# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

# **SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  $\boxtimes$ Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  $\square$ 

Check the appropriate box:

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

# ARABIAN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

(Name of Registrant as specified in its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- $\boxtimes$  No fee required.
- $\Box$  Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
  - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
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- $\Box$  Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:



April 24, 2013

To Our Stockholders:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I cordially invite you to attend the 2013 Annual Stockholders' Meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., Central Daylight Time. The meeting will be held at 1650 Hwy 6 South, Suite 190, Sugar Land, Texas 77478 in the Company's office. If you plan to attend the meeting, please RSVP to 281-980-5522.

Matters to be acted upon at the meeting are described in the attached Notice of 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement. We have also included a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, for your review.

Your vote on the business to be considered at the meeting is important regardless of the number of shares you own. Whether or not you plan to attend, please vote your proxy promptly in accordance with the instructions on the enclosed proxy card. If you do attend the meeting, you may, of course, withdraw your proxy should you wish to vote in person.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Nicholas Carter</u> Nicholas Carter Chairman of the Board President Chief Executive Officer

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# ARABIAN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

("Arabian American")

1650 Hwy 6 South, Suite 190 Sugar Land, TX 77478 (409) 385-8300

# NOTICE OF 2013 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Time and Date:	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon CDT, June 5, 2013
Place:	South Hampton Resources, Inc.
	1650 Hwy 6 South, Suite 190
	Sugar Land, TX 77478
Items of Business:	(1) Election/re-election of members to the Board of Directors
	(2) Ratification of the selection of BKM Sowan Horan, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2013
	(3) Advisory vote on executive compensation
	(4) Consider and act upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.
Adjournments and Postponements:	Any action on the items of business described above may be considered at the annual meeting at the time and on the date specified above or at any time and date to which the annual meeting may be properly adjourned or postponed.
Record Date:	You are entitled to vote only if you were an Arabian American Development Company stockholder of record as of the close of business on April 17, 2013. <i>Your vote is important. We encourage you to vote by proxy</i> ,
	even if you plan to attend the meeting. You may vote your proxy by telephone, Internet or mail. A toll-free telephone number and website address are included on your proxy card.
Meeting Admission:	You are entitled to attend the annual meeting only if you were an Arabian American stockholder of record as of the close of business on April 17, 2013, or hold a valid proxy for the annual meeting. You should be prepared to present photo identification for admittance. If you are not a stockholder of record but hold shares through a broker, trustee or nominee, you should provide proof of beneficial ownership as of the record date, such as your most recent account statement prior to April 17, 2013, a copy of the voting instruction card provided by your broker, trustee or nominee, or similar evidence of ownership. If you do not provide photo identification and comply with the other procedures outlined above, you will not be admitted to the annual meeting.

This notice of annual meeting and proxy statement and form of proxy are being distributed on or about April 24, 2013.

<u>/s/ Connie Cook</u> Connie Cook, Secretary

# PROXY STATEMENT

# **GENERAL EXPLANATION OF MATERIALS INCLUDED**

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Arabian American Development Company, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), for the Company's Annual Meeting of Stockholders which is scheduled to take place on June 5, 2013. This proxy statement provides a description of the business matters to be covered at the annual meeting. As a stockholder, you are entitled and encouraged to attend the annual meeting and to vote on the matters described in this proxy statement. Detailed information on voting is provided below.

In addition to notifying you of the upcoming annual meeting of stockholders, we request your vote on the matters to be covered at the annual meeting. In making this solicitation, the Company will pay the entire cost of preparing, assembling, printing, mailing and distributing these proxy materials and soliciting votes. Proxies may be solicited in person by our employees, or by mail, courier, telephone, email, or facsimile. We estimate that approximately \$21,000 will be spent in connection with the solicitation of stockholders. This amount does not include salaries or wages of regular employees or officers who may assist with this solicitation.

# Specific Items of Business

The following three proposals will be presented at the meeting for your vote. Space is provided in the accompanying proxy card to vote for, against, or abstain from voting on each of the proposals. If you vote using the telephone or Internet, you will be instructed how to vote on these issues.

- (1) The election/re-election of directors,
- (2) The ratification of selection of independent registered public accounting firm, and
- (3) The advisory vote on executive compensation.

# **QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Questions regarding the annual meeting, this proxy statement, voting or otherwise should be directed to the individual listed below at the provided contact information. The following proxy materials should be included with this mailing: (1) Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders; (2) proxy statement; (3) proxy card (or voting instruction card for beneficial owners) with pre-addressed envelope; and (4) The Company's 2012 Report on Form 10-K. If any portion of the proxy materials appears to be missing, or if you would like an additional copy of the proxy materials, please contact the individual below at the listed contact information for a free copy.

Connie Cook Arabian American Development Company P. O. Box 1636 Silsbee, TX 77656

Our proxy statement and 2012 Report on Form 10-K may also be accessed on our website at www.arabianamericandev.com.

# Request for Multiple Copies of Proxy Materials

Please note that if multiple stockholders reside at the same address, only one set of proxy materials has been provided, unless the Company received contrary instructions from one or more of the stockholders. To request a separate copy of the proxy materials, or to request to receive separate copies of the proxy materials in the future, contact Connie Cook at the above address, and a free copy will be promptly delivered to you.

# Request for Single Copy of Proxy Materials

If you share an address with one or more shareholders and are currently receiving multiple sets of proxy materials, you may request delivery of a single set of proxy materials by contacting Connie Cook at the above address.

# **VOTING**

Company *stockholders of record* are entitled to vote on the items of business described in this proxy statement. *Stockholders of record* may (1) attend the annual meeting and vote their shares in person; (2) vote by submitting a proxy; or (3) vote electronically via the Internet or by telephone. *Beneficial owners* may (1) attend the annual meeting and vote their share in person only if they obtain a legal proxy from their broker, trustee or nominee; (2) vote by submitting voting instructions; or (3) vote electronically via the internet or by telephone.

## Voting Securities, Record Date

Shareholders of record at the close of business on April 17, 2013, (the "record date") are entitled to vote at the meeting and any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. On the record date, there were 24,105,313 shares of common stock (\$0.10 par value) issued and outstanding.

# Stockholder of Record

If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are the *stockholder of record* of those shares, and these proxy materials are being sent directly to you by the Company. As a *stockholder of record*, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to the Company or a third party, or vote in person at the meeting. The Company has enclosed a proxy card for you to use.

# **Beneficial Owner**

If your shares are held in a brokerage account or by another nominee, you are considered the *beneficial owner* of shares held in street name, and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you together with a voting instruction card on behalf of your broker, trustee or nominee. Effective January 1, 2010, your broker is no longer permitted to vote on your behalf on the election of directors and other matters at the shareholder meeting (except for the ratification of the selection of BKM Sowan Horan, LLP as auditors for 2013), unless you

provide specific instructions by completing and returning the Voting Instruction Form or following the instructions provided to you to vote your shares via telephone or the Internet. For your vote to be counted, you now need to communicate your voting decisions to your broker, bank or other financial institution before the date of the shareholder meeting.

## Voting in Person at the Annual Meeting

*Stockholders of record* are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders on June 5, 2013, at South Hampton Resources, Sugar Land, TX and vote their shares in person. *Beneficial owners* may vote in person at the annual meeting only if they obtain a legal proxy from their broker, trustee or nominee that holds your shares giving you the right to vote the shares.

# Voting by Submitting a Proxy or Voting Instructions

Regardless of whether you plan to attend the annual meeting, *stockholders of record* and *beneficial owners* have the option of voting their shares by submitting a proxy or voting instructions.

Stockholders of record may vote by proxy. To vote by proxy, stockholders of record must complete, sign and date their proxy cards and mail them in the accompanying pre-addressed envelopes. Your proxy card and pre-addressed envelope is included with this proxy statement.

Beneficial owners may vote by submitting voting instructions to their broker, trustee or nominee. Your voting instruction card should be provided by your broker, trustee or nominee. Please refer to your voting instruction card for voting procedure and additional information.

# Proxies and Voting Instructions Are Revocable

A *stockholder of record* may change his or her vote by either: (1) submitting a new proxy bearing a later date (which automatically revokes the earlier proxy); (2) providing written notice of revocation to the Corporate Secretary at the address listed above in the "Questions and Requests for Additional Information" section; or (3) attending the annual meeting and voting in person. Please note that your attendance at the annual meeting will not revoke a previously submitted proxy unless you specifically make such a request. A *beneficial owner* may change his or her vote by either: (1) submitting new voting instructions to the appropriate broker, trustee or nominee; or (2) if you have obtained a legal proxy from your broker, trustee or nominee giving you the legal right to vote your shares, by attending the annual meeting and voting in person.

# Voting Electronically

Stockholders of record and beneficial owners may vote electronically by following the instructions provided on their proxy cards prior to 1:00 a.m. CDT on June 5, 2013.

#### Voting Procedures

The Company's by-laws provide that each stockholder shall have one vote for each share of stock having voting power, registered in his name on the books of the Company.



# **Election of Directors**

In the election of directors, you may vote "FOR," "AGAINST" or "ABSTAIN" with respect to each of the nominees. If you elect to "ABSTAIN" in the election of directors, the abstention will not impact the election of directors. Only "FOR" and "AGAINST" votes are counted in the election of directors. As provided in the Company's corporate by-laws, directors are elected upon a plurality vote of the shareholders. Therefore, a nominee will only be elected if the votes cast "FOR" the nominee's election exceed the number of votes cast "AGAINST" the nominee's election. Cumulative voting is not permitted in the election of directors.

# Voting on Other Business Items

When voting on other business matters, you may vote "FOR," "AGAINST" or "ABSTAIN." If you elect to "ABSTAIN," the abstention has the same effect as a vote "AGAINST." Business proposals, other than the election of the directors, require the affirmative vote of a majority of those shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on those proposals at the annual meeting.

#### How Shares will be Voted by Proxy or Voting Instructions

If you provide specific instructions with regard to certain proposals, your shares will be voted as you instruct on such proposals. If you sign your proxy card or voting instruction card without giving specific instructions, your shares will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of the Board ("FOR" the Company's nominees to the Board, "FOR" ratification of BKM Sowan Horan, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2013, and "FOR" the approval, by non-binding vote, of the compensation for the Company's named executives).

#### **Broker Non-Votes**

If you hold shares beneficially in street name and do not provide your broker with voting instructions, your shares may constitute "broker nonvotes." Generally, broker non-votes occur on a matter when a broker is not permitted to vote on that matter without instructions from the beneficial owner and instructions are not given. In tabulating the voting result for any particular proposal, shares that constitute broker non-votes are not considered entitled to vote on that proposal. Thus, broker non-votes will not affect the outcome of any matter being voted on at the meeting, assuming that a quorum is obtained. Abstentions have the same effect as votes against the matter except in the election of directors, as described above.

# Additional Business Proposals Presented at Meeting

Other than the re-election of a director, the ratification of the selection of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, and the approval of the compensation of the Company's named executives, the Board is not aware of any other business to be acted upon at the annual meeting. However, if you grant a proxy, the persons named as proxy holders will have the discretion to vote your shares on any additional matters properly presented for a vote at the meeting. If for any reason any nominee is not available as a candidate for director, the

persons named as proxy holders will vote your proxy for such other candidate or candidates as may be nominated by the Board.

# Quorum Requirement

The quorum requirement for holding the annual meeting and transacting business is that holders of a majority of the Company stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote at the meeting, must be present in person or represented by proxy. Both abstentions and broker non-votes are counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum.

# STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

# Stockholder Proposals Intended to be Included in Proxy Statement

You may submit proposals for consideration at future stockholder meetings. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting next year, the Corporate Secretary must receive the written proposal at the address above no later than February 8, 2014. Such proposals also must comply with Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") regulations under Rule 14a-8 regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.

# Stockholder Proposals Not Intended to be Included in Proxy Statement

For a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in the Company's proxy statement under SEC Rule 14a-8, the stockholder must submit the proposal so that it is received by the Corporate Secretary not earlier than the close of business 120 days prior to the meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the following two dates:

- (1) 45 days prior to the meeting; and
- (2) 10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

# Stockholder Proposals for Director Candidates

You may propose director candidates for consideration by the Board's Nominating Committee. Such recommendations shall include the nominee's name and qualifications for Board membership and shall be received by the Corporation not earlier than the close of business 120 calendar days prior to the meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the following two dates:

- (1) 45 days prior to the meeting; and
- (2) 10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

Proposals for director candidates should be directed to the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.



# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Company is committed to maintaining the highest standards of business conduct and corporate governance, which we believe are essential to running our business efficiently, serving our stockholders well and maintaining the Company's integrity in the marketplace. The Company has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines and Standards of Business Conduct that apply to the Company's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, controller, and all other employees and directors. The Company's Standards of Business Conduct, in conjunction with the Certificate of Incorporation, By-laws and Board committee charters, form the framework for governance of the Company.

The Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, Standards of Business Conduct, Certificate of Incorporation, By-laws and Board committee charters are available on the Company's website at www.arabianamericandev.com. Stockholders may also request free printed copies of these from the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.

# **Board Leadership Structure**

The Board believes the interests of all shareholders are best served at the present time through a leadership model with a combined Chairman/CEO position, due to the Company's relatively small market cap, and the fact that the Chairman position merely administers Board meetings and has no special authority. The current CEO possesses an in-depth knowledge of the Company and the array of challenges to be faced. This knowledge was gained through more than 35 years of successful experience in progressively more senior positions. The Board believes that these experiences and other insights put the CEO in the best position to provide broad leadership for the Board as it considers strategy and as it exercises its fiduciary responsibilities to shareholders. Further, the Board has demonstrated its commitment and ability to provide independent oversight of management. Each independent director has access to the CEO and other Company executives on request; may call meetings of the independent directors; and, may request agenda topics to be added or dealt with in more detail at meetings of the full Board or an appropriate Board committee.

# **Board Policy Regarding Voting for Directors**

The Company has implemented a plurality vote standard in the election of directors. In addition, the Company has adopted a policy whereby any incumbent director nominee who receives a greater number of votes "AGAINST" his or her election than votes "FOR" such election will tender his or her resignation for consideration by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will recommend to the Board the action to be taken with respect to such offer of resignation.

# **Board Independence**

The Company has implemented a policy that a majority of the Board will consist of independent directors. The Board has determined that the non-employee director nominee, Gary K. Adams, standing for election and each of the members of each Board committee are independent within the meaning of the Company's director independence standards. The Company standards reflect NYSE corporate governance listing standards. In addition, each member of the Audit



Committee met the heightened independence standards required for audit committee members under the NYSE listing standards.

# Meetings of the Board and Its Committees

Because of the geographical distance between members of the Board, meetings are typically held via telephone conference call. In the instance where all members cannot be contacted at once, members may be contacted individually, and upon agreement, Unanimous Consent Resolutions are signed. During 2012 the Board held fourteen meetings.

# The Company's Director Independence Standards

An independent director is a person other than an executive officer or employee of the Company or any other individual having a relationship which, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director. A director will not be considered independent in the following circumstances:

- (1) The director is, or has been in the past three years, an employee of the Company or an employee of any parent or subsidiary of the Company;
- (2) The director has accepted, or has a family member who has accepted during any twelve-month period within the last three years, more than \$120,000 in compensation from the Company, other than compensation for Board or Board Committee service, compensation received by the director's immediate family member for service as a non-executive employee of the Company, and benefits under a tax-qualified retirement plan, or non-discretionary compensation.
- (3) The director is a family member of an individual who is, or at any time during the past three years was, employed by the Company as an executive officer;
- (4) The director is, or has a family member who is, a partner in, or a controlling shareholder or an executive officer of, any organization to which the Company made, or from which the Company received, payments for property or services in the current or any of the past three fiscal years that exceed 5% of the recipient's consolidated gross revenues for that year, or \$200,000, whichever is more, other than (i) payments arising solely from investments in the company's securities; or (ii) payments under non-discretionary charitable contribution matching programs;
- (5) The director is, or has an immediate family member who is, employed as an executive officer of another entity where at any time during the past three years any of the executive officers of the Company serve on the compensation committee of such other entity; or
- (6) The director is, or has a family member who is, a current partner of the Company's outside auditor, or was a partner or employee of the Company's outside auditor who worked on the Company's audit at any time during any of the past three years.



For these purposes, a "family member" means a person's spouse, parents, children and siblings, whether by blood, marriage or adoption, or anyone residing in such person's home.

## Board Structure and Committee Composition

As of the date of this proxy statement, our Board has six directors and the following three standing committees: (1) Audit, (2) Compensation, and (3) Nominating/Governance. Committee membership and meetings during the last fiscal year and the function of each of the standing committees are described below. Each of the standing committees operates under a written charter adopted by the Board. Committee charters are available on the Company's website at www.arabianamericandev.com. Free printed copies are also available to any stockholder who makes a request to the address on page 2. Each current director attended at least 75% of all Board and applicable standing committee meetings during 2012. Directors are also encouraged to attend annual meetings of Company stockholders.

Name of Director	Audit	Compensation	Nominating/Governance
Non-Employee Directors:			
Ghazi Sultan <sup>1</sup>			
Allen P. McKee <sup>2</sup>	Member	Chair	Member
John R. Townsend <sup>3</sup>	Chair	Member	Member
Joseph P. Palm <sup>4</sup>	Member	Member	Chair
Gary K. Adams <sup>5</sup>	Member	Member	Member
Employee Directors:			
Nicholas N. Carter			
Number of Meetings in Fiscal 2012	4	6	1

# Notes to Board Committee Table

- 1 Mr. Sultan was elected to the Board in September 1993.
- 2 Mr. McKee was elected to the Board on April 28, 2009. He joined the Nominating/Governance, Audit and Compensation Committees on April 28, 2009. He became the Chair of the Compensation Committee in February 2010.
- 3 Mr. Townsend was appointed to the Board in February 2011 and subsequently elected on June 8, 2011. He joined the Audit and Compensation Committees upon his appointment. He became Chair of the Audit Committee on April 7, 2011. He was appointed to the Nominating/Governance Committee on June 9, 2011.
- 4 Mr. Palm was appointed to the Board in May 2011 and subsequently elected on June 6, 2012. He joined the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating/Governance Committees on June 9, 2011. He became Chair of the Nominating/Governance Committee on June 9, 2011.
- 5 Mr. Adams was appointed to the Board in November 2012. He joined the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating/Governance Committees simultaneously on that date.

# Audit Committee

The Company has a separately-designated standing Audit Committee established in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities for generally overseeing the Company's financial reporting processes and the audit of the Company's financial statements, including the integrity of the Company's financial statements, the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the qualifications and independence of the independent

registered public accounting firm, the performance of the Company's internal audit function and the independent registered public accounting firm, risk assessment and risk management, and finance and investment functions. Among other things, the Audit Committee prepares the Audit Committee report for inclusion in the annual proxy statement; annually reviews its charter and performance; appoints, evaluates and determines the compensation of the independent registered public accounting firm; reviews and approves the scope of the annual audit, the audit fee and the financial statements; reviews and approves all permissible non-audit services to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm; reviews the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, internal controls, information security policies, internal audit function, and corporate policies with respect to financial information and earnings guidance; reviews regulatory and accounting initiatives and off-balance sheet structures, oversees the Company's compliance programs with respect to legal and regulatory requirements; oversees investigations into complaints concerning financial matters; reviews other risks that may have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements; reviews and oversees treasury matters, the Company's loans and debt, loan guarantees and outsourcings; reviews the Company's capitalization and operations; and coordinates with the Compensation Committee regarding the cost, funding and financial impact of the Company's equity compensation plans and benefit programs. The Audit Committee works closely with management as well as the independent registered public accounting firm. The members of the Audit Committee are not engaged in the accounting or auditing profession and, consequently, are not experts in matters involving auditing or accounting. In performance of their oversight function, the Audit Committee has the authority to obtain advice, assistance from, and receive appropriate funding from the Company for, outside legal, accounting or other advisors as the Audit Committee deems necessary to carry out its duties.

The Board determined that each of John R. Townsend, Chair of the Audit Committee, and Audit Committee members Allen P. McKee, Joseph P. Palm, and Gary K. Adams are independent pursuant to NYSE listing standards governing audit committee members. The Board also determined that Allen P. McKee is an audit committee financial expert as defined by SEC rules and NYSE listing standards.

The charter of the Audit Committee is available on the Company's website at www.arabianamericandev.com. A free printed copy is also available to any stockholder who requests it from the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.

# **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee discharges the Board's responsibilities relating to the compensation of the Company's executives and directors; prepares the report required to be included in the annual proxy statement; provides general oversight of the Company's compensation structure; reviews and provides guidance on the Company's human resources programs; and retains and approves the terms of the retention of compensation consultants and other compensation experts. Other specific duties and responsibilities of the Compensation Committee include reviewing and approving objectives relevant to executive officer compensation, evaluating performance and determining the compensation of executive officers in accordance with those objectives; approving severance arrangements and other applicable agreements for executive officers; overseeing the Company's equity-based and incentive compensation plans; overseeing non-equity based benefit plans and approving any changes to

such plans involving a material financial commitment by the Company; monitoring workforce management programs; establishing compensation policies and practices for service on the Board and its committees; developing guidelines for and monitoring director and executive stock ownership; and annually evaluating its performance and its charter.

The individuals serving on the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors are Allen P. McKee (Chair), John R. Townsend, Gary K. Adams, and Joseph P. Palm. The Board determined that each of the Committee members is independent pursuant to NYSE listing standards governing nominating committee members.

The charter of the Compensation Committee is available on the Company's website at www.arabianamericandev.com. A free printed copy is also available to any stockholder who requests it from the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.

# Nominating/Governance Committee

The Nominating/Governance Committee recommends candidates to be nominated for election as directors at the Company's annual meeting, consistent with criteria approved by the Board; develops and regularly reviews corporate governance principles and related policies for approval by the Board; oversees the organization of the Board to discharge the Board's duties and responsibilities properly and efficiently; and sees that proper attention is given and effective responses are made to stockholder concerns regarding corporate governance. Other specific duties and responsibilities of the Nominating/Governance Committee include: annually assessing the size and composition of the Board, including developing and reviewing director qualifications for approval by the Board; identifying and recruiting new directors and considering candidates proposed by stockholders; recommending assignments of directors to committees to ensure that committee membership complies with applicable laws and listing standards; conducting a preliminary review of director independence and financial literacy and expertise of Audit Committee members and making recommendations to the Board relating to such matters; and overseeing director orientation and continuing education. The Nominating/Governance Committee also reviews and approves any executive officers for purposes of Section 16 of the Exchange Act ("Section 16 Officers") standing for election for outside for-profit boards of directors; and reviews stockholder proposals and recommends Board responses.

The individuals serving on the Nominating/Governance Committee of the Board of Directors are Joseph P. Palm (Chair), John R. Townsend, Gary K. Adams, and Allen P. McKee. The Board determined that each of the Committee members is independent pursuant to NYSE listing standards governing nominating committee members.

The charter of the Nominating/Governance Committee is available on the Company's website at www.arabianamericandev.com. A free printed copy is also available to any stockholder who requests it from the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.

# Stockholder Recommendations

The policy of the Nominating/Governance Committee is to consider properly submitted stockholder recommendations of candidates for membership on the Board as described below

under "Identifying and Evaluating Candidates for Directors." In evaluating such recommendations, the Nominating/Governance Committee seeks to achieve a balance of knowledge, experience and capability on the Board and to address the membership criteria set forth below under "Director Qualifications." Any stockholder recommendations proposed for consideration by the Nominating/Governance Committee should include the candidate's name and qualifications for Board membership and should be addressed to the Corporate Secretary at the address on page 2.

# **Director** Qualifications

The Company maintains certain criteria that apply to nominees recommended for a position on the Company's Board. Under these criteria, members of the Board should have the highest professional and personal ethics and values, consistent with longstanding Company values and standards. They should have broad experience at the policy-making level in business, government, education, technology or public service. They should be committed to enhancing stockholder value and should have sufficient time to carry out their duties and to provide insight and practical wisdom based on experience. Their service on other boards of public companies should be limited to a number that permits them, given their individual circumstances, to perform responsibly all director duties. Each director must represent the interests of all stockholders of the Company.

# Identifying and Evaluating Candidates for Directors

The Nominating/Governance Committee uses a variety of methods for identifying and evaluating nominees for director. The Nominating/Governance Committee regularly assesses the appropriate size of the Board and whether any vacancies on the Board are expected due to retirement or otherwise. In the event that vacancies are anticipated, or otherwise arise, the Nominating/Governance Committee considers various potential candidates for director. Candidates may come to the attention of the Nominating/Governance Committee through current Board members, professional search firms, stockholders or other persons. Identified candidates are evaluated at regular or special meetings of the Nominating/Governance Committee and may be considered at any point during the year. As described above, the Nominating/Governance Committee to the stockholder recommendations for candidates for the Board to be included in the Company's proxy statement. Following verification of the stockholder status of people proposing candidates, recommendations are considered together by the Nominating/Governance Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting, which is generally the first or second meeting prior to the issuance of the proxy statement for the Company's annual meeting. If any materials are provided by a stockholder in connection with the nomination of a director candidate, such materials are forwarded to the Nominating/Governance Committee. In evaluating such nominations, the Nominating/Governance Committee seeks to achieve a balance of knowledge, experience and capability on the Board.

The Company recognizes the strength and effectiveness of the Board reflects the balance, experience, and diversity of the individual directors; their commitment; and importantly, the ability of directors to work effectively as a group in carrying out their responsibilities. The Company seeks candidates with diverse backgrounds who possess knowledge and skills in areas of importance to the Corporation. In addition to seeking a diverse set of business or academic experiences, the Nominating/Governance Committee seeks a mix of nominees whose

perspectives reflect diverse life experiences and backgrounds. The Nominating/Governance Committee does not use quotas but considers diversity when evaluating potential new directors.

#### **Executive Sessions**

Executive sessions of independent directors are held at least three times a year. Each session is scheduled and chaired by one of the independent directors on a rotational basis. Any independent director may request that an additional executive session be scheduled.

# Communications with the Board

Individuals may communicate with the Board by contacting:

Nicholas N. Carter Arabian American Development Company P. O. Box 1636 Silsbee, TX 77656

All directors have access to this correspondence. In accordance with instructions from the Board, the Secretary to the Board reviews all correspondence, organizes the communications for review by the Board and relays communications to the full Board or individual directors, as appropriate. The Company's independent directors have requested that certain items that are unrelated to the Board's duties, such as spam, junk mail, mass mailings, solicitations, resumes and job inquiries, not be forwarded.

Communications that are intended specifically for the lead independent director, the independent directors or non-management directors should be sent to the address noted above to the attention of the lead independent director.

# COMMON STOCK OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth information, as of December 31, 2012, concerning beneficial ownership by:

- (1) Company directors and nominees, each of the named executive officers, and all individuals owning more than 5% of the Company's outstanding Common Stock, set forth in the Summary Compensation Table on page 35; and
- (2) Current directors and Company executive officers as a group.

The information provided in the table is based on the Company's records, information filed with the SEC and information provided to the Company, except where otherwise noted.

The number of shares beneficially owned by each entity or individual is determined under SEC rules, and the information is not necessarily indicative of beneficial ownership for any other purpose. Under such rules, beneficial ownership includes any shares as to which the entity or individual has sole or shared voting power or investment power and also any shares that the

entity or individual has the right to acquire as of March 1, 2013, through the exercise of any stock option or other right. Unless otherwise indicated, each person has sole voting and investment power (or shares such powers with his or her spouse) with respect to the shares set forth in the following table.

# **BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP TABLE**

	Amount and Nature of Beneficial	Percent of
Name of Beneficial Owner	Ownership <sup>1</sup>	Class
Current Directors and Nominees:		
Ghazi Sultan	170,000(2)(3)	0.7%
Allen P. McKee	91,667(2)(3)	0.4%
John R. Townsend	11,828	0.1%
Joseph P. Palm	19,333(2)(3)	0.1%
Current Director, Nominee or Named Executive Officer:		
Nicholas N. Carter	559,252(2)(3)	2.3%
Simon Upfill-Brown	9,500	0.0%
Connie J. Cook	67,174(2)(3)	0.3%
Mark D. Williamson	64,778(2)(3)	0.3%
Ronald R. Franklin	47,812(2)(3)	0.2%
All current directors and executive officers as a group (9 persons)	1,041,344(3)	4.4%
Individuals with beneficial ownership of more than 5% of outstanding Common Stock		
Fahad Mohammed Saleh Al Athel	4,226,979	17.5%
Wellington Management Company LLP	1,586,154	6.6%
Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz Notes to Beneficial Ownership Table	1,272,680	5.3%

(1) Unless otherwise indicated, to the knowledge of the Company, all shares are owned directly and the owner has sole voting and investment power (includes shares of restricted stock).

(2) Includes 299,928 aggregated shares which these directors and executive officers have the right to acquire through the exercise of presently exercisable stock options.

(3) Includes 380,940 aggregated shares which certain directors and executive officers have the right to acquire through the exercise of stock options or other rights exercisable presently or within 60 days.

# SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, requires our directors, executive officers and holders of more than 10% of Company common stock to file reports with the SEC regarding their ownership and changes in ownership of our securities. The Company believes that during fiscal 2012, its directors, executive officers and 10% stockholders complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements. In making these statements, the Company has relied upon examination of the copies of Forms 3, 4, and 5, and amendments thereto, provided to the Company and the written representations of its directors, executive officers and 10% stockholders.

# CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The Company directly owns approximately 55% of the outstanding capital stock of Pioche Ely Valley Mines, Inc. ("PEVM"). Mr. Carter is currently a director and President of PEVM, and



Mr. Charles Goehringer, Jr., general counsel, is currently a director of PEVM. The Company is providing funds necessary to cover the PEVM operations. During 2012 and 2011, the Company advanced approximately \$24,000 and \$16,000, respectively, for such purposes. As of December 31, 2012, PEVM owed the Company approximately \$360,000 as a result of advances made by the Company. The indebtedness is secured by real estate but bears no interest.

At December 31, 2012, and 2011, the Company had a liability to its former President and Chief Executive Officer of approximately \$140,000 in accrued termination benefits and other liabilities.

South Hampton incurred product transportation and equipment costs of approximately \$848,000 in 2010 with STTC while STTC was owned by the President of the Company. As discussed in Note 1, in December 2010 the Company acquired STTC and still owes the President a balance of \$100,000 in connection with this transaction.

Legal fees in the amount of \$237,000, \$270,000, and \$327,000 were incurred during 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively to the law firm of Germer Gertz, LLP of which Charles Goehringer is a minority partner. Mr. Goehringer acts as corporate counsel for the Company and in November 2007 was appointed to the Board of Directors. Mr. Goehringer chose not to stand for re-election at the 2011 Annual Meeting; therefore, his term expired in June 2011. At December 31, 2012, and 2011, we had an outstanding liability payable to Germer Gertz, LLP of approximately \$15,000 and \$24,000, respectively.

Ghazi Sultan, a Company director, was paid \$138,000, \$110,000 and \$18,000 during 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively for serving in the capacity of representing the Company in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

# Review, Approval or Ratification of Transactions with Management and Others

The Company's Standards of Business Conduct addresses conflicts of interest and is available on our website. Our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, principal accounting officer and controller, and persons performing similar functions are required to abide by this code by avoiding activities that conflict with, or are reasonably likely to conflict with, the best interests of the Company and its stockholders. Personal activities, interests, or relationships that would or could negatively influence judgment, decisions, or actions must be disclosed to the Board with prompt and full disclosure for Board review and/or action.

We also solicit information from our directors and executive officers annually in connection with preparation of disclosures in our proxy statement. These questionnaires specifically seek information pertaining to any "related-person" transaction.

# PROPOSAL NO. 1

# **ELECTION/RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

There is one director standing for re-election to our Board this year. The nominee is Ghazi Sultan. He has served as a director since the last annual meeting and will serve a three year term expiring in 2016.

There is one director standing for election to our Board this year. The nominee is Gary K. Adams. Mr. Adams was appointed as a director to our Board in November of 2012. He will serve a three year term expiring in 2016.

There are no family relationships among our executive officers and directors.

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

The nominees have indicated to the Company that they will be available to serve as directors. In the event that the nominee should become unavailable, however, the proxy holders, Nicholas Carter and/or Connie Cook, will vote for a nominee or nominees designated by the Board.

If an incumbent director nominee receives a greater number of votes "AGAINST" his or her election than votes "FOR" such election, he or she is required to tender his or her resignation for consideration by the Nominating Committee in accordance with Board policy.

# Vote Required

Each director nominee who receives more "FOR" votes than "AGAINST" votes representing shares of Company common stock present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to be voted at the annual meeting will be elected.

# Our Board recommends a vote FOR the election to the BOARD of the following nominees:

<b>Ghazi Sultan</b> Director since 1993 Age 76	Mr. Ghazi Sultan, a Saudi citizen, holds a MSc. Degree in Geology from the University of Texas. Mr. Sultan served as the Saudi Deputy Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources 1965-1988 and was responsible for the massive expansion of the mineral resources section of the Ministry. Mr. Sultan is also a member of the Board of Al Masane Al Kobra Mining Company.
Gary K. Adams Director since 2012 Age 62	Mr. Gary Adams, a U. S. citizen, holds a BS in Industrial Management from the University of Arkansas and has over 35 years of experience in the petrochemical and plastics industries including 20+ years with Chemical Market Associates Inc. (CMAI). He began at CMAI as the director of the Monomers Market Advisory Service and progressed to President from 1997 until its acquisition by IHS in 2011. He is currently the Chief Advisor – Chemicals for IHS.

# **NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

The following table provides a summary of compensation earned by members of our Board during the year ended December 31, 2012.

2012 Non-Employee Director Compensation						
	Fees Earned					
	or Paid in		Option			
	Cash	Stock Awards	Awards	Total		
Name	(\$)(1)	(\$)	(\$)(2)(3)	(\$)		
Ghazi Sultan	25,000		56,392	81,392		
Charles W. Goehringer, Jr.	9,382			9,382		
Allen P. McKee	76,000		56,392	132,392		
John R. Townsend	50,000		80,400	130,400		
Joseph P. Palm	49,000		61,396	110,396		
Gary K. Adams	5,625		14,951	20,576		

(1) Includes committee fees for 2012 in the amount of \$93,750, Company board fees in the amount of \$61,875, subsidiary board fees in the amount of \$10,000, A1 Masane A1 Kobra Mining Co. board representation in the amount of \$29,382 and per diem amounts in the amount of \$20,000.

- (2) Represents 20,000 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Sultan and Mr. McKee for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$2.82 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of February 23, 2010, 20,000 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Townsend for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$4.09 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of May 2, 2011, 19,333 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Palm for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$3.90 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of May 20, 2011, 20,000 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Palm for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$3.52 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of May 20, 2011, 20,000 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Palm for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$3.52 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of May 20, 2011, 20,000 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Palm for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$3.52 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of September 25, 2011, and 20,000 shares of stock options granted to Mr. Adams for 2012 Board service at an exercise price of \$7.14 per share based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date of November 15, 2012.
- (3) This column represents the dollar amounts for the years shown of the aggregate grant date fair value of stock options granted in those years in accordance with SEC rules. These amounts reflect the Company's fiscal year accounting expense and do not correspond to the actual value that will be realized by the Non-Employee Directors. For information on the valuation assumptions, *see "Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies Share-Based Compensation" and "Note 14 Share-Based Compensation"* in the notes to our consolidated financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012.

The following table presents information concerning outstanding equity awards held by the directors as of December 31, 2012.

# 2012 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

		C	Option awards					Stock av	vards	
	Number of Securities	Number of Securities	Equity incentive plan awards: number of securities				Number of Shares or	Market value of shares or	Equity incentive plan awards: number of unearned shares,	Equity incentive plan awards: market or payout value of unearned shares, units or other
	Underlying Unexercised	Underlying Unexercised	underlying unexercised		Option		units of stock that	unites of stock that	units or other rights	rights that have
	Options	Options	unearned		exercise	Option	have not	have not	that have	not
	(#)	(#)	options		price	Expiration	vested	vested	not vested	vested
Name	Exercisable	Unexercisable	(#)		(\$)	date	(#)	(#)	(#)	(\$)
Ghazi Sultan	7,000 7,000 40,000	 20,000	  40,000	\$ \$ \$	1.39 2.21 2.82	01/01/19 01/27/20 02/22/20				
Allen P. McKee	4,667 40,000	20,000	40,000	\$ \$	2.21 2.82	01/27/20 02/22/20				
John R. Townsend	20,000		80,000	\$	4.09	05/01/21				
Joseph P. Palm	19,333		80,000	\$ \$	3.90 3.52	05/19/21 09/24/21				
1 ann										

# General

A director who is one of our employees receives no additional compensation for his service as a director or as a member of a committee of the Board. A director who is not one of our employees (a non-employee director) receives compensation for his or her services as described in the following paragraphs per the current policy and upon recommendation by the Compensation Committee and approval by the Board. Directors are reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board and Committee meetings.

# **Board Compensation**

The 2012 directors' fees policy as recommended by the Compensation Committee proposed annual cash stipends for members of the AADC Board in the amount of \$15,000/year and subsidiary boards of the Company in the amount of \$5,000/year for U.S. subsidiaries and \$10,000/year for AMAK's Board. These amounts are to be prorated based upon time of service.



# **Committee Compensation**

The 2012 directors' fees policy as recommended by the Compensation Committee proposed annual cash stipends for members of the Audit Committee in the amount of \$15,000, the Compensation Committee in the amount of \$10,000, and the Nominating Committee in the amount of \$5,000. These amounts are to be prorated based upon time of service.

# **Equity Compensation**

The 2010 directors' fees policy as recommended by the Compensation Committee proposed the grant of 100,000 stock options (20,000 per year) – to be vested over 5 years and to be awarded in the quarter following the end of the year to non-employee directors who had attended at least 75% of all called meetings during the year and were serving in full capacity on December 31<sup>st</sup> of that year. This grant is to be prorated based upon time of service. As additional directors are appointed grants are made based upon the availability of shares. During 2012, 100,000 were granted to Mr. Adams.

# Per Diem Compensation

The 2011 directors' fees policy allowed per diem payments of \$500 per day for non-employee directors who travel to conduct Board business. Approximately \$20,000 was paid for directors' compensation expense related to per diem in 2012.

Approximately \$26,000 was paid for directors' compensation expense related to per diem in 2011.

# Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control

There are no potential payments owed to our executives based upon termination of employment or change in control of the Company.

# **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

No member of the Compensation Committee is or has been an executive officer of our Company or had any relationships requiring disclosure by us under the SEC's rules requiring disclosure of certain relationships and related-party transactions. None of our executive officers served as a director or a member of a compensation committee (or other committee serving an equivalent function) of any other entity, the executive officers of which served as a director or member of the Compensation Committee during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012.

# PROPOSAL NO. 2

# RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We are asking you to ratify the Audit Committee's selection of BKM Sowan Horan, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2013. BKM Sowan Horan, LLP

has audited the accounts of the Company since June 2010. The Board considers it desirable to continue the services of BKM Sowan Horan, LLP.

The fees billed or expected to be billed by BKM Sowan Horan, LLP and Travis Wolff, LLP, our previous independent public accounting firm, for professional services rendered to the Company during 2012 and 2011 are set forth below. The Audit Committee has concluded that the provision of the non-audit services provided by BKM Sowan Horan, LLP to the Company did not and does not impair or compromise their independence, and all such services were pre-approved by the Audit Committee. If the stockholders should fail to ratify the selection of the independent registered public accounting firm, the Audit Committee will designate an independent registered public accounting firm as required under the rules of the Exchange Act and in accordance with its charter.

# Our Board recommends a vote FOR the ratification of the selection of BKM Sowan Horan, LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2013.

# Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with management and the independent registered public accounting firm together and separately. These discussions and reviews included the reasonableness of significant judgments, significant accounting policies (including critical accounting policies), the auditor's assessment of the quality, not just the acceptability, of the Company's accounting principles and other such matters as are required to be discussed with the Audit Committee under the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). In addition, the Audit Committee has reviewed the written disclosures and the letter required by PCAOB Rule 3526, "Communication with Audit Committee Concerning Independence" and has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm their independence from management and the Company.

Based upon the review and discussions described in this report, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be accepted and included in the Company's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, filed with the SEC.

This report is provided by the following independent directors who comprised the Committee on the 10-K filing date:

John R. Townsend, Chairman Allen P. McKee Joseph P. Palm Gary K. Adams

# PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The table below sets forth the fees that the Company paid BKM Sowan Horan, LLP and Travis Wolff, LLP for the audits of its financial statements and internal controls for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 and the review of its financial statements for the quarterly periods in the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, and all other fees that the Company

paid BKM Sowan Horan, LLP and Travis Wolff, LLP for services rendered during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively:

	 2012	 2011
Audit Fees	\$ 239,546	\$ 192,184
Audit-Related Fees	-	-
Tax Fees	21,300	19,862
All Other Fees	38,587	20,320

Under its charter, the Audit Committee must pre-approve all auditing services and permitted non-audit services (including the fees and terms thereof) to be performed for the Company by its independent auditor, subject to the de minimis exceptions for non-audit services under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are approved by the Audit Committee prior to the completion of the audit.

# Audit Fees

These amounts represent fees billed or expected to be billed by BKM Sowan Horan, LLP and Travis Wolff, LLP for professional services rendered for the audits of the Company's annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, the reviews of financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and services related to statutory and regulatory filings and engagements for such fiscal years.

# Tax Fees

These amounts represent fees billed or expected to be billed by BKM Sowan Horan, LLP for professional services rendered relating to tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning in the U.S.

#### All Other Fees

These amounts represent fees billed or expected to be billed by BKM Sowan Horan, LLP and Travis Wolff, LLP for professional services related to the Company's 401(k) audit, for providing consent on Form S-3 registration filing, and for providing consultation on various issues.

At each annual meeting of the stockholders, representatives of the principal accountant for the current year and for the most recently completed fiscal year are expected to be present to make statements to the stockholders if desired, and to be available to respond to stockholder questions.

# PROPOSAL NO. 3

# **ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Under the rules of the SEC, the Company is required to provide its shareholders with the opportunity to cast a non-binding, advisory vote on the executive compensation for the Company's named executive officers. This proposal is frequently referred to as a "say-on-pay" vote. At the 2011 Annual Meeting, shareholders voted, on an advisory basis, in favor of casting the advisory say-on-pay vote on an annual basis.

# Our Board recommends an advisory vote approving the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers as disclosed pursuant to item 402 of Regulation S-K, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, compensation tables and narrative discussion.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR this resolution because it believes that the policies and practices described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis are effective in achieving the Company's goals of rewarding sustained financial and operating performance and motivating the executives to remain with the Company for long and productive careers. We urge stockholders to read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis which provides detailed information on the Company's compensation policies and practices and the compensation of our named executive officers.

Since the vote on this proposal is advisor, it is not binding on the Company. Nonetheless, the Compensation Committee will take into account the outcome of the vote when making future executive compensation decisions.

# **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis presents information about the compensation of our officers named in the Summary Compensation Table on page 35 (the "Named Executive Officers" or "NEOs"). Our executive compensation program is designed to promote a strong culture of leadership development, aligned with performance improvement (focused on both growth and productivity) and integrity, which in turn drives financial performance that provides value to our shareholders. The main components of our executive compensation program include base salary and annual and long-term incentives (total direct compensation). By having two of the three main components of executive pay based upon corporate performance our incentive program is designed to emphasize a pay-for-performance relationship.

• Annual incentive awards consist of cash bonuses generated under our annual incentive program and our legacy profit sharing. Cash awards under our annual incentive plan are tied to financial results (Operating Income). Our profit sharing program is available to all petrochemical segment employees (including our NEOs) and is based on cash flow from the petrochemical segment of the business. Our NEOs have historically participated in the profit sharing program with all of our petrochemical employees. We have seen a connection between our executives and our other employees when everyone gathers for a quarterly meeting to discuss Company performance. The checks that are handed out to each participant in attendance reflect the operating results of the previous quarter. Everyone from our lowest hourly rate petrochemical employee to our CEO feel the excitement or disappointment with the size of their respective profit sharing checks. We feel that it is important to continue this practice and do not want to disrupt this employee-wide participation and personal connection and identification with corporate's quarterly results. We implemented a new annual incentive program for our NEOs in 2010 which could have eliminated the need for NEO participation in our profit sharing program. However, rather than eliminate NEO participation from the profit sharing plan we simply net out any quarterly payment made throughout the year from the bonus generated under the new annual incentive program. By doing this we maintain the connection between our executives and other employees. Both bonuses and profit sharing awards are paid in cash and provide a

strong link between pay and performance as they are directly determined by Operating Income and profitability. In addition, due to the President/CEO's singular efforts on behalf of AMAK, the Committee determined that he should receive a special award equal to 1% of AMAK's contribution to the Company for 2012 as reported on the line item "Equity in earnings (loss) of AMAK" (which reports AMAK's operating results) in the Consolidated Statement of Income in the Company's 2012 Form 10-K as an additional cash bonus. This is discussed in greater detail on page 26.

• We issued equity to our executives in the form of stock options under the 2008 long-term incentive program. All remaining stock options authorized for issuance by our shareholders under the 2008 long-term incentive program were granted to our executives in 2011. The equity-based reward to our executives is highly correlated to the investment success of our shareholders as options hold value only as our stock price increases above the strike price.

Our long-term success depends on our people. We strive to ensure that our employees' contribution and performance are recognized and rewarded through a competitive compensation program. We target an executive compensation package that is competitive against the market in which we compete for talent. A substantial portion of any of our executives' annual total compensation package is variable compensation tied to performance (*i.e.*, Operating Income). We designed our incentive program in such a way that if performance is at or above targeted levels, the executive's total compensation will be at or above targeted levels. Conversely, if performance is below targeted levels, the executive's compensation will be below targeted levels.

# Executive Compensation Program Design

*Base Salary*. Base salaries provide for competitive pay based on the market value of the position and meet the objective of attracting and retaining talent needed to run the business. Salaries are reviewed by the Compensation Committee (the "Committee") annually. Salary increases may be given based on individual factors, such as competencies, skills, experience, performance and market practices. There are no specific weightings assigned to these individual factors. Annual salary increases are generally effective in January. Increases may also be given when executives assume new roles or are promoted.

Annual Cash Incentive Plan. We use pre-bonus Operating Income as the financial metric for annual executive bonus awards. The Committee believes that this is the best financial metric to use as a company performance indicator because it excludes items outside of management's control such as tax and interest rates. In addition, pre-bonus Operating Income is easily determinable because it is a line item on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income and is equal to Revenues less Operating Costs and Expenses, General Administrative Expenses and depreciation.

Once financials are available at the conclusion of the fiscal year, the Committee reviews our pre-bonus Operating Income results and chooses to exclude or adjust certain items to ensure that award payments reflect the core operating performance of the business. Examples include scenarios where the Company's product prices decline by 50% or more or increase by 100% or more. Operating Income measures our ability to generate income after covering operating costs and general and administrative expenses. Operating Income represents a challenging

performance metric because feedstock costs and product prices have been very volatile in recent years. Operating Income grows by not only increasing revenues through increased sales or improved product prices, but also by maintaining product margins, reducing costs and managing assets. The primary challenge lies in maintaining reasonable product margins, especially when feedstock prices are rapidly changing from one month to the next.

Thus annual cash bonuses are designed to motivate and reward NEOs and all other executives on the achievement of Company goals for the performance year. Our annual incentive plan is designed to allow NEOs and other executives to earn up to 200% of their target bonus based upon performance achieved. Each executive's target bonus is expressed as a percentage of base salary. The bonus levels below were adopted by the Committee for 2012 and remain unchanged going forward into 2013.

	Target Bonus		Maximum Bonus
Participant Title	(as % of Base Salary)	Max	(as % of Base Salary)
President and CEO	80%	2X	160%
Executive Vice President	70%	2X	140%
Chief Financial Officer	45%	2X	90%
Vice President of Marketing	45%	2X	90%
Vice President of Manufacturing	50%	2X	100%

<u>2012</u>

Bonus payouts for NEOs were determined by measuring performance solely on a corporate level for 2012. This represented a significant change from the Company's 2011 Annual Cash Incentive Plan because it eliminated the 20% component based upon individual performance. One caveat to the above is that the President/CEO had discretion to reduce individual cash bonuses payable to other NEOs by 20% based on the President/CEO's personal assessment of their individual performance. The change closer aligned bonus payouts for the President/CEO and other NEOs with overall Company performance and shareholder return. Actual Operating Income relative to the Operating Income goal determined the multiple to be applied to bonuses.

For example, if 100% ("Target" Performance) of the Operating Income goal is met, then a 1.00X multiple is applied to the participant's target bonus. Threshold payouts will occur when 80% of the Operating Income goal is met ("Threshold" Performance). In this case a 0.50X multiple is applied to the participant's Target bonus. Performance below Threshold (80% Target of Operating Income) results in a zero dollar payout. The Maximum payout occurs when actual Operating Income is greater than or equal to 140% of the Operating Income goal ("Maximum" Performance). When Maximum Performance is achieved, a 2.00X multiple is applied to the participant's Target bonus. Payouts are scaled linearly between Threshold and Maximum for performance levels between 80% and 140% of Target Performance.

Examples of bonus payout calculations for the President/CEO are as follows:

Base Salary: \$350,000	
Target Bonus as % of Base Salary: 80%	\$280,000
Maximum Bonus as % of Base Salary: 160%	\$560,000

The following payout schedule is applied to 100% of the participant's target bonus which is tied to corporate performance in the form of Operating Income.

	Corporate Performance	
Payout level	Bonus Multiple	Performance Achievement
Maximum	2.00X	140% of Operating Income goal
Target	1.00X	100% of Operating Income goal
Threshold	0.50X	80% of Operating Income goal

Payouts are scaled linearly between Threshold and Maximum for performance levels between 80% and 140% of Target Performance. Payouts will be interpolated for actual performance between these points.

# <u>2013</u>

The structure and bonus levels described above for the Company's 2012 Annual Cash Incentive Plan were adopted by the Committee for 2013 with the only modification being an approximate 20% increase in target Operating Income for 2013 as compared to 2012. This reflects the Committee's desire for NEOs to continue growing the Company's business which in turn drives financial performance and provides value to shareholders.

Profit Sharing Program. South Hampton's (the Company's petrochemical subsidiary) profit sharing program is available to all employees, including NEOs, based upon South Hampton's quarterly performance. Since South Hampton is located about an hour north of a larger petrochemical sector, competition for qualified, intelligent and conscientious employees is high. Base pay for employees is typically about 20% less than larger facilities; however, the profit sharing program allows South Hampton to compensate employees with additional pay when profits are sound. It also enables South Hampton the ability to forego payments during times of economic slowdown. Profit sharing is done on a quarterly basis when cash flow permits. There is no set formula for calculating or allocating profit sharing as it is based upon several factors including profit, cash flow, expectations and special cash needs of South Hampton and the Company. In 2010 the Committee adopted a written policy governing employee profit sharing. Pursuant to this policy, the pool of funds available for profit sharing during any particular calendar quarter cannot exceed 12% of South Hampton's estimated earnings before interest, depreciation, taxes and amortization ("EBITDA") for that quarter. In addition, the President/CEO must submit a recommended level of profit sharing with proposed employee allocations to the Committee for approval. The amount of the total award allocated to each NEO and to each employee is based on (i) current base salary and pay levels, (ii) instances of individual superior performance, and (iii) instances of individual sub-standard performance. South Hampton has a wide range of salary and pay levels, and in general employees at the lower end of the pay scale will be granted higher awards as a percentage of their base pay. Under the policy, the Committee has authority to revise the amount of funding available for profit sharing, as well as, to adjust individual allocations. As previously explained, all profit sharing awards to NEOs and other participants in the Annual Cash Incentive Plan are netted out of any cash bonuses paid out under the Company's Annual Cash Incentive Plan. The Committee closely monitors profit sharing distributions to each participant in the Company's Annual Cash Incentive Plan to ensure that such distributions do not exceed an amount equal to 75% of the cash bonus payable to a participant upon attainment of Threshold Performance. In addition, the Committee determined that profit sharing awards to NEOs will be capped at 10% of total profit sharing

awards paid to all employees during any particular calendar quarter and further, that the President/CEO has discretion to distribute that amount to the NEOs as he deems appropriate.

As an incentive for safe work performance, a safety award program is incorporated into the profit sharing program. As part of this program, South Hampton pays every employee, including NEOs and other executives, a \$500 net award at the end of each calendar quarter in which there are no lost-time or recordable accidents. This program has been very successful in encouraging employees to watch out for one another and to work safely. Consistent with profit sharing awards, all safe work awards are netted out of any annual bonuses paid to the NEOs and other executives under the Company's annual incentive program.

*Long-Term Incentive – Stock Options*. Stock options align our executives' interests with those of our shareholders since the options have realizable value only if the price of Arabian American Development Company stock increases after the options are granted. The size of future awards is evaluated and determined annually based on a consideration of competitive compensation practices and changes in our stock price year over year, as well as the number of shares remaining under our long-term incentive plan. NEOs and other executives receive nonqualified option grants with the following characteristics:

- · An exercise price equal to closing price of Arabian American Development Company stock on the grant date,
- · Annual vesting in approximately equal installments over a specified period, and
- Expiration seven to ten years after the grant date.

*Perquisites*. We provide benefits that we believe are standard in the industry to all employees. These benefits consist of a group medical and dental insurance program for employees and their qualified dependents, group life insurance for employees and their spouses, accidental death and dismemberment coverage for employees, a Company sponsored cafeteria plan and a 401(k) employee savings and investment plan. The Company matches employee deferral amounts, including amounts deferred by named executive officers, up to a total of 6% of the employee's eligible salary, excluding annual cash bonuses, subject to certain regulatory limitations. During 2012 company vehicles were supplied to each of our NEOs for business and personal travel. Our use of perquisites as an element of compensation is very limited. We do not view perquisites as a significant element of our comprehensive compensation structure.

# Special AMAK Cash Bonus.

2012

As noted in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company owns a 35% interest in Al Masane Al Kobra Mining Company ("AMAK"), a Saudi Arabian closed joint stock mining company which began commercial production of copper and zinc concentrate in mid-2012. At the beginning of 2012, the Committee determined that since the President/CEO significantly contributed to the success of AMAK in 2012, he should receive a special cash award if certain parameters relating to AMAK were met in calendar year 2012. The Committee resolved that if the Company received income in an amount that equaled or exceeded



\$11.0 million from AMAK during calendar year 2012, reported as "Other Income" on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income (the "Threshold Requirement"), the President/CEO would receive a special cash bonus equal to 1.0% of Other Income. Other Income from AMAK below \$11.0 million for 2012 resulted in a zero dollar payout.

# 2013

Due to the Company's large investment in AMAK and the need for continued support and commitment by the President/CEO to ensure the success of same, the Committee determined that it is in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders to continue the special AMAK cash bonus for the President/CEO to 2013 with one change, *e.g.*, elimination of the Threshold Requirement because AMAK's forecast for 2013 is an estimate with the only definitive plan for 2013 being the mining plan. In addition, the Committee was concerned about the special award's inability to influence AMAK's operations because AMAK employees will not care whether the Threshold Requirement is met in order for the President/CEO to qualify for the special cash award.

# **Governance of Pay Setting Process**

In setting total direct compensation, a consistent approach is applied for all executives:

- We benchmark our NEOs to comparable positions within the market in terms of specific duties, responsibilities, and job scope.
- Each position has an established target annual incentive award opportunity, executive benefits and perquisites. These incentive levels and benefits are reviewed by the Committee on an annual basis to determine their relative level of competitiveness with the market.
- We generally target all elements of pay and total direct compensation to be positioned between the 25<sup>th</sup> to 50<sup>th</sup> percentiles of our peer group.
- Individual executive pay positioning will vary based on the requirements of the job (competencies and skills), the executive's experience and performance, and the organizational structure (internal alignment and pay relationships).
- We also consider internal pay equity when establishing compensation levels. Currently, we believe that our compensation level for each of our NEOs reflects his or her job responsibility and scope appropriately and scale down from the CEO in a reasonable manner.
- Exceptions to normal practice may be made based on critical business and people needs.

# Role of the Compensation Committee in Establishing Pay Levels

• The Compensation Committee (comprised of only independent directors) establishes, reviews and approves all elements of the executive compensation program. A copy of the Compensation Committee Charter is available on our website. During 2012 the Committee engaged Pearl Meyer & Partners ("PM&P") to serve as its independent outside executive compensation consultant. PM&P's primary role is to provide advice and perspective



regarding market compensation trends that may impact decisions we make about our executive compensation program and practices. PM&P was instrumental in assisting the Committee in a complete overhaul of our executive compensation program in the latter half of 2010. The Company incurred expenses during 2012 and 2011 payable to PM&P in the amount of \$16,443 and \$50,053, respectively. Management has the responsibility for effectively implementing the executive compensation program. Additional responsibilities of the Committee, management and the consultant include:

- The Committee reviews and approves business goals and objectives relevant to executive compensation, evaluates the performance of the President/CEO in light of these goals and objectives, and determines and establishes the President/CEO's compensation level.
- Based on review of market data, individual performance and internal pay comparisons, the Committee independently sets the pay for our President/CEO and reviews and approves all NEO and other executive pay arrangements.

# Role of Management in Establishing Pay Levels

- The President/CEO makes recommendations on program design and pay levels, where appropriate, and oversees the implementation of such programs and directives approved by the Committee.
- The President/CEO develops pay recommendations for his direct reports and other key executives. This includes all of our NEOs (with the exception of our CEO himself).
- Our Chief Financial Officer provides the financial information used by the Committee to make decisions with respect to incentive compensation goals and related payouts.

# Role of the Compensation Consultant in Establishing Pay Levels

- The compensation consultant is responsible for gathering, analyzing and presenting peer group pay practices and relevant data to the Committee. They do not have the authority to determine pay.
- The consultant provides periodic updates to the Committee regarding various tax, accounting and regulatory issues that could have an impact on executive compensation design, administration and/or disclosure.

# **Regulatory Considerations**

We account for the equity compensation expense for our executives under the rule of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 718 ("ASC 718"), which requires us to estimate and record an expense for each award of equity compensation over the vesting period of the award. Accounting rules also require us to record cash compensation as an expense at the time the obligation is accrued.



# **Employment Arrangements**

We have not entered into definitive employment agreements with any of our executives. All executives serve at the discretion of the Board with no fixed term of employment.

# **Benchmarking Against Our Peer Group**

We benchmark executive compensation against a peer group. The peer group shown below was developed by the consultant in close consultation with the Committee and was approved by the President/CEO. Peer group proxy data provides sufficient benchmarks for the executives, but because the companies are structured differently, not all peers have incumbents in the respective benchmarked positions. Some jobs have no peer benchmarks available from proxy data, such as Vice President of Marketing, which necessitates the use of industry specific and general industry related surveys as an additional data source. The consultant's survey data provides expanded data to benchmark our executives' positions. Peer group and survey data provides a focal point in our examination of compensation trends across the petrochemical and chemical processing industry. Each year the Committee reviews the peer group and determines whether any changes should be made. No changes were made to the peer group in 2012. The following eight companies are in our peer group:

American Pacific Corp.	American Vanguard Corp.	KMG Chemicals Inc.
Penford Corp.	Quaker Chemical Corp.	Rentech Inc.
Rogers Corp.	TPC Group Inc.	

Peer group benchmarking is one of several factors considered in the pay setting process. Peer group practices are analyzed periodically for the pay element making up total direct compensation, and periodically for other elements (such as executive benefits and perquisites). In addition to peer group benchmarking, we also used surveys from the consultant in the pay setting process. We used a combination of proxy and survey data, weighted 50% each, to develop market values. All data was summarized to relevant statistics (e.g., median, 25<sup>th</sup> percentile and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile), and where applicable, survey data was regressed because it provides a reliable method for size adjusting cash compensation data and is the standard methodology used for analyzing executive pay. The strategy behind the sources of data is to promote the best mix of authorities for competitive positions, utilize industry data for line operations and line executives and some general industry mix to staff executive positions, and balance the proxy data with published authorities to help smooth the volatility of executive changes in the peer group. Market values of cash compensation were correlated to company size as measured by revenue and the data the Committee considered was size-adjusted where possible to reflect our general revenue level. This process made the market data points directly applicable to the company.

After the consultant's completion of peer group and survey data benchmarking in 2010, it was apparent that our overall executive compensation program was below market. The Committee used this information to begin moving the executives' pay to levels more in line with our compensation philosophy (*e.g.*, paying between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the market data). The Committee adopted the philosophy of targeting pay between the 25<sup>th</sup> to 50<sup>th</sup> percentile range of market data based on several factors such as the lower cost of living in southeast Texas as compared to more urban areas and the relatively limited number of competing employment



opportunities available to executives in southeast Texas. Our current philosophy of at or below market median pay levels in no way reflects on the qualifications or performance of our executives. It is primarily a function of location.

The table below sets forth the 2012 targeted compensation elements for each of our NEOs. The Committee remains comfortable with current compensation arrangements and levels relative to the market.

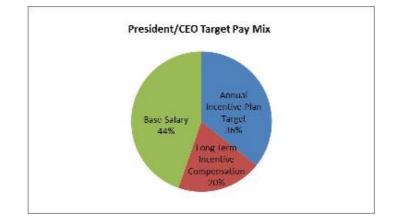
Executive	<b>B</b> a	2012 ase Salary	I Pl: Sh	Annual ncentive an Target (Profit aring and Cash Bonus)	Long-Term Incentive mpensation(1)	otal Direct mpensation Target
Nicholas N. Carter						
President & CEO						
Compensation Amount	\$	364,000	\$	291,200	\$ 159,534	\$ 814,734
Simon Upfill-Brown <sup>(2)</sup>						
Executive Vice President						
Compensation Amount	\$	295,000	\$	206,500	\$ 72,600	\$ 574,100
Connie J. Cook						
Chief Financial Officer						
Compensation Amount	\$	170,000	\$	76,500	\$ 72,641	\$ 319,141
Mark D. Williamson						
Vice President of Marketing						
Compensation Amount	\$	262,800	\$	118,260	\$ 63,600	\$ 444,660
Ron Franklin						
Vice President of Manufacturing						
Compensation Amount	\$	232,800	\$	116,400	\$ 77,435	\$ 426,635

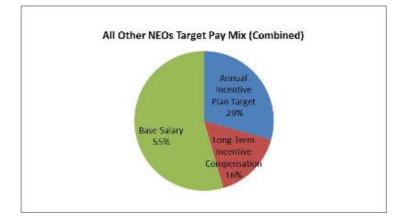
(1) The compensation amount for each NEO shown reflects the value of options granted to the NEOs by the Compensation Committee in the first quarter of 2011 which vest over the next four (4) years in equal increments. For Mr. Upfill-Brown this amount represents the value of 7,500 shares of stock granted at hiring.

(2) Hired September 26, 2012 - amounts are annualized.

The charts below illustrate that a large portion of our NEOs' pay is performance based (*e.g.*, approximately 56% of our President/CEO's pay is performance based and approximately 45% of our other NEOs' pay is performance based).







## **Determination of Performance Targets**

Operating Income Targets are set taking into account business conditions, expectations regarding the probability of achievement, and historical financial performance. Consistent with our philosophy and approach to setting goals, incentive payouts that are above target will be for superior performance (results that exceed our business plan). Targets are set at the beginning of the performance period. The process is summarized below:

Beginning of the Performance Period	During the Performance Period	End of the Performance Period
Operating Income goals are developed by the Committee and management and ultimately approved by the Committee	Operating Income performance is monitored relative to goals	Management presents actual Operating Income results relative to goals and the Committee reviews actual performance to determine any
	Operating Income goals cannot be changed during the performance period	payouts
		The Committee may exclude or adjust certain items that are outside the normal course of business, unusual and/or infrequent, and not reflective of our core operating performance for that period

Any adjustments at the end of the performance period will be at the Committee's discretion.

#### Company Goal (Operating Income)

#### 2012

The Committee set a Target of \$18 million of pre-bonus Operating Income for 2012 which resulted in a Threshold of \$14.4 million and represented a 38.5% increase as compared to 2011. The Committee determined that the 38.5% Target increase was reasonable based on the Company's performance during the second half of 2011, forecasts from outside analysts, improving economic conditions, and consultation with our NEOs.

#### 2013

For 2013 the Committee set a Target of \$21.5 million of pre-bonus Operating Income for 2013 which results in a Threshold of \$17.2 million and represents a 19.4% increase as compared to 2012. The Committee resolved that although the 19.4% increase for 2013 is roughly half of the 38.5% increase for 2012, the 19.4% increase appears reasonable based on the fact that real growth opportunities for the Company are situated overseas versus domestically which adds risk and uncertainty. The Committee also relied upon detailed marketing sales forecasts prepared by our NEOs in determining the Target for 2013.

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

Management has prepared the Compensation Discussion and Analysis of the compensation program for NEOs (beginning on page 22). The Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis for fiscal year 2012 with management. Based on this review and discussion, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company's 2013 Proxy Statement. This report is provided by the following independent directors who comprise the committee:

Allen P. McKee, Chairman Joseph P. Palm

John R. Townsend Gary K. Adams

#### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During 2012 no member of the Committee had a relationship that required disclosure as a Compensation Committee interlock.

#### **Compensation and Risk**

We believe that our performance-based compensation program creates appropriate incentives to increase long-term shareholder value. This program has been designed and administered in a manner that discourages undue risk-taking by employees. Relevant features of this program include:

- limits on annual incentive and long-term performance awards, thereby defining and capping potential payouts;
- application of an annual incentive metric that aligns employees with the common goal of increasing Operating Income;
- use of a long-term incentive vehicle—stock option—that vests over a number of years, thereby providing strong incentives for sustained operational and financial performance;
- Committee discretion to adjust payouts under the annual incentive plan to reflect the core operating performance of the company but prohibits discretion for payouts above stated maximum awards;
- annual bonuses to executives are awarded after the Company's Operating Income for the fiscal year is determined which means that 100 percent of annual bonus is delayed and at risk to the executives based on the actual net operating performance of the Company; and
- no awards of annual bonuses and stock option grants for a given year are based on matrices such as revenue or operating results of
  particular transactions or units, which would create the potential that personnel might take actions that benefit that matrix in the short-term
  while exposing the Company to inappropriate risk.

# Executive Compensation Program for 2012 and 2011 Results - *Company Performance Highlights*

Highlights of our 2012 performance year were:

- 2012 Target Pre-bonus Operating Income of \$18 million; therefore, Threshold level of \$14.4 million; As noted previously, our 2012 actual Pre-bonus Operating Income was \$18.1 million which was 1% above the Target level of \$18 million; therefore, our executives qualified for a bonus under the annual income work program of approximately \$666,000.
  - 2012 Adjusted EBITDA of \$20.9 million



Highlights of our 2011 performance year as restated were:

- 2011 Target Pre-bonus Operating Income of \$13 million; therefore, Threshold level of \$10.4 million; As noted previously, our 2011 actual Pre-bonus Operating Income was \$14.4 million which was 11% above the Target level of \$13 million; therefore, our executives qualified for a bonus under the annual incentive program of approximately \$737,000.
  - 2011 Adjusted EBITDA of \$16.9 million

The Committee increased executive base salaries for 2013 and 2012 as our salary survey in 2010 indicated that we were at the 17<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to peer group and survey data as discussed below. Below is a table comparing 2012 and 2013 executive base salary. The increases approved by the Committee move our executives closer to our stated philosophy of being between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the market.

	Ba	se Salary	Ba	ase Salary	
Position		2012		2013	 Increase
President and CEO	\$	364,000	\$	378,560	\$ 14,560
Executive Vice President		295,000		317,500	22,500
Chief Financial Officer		170,000		176,800	6,800
Vice President of Marketing		262,800		273,312	10,512
Vice President of Manufacturing		232,800		242,112	9,312

Related to the annual incentive plan the Compensation Committee approved the Target level of Operating Income for 2013. The approved Target of \$21.5 million represents an increase compared to \$18.0 million set for 2012. The \$21.5 million Target was selected by the Committee for 2013 because it increases Operating Income by \$3.5 million above the Operating Income of \$18 million for 2012. In the Committee's opinion, this Target is both realistic and achievable when considering the petrochemical segment's expanded production capabilities and the anticipated overall recovery of the U.S and worldwide economies in general.

On January 12, 2011, in an effort to bring executive long-term incentive compensation more in line with that of the market, the Committee approved the grant of 391,000 stock options to the NEOs and other executives under the Company's Stock Option Plan for Key Employees. These options have an exercise price equal to the closing price of the stock on January 12, 2011, as reported by Nasdaq, and vest in 25% increments over a 4 year period. Below is table showing the allocation of these options to our NEOs and other executives.

			Vesting	Vesting	Vesting	Vesting
		Total	Period #1	Period #2	Period #3	Period #4
		Options	1/12/11-	1/12/12-	1/12/13-	1/12/14-
Employee Name	Title	Granted	1/11/12	1/11/13	1/11/14	1/11/15
Nicholas Carter	President /CEO	129,030	32,257	32,258	32,257	32,258
Ronald Franklin	VP Mfg.	58,650	14,662	14,663	14,662	14,663
Connie Cook	Sec/Treas/CFO	58,650	14,662	14,663	14,662	14,663
Mark Williamson	VP Marketing	50,830	12,707	12,708	12,707	12,708
Turner Evans	Mgr. of Log.	31,280	7,820	7,820	7,820	7,820
Merf Kaufman	Plant Mgr.	31,280	7,820	7,820	7,820	7,820
Darren Smith	IT Mgr.	31,280	7,820	7,820	7,820	7,820
Total		391,000				

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Total options granted of 391,000 represents the balance of authorized but un-issued options remaining in the Stock Option Plan for Key Employees that was approved by our shareholders in 2008. The Committee in consultation with our President/CEO, determined the allocation of options to our key employees listed above.

During 2012, we did not pay our President/CEO the special cash award equal to 1.0% of Other Income because the Company did not receive income in an amount that equaled or exceeded \$11.0 million from AMAK during calendar year 2012.

## 2012 Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth information regarding 2012 compensation for each NEO; 2011 and 2010 compensation is presented for executives who were also NEOs in 2011 and 2010. This table should be read in conjunction with the explanations provided above. It sets forth summary compensation information for the year ended December 31, 2012, for the Company's (i) chief executive officer, (ii) chief financial officer, and (iii) each of the Company's three most highly compensated executives other than the chief executive officer and the chief financial officer who were serving as executive officers of the Company as of December 31, 2012.

			2	012 Summa	ry (	Compens	ation Table				
Name and				-		Non-Equity Incentive Plan	Change in Pension Value and Non- Qualified Deferred Compensation		All Other		
Principal		Salary	Bonus	Award(s)		vard(s)	Compensation	Earnings	С	ompensation	Total
Position	Year	(\$) (1)	(\$)	(\$)(2)	_	)(2)(3)	(\$)	(\$)		(\$)(4)	(\$)
Nicholas N.	2012	\$ 362,923	\$ 297,220			159,534			\$	23,900	\$843,577
Carter	2011	\$ 350,000	\$ 356,058		\$	189,920			\$	23,485	\$919,463
President and Chief Executive											
Officer	2010	\$ 250,000			\$	30,388			\$	35,515	\$315,903
Simon Upfill- Brown Executive Vice President since											
Sep 2012	2012	<u>\$ 71,481</u>	\$ 52,809	<u>\$ 72,600</u>					\$	25,550	\$222,440
Connie J.	2012	\$ 169,231	\$ 78,722		\$	72,641			\$	25,088	\$345,682
Cook Chief Financial Officer since Jan 2011; previously Chief	2011	\$ 159,997	\$ 101,556		\$	87,834			\$	21,802	\$371,189
Accounting Officer	2010	\$ 144,997			¢	15 104			¢	27,209	\$197 400
Mark D.	2010	\$ 262,200	\$ 121,221		<u>\$</u> \$	<u>15,194</u> 63,600			<u>\$</u> \$	17,980	<u>\$187,400</u> \$465,001
Williamson	2012	\$ 262,200 \$ 274,343			ֆ \$	83,857			ֆ \$	17,980	\$463,001 \$522,175
Vice President of Marketing, Petrochemical	2011	\$ 274,343	\$ 143,921		¢	83,837			2	18,034	\$522,175
Company	2010	\$ 253,904			\$	20,258			\$	35,861	\$310,023
Ron Franklin	2012	\$ 232,200	\$ 119,328		\$	77,435			\$	19,224	\$448,187
Vice President of Manufacturing, Petrochemical	2011	\$ 225,000	\$ 143,058		\$	83,609			\$	16,072	\$467,739
Company	2010	\$ 185,577			\$	6,175			\$	26,009	\$217,761
					3	5					

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- (1) Includes sales commission earned by Mr. Williamson in 2010 but paid in 2011.
  - (2) These columns represent the dollar amounts for the years shown of the grant date fair value of stock and options that were granted in those years in accordance with SEC rules. These amounts reflect the Company's fiscal year accounting expense and do not correspond to the actual value that will be realized by the NEOs. For information on the valuation assumptions, see "Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies Share-Based Compensation" and "Note 14 Share-Based Compensation" in the notes to our consolidated financial statements contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012.
  - (3) The 2010 amounts in this column were adjusted to reflect the aggregate grant date fair value of stock options granted in that year in accordance with SEC rules which represents the Company's fiscal year accounting expense.
  - (4) See the 2012 All Other Compensation Table below for additional information.

#### 2012 All Other Compensation Table

We provided our NEOs with additional benefits, reflected in the table below for 2012, that we believe are reasonable, competitive and consistent with the Company's overall executive compensation program. The costs of these benefits constitute only a small percentage of each NEO's total compensation.

	2012 All	Other Con	преп							
	Company			Profit		Personal				
				Sharing/	Use of					
Name of	401(k)			Safety	C	Company	5	Signing		
Executive	Contributions			Award	Car		Bonus		Total	
Carter	\$	15,000	\$	2,340	\$	6,560			\$	23,900
Upfill-Brown				144		406	\$	25,000		25,550
Cook		10,154		2,340		12,594				25,088
Williamson		15,000		2,340		640				17,980
Franklin		13,932		2,340		2,952				19,224

#### 2012 Realized Compensation

The SEC's calculation of total compensation, as shown in the 2012 Summary Compensation Table set forth on page 35, includes several items that are driven by accounting and actuarial assumptions, which are not necessarily reflective of compensation actually realized by the NEOs in a particular year. To supplement the SEC required disclosure, we have included the additional table below, which shows compensation actually realized by each NEO as reported on the NEO's W-2 form for each of the years shown.

## 2012 Realized Compensation Table

		R	ealized
Name and Principal Position	Year	Com	pensation <sup>1</sup>
	2012	\$	706,307
Nicholas N. Carter	2011		423,188
President/CEO	2010		329,884
Simon Upfill-Brown			
Executive Vice President	2012	\$	99,752
	2012	\$	274,130
Connie J. Cook	2011		213,566
CFO	2010		193,506
	2012	\$	390,777
Mark D. Williamson	2011		330,569
VP of Marketing	2010		315,051

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		Realized
Name and Principal Position	Year	Compensation <sup>1</sup>
	2012	\$ 369,225
Ronald R. Franklin	2011	268,674
VP of Manufacturing	2010	204,086
		1

<sup>1</sup> Amounts reported as realized compensation differ substantially from the amounts determined under SEC rules and reported as total compensation in the 2012 Summary Compensation Table. Realized compensation is not a substitute for total compensation. For a reconciliation of amounts reported as realized compensation and amounts reported as total compensation, see below. For more information on total compensation as calculated under SEC rules, see the narrative and notes accompanying the 2012 Summary Compensation Table set forth on page 35.

## **Reconciliation of Realized Compensation Table**

The amounts reported in the 2012 Realized Compensation Table reflect income for the years shown as reported on the NEOs' W-2 forms. The amounts differ substantially from the amount reported as total compensation in the 2012 Summary Compensation Table required under SEC rules and are not a substitute for the amounts reported in the 2012 Summary Compensation Table. For 2012, realized compensation represents: (1) total compensation, as determined under applicable SEC rules, minus (2) the aggregate grant date fair value of equity awards (as reflected in the Stock and Option Awards columns) and (3) the Company's 401(k) contributions (as reflected in the 2012 All Other Compensation Table above). In addition, realized compensation reflects any bonus actually paid in the year shown, whereas total compensation under SEC rules, reflects any bonus earned for the year shown.

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

The following table presents information concerning plan-based awards granted to each NEO during 2011 and 2012.

		Unde	d Futuro r Non-E <u>ve Plan <i>A</i></u>		Under l	ed Future Equity <u>Ir</u> an Awar	ncentive		All Other Options Awards:				
Name	Grant ' Date	Threshold (\$)	lTarget I (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	dTargetN (#)	Maximum (#)	All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)(1)	Number of Securities Under- lying Options (#)(2)	Exerc Base of Op Awa (\$/s	Price otion ords	Fa o	ant Date iir Value f Stock and Option wards
Nicholas	Date	(\$)	(Ψ)	(Φ)	(#)	(#)	(#)	$Omts(\pi)(1)$	(#)(2)	(4)3	<u>)</u>	П	warus
Carter	01/12/11								129,030	\$	4.86	\$	627,086
Simon Upfill-	00 10 4 11 0											<b>•</b>	
Brown Mark	09/26/12							7,500				\$	72,600
	on01/12/11								50,830	\$	4.86	\$	247,034
Cook	01/12/11								58,650	\$	4.86	\$	285,039
Ronald									2 0,000	ć		Ŧ	,
Franklin	01/12/11								58,650		4.86	•	285,039
	Represents per share.	stock gran	it made of	n Septemb	er 26, 2012	2, to Mr.	Upfill-Bro	wn of 7,500 shares v	alued at closin	g price of	on that	date	of \$9.68

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(2) Represents stock option grants made on January 12, 2011, to officers and key employees in the amounts shown with an exercise price equal to the closing sale price of such a share on even date. The options vest over a 4 year period with 25% vesting each year. The option life is 10 years.

## 2012 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table presents information concerning outstanding equity awards held by the NEOs. This table includes unexercised (both vested and unvested) option awards that were not satisfied as of December 31, 2012. Each equity grant is shown separately for each NEO. The vesting schedule for each outstanding award is shown following this table based upon the option grant date.

		0	ption awards					Stock av	vards	
			Equity						Equity incentive plan	Equity incentive plan awards: market or payout value of
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	incentive plan awards: number of securities underlying unexercised unearned options		Option exercise price	<b>Option</b> Expiration	Number of Shares or units of stock that have not vested	Market value of shares or units of stock that have not vested	awards: number of unearned shares, units or other rights that have not vested	unearned shares, units or other rights that have not vested
Name	Exercisable	Unexercisable	(#)		(\$)	date	(#)	(#)	(#)	(\$)
Hatem El				+						
Khalidi		200,000		<u>\$</u>	3.40	06/30/19				
Nicholas Carter	30,000			\$	2.21	01/27/17				
	32,257 20,000	96,773		<u>\$</u> \$	4.86	01/11/21 01/27/17				
Mark Williamson	20,000	38,123		э \$	4.86	01/2//17				
Connie	12,707			<u>\$</u>	2.21	01/27/17				
Cook	14,662	43,988		\$	4.86	01/11/21				
Ronald	10,000			\$	2.47	06/22/17				
Franklin	14,662	43,988		\$	4.86	01/11/21				

## **Outstanding Equity Awards Vesting Schedule**

Name	Grant Date	<b>Option Awards Vesting Schedule<sup>1</sup></b>
Carter	01/12/11	25% vests in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015
Cook	01/12/11	25% vests in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015
Willamson	01/12/11	25% vests in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015
Franklin	01/12/11	25% vests in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015
	This solumn shows the	vesting schedule of uppy projectle entires reported in the "Number of Securities Underlying

<sup>1</sup> This column shows the vesting schedule of unexercisable options reported in the "Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable" of the 2012 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End Table. The stock options vest on the anniversary of the grant date in the years shown in the table above.



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#### **2012 Pension Benefits**

		Number of years	Present value of accumulated	Payments during last fiscal
		credited	benefit	year
<u>Name</u>	<u>Plan name</u>	<u>service</u>	<u>(\$)</u>	<u>(\$)</u>
Hatem El Khalidi	Retirement Agreement (1)	42	\$ 875,251	\$ 0
President and Chief Executive	Retirement Agreement (2)	42	31,500	\$ 0
Officer until June 30, 2009	Saudi Arabian Termination Benefits (3)	42	42,876	<u>\$0</u>
Total			\$ 949,627	<u>\$ 0</u>

(1) In January 2008 the retirement agreement entered into in February 2007 with Mr. El Khalidi, then president of the Company, was modified. The new agreement provides for \$6,000 per month in benefits to Mr. El Khalidi upon his retirement for the remainder of his life. Additionally, upon his death \$4,000 per month will be paid to his surviving spouse for the remainder of her life. A health insurance benefit is also provided. An additional \$382,000 was accrued in January 2008 for the increase in benefits. A short-term liability of \$36,000 is included in accrued liabilities and a long-term liability of approximately \$815,000 based upon an annuity single premium value contract was outstanding as of December 31, 2009, and is included in post-retirement benefits. Assumptions used for the amortization of post-retirement benefits were a life expectancy of 6.8 years for Mr. El Khalidi and 15.8 years for Ms. El Khalidi with a discount rate of 1.62%. Life expectancies were taken from the 2004 Life Table for the total U.S. population as published under the National Vital Statistics Reports. In June 2009 the Company's Board of Directors voted to amend the retirement benefit by allowing a yearly cost of living adjustment to be applied to the agreement based upon the Consumer Price Index which is published on January 15, 2010, of 2.7%. See Note 20 – Post Retirement Obligations in our annual report on Form 10-K.

- (2) While there is no written policy regarding retirement bonus compensation, the Company has historically awarded all employees (regardless of job position) a retirement bonus equal to \$750 for each year of service. Since Mr. El Khalidi was employed by the Company for 42 years, the Board of Directors voted to award him a \$31,500 retirement bonus, consistent with that provided to all other retired employees.
- (3) Employer termination benefits required by the Saudi Labor and Workman Law provide for termination benefits equal to one-half month's total compensation for each year of service for the first five years and one month's total compensation for each subsequent year of service. Since Mr. El Khalidi was employed by the Company in Saudi Arabia for 42 years, under Saudi law the total accrued termination benefits due were \$320,000 of which approximately \$43,000 remained outstanding to Mr. El Khalidi as of December 31, 2011.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

As of the date of this proxy statement's printing, we do not intend to submit any matters to the meeting other than those set forth herein, and we know of no additional matters that will be presented by others. However, if any other business should come before the meeting; the persons named in the enclosed proxy card have discretionary authority to vote your shares with respect to such matters in accordance with their best judgment.

By order of the Board of Directors Connie Cook Secretary



	ARABIAN AMERICAN		
	DEVELOPMENT COMPANY		C1234567
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		00000000.000	
	MR.A SAMPLE DESIGNATION (IF ANY)		oting Instructions ours a day, 7 days a week!
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	ADD 3		slow to vote your proxy. ILS ARE LOCATED BELOW IN THE TITLE BAR.
	ADD 4 ADD 5	Proxies submitted	by the Internet or telephone must be received by
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			Go to www.investorvote.com/ARSD
			<ul> <li>Or scan the QR code with your smartphone</li> <li>Follow the steps outlined on the secure website</li> </ul>
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Meeting Date: June 5, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. CDT

Location: 1650 Hwy 6 S, Suite 190 Sugar Land, TX 77478

Important notice regarding internet availability of proxy materials for the stockholder meeting to be held on June 5, 2013

The Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement are available at: http://arabianamericandev.com/investors

V IF YOU HAVE NOT VOTED VIA THE INTERNET OR TELEPHONE, FOLD ALONG THE PERFORATION, DETACH AND RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. V

# Proxy - ARABIAN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

# ARABIAN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 6/5/13 AT 10:00 A.M. C.D.T. FOR HOLDERS AS OF 4/17/13

Connie Cook or Nicholas Carter, or any of them, each with the power of substitution, are hereby authorized to represent and vote the shares of the undersigned, with all the powers which the undersigned would possess if personally present, at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Arabian American Development Company to be held on June 5, 2013, or at any postponement or adjournment thereof.

Shares represented by this proxy will be voted by the stockholder. If no such directions are indicated, the Proxles will have authority to vote FOR Proposal 1, Proposal 2, and Proposal 3.

In their discretion, the Proxies are authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

(Items to be voted appear on reverse side.)

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