



# 2024

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING  
AND PROXY STATEMENT

Abercrombie & Fitch Co.



April 29, 2024

## TO OUR FELLOW STOCKHOLDERS:

We invite you to join us for the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “Annual Meeting”) of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. to be held at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on Wednesday, June 12, 2024. The Annual Meeting will be held as a virtual meeting, to be conducted exclusively via webcast at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024). Details regarding how to participate in the webcast of the Annual Meeting and the business to be conducted at the Annual Meeting are provided in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “Notice”) and Proxy Statement.

Fiscal 2023 was a defining year for our Company. We achieved important financial milestones, achieving top-line growth across regions, brands, and channels, all while making critical investments to strengthen our brands and Company. We ended the year with \$4.28 billion in net sales, up 16% to Fiscal 2022, and we achieved an operating margin of 11.3%, our best in 15 years. Throughout the year, we also made progress on the three pillars underpinning our 2025 Always Forward Plan that we unveiled at our June 2022 Investor Day:

- **Execute Focused Growth Plans** - The Abercrombie & Fitch brand continued its impressive multiyear performance and, along with abercrombie kids, Abercrombie brands delivered 27% net sales growth over Fiscal 2022. We also stabilized the Hollister business, returning Hollister brands to 6% net sales growth over Fiscal 2022. Continuing the focus on a growth mindset, we again ended the year as a net store opener and delivered 57 new, right-sized, and remodeled store experiences to reach new and current customers.
- **Accelerate an Enterprise-wide Digital Revolution** - We maintained focus on our strong digital business and continued improvements to our omnichannel shopping capabilities, delivering 45% of our Fiscal 2023 sales through our digital channels. We added digital talent to our teams and continued our work in modernizing our data and technology infrastructures.
- **Operate with Financial Discipline** - In addition to our strong net sales and operating margin results during Fiscal 2023, we also improved gross profit rate by 600 basis points to Fiscal 2022. While achieving these results, we improved cash flow and accelerated investments in the business when appropriate to enable future growth. We also used excess cash to reduce our debt levels, and we significantly improved our inventory levels while also growing average unit retail.

During Fiscal 2023, we continued our Board of Directors refreshment efforts and we completed the successful transition of the role of Chairperson of the Board. In November 2023, we welcomed a new director, Arturo Nuñez. Arturo brings marketing expertise and global retail experience, and we look forward to his continued contributions to the Board. We also thank departing director Sarah Gallagher for her 10 years of service as a director.

Our strong Fiscal 2023 financial results were at or above our Always Forward Plan 2025 financial targets for net sales and operating margin. For Fiscal 2024, we are focusing on sustaining our progress on the 2025 Always Forward Plan, and are eager to carry our strong momentum from 2023 forward. We look forward to delivering sustainable, profitable global growth for our stockholders.

Whether or not you plan to join us for the Annual Meeting, it is important that your shares be represented. We encourage you to promptly submit your proxy by following the simple instructions shown on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or proxy card.

## Always Forward,






**Fran Horowitz**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Nigel Travis**  
Chairperson of the Board



# Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders

 <b>DATE &amp; TIME</b> June 12, 2024 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time	 <b>LOCATION</b> Via webcast: <a href="http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024">www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024</a> The meeting will be conducted virtually, and you will not be able to attend the meeting in person.	 <b>RECORD DATE</b> April 15, 2024
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## Items of Business

Proposal		Our Board's Voting Recommendation
1	Elect the nine director nominees named in the Proxy Statement to serve until the 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders	✓ <b>FOR</b> each director nominee
2	Conduct an advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers for Fiscal 2023 ("Say on Pay Vote")	✓ <b>FOR</b>
3	Ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for Fiscal 2024	✓ <b>FOR</b>

The Proxy Statement describes each of these items in detail. In addition, we will transact any other business that may properly come before the Annual Meeting, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof.

## Important Voting Information

Even if you plan to participate in the Annual Meeting, we urge you to vote as soon as possible in one of the following ways:

 <b>Vote online</b> by visiting the website shown on your Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card	 <b>Vote by calling toll-free</b> U.S., U.S. Territories, and Canada Call 1-800-690-6903	 <b>Vote by mail</b> (if you received a printed copy of the proxy materials): complete, sign, and date your proxy card and return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope
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## Participating in the Annual Meeting

All stockholders are invited to attend the Annual Meeting by visiting [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024). Our goal is to ensure that stockholders have the same rights and opportunities to participate in the Annual Meeting as you would at an in-person meeting. You will be able to attend the meeting online, vote your shares electronically, and submit questions during the meeting. To do so, you will need the unique 16-digit control number printed in the box on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or proxy card. Please see page 82 for more information.

By Order of the Board of Directors,



**Gregory J. Henchel**  
Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

**Abercrombie & Fitch Co.**  
6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054  
April 29, 2024

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT**

Please carefully review the proxy materials for the 2024 Annual Meeting and cast your vote.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

We have elected to furnish our Proxy Statement and our 2023 Annual Report (the “Annual Report”), which includes our Annual Report on Form 10-K for Fiscal 2023 (our “Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K”) to certain of our stockholders over the Internet pursuant to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) rules, which allows us to reduce costs associated with the Annual Meeting.

Beginning on April 29, 2024, we will first release the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access the Proxy Statement and Annual Report online. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials contains instructions as to how you may elect to receive printed copies of the Proxy Statement and the Annual Report. For stockholders who have elected to receive printed copies of our proxy materials, the Proxy Statement and Annual Report will first be mailed on or about April 29, 2024.

The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, Proxy Statement, and Annual Report are available online, free of charge, at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com), a site that does not have “cookies” that identify visitors to the site. Our proxy materials also are available on our corporate website at [corporate.abercrombie.com/investors](http://corporate.abercrombie.com/investors).

Only stockholders who held our Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “Common Stock”), as of the close of business on April 15, 2024 (the “Record Date”), are entitled to receive notice of, and vote at, the Annual Meeting.

Please vote as soon as possible. Submitting your proxy now will not prevent you from voting your shares at the Annual Meeting, as your proxy is revocable at your option. If you do not plan on voting at the Annual Meeting, please submit your proxy prior to 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on June 11, 2024.

## Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this Proxy Statement may contain forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) that involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various important factors, many of which may be beyond our control. Words such as “estimate,” “project,” “plan,” “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “should,” “are confident,” “will,” “could,” “outlook,” or the negative versions of those words or other comparable words and similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements. There can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this Proxy Statement will prove to be accurate. Factors that could cause results to differ from those expressed in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the risks disclosed in “ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS” of our Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K, and otherwise in our reports and filings with the SEC, as well as the following factors: our ability to execute on, and maintain the success of, our strategic and growth initiatives, including those outlined in our 2025 Always Forward Plan; our ability to appropriately address environmental, social, and governance (“ESG”) matters, including setting, meeting, or accurately reporting our progress on ESG-related initiatives and goals; our ability to attract or retain talent; failure to protect our reputation; or cybersecurity threats and privacy or data security-related risks. The inclusion of forward-looking statements herein should not be regarded as a representation by the Company, or any other person, that the objectives of the Company will be achieved. Except as may be required by applicable law, we assume no obligation to publicly update or revise our forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

## Incorporation by Reference

Neither the Report of the Compensation and Human Capital Committee on Executive Compensation nor the Report of the Audit and Finance Committee included herein shall be deemed soliciting material or filed with the SEC and neither of them shall be deemed incorporated by reference into any prior or future filings made by us under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), except to the extent that we specifically incorporate such information by reference.

In addition, this document includes several website addresses. These website addresses are intended to provide inactive, textual references only. The information on these websites is not part of this Proxy Statement.

## Other Information

References in this Proxy Statement to “the Company,” “we,” “our,” and “us” refer to Abercrombie & Fitch Co., a Delaware corporation. References to “the Board” refer to the Board of Directors of the Company. References to “Fiscal 2020” refer to our fiscal year ended January 30, 2021, references to “Fiscal 2021” refer to our fiscal year ended January 29, 2022, references to “Fiscal 2022” refer to our fiscal year ended January 28, 2023, references to “Fiscal 2023” refer to our fiscal year ended February 3, 2024 (a 53-week year), and references to “Fiscal 2024” refer to our fiscal year ending February 1, 2025. References to “GAAP” refer to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



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# Proxy Statement Summary

## ABOUT ABERCROMBIE & FITCH CO.

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We are a global, digitally-led, omnichannel retailer offering a broad assortment of apparel, personal care products, and accessories for men, women, and kids. We sell our products primarily through our Company-owned stores and digital channels, as well as through various third-party arrangements. We operate primarily in North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia.

### Corporate Purpose

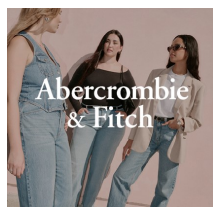
Our corporate purpose informs our mission, shapes our vision, fuels our purpose-led brands, and inspires our global associates. It is our North Star and “why” we do what we do every day.

We are here for you on the journey to being and becoming who you are.

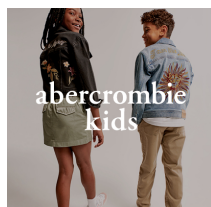
### Our Brands

Our brands share a commitment to offering unique products of enduring quality and exceptional comfort that allow customers around the world to express their own individuality and style.

#### ABERCROMBIE BRANDS



Abercrombie & Fitch believes that every day should feel as exceptional as the start of the long weekend. Since 1892, the brand has been a specialty retailer of quality apparel, outerwear, and fragrance – designed to inspire our global customers to feel confident, be comfortable and face their Fierce.

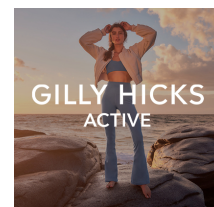


abercrombie kids is a global specialty retailer of quality, comfortable, made-to-play favorites. abercrombie kids sees the world through kids' eyes and believe kids should feel exceptional every single day.

#### HOLLISTER BRANDS



The quintessential apparel brand of the global teen consumer, Hollister Co. creates clothes made for capturing moments, creating memories and being unapologetically you.



At Gilly Hicks, we believe in energizing our minds, moods and bodies through movement every day. That's why we offer active lifestyle products to help customers create happiness through movement.

## CORPORATE CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS

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### 2023 Recognitions

We are proud to be recognized in 2023 for our strong corporate culture and our associates' workplace experience:

Named one of the 2023 Best Workplaces in Retail™ by Fortune magazine

Continued our status as a Great Place to Work-Certified™ organization for the third consecutive year

Received a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's 2023-2024 Corporate Equality Index for the 17th year in a row, receiving a designation as one of the Best Places to Work for LGBTQ+ Equality

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Corporate Governance Practices

We consistently seek to follow best practices in corporate governance. Some of our corporate governance practices are highlighted:

#### Board and Committee Independence

- ✓ All director nominees are independent, except our CEO
- ✓ All committee members are independent (except the Executive Committee, which only meets on an as-needed basis)

#### Board and Committee Diversity

- ✓ Five of nine director nominees self-identify as female
- ✓ Three of five committee chairs self-identify as female
- ✓ Our Corporate Governance Guidelines require that any director search include women and minorities among the pool of potential new director candidates
- ✓ Three of nine director nominees self-identify as racially or ethnically diverse
- ✓ We publicly disclose diversity information on an individual director basis

#### Other Board and Committee Practices

- ✓ Separate Chairperson and CEO positions
- ✓ Meaningful stock ownership guidelines
- ✓ Overboarding policy limiting other public company board and audit committee service
- ✓ Robust annual Board evaluation process
- ✓ Regular executive sessions of non-associate directors
- ✓ Demonstrated commitment to Board and committee refreshment, including active succession planning by Board
- ✓ Continuing education opportunities and reimbursement for outside educational programs
- ✓ Stringent Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that requires waivers to be approved by the independent directors and publicly disclosed

#### Stockholder Rights

- ✓ Declassified Board with annual election of directors
- ✓ Majority voting for director elections, with resignation policy
- ✓ Proxy access for director candidates nominated by stockholders, reflecting market standards
- ✓ No poison pill

### Stockholder Engagement

We believe in the importance of effective and transparent engagement with our stockholders. During Fiscal 2023, we met with many of our largest actively-managed stockholders and with new and prospective investors during scheduled events and meetings throughout the year. Our CEO, CFO/COO, and other members of our Investor Relations team also participated in numerous investor conferences throughout the year where they engaged with the investment community and our stockholders. These meetings, events and conferences primarily focused on our financial performance, operations, and progress against our long-term strategic initiatives, including our 2025 Always Forward Plan. We also engaged on various matters important to stockholders, including topics related to capital allocation, corporate governance, ESG initiatives, and executive compensation. The Company considers feedback from stockholders and incorporates it into our practices, policies, and decision-making as appropriate.

### Board and Committee Refreshment

Our Board believes that regular refreshment is a critical component of our overall commitment to good governance. Our Board's ongoing process of refreshment included the successful Board leadership transition with Nigel Travis, who has served on our Board since February 2019, assuming the role as Chairperson of our Board effective at the conclusion of Fiscal 2022. Additionally, as part of our ongoing Board refreshment, our long-standing director Sarah Gallagher, whose term ends immediately prior to the Annual Meeting, will not stand for re-election. The size of our Board will be reduced from ten to nine directors, effective immediately following the Annual Meeting. The Board thanks Ms. Gallagher for her 10 years of service on the Board and for her contributions to the Company and our stockholders.



Our Nominating and Board Governance Committee (sometimes referred to herein as the “Nominating Committee”) is charged with identifying individuals qualified to become directors of the Company and recommending to the Board director nominees for appointment to the Board. Over the past several years, the Nominating Committee has recommended to the Board the nomination of directors who we believe bring fresh perspectives and certain specialized skills or expertise, which we believe are well balanced by the contributions of our directors with longer tenures who have over time gained institutional knowledge. Our commitment to bringing new ideas and perspectives to the Board is demonstrated by our current Board composition. In November 2023, upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, our Board appointed a new independent director, Arturo Nuñez. In addition to Mr. Nuñez, since the beginning of Fiscal 2020, we have added four new independent directors: Susie Coulter, James A. Goldman, Kenneth B. Robinson, and Helen Vaid.

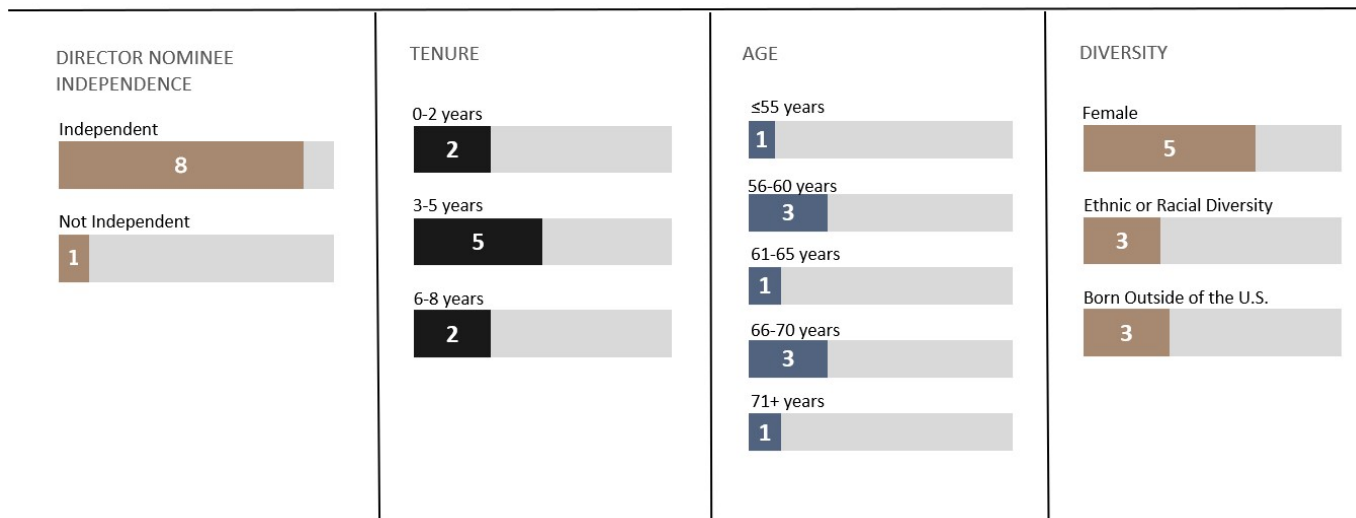
While we are proud of the multi-year Board refreshment process, the Nominating Committee will continue to evaluate each incumbent director’s qualifications, performance, and ability to continue to contribute productively to help ensure the appropriate composition and tenure of the Board, and, as appropriate, the Nominating Committee will continue to seek highly qualified director candidates in furtherance of the Board’s ongoing refreshment strategy.

Our Nominating Committee is also responsible for evaluating and making recommendations to our Board regarding Board committee assignments. In connection with the recent Board refreshment, our Nominating Committee is undergoing an evaluation of the Board committees’ composition. Following such evaluation, the Nominating Committee expects to recommend the appointment of a new committee member to our Nominating Committee and to our Environmental, Social, and Governance Committee (sometimes referred to herein as the “ESG Committee”) to replace Ms. Gallagher on those committees.

## Director Nominees










Our Board currently has ten members. As Ms. Gallagher is not standing for re-election, the Board has nominated nine of the existing ten directors for election at the Annual Meeting, to serve until the 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The following snapshot and table provide summary information about our director nominees. The diversity data set forth below is based on self-identification information provided and consented to by our director nominees. Please see page 9 of this Proxy Statement for Proposal 1 - Election of Directors for more information, including a Director Nominee Diversity and Tenure matrix, on our director nominees’ self-identified diversity traits.

### Director Nominee Snapshot



## PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY

### Director Nominee Summary

	Age	Director Since	Independent	Other Public Company Boards	Committee Membership				
					AFC	CHCC	NBGC	ESGC	EC
 <b>Kerri B. Anderson</b> Former President and CEO of Wendy's International, Inc.	66	2018	✓	3	Ⓒ		●		●
 <b>Susie Coulter</b> Founder and CEO of Arq Botanics LLC	58	2020	✓	1				Ⓒ	
 <b>James A. Goldman</b> Former President and CEO of Godiva Chocolatier, Inc.	65	2020	✓	1		●	Ⓒ		●
 <b>Fran Horowitz</b> Chief Executive Officer of Abercrombie & Fitch Co.	60	2017		1					●
 <b>Helen E. McCluskey</b> Former President and CEO of The Warnaco Group, Inc.	69	2019	✓	1	●	Ⓒ			●
 <b>Arturo Nuñez</b> Founder and CEO of AIE Creative	57	2023	✓	1					
 <b>Kenneth B. Robinson</b> Former SVP, Audit Services of Exelon Corporation and Former Senior Finance Executive of The Procter & Gamble Company	69	2021	✓	2	●			●	
 <b>Nigel Travis</b> ★ Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc.	74	2019	✓	0					Ⓒ
 <b>Helen Vaid</b> Consultant at Mayfair Equity	52	2023	✓	1		●			

**AFC** Audit and Finance Committee  
**CHCC** Compensation and Human Capital Committee  
**NBGC** Nominating and Board Governance Committee  
**ESGC** Environmental, Social, and Governance Committee  
**EC** Executive Committee

★ Board Chairperson  
 Ⓒ Committee Chair  
 ● Member

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Environmental and Social Practices

We operate and invest in our business with a focus on the long term, which requires taking into consideration environmental and social matters that are important to our stakeholders, including our stockholders, customers, associates, and partners. In our efforts to create positive impacts within our organization and within communities we operate in, we have implemented practices and established targets to promote environmental and social stewardship, community involvement, and inclusion and diversity. A few environmental and social highlights from Fiscal 2023 are as follows:

#### Environment and Sustainability

- ✓ Published the results of our first ESG materiality assessment, along with additional information on our sustainability strategies, goals, and initiatives, on an updated sustainability website to provide our stakeholders with greater transparency
- ✓ Following the completion of our first ESG materiality assessment in 2022, in 2023 we refreshed existing ESG goals and introduced new goals
- ✓ Formally established our intent to set near-term science-based emissions reductions targets in line with the criteria for Science Based Targets initiative
- ✓ Directly engaged with a number of our stockholders to educate, discuss, and receive feedback on various topics, including our sustainability initiatives and our supply chain practices

#### Global Giving and Community Involvement

- ✓ Held The Challenge, our annual fundraiser and music festival, with proceeds distributed to our six core philanthropic partners (see page 31 for more information on our partners)
- ✓ Donated over \$8 million to charitable causes and \$3.5 million through in-kind giving with the help of our vendor partners, our customers, and our associates
- ✓ Our global associates remained committed to our communities, volunteering over 22,000 hours

#### Inclusion and Diversity

- ✓ Attracted, retained, and managed our qualified talent representing diverse backgrounds, experiences, and skillsets
- ✓ Established Inclusion & Diversity key principles of representation, leadership, learning, and equity
- ✓ Held our third annual HBCU Summit, with attendees represented from a dozen Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States
- ✓ Continued investments in creating community expansion of our associate resource groups ("ARGs"), including:
  - Ongoing programming for our BIPOC, Families/Caregivers, LGBTQIA+, and Women communities through our BIPOC & Allies ARG, Families/Caregivers & Allies ARG, Pride & Allies ARG, and Women & Allies ARG
  - Established a new ARG for those associates who support, identify, and/or are caregivers/allies of disabilities or different abilities (ABLE & Allies ARG)
- ✓ Amplified and celebrated the voices of our BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ communities through product capsule collections:
  - The Abercrombie & Fitch brand launched the 2023 installment of its ongoing Black History Month collection: a purpose-led capsule designed by members of the BIPOC community
  - The Abercrombie brands launched gender-inclusive Pride collections in June 2023, co-created with The Trevor Project



## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION HIGHLIGHTS

For a detailed discussion of our executive compensation program, please see the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this Proxy Statement beginning on page 40. In the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section, our Compensation and Human Capital Committee, sometimes referred to herein as the “Compensation Committee,” is referred to as the “Committee.”

### Compensation Practices

The following compensation practices demonstrate how we believe our executive compensation program reflects best practices and reinforces our culture and values:

#### ✓ Practices We Employ

- ✓ Emphasis on at-risk pay
- ✓ Rigorous performance metrics
- ✓ Robust stock ownership guidelines
- ✓ Benchmark NEO pay against a compensation peer group
- ✓ Annual “say on pay” vote
- ✓ Compensation Committee retains an independent compensation consultant
- ✓ Conservative compensation risk profile
- ✓ Double-trigger equity vesting in the event of a change of control
- ✓ Incentive compensation clawback policy, including recoupment for certain conduct in addition to mandatory recoupment in the event of an accounting restatement

#### X Practices We Avoid

- X Excise tax gross-up payments
- X Derivatives or hedging of equity securities
- X Pledging of equity securities
- X Liberal stock option or SAR recycling provisions
- X Multi-year employment agreements with NEOs
- X Modification of out-of-the money stock options or stock appreciation rights without stockholder approval
- X Dividend equivalents on certain equity awards

### Fiscal 2023 Compensation Program Elements

The following table summarizes the compensation elements provided for our named executive officers (sometimes referred to herein as our “NEOs”) in Fiscal 2023:

Element	Purpose	Metric
<b>Base Salary</b>	Fixed annual cash compensation to attract and retain executive officers	Established after review of base salaries for executive officers at companies in our compensation peer group and the performance of each of our NEOs
<b>Annual Cash Incentive Program</b>	Performance-based variable pay that delivers cash incentives when the Company meets or exceeds key financial results	Based on an assessment of Adjusted EBIT <sup>(1)</sup> (weighted at 70%) and Net Sales on a constant currency basis (“Constant Currency Net Sales”) <sup>(1)</sup> (weighted at 30%) against pre-established goals (with performance measured on a seasonal basis, meaning that goals are weighted 30% for Spring and 70% for Fall)
<b>Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards</b>	Performance-based and service-based equity compensation to reward our executive officers for a balanced combination of the Company meeting or exceeding key financial results and creating long-term stockholder value	<p>50% Performance-based Performance Share Awards (“PSAs”) that measure a three-year period spanning Fiscal 2023 through Fiscal 2025 and are based on the following metrics and weightings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33.33% on Average Net Sales Growth Rate (“Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate”)</li> <li>• 33.33% on 3-Year Average Non-GAAP EBIT Margin Percent (“Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin”)<sup>(1)</sup></li> <li>• 33.34% on Relative Total Shareholder Return (“TSR”)</li> </ul> <p>50% Service-based Restricted Stock Units (“RSUs”) that vest in equal installments over three years from the grant date</p>

(1) These are non-GAAP measures. Please refer to Appendix A to this Proxy Statement for additional detail on these performance metrics.

## Compensation Program Changes in Fiscal 2023 and 2024

Since Fiscal 2022, the annual cash incentive program has included a Constant Currency Net Sales metric to promote a healthy emphasis on top-line growth. For Fiscal 2023, the Compensation Committee increased the weighting of the Constant Currency Net Sales metric in the annual cash incentive program from 20% to 30%, and commensurately reduced the weighting of Adjusted EBIT from 80% to 70%. The Compensation Committee believes this change has created the appropriate balance of incentives for top- and bottom-line growth and, accordingly, determined not to make any changes to the annual cash incentive program metrics for Fiscal 2024.

For Fiscal 2024, in order to better align the annual cash incentive program with business shifts yielding a more profitable and higher-volume Spring season, and provide for more balance between selling seasons, the Compensation Committee adjusted the seasonal weighting for the annual cash incentive program to 40% for Spring and 60% for Fall, from 30% and 70%, respectively.

The Compensation Committee did not make any changes to the long-term equity incentive program for Fiscal 2023 or Fiscal 2024.

The following table summarizes our incentive-based compensation programs for Fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Program	Feature	Fiscal 2022 Design	Fiscal 2023 Design	Fiscal 2024 Design
Annual Cash Incentive Program	Metric	Adjusted EBIT (80%) Constant Currency Net Sales (20%)	Adjusted EBIT (70%) Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)	Adjusted EBIT (70%) Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)
	Seasonal Weighting	30% Spring 70% Fall	30% Spring 70% Fall	40% Spring 60% Fall
Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards	Vehicle Mix	PSAs (50%) RSUs (50%)	PSAs (50%) RSUs (50%)	PSAs (50%) RSUs (50%)
	Equally-Weighted PSA Metrics	Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin Relative TSR	Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin Relative TSR	Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin Relative TSR
	TSR Comparators	Compensation peer group	Compensation peer group	Compensation peer group

## Ongoing Commitment to Pay-for-Performance

We are committed to aligning the outcomes of our executives officers' compensation programs with the Company's financial performance. The majority of NEOs' total compensation opportunity is at-risk, as it is contingent upon our financial performance and/or appreciation in the market price of our Common Stock.

Percentage of Chief Executive Officer's compensation that was at-risk in Fiscal 2023	89 %
Percentage of other NEOs' compensation (on average) that was at-risk in Fiscal 2023	76 %

## 2023 Say on Pay Results

At our 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders,

# 96.5%

of votes were cast in favor of  
our named executive officer compensation

Each year, we hold a Say on Pay Vote. Our approach to executive compensation has driven high levels of support for our "Say on Pay" proposal over the past several years, and last year 96.5% of stockholder votes cast were to approve our named executive officer compensation program.

## VOTING MATTERS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Proposal		Our Board's Voting Recommendation	Page
<b>1</b>	Elect the nine director nominees named in the Proxy Statement to serve until the 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders	<b>FOR</b> each director nominee	<b>9</b>
<b>2</b>	Conduct an advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers for Fiscal 2023 ("Say on Pay Vote")	<b>FOR</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>3</b>	Ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for Fiscal 2024	<b>FOR</b>	<b>79</b>

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Refer to the "Additional Information About Our Annual Meeting and Voting" section of this Proxy Statement beginning on page 82 for important information about the proxy materials, voting, the Annual Meeting, Company documents, communications and the deadlines to submit stockholder proposals, and other pertinent information.

Additional questions about voting may be directed to Innisfree M&A Incorporated ("Innisfree"), our proxy solicitor, toll-free at (888) 750-5834. Banks and brokers may call collect at (212) 750-5833.



# Election of Directors

**There are currently ten directors serving on the Board, all of whose terms expire at the Annual Meeting. The Board is pleased to nominate nine of our current directors to stand for re-election at the Annual Meeting; Ms. Gallagher is not standing for re-election.**

- |                      |                      |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Kerrii B. Anderson | ✓ Fran Horowitz      | ✓ Kenneth B. Robinson |
| ✓ Susie Coulter      | ✓ Helen E. McCluskey | ✓ Nigel Travis        |
| ✓ James A. Goldman   | ✓ Arturo Nuñez       | ✓ Helen Vaid          |

Our directors are elected annually for one-year terms. Notwithstanding the expiration date of her or his term, each director holds office until her or his successor is elected and qualified.

The persons named as proxies will vote for each of the nominees named, unless you vote against or abstain from voting for or against one or more of them. The nine director nominees have agreed to serve if elected, and the Board has no reason to believe that any director nominee will be unavailable to serve. In the event that a director nominee is unable or declines to serve on the Board at the time of the Annual Meeting, then the persons named as proxies intend to vote for a substitute director nominee proposed by the Board, unless the Board decides to reduce the number of directors. Each director nominee must be elected by a majority of the votes cast “for,” and votes may not be cumulated.

Under our Amended and Restated Bylaws (“Bylaws”), in an uncontested election of directors, which we expect to be the case at the Annual Meeting, each director nominee must be elected by a majority of the votes cast. For the avoidance of doubt, a director nominee will be elected if the votes cast for such nominee’s election exceed the votes cast against such nominee’s election. Broker non-votes and abstentions will not be treated as votes cast. Under our Corporate Governance Guidelines, if an incumbent director does not receive a majority of votes cast in an uncontested election, she or he must tender her or his resignation to the Board. In determining whether to accept or reject such resignation, our Nominating Committee and the Board (without participation by the impacted director) will evaluate the resignation in light of the best interests of the Company and our stockholders. If the Board does not accept the resignation, the director who offered to resign will continue to serve on the Board until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until the director’s successor is elected and qualified, subject to the director’s prior death, resignation, or removal. If the Board accepts the resignation, our Nominating Committee will recommend to the Board whether to fill the resulting vacancy or to reduce the size of the Board. The Board will publicly disclose its decision regarding the resignation within 90 days after the results of the election are certified.

## YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

The Board unanimously recommends that you vote **FOR** each of the Board’s nine nominees.

# Nominees for Our Board of Directors

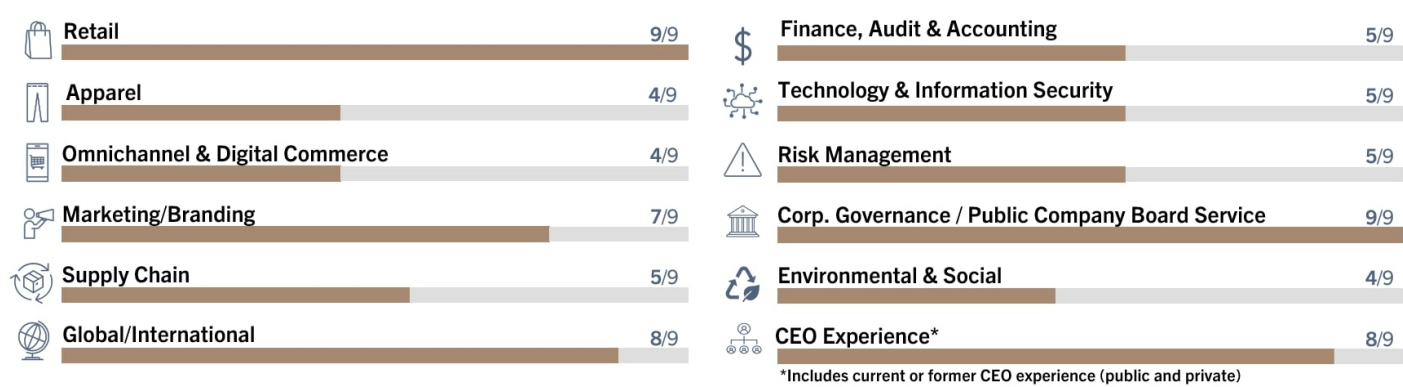
We believe that our directors should satisfy a number of qualifications, including demonstrated integrity, a record of personal accomplishments, a commitment to participation in Board activities, and other attributes discussed below in “Nominees for Our Board of Directors.” We also endeavor to have a Board that represents a range of qualifications, skills, and depth of experience in areas that are relevant to and contribute to the Board’s oversight of the Company’s business, enterprise risks, and strategic priorities.

We describe below the key experiences, qualifications, skills, and attributes that each director nominee brings to the Board that are important to our businesses and structure. The Nominating Committee and the Board considered these key experiences, qualifications, skills, attributes, and the nominees’ other attributes, including diversity, in determining that they be nominated.

## KEY EXPERIENCE, QUALIFICATIONS, AND ATTRIBUTES OF OUR NOMINEES

### Director Nominee Skills

The Company has identified the following key experience, qualifications, and skills in part from questionnaires completed by each director nominee and from results of a third-party skills assessment. We believe that this reflects the balanced mix of experience, qualifications, and attributes of the Board as a whole. This high-level summary is not intended to be an exhaustive list of each director nominee’s skills or contributions to the Board. No individual experience, qualification, or attribute is solely dispositive of becoming a member of our Board, and we believe that each nominee has a broad array of knowledge, experience, and skills.



### Director Nominee Diversity and Tenure Matrix

As described in our Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board and the Nominating Committee consider, among other important factors, diversity with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, age, and experience when identifying and selecting nominees for our Board. Our director nominees’ tenure, age, and self-identified diversity traits (identified as of February 20, 2024) are shown in the matrix below.

	Kerrii Anderson	Susie Coulter	James Goldman	Fran Horowitz	Helen McCluskey	Arturo Nuñez	Kenneth Robinson	Nigel Travis	Helen Vaid
<b>TENURE</b>									
Years on Board	6	4	4	7	5	0.5	3	5	1
<b>AGE</b>									
Age of Director	66	58	65	60	69	57	69	74	52
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>									
Black/African American						✓	✓		
Hispanic/Latino						✓			
Asian									✓
White	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
<b>GENDER</b>									
Female	✓	✓		✓	✓				✓
Male			✓			✓	✓	✓	
<b>GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN</b>									
Born Outside of the U.S.		✓						✓	✓

# Nominees for Our Board of Directors

Information regarding each director nominee is set forth below. We believe that each of the director nominees has a reputation for the highest character and integrity, works cohesively and constructively with the other members of our Board and with management of the Company, and demonstrates business acumen and an ability to exercise sound judgment.



**Kerri B. Anderson**

AGE | 66  
INDEPENDENT  
DIRECTOR SINCE | 2018  
COMMITTEES | AFC (Chair);  
NBGC; EC

## Executive Roles

- Former President and Chief Executive Officer of Wendy's International, Inc. (n/k/a The Wendy's Company), a restaurant operating and franchising company, until Wendy's merged with a subsidiary of Triarc Companies, Inc. to form Wendy's/Arby's Group, Inc. (November 2006 to September 2008)

## Other Public Company Boards

- Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings (NYSE: LH), a global life sciences company (May 2006 to present), Audit Committee; Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
- Worthington Enterprises, Inc. (NYSE: WOR) (f/k/a Worthington Industries, Inc.), an industrial manufacturing company (September 2010 to present), Audit Committee (Chair); Compensation Committee; Executive Committee
- The Sherwin-Williams Company (NYSE: SHW), a company engaged in the development, manufacture, distribution and sale of paint, coatings and related products (April 2019 to present), Compensation and Management Development Committee (Chair); Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

## Key Qualifications and Certifications

- Public Company Board Experience
- CEO Experience
- Retail
- Environmental and Social
- Supply Chain
- Finance, Audit, and Accounting
- Corporate Governance
- Risk Management
- Technology and Information Security
  - Completed National Association of Corporate Directors ("NACD") Cyber-Risk Oversight Program and earned CERT Certificate in Cybersecurity Oversight (January 2022)



**Susie Coulter**

AGE | 58  
INDEPENDENT  
DIRECTOR SINCE | 2020  
COMMITTEE | ESGC (Chair)

## Executive Roles

- Founder of Arq Botanics LLC, a personal care company specializing in all-natural skin care products (January 2021 to present)
- Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Bronty Beauty LLC, a beauty company specializing in all-natural skin care products (January 2017 to December 2020)
- Former President, Beauty – Victoria's Secret Beauty, L Brands, Inc. (n/k/a Victoria's Secret & Co., which was separated from L Brands, Inc. in 2021), the beauty division of a specialty retailer of women's intimate and other apparel (November 2012 to March 2016)
- Former President, Polo Ralph Lauren Retail Stores, a subsidiary of an apparel retailer (November 2007 to October 2012)

## Other Public Company Boards

- Fossil Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: FOSL), a global design, marketing, and distribution company specializing in lifestyle accessories (December 2022 to present), Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

## Key Qualifications and Certifications

- Public Company Board Experience
- CEO Experience
- Retail
- Apparel
- Omnichannel and Digital Commerce
- Marketing/Branding
- Global/International
- Environmental & Social
- Risk Management
- Supply Chain
- Corporate Governance
- NACD Directorship Certification (earned February 2023)





James A. Goldman

AGE | 65  
INDEPENDENT  
DIRECTOR SINCE | 2020  
COMMITTEES | NBGC (Chair);  
CHCC; EC

Executive Roles

- Former Senior Advisor at Eurazeo SE, a global investment firm listed on the Paris Stock Exchange (December 2016 to December 2023), and currently serves as representative of Eurazeo SE on the boards of directors of three of its privately-held portfolio companies: Q Mixers, a beverage company specializing in premium branded mixers (April 2019 to present), Waterloo Sparkling Water Corp., a company specializing in carbonated sparkling water products (September 2020 to present), and Dewey’s Bakery, a company specializing in premium cookie and cracker products (October 2020 to present)
- Former President, Chief Executive Officer and a member of the board of directors of Godiva Chocolatier, Inc., an international premium chocolate company and retailer (February 2004 to May 2014)
- Former President of Food & Beverage Division at Campbell Soup Company, a manufacturer and marketer of soup, sauces, beverages, biscuits, confectionary and prepared branded consumer food products (September 2001 to February 2004)

Other Public Company Boards

- Domino’s Pizza, Inc. (NYSE: DPZ), a global restaurant and pizza corporation (March 2010 to present), Audit Committee; Inclusion & Diversity Committee; former Chair of Nominating and Governance Committee

Key Qualifications

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Public Company Board Experience | • Corporate Governance           |
| • CEO Experience                  | • Finance, Audit, and Accounting |
| • Retail                          | • Global/International           |
| • Marketing/Branding              | • Supply Chain                   |



Fran Horowitz  
Chief Executive Officer

AGE | 60  
NOT INDEPENDENT  
DIRECTOR SINCE | 2017  
COMMITTEE | EC

Executive Roles

- Chief Executive Officer of the Company (February 2017 to present)
- Former President and Chief Merchandising Officer for all brands of the Company (December 2015 to February 2017), former member of the Office of the Chairman of the Company (December 2014 to February 2017), and former Brand President of Hollister (October 2014 to December 2015)

Other Public Company Boards

- Conagra Brands, Inc. (NYSE: CAG), one of North America’s leading branded food companies (July 2021 to present), Human Resources Committee

Other Leadership Roles

- Former member of the board of directors of SeriousFun Children’s Network, Inc., a non-profit corporation that provides specially-adapted camp experiences for children with serious illnesses and their families, free of charge (March 2017 to February 2024)
- Member of the board of directors of Chief Executives for Corporate Purpose (CECP), a CEO-led coalition that helps companies transform their social strategy by providing customized resources (October 2019 to present)

Key Qualifications

- |                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Public Company Board Experience | • Omnichannel and Digital Commerce |
| • CEO Experience                  | • Marketing/Branding               |
| • Retail                          | • Global/International             |
| • Apparel                         | • Corporate Governance             |



## Helen E. McCluskey

AGE | 69

INDEPENDENT

DIRECTOR SINCE | 2019

COMMITTEES | CHCC (Chair);  
AFC; EC

### Executive Roles

- Former President, Chief Executive Officer and a member of the board of directors (February 2012 to February 2013), and former Chief Operating Officer (September 2010 to February 2012), of The Warnaco Group, Inc., a company which designed, sourced, marketed, licensed, and distributed a broad line of intimate apparel, sportswear, and swimwear products worldwide; following its acquisition of The Warnaco Group, Inc., a director of PVH Corporation (February 2013 to June 2014)

### Other Public Company Boards

- Signet Jewelers Limited (NYSE: SIG), a retailer of diamond jewelry (August 2013 to present), Governance and Technology Committee (Chair) and Finance Committee until June 2024 annual meeting, and thereafter Chair of the Board

### Previous Public Company Boards (Past Five Years)

- Dean Foods Company, food and beverage company (November 2015 to May 2020), Audit Committee
- Avon Products, Inc. (NYSE: AVP), beauty products company (July 2014 to January 2020), Compensation and Management Development Committee (Chair)

### Key Qualifications

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Public Company Board Experience | • Marketing/Branding             |
| • CEO Experience                  | • Global/International           |
| • Retail                          | • Supply Chain                   |
| • Apparel                         | • Finance, Audit, and Accounting |
|                                   | • Risk Management                |



## Arturo Nuñez

AGE | 57

INDEPENDENT

DIRECTOR SINCE | 2023

### Executive Roles

- Founder and CEO of AIE Creative, a firm providing meaningful and immersive brand strategies and marketing experiences (May 2018 to June 2021; December 2022 to present)
- Former Chief Marketing Officer of Nu Holdings Ltd. (Nubank) (NYSE: NU), a digital banking platform headquartered in Brazil that serves customers across Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia (July 2021 to November 2022)
- Former Head of Marketing, Latin America at Apple Inc. (Nasdaq: AAPL), a designer and manufacturer of consumer electronics and a variety of related services (September 2014 to April 2018)

### Other Public Company Boards

- Estee Lauder Companies Inc. (NYSE: EL), a multinational manufacturer, marketer, and seller of skin care, fragrance, and hair care products (April 2022 to present), Audit Committee; Compensation Committee

### Key Qualifications

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Public Company Board Experience  | • Marketing/Branding                  |
| • CEO Experience                   | • Global/International                |
| • Retail                           | • Technology and Information Security |
| • Apparel                          | • Corporate Governance                |
| • Omnichannel and Digital Commerce | • Environmental & Social              |



**Kenneth B.  
Robinson**

AGE | 69  
INDEPENDENT  
DIRECTOR SINCE | 2021  
COMMITTEES | AFC; ESGC

**Executive Roles**

- Former Senior Vice President, Audit and Controls for Exelon Corporation, a Fortune 100 energy company with the largest number of electricity and natural gas customers in the United States (August 2016 to March 2020)
- Former Vice President, Global Diversity & Inclusion (July 2015 to June 2016); Former Vice President, Finance; Global Internal Audit & Governance, Risk & Compliance Leader (July 2006 to June 2015); and Former Chief Audit Executive (July 2002 to June 2006) with The Procter & Gamble Company, a leading consumer goods company

**Other Public Company Boards**

- Paylocity Holding Corporation (Nasdaq: PCTY), a leading provider of payroll and human capital management software solutions (March 2020 to present), Audit Committee
- Occidental Petroleum Corporation (NYSE: OXY), an international oil and gas exploration and production company (February 2023 to present), Audit Committee; Compensation Committee

**Other Leadership Roles**

- Member of board of directors of Morgan Stanley US Banks, National Association, national banks (August 2015 to present), Audit Committee (Chair); Risk Committee; Nominating/Governance Committee

**Key Qualifications and Certifications**

- Public Company Board Experience
- Retail
- Global/International
- Environmental and Social
- Finance, Audit, and Accounting
- Risk Management
- Technology and Information Security
- Corporate Governance
- NACD Board Leadership Fellow



**Nigel Travis**  
**Chairperson of the Board**

AGE | 74  
INDEPENDENT  
DIRECTOR SINCE | 2019  
COMMITTEE | EC (Chair)

**Company Roles**

- Chairperson of the Board of the Company (since January 2023) and Chair of the Company's Executive Committee (since January 2023), former Chair of the Company's Nominating and Board Governance Committee (May 2020 to January 2023), and former member of the Company's Audit and Finance Committee (February 2019 to January 2023)

**Executive Roles**

- Former Executive Chairman of the Board of Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc., a quick-service restaurant franchiser (May 2013 to December 2018) and former Chief Executive Officer (January 2009 to July 2018)

**Previous Public Company Boards (Past Five Years)**

- Advance Auto Parts, Inc. (NYSE: AAP), automotive aftermarket parts provider (August 2018 to May 2023), Compensation Committee; Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (Chair)
- Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: DNKN) (July 2011 to December 2020), including as Non-Executive Chairman of the Board (January 2019 to December 2020)
- Office Depot, Inc. (n/k/a The ODP Corporation) (Nasdaq: ODP), provider of business services and supplies, products and technology solutions (March 2012 to May 2020), Audit Committee; Compensation Committee

**Key Qualifications**

- Public Company Board and Board Chair Experience
- CEO Experience
- Retail
- Marketing/Branding
- Global/International
- Finance, Audit and Accounting
- Technology and Information Security
- Risk Management
- Corporate Governance
- Supply Chain



## Helen Vaid

AGE | 52

INDEPENDENT

DIRECTOR SINCE | 2023

COMMITTEE | CHCC

### Executive Roles

- Consultant, Mayfair Equity (November 2023 to present)
- Former Chief Executive Officer at Foundry Brands, a brand platform that grows omni-digital brands (July 2021 to February 2023), and former member of its board of directors (February 2023 to March 2024)
- Former Global Chief Customer Officer at Pizza Hut, a subsidiary of Yum! Brands, Inc. (September 2016 to July 2021)
- Former Vice President, Digital Store Operations (September 2015 to September 2016) and former Vice President, Customer Experience (June 2013 to September 2015) at Walmart.com, at Walmart, Inc.

### Other Public Company Boards

- Stewart Information Services Corp. (NYSE: STC), a global title insurance company (July 2023 to present), Audit Committee; Compensation Committee

### Previous Public Company Boards (Past Five Years)

- Groupon, Inc. (Nasdaq: GRPN), a global online marketplace (April 2020 to June 2023), Compensation Committee (Chair)

### Key Qualifications

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Public Company Board Experience  | • Marketing/Branding                  |
| • CEO Experience                   | • Global/International                |
| • Retail                           | • Technology and Information Security |
| • Omnichannel and Digital Commerce |                                       |

# Corporate Governance

The following section discusses our corporate governance, including the role of our Board and Board committees. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines, which were adopted to promote the effective functioning of the Board and Board committees and to reflect our commitment to high standards of corporate governance, are periodically reviewed by the Board to verify they reflect the Board's evolving corporate governance practices, policies, and procedures. In addition, we have a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which applies to all associates and directors worldwide (including members of the Board) and incorporates an additional Code of Ethics applicable to our Chief Executive Officer, our Chief Financial Officer, and other designated financial associates. Additional information regarding corporate governance (including a copy of our Corporate Governance Guidelines), a copy of the charter of each of our Board committees, and a copy of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, may be found on our corporate website at [corporate.abercrombie.com](https://corporate.abercrombie.com) on the "Corporate Governance" page. The Company will provide copies of its Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, and any of the Board committee charters to any stockholder, free of charge, upon written request to our Corporate Secretary at 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054.

## GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

Our Board and executive team believe that strong and effective corporate governance is essential to our overall success. Our Board reviews our major governance policies, practices, and processes regularly in the context of current corporate governance trends, investor feedback, regulatory changes, and recognized best practices. The foundation of our corporate governance program is providing transparent disclosure to all stakeholders on an ongoing and consistent basis, with a focus on delivering long-term stockholder value. The following chart provides an overview of our corporate governance structure and processes, including key aspects of our Board operations.

Governance Principles	Our Practice
<b>1 Accountability to stockholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All directors are elected annually</li><li>• Eligible stockholders may include their director nominees in our proxy materials</li></ul>
<b>2 Appropriate stockholder voting rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proxy access for director candidates nominated by stockholders, reflecting market standards</li><li>• We do not have a "poison pill"</li></ul>
<b>3 Regular and proactive stockholder engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our investor relations team maintains an active, ongoing dialogue with investors and portfolio managers year-round on matters of business performance and results</li><li>• Our directors are available to participate in stockholder engagement where appropriate</li></ul>
<b>4 Independent Board leadership structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We separate the roles of Chairperson of the Board and CEO and require that our Board be led by an independent director to aid in the Board's oversight of management</li><li>• All members of the Audit and Finance Committee, Compensation Committee, and Nominating Committee are independent of the Company and our management</li></ul>
<b>5 Effective Board policies and practices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our Corporate Governance Guidelines require a majority of our directors to be independent; eight of our nine director nominees are independent of the Company and our management</li><li>• Our Board is composed of accomplished professionals with deep and diverse experiences, skills, and knowledge relevant to our business, resulting in a high-functioning and engaged Board (an infographic displaying our directors' skills is presented above under Proposal 1 – Election of Directors)</li><li>• The Board seeks to achieve diversity among its members</li><li>• Each standing Board committee has a charter that is publicly available on our corporate website, meets applicable legal requirements, and reflects good corporate governance</li><li>• The Nominating Committee reviews the Company's governance policies and practices annually and makes recommendations to the Board</li></ul>



## ROLE OF THE BOARD

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The business and affairs of the Company are managed by, and under the direction of, our Board, which serves as the ultimate decision-making body of the Company, except for those matters reserved to (or shared with) our stockholders. Our Board is responsible for overseeing management, who is, in turn, responsible for the operations of the Company. Our Board's primary areas of focus are strategy, risk management, corporate governance, and compliance, as well as evaluating management and guiding changes as circumstances warrant. In many of these areas, significant responsibilities are delegated to Board committees, which are responsible for reporting to the Board on their activities and actions. Refer to the "Corporate Governance – Committees of the Board and Meeting Attendance" section of this Proxy Statement beginning on page 22 for additional information on the Board committees.

## BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

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Our Board is currently composed of nine non-associate directors, all of whom are independent under applicable New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") listing standards, and Fran Horowitz, the Company's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"). The Chairperson of the Board is selected from the independent members of the Board and elected annually by a majority of the independent directors of the Company. Terry L. Burman served as the Chairperson of the Board from February 2018 until Nigel Travis succeeded him as Chairperson of our Board effective as of the conclusion of Fiscal 2022. The independent directors elected Mr. Travis as Chairperson of the Board given his background as a public company chief executive officer and public company director with chair experience, along with his expertise in the consumer and retail sectors.

### Separation of Chairperson of the Board and CEO

We separate the roles of Chairperson of the Board and CEO and require that our Board be led by an independent director to aid in the Board's oversight of management. We believe that the service of Mr. Travis as our independent Chairperson and Ms. Horowitz as our CEO continues to allow for effective management of the Company's business. In addition, we believe that the independent Chairperson, together with a Board whose members (other than Ms. Horowitz), including the chairs for each of our Board committees, all qualify as independent, represents the most appropriate Board leadership structure for the Company at this time. Regularly-scheduled executive sessions of the independent directors, as well as written duties and responsibilities for our independent Chairperson and for each of our standing Board committees, support this Board leadership structure.

### Responsibilities of Chairperson of the Board

As the Chairperson, Mr. Travis has the primary responsibility for presiding over meetings of the Board and executive sessions of our independent directors and for managing the Board. The Chairperson's specific duties and responsibilities are specified in our Corporate Governance Guidelines, and include the following principal responsibilities:

- establishing procedures to govern the Board's work and annual schedules for the Board;
- in collaboration with the CEO, establishing agendas for all Board meetings, organizing discussion items and workflow;
- facilitating the communication between and among the independent directors and Company management, including promoting effective communications on developments occurring between Board meetings;
- working with the Chair of the Nominating Committee with respect to recruitment, selection, and orientation of new Board members and Board committee composition;
- leading the Board's review of the succession plan for our CEO and other key members of senior management;
- coordinating periodic Board input and review of management's strategic plan for the Company;
- providing strategic advice to our CEO on operational and financial matters, as necessary;
- briefing the CEO on issues and concerns arising in the executive sessions of our independent directors;
- coordinating the Board's self-assessment and evaluation process and the annual Board performance review of the CEO; and
- being available for consultation and direct communication with the Company's stockholders.

## BOARD REFRESHMENT AND TENURE

Our Nominating Committee and our Board are committed to ongoing Board refreshment and succession planning. As part of our Board's ongoing process of refreshment, our long-serving director Sarah Gallagher, whose term ends immediately prior to the Annual Meeting, will not stand for re-election.

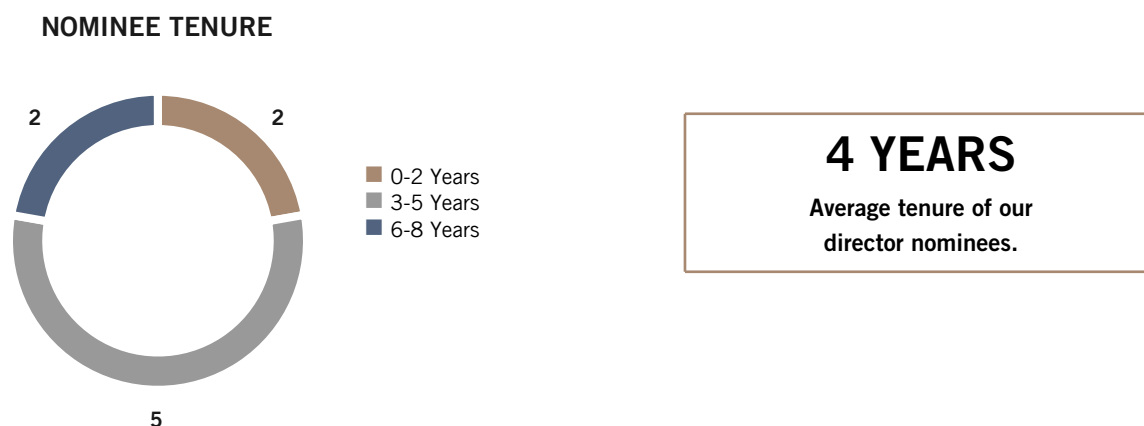
The Nominating Committee is charged with identifying individuals qualified to become directors of the Company and recommending to the Board director nominees for appointment to the Board. Over the past several years, the Nominating Committee has recommended to the Board the nomination of directors who we believe bring fresh perspectives and certain specialized skills or expertise, which we believe are well balanced by the contributions of our directors with longer tenures who have over time gained institutional knowledge.

Our commitment to Board refreshment and bringing new ideas and perspectives to the Board is demonstrated by our current Board composition. In November 2023, upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, our Board appointed new director Arturo Nuñez. Additionally, four of our other independent directors joined the Board since the beginning of Fiscal 2020: Susie Coulter, James A. Goldman, Kenneth B. Robinson, and Helen Vaid. In addition to years of experience as executives in the retail or consumer products industries, these individuals have brought additional perspectives to the Board.

Our Board also benefits from having directors with a range of tenures, and we believe fresh perspectives are well balanced by the contributions of directors with longer tenures. Accordingly, the Board does not believe it is advisable to establish arbitrary term limits for directors based on age or years of service, as such limits may at times force the Company to lose the contribution of directors who have, over time, developed invaluable institutional knowledge of the Company and its operations, and who provide continuity. At the same time, the Board recognizes that incumbent directors should not expect to be renominated automatically or continually.

To this end, the Nominating Committee is required to evaluate each incumbent director's qualifications, performance, and ability to continue to contribute productively before recommending the nomination of that director for an additional term. This evaluation includes a review of the results of the Board's evaluation process, including the results of any peer evaluations, prior years' voting results, and the Company's needs at a particular point in time. Our Nominating Committee continues to assess the effectiveness of this policy through monitoring the changes in our Board's composition.

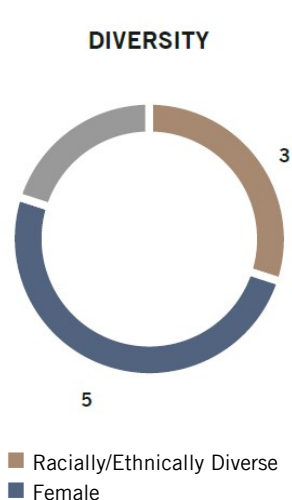
If the nine director nominees named in this Proxy Statement are elected at the Annual Meeting, the resulting tenure breakdown of the Board would be as follows (information is as of April 2024):



## BOARD DIVERSITY

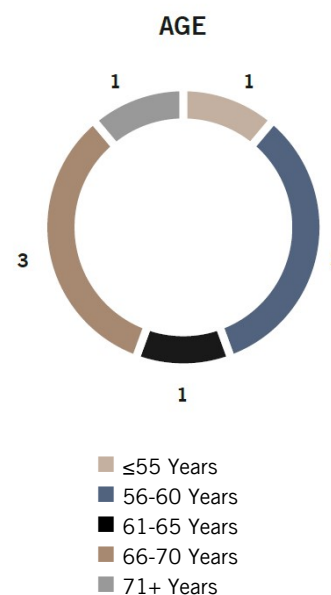
Our Board and our Nominating Committee believe that, as a group, the directors should have diverse backgrounds and qualifications. We believe that the members of the Board, as a group, have such diversity in terms of background, including varied race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, experience, and other attributes. During the past few years, our Nominating Committee has focused on ensuring continued diversity in terms of backgrounds and qualifications during refreshment activities by requiring that director candidate pools include diverse individuals meeting the recruitment criteria. In 2021, the Board formalized its commitment to diversity by revising the Corporate Governance Guidelines to include a policy that the Nominating Committee and/or any search firm that the Nominating Committee engages for a new director search must include women and minority candidates in the pool from which the Nominating Committee selects director candidates. In accordance with this policy, the Board required that women and minority candidates be included in the pool for its most recent director search, which ultimately resulted in the appointment of Arturo Nuñez to the Board in November 2023. While our Nominating Committee views Mr. Nuñez's appointment as demonstrable evidence of this policy's effectiveness, it will continue to assess the effectiveness of this policy during future director searches and candidate identification processes.

If the nine director nominees named in this Proxy Statement are elected at the Annual Meeting, the resulting age and diversity composition of the Board would be as follows (information is as of April 2024 and based on self-identification information provided and consented to by the director nominees):



**77%**

Five of our director nominees identify as female and three of our director nominees, including one of our female-identifying nominees, identify as racially or ethnically diverse.



**63 Years**

Average age of our director nominees.

## DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

### Identifying Director Candidates

Our Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying and recommending qualified nominees for election or, in the case of a vacancy, appointment to the Board. The Board, taking into account the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, is the final arbiter for the selection of nominees to the Board. In identifying and selecting a nominee, the Board and the Nominating Committee will consider the attributes described below under "Director Qualifications and Consideration of Director Candidates."

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Nominating Committee and/or any search firm that it engages will include women and other minority candidates in the pool from which the Nominating Committee selects director candidates. The Board and the Nominating Committee shall also consider whether a potential nominee has the ability to devote sufficient time to carry out her or his responsibilities as a director in light of such potential nominee's occupation and the number of boards of directors of other public companies on which she or he serves.

The process for seeking and vetting additional director candidates is ongoing and is not dependent upon the existence of a vacancy on the Board. The Board believes that this ongoing pursuit of qualified candidates functions as an appropriate director succession plan. Pursuant to its charter, our Nominating Committee has the authority to retain consultants and search firms to assist in the process of identifying and evaluating candidates and to approve the fees and other retention terms for any such consultant or search firm.

In prior years, we have used third-party search firms to help identify and evaluate director candidates. Arturo Nuñez was appointed to the Board in late Fiscal 2023. Mr. Nuñez's candidacy was brought to the attention of our Nominating Committee as a result of a director search conducted by a third-party global search firm retained by the Nominating Committee.

### Director Time Commitment Considerations

In evaluating nominees to serve on our Board, the Nominating Committee and the Board consider whether a director nominee has the ability to effectively fulfill her or his duties as a director of the Company, especially with respect to the director nominee's expected time commitments with respect to her or his occupation and/or service as a director of other public companies.

Our Corporate Governance Guidelines set forth guidelines regarding the number of public company boards and audit committees on which members of our Board may serve:

- No member of the Board may simultaneously serve on the boards of directors of more than three public companies, other than the Company's Board, unless the Board has determined, upon recommendation by our Nominating Committee, that the aggregate number of directorships held by the individual would not interfere with the individual's ability to carry out her or his responsibilities as a director of the Company.
- In recognition of the enhanced time commitments associated with membership on a public company's audit committee, the Board has adopted a policy that no member of the Audit and Finance Committee (sometimes referred to herein as the "Audit Committee") may serve simultaneously on the audit committees of more than two public companies other than the Company, unless a waiver of this requirement is affirmatively granted by the Board.

### Stockholder Recommendations and Nominations for Director Candidates

Our Nominating Committee considers candidates for the Board recommended by stockholders of the Company. Stockholders may recommend director candidates for consideration by our Nominating Committee by giving written notice of the recommendation to the Chair of our Nominating Committee, in care of the Company, at the Company's principal executive offices at 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054. In considering candidates recommended by stockholders, our Nominating Committee will take into consideration the needs of the Board and the qualifications of each candidate. When assessing new director candidates for nomination, regardless of who recommends the candidate for consideration, the Nominating Committee will consider the background, diversity, personal characteristics and business experience of the candidate as compared to attributes described below under "Director Qualifications and Consideration of Director Candidates."

Stockholders may also nominate candidates to the Board pursuant to the advance notice, information, and consent provisions contained in our Bylaws. In addition, following thoughtful engagement with our stockholders, the Board adopted a "Proxy Access" bylaw for director nominations that permits a stockholder, or group of up to 20 stockholders, that has owned continuously for at least three years, shares of the Company's Common Stock representing an aggregate of at least 3% of our outstanding shares, to nominate and include in the Company's proxy materials director nominees constituting up to 25% of the Board, provided that the stockholder(s) and nominee(s) satisfy the procedural and informational requirements in Section 2.04 of our Bylaws. See the "Stockholder Proposals and Nominations for 2025 Annual Meeting" section of this Proxy Statement on page 81 and page 86 in the "Additional Information About Our Annual Meeting and Voting" section of this Proxy Statement for more information.

## DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS AND CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

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When considering candidates for the Board, our Nominating Committee evaluates the entirety of each candidate's credentials and does not have specific eligibility requirements or minimum qualifications that must be met by a candidate.

In considering director candidates, our Nominating Committee considers those factors it deems appropriate in light of the needs of the Board, including:

- the nominee's independence, judgment, strength of character, ethics, and integrity;
- the nominee's business or other relevant experience and skills and knowledge useful to the oversight of the Company's business; and
- the Company's strong commitment to inclusion and diversity at all levels of the Company, including diversity with respect to race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, and experience.

The Company believes that the Board as a whole should have competency in the following areas:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High character and integrity</li><li>• Audit, accounting and finance</li><li>• Management experience</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Industry knowledge</li><li>• Leadership</li><li>• Strategy/vision</li></ul> |
|--|---|

Depending on the current needs of the Board, our Nominating Committee may weigh certain factors more or less heavily. Our Nominating Committee does, however, believe that all members of the Board should have the highest character and integrity, a reputation for working constructively with others, sufficient time to devote to Board matters, and no conflict of interest that would interfere with performance as a director.



## COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD AND MEETING ATTENDANCE

During Fiscal 2023, the Board held thirteen regularly-scheduled meetings and held ten special meetings. In accordance with the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines and applicable rules of the NYSE set forth in the NYSE Listed Company Manual (the "NYSE Rules"), the non-associate directors of the Company meet (without management present) at regularly-scheduled executive sessions at least twice per year and at such other times as the directors deem necessary or appropriate. The non-associate directors met alone without management present thirteen times during Fiscal 2023 in executive sessions. Executive sessions of the non-associate directors are regularly scheduled as agenda items at meetings of the Board, and all meetings of non-associate or independent directors are presided over by the Chairperson of the Board. Executive sessions are also regularly scheduled in connection with committee meetings, other than our Executive Committee, throughout the year.

All of the incumbent directors attended at least 75% of the Board and Board committee meetings they were eligible to attend during Fiscal 2023. While we do not have a formal policy on director attendance at annual meetings, we strongly encourage our directors to attend our Annual Meeting of Stockholders. All incumbent directors then standing for re-election virtually attended the Company's 2023 Annual Meeting.

### Committees of the Board

The Board has five standing committees, each of which is described below. The responsibilities of each standing Board committee are set forth in a written charter. Committee charters are reviewed annually by the Nominating Committee and the Board. The Board may form new committees, disband existing committees, and delegate additional responsibilities to a committee.

Our Nominating Committee is responsible for evaluating and making recommendations to our Board regarding Board committee assignments. In connection with the departure of Ms. Gallagher from our Board immediately prior to the Annual Meeting, and in connection with Mr. Nuñez's recent appointment, our Nominating Committee is undergoing an evaluation of the Board committees' composition. Following such evaluation, the Nominating Committee expects to recommend the appointment of a new committee member to our Nominating Committee and to our ESG Committee to replace Ms. Gallagher on those committees.



All standing committee charters are available on our website at [corporate.abercrombie.com](https://corporate.abercrombie.com).

The Board's five standing committees and their current members are as follows:

Director	Audit Committee	Compensation Committee	Nominating Committee	ESG Committee	Executive Committee
Kerri B. Anderson	Ⓒ <sup>Ⓕ</sup>		●		●
Susie Coulter				Ⓒ	
Sarah M. Gallagher			●	●	
James A. Goldman		●	Ⓒ		●
Fran Horowitz					●
Helen E. McCluskey	● <sup>Ⓕ</sup>	Ⓒ			●
Arturo Nuñez					
Kenneth B. Robinson	● <sup>Ⓕ</sup>			●	
Nigel Travis					Ⓒ
Helen Vaid		●			

Ⓒ Committee Chair

● Member

Ⓕ Financial Expert

# Audit and Finance Committee

**MET 10 TIMES IN FISCAL 2023**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Kerrii B. Anderson (Chair)
- Helen E. McCluskey
- Kenneth B. Robinson

## Primary Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the Audit Committee are to oversee:

- the integrity of our consolidated financial statements
- the effectiveness of our systems of disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, including reviewing and discussing any significant deficiency or any material weakness in the design of our internal controls and any steps taken to resolve such issue
- compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, including the financial reporting and disclosure process
- monitoring legal and regulatory matters, including Company litigation
- compliance with our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics
- the qualifications and independence of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm
- the Company's enterprise risk issues and enterprise risk management policies, guidelines, and programs
- the annual independent audit of our consolidated financial statements
- the review and approval, as appropriate, of our financial plans and policies
- risks related to information technology security and cybersecurity

In addition, the Audit Committee is responsible for:

- evaluating the performance of the internal audit function and the independent registered public accounting firm
- determining the appointment, compensation, and retention of both the independent registered public accounting firm and the chief audit executive who leads the Company's internal audit function

## FINANCIAL EXPERTISE AND INDEPENDENCE

The Board has determined that each current member of the Audit Committee meets all applicable independence and financial literacy and expertise requirements under the NYSE Rules and applicable SEC rules.

## Compensation and Human Capital Committee

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### MET 7 TIMES IN FISCAL 2023

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Helen E. McCluskey (Chair)
- James A. Goldman
- Helen Vaid

Michael E. Greenlees, a former director, served as a member during Fiscal 2023 until June 8, 2023.

#### Primary Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the Compensation Committee are:

- overseeing the Company's overall compensation structure, policies, and programs
- evaluating the performance of the CEO in consultation with independent directors, and reviewing and approving the compensation for the CEO based on such evaluation
- approving compensation for the officers of the Company other than the CEO (as determined by the Compensation Committee), with input from the CEO
- reviewing and approving the metrics to be used for the determination of payouts under cash-based and equity-based incentive programs, and the administration of such programs
- recommending to the Board the compensation of non-associate directors of the Board
- reviewing and monitoring the Company's human capital management strategies, programs, policies, and practices relating to organizational structure and key reporting relationships, as well as recruitment, retention and development of the Company's associates
- assisting the Board in review of the succession plans for our CEO and other select officers of the Company
- overseeing associate welfare and retirement benefit plans

#### INDEPENDENCE

The Board has determined that each member of the Compensation Committee meets, and during his period of service in Fiscal 2023, Michael E. Greenlees met, all applicable independence requirements under the NYSE Rules and applicable SEC rules, including the enhanced independence standards for compensation committee members under the NYSE Rules. Each member of the Compensation Committee also has been determined to be a "non-employee director" for purposes of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act.

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# Nominating and Board Governance Committee

## MET 5 TIMES IN FISCAL 2023

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- James A. Goldman (Chair)
- Kerrii B. Anderson
- Sarah M. Gallagher

### Primary Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the Nominating Committee are:

- identifying, evaluating, and recommending director nominees for election, re-election or to fill any vacancies to or on the Board
- making recommendations to the Board on committee memberships, including chair positions
- overseeing the self-evaluation processes of the Board and Board committees
- reviewing regularly our governance structure and corporate governance matters and processes
- developing and recommending to the Board a set of corporate governance principles (the Corporate Governance Guidelines)
- reviewing and assessing any stockholder proposals submitted to the Company, including review of any stockholder proposals relating to social responsibility issues in consultation with the ESG Committee
- overseeing the Company's stockholder engagement process
- reviewing our Related Person Transaction Policy and approving such related person transactions in accordance with the policy and applicable NYSE Rules and SEC requirements
- reviewing and making recommendations to the Board regarding orientation for new directors and continuing education for all directors
- reviewing and approving the use of Company funds or property by any associate or officer, including our CEO, in support of any political party, organization or committee, or any candidate for public office, as permitted by law

### INDEPENDENCE

The Board has determined that each member of the Nominating Committee meets all applicable independence requirements under the NYSE Rules and applicable SEC rules.

### COMMITTEE REFRESHMENT

In connection with Ms. Gallagher's upcoming departure from the Board, our Nominating Committee is evaluating the composition of the committees of the Board, including the Nominating Committee. Following such evaluation, the Nominating Committee expects to recommend to the Board the appointment of a new committee member to our Nominating Committee to replace Ms. Gallagher.

## Environmental, Social, and Governance Committee

### MET 4 TIMES IN FISCAL 2023

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Susie Coulter (Chair)
- Sarah M. Gallagher
- Kenneth B. Robinson

#### Primary Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the ESG Committee are:

- monitoring environmental and social issues and trends, and reviewing and making recommendations on our related strategies, policies, practices, and programs
- overseeing our governance and risk management of environmental and social matters
- reviewing with management any external reporting related to our environmental and social policies, practices, and progress
- monitoring significant programs and activities aimed at enhancing our global communications, crisis management, media relations, and community relations
- reviewing and monitoring the community investment support by the Company of charitable, educational, community, and business organizations
- reviewing and consulting with the Nominating Committee on any stockholder proposals that relate to environmental or social issues

#### INDEPENDENCE

The Board has determined that each member of the ESG Committee meets all independence requirements for independent directors under the NYSE Rules.

#### COMMITTEE REFRESHMENT

In connection with Ms. Gallagher's upcoming departure from the Board, our Nominating Committee is evaluating the composition of the committees of the Board, including the ESG Committee. Following such evaluation, the Nominating Committee expects to recommend to the Board the appointment of a new committee member to our ESG Committee to replace Ms. Gallagher.

## Executive Committee

### DID NOT MEET IN FISCAL 2023

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Nigel Travis (Chair)
- James A. Goldman
- Fran Horowitz
- Kerri Anderson
  - Became a member during Fiscal 2023
- Helen E. McCluskey
  - Became a member during Fiscal 2023

#### Primary Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the Executive Committee are:

- acting on behalf of the Board in between Board meetings with respect to matters that, in the opinion of our Chairperson of the Board, should not be postponed until the next scheduled meeting of the Board, subject to any limitation imposed under applicable law or by the Board
- taking any action deemed necessary under exigent circumstances when a quorum of the Board cannot be satisfied, subject to any limitation imposed under applicable law or by the Board

In addition, members of the Executive Committee may conduct preliminary screenings of potential director nominees.

#### COMMITTEE REFRESHMENT

In Fiscal 2023, the Nominating Committee evaluated the composition of the Executive Committee. Following such evaluation, the Nominating Committee recommended to the Board the appointment of the chair of the Audit Committee and the chair of the Compensation Committee. Accordingly, as of January 8, 2024 Ms. Anderson and Ms. McCluskey became members of the Executive Committee.

## BOARD EVALUATION PROCESS

The Board believes it is important to assess its overall performance and the performance of the Board committees. On an annual basis, our Nominating Committee oversees a self-evaluation of our Board's performance and committee performance. The annual self-evaluation process may vary from year to year, and our process for Fiscal 2023 is described below.

### Summary of Fiscal 2023 Board Evaluation Process



## BOARD ROLE IN RISK OVERSIGHT

The Board has primary responsibility for risk oversight and, in this capacity, oversees the management of risks related to the operation of our Company. The Board executes its oversight duties in part by assigning responsibility to committees of the Board to oversee the management of risks that fall within their respective areas. In performing this function, each Board committee has full access to management, as well as the ability to engage advisors. The Chair of each Board committee reports on the applicable committee's activities at Board meetings and has the opportunity to discuss risk management with the full Board at that time.

### Enterprise Risk Management

The Company primarily manages enterprise risk through our management-led Enterprise Risk Management Committee (the "ERM Committee"). The ERM Committee is comprised of a group of cross-functional senior members of management across the Company, and is co-chaired by our General Counsel and our Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operating Officer.

The ERM Committee meets on a quarterly basis to review, prioritize, and address mitigation strategies for major risk exposures. The ERM Committee also considers new and emerging risks, and, as needed, a smaller subset of the ERM Committee meets in between the quarterly meetings to discuss emerging or growing risks. As part of its risk oversight role, the Audit Committee receives quarterly reports from representatives of the ERM Committee on our enterprise risk management program.

### Key Areas of Risk Oversight

#### Board

- Strategy
- Operational Risks
- Capital Allocation
- Significant Reputational Risk
- Financing Strategy
- Management Succession Planning



<b>Audit Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accounting and Financial Disclosure</li> <li>• Oversight of ERM Committee</li> <li>• Information Technology and Cybersecurity Risks</li> <li>• Ethics and Compliance Program</li> <li>• Litigation</li> </ul>
<b>Compensation Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Compensation Design</li> <li>• Company Incentive Plans</li> <li>• Human Capital Management</li> <li>• Director Compensation</li> </ul>
<b>Nominating Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Succession Planning</li> <li>• Nominee Identification and Selection</li> <li>• Board Evaluations and Refreshment</li> <li>• Corporate Governance</li> </ul>
<b>ESG</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Matters, including Sustainability</li> <li>• Social Matters, including Inclusion and Diversity</li> </ul>

The above list does not include all areas of risk management overseen by the Board and the Board committees.

### Information Technology and Cybersecurity Risk Oversight

Management of the Company manages cybersecurity as an enterprise risk in the Company's enterprise risk management process. Responsibility for risk oversight and management generally lies with the Company's Board. To effectively manage oversight of our cybersecurity risk management practices, since 2019 the Board has delegated such responsibility to the Company's Audit Committee. Additionally, members of management responsible for information technology and cybersecurity areas report to either the Audit Committee or the Board on a quarterly basis on various matters, such as current and emerging cybersecurity risks to the Company, risks and incidents that were escalated to management during the prior quarter (including those that did not require immediate escalation to the Audit Committee and/or full Board), internal and external assessments of the Company's information security program, and a roadmap of projects and major initiatives to manage our information security posture. As part of the management of cybersecurity as an enterprise risk, the Company, internally and through third parties, conducts multiple information risk assessments each year. Risks identified in such assessments are considered for inclusion in the Company's information risk portfolio and are then prioritized and addressed where appropriate through the Company's broader information security programs. Assessments along with risk-based analysis and judgment are used by the Company to determine what the Company believes to be the optimal way to manage these risks. In addition, management holds annual tabletop exercises on information technology and cybersecurity incidents, and our global home office, stores, and distribution center associates are trained on cybersecurity matters on an ongoing basis. These trainings educate our associates on Company policies and procedures for the handling of customer and employee personal data, incident reporting, and avoiding common cybersecurity threats such as phishing. We also provide additional training to individual teams on privacy compliance best practices and emerging risks as needed. Targeted training for associates occurs frequently throughout the year, and regular audiences include associates on the Company's marketing, data analytics, and user experience teams. In furtherance of the Board's oversight responsibilities, we provide our Board members with continuing educational opportunities and reimbursement for outside educational programs. In January 2022, the Chair of our Audit Committee completed the NACD Cyber-Risk Oversight Program and earned the CERT Certificate in Cybersecurity Oversight.

## Environmental, Social, and Governance Risk Oversight

The Board has primary responsibility for ESG oversight and, in this capacity, oversees the management of risks related to ESG matters. The Board executes its oversight duties in part by assigning responsibility to committees of the Board to oversee the management of ESG and ESG risks that fall within their respective areas.

Our ESG Committee is responsible for overseeing our strategies, policies, and practices regarding environmental and social issues and trends, as well as the governance and risk management of such matters. These environmental and social issues, trends, and matters include: inclusion and diversity initiatives; health and safety matters; human rights and ethical business practices; sustainability and climate change matters; significant philanthropic and community investment matters; and significant community relations. During Fiscal 2023, the ESG Committee received regular updates from management on environmental and social matters and received updates on and discussed the new and refreshed goals set by management following the completion of the Company's ESG materiality assessment in 2022. The ESG Committee was established as our Corporate Social Responsibility Committee in Fiscal 2009.

Our Nominating Committee is responsible for matters related to the corporate governance of the Company and the Board, including the composition of our Board and Board refreshment and succession planning.

Our Compensation Committee is responsible for human capital management and matters related to compensation and benefits. The Compensation Committee will also assist the Board as needed in reviewing succession plans for our CEO and other select officers of the Company. In addition, our Board plays an important role in the oversight of Company culture, and members of management provide regular updates to the Board on Company culture, including results of associate engagement surveys, recent associate engagement events, and turnover, retention, and recruiting metrics.

Our Audit Committee is responsible for our audit practices, for risk oversight of cybersecurity and information technology programs, and for our Ethics and Compliance Program.

## Compensation Programs Risk Assessment

Management of the Company and our Compensation Committee have assessed the Company's compensation programs and based upon all of the facts and circumstances available to the Company at the time of the filing of this Proxy Statement, management of the Company and our Compensation Committee have concluded that there are no risks arising from the Company's compensation policies and practices that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. This assessment was overseen by our Compensation Committee in consultation with its independent counsel and its independent compensation consultant. This assessment considered, among other factors:

- Our compensation policies and practices in effect for our executive officers, members of senior management, and our associates (e.g., metrics selected and the weighting of those metrics, performance measurement periods for incentive compensation, mix of pay, stock ownership guidelines).
- Features built into our compensation programs to discourage excessive risk-taking (e.g., incentive caps, clawback provisions).
- The Compensation Committee's review of market data for our designated officers when making all related pay decisions.
- The Compensation Committee's approval of all annual cash incentive program and performance-based equity award goals and metrics, and the Compensation Committee's associated certification of performance achievement at the conclusion of the performance period.
- The Company's enterprise risks, the degree to which those enterprise risks may be exacerbated by compensation, and the associated controls to manage enterprise risks.

Our performance-based executive compensation program, as described more fully in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of this Proxy Statement beginning on page 40, coupled with our stock ownership guidelines and implemented clawback provisions, align the interests of our executive officers with those of our stockholders by encouraging long-term superior performance without encouraging excessive or unnecessary risk-taking.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MATTERS

We operate and invest in our business with a focus on the long term, which requires taking into consideration environmental and social matters that are important to our stakeholders, including our stockholders, our customers, our associates, and our vendors. To create positive impacts within our organization and within the communities we operate, we have implemented practices and established targets to promote environmental and social stewardship, inclusion and diversity, and community involvement.

### Environmental and Sustainability Matters

We know it is our collective responsibility to prioritize the environment and make sustainable choices. We strive to create a positive impact on our community by advancing sustainability efforts in our global home offices, stores network, and supply chain.

Since March 2019, we have been a participant in the UNGC, the world's largest corporate citizenship and sustainability initiative. As part of our participation, we publicly committed to the UNGC's Ten Principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption. We did so to make the UNGC principles a part of our strategy, culture, and day-to-day operations, and to engage in collaborative projects that will help advance the broader development goals of the UNGC. In August 2019, as part of our commitment to the UNGC, we announced sustainability targets that built on our existing social and environmental sustainability programs, some of which we have had in place for almost 20 years.

In 2022, in partnership with an experienced third party, we conducted our first materiality assessment to identify the environmental, social and governance topics that are most impactful to long-term value creation and most important to our stakeholders. From this assessment, in 2023 we refreshed our existing 2019 sustainability targets and added new goals. We continue to track our performance and make progress against these sustainability targets. We know there is no finish line to these efforts, and we aspire to raise the bar for ourselves and our peers as we continue to make further progress across our global operations. Specific actions we have taken over the past several years include:

#### Strategy and Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Launched an updated sustainability page on our corporate website to provide our stakeholders with further transparency on our sustainability strategies, our ESG materiality assessment and refreshed and new goals, and other initiatives
- ✓ Directly engaged with a number of our stockholders to educate, discuss, and receive feedback on various topics, including our sustainability initiatives and our supply chain practices

#### Climate and Energy

- ✓ Formally established our intent to set near-term science-based emissions reduction targets in line with the criteria for Science Based Targets initiative
- ✓ Continued progress towards our targets to reduce emissions, including our previously announced goal of reducing total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 47% by 2030 from a 2019 base year
- ✓ Continued the Carbon Leadership Program by the Apparel Impact Institute, with the goal of helping to drive carbon reduction in our supply chain
- ✓ In furtherance of our overall energy goals, in Fiscal 2020, we signed a 13-year renewable energy supply agreement with a local energy supplier for our global home office and two distribution centers in New Albany, Ohio. As of January 2023, we are being supplied with energy under this agreement, and 100% of electricity used at our global home office and our two distribution centers in New Albany, Ohio will be matched with renewable energy credits sourced through the agreement.

#### Product Sustainability

- ✓ Implemented water stewardship and conservation practices including adopting eco wash in denim washing, and working with our denim suppliers to implement new technologies, equipment, and water-saving methodologies to help us meet the targets we announced in 2023 for reducing water intensity in denim production and increasing the amount of recycled water in our denim laundries and mills
- ✓ Strived to source greater percentages of sustainable and responsibly sourced fibers in key commodities, including cotton, polyester, viscose, wool, and down, since announcing our targets in 2019

#### Supply Chain

- ✓ Supported programs that provide opportunities for women in the supply chain to advance their career, education, and life skills
- ✓ Partnered with PALS (Pacific Links), Better Work, and BRAC to train third-party factory workers on a variety of topics, including anti-human trafficking, gender equality, health and safety management, and work rights and responsibilities

## Global Giving and Community Involvement

We give back to the global communities in which we do business by providing support to organizations in the form of cash donations, fundraising, volunteerism, and in-kind support. We facilitate fundraising through The Challenge, our annual music festival and fundraiser, and through customer round-up programs. We have also co-created product collections with our community partners, and we amplify our community partners' voices through features on our websites and social media pages. We are proud to support community partners serving youth, teens, and young adults with a focus on mental health and wellness, empowerment, and inclusion and diversity. We remain committed to our investments in inclusion and diversity supporting social justice and equity. We make financial commitments and develop programs with organizations serving our global BIPOC communities. We also continued our support of our global LGBTQIA+ communities by furthering education, resources, and suicide prevention efforts through our product campaigns, cash donations, and programming.

### Our Community

Meet the global giving partners we work with and support.

#### THE ACADEMY GROUP®

In 2020, we committed to our collaboration with The Academy Group. Together, we provide academic support, mentorship, and valuable work opportunities to young individuals from the most resilient communities across the U.S.



We first teamed up with GLSEN in 2017. GLSEN is the leading national education organization making K-12 schools safe and affirming for all, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, because all students deserve a safe and inclusive environment, free of bullying harassment, and discrimination – an environment where they can learn and grow.



A 365-days-a-year people-powered initiative dedicated to helping all teens feel their most confident, comfortable, and capable. We provide grants to global causes that connect to this mission and champion confidence and wellness in teens.



The leading suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ+ young people. We're proud to continue our decade-long partnership with our ongoing initiatives, including A&F's gender-inclusive Pride collections in support of our shared commitment to LGBTQ+ youth.



We launched our partnership with SeriousFun in 2016. SeriousFun empowers children with serious illnesses and their families to reimagine what is possible by creating inclusive camp and recreational experiences, inspiring confidence and joy, and building community and connection.



We started a partnership with The Steve Fund in 2020. The Steve Fund is the nation's leading non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the mental health and emotional well-being of young people of color.

Our associates are highly motivated and community minded, and in Fiscal 2023, our global associates volunteered over 22,000 hours. We support our associates in giving back to the community by offering them the opportunity to use a paid day to volunteer each year for eligible volunteer work. With the help of our vendor partners, our customers, and our associates, in Fiscal 2023, we donated over \$8 million to charitable causes and donated \$3.5 million through in-kind giving.

## Human Capital and Corporate Culture

We strive to create a culture that drives strategic and key business priorities forward, and also encourage associates to create a positive impact in their global communities. We believe that the strength of our unique culture is a competitive advantage, and we intend to continue building upon that culture to improve performance across our business. Therefore, we believe that the attraction, retention, and management of qualified talent representing diverse backgrounds, experiences, and skill sets, and fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive work environment, are integral to our success. We also have policies and practices in place that are focused on creating a culture and work environment free from abuse, harassment or discrimination of any kind.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

We are proud to be recognized in 2023 for our strong corporate culture and our associates' workplace experience:

Named one of the 2023 Best Workplaces in Retail™ by Fortune magazine
Continued our status as a Great Place to Work-Certified™ organization for the third consecutive year
Received a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's 2023-2024 Corporate Equality Index for the 17th year in a row, receiving a designation as one of the Best Places to Work for LGBTQ+ Equality

Below are highlights of our key human capital management programs and efforts:

<b>Corporate Purpose</b>	✓ Live our corporate purpose of “Being here for you on the journey to being and becoming who you are.”
<b>Compensation and Benefits</b>	✓ Offer competitive compensation and benefits, including cash-based and equity-based incentive awards in order to align the interests of our associates and our stockholders.
	✓ Continue to provide for workplace flexibility, including supporting remote work arrangements for key roles and “work from anywhere days and weeks” for our corporate home office associates where feasible.
	✓ Provide our benefits-eligible associates with paid parental leave for eligible associates in the United States and internationally based on local law, as well as adoption and fertility support benefits to all eligible associates globally.
<b>Associate Engagement</b>	✓ Improve associate engagement through open communication channels with a focus on development.
	✓ Regularly hold all-company meetings to communicate with our associates.
	✓ Collect feedback through engagement surveys to better understand associate experience and drive improvements, with the most recent organization-wide survey conducted in July 2023.
<b>Developing Associates</b>	✓ Foster associate development by providing a wide variety of growth and development opportunities throughout our associates' careers, including stretch assignments, internal career pathing, self-awareness exercises, and active coaching. Resources in support of these efforts include an internal job board to empower associates to apply for open roles and/or to seek advancement opportunities.
	✓ Use leadership standards to help associates identify the core behaviors essential for their career growth, as well as personal growth, on their journey with us.
<b>Inclusion and Diversity</b>	✓ Embrace inclusion and diversity in all forms, including gender, race, ethnicity, disability, nationality, religion, age, veteran status, LGBTQIA+ status, and other factors.
	✓ Continuously review metrics related to representation, retention, pay, and promotion among associates from diverse backgrounds, including those in leadership positions.
	✓ Encourage associates to enhance their understanding of inclusion and diversity through our various associate resource groups, which allows associates from different business functions to have discussions, attend activities, and receive materials focused on allyship, community, celebration, and education.
	✓ Invest in inclusion and diversity learning and development opportunities for associates on topics related to the fundamentals of inclusion and diversity, including trainings, learning sessions, and workshops.
<b>Community Involvement</b>	✓ Encourage community involvement of our associates by promoting various charitable, philanthropic, and social awareness programs, which we believe fosters a collaborative and rewarding work environment.
	✓ Offer associates a paid volunteer day each year for eligible volunteer work.
<b>Health and Safety</b>	✓ Focus on the health and safety of our associates by investing in various wellness programs that are designed to enhance the physical, financial, and mental well-being of our associates.
	✓ Provide our benefits-eligible associates and their families with access to free and confidential counseling through our Employee Assistance Program, as well as free access to Headspace, a meditation and mindfulness app.
	✓ Provide regular programming on financial planning and mental health.

## DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE AND RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS

### Independence Determinations

Our Board has reviewed, considered, and discussed the relationships with the Company, both direct and indirect, of (i) each current director and (ii) Terry L. Burman and Michael E. Greenlees, who served as directors during Fiscal 2023 until June 8, 2023, in order to determine whether such individual meets the independence requirements of the applicable NYSE Rules. The Board has determined that nine of the ten current directors of the Company, as well as Terry L. Burman and Michael E. Greenlees during each of their periods of service as a director of the Company, qualify as independent under the applicable NYSE Rules. Specifically, the Board has determined that each of Kerri B. Anderson, Susie Coulter, Sarah M. Gallagher, James A. Goldman, Helen E. McCluskey, Arturo Nuñez, Kenneth B. Robinson, Nigel Travis, and Helen Vaid, has, and that during their period of service as a director of the Company, Terry L. Burman and Michael E. Greenlees had, no commercial, industrial, banking, consulting, legal, accounting, charitable, familial or other relationship with the Company, either directly or indirectly, that would be inconsistent with a determination of independence under the applicable NYSE Rules. Fran Horowitz does not qualify as independent because she is an executive officer of the Company.

There are no family relationships among any of the current directors, director nominees and executive officers of the Company. Please see the text under the caption “INFORMATION ABOUT OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS” within “ITEM 1. BUSINESS” in Part I of our Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K for information about the Company’s executive officers.

### Related Person Transaction Policy and Process and Conflicts of Interest

The Board has adopted the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Related Person Transaction Policy (the “RPT Policy”), which is administered by our Nominating Committee and the Company’s General Counsel. A copy of the RPT Policy is posted on the “Corporate Governance” page of our corporate website at [corporate.abercrombie.com](https://corporate.abercrombie.com). The RPT Policy applies to any transaction, arrangement or relationship, or any series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships, in which the Company or one of our subsidiaries participates or will participate, the amount involved exceeds or is expected to exceed \$120,000, and a “related person” had, has or will have a direct or indirect interest.

Each year our directors (including any director nominees) and executive officers complete a questionnaire designed to elicit information about potential related person transactions. Any potential related person transaction that is raised will be analyzed by our General Counsel to determine whether the transaction, arrangement or relationship constitutes a related person transaction requiring compliance with the RPT Policy.

Pursuant to the RPT Policy, all related person transactions (other than those deemed to be excluded or ratified under the terms of the RPT Policy) will be referred to our Nominating Committee for approval (or disapproval), ratification, revision, or termination. Our Nominating Committee may only approve or ratify those transactions that our Nominating Committee determines to be in the Company’s best interests. In making this determination, our Nominating Committee will review and consider all relevant information available. Any related person transaction previously approved or ratified by our Nominating Committee or otherwise already existing that is ongoing in nature is to be reviewed by our Nominating Committee annually.

#### *Related Person Transactions*

- None.

#### *Certain Other Transactions Involving Directors and Executive Officers*

- In a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC, FMR LLC reported that it beneficially owned more than 5% of our Common Stock as of December 29, 2023. The Company utilizes the services of affiliates of FMR LLC, including record-keeping, administrative, and management services for the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Associate Stock Purchase Plan, the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Directors’ Deferred Compensation Plan, the Company’s long-term incentive plans, the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Savings and Retirement Plan (the Company’s 401(k) plan) and the Abercrombie & Fitch Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan. These transactions and arrangements with affiliates of FMR LLC are negotiated on an arm’s-length basis, contain customary terms and conditions, and are unrelated to the ownership of our Common Stock by FMR LLC or its related entities.



- The Company makes annual donations to SeriousFun, including fundraising proceeds, cash charitable contributions from the Company, in-kind product donations, and through volunteer hours. In Fiscal 2023, we donated approximately \$1,649,000 in cash to SeriousFun representing proceeds from the A&F Challenge, our annual fundraising campaign, and cash contributions from the Company. Of this donation to SeriousFun, approximately \$500,000 in cash was distributed to Flying Horse Farms, Inc. (“FHF”), a member camp of SeriousFun. Additionally in Fiscal 2023, the Company donated approximately \$556,000 in goods to SeriousFun and approximately \$41,000 of these goods were distributed to FHF. Also in Fiscal 2023, the Company donated approximately \$22,000 in goods directly to FHF. Ms. Horowitz served on the Board of Directors of SeriousFun from March 2017 until February 2024. Her spouse served on the Board of Directors of FHF from April 2017 until June 2023.

Under the RPT Policy, any transaction where the related person’s interest arises from her position as a director of another corporation or organization that is a party to the transaction, such transaction is not considered a related person transaction and shall not be governed by the RPT Policy. To address any potential conflict of interest concerns, Ms. Horowitz was advised not to participate in any discussions, negotiations, or decisions by our Board, our ESG Committee or any other persons associated with the Company with respect to contributions or donations proposed to be made to SeriousFun or FHF by or on behalf of the Company or our subsidiaries.

Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which was adopted by the Board, also addresses the potential conflicts of interest which may arise when a director, an officer, or an associate has an interest in a transaction to which the Company or one of our subsidiaries is a party. If a potential conflict of interest arises concerning an officer or a director, all information regarding the issue is to be reported to the Company’s Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer and the Company’s General Counsel for review and, if appropriate or required under the Company’s policies (including the Company’s RPT Policy), submitted to our Nominating Committee for review and disposition.

### **Indemnification Arrangements with Directors and Executive Officers**

We indemnify our directors and our executive officers to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of Delaware against personal liability in connection with their service to the Company. This indemnification is required under our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and our Bylaws, and we have entered into agreements with these individuals contractually obligating us to provide this indemnification to them.

## **OTHER CORPORATE GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

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### **Directors Who Substantially Change Their Job Responsibility**

A director must inform our Chairperson of the Board, the Chair of our Nominating Committee, and the Corporate Secretary as promptly as feasible, in advance, if the director is contemplating a change in employment, membership on another public company board of directors or any other board membership, or other change in status or circumstances that might cause the Board to conclude that the director is no longer independent, is no longer qualified to serve on the Board, might not be able to continue to serve effectively, or that such service otherwise is no longer appropriate. Such prior notice is intended to permit management of the Company to conduct a preliminary analysis of the potential impact of the proposed change on the director’s independence and/or service. If the determination is made that the potential change constitutes a conflict of interest or interferes with the director’s ability to carry out his or her responsibilities as a director of the Company, the director must immediately submit a letter of resignation or not proceed with the potential change. If the director offers her or his resignation, the Nominating Committee will duly consider the matter and make a timely recommendation to the Board and the Board shall determine whether to accept or reject such offer.

If sufficient prior notice cannot be given, the director must immediately submit a letter of resignation to our Nominating Committee. Upon receipt of such a letter of resignation, our Nominating Committee will duly consider the matter and make a timely recommendation to the Board and the Board shall determine whether to accept or reject such offer.

## Anti-Hedging Policy

The Company's Insider Trading Policy applies to directors, associates, advisors, and consultants ("Covered Persons"). Under the Insider Trading Policy, Covered Persons are prohibited from purchasing financial instruments (including prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars, and exchange funds), or otherwise engaging in transactions that hedge, offset, or are designed to hedge or offset, any decrease in the market value or the full ownership risks and rewards of Covered Persons' direct or indirect holdings in Company securities. In addition, under the Company's Associate Handbook, associates may not at any time engage in transactions which shift the economic consequences of ownership of Company securities to any third party, including the purchase or sale of puts or calls, or hedging transactions, such as caps and collars.

## Communications with the Board

Communications by stockholders and other interested parties to individual directors or the Board can be addressed to 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054, Attention: Corporate Secretary.

All such letters must identify the author as a stockholder or other interested party and clearly state the intended recipient. Copies of all such letters will be circulated to the appropriate director or directors. The mailing envelope must contain a clear notation indicating that the enclosed letter is a "Stockholder/Interested Party — Non-Management Director Communication," "Stockholder/Interested Party — Board Communication," "Stockholder/Interested Party — Independent Director Communication," or "Stockholder/Interested Party — Chairperson of the Board Communication," as appropriate.

Correspondence marked "personal and confidential" will be delivered to the intended recipient without opening. There is no screening process in respect of communications from stockholders or other interested parties.

# Compensation of Directors

The Board believes that compensation paid to our non-associate directors should be competitive with other retailers of comparable size and enable us to attract and retain individuals of the highest quality to serve as our directors. To align director interests with the long-term interests of our stockholders, non-associate directors receive a combination of cash and equity-based compensation for their service.

## Non-Associate Director Compensation Program

On an annual basis, the Compensation Committee and the independent compensation consultant to our Compensation Committee review and evaluate the Company's compensation program for the non-associate directors. In February 2023, following this review and consideration by the Compensation Committee, it was determined that the average director compensation for the Board was within a competitive range of median for our peer group. As such, the Compensation Committee did not recommend changes to the non-associate director compensation program for Fiscal 2023.

Any officer of the Company who is also a director receives no additional compensation for services rendered as a director. The annual cash retainer program for Fiscal 2023 was structured as follows (cash retainers were pro-rated for directors who did not serve the full year during Fiscal 2023):

### Non-Associate Director Annual Cash Retainer Program

Non-associate director	\$80,000
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Board Committee Annual Cash Retainer Program	Chair	Member
Audit Committee	\$40,000	\$25,000
Compensation Committee	\$30,000	\$12,500
Nominating Committee, ESG Committee, or Executive Committee	\$25,000	\$12,500

Each of the cash retainers is paid quarterly in arrears. In addition to cash retainers, all non-associate directors receive an annual grant of RSUs as follows:

### Annual Grant of RSUs

Grant date fair value <sup>(1)</sup>	\$150,000
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- (1) Granted on the date of the Company's annual meeting of stockholders. These RSUs become fully vested on the earlier of (i) the first anniversary of the grant date or (ii) the date of the next regularly scheduled annual meeting of stockholders of the Company after the grant date; in each case, subject to earlier vesting in the event of death or total disability or upon termination of service in connection with a change of control of the Company.

The Company also maintains two deferred compensation plans referred to collectively as the "Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan." Under the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan, a non-associate director may voluntarily elect to defer all or a part of her or his retainers and stock-based incentives the Company would otherwise pay her or him and/or the shares of our Common Stock she or he would otherwise receive upon settlement of her or his RSUs. The amount deferred by a non-associate director under the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan is credited to a deferred stock unit account where it is converted into a share equivalent. Dividend equivalents will be credited on the shares of Common Stock credited to a non-associate director's bookkeeping account (at the same rate as cash dividends are paid in respect of outstanding shares of Common Stock) and converted into a share equivalent. Participating non-associate directors may elect the time of deferral and whether distribution of the deferred amounts will be in the form of a single lump-sum transfer or annual installments. If a non-associate director makes no election, all amounts deferred under the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan will be distributed upon termination of service and in a lump sum. Regardless of any election made by a non-associate director, all amounts deferred will be distributed in a single lump sum in the event of a change in control of the Company.

All non-associate directors are reimbursed for their expenses for attending meetings of the Board and Board committees and receive the discount on purchases of the Company's merchandise extended to all Company associates.

## Chairperson Compensation

During Fiscal 2023, Mr. Travis received additional compensation for his role as Chairperson of the Board. The additional compensation to the Chairperson for Fiscal 2023 was unchanged from the prior year and was structured as follows:

### Fiscal 2023 Chairperson Compensation

Additional Annual Cash Retainer	\$100,000
Additional Annual Grant of RSUs, Grant date fair value <sup>(1)</sup>	\$100,000

- (1) Granted on the date of the Company's 2023 Annual Meeting. These RSUs become fully vested on the earlier of (i) the first anniversary of the grant date, (ii) the date of the next regularly scheduled annual meeting of stockholders of the Company after the grant date, or (iii) the first date that Mr. Travis is no longer serving as Chairperson (in such case on a pro-rated basis), and in each case, subject to earlier vesting in the event of death or total disability or upon termination of service in connection with a change of control of the Company.

## Fiscal 2023 Director Compensation Table\*

The following table summarizes the compensation paid to, awarded to or earned by, each individual who served as a non-associate director of the Company at any time during Fiscal 2023 for service on the Board.

Name <sup>(1)</sup>	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Total (\$)
Kerrii B. Anderson	133,457	150,005	283,462
Terry L. Burman <sup>(2)</sup>	28,791	—	28,791
Susie Coulter <sup>(3)</sup>	105,000	150,005	255,005
Sarah M. Gallagher	105,000	150,005	255,005
James A. Goldman	130,000	150,005	280,005
Michael E. Greenlees <sup>(2)</sup>	33,290	—	33,290
Helen E. McCluskey	135,957	150,005	285,962
Arturo Nuñez <sup>(2)</sup>	18,163	—	18,163
Kenneth B. Robinson	117,500	150,005	267,505
Nigel Travis	205,000	285,665	490,665
Helen Vaid	85,055	150,005	235,060

\*The aggregate value of the perquisites and other personal benefits received by each of the individuals named in this table for Fiscal 2023 was less than \$10,000 and is not included in this table.

- (1) Fran Horowitz is not included in the table above since, as an officer of the Company, she receives no compensation for her services as a director of the Company. Ms. Horowitz's compensation is reflected in the "Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table" beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement.
- (2) Each of the current non-associate directors then serving was granted an award of RSUs covering 4,292 shares of Common Stock on June 8, 2023, the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting. The amount of \$150,005 included in the total amount shown in this column for each of those directors is reported using the grant date fair value of the award, as computed in accordance with GAAP, of \$34.95 per RSU, based upon the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on the grant date (\$34.95) and adjusted for anticipated dividend payments during the one-year vesting period. See "Note 13. Share-Based Compensation" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included within "ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA" of our Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K for the assumptions used in calculating the amounts shown and information regarding the Company's share-based compensation. Each award of RSUs granted on the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting remained outstanding at February 3, 2024. Mr. Burman and Mr. Greenlees were not granted an award of RSUs since they both resigned from service as directors of the Company effective on the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting. Mr. Nuñez was not granted an award of RSUs since he was not yet serving as a director of the Company on the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting.

## COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

In connection with his service as Chairperson of the Board, on June 8, 2023, the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting, Mr. Travis was granted RSUs covering an additional 2,862 shares of Common Stock. The amount of \$100,027, and included in the total amount shown in this column for Mr. Travis, is reported using the grant date fair value of the award, as computed in accordance with GAAP, of \$34.95 per RSU, based upon the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on the grant date (\$34.95) and adjusted for anticipated dividend payments during the vesting period. See "Note 13. Share-Based Compensation" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included within "ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA" of our Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K for the assumptions used in calculating the amount shown and information regarding the Company's share-based compensation. This award of RSUs granted to Mr. Travis on the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting remained outstanding at February 3, 2024. In connection with his appointment as Chairperson of the Board on January 28, 2023, on March 27, 2023, Mr. Travis was also granted an additional award of RSUs, with the market value of the shares of Common Stock underlying this grant being equal to \$100,000 on the grant date, pro-rated for the period from January 28, 2023 through the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting. These RSUs, with an approximate market value of \$35,633 covering an additional 1,414 shares of Common Stock, vested on the date of the 2023 Annual Meeting.

The aggregate number of RSUs outstanding as of February 3, 2024 held by each individual who served as a non-associate director of the Company at any time during Fiscal 2023 is provided under the table captioned "Directors' Outstanding RSUs" below.

- (3) Ms. Coulter deferred her entire Fiscal 2023 cash retainer pursuant to the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan. The deferred portion of Ms. Coulter's retainer is included in the amount shown in the "Fees Earned or Paid in Cash" column.

### Directors' Outstanding RSUs

The following table summarizes outstanding RSUs as of February 3, 2024 held by each individual who served as a non-associate director of the Company at any time during Fiscal 2023.

Name <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Outstanding RSUs
Kerrii B. Anderson	4,292
Terry L. Burman	—
Susie Coulter	4,292
Sarah M. Gallagher	4,292
James A. Goldman	4,292
Michael E. Greenlees	—
Helen E. McCluskey	4,292
Arturo Nuñez	—
Kenneth B. Robinson	4,292
Nigel Travis	7,154
Helen Vaid	4,292

- (1) Fran Horowitz is not included in the table above since, as an officer of the Company, she receives no compensation for her services as a director of the Company. Ms. Horowitz's compensation is reflected in the "Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table" beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement.

# Advisory Vote to Approve Named Executive Officer Compensation

We are asking stockholders to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation paid to our named executive officers as reported in this Proxy Statement.

We urge stockholders to read the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this Proxy Statement beginning on page 40, which describes in more detail how our executive compensation policies and procedures are designed to align our compensation objectives with our financial goals and the creation of long-term stockholder value, as well as how and why our Compensation Committee made its executive compensation decisions for Fiscal 2023 and beyond. We also encourage stockholders to review the “Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table” beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement and the related compensation tables, notes, and narrative, which provide detailed information on the compensation of our named executive officers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd-Frank Act”), as implemented by Rule 14a-21(a) under the Exchange Act, and as a matter of good corporate governance, we are asking stockholders to approve the following non-binding advisory resolution at the Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Abercrombie & Fitch Co. (the “Company”) approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation of the Company’s named executive officers disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table, and the related compensation tables, notes, and narrative in the Proxy Statement for the Company’s 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

This advisory resolution, commonly referred to as a “Say on Pay” vote, is non-binding on the Board. Although non-binding, the Board and our Compensation Committee will carefully review and consider the voting results when evaluating our executive compensation programs for Fiscal 2025 and future years. The Board’s current policy is to include a Say on Pay Vote as an agenda item for each annual meeting of stockholders. Unless the Board modifies its policy, the next Say on Pay Vote will be held at our 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

## YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Our Compensation and Human Capital Committee and the full Board unanimously recommend that you vote **FOR** approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation of our named executive officers.



# Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis provides important information on our executive compensation programs and on the amounts shown in the executive compensation tables that follow. In this Proxy Statement, the term “named executive officers” or “NEOs” means the following individuals.

NEO	Position
<b>Fran Horowitz</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Scott D. Lipesky<sup>(1)</sup></b>	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer
<b>Kristin Scott<sup>(2)</sup></b>	Former President, Global Brands and Managing Director, Americas
<b>Samir Desai</b>	Executive Vice President, Chief Digital and Technology Officer
<b>Gregory J. Henchel</b>	Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

(1) Mr. Lipesky was appointed Chief Operating Officer in May 2023, in addition to his responsibilities as Chief Financial Officer.

(2) Ms. Scott departed the Company on March 30, 2024, subsequent to the end of Fiscal 2023.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Fiscal 2023 Financial Results

Fiscal 2023 was a defining year for the Company, as we made significant progress against the long-term strategic priorities that we outlined in our 2025 Always Forward Plan announced at our June 2022 investor day. The Company delivered top-line growth across regions and brands, reaching our second highest annual sales level in our history. On profitability, we delivered our best operating margin in 15 years. Fiscal 2023 results included:

- Net sales of \$4.28 billion, up 16% from Fiscal 2022;
- Operating income of \$485 million; and
- An operating margin of 11.3%.

In Fiscal 2023, in addition to meeting or exceeding the total Company net sales and operating margin targets from our 2025 Always Forward Plan, we continued our meaningful progress on the key initiatives under each of the three pillars of our Always Forward Plan: executing focused growth, accelerating an enterprise-wide digital revolution, and operating with financial discipline. We kept our growth mindset in focus as we again ended the year as a net store opener and made significant progress in growing our local teams in our Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) and Asia-Pacific (APAC) regions to support our global growth opportunities. We also chased inventory throughout the year, which allowed us to finish the year with an inventory position down 7% from Fiscal 2022. The Fiscal 2023 financial results placed us in a position to focus on the sustainability of our long-term strategic priorities, which are aimed at driving sustainable, profitable growth in 2024 and beyond.

## Compensation Program Changes in Fiscal 2023 and 2024

Since Fiscal 2022, the annual cash incentive program has included Net Sales on a constant currency basis (“Constant Currency Net Sales”)<sup>(1)</sup> to promote a healthy emphasis on top-line growth. Including a sales-related performance metric in both the short-term and long-term incentive plans reinforces management’s commitment to growing our business in the near-term, while simultaneously positioning the Company for successful long-term growth. Furthermore, for Fiscal 2023, the Committee increased the weighting of Constant Currency Net Sales from 20% to 30% and commensurately reduced the Adjusted EBIT<sup>(1)</sup> metric weighting from 80% to 70%. The Committee believes this change has created the appropriate balance of incentives for top- and bottom-line growth and, accordingly, determined not to make any changes to the annual cash incentive program metrics for Fiscal 2024.

For Fiscal 2024, in order to better align the annual cash incentive program with business shifts yielding a more profitable and higher-volume Spring season and provide for more balance between selling seasons, the Committee adjusted the seasonal weighting for the annual cash incentive program to 40% for Spring and 60% for Fall, from 30% and 70%, respectively.

The Committee did not make any changes to the long-term equity incentive program for Fiscal 2023 or 2024.

The following table summarizes our incentive-based compensation programs for Fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Program	Feature	Fiscal 2022 Design	Fiscal 2023 Design	Fiscal 2024 Design
Annual Cash Incentive Program	Metric	Adjusted EBIT (80%) Constant Currency Net Sales (20%)	<b>Adjusted EBIT (70%)</b> <b>Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)</b>	Adjusted EBIT (70%) Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)
	Seasonal Weighting	30% Spring 70% Fall	<b>30% Spring</b> <b>70% Fall</b>	40% Spring 60% Fall
Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards	Vehicle Mix	PSAs (50%) RSUs (50%)	<b>PSAs (50%)</b> <b>RSUs (50%)</b>	PSAs (50%) RSUs (50%)
	Equally-Weighted PSA Metrics	Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin <sup>(1)</sup> Relative TSR	<b>Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate</b> <b>Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin<sup>(1)</sup></b> <b>Relative TSR</b>	Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin <sup>(1)</sup> Relative TSR
	TSR Comparators	Compensation peer group	<b>Compensation peer group<sup>(2)</sup></b>	Compensation peer group

## Summary of Fiscal 2023 Compensation Program

Element	Purpose	Metric
Base Salary	Fixed annual cash compensation to attract and retain executive officers	Established after review of base salaries for executive officers at companies in our compensation peer group and the performance of each of our NEOs
Annual Cash Incentive Program	Performance-based variable pay that delivers cash incentives when the Company meets or exceeds key financial results	Based on an assessment of Adjusted EBIT (weighted at 70%) and Constant Currency Net Sales (weighted at 30%) against pre-established goals (with performance measured on a seasonal basis, meaning that goals are weighted 30% for Spring and 70% for Fall)
Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards	Performance-based and service-based equity compensation to reward our executive officers for a balanced combination of the Company meeting or exceeding key financial results and creating long-term stockholder value	<p>50% performance-based PSAs that measure a three-year period spanning Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025 and are based on the following metrics and weightings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33.33% on Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate</li> <li>• 33.33% on Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin</li> <li>• 33.34% on Relative TSR</li> </ul> <p>50% service-based RSUs that vest in equal installments over three years from the grant date</p>

(1) These are non-GAAP measures. Please refer to Appendix A to this Proxy Statement for additional detail on these performance metrics.

(2) Refer to page 51 for the Company’s compensation peer group for Fiscal 2023.

## Pay-for-Performance Culture and Summary of Fiscal 2023 Results

We are committed to aligning the outcomes of our executive officers' compensation with the Company's financial performance. The majority of NEOs' total compensation opportunity is at-risk, as it is contingent upon our financial performance and/or appreciation in the market price of our Common Stock. We believe the Company's pay-for-performance culture is evidenced by the portion of at-risk pay ultimately realized by our NEOs for Fiscal 2023 performance, as described below.

<b>Percentage of Chief Executive Officer's compensation that was at-risk in Fiscal 2023</b>	<b>89 %</b>
<b>Percentage of other NEOs' compensation (on average) that was at-risk in Fiscal 2023</b>	<b>76 %</b>

### Summary of Fiscal 2023 Annual Cash Incentive Program

As in prior years, the total annual cash incentive program for Fiscal 2023 was weighted 30% for Spring performance and 70% for Fall performance. This seasonal design allows the Committee to establish performance targets that align to the seasonal nature of our business, and, as appropriate, that correspond to an updated mid-year budget.

In February 2023, the Committee approved rigorous Spring season performance targets and established preliminary performance targets for the Fall season. In August 2023, the Committee again reviewed the preliminary Fall season goals and approved them as the final Fall season performance targets. Exceptional performance on both the Adjusted EBIT and Constant Currency Net Sales metrics resulted in payouts at maximum for both the Spring and Fall performance seasons. The Company delivered annual sales of \$4.28 billion in Fiscal 2023, reaching its 2025 Always Forward Plan sales targets two years ahead of schedule.

The above-described performance resulted in a total payout of 200% for the Fiscal 2023 annual cash incentive program, as follows:

<b>Fiscal 2023 Annual Cash Incentive Program Achievement</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Metric Payout %</b>	<b>Total Payout %</b>
<b>Spring (30% weighting)</b>	Adjusted EBIT (70%)	200 %	200 %
	Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)	200 %	
<b>Fall (70% weighting)</b>	Adjusted EBIT (70%)	200 %	200 %
	Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)	200 %	
<b>Weighted Average</b>			<b>200 %</b>

### Summary of Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 PSAs

In 2021, the Committee granted PSAs to our NEOs based on equally-weighted achievement of Net Sales Growth Rate, Average Adjusted EBIT Margin, and Relative TSR over the three-year performance period that concluded in Fiscal 2023.

- Strong long-term performance execution over the performance period drove share price performance that resulted in Relative TSR at the 100th percentile.
- Robust financial performance also drove our maximum payout with Net Sales Growth Rate of 7.6% exceeding the pre-established target (4.0%) and maximum (6.5%).
- Average Adjusted EBIT Margin was achieved at 8.0%, which also surpassed the target (5.0%) and maximum (6.5%).

#### Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 PSA Achievement

Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate (33.33% weighting)	200 %
Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin (33.33% weighting)	200 %
Relative TSR vs. Compensation Peer Group (33.34% weighting)	200 %
<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>200 %</b>

### Outstanding PSAs

Strong long-term performance execution has also driven positive trending performance for our PSAs granted in Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2023, each of which have three-year performance periods. A summary of trending performance (as of the end of Fiscal 2023) for the PSAs granted in Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2023 is shown below:

#### Trending Performance of Outstanding PSA Cycles

Performance Period	Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Tranche <sup>(1)</sup>	Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin Tranche	Relative TSR Tranche
Fiscal 2022 to Fiscal 2024	Between target and maximum	Between target and maximum	At maximum
Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025	At maximum	At maximum	At maximum

(1) The Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate performance metric will be measured based on the straight three-year average of the growth rate in GAAP Net Sales in each of the fiscal years during the three-year performance period, in each case calculated in comparison to the GAAP Net Sales for Fiscal 2021 and Fiscal 2022 for the Fiscal 2022 to Fiscal 2024 performance period and the Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025 performance period, respectively, where GAAP Net Sales reflects net sales as reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP as in effect on March 28, 2022 and March 29, 2023 for the Fiscal 2022 to Fiscal 2024 performance period and the Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025 performance period, respectively.

### “Say on Pay” Results and Stockholder Feedback

Each year, we hold an advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers (our “Say on Pay” vote). The Committee reviews and considers the outcome of the “Say on Pay” vote and will consider feedback from stockholders and the investment community on our named executive compensation program and our compensation practices. Our approach to executive compensation has driven high levels of support for our “Say on Pay” proposal over the past several years, and last year 96.5% of stockholder votes cast were to approve our named executive officer compensation program. In light of our stockholders’ continued strong support for our executive compensation program, no changes were made as a result of the “Say on Pay” vote at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Percentage of votes cast in favor of our named executive compensation at the 2023 Annual Meeting

**96.5%**

## COMPENSATION STRUCTURE AND HIGHLIGHTS

### Key Objectives of the Compensation Program

We operate in a fast-paced and highly-competitive specialty retail environment that continues to experience transformational disruption. To be successful, we must attract and retain key creative and management talents who thrive in this environment. We set high goals and expect superior performance from all of our associates, and in particular demand excellence of our executive team. We design the structure of the executive compensation program to support this culture, encourage a high degree of teamwork, and reward individuals for achieving challenging financial and operational objectives that we believe lead to the creation of sustained, long-term stockholder value. As such, the primary objectives of our executive compensation and benefit programs are to:



Drive high performance to achieve financial goals and create long-term stockholder value



Reflect our strong team-based culture



Provide compensation opportunities that are competitive with those offered by similar specialty retailers and other companies that we compete with for high caliber executive talent

## Compensation Program Best Practices

The following compensation decisions and practices demonstrate how the Company's executive compensation program reflects best practices and reinforces the Company's culture and values:

✓ Practices We Employ	X Practices We Avoid
<p>✓ <b>Emphasis on At-Risk Pay</b></p> <p>For NEOs, the majority of their total compensation opportunity is contingent upon our financial performance and/or appreciation in the market price of our Common Stock.</p>	<p>X <b>Excise Tax Gross-Up Payments</b></p> <p>None of the NEOs are entitled to gross-up payments in the event that any payments or benefits provided to the NEO by us are subject to the golden parachute excise tax under Sections 280G and 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Rigorous Performance Metrics</b></p> <p>Our annual cash incentive payouts and PSAs are earned based on us meeting challenging financial goals. Fiscal 2023 annual cash incentive payouts were based on seasonal Adjusted EBIT and Constant Currency Net Sales results and Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 PSAs were based on Avg. Net Sales Growth, Avg. EBIT Margin %, and Relative TSR over a three-year period (with the Relative TSR target set at the 55th percentile versus the compensation peer group).</p>	<p>X <b>Derivatives or Hedging of Equity Securities</b></p> <p>We prohibit associates (including the NEOs) and directors from engaging in hedging transactions with respect to any equity securities of the Company held by them.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Robust Stock Ownership Guidelines</b></p> <p>Executive officers and directors are subject to stock ownership guidelines that align their long-term financial interests with those of our stockholders.</p>	<p>X <b>Pledging of Equity Securities</b></p> <p>We prohibit associates (including the NEOs) and directors from pledging any equity securities of the Company held by them.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Incentive Compensation Clawback Policies</b></p> <p>Enforce our incentive compensation clawback policies as described in more detail below under "Clawback Policies."</p>	<p>X <b>Liberal Stock Option or SAR Recycling Provisions</b></p> <p>No liberal share recycling of shares of Common Stock withheld by the Company (or tendered by an associate) to cover taxes related to stock options or SARs.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Benchmark NEO Pay Against a Compensation Peer Group</b></p> <p>The Committee reviews external market data when making compensation decisions and annually reviews our peer group with its independent compensation consultant.</p>	<p>X <b>Multi-Year Employment Agreements with NEOs</b></p> <p>We do not have employment agreements with any of our NEOs that guarantee employment.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Committee Retains an Independent Compensation Consultant</b></p> <p>The Committee retains an independent compensation consultant to provide executive and director compensation consulting and advisory service. The only services that the independent compensation consultant perform for us are at the direction of the Committee.</p>	<p>X <b>Modification of Out-of-the-Money Stock Options or SARs</b></p> <p>We prohibit "repricing" of stock options or SARs and any other modification of out-of-the-money awards without stockholder approval.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Annual "Say on Pay" Vote</b></p> <p>We seek an annual non-binding advisory vote from our stockholders to approve our executive compensation programs.</p>	<p>X <b>Dividend Equivalents on Certain Equity Awards</b></p> <p>We do not pay dividend equivalents on stock options and unvested RSUs.</p>
<p>✓ <b>Conservative Compensation Risk Profile</b></p> <p>We review our compensation programs on an annual basis. Our performance-based executive compensation program, coupled with our stock ownership guidelines and clawback provisions, aligns the interests of our NEOs with those of our stockholders by encouraging long-term superior performance without encouraging excessive or unnecessary risk-taking.</p>	
<p>✓ <b>Double-Trigger Equity Vesting in Event of a Change of Control</b></p> <p>Double-trigger change of control provisions that limit acceleration of equity in a change-in-control unless the NEO is also terminated without cause.</p>	

## BASE SALARY

We provide a base salary to each NEO to deliver a fixed component of compensation that reflects the NEO's position and responsibilities. The Committee reviews the base salaries of our NEOs annually in the first quarter of the fiscal year, with additional reviews occurring on an as-needed basis upon significant changes to an individual's role. The Committee determines NEOs' base salaries based on a number of factors, including the individual's current base salary, job responsibilities, internal pay equity considerations, impact on development and achievement of business strategy, labor market compensation data, individual performance relative to job requirements, the Company's ability to attract and retain critical executive officers, and base salaries for comparable positions within a compensation peer group. The Committee established Fiscal 2023 base salaries after considering market data published by the companies in the peer group described below and surveys published by Equilar.

For Fiscal 2023, the Committee approved increases to the base salaries ranging from 3.2% to 4.1% for all NEOs, except for Ms. Horowitz and Ms. Scott, for whom no changes were made. Base salaries in effect at the end of Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2023 are reflected in the table below.

NEO	Fiscal 2022 Base Salary	Fiscal 2023 Base Salary	Percent Change
<b>Fran Horowitz</b>	\$1,350,000	\$1,350,000	0.0 %
<b>Scott D. Lipesky</b>	\$775,000	\$800,000	3.2 %
<b>Kristin Scott</b>	\$975,000	\$975,000	0.0 %
<b>Samir Desai</b>	\$675,000	\$700,000	3.7 %
<b>Gregory J. Henchel</b>	\$615,000	\$640,000	4.1 %

## ANNUAL CASH INCENTIVE PROGRAM

### Overview

We provide annual cash incentive award opportunities to certain of our eligible associates, including the NEOs, under the Amended and Restated Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Short-Term Cash Incentive Compensation Performance Plan (the "Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan"). The Committee approved annual incentive target opportunities as a percentage of base salary for the NEOs in March 2023.

Each NEO is eligible to receive an award opportunity established as a percentage of base salary. Maximum award opportunities historically have been capped at two times target levels.

Potential award opportunities and actual payouts for the NEOs in Fiscal 2023 are detailed below. Target amounts are determined commensurate with the NEO's role with the Company, her or his performance, market pay data, and considerations of the competitiveness of her or his overall compensation package. The cash incentive awards received by the NEOs are listed in the "Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table" beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement in the column captioned "Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation."

### Measurement of Annual Cash Incentive Program

For Fiscal 2023, the Committee increased the weighting of the Constant Currency Net Sales metric to the annual cash incentive program from 20% to 30%, and commensurately reduced the weighting of Adjusted EBIT from 80% to 70%. The increased weighting of the Constant Currency Net Sales metric reinforces management's commitment to growing the business in the near-term, while simultaneously emphasizing profitable growth.

The Committee seeks to establish threshold, target, and maximum goals for the annual cash incentive plan that are rigorous and reflect the underlying operating environment. As described above, at the beginning of Fiscal 2023, the Committee approved rigorous Spring season performance targets and established preliminary performance targets for the Fall season. In August 2023, the Committee again reviewed the preliminary Fall season goals and approved them as the final Fall season performance targets.

## Fiscal 2023 Achievement

As detailed above, we delivered Adjusted EBIT and Constant Currency Net Sales performance during the Spring and Fall seasons that exceeded the maximum goals set by the Committee, resulting in payout at maximum for the Spring season (weighted 30%) and Fall season (weighted 70%). This performance resulted in the following Fiscal 2023 annual cash incentive program achievement:

Fiscal 2023 Goals and Achievement	Metric	Threshold (\$MM)	Target (\$MM)	Maximum (\$MM)	Actual (\$MM)	Payout Percentage	Total Payout Percentage
Spring 2023 (30% weighting)	Adjusted EBIT (70%)	\$ (2)	\$ 48	\$ 90	\$ 153	200 %	200 %
	Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,670	\$ 1,735	\$ 1,771	200 %	
Fall 2023 (70% weighting)	Adjusted EBIT (70%)	\$ 122	\$ 229	\$ 283	\$ 424	200 %	200 %
	Constant Currency Net Sales (30%)	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,230	\$ 2,285	\$ 2,509	200 %	
Weighted Average							200 %

## Determination of Fiscal 2023 NEO Award Amounts

Based on the factors described above, the Committee awarded the following payouts under the Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan for Fiscal 2023 performance:

NEO	Target Award (% of Base Salary)	Actual Payout (% of Target)	Actual Payout
Fran Horowitz	175 %	200 %	\$4,725,000
Scott D. Lipesky	110 %	200 %	\$1,704,528
Kristin Scott	150 %	200 %	\$2,925,000
Samir Desai	100 %	200 %	\$1,400,000
Gregory J. Henschel	75 %	200 %	\$960,000

## Amendment of Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan

Effective March 10, 2024, the Board adopted and approved an amendment and restatement of the Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan (as so amended, the "A&R Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan") in order to increase (i) the maximum potential target opportunity from 175% to 200% of base salary; and (ii) the maximum dollar amount that may be paid to any participant in any fiscal year from \$5,000,000 to \$6,500,000.

These changes were adopted to ensure our continued ability to provide market competitive short-term cash incentive opportunities.



## LONG-TERM EQUITY INCENTIVES

We provide long-term equity incentive awards to our NEOs to balance the short-term focus of the annual cash incentive program by tying a significant portion of total compensation to performance achieved by the Company over multi-year periods. While the annual cash incentive program rewards the NEOs for the achievement of annual financial goals, the long-term equity incentive awards encourage the NEOs to deliver long-term financial results and to create and sustain stockholder value over longer periods of time. The structure and design of our long-term equity incentive awards are designed to directly link the value of the awards granted to the NEOs with the Company's long-term financial performance and increases in stockholder value.

### Award Mix

In Fiscal 2023, the Committee granted long-term equity incentive awards to our NEOs in the form of PSAs (50%) and service-based RSUs (50%). The Committee believes it is important for at least half of long-term equity incentive opportunities to be based on achieving specific performance objectives.

#### Fiscal 2023 Long-Term Equity Incentive Award Mix

PSAs	50%
Service-based RSUs	50%

### Fiscal 2023 Long-Term Equity Incentive Award Opportunities

Each NEO's annual equity grant is determined based on her or his performance, market pay data, and considerations of the competitiveness of her or his overall compensation package. Based on these factors, for Fiscal 2023 the Committee determined to grant long-term equity incentive awards to the NEOs with the aggregate grant date fair value shown below.

NEO	2023 Target Long-Term Equity Incentive Award
Fran Horowitz	\$8,872,572
Scott D. Lipesky	\$2,150,921
Kristin Scott	\$3,226,412
Samir Desai	\$2,150,921
Gregory J. Henchel	\$752,862

### Performance Share Award Measurement

The PSAs granted by the Committee in Fiscal 2023 measure a mix of sales growth (Average Net Sales Growth Rate), profitability (Average Adjusted EBIT Margin), and shareholder return performance (Relative Total Shareholder Return) over a three-year performance period spanning Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025, as shown below. The Committee selected these metrics for Fiscal 2023 as they represent key areas of long-term strategic growth for the Company and align compensation with long-term shareholder value.

Fiscal 2023 to 2025 PSA Metrics	Weighting
Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate	33.33 %
Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin	33.33 %
Relative TSR vs. compensation peer group	33.34 %

In support of our pay-for-performance philosophy, the Committee sought to set aggressive goals for the Fiscal 2023 PSAs. In March 2023, the Committee set PSA metrics requiring that, in order to achieve a target payout, the Company must deliver challenging

## COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

sales growth and average Adjusted EBIT Margin in line with our 2025 Always Forward Plan, and three-year Relative TSR that exceeds the 55th percentile of the compensation peer group.

We believe these challenging performance goals will guide the execution of our updated operating playbook, and, if achieved, will create value for our stockholders.

The number of PSAs earned will depend on the Company's level of achievement with respect to each equally-weighted metric (Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate, Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin, and Relative TSR performance), ranging from 25% of target for performance at threshold to 200% of target for performance at maximum. No PSAs will be earned if performance falls below the threshold level of performance for all three metrics. If the performance level falls between threshold and target or between target and maximum, the level of payout is determined through linear interpolation. Payout for the 1/3 portion of the PSAs that measure Relative TSR performance is capped at target if absolute TSR is negative across the three-year performance period (even if relative performance versus our peers is above the target level), to ensure that awards align pay for the NEOs with value creation for our stockholders.

When deemed appropriate, the Committee considers any unusual circumstances that are likely to have a material impact on PSA performance measures as it sets the relevant targets after considering input from the Committee's independent advisors as well as the other independent directors and management of the Company. We repurchase shares of our Common Stock from time to time, dependent on market and business conditions, with the objectives of returning excess cash to stockholders and offsetting dilution from issuances of Common Stock associated with the exercise of associate SARs and the vesting of RSUs that occur during the year. We do not believe that share repurchases have had a material impact on the level of achievement with respect to the Relative TSR performance measures associated with our PSA awards and the repurchases did not affect the manner in which the Committee set the relevant targets for awards granted under our long-term equity incentive programs or the determination of whether such targets were achieved.

### Completed and Outstanding Performance Share Award Cycles

The final measurement period for the Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 PSA cycle was completed as of the end of Fiscal 2023. A summary of the Average Net Sales Growth Rate, Average Adjusted EBIT Margin, and Relative TSR achievement and payout for the Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 PSAs is presented below:

<b>Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 PSA Achievement</b>	<b>Threshold</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Payout Percentage</b>
Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate (33.33% weighting)	2.0%	4.0%	6.5%	7.6%	<b>200%</b>
Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin (33.33% weighting)	3.0%	5.0%	6.5%	8.0%	<b>200%</b>
Relative TSR vs. Compensation Peer Group (33.34% weighting)	30TH PERCENTILE	55TH PERCENTILE	80TH PERCENTILE	100TH PERCENTILE	<b>200%</b>
<b>Weighted Average</b>					<b>200%</b>

Performance periods associated with the outstanding Fiscal 2022 to Fiscal 2024 and Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025 PSA cycles have not been completed. We will continue to evaluate performance for these awards based on the goals that were established at the time of grant. A summary of trending performance (as of the end of Fiscal 2023) for the Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2023 PSA grants is shown below:

<b>Performance Period</b>	<b>Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate Tranche</b>	<b>Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin Tranche</b>	<b>Relative TSR Tranche</b>
Fiscal 2022 to Fiscal 2024	Between target and maximum	Between target and maximum	At maximum
Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025	At maximum	At maximum	At maximum

### Restricted Stock Units

Service-based RSUs granted to the NEOs in Fiscal 2023 vest in three equal installments over a three-year period, beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date, subject to continued employment.

## APPROVED COMPENSATION DESIGN CHANGES FOR FISCAL 2024

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For Fiscal 2024, in order to better align the annual cash incentive program with business shifts yielding a more profitable and higher-volume Spring season, and provide for more balance between selling seasons, the Committee adjusted the seasonal weighting for the annual cash incentive program to 40% for Spring and 60% for Fall, from 30% and 70%, respectively. The Committee did not make any changes to the long-term equity incentive program for Fiscal 2024.

## EQUITY GRANT POLICY

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The Committee follows an Equity Grant Policy pursuant to which the Committee reviews and approves individual grants for the NEOs, as well as the total number of shares covered by PSAs, RSUs and, if applicable, SARs granted to all associates. The annual equity grants typically are reviewed and approved at the Committee's regular meeting during the first quarter of the fiscal year, although sign-on equity awards are generally approved by the Committee at the time an executive officer commences employment with the Company. The grant date for the annual equity grants is the date of the Committee meeting at which they are approved. Administration of PSA, RSU, and SAR awards is managed by the Company's human resources department with specific instructions related to the timing of grants given by the Committee.

## BENEFITS

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As associates of the Company, the NEOs are eligible to participate in all of the broad-based Company-sponsored benefits programs on the same basis as other full-time associates.

In addition to the qualified Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Savings and Retirement Plan (the "401(k) Plan"), we have a nonqualified deferred compensation plan, the Abercrombie & Fitch Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan (the "NSSR Plan"), that allows eligible associates to defer a portion of their compensation over and above the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") limits imposed on the 401(k) Plan. The NSSR Plan allows participants the opportunity to save their own money on a similar basis (as a percentage of their compensation) as other associates under the 401(k) Plan. Furthermore, the NSSR Plan is competitive with members of our compensation peer group and other companies with which we compete for talent. Our NSSR Plan is further described, and Company contributions and the individual account balances for the NEOs are disclosed, under the section captioned "Nonqualified Deferred Compensation" beginning on page 61 of this Proxy Statement. The Company does not currently provide matching contributions to NSSR Plan participants.

We offer a life insurance benefit for all full-time associates in the United States. In Fiscal 2023, for associates below Vice President, the benefit was equal to one times base salary, up to a maximum of \$1,000,000, and for Vice Presidents and above, the benefit was equal to two times base salary, up to a maximum of \$2,000,000.

We offer a long-term disability benefit to all full-time associates in the United States, which covers 60% of base salary for the disability period. In addition, we offer an Executive Long-Term Disability Plan for select associate levels and all associates earning over \$200,000 in base salary that covers a target replacement of 70% of total compensation up to a maximum monthly benefit of \$7,500.

We generally do not offer perquisites to our executive officers that are not widely available to all full-time associates. In Fiscal 2023, we provided one of our NEOs with a stipend for commuting and housing costs, as reflected in the Summary Compensation Table.

## PROCESS OF OUR COMPENSATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL COMMITTEE

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Decisions regarding the compensation of the NEOs are made by the Committee, which considers input from the Committee's independent advisors as well as the other independent directors and management of the Company. Our Chairperson of the Board also provides input (in his capacity as a director) with respect to the recommended compensation of the NEOs. The Committee often requests certain Company executive officers to be present at Committee meetings where executive compensation and Company and individual performance are discussed and evaluated so they can provide input into the decision-making process. Executive officers may provide insight, suggestions, or recommendations regarding executive compensation during periods of general discussion, but are not present and do not have a vote when compensation actions are determined.

In Fiscal 2023, Semler Brossy Consulting Group, LLC ("Semler Brossy") served as the Committee's independent compensation consultant. Additionally, in Fiscal 2023, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP ("Gibson Dunn") served as the Committee's independent outside counsel. The only services that Semler Brossy and Gibson Dunn perform for the Company are at the direction of the Committee. Neither Semler Brossy nor Gibson Dunn provided any services to the Company in Fiscal 2023 other than executive and director compensation consulting and advisory services. In this regard, the Committee has adopted a policy regarding the use of outside compensation consultants that provides as follows:

*"If the Committee retains a compensation consultant to provide advice, information and other services to the Committee relating to the compensation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer, its officers identified in Rule 16a-1(f) under the Exchange Act, or its non-associate directors or other matters within the responsibility of the Committee, such consultant may only provide services to, or under the direction of, the Committee and is prohibited from providing any other services to the Company."*

The Committee has the right to terminate the services of the independent compensation consultant and the outside counsel at any time. While the Committee retains Semler Brossy and Gibson Dunn directly, Semler Brossy and Gibson Dunn interact with our Chairperson of the Board, the Company's Head of Human Resources, and the Company's General Counsel and their respective staffs in carrying out assignments in order to obtain compensation and performance data for the executive officers and the Company. In addition, the Committee's advisors may, at their discretion, seek input and feedback from management of the Company regarding the advisors' respective work product prior to presentation to the Committee in order to confirm information is accurate or address other similar issues. A representative from Semler Brossy is generally present at all Committee meetings, and generally attends executive sessions of the Committee. Both Semler Brossy and Gibson Dunn provide independent perspectives on any management proposals. In Fiscal 2023, the Committee reviewed and considered the independence standards prescribed by the SEC and NYSE and determined that each of Semler Brossy and Gibson Dunn was independent, and their respective work did not raise any conflict of interest.

## SETTING EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### Pay Level — Determination of the Appropriate Pay Opportunity

The Committee approves the pay levels of certain associates of the Company designated by the Committee, which includes each of the NEOs listed in the “Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table” beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement. Pay levels for these individuals are established based on a number of factors, including each individual’s role and responsibilities within the Company, current compensation, experience and expertise, pay levels in the competitive market for similar positions, internal pay equity relationships, and the performance of the individual and the Company as a whole. The Committee considers all elements of compensation and benefits when determining pay levels for the associates.

### 2023 Compensation Peer Group

The Company considers data from a compensation peer group to better understand market pay levels and competitive pay practices for the NEOs and non-associate directors. The Committee reviews the compensation peer group periodically and, where appropriate, adjusts the compensation peer group to ensure robust market comparisons.

The compensation peer group includes companies in the retail and apparel space of a comparable size. For purposes of determining comparable size, preference is given to revenue (as compared to market capitalization) given the ongoing volatility of market values in the retail sector. Additionally, we give preference to companies that are key talent competitors, have a mall-centric store strategy, have a significant e-commerce business, and have material international operations. At the time the compensation peer group was determined for Fiscal 2023, our revenues approximated the median of the compensation peer group.

In addition to the peer group companies’ public proxy statement-disclosed information, we also reference Equilar survey data for the compensation peer group companies that participate in Equilar’s surveys when establishing pay levels. For each of our NEOs for whom we consider Equilar survey data, we reference data for positions that have similar responsibilities to those of our NEOs.

The Committee reviewed the compensation peer group during Fiscal 2022 and no changes were made. The peer retail companies used by the Committee in determining the “competitive market” with respect to Fiscal 2023 compensation decisions are included in the table below.

#### Fiscal 2023 Compensation Peer Group Companies

American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.	Fossil Group, Inc.	Tapestry, Inc.
Capri Holdings Limited	Guess? Inc.	The Children’s Place, Inc.
Carter’s, Inc.	Levi Strauss & Co.	Urban Outfitters, Inc.
Chico’s FAS, Inc.	lululemon athletica inc.	Victoria’s Secret & Co.
Express, Inc.	Ralph Lauren Corporation	

The Committee reviewed the compensation peer group during Fiscal 2023 and approved the addition of Aritzia Inc. to the group for Fiscal 2024.

## EXECUTIVE SEVERANCE AGREEMENTS AND CHANGE-IN-CONTROL BENEFITS

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The Committee carefully considers the use and conditions of employment agreements. The Committee recognizes that, in certain circumstances, formal written employment agreements are necessary in order to successfully recruit and retain senior executive officers. Consistent with this approach, in connection with their commencement of employment with the Company, each of the NEOs entered into an offer letter with the Company that provided for certain benefits upon termination of employment and/or upon a change in control of the Company. The Committee believed that it was in the best interest of the Company to enter into these offer letters as a means of securing the employment of each of these individuals. Each of the NEOs has also entered into an executive severance agreement with the Company (collectively, the “Severance Agreements”).

In addition, all associates who participate in the Company’s stock-based compensation plans, including the NEOs, are entitled to certain benefits in the event of termination due to death or disability or in connection with a change of control as set forth in the plan documents for the Company’s stock-based compensation plans. The terms and conditions of these arrangements are discussed in further detail in the section captioned “Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change of Control” beginning on page 63.

Discussion of the terms of the Severance Agreements appears later in this Proxy Statement in the section captioned “Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change of Control” beginning on page 63.

## CLAWBACK POLICY

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In Fiscal 2023, the Committee adopted a new incentive compensation recoupment policy. Our policy complies with the rules required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, the SEC, and the NYSE. This policy provides for the mandatory recoupment of erroneously awarded incentive-based compensation in the event of an accounting restatement.

In addition our policy includes enhanced, voluntary provisions that apply to cash and equity-based incentive compensation paid to our executive officers. The Committee will determine if a cause related clawback trigger exists, and will determine the amount of compensation that should be repaid or forfeited. The cause related triggers are defined as:

- a material failure to comply with the policies and procedures of the Company;
- commission of a felony, willful misconduct, or breach of a fiduciary duty, in each case in connection with such executive officer’s services to the Company;
- commission of an act of fraud, embezzlement, or misappropriation with respect to the Company; or
- breach of any restrictive covenant to which such executive officer is subject pursuant to any employment agreement or applicable policy of the Company.

In addition, each of the plans pursuant to which annual and long-term incentive compensation is or will be paid to our executive officers (i.e., the Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan, the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. Long-Term Cash Incentive Compensation Performance Plan, and the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. 2016 Long-Term Incentive Plan for Associates (the “2016 Associates LTIP”)) includes a stringent “clawback” provision, which allows us to seek repayment of any incentive amounts that were erroneously paid. Each of the plans provides that if (i) a participant (including one or more NEOs) has received payments under the plan pursuant to the achievement of a performance goal and (ii) the Committee determines that the earlier determination as to the achievement of the performance goal was based on incorrect data and in fact the performance goal had not been achieved or had been achieved to a lesser extent than originally determined and a portion of such payment would not have been made given the correct data, then such portion of any such payment made to the participant must be repaid by such participant to us, without any requirement of misconduct on the part of the participant. In addition, each of the above plans includes a clawback provision to allow the Committee to clawback payouts under additional circumstances and as permitted by applicable law, including pursuant to any clawback policies that may be adopted or implemented from time to time by the Board or the Committee.

## STOCK OWNERSHIP GUIDELINES

The Board believes it is important that the executive officers and the directors have, and are recognized both internally and externally as having, long-term financial interests that are aligned with those of our stockholders.

Accordingly, the Board adopted stock ownership guidelines for all executive officers and directors effective as of November 12, 2009, which were most recently amended effective as of August 18, 2021. We post the stock ownership guidelines on the “Corporate Governance” page of the corporate website at [corporate.abercrombie.com](https://corporate.abercrombie.com).

Ownership multiples for NEOs and non-associate directors are:

Population	Multiple	Includes
Chief Executive Officer	5x current annual base salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shares owned directly by the executive officer or director or her/ his immediate family members in the same household</li> </ul>
Other Executive Officers, including NEOs	2x current annual base salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shares held in trust for the benefit of the executive officer or director or her/ his immediate family members</li> <li>• Shares obtained through the vesting of restricted stock or RSUs</li> </ul>
Non-Associate Directors	5x current annual cash retainer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shares credited to bookkeeping accounts pursuant to one of the deferred compensation plans</li> </ul>

Until the applicable guideline is achieved, an executive officer is required to retain an amount equal to 50% of the net shares received as a result of the exercise of stock options or stock-settled SARs or the vesting of restricted stock or RSUs. “Net shares” for purposes of the guidelines are those shares that remain after shares are sold or netted to pay (i) the exercise price of stock options or SARs (if applicable) and any withholding taxes associated with such exercise or (ii) withholding or other taxes payable upon vesting of restricted stock or RSUs.

Failure to meet or, in unique circumstances, to show sustained progress toward meeting the stock ownership guidelines may be a factor considered by the Committee in determining future long-term incentive equity grants and/or appropriate levels of incentive compensation.

At the time of the Company’s Fiscal 2023 annual review of stock ownership compliance, all executive officers and non-associate directors either: (i) had satisfied their applicable guideline; (ii) were on track to satisfy their applicable guideline; or (iii) were otherwise compliant with the Company’s policies (i.e., were in compliance with the applicable retention requirement until such time that their ownership guideline is met).

## TAX DEDUCTIBILITY OF COMPENSATION UNDER INTERNAL REVENUE CODE SECTION 162(M)

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (“Section 162(m)”) generally disallows a tax deduction to publicly-held companies (such as the Company) for compensation paid to certain “covered employees” in excess of \$1,000,000 per covered employee in any year.

Neither the Committee nor the full Board has adopted a formal policy regarding tax deductibility of compensation paid to the Company’s executive officers. While the Committee carefully considers the net cost and value to the Company of maintaining the deductibility of all compensation, it also desires the flexibility to reward the Company’s executive officers in a manner that enhances the Company’s ability to attract and retain individuals as well as to create longer term value for our stockholders. Thus, income tax deductibility is only one of several factors the Committee considers in making decisions regarding the Company’s executive compensation program. The Committee may authorize compensation that might not be deductible, if the Committee determines that such compensation decision is in the best interest of the Company.



## COMPENSATION CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO ACCOUNTING

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When determining amounts of long-term equity incentive grants to executive officers and other associates, the Committee examines the accounting implications, including the grant date fair value of the award. Under GAAP, equity compensation associated with share-based payments is generally measured at the grant date fair value and recognized as expense as services rendered by the associate over the requisite service period.

# Report of the Compensation and Human Capital Committee on Executive Compensation

Our Compensation and Human Capital Committee has reviewed the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” section of this Proxy Statement and discussed it with management of the Company. Based on such review and discussion, our Compensation and Human Capital Committee recommended to the full Board that the “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” be included in this Proxy Statement.

**Submitted by the Compensation and Human Capital Committee:**

Helen E. McCluskey, Chair

James A. Goldman

Helen Vaid

# Executive Compensation Tables

## FISCAL 2023 SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

The table below summarizes the compensation paid to, awarded to, or earned by our NEOs for Fiscal 2023, Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2021.

Name and Principal Position	Fiscal Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	All Other Compensation (\$) <sup>(5)</sup>	Total (\$) <sup>(6)</sup>
<b>Fran Horowitz</b>	2023	1,401,923	—	8,872,572	4,725,000	—	35,859	15,035,354
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	2022	1,340,385	—	8,223,426	1,438,763	2,618	28,965	11,034,157
	2021	1,300,000	—	7,470,357	4,040,400	12,557	28,085	12,851,399
<b>Scott D. Lipesky</b>	2023	823,077	—	2,150,921	1,704,528	—	20,521	4,699,047
<b>Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer</b>	2022	770,192	—	1,869,023	471,975	2,035	18,391	3,131,616
	2021	730,769	—	1,641,852	1,332,000	6,916	18,054	3,729,591
<b>Kristin Scott</b>	2023	1,012,500	—	3,226,412	2,925,000	—	34,630	7,198,542
<b>Former President, Global Brands and Managing Director, Americas<sup>(7)</sup></b>	2022	970,192	—	3,203,950	890,663	2,698	27,918	5,095,421
	2021	945,192	—	3,283,704	2,109,000	11,794	23,039	6,372,729
<b>Samir Desai</b>	2023	696,154	—	2,150,921	1,400,000	—	100,047	4,347,122
<b>Executive Vice President, Chief Digital and Technology Officer</b>	2022	670,192	—	1,441,788	411,075	—	54,687	2,577,742
	2021	325,000	600,000	2,315,409	621,600	—	100,997	3,963,006
<b>Gregory J. Henschel</b>	2023	659,808	—	752,862	960,000	—	6,820	2,379,490
<b>Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary</b>	2022	612,115	—	694,247	280,901	—	6,447	1,593,710
	2021	595,192	—	656,741	799,200	—	4,335	2,055,468

(1) The amount shown in this column for Mr. Desai in Fiscal 2021 reflects a sign-on bonus payment of \$600,000. Cash bonus payments that are contingent on achieving pre-established and communicated goals, including payments under the Company's annual cash incentive program, appear in the column titled "Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation."

(2) The amounts shown in this column represent the grant date fair value of the PSAs and RSUs granted to each NEO, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 using the assumptions described in "Note 13. Share-Based Compensation" of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included within "ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA" of our Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K. The actual number of PSAs and RSUs granted in Fiscal 2023 to each NEO is shown in the "Fiscal 2023 Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table on page 58 of this Proxy Statement.

Pursuant to applicable SEC rules, the amounts shown exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. The amounts reported in this column reflect the accounting cost for these awards and do not necessarily correspond to the actual economic value that may be received by the NEOs.

The maximum grant date fair value related to the PSAs granted in Fiscal 2023 (the NEOs can earn from 0% to 200% of target) was as follows:

Name	Maximum Grant Date Fair Value (\$)
<b>Fran Horowitz</b>	4,747,553
<b>Scott D. Lipesky</b>	1,150,919
<b>Kristin Scott</b>	1,726,395
<b>Samir Desai</b>	1,150,919
<b>Gregory J. Henschel</b>	402,843

(3) The annual cash incentive compensation award for Fiscal 2021 for Mr. Desai was pro-rated based on his July 19, 2021 hire date.

(4) The amounts shown in this column for Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2021 represent the above-market earnings on the NEOs' respective NCSR Plan balances.

(5) The amounts shown in this column included the following for Fiscal 2023:

NEO	Company Contributions to 401(k) Plan (\$) <sup>(a)</sup>	Life and Long-Term Disability Insurance Premiums Paid (\$) <sup>(b)</sup>	Commuting/Housing Costs (\$) <sup>(c)</sup>	Total (\$)
<b>Fran Horowitz</b>	19,018	16,841		35,859
<b>Scott D. Lipesky</b>	17,393	3,128		20,521
<b>Kristin Scott</b>	21,661	12,969		34,630
<b>Samir Desai</b>	23,192	1,855	75,000	100,047
<b>Gregory J. Henschel</b>	0	6,820		6,820

(a) For each NEO, the amount shown in this column represents the aggregate amount of Company matching contributions to her or his accounts under the Company's 401(k) Plan during Fiscal 2023.

(b) For each NEO, the amount shown in this column represents life and long-term disability insurance premiums paid for by the Company during Fiscal 2023.

(c) This amount reflects a stipend for commuting and housing costs, including airfare, ground transportation, and housing expenses for Mr. Desai, who commutes from his home to our headquarters in New Albany, Ohio.

(6) The amounts shown in this column for each fiscal year may differ from the sum of the amounts shown in the other columns for such fiscal year due to the rounding convention used.

(7) Ms. Scott departed the Company on March 30, 2024, subsequent to the end of Fiscal 2023.

## FISCAL 2023 GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(1)</sup>			Estimated Future Payouts under Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(2)</sup>			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)	Grant Date Fair Value per Share of Stock Awards (\$)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>
		Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)			
Fran Horowitz	Fiscal 2023	590,625	2,362,500	4,725,000						
	3/7/2023							145,452	28.36	4,125,019
	3/7/2023				—	145,452	290,904		32.64	4,747,553
Scott D. Lipesky	Fiscal 2023	213,066	852,264	1,704,528						
	3/7/2023							35,261	28.36	1,000,002
	3/7/2023				—	35,261	70,522		32.64	1,150,919
Kristin Scott <sup>(4)</sup>	Fiscal 2023	365,625	1,462,500	2,925,000						
	3/7/2023							52,892	28.36	1,500,017
	3/7/2023				—	52,892	105,784		32.64	1,726,395
Samir Desai	Fiscal 2023	175,000	700,000	1,400,000						
	3/7/2023							35,261	28.36	1,000,002
	3/7/2023				—	35,261	70,522		32.64	1,150,919
Gregory J. Henchel	Fiscal 2023	120,000	480,000	960,000						
	3/7/2023							12,342	28.36	350,019
	3/7/2023				—	12,342	24,684		32.64	402,843

- (1) These columns show the potential cash payouts under the Company's Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan for Fiscal 2023. These estimated future payouts reflect the full annualized amounts. Refer to the discussion beginning at page 45 of this Proxy Statement for the performance metrics related to the annual cash incentive program for Fiscal 2023. If threshold performance was not satisfied, then the payouts for all associates, including the NEOs, would be zero.
- (2) Represents the threshold, target, and maximum number of PSAs granted under the Company's 2016 Associates LTIP, which could be earned depending upon the Company's achievement against the three-year performance metrics of Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate, Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin, and Relative TSR compared to the compensation peer group.
- (3) Represents the grant date fair value of the RSU or PSA, as appropriate. The grant date fair values for service-based RSUs and performance-based PSAs are calculated using the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on the grant date. The grant date fair values for market-based PSAs are based on the probable outcome of the performance conditions and are calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation.
- (4) Subsequent to fiscal year end and in connection with Ms. Scott's departure from the Company on March 30, 2024, certain awards were forfeited or prorated in accordance with terms of the grants as discussed in the "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" section starting on page 63 of this Proxy Statement.

## OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL 2023 YEAR-END

Name	Stock Award Grant Date	Stock Awards		Equity Incentive Plan Awards:	
		Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>
Fran Horowitz	3/23/2021	35,793 <sup>(3)</sup>	3,918,260		
	3/23/2021	214,758 <sup>(2)</sup>	23,509,558		
	3/22/2022	80,034 <sup>(3)</sup>	8,761,322		
	3/22/2022			240,100 <sup>(4)</sup>	26,283,747
	3/7/2023	145,452 <sup>(3)</sup>	15,922,630		
	3/7/2023			290,904 <sup>(5)</sup>	31,845,261
Scott D. Lipesky	3/23/2021	7,867 <sup>(3)</sup>	861,200		
	3/23/2021	47,200 <sup>(2)</sup>	5,166,984		
	3/22/2022	18,190 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,991,259		
	3/22/2022			54,570 <sup>(4)</sup>	5,973,778
	3/7/2023	35,261 <sup>(3)</sup>	3,860,022		
	3/7/2023			70,522 <sup>(5)</sup>	7,720,043
Kristin Scott <sup>(6)</sup>	3/23/2021	15,734 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,722,401		
	3/23/2021	94,400 <sup>(2)</sup>	10,333,968		
	3/22/2022	31,182 <sup>(3)</sup>	3,413,494		
	3/22/2022			93,546 <sup>(4)</sup>	10,240,481
	3/7/2023	52,892 <sup>(3)</sup>	5,790,087		
	3/7/2023			105,784 <sup>(5)</sup>	11,580,174
Samir Desai	8/18/2021	9,221 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,009,423		
	8/18/2021	5,533 <sup>(3)</sup>	605,698		
	8/18/2021	33,196 <sup>(2)</sup>	3,633,966		
	3/22/2022	14,032 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,536,083		
	3/22/2022			42,096 <sup>(4)</sup>	4,608,249
	3/7/2023	35,261 <sup>(3)</sup>	3,860,022		
Gregory J. Henchel	3/7/2023			70,522 <sup>(5)</sup>	7,720,043
	3/23/2021	3,147 <sup>(3)</sup>	344,502		
	3/23/2021	18,880 <sup>(2)</sup>	2,066,794		
	3/22/2022	6,757 <sup>(3)</sup>	739,689		
	3/22/2022			20,270 <sup>(4)</sup>	2,218,957
	3/7/2023	12,342 <sup>(3)</sup>	1,351,079		
	3/7/2023			24,684 <sup>(5)</sup>	2,702,157

See footnotes to the “Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal 2023 Year-End” table on the following page.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

- (1) Market value represents the product of the closing price of a share of the Company's Common Stock on February 2, 2024 (the last business day of Fiscal 2023), which was \$109.47, multiplied by the number of RSUs or PSAs.
- (2) Each of these PSAs granted for the Fiscal 2021 through Fiscal 2023 performance period, which are deemed to be earned because the performance condition was achieved at the end of Fiscal 2023, are included in this column because the stock had not yet vested as of the last day of the fiscal year. The stock underlying the PSAs vested on April 1, 2024.
- (3) Each of these RSU awards vests in three equal annual installments beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date, subject to the NEO's continued employment with the Company.
- (4) The number shown assumes that the PSAs granted for the Fiscal 2022 through Fiscal 2024 performance period will be earned at the maximum number based on the Company achieving the maximum metrics for Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate, Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin, and Relative TSR.
- (5) The number shown assumes that the PSAs granted for the Fiscal 2023 through Fiscal 2025 performance period will be earned at the maximum number based on the Company achieving the maximum metrics for Avg. Net Sales Growth Rate, Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin, and Relative TSR. See the "Estimated Future Payouts under Equity Incentive Plan Awards" columns of the "Fiscal 2023 Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table on page 58 of this Proxy Statement for the threshold, target, and maximum numbers of PSAs that can be earned.
- (6) Subsequent to fiscal year end and in connection with Ms. Scott's departure from the Company on March 30, 2024, certain awards were forfeited or prorated in accordance with terms of the grants as discussed in the "Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" section starting on page 63 of this Proxy Statement.



## FISCAL 2023 OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED TABLE

The following table sets forth the gross number of shares received and the aggregate dollar value realized by the NEOs in connection with the vesting of RSUs and exercise of SARs during Fiscal 2023.

Name	Option Awards <sup>(1)</sup>		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#) <sup>(2)</sup>	Value Realized on Exercise (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#) <sup>(4)</sup>	Value Realized on Vesting (\$) <sup>(5)(6)</sup>
Fran Horowitz	92,051	3,432,681	688,809	17,904,010
Scott D. Lipesky			261,979	9,632,268
Kristin Scott			489,388	16,446,924
Samir Desai			21,770	814,948
Gregory J. Henchel			96,409	3,444,162

(1) Option awards consist of SARs.

(2) Reflects the gross number of SARs exercised by the NEO during 2023.

(3) Value realized on the exercise of SAR awards is calculated by multiplying the number of SARs exercised by the difference in the market value at the time of exercise and the exercise price. The number of shares actually received by the NEO on the exercise of SAR awards was reduced in each case by the withholding of shares to pay income taxes associated with the value realized on the exercise of the SAR awards, with the net number of shares received by the NEO as follows:

NEO	Net Shares Received on Vesting
Fran Horowitz	15,405

(4) The number of RSU shares shown reflects the gross number of shares received upon the vesting of RSUs during Fiscal 2023. The number of shares earned in connection with the Fiscal 2021 through Fiscal 2023 PSAs appear in the “Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal 2023 Year-End” table on page 59 of this Proxy Statement as those awards did not vest until April 1, 2024.

(5) Value realized on the vesting of RSU awards is calculated by multiplying the number of shares of the Company’s Common Stock underlying the vested portion of each RSU award by the closing price of a share of Common Stock on the vesting date. The number of shares actually received by the NEOs on the vesting of RSU awards was reduced in each case by the withholding of shares to pay income taxes associated with the value realized on the vesting of the RSU awards, with the net number of shares received by each of the NEOs as follows:

NEO	Net Shares Received on Vesting
Fran Horowitz	379,875
Scott D. Lipesky	146,573
Kristin Scott	270,486
Samir Desai	13,385
Gregory J. Henchel	56,410

(6) The PSAs granted for the Fiscal 2020 through Fiscal 2022 performance period were settled during Fiscal 2023 and the terms of the earning of the PSAs were reflected in the Proxy Statement for the 2023 Annual Meeting. The gross value realized upon vesting of the Fiscal 2020 through Fiscal 2022 PSAs for each NEO was: \$12,794,494 for Ms. Horowitz; \$2,558,909 for Mr. Lipesky; \$6,141,391 for Ms. Scott; \$0 for Mr. Desai; and \$1,023,574 for Mr. Henchel.

## NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION

### Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan

The Company maintains the Nonqualified Savings and Supplemental Retirement Plan for associates (the “NSSR Plan”), with participants generally at management levels and above, including the NEOs. The NSSR Plan allows a participant to defer up to 75% of base salary each year and up to 75% of cash payouts to be received by the participant under the Company’s Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

The NSSR Plan allows for a variable earnings rate on participant account balances as determined by the committee which administers the NSSR Plan. The earnings rate for all account balances was fixed at 5% per annum for Fiscal 2023. Participants are 100% vested in their deferred contributions, and earnings on those contributions, at all times.

The following table provides information regarding the participation by the NEOs in the NSSR Plan.

### Nonqualified Deferred Compensation for Fiscal 2023

Name	Executive Contributions in Fiscal 2023 (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Aggregate Earnings in Fiscal 2023 (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Aggregate Withdrawals/ Distributions (\$)	Aggregate balance as of February 3, 2024 (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>
Fran Horowitz	42,058	33,513	—	659,649
Scott D. Lipesky	227,484	31,908	—	810,195
Kristin Scott	118,125	35,897	—	791,522
Samir Desai	—	—	—	—
Gregory J. Henchel	—	—	—	—

- (1) The amounts shown in this column reflect the base salary and Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan payouts for Fiscal 2023 which were deferred by NEOs participating in the NSSR Plan in Fiscal 2023. All amounts in this column are included in the “Salary” and/or the “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” column totals for Fiscal 2023 reported in the “Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table” beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement.
- (2) Nonqualified deferred compensation balances earn fixed rates of interest. The rate for all account balances was fixed at 5% per annum for Fiscal 2023, which was not above-market for purposes of the applicable SEC rules and thus these amounts are not reported in the “Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table” beginning on page 57 of this Proxy Statement.
- (3) The following amounts are included in the balance as of February 3, 2024 and previously were reported as compensation to the NEOs in the Summary Compensation Tables for past fiscal years: (a) Ms. Horowitz – \$556,146; (b) Mr. Lipesky – \$655,841; (c) Ms. Scott – \$612,816; (d) Mr. Desai – \$0; and (e) Mr. Henchel – \$0.

Payouts under the NSSR Plan are based on the participant’s election at the time of deferral and may be made in a single lump sum or in annual installments over a five-year or ten-year period. If there is no distribution election on file, the payment will be made in ten annual installments. Regardless of the election on file, if the participant terminates employment with the Company before retirement, dies or becomes disabled, the benefit will be paid in a single lump sum. However, if the participant dies while receiving annual installments, the beneficiary will continue to receive the remaining installment payments. The committee which administers the NSSR Plan may permit hardship withdrawals from a participant’s account under the NSSR Plan in accordance with defined guidelines, including the IRS definition of an unforeseeable emergency.

Participants’ rights to receive their account balances from the Company are not secured or guaranteed. However, during the third quarter of Fiscal 2006, the Company established its Rabbi Trust, the purpose of which is to be a source of funds to match respective funding obligations to participants in the NSSR Plan and the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan for the Company’s former Chief Executive Officer.

In the event of a change in control of the Company, the Board has the authority to terminate the NSSR Plan and accelerate the payment of the aggregate balance of each participant’s account.

The NSSR Plan is subject to requirements affecting deferred compensation under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code (“Section 409A”) and is being administered in compliance with the applicable regulations under Section 409A.

## POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE OF CONTROL

### Executive Severance Agreements

On May 10, 2017, Abercrombie & Fitch Management Co., a subsidiary of the Company (“A&F Management”), executed and entered into executive severance agreements with Fran Horowitz and Kristin Scott (the “May 2017 Agreements”). In anticipation of his rejoining the Company, effective as of September 7, 2017, A&F Management executed and entered into an executive severance agreement with Scott Lipesky (the “Lipesky Agreement”). In anticipation of his joining the Company, effective as of September 13, 2018, A&F Management executed and entered into an executive severance agreement with Gregory J. Henchel (the “Henchel Agreement”). In anticipation of his joining the Company, effective as of May 24, 2021, A&F Management executed and entered into an executive severance agreement with Samir Desai (the “Desai Agreement” and, collectively with the May 2017 Agreements, the Lipesky Agreement, and the Henchel Agreement, the “Severance Agreements”).

The Severance Agreements have an initial two-year term, followed by automatic renewal on an annual basis, unless otherwise determined by the Company or the NEO by providing notice to the contrary at least 90 days prior to the date on which the additional term would have automatically begun. However, if a change of control (as defined in the Severance Agreements) occurs during the original term or an additional term, the term of the Severance Agreements will extend until the later of the expiration of the original term or the additional term, as applicable, or the 18-month anniversary of such change in control.

The Severance Agreements impose various restrictive covenants on the NEOs, including non-competition, non-solicitation, non-disparagement and confidentiality covenants. The non-competition covenant prohibits the NEOs from engaging in certain activities with identified competitors of the Company during their employment and for a period of 12 months after the termination of their employment. The non-solicitation covenant prohibits the NEOs from engaging in certain solicitation activities during their employment and for a period of 24 months after the termination of their employment.

If the employment of an NEO terminates during the term of the NEO’s Severance Agreement, the Company will, in all cases, pay to the NEO all accrued but unpaid compensation earned by the NEO through the date of the NEO’s termination.

If the employment of an NEO is terminated by the Company without “cause” (as defined in the Severance Agreements) or by the NEO for “good reason” (as defined in the Severance Agreements) during the term (other than during the three months prior to, or the 18 months following, a change of control of the Company) and the NEO executes a release of claims acceptable to the Company:

- The Company will continue to pay the NEO’s base salary in bi-weekly installments for 18 months following the termination date;
- The Company will pay the NEO, at the time specified in the NEO’s Severance Agreement, a pro-rated portion of the NEO’s bonus under the short-term cash bonus plan of the Company in which the NEO would have been eligible to participate in the year of the NEO’s termination date, based on the Company’s actual performance during the applicable bonus period and the number of days in such bonus period that would have elapsed prior to the termination date;
- The Company will reimburse the NEO during the 18 months following the termination date for 100% of the monthly premium costs of continuation coverage under COBRA, subject to the NEO’s election of such coverage and satisfaction of the additional eligibility requirements set forth in the NEO’s Severance Agreement; and
- The outstanding equity awards held by the NEO will vest (if at all) in accordance with the terms of the NEO’s award agreements.

If the employment of an NEO is terminated by the Company without cause (other than as a result of the NEO’s death or disability) or by the NEO for good reason during the three months prior to, or the 18 months following, a change of control of the Company and the NEO executes a release of claims acceptable to the Company:

- In the case of Ms. Horowitz, the Company will continue to pay her base salary in bi-weekly installments for 18 months following the termination date;
- In the case of Mr. Lipesky, Ms. Scott, Mr. Desai, and Mr. Henchel, the Company will pay them, at the time specified in their respective Severance Agreements, a lump-sum amount equal to 18 months of their respective base salaries;

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

- The Company will pay the NEO, at the time specified in the NEO's Severance Agreement, a lump-sum payment in an amount equal to 1.5 times the NEO's target bonus opportunity under the Company's short-term cash bonus plan in which the NEO would have been entitled to participate in respect of the Company's fiscal year in which the termination date occurred;
- The Company will reimburse the NEO during the 18 months following the termination date for 100% of the monthly premium costs of continuation coverage under COBRA, subject to the NEO's election of such coverage and satisfaction of the additional eligibility requirements set forth in the NEO's Severance Agreement; and
- The outstanding equity awards held by the NEO will vest (if at all) in accordance with the terms of the NEO's award agreements.

In the case of Ms. Horowitz, these change of control benefits will be provided in lieu of the amounts payable under her offer letter with respect to a "Change of Control."

## Other Arrangements

If the employment of an NEO is terminated by reason of the NEO's disability, the NEO will be entitled to receive any benefits available under the Company's long-term disability plan (if any). If the employment of an NEO is terminated by the Company for cause, by the NEO without good reason, or by reason of the NEO's death or disability, the outstanding equity awards held by the NEO will vest (if at all) in accordance with the terms of the NEO's award agreements. Our typical treatment of unvested equity awards upon various termination scenarios is captured in the table below (although individual equity awards may be subject to different treatment under their respective award agreements):

Award Type	Voluntary Resignation	Involuntary Termination (Without Cause)	Death/ Disability	For Good Reason	Change of Control / "Double-Trigger"
PSAs	Forfeited	Pro-Rated	Accelerated	Forfeited	Pro-Rated <sup>(1)</sup>
RSUs	Forfeited	Forfeited	Accelerated	Forfeited	Accelerated <sup>(2)</sup>
SARs	Forfeited	Forfeited	Accelerated	Forfeited	Accelerated <sup>(2)</sup>

- (1) In the case of a "double-trigger" event, defined as an involuntary termination of employment without cause, within three months prior to or 18 months after a change of control (excluding voluntary resignation, retirement, and termination due to death or disability), outstanding PSAs with respect to which more than 50% of the performance period has elapsed as of the date of the change of control would be paid, on a pro-rated basis, based on the performance achieved by the Company through a date occurring within three months of the change of control, as determined by our Compensation Committee prior to the change of control.

Outstanding PSAs with respect to which less than 50% of the performance period has elapsed as of the date of the change of control would be paid, on a pro-rated basis, at the target level of achievement.

- (2) In the case of a "double-trigger" event, defined as an involuntary termination of employment without cause, within three months prior to or 18 months after a change of control (excluding voluntary resignation, retirement, and termination due to death or disability), in addition to the benefits under the plans mentioned in the paragraph following this table, the vesting of outstanding RSUs held by the NEO would accelerate.

Each NEO will receive the value of the NEO's accrued benefits under the Company's 401(k) Plan and the Company's NSSR Plan in the event of any termination of employment (e.g., death, disability, termination by the Company with or without cause, or voluntary termination by the NEO).

The table on the following page describes the approximate payments that would have been made to the NEOs pursuant to agreements, plans or individual award agreements in effect on February 3, 2024, the last day of Fiscal 2023, in the event of the termination of employment of these NEOs under the circumstances described below, assuming such termination took place on February 3, 2024.

	Voluntary Resignation (\$)	Involuntary Termination (Without Cause) (\$)	Death <sup>(1)</sup> / Disability <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	For Good Reason (\$)	Change of Control / Double-Trigger (\$)
<b>Fran Horowitz</b>					
Cash Severance <sup>(3)</sup>	—	6,750,000	—	6,750,000	5,568,750 <sup>(4)</sup>
Benefits Continuation <sup>(5)</sup>	—	52,671	—	52,671	52,671
Equity Value	—	51,838,171 <sup>(7)</sup>	110,240,778 <sup>(6)</sup>	—	80,440,384 <sup>(8)</sup>
Retirement Plan Value <sup>(9)</sup>	1,063,526	1,063,526	1,063,526	1,063,526	1,063,526
Total	1,063,526	59,704,368	111,304,304	7,866,197	87,125,331
<b>Scott D. Lipesky</b>					
Cash Severance <sup>(3)</sup>	—	2,904,528	—	2,904,528	2,520,000 <sup>(4)</sup>
Benefits Continuation <sup>(5)</sup>	—	32,148	—	32,148	32,148
Equity Value	—	11,768,315 <sup>(7)</sup>	25,573,287 <sup>(6)</sup>	—	18,480,797 <sup>(8)</sup>
Retirement Plan Value <sup>(9)</sup>	1,015,438	1,015,438	1,015,438	1,015,438	1,015,438
Total	1,015,438	15,720,429	26,588,725	3,952,114	22,048,383
<b>Kristin Scott<sup>(10)</sup></b>					
Cash Severance <sup>(3)</sup>	—	4,387,500	—	4,387,500	3,656,250 <sup>(4)</sup>
Benefits Continuation <sup>(5)</sup>	—	46,884	—	46,884	46,884
Equity Value	—	21,091,928 <sup>(7)</sup>	43,080,605 <sup>(6)</sup>	—	32,017,910 <sup>(8)</sup>
Retirement Plan Value <sup>(9)</sup>	969,123	969,123	969,123	969,123	969,123
Total	969,123	26,495,435	44,049,728	5,403,507	36,690,167
<b>Samir Desai</b>					
Cash Severance <sup>(3)</sup>	—	2,450,000	—	2,450,000	2,100,000 <sup>(4)</sup>
Benefits Continuation <sup>(5)</sup>	—	30,245	—	30,245	30,245
Equity Value	—	9,322,045 <sup>(7)</sup>	22,973,484 <sup>(6)</sup>	—	16,333,271 <sup>(8)</sup>
Retirement Plan Value <sup>(9)</sup>	107,411	107,411	107,411	107,411	107,411
Total	107,411	11,909,701	23,080,895	2,587,656	18,570,927
<b>Gregory J. Henchel</b>					
Cash Severance <sup>(3)</sup>	—	1,920,000	—	1,920,000	1,680,000 <sup>(4)</sup>
Benefits Continuation <sup>(5)</sup>	—	24,379	—	24,379	24,379
Equity Value	—	4,463,003 <sup>(7)</sup>	9,423,178 <sup>(6)</sup>	—	6,898,272 <sup>(8)</sup>
Retirement Plan Value <sup>(9)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	6,407,382	9,423,178	1,944,379	8,602,651

- (1) Although not shown in the above table, the NEOs participate in the Company's life insurance plan which is generally available to all salaried associates. The plan pays out a multiple of base salary up to a maximum of \$2,000,000. Under the provisions of the life insurance plan, if an NEO passed away, the NEO's beneficiaries would receive \$2,000,000. In addition, the Company maintains an accidental death and dismemberment plan for all salaried associates. If an NEO's death were accidental as defined by the plan, the NEO's beneficiaries would receive an additional \$2,000,000.
- (2) Although not shown in the above table, the NEOs also participate in the Company's Long-Term Disability Plan, which is generally available to all full-time associates, and the Executive Long-Term Disability Plan, which is generally available to select associate levels and all salaried associates whose annual base salary is more than \$200,000. The Company's Long-Term Disability Plan and the Executive Long-Term Disability Plan would together pay an annual benefit of \$330,000 for each of Ms. Horowitz and Ms. Scott and \$240,000 for the remaining NEOs for the duration of the disability period.
- (3) Under her or his Severance Agreement, if the employment of an NEO is terminated by the Company without cause or by an NEO for good reason, subject to the NEO executing an acceptable release of claims, the Company would be required to continue the NEO's base salary for a period of 18 months. The Company would also be required to pay the NEO a pro-rated portion of the NEO's annual cash incentive opportunity under the Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan (as in effect on February 3, 2024) based on actual performance in the year of termination, subject to the discretion of our Compensation Committee.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

- (4) Under her or his Severance Agreement, if the employment of an NEO is terminated by the Company without cause or by an NEO for good reason, during the three months prior to, or the 18 months following, a change of control, subject to the NEO executing an acceptable release of claims, the Company would be required, with respect to each NEO other than Ms. Horowitz, to pay the NEO a lump-sum payment equal to 18 months of the NEO's base salary or, in the case of Ms. Horowitz, to continue to pay her base salary in bi-weekly installments for 18 months following the termination date. The Company would also be required to pay the NEO a lump-sum payment equal to 1.5 times the NEO's target annual cash incentive opportunity under the Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan (as in effect on February 3, 2024).
- (5) Under her or his Severance Agreement, the Company would be required to continue an NEO's medical, dental, and other associate welfare benefits for a time period of 18 months, subject to the NEO's election of such coverage and the additional eligibility requirements set forth in the NEO's Severance Agreement.
- (6) In the case of termination by reason of the NEO's death or disability, the value of equity holdings relates to unvested RSUs and unearned PSAs at February 3, 2024 and is calculated as the sum of: (a) the product of (i) the number of unvested RSUs multiplied by (ii) \$109.47 (the market price of the Company's Common Stock as of February 2, 2024 (the last business day of Fiscal 2023)) plus (b) the product of (i) the number of unearned target PSAs multiplied by (ii) \$109.47 (the market price of the Company's Common Stock as of February 2, 2024 (the last business day of Fiscal 2023)).
- (7) In the case of involuntary termination without cause, the value of equity holdings relates to unearned PSAs at February 3, 2024 and is calculated as the product of: (a) the number of pro-rated unearned target PSAs multiplied by (b) \$109.47 (the market price of the Company's Common Stock as of February 2, 2024 (the last business day of Fiscal 2023)).
- (8) In the case of a "double-trigger" event, the value of equity holdings relates to unvested RSUs and unearned PSAs at February 3, 2024 and is calculated as the sum of: (a) the product of (i) the number of unvested RSUs multiplied by (ii) \$109.47 (the market price of the Company's Common Stock as of February 2, 2024 (the last business day of Fiscal 2023)) plus (b) the product of (i) the number of pro-rated unearned target PSAs multiplied by (ii) \$109.47 (the market price of the Company's Common Stock as of February 2, 2024 (the last business day of Fiscal 2023)).
- (9) Represents the present value of the vested accumulated retirement benefits under the Company's 401(k) Plan and the Company's NSSR Plan.
- (10) On February 6, 2024, the Company announced that on February 2, 2024, the Company's Board of Directors had determined to eliminate the role of President, Global Brands. As a result, Kristin Scott departed from her position and the Company on March 30, 2024. In connection with the role elimination and upon Ms. Scott's separation from the Company she became entitled to severance in the event of a termination "without Cause" in accordance with the terms of her May 2017 Agreement, including: (i) a salary continuation at the annualized rate of \$975,000 for a period of 18 months following the separation date, (ii) a pro-rated annual cash incentive award for Fiscal 2024, based on and subject to the Company's actual Fiscal 2024 performance under the Short-Term Cash Incentive Plan, based on a target bonus opportunity of \$1,950,000, and (iii) reimbursement during the 18 months following her separation date of 100% of the monthly premium costs of continuation coverage under COBRA, subject to Ms. Scott's election of such coverage. Furthermore, the performance share awards granted to Ms. Scott on March 22, 2022 and March 7, 2023, respectively, will each vest on a pro-rata basis based on Ms. Scott's continued employment through March 30, 2024, subject to the Company's actual performance through the end of the applicable performance period. Any other remaining unvested equity awards previously granted to Ms. Scott would be forfeited in accordance with the terms of the respective related award agreements. The Company also entered into a separation agreement with Ms. Scott effective February 13, 2024 that clarified certain provisions of her May 2017 Agreement relating to release of claims by Ms. Scott and reaffirming certain restrictive covenants, including non-competition, non-solicitation, non-disparagement and confidentiality covenants, which remain in effect in accordance with their terms. The non-competition covenant prohibits Ms. Scott from engaging in certain activities during her employment with the Company and for a period of 12 months after such employment is terminated. The non-solicitation covenant prohibits Ms. Scott from engaging in certain solicitation activities during her employment with the Company and for a period of 24 months after such employment is terminated. Such separation agreement did not in any way modify or enhance the benefits to which Ms. Scott was entitled as a result of her May 2017 Agreement.

# Additional Compensation Information

## CEO PAY RATIO

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The following information about the relationship between the compensation of our associates and the compensation of Ms. Horowitz, our Chief Executive Officer, is provided in compliance with the requirements of Item 402(u) of Regulation S-K (“Item 402(u)”). In Fiscal 2023, the total compensation of our median-compensated associate, excluding Ms. Horowitz, was \$2,475.

In identifying the median-compensated associate, we used the following methodology, which was identical to the steps we have taken since Fiscal 2017. We determined that, as of October 29, 2023, the first day of our fourth fiscal quarter, our associate population was equal to 31,330 individuals. This number includes all individuals determined to be associates, whether full-time, part-time, or temporary as of that date.

Next, we identified the associate receiving the median amount of compensation in our associate population. To do this, we compared the amount of wages and other compensation received by each associate, other than Ms. Horowitz, as reflected in our payroll records and reported to the applicable taxing authority in each country from which we operate, for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023. Compensation values were not annualized for mid-year hires, as we do not use a “standard hour” staffing model in many of our operating jurisdictions. Compensation values for our foreign associates were converted to United States dollars by using the foreign currency exchange rate on December 31, 2023. The median-compensated associate we identified for Fiscal 2023 was a different associate from the one identified for Fiscal 2022. As required by Item 402(u), we measured our median associate’s annual total compensation for 2023 by adding together the same elements of compensation that are included in Ms. Horowitz’s total 2023 compensation, as reported in the “Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table” (beginning on page 56 of this Proxy Statement). Ms. Horowitz’s total compensation for Fiscal 2023, as reported in the “Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table,” was \$15,035,354.

The resulting estimated ratio of the annual total compensation of Ms. Horowitz to the annual total compensation of our median-compensated associate was 6,076 to 1, which was calculated in a manner consistent with Item 402(u). As additional context, the magnitude of our ratio is influenced by our store staffing model which relies on a significant number of part-time, temporary, and seasonal associates. This approach to store staffing provides flexible, entry-level employment opportunities to students — many of whom are among our core customer demographic — that can become the foundation for a career at the Company. As a result, we maintain a “promote-from-within” mentality, and we provide opportunities for students to shape themselves into top candidates and potential future leaders of the Company. Students and young professionals who are motivated, creative, and strategic are natural leaders to drive results in our team-based culture. For reference, our median associate is a part-time associate who worked for, on average, 32 hours a month for a period of eight months.

Further, other public companies will use methods and assumptions that differ from those we have chosen, but that are appropriate for their circumstances. Therefore it may be difficult, for this and other reasons, to compare our reported pay ratio to pay ratios reported by other companies.



## PAY VERSUS PERFORMANCE

The following table and related disclosure below is provided in compliance with the requirements of Item 402(v) of Regulation S-K to summarize information regarding the relationship between “Compensation Actually Paid” (as calculated under applicable SEC rules) (“CAP”), for our Principal Executive Officer (PEO) and our non-PEO NEOs, on an average basis, and the Company’s financial performance for Fiscal 2023, Fiscal 2022, Fiscal 2021, and Fiscal 2020.

The methodology for calculating amounts presented in the columns “CAP to PEO” (Compensation Actually Paid to PEO) and “Average CAP to Non-PEO NEOs” (Average Compensation Actually Paid to Non-PEO NEOs), including details regarding the amounts that were deducted from, and added to, the Summary Compensation Table totals to arrive at the values presented for CAP, are provided in the footnotes to the table. A narrative discussion of the relationship between CAP and the Company’s performance measures (i) listed in the table below and (ii) that the Company has deemed most important in linking CAP during Fiscal 2023 to Company performance is also presented below.

The calculations and analysis below do not necessarily reflect the Company’s approach to aligning executive compensation with performance. For information concerning the Company’s compensation philosophy and how the Company aligns executive compensation with financial performance, refer to the Compensation Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 40 of this Proxy Statement.

Fiscal Year <sup>(1)</sup> (a)	Summary Compensation Table Total for PEO (b)	CAP to PEO <sup>(2-3)</sup> (c)	Average Summary Compensation Table Total for Non-PEO NEOs (d)	Average CAP to Non-PEO NEOs <sup>(2-3)</sup> (e)	Value of Initial Fixed \$100 Investment Based On:		Net Income (loss) (\$000s) (h)	Adjusted EBIT <sup>(5)</sup> (\$000s) (i)
					Company TSR (f)	Peer Group TSR <sup>(4)</sup> (g)		
2023	\$15,035,354	\$99,155,466	\$4,656,050	\$24,673,479	\$680.60	\$174.93	\$328,123	\$576,957
2022	\$11,034,157	\$(2,402,908)	\$3,099,622	\$(521,229)	\$169.79	\$144.39	\$2,816	\$138,101
2021	\$12,851,399	\$35,570,105	\$4,030,199	\$9,544,567	\$226.87	\$120.83	\$263,010	\$417,191
2020	\$11,949,691	\$17,250,444	\$4,429,429	\$6,752,740	\$143.43	\$109.13	\$(114,021)	\$114,270

(1) NEOs included in the above compensation columns reflect the following:

Fiscal Year	PEO	Non-PEO NEOs
2023	Fran Horowitz	Scott D. Lipesky, Kristin Scott, Samir Desai, Gregory J. Henchel
2022	Fran Horowitz	Scott D. Lipesky, Kristin Scott, Samir Desai, Gregory J. Henchel
2021	Fran Horowitz	Scott D. Lipesky, Kristin Scott, Samir Desai, Gregory J. Henchel
2020	Fran Horowitz	Scott D. Lipesky, Kristin Scott, Gregory J. Henchel, John M. Gabrielli

(2) Fair value amounts or change in fair value, as applicable, of equity awards in the Compensation Actually Paid columns were determined based on applicable SEC rules with respect to previously granted service-based RSUs and PSAs. For PSAs, changes in fair value were calculated as of the end of the covered year based on the probable outcome of performance conditions, with the TSR-weighted portion of PSAs for Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2022, and the PSAs for Fiscal 2021, calculated pursuant to a Monte Carlo simulation, as of the last day of the applicable year. No stock options were granted or continued to vest during Fiscal 2023, Fiscal 2022, Fiscal 2021, and Fiscal 2020.

(3) For Fiscal 2023, the values included in the “CAP to PEO” and “Average CAP to Non-PEO NEOs” columns reflect the following adjustments from the values shown in columns (b) and (d), respectively:

	PEO	Average Non-PEO NEOs
<b>Total Reported in Fiscal 2023 Summary Compensation Table (SCT)</b>	<b>\$15,035,354</b>	<b>\$4,656,050</b>
Less: Value of stock awards reported in SCT	\$8,872,572	\$2,070,279
Plus: Year-end value of stock awards granted in fiscal year that are outstanding and unvested	\$47,579,289	\$10,136,893
Plus: Change in fair value (from prior year-end) of stock awards granted in prior years that are outstanding and unvested	\$46,320,758	\$10,303,064
Plus: Fair Market Value (FMV) of awards granted this year and that vested this year	\$0	\$0
Plus: Change in fair value (from prior year-end) of prior year stock awards that vested this year	\$(907,363)	\$1,647,751
Less: Prior year-end fair value of stock awards granted in prior years that failed to vest this year	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>\$84,120,112</b>	<b>\$20,017,429</b>

Compensation Actually Paid for Fiscal 2023

\$99,155,466

\$24,673,479

- (4) For purposes of calculating peer group total shareholder return, the S&P Retail Select Industry Index was utilized pursuant to Item 201(e) of Regulation S-K and as is reflected in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2024. In accordance with applicable SEC rules, peer group TSR was calculated on a market capitalization weighted basis according to the respective issuers' stock market capitalization at the beginning of each period for which a return is indicated. TSR for both the Company and the peer group is based on an initial \$100 investment, measured on a cumulative basis from the market close on January 31, 2020, through and including the end of the fiscal year for which TSR is being presented in the table. TSR calculations reflect reinvestment of dividends.
- (5) We identified Adjusted EBIT for Fiscal 2023 as our Company-Selected Measure that represents, in our view, the most important measure used to link Compensation Actually Paid to performance. Adjusted EBIT was the most heavily weighted performance measure in the Company's annual cash incentive program for Fiscal 2021, Fiscal 2022, and Fiscal 2023 and is a key driver of the Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin metric used in our PSA program. Adjusted EBIT is a non-GAAP measure. Please refer to Appendix A to this Proxy Statement for additional detail on this measure.

## Pay Versus Performance Descriptive Disclosure

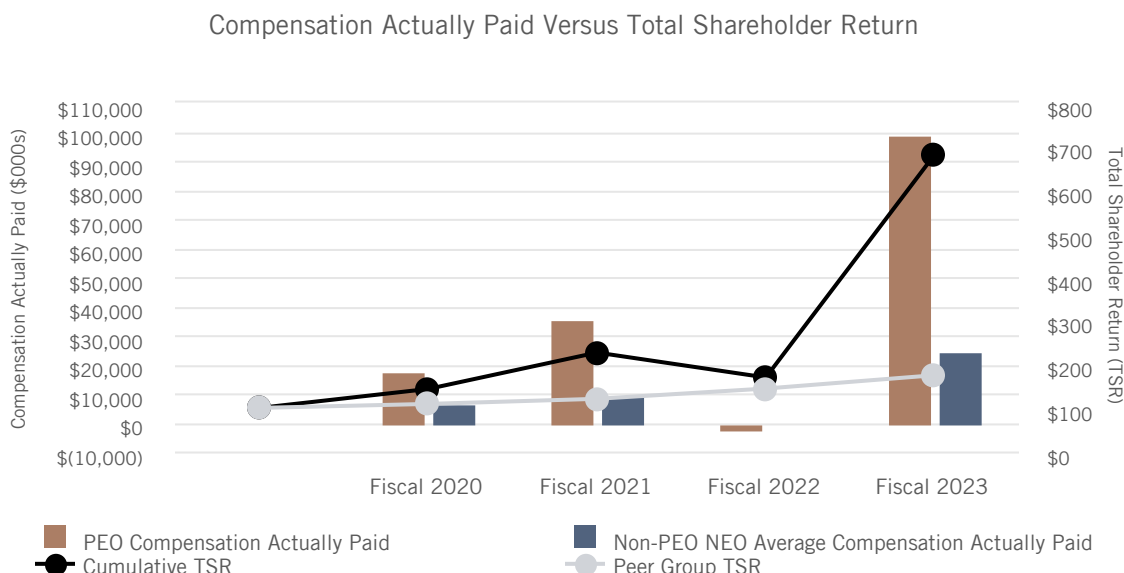
We believe that the Compensation Actually Paid in each of Fiscal 2023, Fiscal 2022, Fiscal 2021, and Fiscal 2020 and over the four-year cumulative period are reflective of the Committee's emphasis on "pay-for-performance." The Compensation Actually Paid fluctuated year-over-year, primarily because of our (i) stock performance, (ii) varying levels of achievement against pre-established performance goals under our long-term incentive program, and (iii) varying levels of achievement against pre-established performance goals under our annual cash incentive program.

In addition to reviewing this discussion and the Pay Versus Performance Table above, we encourage you to read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement, which explains our executive compensation philosophy and programs for our PEO and non-PEO NEOs.

### Chart 1: Compensation Actually Paid Versus Company and Peer Group Total Shareholder Return (TSR)

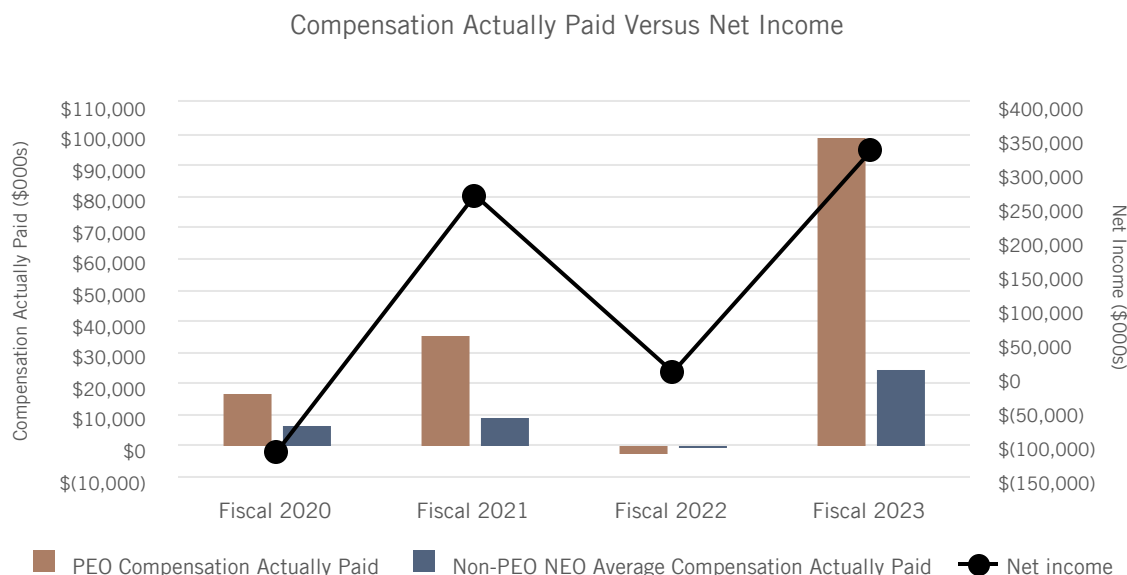
The Compensation Actually Paid values for our PEO and non-PEO NEOs over the four-year period of Fiscal 2020 through Fiscal 2023 align with the Company's TSR performance over the same period. This is due primarily to the emphasis on at-risk, performance-based equity incentives in the compensation program design for our PEO and non-PEO NEOs. Specifically, our PEO and non-PEO NEOs have a mix of time-vesting RSUs and performance-vesting PSAs, and the Fiscal 2020 to Fiscal 2023 PSAs were tied directly to relative total shareholder return. For more information regarding the PSAs, refer to the discussion beginning on page 47 of this Proxy Statement.

As depicted in the below chart, strong absolute TSR performance in Fiscal 2020, Fiscal 2021, and Fiscal 2023 exceeded the peer group and drove an increase in the fair value of equity awards, which resulted in increased Compensation Actually Paid values. Weaker TSR performance in Fiscal 2022 resulted in a significant decrease in Compensation Actually Paid.



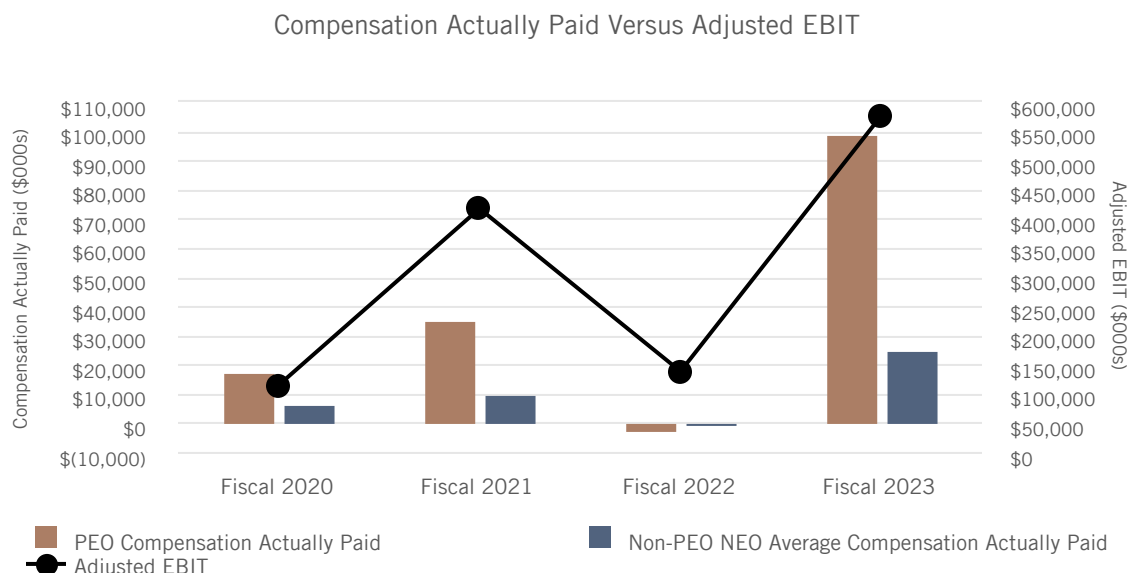
**Chart 2: Compensation Actually Paid Versus Net Income**

SEC rules require that net income be presented as a performance measure in the Pay Versus Performance table. As the below chart illustrates, changes in Compensation Actually Paid for our PEO and non-PEO NEOs over Fiscal 2020 to Fiscal 2023 is positively correlated to Net Income over the period. That said, no portion of our compensation is directly tied to net income results.



**Chart 3: Compensation Actually Paid Versus Adjusted EBIT**

We identified Adjusted EBIT as our Company-Selected Measure that represents, in our view, the most important measure used to link Compensation Actually Paid to our performance. Adjusted EBIT was the most heavily weighted performance measure in our annual cash incentive program for Fiscal 2021, Fiscal 2022, and Fiscal 2023 and is also reflected in Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin, one of the three equally weighted performance measures in our PSAs granted in Fiscal 2021, Fiscal 2022 and Fiscal 2023. Compensation Actually Paid is aligned with the Company's Adjusted EBIT over Fiscal 2020 to Fiscal 2023, which is partially attributable to its prominence in our program design and its positive correlation with our stock price.



Tabular List of Important Performance Measures

The following table sets forth an unranked list of the most important financial performance measures, including the Company-Selected Measure, linking CAP for all NEOs to Company performance for Fiscal 2023.

Performance Measures
Adjusted EBIT <sup>(1)</sup>
Net Sales
Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin <sup>(1)</sup>
Relative Total Shareholder Return

(1) These are non-GAAP measures. Please refer to Appendix A to this Proxy Statement for additional detail on these performance metrics.

# Ownership of Our Shares

The following table furnishes, with respect to each person who is known to the Company to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock of the Company, the name and address of such beneficial owner, the number of shares of Common Stock reported as beneficially owned (as determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act) by such beneficial owner in the most recent Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC, and the percentage that such shares comprised of the outstanding shares of Common Stock as of April 15, 2024.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class <sup>(1)</sup>
BlackRock, Inc. 50 Hudson Yards New York, NY 10001	8,507,881 <sup>(2)</sup>	16.65%
FMR LLC 245 Summer Street Boston, MA 02210	6,931,246 <sup>(3)</sup>	13.56%
The Vanguard Group 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355	6,013,098 <sup>(4)</sup>	11.77%
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP Building One 6300 Bee Cave Road Austin, TX 78746	3,159,142 <sup>(5)</sup>	6.18%

- (1) The percent of class is based upon 51,098,691 shares of Common Stock outstanding on April 15, 2024.
- (2) Based on information contained in a Schedule 13G/A, filed by BlackRock, Inc. with the SEC on January 22, 2024, to report beneficial ownership of shares of the Company's Common Stock as of December 31, 2023, and, consequently, the beneficial ownership of BlackRock, Inc. may have changed prior to the printing of this Proxy Statement. In the Schedule 13G/A, BlackRock, Inc. reported that, through its subsidiaries (BlackRock Life Limited; BlackRock Advisors, LLC; Aperio Group, LLC; BlackRock (Netherlands) B.V.; BlackRock Fund Advisors (which was reported to beneficially own 5% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock); BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, National Association; BlackRock Asset Management Ireland Limited; BlackRock Financial Management, Inc.; BlackRock Japan Co., Ltd.; BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG; BlackRock Investment Management, LLC; BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited; BlackRock Asset Management Canada Limited; BlackRock (Luxembourg) S.A.; BlackRock Investment Management (Australia) Limited; and BlackRock Fund Managers Ltd), BlackRock, Inc. is deemed to be the beneficial owner of 8,507,881 shares of Common Stock. BlackRock, Inc. reported sole voting power as to 8,208,829 shares of Common Stock and sole dispositive power as to 8,507,881 shares of Common Stock.
- (3) Based on information contained in a Schedule 13G/A filed by FMR LLC with the SEC on February 9, 2024 to report beneficial ownership of shares of the Company's Common Stock as of December 29, 2023, and, consequently, the beneficial ownership of FMR LLC may have changed prior to the printing of this Proxy Statement. In the Schedule 13G/A, FMR LLC was reported to beneficially own 6,931,246 shares of Common Stock with sole dispositive power over such shares and sole voting power as to 6,549,032 shares of Common Stock. In the Schedule 13G/A, Abigail P. Johnson is reported as a Director, the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer of FMR LLC. Members of the Johnson family, including Abigail P. Johnson, are the predominant owners, directly or through trusts, of Series B voting common shares of FMR LLC, representing 49% of the voting power of FMR LLC. The Johnson family group and all other Series B shareholders have entered into a shareholders' voting agreement under which all Series B voting common shares will be voted in accordance with the majority vote of Series B voting common shares. Accordingly, through their ownership of voting common shares and the execution of the shareholders' voting agreement, members of the Johnson family may be deemed, under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to form a controlling group with respect to FMR LLC.
- (4) Based on information contained in a Schedule 13G/A, filed by The Vanguard Group with the SEC on February 13, 2024, to report beneficial ownership of shares of the Company's Common Stock as of December 29, 2023, and, consequently, the beneficial ownership of The Vanguard Group may have changed prior to the printing of this Proxy Statement. In the Schedule 13G/A, The Vanguard Group reported shared voting power as to 63,495 shares of Common Stock, sole dispositive power as to 5,896,261 shares of Common Stock, and shared dispositive power as to 116,837 shares of Common Stock.
- (5) Based on information contained in a Schedule 13G/A, filed by Dimensional Fund Advisors LP, a registered investment adviser, with the SEC on February 9, 2024, to report beneficial ownership of shares of the Company's Common Stock as of December 29, 2023, and, consequently, the beneficial ownership of Dimensional Fund Advisors LP may have changed prior to the filing of this Proxy Statement. The Schedule 13G/A reported that Dimensional Fund Advisors LP had sole voting power as to 3,095,078 shares of Common Stock and sole dispositive power as to 3,159,142 shares of Common Stock, all of which shares of Common Stock were held in portfolios of four registered investment companies to which Dimensional Fund Advisors LP or one of its subsidiaries furnishes investment advice and of certain other commingled funds, group trusts and separate accounts for which Dimensional Fund Advisors LP or one of its subsidiaries serves as investment manager or sub-adviser. The shares of Common Stock reported were owned by the investment companies, commingled funds, group trusts and separate accounts and Dimensional Fund Advisors LP disclaimed beneficial ownership of the reported shares of Common Stock.

The following table furnishes the number of shares of Common Stock of the Company beneficially owned (as determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act) by each of the current directors, by each of the director nominees, by each of the named executive officers, and by all of the current directors and executive officers as a group, as of April 15, 2024.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership <sup>(1)</sup>	Percent of Class <sup>(2)</sup>
Kerrii B. Anderson <sup>(3)</sup>	50,170	*
Susie Coulter <sup>(3)</sup>	20,367	*
Samir Desai	39,587	*
Sarah M. Gallagher <sup>(3)</sup>	7,092	*
James A. Goldman <sup>(3)</sup>	15,977	*
Gregory J. Henschel	40,347	*
Fran Horowitz	925,520	1.81%
Scott D. Lipesky	124,455	*
Helen E. McCluskey	40,970	*
Arturo Nuñez	—	*
Kenneth B. Robinson	11,472	*
Kristin Scott <sup>(4)</sup>	55,483	*
Nigel Travis	34,709	*
Helen Vaid	4,292	*
<b>Current directors and executive officers as a group (14 persons)</b>	<b>1,319,047</b>	<b>2.58%</b>

\* Less than 1%.

(1) Unless otherwise indicated, each individual has voting and dispositive power over the listed shares of Common Stock and such voting and dispositive power is exercised solely by the named individual or shared with a spouse.

Includes the following number of shares of Common Stock issuable within 60 days of April 15, 2024 (i.e., June 14, 2024) upon the vesting of RSUs by June 14, 2024:

Name of Beneficial Owner	Aggregate Number of Shares of Common Stock Issuable <sup>(a)</sup>
Kerrii B. Anderson	4,292
Susie Coulter	4,292
Samir Desai	—
Sarah M. Gallagher	4,292
James A. Goldman	4,292
Gregory J. Henschel	—
Fran Horowitz	—
Scott D. Lipesky	—
Helen E. McCluskey	4,292
Arturo Nuñez	—
Kenneth B. Robinson	4,292
Kristin Scott	—
Nigel Travis	7,154
Helen Vaid	4,292
<b>Current directors and executive officers as a group (14 persons)</b>	<b>37,198</b>

## OWNERSHIP OF OUR SHARES

- (a) The Company has included for this purpose the gross number of shares of Common Stock deliverable upon the vesting of RSUs, but the actual number of shares received would be less as a result of the payment of applicable withholding taxes. The numbers reported do not include any unvested RSUs held by directors or executive officers (other than those specified in this footnote).
- (2) The percent of class is based upon the sum of 51,098,691 shares of Common Stock outstanding on April 15, 2024 and the number of shares of Common Stock, if any, as to which the named individual or group has the right to acquire beneficial ownership by June 14, 2024 through the vesting of RSUs.
- (3) The “Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership” does not include the following number of shares of Common Stock credited to the bookkeeping accounts of the following directors under the Directors’ Deferred Compensation Plan or that will be credited to such bookkeeping accounts by June 14, 2024 as a result of the deferral of RSUs which are to vest by June 14, 2024: Ms. Anderson — 3,055 shares; Ms. Coulter — 18,037 shares; Ms. Gallagher — 47,102 shares; Mr. Goldman — 3,771 shares; and all current directors as a group — 71,965 shares. While the directors have an economic interest in these shares, each director’s only right with respect to his or her bookkeeping account (and the amounts allocated thereto) is to receive a distribution of the whole shares of Common Stock represented by the share equivalent credited to his or her bookkeeping account (plus cash representing the value of fractional shares) in accordance with the terms of the Directors’ Deferred Compensation Plan.
- (4) Ms. Scott departed the Company on March 30, 2024. Shares of Common Stock were calculated based on the Company’s stock records as of March 30, 2024.

## Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports

To our knowledge, based solely on our review of the Section 16(a) forms filed electronically with the SEC during Fiscal 2023 and written representations that no other forms were required, with the exception of two inadvertently late Form 4 filings, reporting one transaction for each of Samir Desai and Terry L. Burman, all reporting persons timely complied with the filing requirements of Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.



# Equity Compensation Plans

The Company has two primary share-based compensation plans: (i) the 2016 Long-Term Incentive Plan for Directors (the “2016 Directors LTIP”) (with 900,000 shares of the Company’s Common Stock currently authorized for issuance), under which the Company is authorized to grant stock options, SARs, restricted stock, RSUs and deferred stock awards to non-associate directors of the Company; and (ii) the 2016 Associates LTIP (with 10,965,000 shares of the Company’s Common Stock currently authorized for issuance), under which the Company is authorized to grant stock options, SARs, restricted stock, RSUs, and PSAs to associates of the Company and its subsidiaries. The Company also has four other share-based compensation plans under which the Company granted stock options, SARs, RSUs, and PSAs to associates of the Company and our subsidiaries and stock options and RSUs to non-associate directors of the Company in prior years: (i) the 1998 Stock Plan for Non-Associate Directors (1998 Restatement) (the “1998 Director Stock Plan”); (ii) the 2003 Stock Plan for Non-Associate Directors (the “2003 Director Stock Plan”); (iii) the Abercrombie & Fitch Co. 2005 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the “2005 LTIP”); and (iv) the Amended and Restated Abercrombie & Fitch Co. 2007 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the “2007 LTIP”). Since June 16, 2016, the Company has only issued awards under the 2016 Associates LTIP and the 2016 Directors LTIP.

Any shares of Common Stock distributable in respect of amounts deferred by non-associate directors under the Directors’ Deferred Compensation Plan will be distributed: (i) under the 2016 Directors LTIP in respect of deferred compensation allocated to non-associate directors’ bookkeeping accounts on and after June 16, 2016; (ii) under the 2005 LTIP in respect of deferred compensation allocated to non-associate directors’ bookkeeping accounts between August 1, 2005 and June 15, 2016; (iii) under the 2003 Director Stock Plan in respect of deferred compensation allocated to non-associate directors’ bookkeeping accounts between May 22, 2003 and July 31, 2005; and (iv) under the 1998 Director Stock Plan in respect of deferred compensation allocated to the non-associate directors’ bookkeeping accounts prior to May 22, 2003.

The following table summarizes equity compensation plan information for the 1998 Director Stock Plan, the 2005 LTIP, the 2007 LTIP, the 2016 Associates LTIP and the 2016 Directors LTIP, all stockholder-approved plans, as a group, and for the 2003 Director Stock Plan, a non-stockholder-approved plan, in each case as of February 3, 2024:

Plan Category	Number of Shares to be Issued Upon Exercise/Vesting of Outstanding Options, Restricted Stock Units, Warrants, and Rights (a)	Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants, and Rights (b) (\$)	Number of Shares Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Shares Reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders <sup>(1)</sup>	2,830,689 <sup>(3)</sup>	29.29 <sup>(4)</sup>	3,426,425 <sup>(5)</sup>
Equity compensation plans not approved by stockholders <sup>(2)</sup>	2,604 <sup>(6)</sup>	— <sup>(7)</sup>	— <sup>(8)</sup>
Total	2,833,293	29.29	3,426,425

- (1) The 1998 Director Stock Plan was terminated as of May 22, 2003 in respect of future grants of options and issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock other than: (a) issuances of shares of Common Stock upon the exercise of options granted under the 1998 Director Stock Plan which remained outstanding as of May 21, 2003; and (b) issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock in respect of deferred compensation allocated to non-associate directors’ bookkeeping accounts under the Directors’ Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) as of May 21, 2003. As of February 3, 2024, no options granted under the 1998 Director Stock Plan remained outstanding. The 2005 LTIP was terminated as of June 15, 2015 in respect of future grants of awards and issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock other than: (a) issuances of shares of Common Stock upon the exercise of options and SARs and the vesting of RSUs and PSAs granted under the 2005 LTIP which remained outstanding as of June 15, 2015; and (b) issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock in respect of deferred compensation allocated to non-associate directors’ bookkeeping accounts under the Directors’ Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) as of June 15, 2016 and distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock. The 2007 LTIP was terminated as of June 16, 2016 in respect of future grants of awards and issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock other than issuances of shares of Common Stock upon the exercise of options and SARs and the vesting of RSUs and PSAs granted under the 2007 LTIP which remained outstanding as of June 16, 2016.
- (2) The 2003 Director Stock Plan was terminated as of June 13, 2007 in respect of future grants of awards and issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock other than: (a) issuances of shares of Common Stock upon the exercise of options or the vesting of stock units granted

## EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS

under the 2003 Director Stock Plan; and (b) issuances and distributions of shares of Common Stock in respect of deferred compensation allocated to non-associate directors' bookkeeping accounts under the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) as of July 31, 2005 and distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock. As of February 3, 2024, no options or stock units granted under the 2003 Director Stock Plan remained outstanding.

- (3) Represents the number of underlying shares of Common Stock associated with outstanding SARs, RSUs, PSAs, and share equivalents under stockholder-approved plans and includes: (a) 2,539 share equivalents attributable to compensation deferred by a former non-associate director participating in the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) and distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock under the 1998 Director Stock Plan, (b) 80,853 share equivalents attributable to compensation deferred by non-associate directors participating in the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) and distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock under the 2005 LTIP, (c) 25,600 SARs granted under the 2007 LTIP, (d) 1,877,501 RSUs granted under the 2016 Associates LTIP, (e) 781,831 PSAs granted under the 2016 Associates LTIP (including 225,673 PSAs granted in Fiscal 2021 for the Fiscal 2021 through Fiscal 2023 PSA cycle (the Avg. Net Sales Growth, Avg. EBIT Margin %, and Relative TSR tranches of these PSAs as earned at 200% of target earned were not distributed as of February 3, 2024)), (f) 8,584 RSUs granted under the 2016 Directors LTIP and (g) 53,780 share equivalents attributable to compensation deferred by non-associate directors participating in the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) and distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock under the 2016 Directors LTIP. Outstanding PSAs granted under the 2016 Associates LTIP reflect actual or target award amounts as of February 3, 2024. Of the PSAs that were outstanding as of February 3, 2024, a maximum of 1,499,432 PSAs can be earned under the 2016 Associates LTIP.
- (4) Represents the weighted-average exercise price of SARs outstanding under the 2007 LTIP and the weighted-average price of share equivalents attributable to compensation deferred by non-associate directors participating in the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock under the 1998 Director Plan, the 2005 LTIP, or the 2016 Directors LTIP. See footnote (3) above with respect to RSUs and PSAs granted under the 2005 LTIP, the 2007 LTIP, the 2016 Associates LTIP, and the 2016 Directors LTIP. The weighted-average exercise price does not take these awards into account.
- (5) Represents the number of shares of Common Stock remaining available for future issuance under stockholder-approved equity compensation plans and is comprised of: (a) 3,306,149 shares of Common Stock remaining available under the 2016 Associates LTIP; and (b) 120,276 shares of Common Stock remaining available under the 2016 Directors LTIP. Under the 2016 Associates LTIP and the 2016 Directors LTIP, shares of Common Stock available for future issuance are reduced by the maximum number of PSAs which may be earned under each outstanding award.

Under the 2016 Associates LTIP and the 2016 Directors LTIP, shares of Common Stock available for future issuance are measured net of shares of Common Stock expected to be retained by the Company to cover tax withholdings upon vesting or exercise, which have been calculated using an estimated tax rate of 35%. On a net basis, as of February 3, 2024, there were 4,500,541 shares of Common Stock available for future issuance under the 2016 Associates LTIP and 120,276 shares of Common Stock available for future issuance under the 2016 Directors LTIP.

Except as described in footnote (3) to this table, no further shares of Common Stock may be issued or distributed under the 1998 Director Stock Plan, the 2005 LTIP, or the 2007 LTIP.

- (6) Includes 2,604 outstanding share equivalents attributable to compensation deferred by a former non-associate director participating in the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (and dividends applied to previous deferrals) and distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock under the 2003 Director Stock Plan.
- (7) Represents the weighted-average price of share equivalents attributable to compensation deferred by a former non-associate director participating in the Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan distributable in the form of shares of Common Stock under the 2003 Director Stock Plan.
- (8) Except as described in footnote (6) to this table, no further shares of Common Stock may be issued or distributed under the 2003 Director Stock Plan.

# Audit and Finance Committee Matters

## Report of the Audit and Finance Committee for Fiscal 2023

The Audit Committee, which was established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act, is organized and conducts its business pursuant to a written charter, a copy of which is posted on the “Corporate Governance” page of our corporate website at [corporate.abercrombie.com](https://corporate.abercrombie.com).

The Audit Committee currently consists of three independent directors, each of whom has been determined by the Board to meet the heightened independence and financial literacy and expertise criteria for Audit Committee members under the NYSE Rules and applicable SEC rules. The Board has also designated each of the three members of the Audit Committee as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined under the applicable SEC rules.

The Audit Committee’s responsibility is to provide independent, objective oversight of:

- the integrity of the Company’s consolidated financial statements, including the review of major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentation;
- the effectiveness of the Company’s systems of disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, including reviewing and discussing with management, the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (“PwC”), and the Company’s Chief Audit Executive (the head of the Internal Audit department), any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and any special audit steps adopted in response to such significant deficiencies or material weaknesses;
- compliance by the Company and our subsidiaries with legal and regulatory requirements, including the financial reporting and disclosure process;
- monitoring legal and regulatory matters, including Company litigation;
- compliance with the Company’s Code of Business Conduct and Ethics;
- the qualifications and independence of our independent registered public accounting firm;
- the Company’s enterprise risk management framework, the risk tolerance of the Company, the Company’s major financial risk exposures, including those related to information technology and cybersecurity, and the steps management had taken to monitor and control such exposures;
- the annual independent audit of the Company’s consolidated financial statements; and
- the review and approval, as appropriate, of the Company’s financial plans and policies.

In addition, the Audit Committee is responsible for:

- evaluating the performance of the internal audit function and the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm, including the resolution of disagreements between management of the Company and the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm regarding financial reporting; and
- determining the appointment, compensation, and retention of both the independent registered public accounting firm and Chief Audit Executive.

Management of the Company has the responsibility for the preparation, presentation, and integrity of the Company’s consolidated financial statements, for the appropriateness of the accounting principles and reporting policies that are used by the Company, and for the establishment and maintenance of systems of disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting.

In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee engages in the review of the presentation of non-GAAP measures and metrics to understand how they are used to evaluate performance and whether they are consistently prepared and presented from period to period in accordance with the Company’s related policies and disclosure controls and procedures and in compliance with SEC rules and interpretations.

## AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

The Audit Committee is responsible for authorizing the appointment, compensation, and retention of, and overseeing the work of, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. On an annual basis, the Audit Committee evaluates the qualifications, performance, tenure, and independence of PwC and determines, after also considering the impact of a change in the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, whether to re-engage PwC. PwC has been the Company's independent registered public accounting firm since 1996. PwC rotates its lead audit engagement partner every five years and the Audit Committee takes a lead role in the process for evaluating and selecting the new lead audit engagement partner. PwC's lead audit engagement partner rotated in Fiscal 2021. The Audit Committee believes there are benefits to having an independent registered public accounting firm with an extensive history with the Company, including the potential for PwC to leverage its institutional knowledge of the Company's business and operations, accounting policies and financial systems, and internal control framework, to deliver higher quality audit work and accounting advice, as well as to deliver operational efficiencies.

PwC is subject to independence controls that mitigate the risks that may be associated with long auditor tenure. The Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from PwC required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB") regarding PwC's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with PwC that firm's independence. The Audit Committee has considered PwC's provision of permitted non-audit services to the Company and our subsidiaries and concluded that the provision of such services has been compatible with maintaining PwC's independence.

PwC is responsible for auditing and opining on the Company's annual consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting, and for reviewing the Company's unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q.

In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee met with management of the Company, the Company's Chief Audit Executive, and PwC throughout the year. The Audit Committee met with the Company's Chief Audit Executive and PwC, with and without management of the Company present, to discuss the overall scope of their respective annual audit plans, the results of their respective audits, the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting, and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting. In addition, the Audit Committee met with the Company's Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operating Officer to review the process undertaken to evaluate the accuracy and fair presentation of the Company's consolidated financial statements. The Audit Committee reviewed management's plan for documenting and testing controls, the results of their documentation and testing, and any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses discovered, if applicable. In addition, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with PwC all matters required by PCAOB and SEC standards, including PwC's audit report and expected critical audit matter ("CAM") to understand the nature of the CAM, PwC's basis for determining the CAM, and the expected description of the CAM in PwC's audit report.

Management of the Company and PwC have represented to the Audit Committee that the Company's audited consolidated financial statements as of the end of and for the fiscal year ended February 3, 2024 were prepared in accordance with GAAP, and the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed those audited consolidated financial statements with management of the Company and PwC.

Based on the Audit Committee's (i) discussions with management of the Company and PwC and (ii) review of the report of PwC to the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee unanimously recommended to the Board that the Company's audited consolidated financial statements be included (and the Board approved such inclusion) in the Company's Fiscal 2023 Form 10-K filed on April 1, 2024.

### **Submitted by the Audit and Finance Committee:**

Kerrii B. Anderson, Chair

Helen E. McCluskey

Kenneth B. Robinson

## PROPOSAL 3

**Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for Fiscal 2024**

The Audit Committee annually evaluates the selection of our independent registered accounting firm and has reappointed PwC as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm (an independent audit firm) to examine the consolidated financial statements of the Company and our subsidiaries for Fiscal 2024.

In deciding whether to retain our current independent registered public accounting firm or engage a different independent registered public accounting firm (also referred to as the "Company's independent audit firm"), our Audit Committee reviews the Company's current independent audit firm's qualifications, performance, and independence in accordance with regulatory requirements and guidelines. As part of this evaluation, factors considered by our Audit Committee include: PwC's capabilities and expertise; the recent performance of PwC on the Company's audit; management's assessment of PwC's performance; external data on audit quality, including results of recent PCAOB reports on PwC and its peers; PwC's independence; the terms of the audit engagement; and the quality and candor of PwC's communications to our Audit Committee.

PwC has acted as the Company's independent audit firm since 1996. Although the Company's governing documents do not require the submission of PwC's appointment to the Company's stockholders for ratification, the Company believes that soliciting stockholders' input is a matter of good corporate governance. If the appointment of PwC is not ratified, our Audit Committee will reconsider the appointment; however, it is not required to do so. Even if PwC's appointment is ratified, the Audit Committee may select a different independent audit firm at any time during the year if the Audit Committee determines that such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders.

Representatives of PwC are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting. They will be available to respond to appropriate questions and may make a statement if they so desire.

Subject to ratification by the stockholders of the Company, our Audit Committee has unanimously reappointed PwC as the independent registered public accounting firm to audit the Company's consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting for Fiscal 2024.

**YOUR VOTE  
IS IMPORTANT**

Our Audit and Finance Committee and the full Board unanimously recommend that you vote **FOR** the ratification of the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for Fiscal 2024.

## Audit Fees

Fees billed for services rendered by PwC for each of Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2022 were as follows:

Type of Service	Fiscal 2023 (\$)	Fiscal 2022 <sup>(5)</sup> (\$)
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	3,421,526	3,179,009
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	102,000	—
Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	47,800	22,728
All Other Fees <sup>(4)</sup>	40,150	53,084
Total	3,611,476	3,254,821

- (1) Audit Fees for Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2022 represent fees for professional services rendered by PwC in connection with the integrated audit of the Company's annual consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Reports on Form 10-K and reviews of the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q of \$2,162,000 and \$2,008,000, respectively; fees for statutory audits of \$1,251,026 and \$1,163,009, respectively; and fees for other services provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements of \$8,500 and \$8,000, respectively.
- (2) Audit-Related Fees for Fiscal 2023 represent fees related to implementation assessment services in connection with system upgrades.
- (3) Tax Fees for Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2022 represent fees relating to tax compliance matters.
- (4) All Other Fees for Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2022 represent fees for services other than those included above, including non-financial attestation services and payments made to PwC related to the use of accounting regulatory and disclosure databases.
- (5) The previously presented Fiscal 2022 fees were revised to reflect the actual fees associated with the services rendered by PwC to the Company and our subsidiaries for Fiscal 2022.

Under applicable SEC rules, our Audit Committee is required to pre-approve the audit and non-audit services performed by the Company's independent audit firm in order to ensure that the provision of these services does not impair the independence of the Company's independent audit firm from the Company and our subsidiaries. Annually, the Company's management and the Company's independent audit firm must jointly submit to our Audit Committee an Annual Pre-Approval Request (the "Pre-Approval Request") listing all known and/or anticipated audit and non-audit services for the upcoming fiscal year. Our Audit Committee reviews each Pre-Approval Request with both the Company management and the independent audit firm.

During the course of the year, there may be additional audit or non-audit services that are identified by the Company management and are desired but were not contained in the annual Pre-Approval Request. Our Audit Committee has designated one or more of its members with the authority to pre-approve interim requests for additional audit or non-audit services. These interim pre-approval procedures are to be used only for services that are less than \$100,000 and requests for services greater than \$100,000 must be approved by the full Audit Committee.

All of the services rendered by PwC to the Company and our subsidiaries during Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2022 were pre-approved by our Audit Committee.

# Stockholder Proposals and Nominations for 2025 Annual Meeting

## PROPOSALS FOR INCLUSION IN PROXY STATEMENT FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

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Any stockholder seeking to present a proposal pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 14a-8 to be considered for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for the 2025 Annual Meeting must submit the proposal in accordance with Exchange Act Rule 14a-8 and deliver it to the address set forth below no later than the close of business on Monday, December 30, 2024. Only those proposals that comply with the requirements of Exchange Act Rule 14a-8 will be included in the Company's proxy statement for the 2025 Annual Meeting.

## PROPOSALS AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS (OUTSIDE OF PROXY ACCESS) FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

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Stockholders seeking to bring business before the 2025 Annual Meeting outside of Exchange Act Rule 14a-8, or to nominate candidates for election as directors at the 2025 Annual Meeting outside of the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws, must provide timely written notice to the Company and comply with certain other requirements specified in our Bylaws. The notice of a proposing stockholder must be in writing and delivered in person or by United States certified mail, postage prepaid, and received by our Corporate Secretary, at the address set forth below, not later than the close of business on the 120th day nor earlier than the close of business on the 150th day prior to the June 12, 2025 anniversary date of the Annual Meeting. As a result, notices with respect to proposed business outside of Exchange Act Rule 14a-8, or nominations for election as directors outside of the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws, for the 2025 Annual Meeting must be received not earlier than the close of business on Monday, January 13, 2025 nor later than the close of business on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. Notice of any proposed business or nomination must comply with the applicable informational requirements set forth in Section 1.09 and Section 2.04 of our Bylaws, respectively.

Stockholders who intend to solicit proxies in support of director nominees other than the Company's nominees under Exchange Act Rule 14a-19 must comply with the requirements of our Bylaws, including providing the notice required under Exchange Act Rule 14a-19 by Wednesday, February 12, 2025. The Company will disregard any proxies solicited for a shareholder's director nominees if such shareholder fails to comply with such requirements.

## DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS (USING PROXY ACCESS) FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

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Eligible stockholders seeking to nominate and include in the Company's proxy statement for the 2025 Annual Meeting director nominees pursuant to the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws must provide timely written notice to the Company and comply with certain other requirements specified in our Bylaws. To be timely, such notice must be in writing and delivered or mailed and received by our Corporate Secretary at the address set forth below, not later than 120 days nor earlier than 150 days prior to the April 29, 2025 anniversary date of the date on which this Proxy Statement is first delivered to stockholders in connection with the Annual Meeting. As a result, director nominations pursuant to the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws must be received not earlier than Saturday, November 30, 2024 nor later than Monday, December 30, 2024. Notice of any director nomination pursuant to the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws must comply with the informational requirements set forth in Section 2.04 of our Bylaws. The eligibility requirements for stockholders seeking to utilize the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws are described above in the "Corporation Governance – Director Nominations" section of this Proxy Statement beginning on page 19.

## CORPORATE SECRETARY CONTACT INFORMATION

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Proposals by stockholders intended to be presented at the 2025 Annual Meeting and/or considered for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for the 2025 Annual Meeting, as well as stockholder nominations for director candidates, must be delivered or mailed to Abercrombie & Fitch Co., 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054, Attention: Corporate Secretary.



# Additional Information About Our Annual Meeting and Voting

## When will the Annual Meeting be held?

The Annual Meeting will be held virtually via a live webcast on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time.

## Why am I being provided with access to this Proxy Statement?

We are required by the SEC to give you, or provide you access to, this Proxy Statement because the Board is soliciting your proxy to vote your shares of Common Stock at the Annual Meeting. This Proxy Statement summarizes the information you need in order to vote at the Annual Meeting.

## What is a proxy?

A proxy is your designation of another person to vote shares of Common Stock you own. If you designate someone as your proxy in a written document, that document is also called a proxy, a form of proxy, or a proxy card. When you designate a proxy, you also may direct the proxy how to vote your shares. Scott Lipesky and Gregory J. Henchel have been designated on behalf of the Board as the proxies to cast the vote of the Company's stockholders at the Annual Meeting.

## What are the voting requirements for the proposals to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting and discussed in this Proxy Statement?

The Company is incorporated in the State of Delaware and our shares are listed on the NYSE. As a result, the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL") and NYSE Rules govern the voting standards applicable to actions taken by our stockholders.

Under our Bylaws, a majority of votes cast is required to approve Proposals 1, 2, and 3.

Please see the below chart for a summary of the required votes, as well as the impacts of abstentions and broker non-votes, for Proposals 1, 2, and 3 as set forth below:

Proposal	Voting Standard	Effect of Abstentions <sup>(1)</sup>	Effect of Broker Non-Votes <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>1</b> Elect the nine director nominees named in the Proxy Statement to serve until the 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders	Majority of votes cast	No effect	No effect
<b>2</b> Conduct an advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers for Fiscal 2023 ("Say on Pay Vote") <sup>(3)</sup>	Majority of votes cast	No effect	No effect
<b>3</b> Ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for Fiscal 2024	Majority of votes cast	No effect	Your broker, bank or nominee may vote in its discretion

- (1) You may "abstain" from voting for Proposals 1, 2, and 3. Abstentions will be excluded entirely from the vote and will have no effect.
- (2) Under NYSE Rules, Proposal 3 is considered a "routine" proposal on which brokers are permitted to vote in their discretion even if the beneficial owners do not provide voting instructions. However, Proposals 1 and 2 are not considered to be routine matters and brokers will not be entitled to vote thereon unless beneficial owners provide voting instructions.
- (3) As an advisory vote, the results of the vote for the Say on Pay Vote are not binding upon the Company, but the Board and our Compensation Committee will give careful consideration to the results of voting on this proposal.



## What are the Board’s recommendations for the proposals to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting and how will my shares be voted?

Subject to revocation, all forms of proxy that are properly completed and timely received will be voted in accordance with the instructions you give. If no instructions are given (except in the case of broker non-votes), the persons named as proxies will vote the shares of Common Stock in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board’s recommendations are set forth together with the description of each proposal in this Proxy Statement. The Board’s recommendations are summarized in the table below.

Proposal		Board Vote Recommendation	For More Information, See Page
<b>1</b>	Elect the nine director nominees named in the Proxy Statement to serve until the 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders	<b>FOR each director nominee</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2</b>	Conduct an advisory vote to approve the compensation of our named executive officers for Fiscal 2023 (“Say on Pay Vote”)	<b>FOR</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>3</b>	Ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for Fiscal 2024	<b>FOR</b>	<b>79</b>

## Who can vote at the Annual Meeting?

Only holders of shares of the Company’s Common Stock of record at the close of business on April 15, 2024 or such stockholders’ proxies are entitled to receive notice of, and vote at, the Annual Meeting. At the close of business on April 15, 2024, there were 51,098,691 shares of Common Stock outstanding and entitled to vote. There are no other voting securities of the Company outstanding. Stockholders as of the Record Date are entitled to one vote per share. Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote for each director nominee and one vote with respect to each of the other matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. To be able to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting, the records of the Company must show that you held your shares at the close of business on April 15, 2024.

## How do I attend the Annual Meeting?

You can attend the Annual Meeting online by visiting [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024). You will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting in person. The live webcast of the Annual Meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on Wednesday, June 12, 2024. All stockholders may attend and listen to the live webcast of the Annual Meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, you may electronically vote your shares and submit questions at the Annual Meeting by using the 16-digit control number that is printed in the box on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or proxy card (if you received a printed copy of the proxy materials). We recommend that you log in at least 15 minutes before the Annual Meeting to ensure ample time to complete the check-in procedures. A replay of the Annual Meeting audio webcast will be available on our website for approximately one year following the Annual Meeting.

You do not need to attend the Annual Meeting to vote. Even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please submit your vote in advance as instructed in this Proxy Statement.

## What is a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials?

In accordance with rules adopted by the SEC, instead of mailing a printed copy of our proxy materials to each stockholder of record, we are permitted to furnish our proxy materials, including the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, this Proxy Statement, and our Annual Report, by providing access to such documents over the Internet. Generally, stockholders will not receive printed copies of the proxy materials unless they request them.

We began mailing a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials on April 29, 2024, to holders of record of shares of our Common Stock at the close of business on April 15, 2024. At the same time, we provided those stockholders with access to our online proxy materials and filed our proxy materials with the SEC. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials contains information on how to access the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the Proxy Statement, the form of proxy, and our Annual Report, over the Internet, as well as instructions on how to request a paper copy of the proxy materials. Registered stockholders who

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING

prefer to receive a paper or e-mail copy of our proxy materials must follow the instructions provided in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials for requesting such materials.

The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials only identifies the items to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. You cannot vote by marking the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and returning it. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials provides instructions on how to cast your vote. If you wish to request proxy materials by e-mail, please send a blank e-mail to [sendmaterial@proxyvote.com](mailto:sendmaterial@proxyvote.com) including in the subject line the information that is printed in the box on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. Requests, instructions, and other inquiries sent to this e-mail address will NOT be forwarded to your investment advisor. Please make the request as instructed above on or before May 29, 2024 to facilitate timely delivery of the proxy materials.

A notice that directs beneficial owners of our shares to the website where they can access our proxy materials is to be forwarded to each beneficial stockholder by the brokerage firm, bank or other holder of record that is considered the registered owner with respect to the shares of the beneficial stockholder. Such brokerage firm, bank or other holder of record is to also provide each beneficial owner of our shares with instructions on how the beneficial stockholder may request a paper or e-mail copy of our proxy materials.

To enroll in the electronic delivery service for future stockholder meetings, use your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (or proxy card, if you received printed copies of the proxy materials) to register online at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access stockholder communications electronically in future years.

### What is the difference between holding shares as a holder of record and as a beneficial owner?

If, at the close of business on April 15, 2024, your shares were registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Equinti Trust Company, LLC ("EQ"), you are considered a holder of record with respect to those shares, and the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials was sent directly to you. As a holder of record, you may vote your shares electronically at the Annual Meeting or by proxy.

If, at the close of business on April 15, 2024, your shares were held in an account at a brokerage firm, bank or other similar organization, then you are the beneficial owner of shares held in "street name" and a notice directing you to the website where you can access our proxy materials is being forwarded to you by that organization. The organization holding your account is considered the stockholder of record for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct that organization how to vote the shares in your account. If that organization is not given specific direction, shares held in the name of that organization may not be voted and will not be considered as present and entitled to vote on any matter to be considered at the Annual Meeting other than the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Please direct your broker how to vote your shares following the instructions provided by your broker.

### How do I vote my shares?

If you are a registered stockholder (i.e., you hold your shares of record), you may vote your shares using one of the following methods (please also see the information provided above and below concerning the difference in how to vote if you hold shares beneficially through a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee instead of as the registered holder — beneficial holders should follow the voting instructions provided by their respective nominees):

- **Over the Internet.** Go to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com). Have available the information that is printed in the box on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and visit [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com). You can use the Internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to submit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on June 11, 2024. Have your proxy card (if you requested a printed copy of the proxy materials) or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials in hand when you access the website and follow the instructions to obtain your records and create an electronic voting instruction form.
- **By telephone.** Call 1-800-690-6903. You can use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on June 11, 2024. Have your proxy card (if you requested a printed copy of the proxy materials) or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials in hand when you call and follow the instructions.
- **By mail.** If you received a printed copy of the proxy materials, you may submit your vote by completing, signing, dating, and mailing your proxy card and returning it in the postage-paid envelope to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way,

Edgewood, New York 11717. Sign your name exactly as it appears on the proxy card. Proxy cards submitted by mail must be received no later than June 11, 2024 to be voted at the Annual Meeting.

- **During the Annual Meeting.** Visit [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ANF2024). Registered stockholders may attend the Annual Meeting via the Internet and vote electronically during the Annual Meeting. Have available the information that is printed in the box on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or your proxy card (if you requested a printed copy of the proxy materials) in hand when you access the website and follow the instructions to vote during the Annual Meeting.

If, prior to the Annual Meeting, you vote over the Internet or by telephone, your electronic vote authorizes the named proxies in the same manner as if you signed, dated, and returned a proxy card. If, prior to the Annual Meeting, you vote over the Internet or by telephone, do not return a proxy card unless you intend to revoke your previously submitted proxy.

### If I am a stockholder holding shares in “street name,” how do I vote?

If you hold your shares in “street name” with a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee, the holder of record will send you instructions as to how to instruct the holder of record to vote your shares. Your broker is permitted to vote your shares with respect to the “routine” proposal to ratify the appointment of the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm without your instruction as to how to vote but will not be permitted to vote your shares with respect to any of the other proposals at the Annual Meeting without your instructions as to how to vote.

If you hold your shares in “street name,” you should have received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or voting instructions from the brokerage firm, bank or other nominee holding your shares. You should follow the instructions in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or voting instructions provided by your broker or other nominee in order to instruct your broker or other nominee on how to vote your shares. The availability of telephone and Internet voting will depend on the voting process of your broker or other nominee.

### What is a “broker non-vote”?

A “broker non-vote” occurs when a stockholder holds our shares of Common Stock in “street name” through a broker or similar organization, and the stockholder does not provide the broker or other organization with instructions within the required timeframe before the Annual Meeting as to how to vote the shares on “non-routine” matters. The only proposal this year which is considered “routine” is the ratification of the appointment of the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm. Under NYSE Rules, your broker cannot vote your shares on non-routine matters unless your broker receives instructions from you as to how to vote.

### How can I revoke my proxy or change my vote?

If you are a registered stockholder, you can revoke your proxy at any time before it is actually exercised to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting by:

- Signing and returning a new proxy card with a later date — only your latest-dated proxy card received by June 11, 2024, will be counted;
- Submitting a later-dated vote by telephone or over the Internet — only your latest telephone or Internet proxy received by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on June 11, 2024, will be counted;
- Participating in the Annual Meeting live via the Internet and voting again; or
- Delivering a written revocation to our Corporate Secretary at 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054, to be received no later than June 11, 2024.

If you hold your shares in “street name,” you must contact the broker or other nominee holding your shares and follow the instructions of the broker or other nominee for revoking or changing your vote.

### Who is paying for the cost of this proxy solicitation?

This solicitation of proxies is made by and on behalf of the Board. In addition to mailing the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (or, if applicable, paper copies of this Proxy Statement, the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the proxy card, and our Annual Report) to registered stockholders as of the close of business on April 15, 2024, the brokers, banks and other nominees

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING**

holding our shares for beneficial owners must notify the beneficial owners for whom they hold shares as to where they can access our proxy materials, in order that such shares may be voted. Solicitation may also be made by our directors, officers and select other Company associates telephonically, electronically or by other means of communications. Directors, officers and associates who help us in the solicitation will not be specially compensated for those services, but they may be reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the solicitation. In addition, the Company has retained Innisfree to aid in the solicitation of proxies for a fee of \$20,000, plus out-of-pocket expenses.

The Company will reimburse Innisfree, as well as brokerage firms, banks and other custodians, fiduciaries and nominees, who are record holders of shares of our Common Stock not beneficially owned by them for their reasonable costs in sending proxy materials to stockholders who beneficially own our shares. The Company will bear the costs incurred in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board, other than the Internet access or telephone usage fees which may be charged to stockholders.

### **What is householding?**

In order to reduce expenses, we are taking advantage of certain SEC rules, commonly known as “householding,” that permit us to send: (i) a single annual report (including our Annual Report) and/or a single proxy statement or (ii) a single Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials to multiple registered stockholders who share an address, unless we have received contrary instructions from one or more of the stockholders. A registered stockholder at a shared address may call Broadridge, toll free, at 1-866-540-7095, or write to Broadridge, Householding Department, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, New York 11717, to: (i) request additional copies of this Proxy Statement, and our Annual Report, or the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials; (ii) notify the Company that such registered stockholder wishes to receive a separate annual report, proxy statement, or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, in the future; or (iii) notify the Company that such registered stockholders sharing an address wish to receive a single annual report proxy statement, or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, if such stockholders are currently receiving multiple copies. If you hold shares of Common Stock in “street name,” you may revoke your consent to householding by notifying your broker.

### **Are there any cumulative voting rights in the election of directors?**

No.

### **What constitutes a quorum to hold and transact business at the Annual Meeting?**

A quorum for the Annual Meeting is one-third of the outstanding shares of Common Stock. If you are a registered stockholder and submit a proxy, your shares of Common Stock will be counted to determine whether we have a quorum even if you abstain or fail to provide voting instructions on any of the proposals described in this Proxy Statement and listed on the form of proxy. If your shares of Common Stock are held in the name of your broker or other nominee and you do not instruct your broker or other nominee how to vote your shares of Common Stock, these shares will still be counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business if your broker or other nominee submits a proxy.

### **How many votes do I have?**

Stockholders as of the Record Date are entitled to one vote per share. Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote for each director nominee and one vote with respect to each of the other proposals to be voted on.

### **How are votes tabulated?**

The results of stockholder voting will be tabulated by Broadridge, our virtual meeting administrator, and American Election Service LLC will act as the independent inspector of election appointed for the Annual Meeting.

### **How do I nominate a director using the “Proxy Access” provisions under the Company’s Bylaws?**

The Company’s “Proxy Access” for director nominations bylaw permits a stockholder, or a group of up to 20 stockholders, that has owned continuously for at least three years shares of the Company’s Common Stock representing an aggregate of at least 3% of our outstanding shares, to nominate and include in the Company’s proxy materials director nominees constituting up to 25% of the Board, provided that the stockholder(s) and nominee(s) satisfy the requirements in Section 2.04 of the Company’s Bylaws.

The nominating stockholder(s) must meet the share ownership requirements described above on each of (i): the date of the giving of the required notice of proposed nomination; (ii) the record date for determining the stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the relevant meeting of stockholders, and (iii) the time of the relevant meeting of stockholders.

Notice of any director nomination must comply with the informational requirements set forth in Section 2.04 of our Bylaws, which are detailed and include, among other things, the disclosure of all derivative and synthetic instruments and short interests held by the nominating stockholder and such stockholder's affiliates or associates as well as by any proposed nominees.

The notice of a nominating stockholder using the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws in respect of an annual meeting of stockholders must be in writing and delivered or mailed and received by the Corporate Secretary of the Company, at the Company's principal executive offices at 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, Ohio 43054, not later than 120 days nor earlier than 150 days prior to the first anniversary of the date that the Company distributed its proxy statement to stockholders for purposes of the previous year's annual meeting of stockholders. For purposes of the Company's 2025 Annual Meeting, this means that notice of a director nomination using the "Proxy Access" provision of our Bylaws may be received not earlier than Saturday, November 30, 2024 nor later than Monday, December 30, 2024.

A stockholder providing notice of any nomination proposed to be made at an annual meeting of stockholders must update and supplement such notice, if necessary, so that the information provided is true and correct as of the record date for determining the stockholders entitled to receive notice of and vote at the relevant annual meeting of stockholders, with such update and supplement to be received by the Company's Corporate Secretary, at the Company's principal executive offices, not later than five business days after such record date. In addition, the Company may require the stockholder to provide such further information as the Company may request and may require any nominee to submit to interviews with the Board or any of its committees.

### **What should I do if I have other questions regarding voting or require any assistance with voting my shares?**

If you have any questions or require any assistance with voting your shares, please contact Innisfree, our proxy solicitor, using the contact information listed below:

**Innisfree M&A Incorporated**  
**501 Madison Avenue, 20th Floor**  
**New York, NY 10022**

**Stockholders May Call Toll-Free: (888) 750-5834 (from the United States and Canada)**

**Stockholders May Call: (412) 232-3651 (from other locations)**

**Banks and Brokers May Call Collect: (212) 750-5833**

### **What should I do if I require technical support during the Annual Meeting?**

If you encounter any difficulties accessing the virtual Annual Meeting during the check-in or meeting time, please call the technical support number that will be provided on the Annual Meeting website log-in page.

## **Other Matters**

As of the date of this Proxy Statement, the Board knows of no matter that will be presented for action by the stockholders at the Annual Meeting other than those discussed in this Proxy Statement. If any other matter requiring a vote of the stockholders properly comes before the Annual Meeting, the individuals acting under the proxies solicited by the Board will vote and act according to their best judgments in light of the conditions then prevailing, to the extent permitted under applicable law.

# Appendix A — Non-GAAP Measures

## Performance Metrics

We use non-GAAP measures for certain of our performance metrics, including: (i) Adjusted EBIT, a performance metric used in our annual cash incentive performance plan, (ii) Net Sales on a constant currency basis (“Constant Currency Net Sales”), a performance metric used in our annual cash incentive performance plan, and (iii) Avg. Adjusted EBIT Margin, a performance metric used in connection with our performance share awards. The definitions of, and explanations of items excluded from the calculations of, these performance measures are included here.

## Annual Cash Incentive Program

### Adjusted EBIT

Adjusted EBIT, a non-GAAP metric, is a performance metric used in the Company’s annual cash incentive program. “Adjusted EBIT” reflects GAAP net income (loss), excluding interest and taxes for each measurement season, and may include certain non-GAAP adjustments such as restructurings, discontinued operations and all items of gain, loss or expense determined to be unusual in nature and/or infrequent in occurrence or related to the disposal of a segment of a business, and/or as otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee in its sole discretion.

In Fiscal 2023:

- 30% of the Adjusted EBIT metric was determined based on the financial results for the Spring season, which included first and second fiscal quarter combined GAAP net income (loss) excluding interest and taxes less non-GAAP adjustments.
- 70% of the Adjusted EBIT metric was determined based on the financial results for the Fall season, which included third and fourth fiscal quarter combined GAAP net income (loss) excluding interest and taxes less non-GAAP adjustments.
- The Adjusted EBIT metric excluded the effect of bonuses payable under the annual cash incentive program and foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations relative to the rates that were used in establishing the target performance metrics, as well as asset impairment charges of \$4.4 million.

### Constant Currency Net Sales

Constant Currency Net Sales, a non-GAAP metric, is a performance metric used in the Company’s annual cash incentive program.

In Fiscal 2023:

- 30% of the Constant Currency Net Sales metric was determined based on the financial results for the Spring season.
- 70% of the Constant Currency Net Sales metric was determined based on the financial results for the Fall season.
- The Constant Currency Net Sales metric excluded the effect of foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations relative to the rates that were used in establishing the target performance metrics.

## Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards

### Average Adjusted EBIT Margin

Three-Year Average Non-GAAP EBIT Margin Percent (referred to in this Proxy Statement as “Average Adjusted EBIT Margin”) is a performance metric used in the Company’s performance share awards for the Fiscal 2021 to Fiscal 2023 cycle (“2021-2023 PSAs”), the Fiscal 2022 to Fiscal 2024 cycle (“2022-2024 PSAs”), the Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025 cycle (“2023-2025 PSAs”), and the Fiscal 2024 to Fiscal 2026 cycle (“2024-2026 PSAs”).

Average Adjusted EBIT Margin is equal to the straight average of the Adjusted EBIT Margin Percent (as defined below, and adjusted as provided for below) results for each fiscal year of the three-year performance period. Adjusted EBIT Margin Percent is equal to the EBIT for each fiscal year of the three-year performance period (with EBIT defined as net income less interest and income taxes as reported in the Company’s consolidated financial statements for each such year in accordance with GAAP), with such adjustments or exclusions as provided herein, divided by the corresponding fiscal year’s net sales (as reported in the Company’s consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP), and expressed as a percentage.

Certain exclusions and adjustments for the measurement of EBIT Margin Percent were approved by the Compensation Committee at the beginning of each performance period.

For the 2021-2023 PSAs, the measurement of EBIT Margin Percent excluded or adjusted for the impact of the following: items of gain, loss or expense for the performance period related to exit activities (including flagship closures); impairment of long-lived assets, finite- or indefinite-lived intangible assets, or goodwill; and impacts from charges or gains from the early extinguishment of funded debt obligations and/or lease obligations.

For the 2022-2024 PSAs, the 2023-2025 PSAs, and the 2024-2026 PSAs the measure of EBIT Margin Percent will exclude or adjust for the impact of the following: impact of changes in accounting principles (i.e., cumulative effect of GAAP changes); impact from changes in accounting policies that were not contemplated in the initial targets; impacts from changes in tax structures or statutory rates that result in a cumulative EBIT impact of greater than \$5.0 million (per fiscal year) for the performance period; all items of gain, loss or expense for the performance period related to an exit activity (including flagship closures); impairment of long-lived assets, finite- or indefinite-lived intangible assets, or goodwill; impacts from total legal settlements in excess of a cumulative amount of \$5.0 million (per fiscal year) during the performance period; impacts from charges or gains from the early extinguishment of funded debt obligations and/or lease obligations; and impacts of acquisition-related costs for acquisitions of business(es) as defined under GAAP.

