board of Directors on July 2, 2010, with amendments adopted by the Corporation s Board of Directors on December 21, 2011, and approved by the Corporation s stockholders at the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on June 26, 2012. No awards have been issued to any employees or directors under the 2012 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

#### Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan

The Company also had a Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan, which as amended, covered a maximum of 1,200 shares for grant and which provided for the grant of incentive stock options priced at fair market value as of the date of grant. Options are for a period of six years from date of grant, are granted at fair market value on date of grant, may be exercised at any time after one year from date of grant while a director and are based on years of service, with a minimum of 20 stock options for each director, an additional 20 stock options based on five or more years of service, another 20 stock options based on 10 or more years of service and an additional 40 stock options based on 20 or more years of service. Additional stock options are granted upon the expiration or exercise of any such option, which is no earlier than four years after date of grant, in an amount equal to such exercised or expired options. The plan has expired. No stock options are currently outstanding.

There were no stock options granted in fiscal 2015 to the named executive officers or any directors, and no stock options were exercised in fiscal 2015.

There have been no stock options issued to the named executive officers so there have been no values realized relating to the exercise of stock options, there are no fiscal year end option values and there are no unexercised option or equity incentive plan awards as of the end of the fiscal year.

#### **Defined Benefit Pension Plan**

In 2015, the Company made the required \$1.2 million of cash contributions to the Company s defined benefit pension plan for all eligible employees and the eligible individuals listed in the Summary Compensation Table. The Company has been granted, subject to certain conditions, its requests for waivers of the 2009, 2010 and 2012 minimum funding standard as permitted under 412(d) of the Internal Revenue Code and section 303 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

The Company s defined benefit pension plan, prior to being frozen, covered all salaried employees over age 21 with at least one year of service who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement to which the Company is a party. Retirement benefits are based on the final average salary for the highest five of the ten years preceding retirement. For example, estimated annual retirement benefits payable at normal retirement date, which normally is age 65, is approximately \$15,000 for an individual with ten years of credited service and with a final average salary of \$100,000; and approximately \$120,000 for an individual with 40 years of credited service and with a final average salary of \$200,000. Currently, \$260,000 is the legislated annual cap on determining the final average salary and \$210,000 is the maximum legislated annual benefit payable from a qualified pension plan.

### **Supplemental Executive Retirement Agreement**

In accordance with the former President and Chief Executive Officer s employment agreement, he was due a supplemental executive retirement payment on July 1, 2010 in the amount of \$353,000 plus tax effect of approximately \$170,000, but has not yet been paid.

### **Employment Agreements**

The Corporation executed an employment agreement with J.M. Allain, President and Chief Executive Officer, effective on February 16, 2015 which expires on February 16, 2018. The agreement provides for compensation at the annual rate of \$300,000 per annum. The agreement entitles Mr. Allain to twenty days paid vacation per year, a vehicle allowance, key person insurance, business expense reimbursement (including a business club membership) and certain employee benefits generally available to employees of the Corporation. The agreement provides for certain severance benefits depending on whether Mr. Allain leaves the employ of the Corporation for Cause, Good Reason or Without Cause and for Good Reason prior to the termination of the agreement. The agreement contains standard non-disparagement, confidentiality and non-solicitation provisions. The foregoing is merely a summary of the agreement and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the text of the agreement as filed as Exhibit 10.5 of Form 10-K dated April 1, 2015.

The Corporation executed an employment agreement with Alberto Shaio, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, effective on March 30, 2016 which expires on March 30, 2018. The agreement provides for compensation at the annual rate of \$250,000 per annum. The agreement entitles Mr. Shaio to twenty days paid vacation per year, business expense reimbursement (including a business club membership) and certain employee benefits generally available to employees of the Corporation. The agreement provides for certain severance benefits depending on whether Mr. Shaio leaves the employ of the Corporation for Cause, Good Reason or Without Cause and for Good Reason prior to the termination of the agreement. The agreement contains standard non-disparagement, confidentiality and non-solicitation provisions. The foregoing is merely a summary of the agreement and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the text of the agreement as filed herewith as Exhibit 10.7.

The Corporation executed an employment agreement with David Pavlik, President of the Corporation s TL Energy division, effective on May 27, 2014 which expires on May 27, 2016. The agreement provides for compensation at the annual rate of \$150,000 per annum. The agreement entitles Mr. Pavlik to twenty days paid vacation per year, business expense reimbursement and certain employee benefits generally available to employees of the Corporation. The agreement contains standard non-disparagement, confidentiality and non-solicitation provisions. The foregoing is merely a summary of the agreement and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the text of the agreement as filed as Exhibit 4.02 of Form 8-K dated May 27, 2014.

#### **Director Compensation**

#### Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan

The Board of Directors has previously established a Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan which, as amended, covers a maximum of 1,200 shares for grant. Such options are granted for a term of six years and are priced at fair market value on the grant date. The determination as to the amount of options to be granted to directors is based on years of service, and are calculated on a yearly basis as follows: a minimum of 20 stock options are granted for each director; an additional 20 stock options are granted if a director has served for five years or more; an additional 20 stock options are granted if a director has served for ten years or more; and an additional 40 stock options are granted if a director has served for twenty years or more. Such options are exercisable at any time upon the first anniversary of the grant date. The Corporation grants additional stock options upon the expiration or exercise of any such option if such exercise or expiration occurs no earlier than four years after date of grant, in an amount equal to the number of options that have been exercised or that have expired. In addition to the foregoing, the Corporation received shareholder approval of a proposal to grant warrants to purchase 20,000, 20,000 and 2,000 shares to Salvatore J. Zizza, George W. Schiele and Jean Firstenberg, respectively, which warrants were granted in 2013.

# **Compensation of Directors**

The following table represents director compensation for 2015:

Name	Year	Fees Earned (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
J.M. Allain	2015			-	_	-	_	_
Marco Elser Alan K.	2015	13,000	-	-	-	-	-	13,000
Greene	2015	14,600	-	-	-	-	-	14,600
Ryan J. Morris <sup>(1)</sup> George W.	2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Schiele (2)	2015_							