CUI Global, Inc. Form DEF 14A September 04, 2015

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

Schedule 14A

Proxy Statement pursuant to Section 14(a)

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

"Confidential for use of the Commission " Preliminary Proxy Statement x Definitive Proxy Statement

only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

" Definitive Additional Materials

.. Soliciting Material Pursuant to

§240.14a-11(c) of §240.14a-12

CUI Global, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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

Not applicable

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

20050 SW 112th Avenue

Tualatin, Oregon 97062

October 1, 2015

Dear Stockholders:

We are pleased to invite you to attend our 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at 4:00 pm CST on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at The Houstonian Hotel, Club and Spa, 111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas 77024. The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on September 10, 2015 as the record date for determining Stockholders entitled to receive notice of, and to vote at, the 2015 Annual Meeting. We are also pleased to offer a live webcast of our 2015 Annual Meeting to allow you to view the meeting on the Investor Relations section of our web site at www.cuiglobal.com.

Details of the business to be conducted are described in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials you received in the mail and in this proxy statement. We have also provided with this proxy statement a copy of our 2014 Annual Report to Stockholders and our most recent quarterly report. We encourage you to read our reports that include our audited financial statements and provide information about our business and products.

Besides the proxy statement and the 2014 Annual Report, you might also review our recent press releases, which demonstrate the exciting and successful year we have had in 2015. Among our many accomplishments:

We opened our North American Natural Gas Headquarters, Orbital Global Solutions – North America in Houston TX in January 2015.

We acquired an electronics manufacturing operation in Toronto, Canada. This new division, CUI-Canada, •immediately added substantial incremental revenues, expanded the power product line offering, and is expected to add incremental earnings over the next couple of years as well.

CUI Global was awarded the 2015 "U.S. Manufacturing Acquisition of the Year" Award from Acquisition International, an internationally recognized European trade publication, for our acquisition of Tectrol, Inc.

• The company added a highly experienced gas & oil executive, Joseph A. Mills, to our Board of Directors.

Our wholly owned subsidiary, Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd., opened its brand new, state-of-the-art, manufacturing and R&D facility in the UK.

The company confirmed that several customers have now successfully completed testing of our proprietary natural gas technologies, the GasPT® Analyzer and VE Technology®, and that we have received multiple purchase orders for those products. These purchase orders come from several large energy producers/transporters in various geographic areas that include: a large North American gas transportation and compression company; a Fortune 100 energy company for projects in both Australia and North America; a major European gas transmission company; an Asian gas turbine manufacturer; and others.

Our proprietary VE® Technology continued to be recognized as "best practices" by British and European natural gas transmission companies.

Our wholly owned subsidiary, CUI Inc., joined two other industry leaders to found the Architects of Modern Power, • a unique, long-term strategic alliance that will enable the power design community to benefit from world-leading technology innovation and unrivalled supply chain security.

CUI entered into a long-term distribution agreement with industry-leader Mouser Electronics, Inc. This agreement • should enhance and enrich our power sales distribution channel, which as previously announced includes long-term, continuing relationships with Digi-Key and Future Electronics.

The company's president & CEO was selected by *Acquisition International* magazine as one of 2015's "Most Innovative Business Leaders.

We reported that our second quarter 2015 revenue was up 20% to \$23.0 million from \$19.2 million in 2014, while year-to-date revenues for the first six months of FY 2015 were up 10% to \$39.8 million from \$36.1 million for the first six months of FY 2014.

CUI Global Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary Orbital Gas Systems Ltd. continue as partners in the GE Intelligent •Platforms' Premier Solution Partners Program as natural gas/energy primary market suppliers and electro-mechanical-intelligent power applications secondary market suppliers.

GE Intelligent Platforms forms such alliances with industry-leading systems integrators, such as CUI global and its subsidiaries that have proven skills and complementary technology application expertise, following technical, operational and quality evaluations. The rigorous audit process includes an assessment of customer references and knowledge of automation system design and optimization as well as system configuring and commissioning capabilities. The program also examines a systems integrator's ability to maximize an installed base of automation assets by applying state-of-the-art technologies to enhance functionality for greater return.

We have elected to provide access to our proxy materials over the internet under the Securities and Exchange Commission's "notice and access" rules. Our management is constantly focused on improving the ways people connect with information and believes that providing our proxy materials over the internet increases the ability of our stockholders to connect with the information they need, while reducing the environmental impact of our 2015 Annual Meeting. If you want more information about the 2015 Annual Meeting, please see the Questions and Answers section of the proxy statement under the heading General Information or visit the Stockholders Meeting section of our Investor Relations website.

Your vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting, we hope you will vote as soon as possible. You may vote over the internet and by telephone or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, by mailing a proxy card. Please review the instructions on each of your voting options described in the proxy statement and in the Notice you received in the mail.

Thank you for your ongoing support of CUI Global. We look forward to seeing you at our 2015 Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

William J. Clough President/Chief Executive Officer

## **Annual Meeting of Stockholders**

To: The Stockholders of CUI Global, Inc.

We will hold our 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders at 4:00 pm CST on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at The Houstonian Hotel, Club and Spa, 111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas 77024 (the "Annual Meeting") for the following purposes:

- 1. Election of seven directors to hold office until the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified;
- 2. Ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as the Company's Independent Auditor for the year ending December 31, 2015;
- Advisory approval of the company's executive compensation (Say-on-Pay);
  To transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

These items of business are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this notice. The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on September 10, 2015 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to receive notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting of Stockholders. For a period of at least ten days prior to the Annual Meeting, a complete list of stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be open to examination by any stockholder during ordinary business hours at the offices of the company, 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062.

Your vote is very important. All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to read this proxy statement and submit your proxy or voting instructions as soon as possible. For specific instructions on how to vote your shares, please refer to the instructions on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") you received in the mail, the section entitled General Information about the Annual Meeting beginning on page 1 of the proxy statement or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, your enclosed proxy card.

To assure your representation at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, we ask that you vote as promptly as possible. Your stock will be voted in accordance with the instructions you provide in your proxy. You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted by signing and returning a proxy bearing a later date for the same shares, by filing with the Secretary of the Company a written revocation bearing a later date or by attending and voting in person at the Annual Meeting. By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Matthew M. McKenzie Corporate Secretary

Tualatin, Oregon October 1, 2015

#### **Proxy Statement**

#### Introduction

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of CUI Global, Inc. (the "Company") for use at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at 4:00 pm CST on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at The Houstonian Hotel, Club and Spa, 111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas 77024 and for any postponements or adjournments thereof. Please vote your shares of CUI Global, Inc. common stock. Your vote at the Annual Meeting is important to us. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to read this proxy statement and submit your proxy or voting instructions as soon as possible. For specific instructions on how to vote your shares, please refer to the instructions on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") you received in the mail, the section entitled General Information about the Annual Meeting beginning below in this proxy statement or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, your enclosed proxy card. The Proxy Statement and the accompanying materials are being made available to the stockholders on or about October 10, 2015.

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, EVEN IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY INTENDING TO ATTEND THE MEETING. THIS WILL NOT PREVENT YOU FROM VOTING IN PERSON, BUT WILL ASSURE THAT YOUR VOTE IS COUNTED IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR SHARES ARE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING IN PERSON OR BY PROXY; IF YOU DO NOT EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND RETURN THE PROXY CARD (WHICH WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU SEPARATELY) OR PROVIDE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS BY TELEPHONE OR VIA THE INTERNET.

#### General Information about the Annual Meeting

#### Q: Why am I receiving these materials?

A: Our Board of Directors has made these materials available to you on the internet or, upon your request, delivered printed proxy materials to you, in connection with the solicitation of proxies for use at the CUI Global Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will take place at 4:00 pm CST on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at The Houstonian Hotel, Club and Spa, 111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas 77024. As a stockholder, you are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and you are requested to vote on the items of business described in this proxy statement.

# Q: What information is contained in this proxy statement?

A: The information in this proxy statement relates to the proposals to be voted on at the Annual Meeting, the voting process, the compensation award process of our directors and most highly paid executive officers, corporate governance and information on our Board of Directors and certain other required information.

# *Q*: Why did I receive a notice in the mail regarding the internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of proxy materials?

A: In accordance with rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we may furnish proxy materials, including this proxy statement and our 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K, to our stockholders by providing access to such documents on the internet instead of mailing printed copies. Most stockholders will not receive printed copies of the proxy materials unless they request them. Instead, the Notice, which was mailed to most of our stockholders, will instruct you as to how you may access and review all of the proxy materials on the internet. The Notice also instructs you as to how you may submit your proxy on the internet. If you would like to receive a paper or email copy of our proxy materials, you should follow the instructions in the Notice for requesting such materials.

# *Q*: *I* share an address with another stockholder and we received only one paper copy of the proxy materials. How may I obtain an additional copy of the proxy materials?

A: We have adopted a procedure called "householding" which the SEC has approved. Under this procedure, we deliver a single copy of the Notice and, if applicable, the proxy materials and the Annual Report to Stockholders to multiple stockholders who share the same address unless we received contrary instructions from one or more of the stockholders. This procedure reduces environmental impact as well as our printing costs, mailing costs and fees. Stockholders who participate in householding will continue to be able to access and receive separate proxy cards. Upon written request, we will promptly deliver a separate copy of the Notice and, if applicable, the proxy materials and the Annual Report to Stockholders to any stockholder at a shared address to which we delivered a single copy of any of these documents. To receive a separate copy of the Notice and, if applicable, these proxy materials or the Annual Report to Stockholders, stockholders may telephone, write or email us as follows: (503) 612-2300; 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062; investors@CUIGlobal.com.

Stockholders who hold shares in street name (as described below) may contact their brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer or other similar organization to request information about householding.

# Q: How do I get electronic access to the proxy materials?

A: The Notice will provide you with instructions regarding how to:

View our proxy materials for the Annual Meeting on our internet website, www.CUIGlobal.com and Instruct us to send our future proxy materials to you electronically by email.

Choosing to receive your future proxy materials by email will save us the cost of printing and mailing documents to you and will reduce the impact on the environment of printing and mailing these materials. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by email, you will receive an email next year with instructions containing a link to those materials and a link to the proxy voting site. Your election to receive proxy materials by email will remain in effect until you terminate it.

# Q: Is the Annual Meeting going to be webcast?

A: For your convenience, we are pleased to offer a live webcast of our Annual Meeting on the Investor Relations section of our web site at www.CUIGlobal.com.

*Q:* Can I participate in the question-and-answer portion of the Annual Meeting without attending the Annual Meeting?

A: No. The live webcast will be only visual and audio; there will be no opportunity to participate in the question-and-answer portion of the Annual Meeting unless you are present at the meeting.

# Q: What items of business will be voted on at the 2015 Annual Meeting?

A: The items of business scheduled to be voted on at the Annual Meeting are:

The election of seven directors to hold office until the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified;

Ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as the Company's Independent Auditor for the year ending December 31, 2015;

Advisory approval of the company's executive compensation (Say-on-Pay).

We will also consider any other business that properly comes before the Annual Meeting.

# Q: How can I vote my shares in person at the Annual Meeting?

A: Shares held in your name as the stockholder of record may be voted by you in person at the Annual Meeting. Shares held beneficially in street name may be voted by you in person at the Annual Meeting only if you obtain a legal proxy from the broker, bank, trustee or nominee that holds your shares giving you the right to vote the shares. Even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we recommend that you also submit your proxy or voting instructions as described herein so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the meeting.

# Q: How shall I sign my name on the proxy card?

A: The following general rules for signing proxy cards may be of assistance to you and avoid the time and expense to CUI Global in validating your vote if you fail to sign your proxy card properly.

Individual Accounts: Sign your name exactly as it appears in the registration on the proxy card. Joint Accounts: Either party may sign, but the name of the party signing should conform exactly to a name shown in the registration on the proxy card.

All Other Accounts: The capacity of the individual signing the proxy card should be indicated unless it is reflected in the form of registration.

Q: How can I vote my shares without attending the Annual Meeting?

A: Whether you hold shares directly as the stockholder of record or beneficially in street name, you may direct how your shares are voted without attending the Annual Meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, you may vote by proxy. You can vote by proxy over the internet by following the instructions provided in the Notice or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, you can also vote by mail or telephone pursuant to instructions provided on the proxy card. If you hold shares beneficially in street name, you may also vote by proxy over the internet by following the instructions provided proxy materials, you can also vote by requested to receive printed proxy over the internet by following the instructions provided in the Notice or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, you can also vote by telephone or mail by following the voting instruction card provided to you by your broker, bank, trustee or nominee.

# Q: May I change my vote?

A: You may change your vote at any time prior to the taking of the vote at the Annual Meeting. If you are the stockholder of record, you may change your vote by: (1) granting a new proxy bearing a later date (which automatically revokes the earlier proxy) using any of the methods described above (and until the applicable deadline for each method), (2) providing a written notice of revocation to CUI Global's Corporate Secretary at CUI Global, Inc., 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062 prior to your shares being voted or (3) attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. Attendance at the meeting will not cause your previously granted proxy to be revoked unless you specifically so request. For shares you hold beneficially in street name, you may change your vote by submitting new voting instructions to your broker, bank, trustee or nominee following the instructions they provided or, if you have obtained a legal proxy from your broker, bank, trustee or nominee giving you the right to vote your shares, by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person.

# Q: Is my vote confidential?

A: Proxy instructions, ballots and voting tabulations that identify individual stockholders are handled in a manner that protects your voting privacy. Your vote will not be disclosed either within CUI Global or to third parties, except: (1) as necessary to meet applicable legal requirements, (2) to allow for the tabulation of votes and certification of the votes and (3) to facilitate a successful proxy solicitation. Occasionally, stockholders provide on their proxy card written comments, which are then forwarded to CUI Global management.

# Q: How many shares must be present or represented to conduct business at the Annual Meeting?

A: The presence at the Annual Meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of one third of the aggregate voting power of the common stock outstanding on the record date will constitute a quorum. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote. As of the Record Date for this Annual Meeting, 20,805,241 shares of common stock were outstanding and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. Both abstentions and broker non-votes (described below) are counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless otherwise indicated, all references herein to percentages of outstanding shares of stock are based on such numbers of shares outstanding. Shares entitled to vote are referred to hereafter as "Voting Shares."

# Q: What shares can I vote?

A: Each share of CUI Global common stock issued and outstanding as of the close of business on the Record Date for the Annual Meeting is entitled to be voted on all items being voted on at the Annual Meeting. You may vote all shares owned by you as of the Record Date, including: (1) shares held directly in your name as the stockholder of record and (2) shares held for you as the beneficial owner in street name through a broker, bank, trustee or other nominee.

A: Each holder of shares of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share held as of the Record Date.

# Q: What is the Record Date?

A: Record Date, in the context of voting at the Annual Meeting, is the date on which our stock ledger is closed for the purpose of determining which shareholders officially own voting shares in order to be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. The Record Date for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders is September 10, 2015.

# Q: How may I vote?

A: Regarding the election of directors, you may vote "FOR" all or some of the nominees or your vote may be "WITHHELD" with respect to one or more of the nominees.

# Regarding:

Ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as the Company's Independent Auditor for the year ending December 31, 2015,

Advisory approval of the company's executive compensation (Say-on-Pay),

You may vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" or "ABSTAIN" on these proposals.

# Q: What vote is required to approve each item?

# A: Election of Directors

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The affirmative vote "FOR" of a simple majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting is required for the election of each director, A properly executed proxy marked "WITHHOLD" with respect to the election of one or more directors will not be voted with respect to the director or directors indicated or the other items to be voted on; although, it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum. Voting Shares represented by properly executed proxies for which no instruction is given will be voted "FOR" election of the nominee for director.

# A: Ratification of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as our independent registered public accounting firm.

The affirmative vote "FOR" of a simple majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting is required for the ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as our independent registered public accounting firm. A properly executed proxy marked "ABSTAIN" with regard to this issue will not be voted with respect to the item to be voted on; although, it will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum. Voting Shares represented by properly executed proxies for which no instruction is given will be voted "FOR" these issues.

#### A: Advisory vote on the approval of the company's executive compensation (Say-on-Pay)

While we intend to carefully consider the voting results of this proposal, in accord with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, the final vote is advisory in nature, therefore, not binding on us, our board or the Compensation Committee. Our executive compensation will be approved, on an advisory basis, if the votes cast by shareholders in favor of advisory approval exceed those votes cast in opposition of advisory approval.

A properly executed proxy marked "ABSTAIN" with regard to this issue will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum.

*Q:* What is the effect of the proposal to ratify the Audit Committee's appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as our independent registered public accounting firm?

A: Selection of our independent registered public accounting firm is not required to be submitted to a vote of stockholders. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 requires the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors to be directly responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the audit work of the independent registered public accounting firm. However, the Board of Directors has elected to submit the selection of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as our independent registered public accounting firm to stockholders for ratification as a matter of corporate practice. If the stockholders fail to ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will reconsider whether to retain Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance, and may retain that firm or another firm without resubmitting the matter to our stockholders. Even if the appointment is ratified, the Audit Committee may, at its discretion, appoint a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year.

# Q: Is cumulative voting permitted for the election of directors?

A: No. You may not cumulate your votes for the election of directors.

# Q: What is cumulative voting?

A: A system of voting in which each voter is given as many votes as there are positions to be filled and allowed to cast those votes for one candidate or distribute them in any way among the candidates.

Q: What happens if additional matters are presented at the Annual Meeting?

# A: Other than:

1. Election of seven directors to hold office until the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified;

<sup>2</sup>. Ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as the Company's <sup>2</sup>. Independent Auditor for the year ending December 31, 2015;

3. Advisory approval of the company's executive compensation (Say-on-Pay);

As described in this proxy statement, we are not aware of any other business to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting. If you submit a signed proxy, the persons named as proxy will have the discretion to vote your shares on any additional matters properly presented for a vote at the meeting.

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

A: Many CUI Global stockholders hold their shares as a beneficial owner through a broker or other nominee rather than directly in their own name. As summarized below, there are some distinctions between shares held of record and those owned beneficially.

#### Stockholder of Record

If your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., you are considered, with respect to those shares, the *stockholder of record*, and the Notice was sent directly to you by CUI Global. As the *stockholder of record*, you have the right to grant your voting proxy directly to CUI Global or to vote in person at the Annual Meeting. If you requested to receive printed proxy materials, CUI Global has enclosed or sent a proxy card for you to use. You may also vote on the internet or by telephone, as described in the Notice and below under the heading "How can I vote my shares without attending the Annual Meeting?"

# Beneficial Owner

If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer, trust or other similar organization, like the majority of our stockholders, you are considered the *beneficial owner* of shares held *in street name*, and the Notice was forwarded to you by that organization. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, bank, trustee or nominee how to vote your shares and you are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting.

Since a beneficial owner is not the *stockholder of record*, you may not vote your shares in person at the Annual Meeting unless you obtain a "legal proxy" from the broker, bank, trustee or nominee that holds your shares giving you the right to vote the shares at the meeting. If you do not wish to vote in person or you will not be attending the Annual Meeting, you may vote by proxy. You may vote by proxy over the internet or by telephone, as described in the Notice and below under the heading "How can I vote my shares without attending the Annual Meeting?"

If you hold your shares in "street name" through a broker or other nominee, your broker or nominee may not be permitted to exercise voting discretion with respect to some of the matters to be acted upon. Thus, if you do not give your broker or nominee specific instructions, your shares may not be voted on those matters and will not be counted in determining the number of shares necessary for approval. Shares represented by such "broker non-votes" will, however, be counted in determining whether there is a quorum.

# Q: Who will bear the cost of soliciting votes for the Annual Meeting?

A: CUI Global will pay the entire cost of preparing, assembling, printing, mailing and distributing these proxy materials and soliciting votes. If you choose to access the proxy materials and/or vote over the internet, you are responsible for internet access charges you may incur. If you choose to vote by telephone, you are responsible for telephone charges you may incur. In addition to the mailing of these proxy materials, the solicitation of proxies or votes may be made in person, by telephone or by electronic communication by our directors, officers and employees, who will not receive any additional compensation for such solicitation activities.

# Q: Where can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?

A: We intend to announce preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting and to disclose the vote results on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com as soon as possible after the Annual Meeting.

# Proposals to be Considered

#### **PROPOSAL I**

**Election of Directors** 

Issued and outstanding shares of our Common Stock are entitled to one vote per share for each Director for a one-year term or until his successor has been elected and qualified or his earlier resignation or removal. Cumulative voting is not permitted.

Unless stated to be voted otherwise, each proxy will be voted for the election of the nominees named. The nominees have consented to serve as director if elected. If any nominee becomes unavailable for election before the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the Board of Directors may name a substitute nominee and proxies will be voted for such substitute nominee unless an instruction to the contrary is written on the proxy card.

Information about Director Nominees

#### Board of Directors Independence

The Board of Directors has determined that each of the director nominees standing for election has no relationship that, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director. Additionally, several of the director nominees standing for election are "independent directors" as defined by Rule 5605(a)(2) of The NASDAQ Stock Market ("NASDAQ"). In determining the independence of our directors, the Board of Directors has adopted independence standards that mirror exactly the criteria specified by applicable laws and regulations of the SEC and the Rules of The NASDAQ Stock Market. In determining the independence of our directors, the Board of Directors considered all transactions in which CUI Global and any director had any interest, including those discussed below under *Transactions with Related Persons*, *Promoters and Certain Control Persons*.

William J. Clough, Esq., President/Chief Executive Officer, Director and General Counsel of CUI Global, Inc., Chief Executive Officer of CUI, Inc. and Chief Executive Officer of Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd.

Mr. Clough has served on the Board of Directors since 2006. Mr. Clough was reelected at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term.

Mr. Clough was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of CUI Global, Inc. September 13, 2007 at which time Mr. Clough stepped down as Executive Vice President of Corporate Development. Effective May 16, 2008, CUI Global, Inc. formed a wholly owned subsidiary, Waytronx Holdings, Inc., to acquire the assets of CUI, Inc. Along with this acquisition Mr. Clough was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Waytronx Holdings, Inc. (now renamed to CUI, Inc.). Mr. Clough was a police officer for 16 years, working at the local, state and federal levels as a Federal Air Marshall in Southern Europe and the Middle East, in 1985 and 1986. Mr. Clough received his Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 1990. He is certified to practice law in state and federal courts in California, Illinois, Hawaii and before the United States Supreme Court.

During late 2011 into early 2012, along with Company CFO, Daniel Ford, Mr. Clough led the efforts to complete a successful equity raise; coupled with a re-structuring of the Company's Capital Structure and up-listing the Company to the NASDAQ Capital Market in February 2012.

# Thomas A. Price, Director

Mr. Price was elected to serve as a director at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and continues to serve on the Board of Directors and was reelected at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term. Mr. Price was reelected at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term.

Mr. Price has nearly 50 years of business and operational management experience. He was the founder of Tom Price Dealership Group and later a co-founder of FirstAmerica Automotive, a leading auto dealership group with 29 franchises throughout California. Mr. Price developed a multi-brand San Francisco Auto Repair Center in the late 1990's and a conference facility in Larkspur, California in 2003 where he also stores and displays his extensive collection of vintage automobiles. Currently, Mr. Price is the co-owner of 14 auto dealerships in ten locations in Northern California. He was Chairman of the Lexus National Dealer Advisory Board and charter member of the J.D. Power Dealer Roundtable. The Price Family Dealerships are major sponsors of Schools Rule in Marin County, Marin Breast Cancer Foundation, Dedication to Special Education, CASA/Advocates for Children, and the Golden Gate Shootout.

# Matthew M. McKenzie, President/Chief Operational Officer of CUI, Inc., Chief Operating Officer, Corporate Secretary of CUI Global, Inc. and Director.

Matt McKenzie was elected to the Board of Directors at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and continues to serve on the Board of Directors and was reelected at the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to a two-year term on the Board of Directors. Mr. McKenzie was reelected at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term.

Mr. McKenzie earned an MBA from George Fox University. Matt McKenzie has been working in various functions for CUI for over 10 years, gaining him intimate knowledge of the business, its operations and its opportunities for growth. Over the past several years, Mr. McKenzie has worked to position CUI, Inc. for growth through sales and operation expansion as well as channel development and technology development. Mr. McKenzie initiated ISO 9001 certification, a quality management system, provided structure to global logistics, including CUI's international partners, and implemented CUI's ERP system, which allows for more visibility and analysis opportunities for CUI. He spearheads the research, development and implementation of the Novum and Solus technologies.

# Sean P. Rooney, Director

Mr. Rooney was elected to serve as a director at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and continues to serve on the Board of Directors and was reelected at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term. Mr. Rooney was reelected at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term.

Mr. Rooney brings to the CUI Global board nearly 20 years of financial management experience. He currently serves as Senior Director of Investments for Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., a leading full service investment banking, securities and wealth management firm. Prior to joining Oppenheimer, he served in a similar capacity at Maxim Group, a boutique investment bank in New York, and Investec Ernst & Company, an international specialist bank headquartered in South Africa and the U.K. Through his many years of experience, Mr. Rooney has built a vast network of industry resources and contacts.

Mr. Rooney graduated from C. W. Post University in 1993 with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Business Administration. Mr. Rooney currently manages a clientele of high net worth investors, institutions and foundations.

## Corey A. Lambrecht, Director

Mr. Lambrecht was elected to serve as a director at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and continues to serve on the Board of Directors and was reelected at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term. Mr. Lambrecht was reelected at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term.

Mr. Lambrecht is a 14+ year public company executive with experience in strategic acquisitions, new business development, pioneering consumer products, corporate licensing and interactive technology services. Mr. Lambrecht currently serves as the President of Earth911, Inc. and is a current director of Lifestyle Wireless. He previously served as Director of Sales for Leveraged Marketing Associates, a worldwide leader in licensed brand extension strategies. While Executive Vice President for Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation he was responsible for Smith & Wesson Licensing, Advanced Technologies and Interactive Marketing divisions. He was the former President of A For Effort (sold to Freesoftwareclub.com), an interactive database marketing company specializing in online content (advergaming) for clients such as the National Hockey League. Mr. Lambrecht's prior experience also includes Pre-IPO founder for Premium Cigars International and VP Sales/Marketing for ProductExpress.com.

# Paul D. White, Director

Mr. White was appointed as a Director by the Board of Directors pursuant to the bylaws during April 2014 to fill a vacancy. Mr. White was elected at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to serve a one-year term.

Mr. White is a graduate of Humboldt State University and brings to the CUI Global board over 25 years of upper level business management skills. Mr. White currently serves as Vice President of the Healthcare Division for North America of a global security company. His responsibilities include direct P & L statements of \$120 million, along with management, control, and supervision of approximately 3,000 employees working at 44 Medical Centers & Hospitals and over 600 Medical Office Buildings throughout the United States. He also serves as the company's subject matter expert for North America. He previously served in the Office of the General Counsel and Risk Services, as an Environmental Risk Consultant with Sutter Health Support Services – Corporate Services. His key responsibilities included: formulating best practice solutions to minimize/eliminate existing and potential employee health & safety and security exposures as well as consultations of state, federal, and professional standards for Risk Control/Environmental Health & Safety programs such as OSHA, TJC, DHS, EPA, NFPA, and DOT.

As a results oriented business leader with achievement in developing, managing and expanding business portfolios, with expertise at senior management level in healthcare safety, security and risk management programs in complex

matrix organizations, Mr. White has senior management experience in contract management, public relations, program strategy and design and has been consistently recognized for effective financial management, leadership, integrity, team-building, and program management skills.

#### Joseph A. Mills, Director

Mr. Mills was appointed as a Director by the Board of Directors pursuant to the bylaws during August 2015 to fill a vacancy.

Mr. Mills has over 30 years of senior executive and operational experience and leadership in the energy industry. Joseph A. Mills is currently Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Eagle Rock Energy G&P, LLC, the General Partner of Eagle Rock Energy Partners, LP ("Eagle Rock"). Eagle Rock is a publicly traded master limited partnership on the NASDAQ: EROC. Mr. Mills joined Eagle Rock as Chairman of the Board and CEO effective May 1, 2007 as a part of the acquisition of certain assets from Montierra Minerals & Production, LP. Mr. Mills continues to serve as Chief Executive Officer of Montierra Minerals & Production, LP. Montierra is affiliated with Natural Gas Partners, a highly successful energy focused private equity firm. Montierra acquires oil and gas fee minerals, royalties and non-operated working interest drilling programs across the United States.

Mr. Mills served as Sr. Vice President of Operations for Black Stone Minerals Company from 2003 through 2005 during which time he was responsible for managing all the drilling, leasing and technical operations for the Company as well as being responsible for leading the efforts in evaluating and closing on over \$600 million of acquisitions of oil and gas fee minerals across the United States. From 1999 through August 2003, Mr. Mills served in several executive positions at El Paso Production Company, including Sr. Vice President of Acquisitions, Technical Services and Gulf of Mexico Division from 2001 – 2003. In this capacity, Mr. Mills was responsible for all the acquisition and divestiture activities worldwide of El Paso Production Company.

Mr. Mills earned a BBA degree in Petroleum Land Management at the University of Texas and an MBA degree at the University of Houston.

# All seven directors are nominated for election to a one-year term on the Board of Directors

# Vote Required

The election of each director nominee requires the affirmative vote "FOR" of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Directors recommends that Stockholders vote "FOR" election of the nominees for director named above.

**PROPOSAL II** 

**Ratification of the Appointment of** 

## Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as the Company's

#### Independent Auditor for the Year Ending December 31, 2015

The Audit Committee has selected Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance to serve as independent registered public accountants for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. The board is submitting the appointment of independent registered public accountants to the shareholders for ratification at the Annual Meeting.

Representatives of Perkins & Company, P.C. are expected to be available by teleconference at the Annual Meeting, will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Shareholder ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. as the Company's independent registered public accountants is not required by the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation, bylaws or otherwise; however, the Board of Directors is submitting the selection of Perkins & Company, P.C. to the shareholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate practice. If the shareholders fail to ratify the selection, the Audit Committee will review its future selection of an independent registered public accounting firm in light of that vote result. Your ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015 does not preclude us from terminating our engagement of Perkins & Company, P.C. and retaining a new independent registered public accounting firm, if we determine that such an action would be in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

# Vote Required

Ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. as the Company's independent registered public accountants for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and voting for the proposal.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. as the independent registered public accountants of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015.

**PROPOSAL III** 

Advisory Approval of the Company's

**Executive Compensation** 

(Say-on-Pay)

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and related SEC regulations require that, at least once every three years, we provide our stockholders with the opportunity to express their views on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement. We first held this vote, which is often referred to as the Say-on-Pay vote, at our annual meeting of stockholders held in 2013. At such meeting, our stockholders voted to hold the frequency of our Say-on-Pay vote on an annual basis. Our Board of Directors agreed to support the stockholder decision; therefore, the Company will hold future non-binding advisory votes on the compensation of our named executive officers every year, at least until the next required vote of frequency of stockholder votes on the compensation of our named executive officers. Such Say-on-Frequency vote must occur no later than the annual or other meeting of shareholders held in the sixth calendar

year after the immediately preceding Say-on-Frequency vote (2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders). An issuer could hold a Say-on-Frequency vote more frequently than every six years if it elects to do so.

The compensation of our named executive officers for the past three fiscal years is set forth in the *Elements of Executive Compensation* section. The *Compensation Discussion and Analysis*, or CD&A section describes our executive compensation policies and practices and analyzes the compensation received by our named executive officers in fiscal year 2014. As described in the CD&A, our executive compensation philosophy is to reward performance and motivate collective achievement of strategic objectives that will contribute to our company's success. Our Board of Directors believes the compensation programs for our named executive officers effectively meet the primary objectives of attracting and retaining highly qualified executives, motivating our executives to achieve our business objectives, rewarding our executives appropriately for their individual and collective contributions and aligning our executives' interests with the long-term interests of our shareholders, and our Board believes our programs are reasonable when compared to compensation at similar companies.

The vote on this resolution is not intended to address any specific element of executive compensation. Instead, the vote relates to the executive compensation of our named executive officers, as set forth in this proxy statement pursuant to the rules of the SEC. This vote provides stockholders with the opportunity to endorse or not endorse the compensation of our named executive officers, but is advisory and not binding on our company or our Board of Directors.

Accordingly, The Board of Directors believes the Company's executive compensation achieves these objectives, therefore, unanimously recommends that shareholders vote "for" the proposal.

# **RESOLVED**, that the stockholders of CUI Global, Inc. approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as disclosed in the compensation tables and related material in the Proxy Statement for the 2015 annual meeting of stockholders.

This vote will not be binding on the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee and may not be construed as overruling a decision by the Board or the Compensation Committee or create or imply any additional fiduciary duty on the Board. It will also not affect any compensation paid or awarded to any executive. The approval or disapproval of this proposal by shareholders will not require the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee to take any action regarding the Company's executive compensation practices. The final decision on the compensation and benefits of the Company's executive officers and on whether, and if so, how to address shareholder disapproval remains with the board and the Compensation Committee. Although the Say-on-Pay resolution is non-binding, the Board of Directors will review and consider the voting results when making future executive compensation decisions.

# Vote Required

Our executive compensation will be approved, on an advisory basis, if the votes cast by shareholders in favor of advisory approval exceed those votes cast in opposition of the advisory approval.

# The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" Advisory Approval of the Company's Executive Compensation (Say-on-Pay).

**Other Business** 

Management does not presently know of any matter that may be presented for action at this Annual Meeting other than as set forth herein. However, if any other matters properly come before this Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the proxies solicited by management to exercise their discretionary authority to vote the shares represented by all effective proxies on such matters in accordance with their best judgment.

#### **Directors and Executive Officers**

Our Bylaws permit the number of directors to be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors, but to be no less than one. The Board of Directors has set the maximum number of members to no more than eight members. Directors are elected by a majority of the votes cast by the stockholders. Commencing with the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, we elect all of our directors simultaneously for a one-year term or until their successors have been elected and qualified, or their earlier resignation or removal. Currently, we have seven directors, four of whom are "independent" in accordance with applicable rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission and within the meaning of Rule 5605(a)(2) of The NASDAQ Stock Market.

The Board of Directors has four standing committees: Audit Committee, Disclosure Committee, Compensation Committee and Nomination Committee, each of which has a written charter and/or statement of policy approved by our board. Our board currently appoints the members of each committee. Copies of the current charters and/or statement of policy for each committee are posted on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com. All incumbent directors attended, either in person or electronically, 100% of the meetings held by the committees on which they served.

The following are officers and directors of the Company with their ages as of December 31, 2014, and a list of the members of our four standing committees: Audit Committee, Disclosure Committee, Compensation Committee and Nomination Committee.

**William J. Clough, Esq.**, President/Chief Executive Officer, Director and General Counsel of CUI Global, Inc., age 63 (Seat 1)

Thomas A. Price, Director, age 71 (Seat 2)

Matthew M. McKenzie, Chief Operating Officer, Corporate Secretary of CUI Global, Inc. and Director, age 35 (Seat 3)

Sean P. Rooney, Director, age 43 (Seat 4)

Paul White, Director, age 53 (Seat 5)

Corey A. Lambrecht, Director, age 45 (Seat 6)

Joseph A. Mills, Director, age 55 (Seat 7)

Daniel N. Ford, Chief Financial Officer of CUI Global, Inc., age 36

#### **Corporate Governance and Board of Directors Matters**

We are 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 our integrity in the marketplace. We have adopted a Corporate Code of Ethics and Business Conduct, including our Whistleblower Policy, for employees, directors and officers (including our principal executive officer and principal financial and accounting officer). We have also adopted the following governance guides: Charter of the Audit Committee, Charter of the Compensation Committee, Policy for Director Independence, Nominating Committee Guide, Whistleblower Policy, Disclosure Controls and Procedures and Corporate Social Responsibility Policy, all of which, in conjunction with our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, form the framework for our corporate governance. These corporate governance documents are available on the internet and our website at www.CUIGlobal.com.

#### Our Corporate Governance Practices

We have always believed in strong and effective corporate governance procedures and practices. In that spirit, we have summarized several of our corporate governance practices below.

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

The Board of Directors and its committees have an important role in the Company's risk oversight, management and assessment process. The board regularly reviews with management the Company's financial and business strategies which include a discussion of relevant material risks as appropriate. The board discusses with the Company's outside general counsel, as appropriate, its risk oversight and assessment as well as any material risks to the Company. In addition, the board delegates risk management responsibilities to the Audit Committee and Compensation Committee, which are each comprised of only independent directors.

The Audit Committee, as part of its charter, oversees the Company's risk oversight, management and assessment of the Company and oversees and assesses the risks associated with the corporate governance and ethics of the Company. Risk considerations are a material aspect of the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee is responsible for overseeing the management of risks relating to executive compensation. In addition, the Compensation Committee also, as appropriate, assesses the risks relating to the Company's overall compensation programs.

While the Audit Committee and Compensation Committee oversee the management of the risk areas identified above, the entire board is regularly informed through committee reports about such risks. This enables the board and its committees to coordinate the risk management, assessment and oversight roles.

#### Adopting Governance Guidelines

Our Board of Directors has adopted a set of corporate governance guidelines to establish a framework within which it will conduct its business and to guide management in its running of our Company. The governance guidelines can be found on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com and are summarized below.

## Providing Transparency

We believe that it is important that stockholders understand our governance practices. In order to help ensure transparency of our practices, we have posted information regarding our corporate governance procedures on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com.

# Communications with the Board of Directors

Stockholders may communicate with the Board of Directors by writing to the Company at CUI Global, Inc., 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062 or phone (503) 612-2300. Stockholders who would like their submission directed to a member of the board may so specify and the communication will be forwarded as appropriate.

# Monitoring Board Effectiveness

It is important that our Board of Directors and its committees are performing effectively and in the best interest of the Company and its stockholders. The Board of Directors and each committee are responsible for annually assessing their effectiveness in fulfilling their obligations.

## Conducting Formal Independent Director Sessions

On a regular basis, many times at the conclusion of regularly scheduled board meeting, the independent directors are encouraged to meet privately, without our management or any non-independent directors.

# Hiring Outside Advisors

The board and each of its committees may retain outside advisors and consultants of their choosing at company expense, without management's consent.

## Avoiding Conflicts of Interest

We expect our directors, executives and employees to conduct themselves with the highest degree of integrity, ethics and honesty. Our credibility and reputation depend upon the good judgment, ethical standards and personal integrity of each director, executive and employee. In order to provide assurances to the Company and its stockholders, we have implemented standards of business conduct which provide clear conflict of interest guidelines to its employees and directors, as well as an explanation of reporting and investigatory procedures.

### Corporate Social Responsibility

Our board adopted a companywide Corporate Social Responsibility Policy (CSR). As a responsible member of society, we believe that the long-term future of our business is best served by respecting the interests of our employees, customers, contractors, suppliers and the wider global community. We look for opportunities to reduce our impact on the environment and to contribute to the wellbeing of those less fortunate than ourselves. Our CSR policy sets out the principles we follow with a view to supporting our CSR ethos. Demonstrating our commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility is an objective toward which we aim to align our business values, purpose and strategy with the social and economic needs of our stakeholders, while embedding responsible and ethical business policies and practices into everything we do.

#### Accuracy of All Public Disclosure

It is the Company's policy that all public disclosure made by the Company should be accurate, complete, and fairly present, in all material respects, the Company's financial condition and results of operations, and be made on a timely basis as required by applicable laws and securities exchange requirements. In order to oversee this policy, a Disclosure Committee Charter has been adopted by the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer and ratified by our Audit Committee. A copy of this document is posted on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com or a copy is available by making a written request to the Company at CUI Global, Inc., 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062, phone (503) 612-2300.

## Standards of Business Conduct

The Board of Directors has adopted a Corporate Code of Ethics and Business Conduct, including our Whistleblower Policy, for all of our employees and directors, including the Company's principal executive and senior financial officers.

You can obtain a copy of these documents on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com or by making a written request to the Company at CUI Global, Inc., 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062 or phone (503) 612-2300. We will disclose any amendments to the Code of Ethics and Business Conduct or waiver of a provision on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com.

## Internal Auditor

The Board of Directors adopted a Charter of Internal Audit that authorizes and outlines the function of an Internal Audit as an independent and objective assurance activity that is guided by a philosophy of adding value to improve the operations of CUI Global. It is designed to assist CUI Global in accomplishing objectives by bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the design and operating effectiveness of CUI Global's governance, risk management, and internal control over financial reporting.

#### Ensuring Auditor Independence

We have taken a number of steps to ensure the continued independence of our independent registered public accounting firm. That firm reports directly to the Audit Committee, which also has the ability to pre-approve or reject any non-audit services proposed to be conducted by our independent registered public accounting firm. For further information on Auditor Independence see the section hereafter entitled *Audit Committee*.

#### **Committees of the Board and Meetings**

Presently, our Board of Directors consists of seven directors. Five of our directors are "independent" as defined in Rule 5605(a)(2) of The NASDAQ Stock Market. Our Board of Directors has the following standing committees: Audit Committee, Nominating Committee, Compensation Committee and Disclosure Committee. Each of the committees operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors. All of the committee charters are available for review on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com.

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is currently comprised of three members: Sean P. Rooney, Chairman, and Thomas A. Price, Deputy Chairman and Corey A. Lambrecht, committee member.

The Board of Directors has determined that each of the members of the Audit Committee qualifies as "independent" in accordance with Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 5605(a)(2) of The NASDAQ Stock Market. The Board of Directors has further determined that each of the Committee's members is an "audit committee financial expert" within the meaning of the SEC rules.

The primary role of the Committee is to assist the Board of Directors in its oversight of: (a) the Company's corporate accounting and reporting practices, (b) the quality and integrity of the Company's financial statements, (c) the performance of the Company's system of internal accounting and financial controls, (d) the Company's compliance with related legal and regulatory requirements, (e) the Company's risk management program, (f) the qualifications, independence and performance of the independent registered public accounting firm ("Auditor"), and (g) the performance of the Company's internal audit function.

In addition to those primary roles, the Committee also performs other roles and functions as outlined in its charter, including preliminary review of earnings releases and other activities. The Committee also acts as the audit committee for each of the Company's subsidiaries. A more detailed description of the Committee's roles, functions and activities is set forth in the description of board committees elsewhere in this Proxy Statement and in the Committee's charter, which is available on our corporate website.

The Committee reviews the internal audit function of the Company, including the independence and authority of its reporting obligations, the proposed audit plans for the coming year and the coordination of such plans with the auditor. The Committee oversees the internal audit and the overall internal audit function of the Company. The Company's internal audit function operates under the terms of the Audit Committee Charter which is reviewed by the Committee and is approved by the Board of Directors.

The Committee appoints and annually evaluates the performance of the Company's auditor and provides assistance to the members of the Board of Directors in fulfilling their oversight functions of the financial reporting practices, including satisfying obligations imposed by Section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, and financial statements of the Company. It is not the duty of the Committee, however, to plan or conduct audits or to determine that the Company's financial statements are complete and accurate and are in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The Company's auditor is responsible for planning and conducting audits of the financial statements and internal controls over financial reporting; and the Company's management is responsible for preparing the financial statements, designing and assessing the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting and determining that the Company's financial statements are complete and accurate and accurate and in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and applicable laws and regulations.

The Company's current independent registered public accounting firm, Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance (Perkins & Company, P.C.), has been the Company's independent registered public accounting firm since April 4, 2014 and the Audit Committee has selected Perkins & Company, P.C. to be the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2015. The Committee contracts with and sets the fees paid to the independent registered public accounting firm.

Audit fees relate to professional services rendered for the audit of consolidated financial statements of the Company, audits of the statutory financial statements of certain subsidiaries, review of quarterly consolidated financial statements and assistance with review of documents filed with the SEC, including attestation as required under Section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

There are not currently any non-audit services being provided by Perkins & Company, P.C. Any non-audit services must be reviewed and pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

The Committee annually conducts an evaluation of the auditor to determine if they will recommend the retention of the auditor. As part of the evaluation of the auditor, the Committee surveys CUI Global management and all members of the Committee to determine if the auditor is meeting Company expectations. The results of the survey are presented to the Committee and assist the Committee in the decision to recommend reappointment of the auditor. The auditor evaluations include whether the auditor: 1) maintains independence, integrity and objectivity combined with an attitude of professional skepticism; 2) maintains candid and open dialog, communicates in a timely, forthright manner with sufficient clarity and frequency; and 3) understands the Company's business operations and strategy. In addition, the Committee obtains and reviews, at least annually, a report by the auditor describing; the firm's internal quality-control procedures; any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality-control review, or peer review, of the firm, or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities and any steps taken to deal with any such issues; and (to assess the auditor's independence) all relationships between the auditor and the Company.

Additionally, the Committee promotes the auditor's independence by ensuring that the lines of communication are always open and constant between the auditor and the Committee. As needed, the Committee is in contact with the auditor numerous times throughout the year. This includes normal meetings, executive sessions, telephonic meetings and periodically between normally scheduled meetings, as needed. The purpose of this is to allow open and unobstructed access to the Committee should the auditor need to bring anything to the Committee's attention.

## Audit Committee Report

THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE SOLICITING MATERIAL AND SHOULD NOT BE DEEMED FILED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO ANY OTHER COMPANY FILING UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 OR THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THE COMPANY SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATES THIS REPORT BY REFERENCE THEREIN.

## Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee reviews the financial information that will be provided to the stockholders and others, the systems of internal controls established by management and the board and the independence and performance of the Company's audit process.

The Audit Committee has:

- 1. Reviewed and discussed with management the audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and the most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q
- 2. Discussed with Perkins & Company, P.C., the Company's independent auditors, the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 16, *Communication with Audit Committees*, as adopted by the Public

Company Accounting Oversight Board

4.

Received the written disclosures and letter from Perkins & Company, P.C. as required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant's communications with the

- 3. the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and has discussed with Perkins & Company, P.C. its independence from CUI Global
  - Discussed with Perkins & Company, P.C. its independence

Based on these reviews and discussions, the Audit Committee has recommended that the audited consolidated financial statements are included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014. The Audit Committee has also considered whether the amount and nature of non-audit services provided by Perkins & Company, P.C. is compatible with the auditor's independence and determined that it is compatible.

Submitted by: Audit Committee by Sean P. Rooney Thomas A. Price Corey A. Lambrecht

#### Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for Fiscal year 2014

The financial statements of the Company as of December 31, 2014, which are included with the Form 10-K furnished herewith, have been audited by Perkins & Company, P.C., Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, and the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the most recent quarter of the current fiscal year has been reviewed by Perkins & Company, P.C.

## Compensation of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Audit fees relate to professional services rendered for the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the Company, audits of the statutory financial statements of certain subsidiaries, review of quarterly consolidated financial statements and assistance with review of documents filed with the SEC, including attestation as required under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Perkins & Company, P.C. billed or controlled billings to the Company an aggregate of \$317,597 as of December 31, 2014, in fees and expenses for professional services rendered in connection with the audit of the Company's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and the reviews of the financial statements included in each of the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. Perkins & Company, P.C. billed audit related fees, tax fees, or other fees of \$41,340 during the year ended December 31, 2014.

Effective April 4, 2014, Perkins & Company, P.C. replaced Liggett, Vogt & Webb, P. A. (LVW), as our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

During 2014, LVW billed the Company an aggregate of \$240,414 in fees and expenses for professional services rendered in connection with the audit and restatement of the Company's financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 and for professional services rendered in connection with the transition to Perkins & Company, P.C. In addition, LVW billed audit related fees and other fees of \$33,015 during the year ended December 31, 2014.

Liggett, Vogt & Webb, P. A. billed the Company an aggregate of \$218,913 in fees and expenses for professional services rendered in connection with the audit of the Company's financial statements for the fiscal year ended

December 31, 2013 and the reviews of the financial statements included in each of the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. Liggett, Vogt & Webb, P.A. billed audit related fees, tax fees, or other fees of \$28,796 during the year ended December 31, 2013.

In accordance with the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the Audit Committee has adopted an informal approval policy that it believes will result in an effective and efficient procedure to pre-approve services performed by the independent registered public accounting firm.

## **Nominating Committee**

The nominating committee consists of all of the members of the Board of Directors who are "independent directors" within the meaning of Rule 5605(a)(2) of The NASDAQ Stock Market. The nominating committee is responsible for the evaluation of nominees for election as director, the nomination of director candidates for election by the stockholders and evaluation of sitting directors.

The board has developed a formal policy for the identification and evaluation of nominees, *Charter of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors*, which can be reviewed on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com. In general, when the board determines that expansion of the board or replacement of a director is necessary or appropriate, the nominating committee will review, through candidate interviews with members of the board and management, consultation with the candidate's associates and through other means, a candidate's honesty, integrity, reputation in and commitment to the community, judgment, personality and thinking style, willingness to invest in the Company, residence, willingness to devote the necessary time, potential conflicts of interest, independence, understanding of financial statements and issues, and the willingness and ability to engage in meaningful and constructive discussion regarding Company issues. The committee reviews any special expertise, for example, that qualifies a person as an audit committee financial expert, membership or influence in a particular geographic or business target market, or other relevant business experience. To date the Company has not paid any fee to any third party to identify or evaluate, or to assist it in identifying or evaluating, potential director candidates.

The nominating committee considers director candidates nominated by stockholders during such times as the Company is actively considering obtaining new directors. Candidates recommended by stockholders will be evaluated based on the same criteria described above. Stockholders desiring to suggest a candidate for consideration should send a letter to the Company's secretary and include: (a) a statement that the writer is a shareholder (providing evidence if the person's shares are held in street name) and is proposing a candidate for consideration; (b) the name and contact information for the candidate; (c) a statement of the candidate's business and educational experience; (d) information regarding the candidate's qualifications to be director, including but not limited to an evaluation of the factors discussed above, which the board would consider in evaluating a candidate; (e) information regarding any relationship or understanding between the proposing shareholder and the candidate; (f) information regarding potential conflicts of interest and (g) a statement that the candidate is willing to be considered and willing to serve as director if nominated and elected. Because of the small size of the Company and the limited need to seek additional directors, there is no assurance that all shareholder proposed candidates will be fully considered, that all candidates will be considered equally or that the proponent of any candidate or the proposed candidate will be contacted by the Company or the board and no undertaking to do so is implied by the willingness to consider candidates proposed by stockholders.

#### **Disclosure Committee**

We have formed a Disclosure Committee, which has been adopted by our CEO and CFO ("Principal Officers") and ratified by our Audit Committee. The Disclosure Committee assists our Principal Officers in fulfilling their responsibility for oversight of the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of our public disclosures including, but not limited to our SEC filings, press releases, correspondence disseminated to security holders, presentations to analysts and release of financial information or earnings guidance to security holders or the investment community. The Disclosure Committee consists of our Principal Officers, the individual or representative of the firm primarily charged with investor/public relations, the Audit Committee Chairman and outside SEC counsel. Our CEO is Chairman of the committee. Our Senior Officers may replace or add new members from time to time. Our Senior Officers have the option to assume all the responsibilities of this committee or designate a committee member, who shall be a person with expertise in SEC and SRO rules and regulations with respect to disclosure, who shall have the power, acting together with our Senior Officers, to review and approve disclosure statements when time or other circumstances do not permit the full committee to meet. You may review the full text of our Disclosure Committee Charter on our website, www.CUIGlobal.com, under the link, governance.

Generally, the committee serves as a central point to which material information should be directed and a resource for people who have questions regarding materiality and the requirement to disclose. In discharging its duties, the committee has full access to all Company books, records, facilities and personnel, including the Board of Directors, Audit Committee, independent public accountants and outside counsel.

## **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee discharges the board's responsibilities relating to general compensation policies and practices and to compensation of our executives. In discharging its responsibilities, the Compensation Committee establishes principles and procedures in order to ensure to the board and the shareholders that the compensation practices of the Company are appropriately designed and implemented to attract, retain and reward high quality executives and are in accordance with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements. In this context, the Compensation Committee's authority, duties and responsibilities are:

To annually review the Company's philosophy regarding executive compensation. To periodically review market and industry data to assess the Company's competitive position, and to retain any compensation consultant to be used to assist in the evaluation of directors' and executive officers' compensation. To establish and approve the Company goals and objectives and associated measurement metrics relevant to compensation of the Company's executive officers.

• To establish and approve incentive levels and targets relevant to compensation of the executive officers. To annually review and make recommendations to the board to approve, for all principal executives and officers, the •base and incentive compensation, taking into consideration the judgment and recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer for the compensation of the principal executives and officers.

To separately review, determine and approve the Chief Executive Officer's applicable compensation levels based on • the Committee's evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer's performance in light of the Company's and the individual goals and objectives.

To periodically review and make recommendations to the board with respect to the compensation of directors, •including board and committee retainers, meeting fees, equity-based compensation and such other forms of compensation as the Compensation Committee may consider appropriate.

• To administer and annually review the Company's incentive compensation plans and equity-based plans. To review and make recommendations to the board regarding any executive employment agreements, any proposed • severance arrangements or change in control and similar agreements/provisions, and any amendments, supplements or waivers to the foregoing agreements, and any perquisites, special or supplemental benefits.

To review and discuss with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A) and determine the  $\cdot$  Committee's recommendation for the CD&A's inclusion in the Company's annual report filed with the SEC on Form 10-K and proxy statement on Schedule 14A.

The Committee may, in its sole discretion, retain or obtain the advice of a compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser.

The Committee shall be directly responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the work of any compensation consultant, legal counsel and other adviser retained by the Committee. The Company shall provide for appropriate funding, as determined by the Committee, for payment of reasonable compensation to a compensation consultant, legal counsel or any other adviser retained by the Committee.

The Committee may select, or receive advice from, a compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser to the Committee, other than in-house legal counsel, only after taking into consideration the following factors:

(i) The provision of other services to the Company by the person that employs the compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser;

The amount of fees received from the Company by the person that employs the compensation consultant, legal

(ii) counsel or other adviser, as a percentage of the total revenue of the person that employs the compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser;

(iii) The policies and procedures of the person that employs the compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser that are designed to prevent conflicts of interest;

(iv) Any business or personal relationship of the compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser with a member of the Committee;

(v) Any stock of the Company owned by the compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser; and

(vi) Any business or personal relationship of the compensation consultant, legal counsel, other adviser or the person employing the adviser with an executive officer of the Company.

The Committee is not required to implement or act consistently with the advice or recommendations of the compensation consultant, legal counsel or other advisers to the Committee.

## Compensation Committee Members

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is appointed by the Board of Directors to discharge the board's responsibilities with respect to all forms of compensation of the Company's executive officers, to administer the Company's equity incentive plans and to produce an annual report on executive compensation for use in the Company's Form 10-K and the proxy statement on Schedule 14A. During fiscal year 2015, the Compensation Committee consists of two members of the Board of Directors, Messers Paul D. White and Corey A. Lambrecht, both of whom are ''independent directors'' within the meaning of Rule 5605(a) (2) of the NASDAQ Stock Market.

## Committee Meetings

Our Compensation Committee meets in private session, formally and informally, as often as necessary to perform its duties and responsibilities. The Compensation Committee held one formal meeting during fiscal 2014. On an as requested basis, our Compensation Committee receives and reviews materials prepared by management, consultants or committee members, in advance of each meeting. Depending on the agenda for the particular meeting, these materials may include:

Minutes and materials from the previous meeting(s);
 Reports on year-to-date Company and Partnership financial performance versus budget;

• Reports on progress and levels of performance of individual and Company performance objectives;

• Reports on the Company's financial and stock performance versus a peer group of companies; Reports from the Committee's compensation consultant regarding market and industry data relevant to executive officer compensation;

Reports and executive compensation summary worksheets, which sets forth for each executive officer: current total compensation and incentive compensation target percentages, current equity ownership holdings and general partner ownership interest and current and projected value of each and all such compensation elements, including distributions and dividends, over a five-year period.

# Compensation Committee Charter

Our Compensation Committee Charter is posted on our website at www.CUIGlobal.com.

# Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

None of the members of the Company's Compensation Committee is or has at any time during the last completed fiscal year been an officer or employee of the Company. None of the Company's executive officers has served as a member of the compensation or similar committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers who served on the Company's Board of Directors or Compensation Committee during the last completed fiscal year.

# Compensation Committee Report

We have reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management and based on our review and discussion with management, we have recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the Company's proxy statement on Schedule 14A for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

Submitted by: Compensation Committee Corey A. Lambrecht, Chairman Paul D. White

**Compensation Discussion and Analysis** 

**Executive Compensation** 

# General Philosophy

Our compensation philosophy is based on the premise of attracting, retaining and motivating exceptional leaders, setting high goals, working toward the common objectives of meeting the expectations of customers and stockholders and rewarding outstanding performance. Following this philosophy, in determining executive compensation, we consider all relevant factors, such as the competition for talent, our desire to link pay with performance, the use of equity to align executive interests with those of our stockholders, individual contributions, teamwork and performance, each executive's total compensation package and internal pay equity. We strive to accomplish these objectives by compensating all employees with total compensation packages consisting of a combination of competitive base salary and incentive compensation.

## Pay for Performance

At the core of our compensation philosophy is our strong belief that pay should be directly linked to performance. We believe in a pay for performance culture that places a significant portion of executive officer total compensation as contingent upon, or variable with, individual performance, Company performance and achievement of strategic goals including increasing shareholder value.

The performance based compensation for our executives may be in the form of (i) annual cash incentives to promote achievement of, and accountability for, shorter term performance plans and strategic goals and (ii) equity grants, designed to align the long-term interests of our executive officers with those of our shareholders, by creating a strong and direct link between executive compensation and shareholder return over a multiple-year performance cycle. Long-term incentive equity awards are granted in restricted stock or stock options. These awards generally vest over a two-to four-year period. This opportunity for share ownership was provided in order to provide incentive and retain key employees and align their interests with our long-term strategic goals.

# Base Compensation to be Competitive within Industry

A key component of an executive's total compensation base salary is designed to compensate executives commensurate with their respective level of experience, scope of responsibilities, sustained individual performance and future potential. The goal has been to provide for base salaries that are sufficiently competitive with other similar-sized companies, both regionally and nationally, in order to attract and retain talented leaders.

# **Compensation Setting Process**

## Management's Role in the Compensation Setting Process.

Management plays a significant role in the compensation-setting process. The most significant aspects of management's role are:

Assisting in establishing business performance goals and objectives;
 Evaluating employee and Company performance;
 CEO recommending compensation levels and awards for executive officers;
 Implementing the board approved compensation plans; and
 Assistance in preparing agenda and materials for the Committee meetings.

The Chief Executive Officer generally attends the Committee meetings; however, the Committee also regularly meets in executive session. The Chief Executive Officer makes recommendations with respect to financial and corporate goals and objectives and makes non CEO executive compensation recommendations to the Compensation Committee based on Company performance, individual performance and the peer group compensation market analysis. The Compensation Committee considers and deliberates on this information and in turn makes recommendations to the Board of Directors, for the board's determination and approval of the executives' and other members of senior management's compensation, including base compensation, short-term cash incentives and long-term equity incentives. The Chief Executive Officer's performance and compensation is reviewed, evaluated and established separately by the Compensation Committee and ratified and approved by the Board of Directors.

#### Setting Compensation Levels

To determine that our total compensation is competitive and provides appropriate rewards to attract and retain talented leaders, as discussed above, we may rely on analyses of peer companies performed by independent compensation consultants and on other industry and occupation specific survey data available to us. Our general aim is to establish both base salary and total compensation for the executive officers at or near the compensation of peer group data, recognizing that a significant portion of executive officer total compensation should be contingent upon, or variable with, achievement of individual and Company performance objectives and strategic goals, as well as being variable with stockholder value. Further, while the objective for base salary is at that of peer group data, executives' base salaries are designed to reward core competencies and contributions to the Company and may be increased above this general benchmark based on (i) the individual's increased contribution over the preceding year; (ii) the individual's increased responsibilities over the preceding year; and (iii) any increase in median competitive pay levels.

#### Setting Performance Objectives

The Company's business plans and strategic objectives are generally presented by management annually to the Board of Directors. The board engages in an active discussion concerning the financial targets, the appropriateness of the strategic objectives and the difficulty in achieving the same. In establishing the compensation plan, our Compensation Committee then utilizes the primary financial objectives from the adopted business plan and operating cash flow as the primary targets for determining the executive officers' short-term cash incentives and long-term equity incentive compensation. The Committee also establishes additional non-financial performance goals and objectives, the achievement of which is required for funding of a significant portion, approximately twenty-five percent, of the executive officers' incentive compensation. In 2013, these non-financial performance goals and objectives included the successful equity raise; closing on the acquisition of Orbital Gas Systems Limited; the addition of a second distribution channel for CUI, Inc. products; continued product development and new product introductions; and general and administrative expense management.

#### Annual Evaluation

The Chief Executive Officer recommends the actual incentive award amounts for all other executives based on actual Company performance relative to the targets set as well as on individual performance and recommends the executives' base salaries levels for the coming year. The Compensation Committee considers these recommendations generally at the end of each fiscal year in determining its recommendations to the Board of Directors for the final short-term cash incentive and long-term equity award amounts for each executive and for the executive's base salary levels. The actual incentive amounts awarded to each executive are ultimately subject to the discretion of the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors.

## Special Evaluation

Additional equity-based awards may be also granted to executives, as well as other employees, upon commencement of employment, for promotions or special performance recognition or for retention purposes, based on the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer. In determining whether to recommend additional grants to an executive, the Chief Executive Officer typically considers the individual's performance and any planned change in functional responsibility.

#### **Elements of Executive Compensation**

#### **Total Compensation**

Total compensation for our executives consists of three elements: (i) base salary; (ii) incentive cash award based on achieving specific performance targets as measured by cash flow and other objectives and (iii) equity incentive award, which is also performance based and paid out over a future period in the form of restricted stock or stock purchase options. Base salaries are the value upon which both the incentive compensation percentage targets are measured against. For evaluation and comparison of overall compensation of the executives and to assist it in making its compensation decisions, the Compensation Committee reviews an executive compensation summary, which sets forth for each executive: current compensation and current equity ownership holdings as well as the projected value of each and all such compensation elements, including distributions and dividends therefrom.

#### **Base Salaries**

Base salaries are designed to compensate executives commensurate with their respective level of experience, scope of responsibilities and to reward sustained individual performance and future potential. The goal has been to provide for base salaries that are sufficiently competitive with other similar-sized companies, both regionally and nationally, in order to attract and retain talented leaders.

## Incentive Compensation

Incentive compensation is intended to align compensation with business objectives and performance and enable the Company to attract, retain and reward high quality executive officers whose contributions are critical to short- and long-term success of the Company. The executives' incentive awards are based upon three key performance metrics: (i) the Company's EBITDA; (ii) achievement of agreed-upon strategic and corporate performance goals; and (iii) existing Employment Agreement.

The strategic and corporate performance goals are not intended to be a specific agreed-upon goal, but rather a general objective. Management and the Board of Directors discuss these factors and set objectives that are dynamic and change periodically. In setting these periodic goals, the Board of Directors discusses with management the nature of the objective and management's proposed method of achieving the goal. These goals change throughout the operational process because of changing dynamics such as economic conditions, current success of marketing, availability of materials, availability of funding and overall momentum toward achieving the goal.

## Incentive Plan Compensation

Incentive awards are paid out in cash, restricted common stock or option awards. The incentive award targets for the executives are established at the beginning of the year, generally, as a percentage of their base salary and the actual awards are determined at the following year's annual Board of Directors' meetings based on actual Company performance relative to established goals and objectives, as well as on evaluation of the executive's relevant departmental and individual performance during the past year. In many instances the award of restricted common stock vests over a four-year term in equal periodic tranches. The award of restricted common stock purchased through options generally, although not in every instance, vests immediately upon exercise of the option and generally has a validity of up to ten years and a per-share purchase price of no less than the fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant. The awards are intended to serve as a means of incentive compensation for performance.

## **Retirement** Plans

Our wholly owned subsidiary, CUI, Inc., maintains a 401(k) plan. The Company has a 401(k) retirement savings plan that allows employees to contribute to the plan after they have completed 2 months of service and are 21 years of age. The Company matches the employee's contribution up to 6% of total compensation. CUI, Inc. made total employer

contributions, net of forfeitures, of \$271,813, \$245,594 and \$215,118 for 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

In addition, our wholly owned subsidiary, Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd., operates a defined contribution retirement benefit plan for employees who have been employed with the company at least 12 months and who chose to enroll in the plan. Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd. contributes to its plan the equivalent of 5% of the employee's salary and the employee has the option to contribute pre-tax earnings. Orbital made total employer contributions of \$255,773 during 2014 and \$106,121 during the period from April 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

## Change in Control Agreements

Our executives are awarded protection upon a change in control as specifically provided in their employment contracts. The Chief Executive Officer contract includes a provision for a three year severance package upon termination. The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operations Officer contracts include a provision for an eighteen month severance package upon termination.

# <u>Perquisites</u>

The Company does not provide for any perquisites or any other benefits for its senior executives that are not generally available to all employees.

# Employment Agreements

During fiscal year 2014, three executive officers were employed under employment agreements. Those executive officers are:

Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel

President of CUI, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of CUI Global, Inc.

• Chief Financial Officer of CUI Global, Inc. and CUI, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of CUI Global, Inc.

To see the material terms of each named executive officer's employment agreement, please see the footnotes to the Summary Compensation Table.

## Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the compensation paid and accrued to be paid by the Company for the fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012 to the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and President of CUI, Inc.

Man Equita

## **Summary Compensation Table**

					Non-Equity		
Name and Principal		Salary	Stock	Option	Incentive	All Other	
Position	Year	(\$)	Awards	Awards	Plan	Compensation (\$)	
1 OSHIOII		(Φ)	(\$)	(\$) (10) (11)	Compensation	(\$)	
					(\$)		
William J. Clough, CEO /							
President / Counsel /	2014	478,400(2)	-	-	276,000 (2)	19,995 774,395	
Director (1)							
	2013	405,000(2)	-	370,072 (3)	206,250 (2)	18,839 1,000,161	
	2012	337,500(2)	160,080(2)	848,599 (3)	204,920 (2)	17,860 1,568,959	
				,			
Daniel N. Ford, CFO (4)	2014	260,000(5)	-	-	113,542 (5)	35,733 409,275	
	2013	222,500(5)	-	185,036 (6)	97,500 (5)	36,339 541,375	
	2012	195,000(5)	51,120 (5)	27,451 (6)	160,130 (5)	34,860 468,561	
				-			
Matthew M. McKenzie,							
President of CUI Inc. /	2014	260,000(8)	-	-	223,958 (8)	36,208 520,166	
Director (7)	_011	_00,000(0)			(0)		
	2013	227,500(8)	-	92,518 (9)	102,500 (8)	36,339 458,857	
	2012	,		40,093 (9)	, , , , ,	, , , ,	
	-	, ( - )	, (-)	, - (-)	, (-)	,, -	

## Footnotes:

Mr. Clough joined the Company on September 1, 2005. Effective September 13, 2007, Mr. Clough was appointed 1.CEO/President of CUI Global and Chief Executive Officer of CUI, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

Mr. Clough is employed under a multi-year employment contract with the Company, which was extended to run to and through December 31, 2016. Said contract provides, in relevant part, for an annual salary of \$460,000 which became effective July 1, 2013 and includes bonus provisions for each calendar year and entitles Mr. Clough to a two-year severance package and an annual 4% cost of living adjustment. Bonuses are approved quarterly based on

- 2. various performance-related factors and an evaluation of current performance. All such bonus payments shall be paid to Mr. Clough in equal monthly installments following the period in which the bonus is earned and shall be paid on the 15th day of each month. During 2013, in accordance with the bonus provisions of his employment contract, Mr. Clough received 33,350 shares of common stock with a fair value of \$160,080. At December 31, 2014 and 2013, there was an accrual of \$14,167 and \$14,167, respectively, for compensation owed to Mr. Clough.
- 3. Effective June 24, 2013, Mr. Clough received a bonus option to purchase 200,000 common shares within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$6.25 per share that vests one third each year over 3 years. Under the terms of Mr. Clough's contract extension, effective September 21, 2012, Mr. Clough received a bonus option to purchase 330,000 common shares, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$6.00 per share that vests in equal

monthly installments over 4 years. Effective April 16, 2012, Mr. Clough received a bonus option to purchase 37,177 common shares, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$4.56 per share that vests over 4 years: 25% at year one and thereafter in equal monthly installments.

4. Mr. Ford joined the Company May 15, 2008 as Chief Financial Officer of CUI Global and CUI, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

Mr. Ford is employed under a three-year employment contract with the Company, which was extended to December 31, 2015 and provides, in relevant part, for an annual salary of \$250,000 effective July 1, 2013, an annual 4% cost of living adjustment, an eighteen month severance package and bonus provisions up to one hundred twenty-five percent of base salary to be based on performance objectives, goals and milestones for each calendar year including revenue and EBITDA performance. The bonus includes a discretionary bonus of up to twenty-five percent of salary based upon the reasonable judgment of the compensation committee. Employee has the ability to earn a larger bonus based on the performance criteria set forth and the reasonable judgment and discretion of the compensation committee. Previous to July 1, 2013, Mr. Ford's employment contract provided, in relevant part, for an annual salary of \$195,000 and bonus provisions for each calendar year, in which the CUI Global year end Statement of Operations shows a Net Profit and the Gross Revenue equal to or that exceeds fifteen percent (15%), but less than

5. thirty percent (30%), of the immediate preceding calendar year, he shall be entitled to receive a cash bonus in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of his prior year base salary in addition to any other compensation to which he may be entitled; provided, however, that he shall be entitled to the bonus only if he has been employed by the Company during that entire calendar year. In substitution of the bonus percentages described above, he shall be entitled to receive, in any year in which annual Gross Revenue exceeds by 30% of the prior calendar year gross revenue, a sum equal to 100% of his prior year base salary. Bonuses are approved quarterly based on the above factors and an evaluation of current performance. All such bonus payments shall be paid to Mr. Ford in equal monthly installments following the period in which the bonus provisions of his employment contract, Mr. Ford received 10,650 shares of common stock with a fair value of \$51,120. At December 31, 2014 and 2013 there was an accrual of \$10,417 and \$8,125, respectively, for compensation owed to Mr. Ford.

Effective June 24, 2013, Mr. Ford received a bonus option to purchase 100,000 common shares within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$6.25 per share that vests one third each year over 3 years. Effective April 16, 2012, Mr. Ford received a bonus option to purchase 12,598 common shares, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$4.56 per share that vests over 4 years: 25% at year one and thereafter in equal monthly installments.

7. Mr. McKenzie joined the Company May 15, 2008 as Chief Operating Officer of CUI Global and President and Chief Operating Officer of CUI, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

Mr. McKenzie is employed under a three-year employment contract with the Company, which was extended to December 31, 2015 and provides, in relevant part, for an annual salary of \$250,000 effective July 1, 2013, an annual 4% cost of living adjustment, an eighteen month severance package and bonus provisions up to one hundred twenty-five percent of base salary to be based on performance objectives, goals, and milestones for each calendar year, including adjusted EBITDA performance in the power and electro-mechanical segment. The bonus includes a discretionary bonus of up to twenty-five percent of salary based upon the reasonable judgment of the compensation committee. Employee has the ability to earn a larger bonus based on the performance criteria set forth and the reasonable judgment and discretion of the compensation committee. Bonuses are approved quarterly based on the above factors and an evaluation of current performance. Previous to July 1, 2013, Mr. McKenzie's employment contract provided, in relevant part, for an annual salary of \$205,000 and bonus provisions for each calendar year in which the CUI Global year end Statement of Operations shows a Net Profit and the Gross Revenue equal to or that

8. exceeds fifteen percent (15%), but less than thirty percent (30%), of the immediate preceding calendar year, he shall be entitled to receive a cash bonus in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of his prior year base salary in addition to any other compensation to which he may be entitled; provided, however, that he shall be entitled to the bonus only if he has been employed by the Company during that entire calendar year. In substitution of the bonus percentages described above, he shall be entitled to receive, in any year in which annual Gross Revenue exceeds by 30% of the prior calendar year gross revenue, a sum equal to 100% of his prior year base salary. Bonuses are approved quarterly based on the above factors and an evaluation of current performance. All such bonus payments shall be paid to Mr. McKenzie in equal monthly installments following the period in which the bonus is earned and shall be paid on the 15th day of each month. During 2012, in accordance with the bonus provisions of his employment contract, Mr. McKenzie received 6,750 shares of common stock with a fair value of \$32,400. At December 31, 2014 and 2013 there was an accrual of \$18,750 and \$8,542, respectively, for compensation owed to Mr. McKenzie

Effective June 24, 2013, Mr. McKenzie received a bonus option to purchase 50,000 common shares within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$6.25 per share that vests one third each year over 3 years. Effective April 16,

9.2012, Mr. McKenzie received a bonus option to purchase 15,100 common shares as COO, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$4.56 per share that vests over 4 years: 25% at year one and thereafter in equal monthly installments.

As of December 31, 2014, William J. Clough, CEO/Director held 558,085 outstanding options, Matthew M. 10. McKenzie, COO/Director held 112,796 outstanding options which includes options owned by his spouse and Daniel N. Ford, CFO held 137,794 outstanding options.

Please see the disclosure of assumptions made in the valuation of the option awards included in Note 12 of Notes 11.to Consolidated Financial Statements, Stockholders' Equity in the Company's financial statements included with this proxy statement.

# Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End

The following table sets forth the outstanding equity awards at December 31, 2014 to each of the named executive officers:

	Number of	Number of		
	Securities	Securities	Option	
Nomo	Underlying	Underlying	Exercise	Option
Name	Unexercised	Unexercised	Price	Expiration
	Options (#)	Options (#)	(\$)	
	Exercisable	Unexercisable		
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(1)</sup>	15,100	-	7.50	01/01/19
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(1)</sup>	8,100	-	7.50	01/01/19
Daniel N. Ford <sup>(1)</sup>	12,598	-	7.50	01/01/19
William J. Clough <sup>(2)</sup>	5,422	-	9.00	10/11/20
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(2)</sup>	15,100	-	9.00	10/11/20
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(2)</sup>	3,300	-	9.00	10/11/20
Daniel N. Ford <sup>(2)</sup>	12,598	-	9.00	10/11/20
William J. Clough <sup>(3)</sup>	17,954	1,409	4.56	04/16/22
William J. Clough <sup>(3)</sup>	3,300	-	4.56	04/16/22
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(3)</sup>	14,528	572	4.56	04/16/22
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(3)</sup>	3,300	-	4.56	04/16/22
Daniel N. Ford <sup>(3)</sup>	12,120	478	4.56	04/16/22
William J. Clough <sup>(4)</sup>	192,500	137,500	6.00	09/21/22
William J. Clough <sup>(5)</sup>	66,000	134,000	6.25	06/24/23
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(5)</sup>	16,500	33,500	6.25	06/24/23
Daniel N. Ford <sup>(5)</sup>	33,000	67,000	6.25	06/24/23

# OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR END

#### Footnotes:

Effective January 1, 2009, Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ford received fully vested bonus options to purchase 15,100, and 12,598 common shares, respectively, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$7.50 per share. Also effective January 1, 2009, for service as a director of the Company, Mr. McKenzie received an option to purchase 4,800 common shares at a price of \$7.50 within ten years from date of issuance that vests over four years, 25% after the first year and in equal monthly installments over the balance of the four-year term and an option to purchase 3,300 common shares at a price of \$7.50 per share that vests one year after issuance.

Effective October 11, 2010, Mr. Clough, Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ford received bonus options to purchase 37,177 (5,422 remaining outstanding), 15,100 and 12,598 common shares, respectively, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$9.00 per share that vests over 4 years: 25% at year one and thereafter

 Inom date of issuance, at a price of \$9.00 per share that vests over 4 years. 25% at year one and therearter in equal monthly installments. Additionally, effective October 11, 2010, for service as a director of the Company, Mr. McKenzie received an option to purchase 3,300 common shares at a price of \$9.00 per share that vest one year after issuance.

Effective April 16, 2012, Mr. Clough, Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ford received bonus options to purchase 37,177 (19,363 remaining outstanding), 15,100 and 12,598 common shares, respectively, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$4.56 per share that vests over 4 years: 25% at year one and thereafter in equal monthly

3. installments. Additionally, effective April 16, 2012, for their service as directors of the Company, Mr. Clough and Mr. McKenzie received an option to purchase 3,300 common shares at a price of \$4.56 per share that vests one year after issuance.

Effective September 21, 2012, under the terms of his contract extension, Mr. Clough received a bonus option to 4. purchase 330,000 common shares, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$6.00 per share that vests in equal monthly installments over 4 years.

Effective June 24, 2013 Mr. Clough, Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Ford received bonus options to purchase 200,000, 5.50,000 and 100,000 common shares, respectively, within ten years from date of issuance, at a price of \$6.25 per share that vests one third per year over three years.

## **Director Compensation**

For 2014, each of our directors received the following compensation pursuant to our director compensation plan:

Each non-employee director serving as of January 1, 2014 received 10,000 stock purchase options granted January 1.2, 2014 that vest one year from grant at a strike price of \$6.92 (set by using 10% above the Nasdaq Stock Market closing price per share on the date of grant).

2.

Directors receive annual compensation of \$33,000.

A non-employee chairperson receives an additional \$10,000.

- The Audit Committee chairperson receives \$20,000 and each committee member receives \$9,500.
- The Compensation Committee chairperson receives \$12,500 and the committee member receives \$6,000.

At the election of each director, all or any portion of the cash compensation may be converted to stock purchase  $\cdot$  options calculated by using the strike price of ten percent (10%) above the Nasdaq Stock Market closing price per share on the date of grant.

Paul D. White and Robert J. Evans were appointed to the CUI Global Board of Directors, effective April 2, 2014 and each was elected to a one-year term. Mr. White was appointed to the Compensation Committee and Mr. Evans was appointed to the Audit Committee. For 2014, they received a pro rata share of the above compensation based on their director and committee positions. Additionally, Mr. White and Mr. Evans received:

They each received initial board member compensation in the form of seven thousand five hundred (7,500) shares of •restricted common stock granted 2,500 shares August 31, 2014 with the balance in two equal annual installments to be issued January 1, 2015 and January 1, 2016.

They each received equity compensation in the form of seven thousand five hundred (7,500) stock purchase options  $\cdot$  granted August 31, 2014 that shall vest one (1) year from the grant date. The strike price is set at \$8.15, ten percent (10%) above the Nasdaq Stock Market closing price per share on the date of grant.

Mr. Evans resigned from the Board of Directors, effective January 8, 2015; the 2,500 share January 1, 2016 equity grant was forfeited.

# Director Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the compensation of the non-employee directors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014.

# **Director Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position	Year	Fees earned or paid in cash (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
Colton Melby (former Chairman)	2014	-	-	60,350	-	-	-	60,350
Robert J. Evans (former Director) <sup>(3)</sup>	2014	31,875	18,525	27,730	-	-	-	78,130
Corey A. Lambrecht	2014	45,500	-	18,568	-	-	-	64,068
Paul D. White <sup>(3)</sup>	2014	19,500	28,275	27,730	-	-	-	75,505
Sean P. Rooney	2014	26,500	-	56,421	-	-	-	82,921
Thomas A. Price	2014	31,875	10,633	18,568	-	-	-	61,076

Footnotes:

1. Each non-employee director as of January 1, 2014 was granted 10,000 stock purchase options at a strike price of \$6.92 per share.

For 2014, each non-employee director compensation in the form of cash or options with a fair value as follows: 2 board member fee of \$33,000, Chairman fee of \$10,000, audit committee member fee of \$9,500, audit committee

<sup>2</sup> chair fee of \$20,000, compensation committee member fee of \$6,000 and compensation committee chair fee of \$12,500. No meeting fee.

For 2014, our two newly appointed/elected board members received a director fees on a pro rata basis from the date 3. of their service, a grant of 7,500 share of common stock of which 2,500 share were issued in 2014 and options to purchase 7,500 shares of common stock at \$8.15 per share which vest August 31, 2015.

## Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of our voting shares as of December 31, 2014 by: (i) each shareholder known by us to be the beneficial owner of 5% or more of the outstanding voting shares, (ii) each of our directors and executives and (iii) all directors and executive officers as a group. Except as otherwise indicated, we believe that the beneficial owners of the voting shares listed below, based on information furnished by such owners, have sole investment and voting power with respect to such shares, subject to community property laws where applicable. Shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of options and warrants that are currently exercisable or that will become exercisable within 60 days of December 31, 2014 have been included in the table.

No shares of preferred stock are outstanding at the date of this report.

# **Beneficial Interest Table**

	Common Stock		
Name and Address of Beneficial Owner (1)	Number of Securities Owned	Percentage of Shares Beneficially Owned <sup>(2)</sup>	f
William J. Clough <sup>(3)</sup>	320,384	1.52	%
Robert J. Evans <sup>(4)</sup>	15,900	*	
Daniel N. Ford <sup>(5)</sup>	82,798	*	
Corey A. Lambrecht <sup>(6)</sup>	24,700	*	
Matthew M. McKenzie <sup>(7)</sup>	86,723	*	
Thomas A. Price <sup>(8)</sup>	82,802	*	
Sean P. Rooney <sup>(9)</sup>	50,860	*	
Paul D. White (10)	6,248	*	
First Eagle Investment Management	2,281,242	11.00	%
Marathon Capital Management, LLC	1,258,762	6.07	%
Officers, Directors, Executives as Group	670,415	3.15	%

\* Less than 1 percent

# Footnotes:

Except as otherwise indicated, the address of each beneficial owner is c/o CUI Global, Inc., 20050 SW 112th Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062.

Calculated on the basis of 20,747,740 shares of common stock issued and outstanding at December 31, 2014 except 2. that shares of common stock underlying options exercisable within 60 days of the date hereof are deemed to be outstanding for purposes of calculating the beneficial ownership of securities of such holder of options.

Mr. Clough's common stock includes vested options to purchase 300,335 common shares. Mr. Clough is a Director,

Chief Executive Officer/President of CUI Global, Inc. and interim Chairman.

Mr. Evans common stock includes vested options to purchase 2,500 common shares. Mr. Evans resigned as a Director effective January 8, 2015.

5. Mr. Ford's shares include vested options to purchase 70,794 common shares. Mr. Ford is the Chief Financial Officer of CUI Global, Inc.

6. Mr. Lambrecht's shares include vested options to purchase 24,700 common shares. Mr. Lambrecht is a Director. Mr. McKenzie's shares include vested options to purchase 79,296 common shares. Mr. McKenzie is a Director and

7. Chief Operating Officer of CUI Global, Inc. Mr. McKenzie's securities include an option to purchase 2,796 shares owned by his spouse.

Mr. Price's shares include vested options to purchase 24,700 common shares. Mr. Price is a Director. 8.

- 9. Mr. Rooney's shares include vested options to purchase 45.087 common shares. Mr. Rooney is a Director.
- Mr. White's shares include vested options to purchase 2,500 common shares. Mr. White is a Director. 10.

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We relied upon Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 as the basis for an exemption from registration for the issuance of the above securities.

### **Employee Equity Incentive Plans**

At December 31, 2014 the Company had outstanding the following equity compensation plan information:

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	exe ou op	eighted-average ercise price of tstanding tions, warrants d rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuances under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity Compensation plans approved by security holders	44,917	\$	5.51	1,324,501
Equity Compensation plans not approved by security holders	953,515	\$	6.38	201,361
Total	998,432	\$	6.34	1,525,862

#### Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved by Shareholders

The 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) provides for the issuance of stock options to attract, retain and motivate executive and management employees and directors and to encourage these individuals to acquire an equity interest in the Company, to make monetary payments to certain management employees and directors based upon the value of the Company's stock and to provide these individuals with an incentive to maximize the success of the Company and further the interest of the shareholders. The 2009 Plan provides for the issuance of Incentive Non Statutory Options. The Administrator of the plan is authorized to determine the exercise price per share at the time the option is granted, but the exercise price shall not be less than the fair market value on the date the option is granted. Stock options granted under the 2009 Plan have a maximum duration of ten years.

The description of the Company's capital stock does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified by its Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and amendments, which are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and by the provisions of applicable Colorado law.

# Price Range of Our Common Stock

The Company's Common Stock is traded on the NASDAQ Stock Market under the trading symbol "CUI". The following table sets forth, the high and low bid prices of our Common Stock for the four quarters of 2013 and 2014 and first two quarters of 2015 as reported by the National Quotation Bureau and reflect inter-dealer prices without retail mark-up, markdown or commission and may not represent actual transactions.

Quarter	High Bid	Low Bid
2013		
First Quarter	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.80
Second Quarter	\$ 6.15	\$ 4.60
Third Quarter	\$ 6.40	\$ 5.00
Fourth Quarter	\$ 6.45	\$ 5.05
2014		
First Quarter	\$ 11.34	\$ 6.26
Second Quarter	\$ 10.43	\$ 6.43
Third Quarter	\$ 8.37	\$ 6.04
Fourth Quarter	\$ 8.64	\$ 5.73
2015		
First Quarter	\$ 7.57	\$ 5.17
Second Quarter	\$ 6.02	\$ 4.68

As of December 31, 2014, we had in excess of 3,000 beneficial holders of our common stock and in excess of 2,300 shareholders of record. The actual number of shareholders is greater than this number of record holders and includes shareholders who are beneficial owners, but whose shares are held in street name by brokers and other nominees.

# Section 16(A) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

#### Section 16(A) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

The members of our Board of Directors, our executive officers and persons who hold more than 10% of our outstanding common stock are subject to the reporting requirements of Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, which requires them to file reports with respect to their ownership of our common stock and their transactions in such common stock. Based solely upon a review of the copies of Section 16(a) reports that we have received from such persons or entities for transactions in our common stock and their common stock holdings for fiscal 2014 and the first two quarters of 2015, other than as heretofore noted and noted below, we believe that all reporting requirements under Section 16(a) for such fiscal year were met in a timely manner by our directors and executive officers. Two directors appointed April 2, 2014 filed their Form 3 August 4, 2014 and one director appointed August 17, 2015 filed his Form 3 August 24, 2015.

We have made all officers and directors aware of their reporting obligations and have appointed an employee to oversee Section 16 compliance for future filings.

#### Transactions with Related Persons, Promoters and

# **Certain Control Persons**

Except as set forth herein, none of the Company's directors or officers nor any person who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, shares carrying more than 10% of the voting rights attached to its outstanding shares, nor any relative or spouse of any of the foregoing persons, since the beginning of fiscal year 2014, has any material interest, direct or indirect, in any transaction or in any presently proposed transaction where the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 which has or will materially affect the Company.

# IED and Other Affiliates Related Matters

Effective May 16, 2008 the Company formed a wholly owned subsidiary into which CUI, Inc., an Oregon corporation, merged all of its assets. The funding for this acquisition was provided by a bank note, a seller's note and a convertible seller's note. Matthew McKenzie, COO and Daniel Ford, CFO each were partial owners in CUI, Inc. prior to the acquisition and they each, along with James McKenzie are shareholders in International Electronic Devices, Inc. (IED). The convertible seller's note was satisfied in 2010.

The acquisition of CUI utilized a \$14,000,000 seller's promissory note issued to International Electronic Devices, Inc. (IED), the former CUI shareholders, payable monthly over three years at \$30,000 per month including 1.7% annual simple interest with a balloon payment at the thirty sixth monthly payment, no prepayment penalty, annual success fee of 2.3% payable within three years, right of first refusal to the note payees relating to any private capital raising transactions of CUI Global during the term of the note. Effective September 1, 2010, the Company and the holder of the \$14,000,000 promissory note agreed to reduce the note principal by \$1,588,063 and accrued interest by \$724,729 and to restructure the interest rate and payment terms. The forgiveness of debt and accrued interest of \$2,312,792 was recognized as a contribution of additional paid in capital. With this amendment, the Company agreed to pay \$1,200,000 of the principal balance during the fourth quarter of 2010 and an additional \$487,208 of the principal balance during the first quarter of 2011. The new terms set the interest rate at 6% per annum with monthly interest payments and a May 15, 2018 balloon payment. The note contains a contingent conversion feature, such that in the event of default on the note the holder of the note can, at the holder's option, convert the note principal into common stock at \$0.001 per share. As of December 31, 2014, the Company is in compliance with all terms of this promissory note and the conversion feature is not effective.

During 2014, \$265,184 of interest payments were made in relation to the promissory note issued to IED. During 2013 and 2012, \$2,322,863 and \$3,468,221, respectively, in principal and interest payments were made in relation to the promissory notes issued to IED. The 2013 payment utilized \$2,000,000 from the 2013 public offering proceeds that was applied towards the promissory note balance in accordance with a settlement agreement. The 2012 payment utilized \$3,000,000 from the equity sale proceeds for the repayment of principal.

# **Purchase of Office and Warehouse**

CUI and CUI Global occupy 61,380 square feet of offices and warehouse premises in Tualatin, Oregon under a ten year non-cancelable lease agreement beginning September 1, 2006 with Barakel, LLC (a related party). Barakel, LLC is controlled by James McKenzie, majority owner of CUI, Inc. prior to acquisition and Matt McKenzie, COO and Director of the Company.

On September 27, 2013, our wholly owned subsidiary, CUI Properties, LLC, closed on the purchase of our Tualatin, Oregon corporate office real estate located at 20050 SW 112th Avenue in the Tualatin Franklin Business Park. The purchase price for this acquisition was \$5,050,000. The purchase was funded, in part, by a promissory note payable to Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$3,693,750 plus interest at the rate of 2.0% above LIBOR, payable over ten years. It was secured by a deed of trust on the purchased property which was executed by CUI Properties, LLC and

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guaranteed by CUI Global, Inc. In conjunction with the purchase, the parties to this transaction entered into a Swap Transaction Confirmation agreement effective October 1, 2013 incorporating the terms and definitions of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. (ISDA) that effectively maximizes the annual interest rate at 6.27%. Copies of the Swap Transaction Confirmation agreement and other pertinent closing documents are attached to our Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 3, 2013.

# **Revolving Line of Credit**

On September 27, 2013, our wholly owned subsidiary, CUI, Inc., closed on a two-year revolving Line of Credit (LOC) with Wells Fargo Bank in the principal amount of four million dollars, (\$4,000,000). The interest rate on any outstanding balance is 1.75% above either the daily one month LIBOR or the LIBOR in effect on the first day of the applicable fixed rate term. The LOC is secured through a security agreement on accounts receivable and equipment, as well as other miscellaneous personal property assets. CUI Global, Inc., the parent company, is a payment guarantor of the LOC. On October 1, 2014, the Company extended the term of the LOC to October 1, 2016.

This revolving LOC effectively satisfies in full and terminates an earlier LOC with Wells Fargo Bank.

# **Legal Proceedings**

No director, officer or affiliate of CUI Global, Inc., any owner of record or beneficially of more than five percent of any class of voting securities of CUI Global, Inc. or any associate of any such director, officer, affiliate of CUI Global, Inc. or security holder is a party adverse to CUI Global, Inc. or any of its subsidiaries or has a material interest adverse to CUI Global, Inc. or any of its subsidiaries.

CUI Global, Inc. is party to a legal action and claim which, in the opinion of management, is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations or financial position. The Company is a defendant in a lawsuit brought in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in June 2015 by a former employee of Tectrol, Inc., the entity from which the Company acquired the assets and its Canadian facility.

The plaintiff was never an employee of the Company nor did the Company have any privity or other contractual relationship to the plaintiff. The company has retained outside local counsel and believes that there is no liability to this plaintiff. The Company intends to aggressively defend the matter, including the pursuit of its reasonable costs and fees, if appropriate.

#### **Expenses of Issuance and Distribution**

The following table sets forth an estimate of the various expenses, which will be incurred in connection with the issuance and distribution of this proxy statement:

Printing and Distribution Expenses	\$1,000
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$5,000
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$1,000
Miscellaneous expenses	\$1,000
TOTAL	\$8,000

### Where You Can Find Additional Information

The Company will provide to each person to whom a proxy statement is delivered:

a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in the proxy statement, but not delivered with the proxy statement;

we will provide this information upon written or oral request; we will provide this information at no cost to the requester.

Contact us at: CUI Global, Inc., 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062; phone us at (503) 612-2300; email us at investors@CUIGlobal.com or view copies online at www.CUIGlobal.com.

You may read and copy all or any portion of the proxy statement or any other information, which we filed at the SEC's public reference rooms in Washington, D.C., New York City and Chicago, Illinois. The address for the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. is U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 "F" Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20549. You may request copies of these documents, upon payment of a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the Securities and Exchange Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference rooms. Our SEC filings are also available to you free of charge at the SEC's web site at http://www.sec.gov and our Company website at www.CUIGlobal.com.

#### Shareholder Proposals for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Under the Security and Exchange Commission's proxy rules, shareholder proposals that meet certain conditions may be included in our proxy statement and form of proxy for a particular annual meeting. Stockholders may present proper proposals for inclusion in our proxy statement and for consideration at the next annual meeting of stockholders by submitting their proposals in writing to CUI Global's Corporate Secretary in a timely manner. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for our 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the Corporate Secretary of CUI Global must receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than June 1, 2016; provided, however, that in the event that we hold our 2016 Annual Meeting of stockholders more than 30 days before or after the one-year anniversary date of the 2015 Annual Meeting, we will disclose the new deadline by which stockholders proposals must be received under Item 5 of our earliest possible Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or, if impracticable, by any means reasonably calculated to inform stockholders. In addition, stockholder proposals must otherwise comply with the requirements of Rule 14a-8 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

CUI Global, Inc. Attn: Corporate Secretary 20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Tualatin, Oregon 97062

Our receipt of any such proposal from a qualified shareholder in a timely manner will not guarantee its inclusion in our proxy materials or its presentation at the 2016 Annual Meeting because there are other requirements in the proxy rules.

### **Annual Report**

# A COPY OF OUR ANNUAL REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS WHICH INCLUDES OUR ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K AND OUR MOST RECENT QUARTERLY FORM 10-Q AND THIS PROXY STATEMENT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU ON THE INTERNET OR, UPON YOUR REQUEST, WILL BE PROMPTLY MAILED TO EACH STOCKHOLDER ENTITLED TO VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING. THE NOTICE, WHICH WAS MAILED TO YOU, INSTRUCTS YOU AS TO HOW YOU MAY ACCESS AND REVIEW ALL OF THE PROXY MATERIALS ON THE INTERNET. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A PAPER OR EMAIL COPY OF OUR PROXY MATERIALS, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR REQUESTING SUCH MATERIALS IN THE NOTICE.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Matthew M. McKenzie,

Corporate Secretary

# **Documents Incorporated by Reference**

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this proxy statement the information that we file with the SEC in other documents. This means that we may disclose important information to you by referring to other documents that contain that information. The information may include documents filed after the date of this proxy statement which update and supersede the information you read in this proxy statement. We incorporate by reference the following documents listed below, except to the extent information in those documents is different from the information contained in this proxy statement, and all future documents filed with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act. The Company filed with the Commission:

(a) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 filed with the Commission March 16, 2015.

(b) A quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the second quarter of 2015 filed with the Commission August 10, 2015.

# Proxy Solicited on Behalf of the

**Board of Directors** 

for the Annual Shareholder Meeting of the

# CUI Global, Inc. Stockholders

The undersigned, revoking all previous proxies, appoints Matthew M. McKenzie, Corporate Secretary, attorney and proxy of the undersigned, with power of substitution, to represent the undersigned at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of CUI Global, Inc. to be held at 4:00 pm CST on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at The Houstonian Hotel, Club and Spa, 111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas 77024 and for any adjournments and to vote all shares of Voting Stock of the Company which the undersigned is entitled to vote on all matters coming before said meeting.

x Please mark your votes with an "X" as in this example.

# **PROPOSAL I**

#### **Election of Directors**

The Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** the following Directors:

Nominee: William J. Clough, Seat #1

"FOR" WITHHOLD

Nominee: **Thomas A. Price**, Seat # 2

"FOR" WITHHOLD

Nominee: Matthew M. McKenzie, Seat #3

"FOR" WITHHOLD

Nominee: Sean P. Rooney, Seat #4

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"FOR" WITHHOLD
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Nominee: Paul D. White, Seat #5

#### "FOR" WITHHOLD

Nominee: Corey A. Lambrecht, Seat #6,

"FOR" WITHHOLD

Nominee: Joseph A. Mills, Seat #7

"FOR" WITHHOLD

**PROPOSAL II** 

**Ratification of the Appointment of** 

Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance

as the Company's

**Independent Auditor for the** 

Year Ending December 31, 2015

The Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** ratification of the appointment of Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance as the Company's independent auditor for the year ending December 31, 2015.

" FOR " AGAINST " ABSTAIN

**PROPOSAL III** 

Advisory Approval of the Company's

**Executive Compensation** 

(Say-on-Pay)

The Board of Directors recommends a vote **FOR** the advisory approval of the Company's executive compensation (Say-on-Pay).

# "FOR" AGAINST" ABSTAIN

PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THIS PROXY CARD USING THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. THIS PROXY WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED WILL BE VOTED IN THE MANNER DIRECTED HEREIN BY THE UNDERSIGNED SHAREHOLDER. IF NO DIRECTION IS MADE, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED "FOR" THE PROPOSALS TO ELECT THE NOMINEE DIRECTORS, RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF Perkins & Company, P.C. of the BDO Seidman Alliance AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT AUDITOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND ADVISORY APPROVAL OF THE COMPANY'S EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (SAY-ON-PAY).

Date 2015

Signature

Signature of joint holder, if any

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Please sign exactly as your name appears on your stock certificate or account. Executors, administrators, trustees, etc. should give full title as such. If the signer is a corporation, please sign full corporate name by a duly authorized officer. If a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person.