

DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/
Form DEF 14A
April 30, 2015
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN

PROXY STATEMENT

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

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

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which the transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which the transaction applies:

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of the transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of the transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

.. Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

Delta Air Lines, Inc.

P.O. Box 20706

Atlanta, GA 30320

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Notice of Annual Meeting

Dear Stockholder:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is a pleasure to invite you to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Delta Air Lines, Inc. The meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Thursday, June 25, 2015, at the offices of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, 825 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York 10019. At the meeting, stockholders will vote on the following matters:

the election of directors for the next year;

an advisory vote on executive compensation (also known as say on pay);

the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Delta's independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2015;

a stockholder proposal (if the proposal is properly presented at the meeting); and

any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

If you were a holder of record of Delta common stock at the close of business on May 1, 2015, you will be entitled to vote at the meeting. A list of stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting will be available for examination during normal business hours for ten days before the meeting at Delta's Investor Relations Department, 1030 Delta Boulevard, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. The stockholder list will also be available at the meeting.

Because space at the meeting is limited, admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Stockholders without appropriate documentation may not be admitted to the meeting. If you plan to attend the meeting, please see the instructions on page 8 of the attached proxy statement. If you will need special assistance at the meeting because of a disability, contact Investor Relations toll free at (866) 715-2170.

We encourage stockholders to sign up to receive future proxy materials electronically, including the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials. Using electronic communication significantly reduces our printing and postage costs and helps protect the environment. To sign up, visit <http://enroll.icsdelivery.com/dal>.

Please read our attached proxy statement carefully and submit your vote as soon as possible. Your vote is important. You can ensure that your shares are voted at the meeting by using our Internet or telephone voting system, or by completing, signing and returning a proxy card.

Sincerely,

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Richard H. Anderson
Chief Executive Officer
Atlanta, Georgia

Daniel A. Carp
Chairman of the Board

May 7, 2015

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY</u>	1
<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>	5
<u>Internet Availability of Proxy Materials</u>	5
<u>Stockholders Entitled to Vote</u>	5
<u>Voting Shares of Common Stock Registered in Your Name or Held under Plans</u>	5
<u>Revoking a Proxy or Voting Instructions</u>	6
<u>Voting Shares Held in Street Name</u>	6
<u>Limitation on Brokers Authority to Vote Shares</u>	6
<u>Quorum for the Annual Meeting</u>	7
<u>Votes Necessary to Act on Proposals</u>	7
<u>Recommendations of the Board of Directors</u>	7
<u>Presentation of Other Business at the Meeting</u>	7
<u>Attending the Meeting</u>	8
<u>GOVERNANCE MATTERS</u>	9
<u>Governance Overview</u>	9
<u>Director Independence</u>	9
<u>Directors Elected Annually; Majority Voting for Directors</u>	9
<u>Identification and Selection of Nominees for Director</u>	9
<u>Audit Committee Financial Experts</u>	10
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	10
<u>Communications with Directors</u>	10
<u>Board of Directors</u>	10
<u>Board of Directors Leadership Structure</u>	10
<u>Board Committees</u>	11
<u>Board Oversight of Risk Management</u>	13
<u>PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS</u>	15
<u>Certain Information About Nominees</u>	15
<u>BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES</u>	22
<u>Directors, Nominees for Director and Executive Officers</u>	22
<u>Beneficial Owners of More than 5% of Voting Stock</u>	23
<u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u>	24
<u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u>	24
<u>Executive Summary</u>	24
<u>Executive Compensation Philosophy and Objectives</u>	27
<u>Say on Pay Voting Results</u>	28
<u>Administration of the Executive Compensation Program</u>	28
<u>Compensation Decision Factors</u>	30
<u>Comparative Market Data; Peer Group</u>	30
<u>Elements of Compensation</u>	32
<u>Risk Assessment</u>	40
<u>Executive Compensation Policies</u>	40
<u>Compensation for Mr. Anderson</u>	41

Table of Contents

<u>Post-Employment Compensation</u>	42
<u>Tax and Accounting Impact and Policy</u>	42
<u>Compensation Committee Report</u>	43
<u>Information about Summary Compensation Table and Related Matters</u>	44
<u>Summary Compensation Table</u>	44
<u>Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table</u>	47
<u>Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-end Table</u>	48
<u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested Table</u>	49
<u>Post-Employment Compensation</u>	50
<u>Defined Benefit Pension Benefits</u>	50
<u>Pension Benefits Table</u>	51
<u>Potential Post-Employment Benefits upon Termination or Change in Control</u>	52
<u>Other Benefits</u>	53
<u>Tables Regarding Potential Post-Employment Benefits upon Termination or Change in Control</u>	55
<u>DIRECTOR COMPENSATION</u>	60
<u>Stock Ownership Guidelines</u>	60
<u>Director Compensation Table</u>	61
<u>AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	62
<u>PROPOSAL 2 ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u>	64
<u>PROPOSAL 3 RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS</u>	65
<u>Fees of Independent Auditors for 2014 and 2013</u>	65
<u>Pre-Approval of Audit and Non-Audit Services</u>	65
<u>PROPOSAL 4 STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL SENIOR EXECUTIVE STOCK RETENTION REQUIREMENT</u>	67
<u>OTHER MATTERS</u>	70
<u>Cost of Solicitation</u>	70
<u>Submission of Stockholder Proposals</u>	70
<u>Section 16 Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	70
<u>Supplemental Information about Financial Measures</u>	71

Table of Contents**PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY**

Meeting: Annual Meeting of Stockholders
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015
Time: 7:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time
Location: Offices of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, 825 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York 10019

(located in Midtown Manhattan between 49th and 50th Streets)

Record Date: May 1, 2015

Voting: Stockholders as of the record date are entitled to vote. Each outstanding share of common stock is entitled to one vote. The Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials will be distributed beginning on or about May 7, 2015.

Meeting Agenda and Board Recommendations

Matter	Board Recommendation	Page Reference
Management Proposals		
Item 1: Election of Directors	FOR each director nominee	15
Item 2: Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation	FOR	64
Item 3: Ratification of the Appointment of Independent Auditors	FOR	65
Stockholder Proposal		
Item 4: Senior Executive Stock Retention Requirement	AGAINST	67

ITEM 1. Election of Directors: We ask you to elect 16 directors. Each of the directors listed in the chart below is standing for election to hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until his or her successor is elected and qualified. The following chart provides summary information about each director nominee. Additional information may be found beginning on page 15.

Director	Age	Director Since	Occupation	Independent	Other Public Boards	Current Delta Committees
Richard H. Anderson	60	2007	CEO of Delta		1	n/a
Edward H. Bastian	57	2010	President of Delta		1	n/a
Francis S. Blake	65	2014	Former Chairman and CEO of The Home Depot, Inc.	X	1	A, CG
Roy J. Bostock	74	2008	Principal, Sealegde Investments; Former Chairman and CEO of McManus Group	X	0	CG, S&S
John S. Brinzo	73	2007	Former Chairman, President and CEO of Cliffs Natural Resources	X	1	A, P&C
Daniel A. Carp	67	2007	Former Chairman and CEO of Eastman Kodak	X	2	CG,* S&S
David G. DeWalt	51	2011	Chairman and CEO of FireEye	X	1	F, P&C*
Thomas E. Donilon	59	2015	Vice Chair of O Melveny & Myers	X	0	F, S&S
William H. Easter III	65	2012	Former Chairman, President and CEO of DCP Midstream	X	2	CG, F
Mickey P. Foret	69	2008	Former CFO of Northwest Airlines	X	2	A, S&S
Shirley C. Franklin	69	2011	CEO of Purpose Built Communities; Former Mayor of the City of Atlanta	X	1	A, P&C
David R. Goode	74	1999	Former Chairman and CEO of Norfolk Southern	X	0	F, P&C
George N. Mattson	49	2012	Private Investor; Former Partner of Goldman Sachs	X	0	F,* P&C
Douglas R. Ralph	60	N/A	Pilot B767ER, Delta		0	n/a
Sergio A.L. Rial	54	2014	Chairman of Banco Santander Brasil	X	0	A, P&C
Kenneth B. Woodrow	70	2004	Former Vice Chairman and President of Target	X	0	F, P&C

A - Audit Committee

CG - Corporate Governance Committee

F - Finance Committee

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

PC - Personnel & Compensation Committee

SS - Safety and Security Committee

* - Chair

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

1

PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY

Table of Contents

PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY

ITEM 2: Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

We ask you to approve, on an advisory basis, compensation awarded to our named executive officers. Additional information regarding executive compensation may be found in the summary section below and on page 64.

ITEM 3: Ratification of the Appointment of Independent Auditors

We ask you to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent auditors for 2015. Additional information may be found on page 65.

ITEM 4: Senior Executive Stock Retention Requirement

We ask you to vote against a stockholder proposal requesting the Board of Directors adopt a stock retention policy in which senior executives would be required to retain at least seventy-five percent of net after-tax shares received through Delta's equity compensation plans until retirement age is reached or employment is terminated. Additional information may be found beginning on page 67.

2014 Performance Highlights*

We had a successful 2014, a year in which we reported record financial performance. Delta's performance was recognized when we were named one of the top 50 world's most admired companies for 2015 and the most admired airline in 2013, 2014 and 2015 by *Fortune* magazine. Our closing stock price at December 31, 2014 increased more than 79% over the year-end 2013 price and was in the top ten in stock price performance in the S&P 500 in 2014. Key accomplishments in 2014 include:

Strong Financial Results

Excluding special items, earned pre-tax income of \$4.5 billion, a \$1.9 billion increase over 2013 and Delta's fifth consecutive year of solid profitability.

Returned \$1.35 billion to stockholders through a combination of quarterly cash dividends and share repurchases; reduced adjusted net debt to \$7.3 billion, a \$2.1 billion reduction from 2013.

* See Supplemental Information about Financial Measures at the end of this proxy statement for a reconciliation of non-GAAP financial measures to the corresponding GAAP financial measures, and the reasons we use non-GAAP financial measures. On a GAAP basis for 2014, pre-tax income was \$1.1 billion and debt and capital lease obligations were \$9.8 billion. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for 2014 is available at <http://ir.delta.com/shareholder-resources/annual-meetings/default.aspx> but is not incorporated into this proxy statement.

Table of Contents

PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY

Continued Revenue Momentum

Expanded operating revenue by \$2.6 billion to \$40.4 billion, a 7% increase over 2013.

Increased passenger unit revenue 3.0% and generated a unit revenue premium to the industry for the fourth year in a row.

Excellent Operating Performance

Another year of strong operating performance, resulting in an on-time arrival rate of 84%, a flight completion factor of 99.2%, and continued our 1st place performance in Department of Transportation customer complaints among the major network carriers.

Executive Compensation Program

Pay for performance is the foundation of our executive compensation philosophy, as the following highlights reflect:

Under our pay for performance philosophy, our executive compensation program places a substantial portion of total compensation at risk (*i.e.*, value received is contingent upon Delta's financial, operational and stock performance), emphasizing variable over fixed compensation. Ninety-five percent of Delta's Chief Executive Officer's target compensation opportunity for 2014 was at risk. Eighty-five percent of Mr. Anderson's total compensation is concentrated in equity-based opportunities and his cash-based compensation (base salary and annual bonus) is below the 25th percentile of Delta's custom peer group.

Our annual and long-term incentive plans utilize stretch financial, operational and customer service-related performance goals to drive Delta's business strategy, deliver value to our stockholders and align the interests of management with frontline employees.

We continue to focus on long-term compensation opportunities. The Personnel & Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors continued to grant all awards under long-term incentive plans with vesting schedules of three years. For further information see the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of the proxy statement under Elements of Compensation - Long-Term Incentives.

We do not provide any supplemental executive retirement plans to our executive officers. They participate in the same on-going retirement plans as our frontline employees.

Table of Contents

PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY

Governance Highlights

Our values and culture are the foundation of our success. We regularly assess our governance practices and highlights include:

Independent chairman

Directors elected annually

Majority voting for directors in uncontested elections

13 of 16 director-nominees are independent

Executive sessions without management directors at Board of Directors and Board Committee meetings

Meaningful stock ownership and retention guidelines for members of the Board of Directors and executive officers

Active Board oversight of risk management

Regular succession planning

All members of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors are designated financial experts under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission

Anti-hedging and anti-pledging policy for all employees and Board members

No stockholder rights plan (poison pill) or super-majority voting

Commitment to sustainability (inclusion in Dow Jones Sustainability Index)

Annual advisory vote to approve executive compensation

Regular outreach to institutional stockholders

Clawback policy

No employment contracts, supplemental executive retirement plans, company cars or other significant perquisites

PROXY STATEMENT SUMMARY

4

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

GENERAL INFORMATION

Internet Availability of Proxy Materials

Under rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we are furnishing proxy materials (including our 2014 Form 10-K) to our stockholders on the Internet, rather than mailing paper copies to each stockholder. If you received a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice) by U.S. or electronic mail, you will not receive a paper copy of these proxy materials unless you request one. Instead, the Notice tells you how to access and review the proxy materials and vote your shares on the Internet. If you would like to receive a paper copy of our proxy materials free of charge, follow the instructions in the Notice. The Notice will be distributed to our stockholders beginning on or about May 7, 2015.

Stockholders Entitled to Vote

The Board of Directors set May 1, 2015 as the record date for determining the stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. On April 15, 2015, 816,301,878 shares of Delta common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, were outstanding. Delta expects the number of outstanding shares will not change materially as of the record date. The common stock is the only class of securities entitled to vote at the meeting. Each outstanding share entitles its holder to one vote.

Voting Shares of Common Stock Registered in Your Name or Held under Plans

The control number you receive in your Notice covers shares of common stock in any of the following forms:

common stock registered in your name (registered shares);

common stock held in your account under the Delta Pilots Savings Plan (Pilot Plan);

common stock allocated to your account under the Delta Family-Care Savings Plan (Savings Plan); or

unvested restricted common stock granted under the Delta Air Lines, Inc. 2007 Performance Compensation Plan.

Special Note About Employee Stock Purchase Plan Shares. The control number you receive in your Notice does not cover shares of common stock purchased pursuant to the Employee Stock Purchase Plan. These shares are held for your benefit by Fidelity in street name. For information about voting those shares, see Voting Shares Held in Street Name below.

Your submission of voting instructions for registered shares results in the appointment of a proxy to vote those shares. In contrast, your submission of voting instructions for common stock held in your Pilot Plan account or allocated to your Savings Plan account, or for unvested restricted common stock granted under the Delta Air Lines, Inc. 2007 Performance Compensation Plan, instructs the applicable plan trustee or administrator how to vote those shares, but does not result in the appointment of a proxy. You may submit your voting instructions regarding all shares covered by the same control number before the meeting by using our Internet or telephone system or by completing and returning a proxy card, as described below:

Voting by the Internet or Telephone. You may vote using the Internet or telephone by following the instructions in the Notice to access the proxy materials and then following the instructions provided to allow you to record your vote. After accessing the proxy materials, to vote by telephone, call 1-800-690-6903 or to vote by the Internet, go to www.proxyvote.com and follow the instructions. The Internet and telephone voting procedures are designed to authenticate votes cast by using a personal identification number. These procedures enable stockholders to confirm their instructions have been properly recorded.

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Voting by Proxy Card. If you obtained a paper copy of our proxy materials, you may also vote by signing, dating and returning your instructions on the proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Please sign the proxy card exactly as your name appears on the card. If shares are owned jointly, each joint owner should sign the proxy card. If a stockholder is a corporation or partnership, the proxy card should be signed in the full corporate or partnership name by a duly authorized person. If the proxy card is signed pursuant to a power of attorney or by an executor, administrator, trustee or guardian, state the signer's full title and provide a certificate or other proof of appointment.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

5

GENERAL INFORMATION

Table of Contents

To be effective, instructions regarding shares held in your Pilot Plan account or allocated to your Savings Plan account must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 23, 2015. Instructions regarding registered shares or unvested restricted common stock must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 24, 2015.

You may also vote registered shares by attending the annual meeting and voting in person by ballot; this will revoke any proxy you previously submitted.

Note that you may not vote shares of unvested restricted common stock, shares held in your Pilot Plan account or shares allocated to your Savings Plan account in person at the meeting. If you do not submit voting instructions in a timely manner regarding shares of unvested restricted common stock, shares held in your Pilot Plan account or shares allocated to your Savings Plan account, they will not be voted. See **Voting Shares Held in Street Name** below for information about voting Employee Stock Purchase Plan shares.

All properly submitted voting instructions, whether submitted by the Internet, telephone or U.S. mail, will be voted at the annual meeting according to the instructions given, provided they are received prior to the applicable deadlines described above. All properly submitted proxy cards not containing specific instructions will be voted in accordance with the Board of Directors' recommendations set forth on page 1. The members of Delta's Board of Directors designated to vote the proxies returned pursuant to this solicitation are Richard H. Anderson, Roy J. Bostock and Daniel A. Carp.

Revoking a Proxy or Voting Instructions

If you hold registered shares, unvested restricted common stock, shares in your Pilot Plan account or shares allocated to your Savings Plan account, you may revoke your proxy or voting instructions prior to the meeting by:

providing written notice to Delta's Legal Department at Delta Air Lines, Inc., Dept. No. 981, 1030 Delta Boulevard, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, Attention: Assistant Corporate Secretary; or

submitting later-dated instructions by the Internet, telephone or U.S. mail.

To be effective, revocation of instructions regarding shares held in your Pilot Plan account or allocated to your Savings Plan account must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 23, 2015. Revocation of instructions regarding registered shares or unvested restricted common stock must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 24, 2015.

You may also revoke your proxy covering registered shares by attending the annual meeting and voting in person by ballot. Attending the meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy. Note that you may not vote shares of unvested restricted common stock, shares held in your Pilot Plan account or shares allocated to your Savings Plan account in person at the meeting.

Voting Shares Held in Street Name

If your shares are held in the name of a broker, bank or other record holder (that is, in **street name**), refer to the instructions provided by the record holder regarding how to vote your shares or to revoke your voting instructions. This includes any shares purchased through the Employee Stock Purchase Plan. You may also obtain a proxy from the record holder permitting you to vote in person at the annual meeting. Without a proxy from the record holder, you may not vote shares held in **street name** by returning a proxy card or by voting in person at the annual meeting. **If you hold your shares in street name, it is critical that you provide instructions to, or obtain a proxy from, the record holder if you want your shares to count in the election of directors (Proposal 1), the advisory vote on executive compensation (Proposal 2) and the stockholder proposals (Proposal 4 and 5).** As described in the next section of this proxy statement, regulations prohibit your bank or broker from voting your shares in the election of directors (Proposal 1) and Proposals 2, 4 and 5 if you do not provide voting instructions.

Limitation on Brokers' Authority to Vote Shares

Under New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) rules, brokerage firms may vote in their discretion on certain matters on behalf of clients who do not provide voting instructions at least 15 days before the date of the annual meeting. Generally, brokerage firms may vote to ratify the appointment of independent auditors and on other

Table of Contents

discretionary items, but brokers are not permitted to vote your shares for the election of directors (Proposal 1) and Proposals 2 and 4 unless you provide voting instructions. Accordingly, if your shares are held in a brokerage account and you do not return voting instructions to your broker by its deadline, your shares may be voted by your broker on Proposal 3, but not the other proposals described in this proxy statement. Broker non-votes will not be considered in connection with Proposals 1, 2 and 4. *Therefore, we urge you to give voting instructions to your broker on all proposals.*

Quorum for the Annual Meeting

The quorum at the annual meeting will consist of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the holders of all shares of common stock that are outstanding and entitled to vote. Abstentions from voting and broker non-votes, if any, will be counted in determining whether a quorum is present. The meeting will not commence if a quorum is not present.

Votes Necessary to Act on Proposals

At an annual meeting at which a quorum is present, the following votes will be necessary on each of the proposals:

Each director shall be elected by the vote of a majority of the votes cast with respect to the director. For purposes of this vote, a majority of the votes cast means that the number of shares voted for a director must exceed 50% of the votes with respect to that director (excluding abstentions).

The advisory vote to approve executive compensation (say on pay) requires the affirmative vote of the majority of shares present and entitled to vote at the meeting. Abstentions have the same effect as votes against the proposal. Even though the outcome of the vote is advisory and therefore will not be binding on Delta, the Personnel & Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors will review and consider the voting results when making future decisions regarding executive compensation.

Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2015 requires the affirmative vote of the majority of shares present and entitled to vote at the meeting. Abstentions have the same effect as votes against the proposal.

Approval of the stockholder proposal described in this proxy statement requires the affirmative vote of the majority of shares present and entitled to vote. Abstentions have the same effect as votes against the proposal.

Broker non-votes, if any, will be handled as described under Limitation on Brokers Authority to Vote Shares.

Recommendations of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote:

FOR the election of the director-nominees named in this proxy statement;

FOR the approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation of Delta's named executive officers;

FOR the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Delta's independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2015; and

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

AGAINST the stockholder proposal described in this proxy statement.

All properly submitted proxy cards not containing specific instructions will be voted in accordance with the Board's recommendations.

Presentation of Other Business at the Meeting

Delta is not aware of any business to be transacted at the annual meeting other than as described in this proxy statement. If any other item or proposal properly comes before the meeting (including, but not limited to, a proposal to adjourn the meeting in order to solicit votes in favor of any proposal contained in this proxy statement), the proxies received will be voted at the discretion of the directors designated to vote the proxies.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

7

GENERAL INFORMATION

Table of Contents

Attending the Meeting

To attend the annual meeting, you will need to show you are either a Delta stockholder as of the record date, or hold a valid proxy from such a Delta stockholder.

If your shares are registered in street name, or are held in your Pilot Plan account or your Savings Plan account, please bring evidence of your stock ownership, such as your most recent account statement.

If you own unvested restricted common stock, please bring your Delta-issued identification card; we will have a list of the holders of unvested restricted common stock at the meeting.

All stockholders should also bring valid picture identification; employees may use their Delta-issued identification card. If you do not have valid picture identification and proof that you own Delta stock, you may not be admitted to the meeting.

GENERAL INFORMATION

8

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

Governance Overview

Delta believes that sound governance practices are essential to enhance long-term value for our stockholders. We operate under governance practices that are transparent and consistent with best practices.

You may view the charters of the Audit, Corporate Governance, Finance, Personnel & Compensation and Safety and Security Committees, the Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws, Delta's corporate governance principles, our codes of ethics and business conduct, and our director independence standards on our Corporate Governance website at <http://ir.delta.com/governance/governance-documents/default.aspx>. You may obtain a copy of these materials by contacting Delta's Assistant Corporate Secretary at the address on the next page.

Director Independence

Independence of Audit, Corporate Governance and Personnel & Compensation Committee Members

For many years, Delta's Board of Directors has been composed of a substantial majority of independent directors. Delta's Board established the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee, the Finance Committee, the Personnel & Compensation Committee and the Safety and Security Committee to focus on particular Board responsibilities.

The Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that all current directors are independent under the NYSE listing standards and Delta's director independence standards, except Richard Anderson and Ed Bastian, who are not independent because each is an executive officer of Delta, and Ken Rogers, who is not independent because he is a Delta pilot. Similarly, Doug Ralph, who is being nominated to replace Ken Rogers, will not be independent as he is also a Delta pilot. In making these independence determinations, the Board of Directors considered information submitted by the directors in response to questionnaires, information obtained from Delta's internal records and advice from counsel.

The Audit, Corporate Governance and Personnel & Compensation Committees consist entirely of non-employee directors who are independent, as defined in the NYSE listing standards and Delta's director independence standards. The members of the Audit Committee also satisfy the additional independence requirements set forth in rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the 1934 Act). In addition, each member has been designated an Audit Committee Financial Expert. The members of the Personnel & Compensation Committee also satisfy the additional independence requirements set forth in rules under the 1934 Act.

Directors Elected Annually; Majority Voting for Directors

Delta's Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws provide that all directors are elected annually. Under the Bylaws, a director in an uncontested election is elected by a majority of votes cast (excluding abstentions) at a stockholders' meeting at which a quorum is present. In an election for directors where the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected, a contested election, the directors are elected by the vote of a plurality of the shares represented at the meeting and entitled to vote on the matter.

Identification and Selection of Nominees for Director

The Corporate Governance Committee recommends to the Board of Directors nominees for election to the Board who have the skills and experience to assist management in the operation of Delta's business. In accordance with Delta's corporate governance principles, the Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors assess potential nominees (including incumbent directors) based on factors such as the individual's business experience, character, judgment, diversity of experience, international background and other matters relevant to the Board's needs and objectives at the particular time. Independence, financial literacy and the ability to devote significant time to Board activities and to the enhancement of the nominee's knowledge of Delta's business are also factors considered for Board membership. The Corporate Governance Committee retains third-party search firms from time to time to assist in identifying and preliminarily screening potential Board members.

Table of Contents

The Corporate Governance Committee evaluates potential nominees suggested by stockholders on the same basis as all other potential nominees. To recommend a potential nominee, you may:

e-mail nonmgmt.directors@delta.com **or**

send a letter addressed to Delta's Legal Department at Delta Air Lines, Inc., Dept. No. 981, 1030 Delta Boulevard, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, *Attention: Assistant Corporate Secretary*.

Each potential nominee is reviewed and screened by the Corporate Governance Committee, which decides whether to recommend a candidate for consideration by the full Board.

Audit Committee Financial Experts

The Board of Directors has designated Ms. Reynolds, Mr. Blake, Mr. Brinzo, Mr. Foret, Ms. Franklin and Mr. Rial as Audit Committee Financial Experts. Mr. Easter is expected to join the Audit Committee immediately following the annual meeting and be designated as the Committee chair. The Board of Directors is also expected to designate Mr. Easter as an Audit Committee Financial Expert.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

None of the members of the Personnel & Compensation Committee is a former or current officer or employee of Delta or has any interlocking relationships as set forth in applicable SEC rules.

Communications with Directors

Stockholders and other interested parties may communicate with our non-management directors by sending an e-mail to nonmgmt.directors@delta.com. We have established a link to this address on our Investor Relations website. Communications with directors may also be mailed to Delta's Legal Department at the address listed above. Communications will be sent directly to the non-executive Chairman of the Board, as representative of the non-management directors, other than communications pertaining to customer service, human resources, accounting, auditing, internal control and financial reporting matters. Communications regarding customer service and human resources matters will be forwarded for handling by the appropriate Delta department. Communications regarding accounting, auditing, internal control and financial reporting matters will be brought to the attention of the Audit Committee Chair.

Board of Directors

During 2014, the Board of Directors met seven times. Each director who served on the Board during 2014 attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the committees on which he or she served that were held during his or her tenure on the Board. It is the Board's policy that directors are encouraged to attend the annual meeting. All of Delta's directors attended the annual meeting in 2014.

The Board routinely holds executive sessions without the Chief Executive Officer or any other management director. Mr. Carp, who serves as the non-executive Chairman of the Board, presides at these executive sessions. In his role as Chairman of the Board, Mr. Carp's responsibilities also include those described below under Board of Directors Leadership Structure.

Board of Directors Leadership Structure

Because we believe operating pursuant to sound governance practices benefits the long-term interests of our stockholders, since 2003 we have chosen to elect an independent, non-executive chairman separate from our Chief Executive Officer. Governance commentators, proxy voting advisory firms, and institutional stockholders generally conclude the separation of the two roles is a best practice. We believe the non-executive Chairman of the Board plays an important governance leadership role that enhances long-term stockholder value. His responsibilities include:

chairing meetings of non-management directors (executive sessions);

presiding at the Annual Stockholders Meeting;

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

10

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

briefing the Chief Executive Officer on issues raised in executive sessions;

in collaboration with the Corporate Governance Committee of the Board, committee chairs and the Chief Executive Officer, scheduling Board meetings, setting Board agendas and strategic discussions and providing a review of pre-meeting materials delivered to directors;

overseeing Board, committee and senior management evaluations and succession planning;

managing the Board's oversight of risks;

recommending appropriate governance policies and practices;

overseeing the avoidance of conflicts of interests;

recommending Board committee and committee chair assignments;

facilitating director discussions inside and outside the boardroom, managing the relationship between the Chief Executive Officer and the Board, consulting with the Chief Executive Officer and serving as a counterweight as appropriate;

overseeing the process for selecting new Board members;

calling meetings of the Board and stockholders;

chairing the Corporate Governance Committee;

conducting/overseeing the annual evaluation of the Committees and the Board; and

carrying out other duties requested by the Chief Executive Officer and the Board as a whole.

Governance commentators, proxy advisory firms and institutional stockholders advise companies without a separation of the Chief Executive Officer and chairman to elect a lead director having the very same specific responsibilities as our non-executive chairman listed above. The goal of both the non-executive chairman and the lead director is the same to provide engaged directors with the appropriate resources and structure to enhance stockholder value, without delegating all responsibilities to the Chief Executive Officer.

Board Committees

The Board of Directors has established the following committees to assist it in discharging its responsibilities:

Audit Committee

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

The Audit Committee members are Ms. Reynolds, *Chair*, Mr. Blake, Mr. Brinzo, Mr. Foret, Ms. Franklin and Mr. Rial. Ms. Reynolds is retiring from the Board immediately following the annual meeting. Mr. Easter is expected to join the Committee immediately after the annual meeting and become the chair of the Committee. The Committee met nine times in 2014. Among other matters, the Committee:

Appoints (subject to stockholder ratification) our independent auditors;

represents and assists the Board in its oversight of:

the integrity of our financial statements

legal and regulatory matters, including compliance with applicable laws and regulations

our independent auditors' qualifications, independence and performance

the performance of our internal audit department;

reviews audits and other work product of the independent auditors and internal audit department;

discusses the adequacy and effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting;

oversees our compliance with procedures and processes pertaining to corporate ethics and standards of business conduct;

Table of Contents

reviews and, if appropriate, approves or ratifies:

possible conflicts of interest involving members of the Board or executive officers

transactions that would be subject to disclosure under Item 404 of SEC Regulation S-K;

considers complaints concerning accounting, auditing, internal control and financial reporting matters;

reviews the enterprise risk management process by which management identifies, assesses and manages Delta's exposure to risk; discusses major risk exposures with management; appraises the Board of Directors of risk exposures and management's actions to monitor and manage risk; and reviews the Company's insurance programs; and

focuses on tone at the top and chooses key topics for detailed review.

Corporate Governance Committee

The Corporate Governance Committee members are Mr. Carp, *Chairman*, Mr. Blake, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Easter and Ms. Reynolds. The Committee met five times in 2014. Among other matters, the Committee:

leads the search and recruiting process for new outside directors and identifies and recommends qualified individuals to the Board of Directors for nomination as directors; considers stockholder nominations of candidates for election as directors; and

considers, develops and makes recommendations to the Board regarding matters related to corporate governance, including:

governance standards

qualifications and eligibility requirements for Board members, including director independence standards

the Board's size, composition, organization and processes

the type, function, size, membership and chairs of Board committees

evaluation of the Board's performance

legal and regulatory changes in corporate governance

political contributions reports.

Finance Committee

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

The Finance Committee members are Mr. Mattson, *Chairman*, Mr. DeWalt, Mr. Donilon, Mr. Easter, Mr. Goode, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Woodrow. Mr. Easter is expected to leave the Committee and become a member of the Audit Committee immediately after the annual meeting. Mr. Rogers is retiring from the Board immediately after the annual meeting. The Committee met seven times in 2014. Among other matters, the Committee:

reviews and makes recommendations, where appropriate, to the Board regarding:

financial planning and financial structure

financings and guarantees

capital expenditures, including fleet acquisition

annual and longer-term operating plans

capital structure, including issuances and repurchases of capital stock and other securities

risk management practices and policies concerning investments and hedging, both financial and non-financial, including swaps

balance sheet strategies

Table of Contents

derivatives management, fuel hedging and oversight of Delta's oil and fuel management; and

approves commitments, capital expenditures and debt financings and re-financings, subject to certain limits.

Personnel & Compensation Committee

The Personnel & Compensation Committee members are Mr. DeWalt, *Chairman*, Mr. Brinzo, Ms. Franklin, Mr. Goode, Mr. Mattson, Mr. Rial and Mr. Woodrow. The Committee met seven times in 2014. Among other matters, the Committee:

establishes general compensation philosophy and oversees the development and implementation of compensation programs;

performs an annual performance evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer and determines and approves the Chief Executive Officer's compensation;

reviews and approves compensation programs for executive officers and recommends to the Board the compensation of non-employee directors;

reviews and regularly approves the management succession plan;

makes recommendations to the Board regarding election of officers; and

selects, retains, terminates, and approves fees of compensation advisors to the Committee.

Safety and Security Committee

The Safety and Security Committee members are Mr. Rogers, *Chairman*, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Carp, Mr. Donilon and Mr. Foret. Mr. Rogers is retiring from the Board immediately after the annual meeting. The Board expects to appoint Mr. Foret as the chair of the Committee and to appoint Mr. Ralph to this Committee upon his election to the Board. The Committee met six times in 2014. Among other matters, the Committee:

oversees and consults with management regarding customer, employee and aircraft operating safety and security, including related goals, performance and initiatives by:

reviewing current and proposed safety and security-related programs, policies and compliance matters

reviewing matters with a material effect on Delta's flight safety operations and security

establishing and approving annual safety and security goals

reviewing the safety and security programs and performance of the Delta Connection carriers

reviewing the security of the Company's information technology systems and operations, including defenses against cyber threats to the airline.

Board Oversight of Risk Management

The Board of Directors has ultimate responsibility to oversee Delta's enterprise risk management program (ERM). The Board discusses risk throughout the year, particularly when reviewing operating and strategic plans and when considering specific actions for approval. Depending on the nature of the risk, the responsibility for oversight of selected risks may be delegated to appropriate Committees of the Board of Directors, with material findings reported to the full Board. Delegations of risk oversight by the Board include:

The Audit Committee reviews the ERM framework at the enterprise level; reviews management's process for identifying, managing and assessing risk; and oversees the management of risks related to the integrity of the consolidated financial statements, internal control over financial reporting, the internal audit function and related matters.

Table of Contents

The Finance Committee oversees the management of risks related to aircraft fuel price and fuel hedging; foreign currency and interest rate hedging; Delta's financial condition and capital structure; its financing, acquisition and investment transactions and related matters.

The Personnel & Compensation Committee reviews risks related to management succession and Delta's executive compensation program.

The Corporate Governance Committee reviews risks related to Board of Directors' succession and Delta's corporate governance matters.

The Safety and Security Committee oversees the management of risks related to customer, employee, aircraft and airport operating safety and security and information technology safety and security.

The Board of Directors receives reports from the committee chairs at regularly scheduled Board meetings. Management reports to the Board and the committees with oversight of specific risks concerning matters such as compliance with regulations, business strategies, proposed changes in laws and regulations and any other matter deemed appropriate by the Board or the committees.

Under Delta's ERM process, management is responsible for setting risk tolerance levels; defining organizational responsibilities for risk management; determining the significant risks to Delta; developing risk mitigation and management strategies, based on Delta's risk tolerance levels; and monitoring the business to determine that risk mitigation activities are in place and operating. Management periodically updates its assessment of risks to Delta as emerging risks are identified.

Delta's internal audit function, which is led by the Vice President - Corporate Audit and Enterprise Risk Management, is responsible for supporting and coordinating management's ERM process and activities; documenting risk assessments using a consistent approach; identifying and validating controls to mitigate risk; and reporting on results of risk evaluations. The Vice President - Corporate Audit and Enterprise Risk Management reports to the Audit Committee regarding ERM activities.

The Board of Directors believes that Delta's leadership structure, combined with the roles of the Board and its committees, provides the appropriate leadership for effective risk oversight.

Table of Contents**PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

All Delta Directors are elected annually. At the annual meeting, each director will be elected by the vote of a majority of the votes cast. This means the number of votes cast for a director must exceed 50% of the votes with respect to that director (excluding abstentions). Each director elected will hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders and the election of his or her successor.

Delta's Bylaws provide that any director not elected by a majority of the votes cast at the annual meeting must offer to tender his or her resignation to the Board of Directors. The Corporate Governance Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors whether to accept the resignation. The Board of Directors will consider the recommendation and publicly disclose its decision within 90 days after the certification of the election results.

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

(1) Richard H. Anderson	(9) William H. Easter III
(2) Edward H. Bastian	(10) Mickey P. Foret
(3) Francis S. Blake	(11) Shirley C. Franklin
(4) Roy J. Bostock	(12) David R. Goode
(5) John S. Brinzo	(13) George N. Mattson
(6) Daniel A. Carp	(14) Douglas R. Ralph
(7) David G. DeWalt	(15) Sergio A. L. Rial
(8) Thomas E. Donilon	(16) Kenneth B. Woodrow

All of the nominees, except Douglas R. Ralph, are currently serving on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors believes each nominee for director will be able to stand for election. If any nominee becomes unable to stand for election, the Board may name a substitute nominee or reduce the number of directors. If a substitute nominee is chosen, the directors designated to vote the proxies will vote FOR the substitute nominee.

Delta, the Air Line Pilots Association, International, the collective bargaining representative for Delta pilots (ALPA), and the Delta Master Executive Council, the governing body of the Delta unit of ALPA (Delta MEC), have an agreement whereby Delta agrees (1) to cause the election to the Board of Directors of a Delta pilot designated by the Delta MEC who is not a member or officer of the Delta MEC or an officer of ALPA (Pilot Nominee); (2) at any meeting of stockholders at which the Pilot Nominee is subject to election, to re-nominate the Pilot Nominee or nominate another qualified Delta pilot designated by the Delta MEC to be elected to the Board of Directors and to use its reasonable best efforts to cause such person to be elected to the Board; and (3) in the event of the Pilot Nominee's death, disability, resignation, removal or failure to be elected, to elect promptly to the Board a replacement Pilot Nominee designated by the Delta MEC to fill the resulting vacancy. Pursuant to this provision, the Delta MEC has designated Douglas R. Ralph to be nominated for election to the Board at the annual meeting. If elected, Mr. Ralph would succeed Kenneth C. Rogers, who will retire from the Board after the annual meeting.

The compensation of Mr. Rogers and Mr. Ralph as Delta pilots is determined under the collective bargaining agreement between Delta and ALPA. During 2014, Mr. Rogers received \$315,592 in compensation (which includes: \$248,216 in flight earnings, \$32,876 in shared rewards/profit sharing payments and \$34,500 in Delta contributions to a defined contribution plan) and Mr. Ralph received \$290,803 in compensation (which includes: \$224,937 in flight earnings, \$31,366 in shared rewards/profit sharing payments and \$34,500 in Delta contributions to a defined contribution plan). As Delta pilots, Mr. Rogers is not and Mr. Ralph will not be separately compensated for their service as a director.

Certain Information About Nominees

Delta believes each nominee has a reputation for integrity, honesty and adherence to high ethical standards; demonstrated business acumen and the exercise of sound judgment; and a track record of service as a leader in

Table of Contents

business or governmental settings. Delta also believes it is important for directors and nominees for director to have experience in one or more of the following areas:

As a chief executive or member of senior management of a large public or private company or in a leadership position in a governmental setting

Airline or other transportation industries

Marketing

Financial and/or accounting

Risk management

Energy industry

International business

Information technology expertise

Global security and government affairs experience

As a board member of a large public or private company

The Board of Directors fixed the size of the Board at sixteen members effective at the annual meeting. The following section provides information about each nominee for director, including the experience that led the Board of Directors to conclude the nominee should serve as a director of Delta.

Richard H. Anderson

Age 60

Joined Delta's Board April 30, 2007

Mr. Anderson has been Chief Executive Officer of Delta since 2007.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Anderson should serve as a director include Mr. Anderson's experience serving as the Chief Executive Officer of Delta and Northwest Airlines, Inc. and over 20 years of business and operational experience in the airline industry. He has also served as a senior executive of a Fortune 20 healthcare company, as well as on the board of directors of public companies other than Delta.

Directorships: Medtronic, Inc.; Cargill, Inc.

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Affiliations: Member, Board of Airlines for America; Member, Board of International Air Transport Association; Chair, Board of Metro Atlanta Chamber

Edward H. Bastian

Age 57

Joined Delta's Board February 5, 2010

Mr. Bastian has been President of Delta since 2007. He was President of Delta and Chief Executive Officer of Northwest Airlines, Inc. from 2008 to 2009. Mr. Bastian was President and Chief Financial Officer of Delta from 2007 to 2008; Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Delta from 2005 to 2007; Chief Financial Officer of Acuity Brands from June 2005 to July 2005; Senior Vice President Finance and Controller of Delta from 2000 to 2005 and Vice President and Controller of Delta from 1998 to 2000.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Bastian should serve as a director include Mr. Bastian's over ten years of experience as a Delta executive, including serving as Delta's President, Delta's Chief Restructuring Officer during its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding and Northwest Airlines Inc.'s Chief Executive Officer after the merger. Mr. Bastian's accounting and finance background provides financial and strategic expertise to the Board of Directors.

Directorships: GOL Linhas Aéreas Inteligentes, S.A.; Grupo Aeroméxico, S.A.B. de C.V.

Affiliations: Member, Board of Woodruff Arts Center

Table of Contents

Francis S. Blake Age 65 Joined Delta's Board July 25, 2014

Mr. Blake served as the Chairman of The Home Depot from 2007 until his retirement in February 2015. He was the CEO of The Home Depot from 2007 to November 2014. Prior to his appointment to this position, he served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors and Executive Vice President of The Home Depot. He joined The Home Depot in 2002 as Executive Vice President Business Development and Corporate Operations. Mr. Blake was previously the deputy secretary for the U.S. Department of Energy and served in a variety of executive positions at General Electric Company, including as Senior Vice President, Corporate Business Development in charge of all worldwide mergers, acquisitions and dispositions worldwide.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Blake should serve as a director include his experience as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of a complex retail organization and prior leadership positions in business and government. He has also served on boards of directors of public companies in the energy industry. At other public companies, Mr. Blake has experience as a member of the audit committee.

Committees: Audit; Corporate Governance

Directorships: Procter & Gamble; The Southern Company (2004-2009)

Roy J. Bostock Age 74 Joined Delta's Board October 29, 2008

Mr. Bostock has served as non-executive Vice Chairman of Delta's Board of Directors since 2008 and was Chairman of the Board of Yahoo! Inc. from 2008 through 2012. He served as non-executive Chairman of Northwest Airlines Corporation following its emergence from bankruptcy in 2007 until the merger of Delta and Northwest in 2008. He has also served as a principal of Sealedge Investments, LLC, a diversified private investment company, since 2002. Mr. Bostock was Chairman of B/Com3 from 2000 to 2002, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the McManus Group from 1996 to 2000. Prior to 1996, Mr. Bostock served in a variety of senior executive positions in the advertising agency business, including Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles, Inc. from 1990 to 1996.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Bostock should serve as a director include the business and marketing expertise that Mr. Bostock brings to the Board of Directors, having served in senior executive positions in the advertising industry for many years. He has also served on boards of directors of public companies in the airline, financial services and internet services industries, including as chairman of the board of two companies. At other public companies, Mr. Bostock has experience as a member of the governance committees of two boards and the risk committee of another board.

Committees: Corporate Governance; Safety and Security

Directorships: Morgan Stanley (2005-2013); Northwest Airlines Corporation (2005-2008); Yahoo! Inc. (2003-2012)

John S. Brinzo Age 73 Joined Delta's Board April 30, 2007

Mr. Brinzo was Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc. (formerly known as Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.) from 2000 until his retirement in 2007. He also served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc. from 1997 until 2005, and as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from 2000 until his retirement as Chief Executive Officer in 2006, and as Chairman in 2007.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Brinzo should serve as a director include Mr. Brinzo's service as the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of a public company, where his career spanned

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

more than 35 years, as well as his extensive background in finance and his experience serving on the audit committees of the boards of directors of three other public companies and the compensation committee of one other public company.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

17

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Table of Contents

Committees: Audit; Personnel & Compensation

Directorships: AK Steel Holding Corporation; Brink's Home Security Holdings, Inc. (2008-2010); Alpha Natural Resources, Inc. (2006-2009)

Affiliations: Chairman, Business Advisory Council, School of Business, Kent State University

Daniel A. Carp Age 67 Joined Delta's Board April 30, 2007
 Mr. Carp has served as non-executive Chairman of Delta's Board of Directors since 2007. He was Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Eastman Kodak Company from 2000 to 2005. Mr. Carp was President of Eastman Kodak Company from 1997 to 2003.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Carp should serve as a director include Mr. Carp's substantial business experience as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of a multinational public company in the consumer goods and services sector, where he was employed for over 35 years. As a member of the board of directors of large public companies other than Delta, Mr. Carp has experience on audit, compensation, finance and governance committees.

Committees: Corporate Governance (Chair); Safety and Security

Directorships: Norfolk Southern Corporation; Texas Instruments Inc.; Liz Claiborne Inc. (2006-2009)

David G. DeWalt Age 51 Joined Delta's Board November 22, 2011
 Mr. DeWalt has been the Chief Executive Officer of FireEye, Inc., a global network cyber security company, since November 2012 and Chairman of its board since June 2012. Mr. DeWalt was President and Chief Executive Officer of McAfee, Inc., a security technology company, from 2007 until 2011 when McAfee, Inc. was acquired by Intel Corporation. From 2003 to 2007, Mr. DeWalt held executive positions with EMC Corporation, a provider of information infrastructure technology and solutions, including serving as Executive Vice President and President-Customer Operations and Content Management Software.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. DeWalt should serve as a director include Mr. DeWalt's substantial expertise in the information technology security industry and his strategic and operational experience as the current Chief Executive Officer of FireEye, Inc. and former Chief Executive Officer of McAfee, Inc. As a member of the board of directors of public companies other than Delta, Mr. DeWalt has served on the audit and compensation committees.

Committees: Personnel & Compensation (Chair); Finance

Directorships: FireEye, Inc.; Jive Software, Inc. (2011-2013); Polycom Inc. (2005-2013)

Affiliations: National Security & Technology Advisory Committee

Thomas E. Donilon Age 59 Joined Delta's Board February 20, 2015

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Mr. Donilon is a partner and vice chair of the international law firm of O Melveny & Myers. Prior to rejoining O Melveny in 2014, Mr. Donilon served in the administration of President Barack Obama, most recently as national security advisor. In that capacity, he oversaw the U.S. National Security Council staff, chaired the cabinet-level National Security Principals Committee, and was responsible for the coordination and integration of the administration's foreign policy, intelligence and military efforts. Mr. Donilon also served as the President's personal emissary to a number of world leaders. Over the past three decades, Mr. Donilon has worked closely with and advised two other U.S. presidents.

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

18

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Donilon should serve as a director include his extensive experience and unique expertise and insight into global security and international strategic matters, his service at the highest levels of the U.S. government and his role as a legal advisor to public company boards and a range of other sophisticated business clients.

Committees: Finance; Safety and Security

Affiliations: Distinguished Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations; Non-resident Senior Fellow; Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs; Distinguished Fellow, Asia Society Policy Institute; Honorary Trustee at the Brookings Institution; Member, Aspen Strategy Group; Member, the Trilateral Commission; Member, the Center on Global Energy Policy Advisory Board at Columbia University; Member, U.S. Defense Policy Board; Member, Central Intelligence Agency's External Advisory Board.

William H. Easter III Age 65 Joined Delta's Board December 3, 2012
 Mr. Easter was Chairman, President and CEO of DCP Midstream LLC (formerly Duke Energy Field Services, LLC) from 2004 until his retirement in 2008. Previously employed by ConocoPhillips for 32 years, Mr. Easter served as Vice President of State Government Affairs from 2002 to 2004 and as General Manager of the Gulf Coast Refining, Marketing and Transportation Business Unit from 1998 to 2002. Since his retirement from DCP Midstream, LLC, Mr. Easter has been involved in private investments.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Easter should serve as a director include over 36 years of leadership and operational experience in natural gas, crude oil and refined product supply, transportation, refining and marketing with ConocoPhillips and DCP Midstream LLC. Additionally, Mr. Easter has experience as a member of the board of directors of other public companies where he served on the audit, corporate governance, compensation and finance committees.

Committees: Corporate Governance; Finance (*expected to move from Finance to Audit immediately after the annual meeting and become chair of Audit*)

Directorships: BakerHughes, Inc.; Concho Resources, Inc.; Sunoco, Inc. (2011-2012)

Affiliations: Member, Board of Memorial Hermann Hospital System, Houston, Texas

Mickey P. Foret Age 69 Joined Delta's Board October 29, 2008
 Mr. Foret was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Northwest Airlines, Inc. from 1998 to 2002, and also served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Northwest Cargo from 1999 to 2002. Mr. Foret served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Atlas Air, Inc. from 1996 to 1997 and as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Northwest Airlines, Inc. from 1993 to 1996.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Foret should serve as a director include Mr. Foret's experience in the airline industry, where he held numerous senior executive positions for over 35 years, particularly in the finance area. He served as Chief Financial Officer of Northwest Airlines, Inc. for seven years. Mr. Foret has also served on the audit, compensation, finance and governance committees of the board of directors of other public companies.

Committees: Audit; Safety and Security (*expected to become Chair immediately after the annual meeting*)

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Directorships: SpartanNash; URS Corporation (2003-2014); Nash Finch Company (2005-2013); ADC
Telecommunications, Inc. (2003-2010); Northwest Airlines Corporation (2007-2008)

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

19

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Table of Contents**Shirley C. Franklin**

Age 69

Joined Delta's Board July 20, 2011

Ms. Franklin has been Chair of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Purpose Built Communities, Inc., a national non-profit organization established to transform struggling neighborhoods into sustainable communities, since 2011. Since 2013, Ms. Franklin has also served as the Barbara Jordan Visiting Professor at the University of Texas-Austin, LBJ School of Public Affairs. Ms. Franklin served as Mayor of the City of Atlanta from 2002 to 2010 and served in cabinet positions in the City of Atlanta, including Chief of Operations and Chief Administrative Officer, from 1978 to 1991, prior to her election as mayor in 2001.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Ms. Franklin should serve as a director include Ms. Franklin's extensive executive leadership experience, business experience and financial expertise. She has over 38 years of leadership experience in various positions in city government and other organizations, including her eight years as Mayor of Atlanta. She has also served on the audit committee of a board of directors of a public company other than Delta.

Committees: Audit; Personnel & Compensation

Directorships: Mueller Water Products, Inc.

Affiliations: Atlanta Regional Commission on Homelessness (Co-Chair); National Center for Civil and Human Rights (Co-Chair); United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta Endowment Foundation; The Volcker Alliance

David R. Goode

Age 74

Joined Delta's Board April 22, 1999

Mr. Goode was Chairman of the Board of Norfolk Southern Corporation from 1992 until his retirement in 2006; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of that company from 2004 through 2005; and Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of that company from 1992 to 2005. He held other executive officer positions with Norfolk Southern Corporation from 1985 to 1992.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Goode should serve as a director include Mr. Goode's over 25 years of experience in the transportation industry, including many years as Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of a large public railroad company. As a member of the board of directors of other public companies, Mr. Goode served on compensation committees.

Committees: Finance; Personnel & Compensation

Directorships: Caterpillar Inc. (1993-2013); Texas Instruments Inc. (1996-2011)

George N. Mattson

Age 49

Joined Delta's Board October 1, 2012

Mr. Mattson is a private investor focused on acquiring middle market industrial businesses. Mr. Mattson was a partner and co-head of the Global Industrials Group in Investment Banking at Goldman, Sachs & Co. from 2002 through August 2012, where he served in a variety of positions from 1994 to 2002. Mr. Mattson was an Associate at Credit Suisse First Boston from 1993 to 1994, and he held various sales and marketing positions at IBM from 1987 to 1993.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Mattson should serve as a director include Mr. Mattson's experience in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and capital markets. In addition, Mr. Mattson has knowledge of the airline industry and other global industries acquired during his 18 years at Goldman, Sachs &

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Co., including as co-head of the Global Industrials Group in Investment Banking, which had responsibility for a diverse set of industry sectors, including companies in the transportation industry.

Committees: Finance (Chair); Personnel & Compensation

Affiliations: Member, Board of The Boys Club of New York; Member, Board of Visitors of the Pratt School of Engineering at Duke University

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

20

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents**Douglas R. Ralph**

Age 60

Mr. Ralph has been a Delta pilot since 1991 and is currently a pilot of a Boeing 767ER aircraft. He was an active duty pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps for six years prior to joining Delta. He was then a pilot in the U.S. Naval Reserves for 17 years, retiring with the rank of Captain in 2001. Mr. Ralph has been designated by the Delta MEC as the Pilot Nominee. Mr. Ralph is also the Chair of the Investor Relations Committee of the Delta MEC and a member of the Government Affairs Committee of the Delta MEC.

Experience: As a pilot designated by the Delta MEC to serve on the Board of Directors, Mr. Ralph provides a unique perspective into the airline industry and related labor relations matters.

Committees: Safety & Security; Finance (*expected appointments upon election to the Board*)

Sergio A. L. Rial

Age 54

Joined Delta's Board December 9, 2014

Mr. Rial is Chairman of the Board of Banco Santander Brasil, the largest international financial conglomerate in Brazil and a member of Santander Group headquartered in Spain. From 2012 to February 2015, Mr. Rial was Chief Executive Officer of Marfrig Global Foods, a multinational company based in Brazil with operations in the food and food service sectors in Brazil and 15 other countries. Prior to joining Marfrig in 2012, Rial served in various leadership capacities with Cargill, Inc., a Minneapolis-based global provider of food, agriculture, financial and industrial products and services. At Cargill, Rial served as Chief Financial Officer from 2009 to 2011 and Executive Vice President from 2011 to 2012. He was also a member of Cargill's board of directors from 2010 to 2012. From 2002 to 2004, Rial was a senior managing director and co-head of the Investment Banking Division at Bear Stearns & Co. in New York after serving at ABN AMRO Bank for 18 years.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Rial should serve as a director include his experience as a chief executive officer in global business, particularly in the key market of Latin America, and his extensive financial experience as a chief financial officer of a global corporation. He has also served on boards of directors of public companies in the food and agricultural industry.

Committees: Audit; Personnel & Compensation

Directorships: Cyrela Brazil Realty S.A.; The Mosaic Company (2010-2011)

Kenneth B. Woodrow

Age 70

Joined Delta's Board July 1, 2004

Mr. Woodrow was Vice Chairman of Target Corporation from 1999 until his retirement in December 2000. He served as President of Target Corporation from 1994 until 1999 and held other management positions in that company from 1971 until 1994.

Experience: The qualifications that led the Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Woodrow should serve as a director include Mr. Woodrow's nearly 30 years of experience in marketing, operations and finance at a public company with a large number of general merchandise retail stores throughout the United States. Mr. Woodrow held positions during that time that included Vice Chairman, President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Woodrow has experience as a member of the board of directors of two other public companies where he served on audit, finance and governance committees.

Committees: Finance; Personnel & Compensation

Directorships: Visteon Corporation (2004-2010); Duane Reade, Inc. (2002-2004)

Affiliations: Former Chairman of the Board and Current Life Trustee, Hamline University

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

21

PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Table of Contents**BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES****Directors, Nominees for Director and Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth the number of shares of Delta common stock beneficially owned as of April 15, 2015, by each director and director-nominee, each person named in the Summary Compensation Table in this proxy statement, and all directors and executive officers as a group. Unless otherwise indicated by footnote, the owner exercises sole voting and investment power over the shares.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership ⁽¹⁾
Directors and Nominees:	
Richard H. Anderson	3,390,731 ⁽²⁾
Edward H. Bastian	1,352,732 ⁽²⁾⁽³⁾
Francis S. Blake	9,390
Roy J. Bostock	96,514 ⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾
John S. Brinzo	59,413
Daniel A. Carp	54,603
David G. DeWalt	37,240
Thomas E. Donilon	3,380
William H. Easter III	33,690
Mickey P. Foret	69,318 ⁽²⁾
Shirley C. Franklin	36,190
David R. Goode	69,413
George N. Mattson	32,180
Douglas R. Ralph	0
Paula Rospot Reynolds	73,313
Sergio A.L. Rial	3,460
Kenneth C. Rogers	4,159
Kenneth B. Woodrow	69,413
Named Executive Officers:	
Glen W. Hauenstein	397,478 ⁽²⁾
Paul A. Jacobson	534,322 ⁽²⁾⁽⁵⁾
W. Gil West	125,775 ⁽²⁾
Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (25 Persons)	7,186,856 ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Each of the individuals listed in the table and the directors and executive officers as a group beneficially owned less than 1% of the shares of common stock outstanding on April 15, 2015.

⁽²⁾ Includes the following number of shares of common stock which a director or named executive officer has the right to acquire upon the exercise of stock options that were exercisable as of April 15, 2015, or that will become exercisable within 60 days after that date:

Name	Number of Shares
Richard H. Anderson	2,480,071
Edward H. Bastian	1,000,611
Roy J. Bostock	9,146
Mickey P. Foret	9,146
Glen W. Hauenstein	204,100
Paul A. Jacobson	234,000
Directors & Executive Officers as a Group	4,286,397

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

- (3) Includes 2,000 shares held by a family foundation, of which Mr. Bastian and his wife are the directors.
- (4) Includes 23,618 shares held by a family foundation, of which Mr. Bostock, his wife and children and their spouses are directors.
- (5) Includes 10,000 shares held by a family foundation, of which Mr. Jacobson and his wife are the trustees.

BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

22

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

Beneficial Owners of More than 5% of Voting Stock

The following table provides information about the following entity known to Delta to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of Delta's outstanding common stock.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percentage of Class on April 15, 2015
The Vanguard Group 100 Vanguard Blvd Malvern, PA 19355	41,982,553 ⁽¹⁾	5.14%

⁽¹⁾ Based on Schedule 13G/A filed February 10, 2015, in which The Vanguard Group reported that, as of December 31, 2014, it had sole voting power over 1,212,755 of these shares, sole dispositive power over 40,797,198 of these shares, and shared dispositive power over 1,185,355 of these shares.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This section of the proxy statement provides an overview and analysis of our executive compensation program. It discusses our executive compensation philosophy and objectives, the administration of the executive compensation program, and the material elements of the program. It also reviews the actions taken by the Personnel & Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (the P&C Committee) in 2014 and the compensation of our named executive officers, who were:

Richard H. Anderson Chief Executive Officer

Edward H. Bastian President

Glen W. Hauenstein Executive Vice President & Chief Revenue Officer

Paul A. Jacobson Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer

W. Gil West Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

Executive Summary

Our performance in 2014. Delta had a successful 2014, with strong financial results, continued revenue momentum, excellent operational performance, and investments in network, airports, fleet and technology. The following key accomplishments in 2014 helped make Delta the carrier of choice for passengers and position the Company for further success in 2015:

Strong financial results*

Excluding special items, earned pre-tax income of \$4.5 billion, an increase of 70% over 2013 and Delta's fifth consecutive year of solid profitability, with 4.2 points of pre-tax margin expansion.

Free cash flow of \$3.7 billion and the return of \$1.35 billion to stockholders through dividends and share repurchases.

Reduced adjusted net debt to \$7.3 billion, a \$2.1 billion reduction from 2013 and an overall \$9.7 billion reduction from 2009.

Generated over 20% return on invested capital, the fifth year in a row we had returns that met or exceeded our cost of capital.

Continued revenue momentum

Expanded operating revenue by \$2.6 billion to \$40.4 billion, a 7% increase over 2013.

Grew passenger unit revenue 3.0% and generated a unit revenue premium relative to the industry for the fourth year in a row.

Excellent operating performance

Maintained strong operating performance with an on-time arrival rate of 84.2%, a flight completion factor of 99.2% achieving a record 95 days of zero cancellations and continued our 1st place performance in Department of Transportation (DOT) customer complaints among the major network carriers.

Based on DOT measures, these results put Delta at the top of the industry in operational reliability and customer service for major network carriers.

* See Supplemental Information about Financial Measures at the end of this proxy statement for a reconciliation of non-GAAP financial measures to the corresponding GAAP financial measures, and the reasons we use non-GAAP financial measures. On a GAAP basis for 2014, pre-tax income was \$1.1 billion and debt and capital lease obligations were \$9.8 billion.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

24

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

Investments in network, airports, fleet and technology

Began our joint venture with Virgin Atlantic, increasing our presence at London's Heathrow Airport.

In New York, we are renovating and expanding our facilities at LaGuardia to support our expanded domestic operations and we opened the expanded and thoroughly enhanced Terminal 4 at New York's JFK International Airport and announced an additional expansion of Terminal 4.

Focused on growing Seattle into a major international gateway, with expanded service and investments in airport facilities.

Continued our fleet restructuring to replace 50-seat regional jets and other older, less cost effective aircraft with newer, more efficient Boeing 737-900, Boeing 717 and CRJ-900 aircraft; announced plans to purchase 50 new Airbus aircraft.

Continued to make significant functionality and performance improvements to delta.com and upgraded our award-winning mobile applications to add more customer-focused functions, such as baggage tracking and enhanced mobile check-in.

Other company highlights

Received recognition from leading organizations and publications, including being named *Air Transport World's 2014 Airline of the Year* and, for the fourth time in five years, *Fortune's Most Admired Airline*; won numerous airline industry awards sweeping the major corporate travel surveys, including *Business Travel News*, *Travel Weekly* and *TravelAge West*.

Recognized as a national leader in our commitment to anti-human trafficking efforts and provided training to all customer-facing employees to help identify and report suspected instances of human trafficking.

Our employee commitment. Delta's employees are critical to the Company's success. Our strong financial, operational and customer service results in 2014 would not have been possible without the dedication and determination of our employees. During 2014, we continued our commitment to promoting a culture of open, honest and direct communications, making Delta a great place to work, and building an environment that encourages diversity, integrity and respect. Key actions in 2014 include:

Paying over \$1 billion under Delta's broad-based profit sharing program (the Profit Sharing Program) in recognition of the achievements of our employees in meeting Delta's financial targets for the year, providing each eligible employee with a payout of 16.58% of eligible earnings.

Awarding \$84 million under Delta's broad-based shared rewards program (the Shared Rewards Program) based on the hard work of our employees in meeting on-time arrival, baggage handling and flight completion factor performance goals during 2014.

Contributing almost \$1.5 billion to Delta's broad-based defined contribution and defined benefit retirement plans, including \$250 million in excess contributions to our defined benefit plans.

Implementing base salary increases for our frontline and merit employees in April 2014.

Investing over \$9 billion in our people, which includes salaries, pension funding, health insurance, 401(k) contributions, Profit Sharing Program, Shared Rewards Program, life insurance, disability and survivor benefits, travel benefits and training.

Pay for performance. Pay for performance is the foundation of our executive compensation philosophy. Our executive compensation program places a substantial portion of total compensation for 2014 at risk: 95% of our Chief Executive Officer's and 89% of our other named executive officers' total compensation. Furthermore, the majority of total compensation is paid in the form of Delta stock, which, together with our stock ownership and retention guidelines, aligns the interests of management to those of stockholders. We believe our stockholders recognize this alignment as shown by the significant approval of our executive compensation program through an advisory vote at our 2012, 2013 and 2014 annual meetings.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

25

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Table of Contents

2014 Compensation Mix (at target)

*** Represents At-Risk Compensation**

The P&C Committee sets stretch performance goals under our annual and long-term incentive plans to drive Delta's business strategy and to deliver value to our stockholders. Consistent with these principles:

The vast majority of the compensation opportunity for our executive officers is earned contingent upon Delta's achieving its financial, operational and customer services goals and stock price performance.

Based on our strong performance in 2014, we paid out 193.13% of target under our annual incentive plan and 200% of target under the one-time Transition Award Program.

The P&C Committee designs our incentive plans to closely align the interests of management with frontline employees by using many of the same financial and operational performance measures in both our executive and broad-based employee compensation programs. If there is no payout under Delta's broad-based employee Profit Sharing Program for the year:

There will be no payment under the annual incentive plan's financial performance measure.

Any payment to executive officers for other performance measures may not exceed the target level.

All payments will be made in restricted stock rather than in cash, which will not vest until there is a subsequent profit sharing payment.

The Profit Sharing Program paid out a record \$1.085 billion for 2014.

2014 compensation decisions. The P&C Committee reviews our executive compensation program annually. In 2014, few changes were made to the program. These changes are described in this Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

Corporate governance and compensation initiatives. Our executive compensation program reflects corporate governance policies and compensation practices that are transparent, consistent with best practices and aligned with the interests of our stockholders, customers and employees.

Table of Contents

The executive compensation practices we consider instrumental in driving Company performance while mitigating risk, as well as practices we avoid, are illustrated in the following chart:

<i>Corporate Governance Policies and Other Practices:</i>	<i>Compensation Programs <u>Not Offered</u></i>
Compensation clawback policy applicable to all officers	Excise tax reimbursement for payments made in connection with a change in control
Stock ownership and retention guidelines for executive officers and directors	Tax reimbursement for several officer benefits, including supplemental life insurance and home security services
Equity award grant policy that establishes objective, standardized criteria for the timing of the grant of equity awards	Loss on sale on residence relocation protection for named executive officers
Double trigger vesting of incentive awards upon a change in control	Employment contracts
Anti-hedging and anti-pledging policy	Supplemental executive retirement plans, company cars, club memberships, private jet travel for personal use or other significant perquisites
Equity compensation policy that prohibits repricing or cash buyouts of stock options and stock appreciation rights and requires a one-year minimum vesting period for performance-based awards	
Full disclosure of incentive plan performance measures	
Engagement with institutional investors regarding our executive compensation program	

To further align our executive compensation program with best practices, in February 2015, the P&C Committee amended the Delta Air Lines 2007 Performance Compensation Plan to prohibit share recycling with respect to stock options and stock appreciation rights.

Executive Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

Our executive compensation philosophy and objectives are directly related to our business strategy. In 2014 our primary business goals included maintaining top-tier financial and operational performance; reducing our non-fuel costs; controlling our fuel expense; increasing profitable

revenue; and earning and maintaining customer loyalty.

To achieve these goals, the P&C Committee continued the executive compensation philosophy and objectives from the previous year, concluding this approach remained important to deliver value to stockholders, customers and employees. Our principle objectives are to promote a pay for performance culture which:

Places a substantial majority of total compensation at risk and utilizes stretch performance measures that provide incentives to deliver value to our stockholders. As discussed below, the payout opportunities for executive officers under our annual and long-term incentive plans depend on Delta's financial, operational and customer service performance as well as the price of our common stock.

Closely aligns the interests of management with frontline employees by using many of the same performance measures in both our executive and broad-based compensation programs. Consistent with this objective, the goals that drive payouts to frontline employees under our broad-based Profit Sharing and Shared Rewards Programs are some of the metrics included in our annual incentive plan.

Provides compensation opportunities that assist in motivating and retaining existing talent and attracting new talent to Delta when needed.

Table of Contents

Say on Pay Voting Results

At our 2014 annual meeting, we asked stockholders for a non-binding advisory vote to approve the 2013 compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in the prior year’s proxy statement, which we referred to as a say on pay advisory vote.

Similar to previous years, the holders of approximately 98% of the shares represented and entitled to vote at the 2014 annual meeting voted for approval of the compensation of our named executive officers. We believe our stockholders continue to confirm our executive compensation philosophy, policies and programs. The P&C Committee took these results into account by continuing to emphasize our pay for performance philosophy by utilizing stretch performance measures that provide incentives to deliver value to our stockholders.

Administration of the Executive Compensation Program

The following table summarizes the roles and responsibilities of the key participants related to the executive compensation program.

Key Participants	Role and Responsibilities
<i>P&C Committee</i>	The P&C Committee oversees the development of, reviews and approves the executive compensation program. In this role, the P&C Committee:
	Approves Delta’s executive compensation philosophy and objectives
	Ensures that Delta’s executive compensation program is designed to link pay with Company performance
	Approves the peer group used to assess the executive compensation program
	Determines the design and terms of the annual and long-term incentive compensation plans
	Establishes the compensation of the CEO and other executive officers
	Performs an annual evaluation of the CEO
	Reviews and advises the Board of Directors regarding management succession planning

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Operates under a written charter that requires the P&C Committee to consist of three or more directors. Each member must:

be independent under NYSE listing standards and Delta's independence standards

qualify as a non-employee director under SEC rules

be an outside director under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code

Retains, terminates and approves the fees of executive compensation consultant and conducts independence assessments of all executive compensation advisors

Meets regularly in executive session without management

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

28

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

Key Participants	Role and Responsibilities
<i>Compensation Consultant</i>	<p>In 2014, after considering the six factors provided under the NYSE listing standards and Item 407(e)(3)(iii) of SEC Regulation S-K, the P&C Committee retained Meridian Compensation Partners, LLC (Meridian) as its executive compensation consultant. In this role, Meridian:</p> <p>Provides advice regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delta s executive compensation strategy and programs the compensation of the CEO and other executive officers the selection of the peer group used to assess the executive compensation program general compensation program design the impact of regulatory, tax, and legislative changes on Delta s executive compensation program executive compensation trends and best practices the compensation practices of competitors <p>Conducts risk assessments with respect to the executive compensation program</p> <p>Meets regularly with the P&C Committee in executive session without management</p> <p>Provides no other services to Delta</p>

May work directly with management on behalf of the P&C Committee but this work is always under the control and supervision of the P&C Committee

The P&C Committee considered Meridian's advice when determining executive compensation plan design and award levels in 2014.

Management

Under the supervision of the P&C Committee, Delta's human resources department is responsible for the ongoing administration of the executive compensation program.

The Executive Vice President & Chief Human Resource Officer and her staff serve the P&C Committee and, in cooperation with the compensation consultant, prepare proposed compensation programs and policies for review by the P&C Committee at the request of the P&C Committee and the CEO

The following individuals also are involved in the administration of our executive compensation program:

The CEO makes recommendations to the P&C Committee regarding the compensation of executive officers other than himself

The Chief Financial Officer and his staff evaluate the financial implications of executive compensation proposals and financial performance measures in incentive compensation arrangements

The Chief Legal Officer and his staff evaluate the legal implications of executive compensation proposals and prepare plan and program documents

The Vice President - Corporate Audit and Enterprise Risk Management confirms the proposed payouts to executive officers under our annual and long-term incentive plans are calculated correctly and comply with the terms of the applicable performance-based plan

Table of Contents

Compensation Decision Factors

The P&C Committee considers a number of factors, including competitive market data, internal equity, role and responsibilities, business and industry conditions and individual experience and performance in determining executive compensation. When making compensation decisions, the P&C Committee also reviews compensation tally sheets prepared by the compensation consultant. The tally sheets detail the total compensation and benefits for each executive officer, including the compensation and benefits the officer would receive under hypothetical termination of employment scenarios.

Comparative Market Data; Peer Group

In 2011, the P&C Committee modified the peer group it uses for executive compensation purposes to reflect Delta's increased size, complexity, global presence and business. This custom peer group consists of three major U.S. airlines and eighteen other companies with revenue and other business characteristics similar to Delta in the hotel/leisure, transportation/distribution, machinery/aerospace/defense, and retail industries. The industries selected have aspects of operations that are similar to Delta. In expanding the peer group beyond the airline industry, the P&C Committee had considered the ongoing merger activity in the industry and recognized that the number of comparably-sized airlines is too small to provide stable and reliable market data for executive compensation purposes. In addition, Delta competes for management talent with companies both inside and outside the airline industry, and the other major airlines use broader industry peer groups to assess their executive compensation programs. The P&C Committee continued to be satisfied with the composition of the custom peer group and made no changes to it in 2014.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

30

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

The companies in the custom peer group are:

Company Name	Revenue ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Market Capitalization ⁽²⁾ (\$)	International Operations as Percentage of Revenue ⁽³⁾ (%)
Airlines			
American Airlines Group Inc.	42,650	38,467	40
Southwest Airlines Co.	18,605	28,724	1
United Continental Holdings, Inc.	38,901	24,687	43
Hotel/Leisure			
Carnival Corporation	15,884	26,865	50
Marriott International, Inc.	13,456	22,111	12
Transportation/Distribution			
The Coca-Cola Company	46,166	184,928	58
FedEx Corporation	46,763	49,200	28
Norfolk Southern Corporation	11,614	33,918	N/A
PepsiCo, Inc.	66,853	141,519	49
Sysco Corporation	47,248	23,333	13
Union Pacific Corporation	23,988	105,918	10
United Parcel Service, Inc.	57,313	79,095	25
Machinery/Aerospace/Defense			
The Boeing Company	90,762	92,667	57
Honeywell International Inc.	40,306	78,218	41
L-3 Communications Corporation	12,124	10,745	22
Textron Inc.	13,848	11,624	38
United Technologies Corporation	64,270	104,841	43
Retail			
Best Buy Co., Inc.	41,781	13,673	16
The Home Depot, Inc.	81,710	138,332	11
Lowe's Companies, Inc.	55,342	66,936	N/A
Target Corporation	73,703	48,352	N/A
75th Percentile	57,313	92,667	43
Median	42,650	48,352	33
25th Percentile	18,605	24,687	14
Delta Air Lines	40,362	41,169	35

Source: Standard & Poors Research Insight®

(1) Last 12 months from most recent quarter ended on or before December 31, 2014. In millions.

(2) As of December 31, 2014. In millions.

(3) As of the most recent fiscal year end. N/A indicates either data was not available or no significant foreign revenues were reported.

Table of Contents

We believe peer group data should be used as a point of reference, not as the sole factor in our executive officers' compensation. In general, the P&C Committee's objective is to bring target total direct compensation opportunities to be competitive with the custom peer group, with individual variation based on the individual's role within Delta, performance and experience. Delta does not have a specific compensation target for each element of compensation, but historically has emphasized long-term incentive opportunities over base salaries, which are a fixed cost.

When compared to these businesses, Delta's total compensation opportunities in 2014 for the named executive officers group in aggregate, approximate the median of our custom peer group. As stated above, the P&C Committee uses this data as a point of reference, not as the determining factor in setting compensation.

Elements of Compensation

Compensation elements for our executive officers include:

Component	Objective	Characteristics
Base Salary	Provides a fixed amount of cash compensation for performing day-to-day functions based on level of responsibility, experience and individual performance	Most companies target base salary at market median; however, the base salaries of our executive officers are below the median of base salaries of those in our peer group
Annual Incentive Plan	<p>Rewards short-term financial, operational and revenue performance</p> <p>Aligns with the broad-based Profit Sharing and Shared Rewards Programs in which our employees participate</p>	<p>There is no set schedule for base salary increases. Base salary increases are periodically provided based on competitive concerns or in connection with an increase in responsibilities</p> <p>Annual incentive awards for our executive officers are based on objective, pre-established performance criteria that aligns with corporate business strategy</p> <p>Award targets are set as a percentage of base salaries</p> <p>Award payment amounts will be limited if no profit sharing is paid to Delta employees; plus any amounts payable to executive officers will be paid in restricted stock (rather than in cash) with restrictions that do not lapse until a profit sharing payment is made (with certain exceptions)</p>

Table of Contents

Long-Term Incentive Plan	<p>Rewards long-term Company performance based on internal performance goals and those relative to airline peers</p> <p>Aligns with interests of stockholders</p> <p>Facilitates executive officer stock ownership</p> <p>Encourages retention of our management employees</p>	<p>Except for the CEO and President, awards are provided through equal portions of performance awards and restricted stock</p> <p>Performance awards are earned based on achievement of objective, pre-established performance measures, including average annual operating income margin, customer service and return on invested capital over a three-year performance period payable to executive officers in stock</p> <p>Restricted stock is subject to a three-year vesting period</p> <p>In addition to performance awards and restricted stock, awards to the CEO and President also include performance stock options which vest over a three-year period upon the achievement of performance measures linked to employees receiving a payout under the Profit Sharing Program</p>
Benefits	<p>Attracts and retains highly qualified executives with competitive benefit plans</p>	<p>Participation in health, welfare and retirement benefit plans on the same terms as all Delta employees</p> <p>Certain additional benefits are provided to our executive officers, such as financial planning and supplemental disability and life insurance coverage</p>

As shown previously in the compensation mix charts on page 26, at-risk compensation is the largest portion of the total compensation opportunity for the CEO and the other named executive officers. The P&C Committee believes this is the appropriate approach for aligning the interests of our named executive officers and stockholders.

Base Salary. The base salaries of our executive officers remain below the median of similarly situated executives at companies in our custom peer group as described above. In recognition of this and the accomplishments of our executive officers, the P&C Committee, based on the CEO's recommendations for executive officers other than himself and input from the compensation consultant, approved increased base salaries for executive officers, effective February 16, 2014, as follows: Mr. Anderson \$800,000; Mr. Bastian \$625,000; Mr. Hauenstein \$525,000; and Mr. Jacobson \$500,000. Even with these increases, the base salaries of our executive officers remain below the median of the custom peer group.

Table of Contents

Annual Incentives. The 2014 Management Incentive Plan (the "2014 MIP") links pay and performance by providing approximately 2,400 management employees with a compensation opportunity based on Delta's achieving key business plan goals in 2014 (which includes the same goals for the CEO, executive officers and substantially all management employees). It also aligns the interests of Delta management and employees because the goals that drive payouts under Delta's broad-based Profit Sharing and Shared Rewards Programs are some of the metrics included in the 2014 MIP.

The 2014 MIP annual incentive opportunity for executive officers is based on Delta's performance in the following areas, which remain unchanged from 2013:

Performance				
Category	Weighting	Performance Measure	Performance Measure Objectives	Characteristics
Financial	50%	Delta's 2014 pre-tax income* based on 2014 business plan targets approved by the Board of Directors as part of the Annual Operating Plan	Measures Delta's profitability	Same measure used in the Profit Sharing Program for Delta employees
			Aligns executive incentives with Profit Sharing Program	No payment may be made for this performance metric unless there is a payout for 2014 under the Profit Sharing Program
Operational	25%	Number of monthly goals met under Shared Rewards Program (75% weighting)	Supports strategic focus on operational performance and therefore customer experience	Same measure used in the Shared Rewards Program for Delta employees
		Number of monthly goals met by Delta Connection Carriers (25% weighting)	Aligns executive incentives with Shared Rewards Program	Measures operational performance against internal goals and DOT rankings among other airlines
Revenue	25%	Achievement of Total Revenue per Available Seat Mile (TRASM) goals year-over-year relative to an Industry Group average TRASM for the same period	Supports strategic focus on profitable growth in revenue	Reflects capacity discipline and successful implementation of 2014 revenue growth initiatives, including growth of Delta's ancillary businesses
				Payment of this revenue performance measure will not be less than target level if the financial performance measure equals or exceeds the maximum level

* Pre-tax income as defined in Delta's broad-based Profit Sharing Program, means Delta's annual consolidated pre-tax income calculated in accordance with GAAP and as reported in Delta's SEC filings, but excluding (a) asset write downs related to long-term assets; (b) gains or losses with respect to employee equity securities; (c) gains or losses with respect to extraordinary, one-time or non-recurring events; and (d) expense accrued with respect to the broad-based employee Profit Sharing Program and the 2014 MIP.

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

For purposes of the 2014 MIP, the Industry Group consists of: Alaska Airlines, American Airlines/ US Airways, JetBlue Airlines, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

34

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

To ensure that executive officers are aligned with our employees, the executive officers' 2014 MIP awards are subject to the following conditions if there is no Profit Sharing Program payout to employees for 2014:

The actual MIP award, if any, is capped at the target award opportunity, even if Delta's performance for operational and revenue meets or exceeds the maximum level.

Any awards earned by executive officers under the 2014 MIP are made in restricted stock (MIP Restricted Stock). The MIP Restricted Stock will vest when (1) there is a payout under the Profit Sharing Program or (2) the executive officer's employment is terminated by Delta without cause, or due to the officer's death or disability. If the executive officer voluntarily resigns or retires, the MIP Restricted Stock will vest when there is a payout under the Profit Sharing Program, as if the officer's employment continued. The MIP Restricted Stock will be forfeited if, prior to vesting, the executive officer's employment is terminated by Delta for cause. Since there was a payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2014, the executive officers received their 2014 MIP award in cash.

The following chart shows the performance measures for executive officers under the 2014 MIP and the actual performance for each measure in 2014.

Performance Measure	Performance Measure Weighting	Performance Levels			2014 Actual Performance	Percentage of Target Earned*
		Threshold (50% of Target Payout)	Target (100% of Target Payout)	Maximum (200% of Target Payout)		
Financial	50%					
2014 Pre-tax income		\$2,456 million	\$3,581 million	\$4,109 million	\$5,853 million	100%
Operational	25%					
Number of monthly goals met under Shared Rewards Program	75%	16 Shared Rewards goals achieved	21 Shared Rewards goals achieved	26 Shared Rewards goals achieved	32 Shared Rewards goals achieved	37.5%
Number of monthly goals met by Delta Connection Carriers	25%	9 Delta Connection goals achieved	14 Delta Connection goals achieved	19 Delta Connection goals achieved	13 Delta Connection goals achieved	5.63%
Revenue	25%					
Improvement of TRASM year-over-year relative to Industry Group average TRASM for the same period		107.7%	108.2%	108.7%	109.1%	50%
* This column reflects the percentage of target earned after application of the performance measure weightings.					Total Percentage of Target Award Earned	193.13%

Table of Contents

The target award opportunities under the 2014 MIP are expressed as a percentage of the participant's base salary. The P&C Committee determined the target award opportunities taking into consideration the custom peer group comparison, the CEO's recommendations for executive officers other than himself and input from the compensation consultant. The P&C Committee maintained the 2013 target award opportunities (as shown in the table below) for each of the named executive officers, except for Mr. Jacobson, whose 2014 target award opportunity was increased from 125% to 150% to deliver a more competitive total target cash compensation opportunity (base salary plus target 2014 MIP award). The target cash compensation opportunities for our named executive officers remain below the custom peer group median.

Payments under the 2014 MIP could have ranged from zero to 200% of the target award opportunity depending on the performance achieved. The P&C Committee sets performance targets at threshold, target and maximum levels for each performance measure, with (1) no payment for performance below the threshold level and (2) a potential payment of 50% of target for threshold performance, 100% of target for target performance and 200% of target for maximum performance.

Summarized in the table below are the 2014 MIP awards earned by each named executive officer:

Named Executive Officer	Target Award		Target Award (in dollars)	Percentage of Target Award Earned	Total 2014 MIP Award
	Base Salary	(as % of base salary)			
Mr. Anderson	\$ 800,000	200%	\$ 1,600,000	193.13%	\$ 3,090,000
Mr. Bastian	\$ 625,000	175%	\$ 1,093,750	193.13%	\$ 2,112,305
Mr. Hauenstein	\$ 525,000	150%	\$ 787,500	193.13%	\$ 1,520,859
Mr. Jacobson	\$ 500,000	150%	\$ 750,000	193.13%	\$ 1,448,438
Mr. West	\$ 500,000	150%	\$ 750,000	193.13%	\$ 1,448,438

Because Delta was profitable in 2014, there was a \$1.085 billion payout under the Profit Sharing Program to approximately 80,000 employees. Accordingly, payments earned by named executive officers under the 2014 MIP were made in cash.

Long-Term Incentives

2014 Long-Term Incentive Program. Beginning with awards made in 2013, the P&C Committee increased the length of the performance and vesting periods of our long-term incentive program from two years to three years to further align the interests of management and stockholders over a longer period.

The 2014 Long-Term Incentive Program (2014 LTIP) links pay and performance by providing approximately 350 management employees with a compensation opportunity that aligns the interest of management and stockholders, with a large portion contingent upon Delta's financial, customer service and stock performance over a three-year period. The performance measures and goals are the same for the CEO, executive officers and all other participants in this plan.

Under the 2014 LTIP, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Bastian received an award opportunity consisting of approximately 34% performance awards, 33% restricted stock and 33% performance stock options, and our other executive officers received an award opportunity consisting of 50% performance awards and 50% restricted stock. In addition, Mr. Anderson's 2014 LTIP award included the remaining value of his total one-time Transition Award Program award, consisting of 50% performance awards and 50% restricted stock. These allocations were selected to balance the incentive opportunity between Delta's financial performance relative to other airlines, internal Company performance and its stock price performance. The inclusion of performance-based stock options for the CEO and President was intended to further enhance the alignment of their compensation opportunities with stockholders. This mix and the other terms of the 2014 LTIP are intended to balance the performance and retention incentives with the high volatility of airline stocks.

Table of Contents

Performance awards are a dollar-denominated long-term incentive opportunity payable in common stock to executive officers and in cash to other participants. The payout, if any, of the performance award is based on the following three measures over the three-year period ending December 31, 2016:

Performance Measure	Weighting	Measurement
Average Annual Operating Income Margin	50%	Delta relative to composite performance of an Industry Group*
Customer Service Performance (Net Promoter Score) Domestic	15%	Delta's absolute performance
Customer Service Performance (Net Promoter Score) International	10%	Delta's absolute performance
Return on Invested Capital (ROIC)	25%	Delta's absolute performance

* For purposes of the 2014 LTIP, the Industry Group consists of: Alaska Airlines, American Airlines/ US Airways, JetBlue Airlines, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines.

The P&C Committee retained these performance measures from 2013 because superior rankings in these areas should, over time, produce positive stockholder returns.

The following chart shows the range of potential payments of the performance awards based on the 2014 LTIP's three performance measures. The potential payments may range from zero to 200% of the target award.

Performance Level	Percentage of Target Earned	Average Annual Operating Income Margin	Performance Measures		Return on Invested Capital
			Customer Service Performance (Net Promoter Score) Domestic	Customer Service Performance (Net Promoter Score) International	
Maximum	200%	20.0% above Composite Performance of Industry Group	+4.5 percentage points or higher	+5.5 percentage points or higher	14.0% or Higher
Target	100%	Composite Performance of Industry Group	+2.5 percentage points	+3.5 percentage points	12.0%
Threshold	50%	20.0% below Composite Performance of Industry Group	+0 percentage points	+2.0 percentage points	10.0%

Restricted stock is common stock that may not be sold or otherwise transferred for a period of time, and is subject to forfeiture in certain circumstances. The 2014 LTIP generally provides that restricted stock will vest (which means the shares may then be sold) in three equal installments on February 1, 2015, February 1, 2016 and February 1, 2017. Restricted stock is eligible for dividends, but such dividends will not become payable until such time as the restrictions lapse. The value of a participant's restricted stock award will depend on the price of Delta common stock when the award vests.

A performance stock option is the right to purchase our common stock at a certain price per share during a designated period, but only if certain performance measures are achieved. The 2014 LTIP generally provides that

Table of Contents

the performance stock options will become exercisable on the vesting dates described in the chart below, subject to the achievement of the following performance measures:

Performance Measure	Vesting Dates	
Employees receive a payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2014	1/3 of performance stock option award	February 1, 2015
	1/3 of performance stock option award	February 1, 2016
	1/3 of performance stock option award	February 1, 2017
If there is no Profit Sharing Program payout for 2014, but employees receive a payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2015	2/3 of performance stock option award	February 1, 2016
	1/3 of performance stock option award	February 1, 2017
Employees receive no Profit Sharing Program payout for either 2014 or 2015	The entire performance stock option award will be forfeited (regardless of whether employees receive a payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2016)	

These performance stock options have an exercise price of \$30.89, which is equal to the closing price of our common stock on the grant date and will expire on February 5, 2024.

Because employees received a payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2014, one-third of Mr. Anderson's and Mr. Bastian's performance stock options vested and became exercisable on February 5, 2015 (the date on which the P&C Committee certified the performance measure was satisfied), and the remaining two-thirds will vest in equal installments on each of February 1, 2016 and February 1, 2017, subject to forfeiture in certain circumstances.

The 2014 LTIP target awards are the largest component of each executive officer's compensation opportunity, reflecting the P&C Committee's focus on longer-term compensation, Delta's financial results relative to peer airlines, return on invested capital and customer service performance, as well as on Delta's common stock price performance. The P&C Committee determined the target award opportunities so the participant's total direct compensation opportunity is competitive with our custom peer group.

For additional information about the vesting and possible forfeiture of the 2014 LTIP awards, see "Post Employment Compensation - Other Benefits - The 2014 Long-Term Incentive Program" in this proxy statement.

The One-Time Transition Award Program. In 2013, in order to ensure consistency of award opportunity levels during the transition from a two-year to three-year long-term incentive program, the P&C Committee granted executive officers performance awards under a one-time Transition Award Program (the "TAP"). Delta reported these award opportunities in its proxy statement for the applicable year.

The performance awards were denominated in cash but paid in shares of common stock to executive officers. The payout of these award opportunities is based on the average annual operating income margin relative to the composite performance of an industry peer group and Delta's customer service performance and return on invested capital over the two-year performance period ending December 31, 2014. The potential payout ranged from zero to 200% of the target award.

Table of Contents

Summarized in the chart below are the performance results certified by the P&C Committee for the performance awards under the one-time TAP and the resulting percentage of target award opportunity earned:

Performance Measure	Performance Measure Weighting	Threshold (50% of Target Payout)	Performance Levels Target (100% of Target Payout)	Maximum (200% of Target Payout)	Actual Performance for Performance Period ending December 31, 2014	Percentage of Target Earned*
<i>Average Annual Operating Income Margin</i>	50%	6.3%	9.4% (Composite Performance of Industry Group)	12.5%	13.3%	100%
<i>Customer Service Performance (Net Promoter Score)</i>						
Domestic	15%	+0 percentage points	+1.5 percentage points	+3.0 percentage points or higher	+5.1 percentage points	30%
International	10%	+1 percentage points	+2.5 percentage points	+5.0 percentage points or higher	+11.0 percentage points	20%
<i>Return on Invested Capital</i>	12.5%	8.0%	10.0%	12.0% or Higher	15.1% for 2013	25%
	12.5%	8.0%	10.0%	12.0% or Higher	20.8% for 2014	25%

* This column reflects the percentage of target earned after application of the performance measure weightings.

Return on Invested Capital performance was measured independently each calendar year during the two-year performance period.

Benefits. The named executive officers receive the same health, welfare and other benefits provided to all Delta employees, except Delta requires officers to regularly complete a comprehensive physical examination. Delta pays the cost of this examination, which is limited to a prescribed set of preventive procedures based on the person's age and gender. Mr. Anderson is eligible to receive certain medical benefits under a 2001 agreement with his former employer, Northwest Airlines, but Mr. Anderson has voluntarily waived these benefits while employed by Delta. For additional information regarding the 2001 agreement, see Post-Employment Compensation Other Benefits Pre-existing Medical Benefits Agreement with Northwest in this proxy statement.

The named executive officers are also eligible for supplemental life and disability insurance, financial planning services (capped at a maximum annual amount), home security services and flight benefits (for the executive officer, immediate family members and other designees and, in certain circumstances, the executive officer's surviving spouse or domestic partner). Delta provides certain flight benefits to all employees and eligible retirees and survivors. These benefits are a low-cost, highly valued tool for attracting and retaining talent, and are consistent with industry practice. The perquisites received by named executive officers represent a small part of the overall compensation for executives and are offered to provide competitive compensation. See the Summary Compensation Table and the related footnotes for information regarding benefits received in 2014 by the named executive officers.

We do not provide any supplemental executive retirement plans (officers participate in the same on-going retirement plans as our frontline employees), club memberships, company cars or private jet travel for personal use for any named executive officer.

Table of Contents

Risk Assessment

The P&C Committee requested Meridian conduct a risk assessment of Delta’s executive compensation program. Based on this review, Meridian determined that Delta’s executive compensation program does not incent unnecessary risk taking, and the P&C Committee and Delta management agree with this assessment. In this regard, the P&C Committee notes the executive compensation program includes:

- a compensation clawback policy for officers;
- stock ownership and retention guidelines for executive officers;
- incentive compensation capped at specified levels;
- an emphasis on longer-term compensation;
- use of multiple performance measures, both annual and long-term; and
- an anti-hedging and anti-pledging policy for all employees.

These features are designed to align executives with preserving and enhancing stockholder value. The clawback policy, the stock ownership guidelines and anti-hedging and anti-pledging policy are discussed below.

Executive Compensation Policies

The P&C Committee monitors the continuing dialogue among corporate governance experts, securities regulators and related parties regarding best practices for executive compensation. Over the last few years, the P&C Committee has refined the corporate governance features of the executive compensation program to better align the program with stockholder interests and incent responsible behavior by adopting a compensation clawback policy for officers, stock ownership guidelines for executive officers, an equity award grant policy and a supplemental equity compensation plan policy to reflect current best practices. Additionally, Delta’s compliance program under the federal securities laws prohibits all employees from engaging in securities hedging and pledging transactions. A brief discussion of these policies follows.

Clawback Policy. The compensation clawback policy holds officers accountable should any of them ever engage in wrongful conduct. Under this policy, if the P&C Committee determines an officer has engaged in fraud or misconduct that requires a restatement of Delta’s financial statements, the P&C Committee may recover all incentive compensation awarded to or earned by the officer for fiscal periods materially affected by the restatement. For these purposes, incentive compensation includes annual and long-term incentive awards and all forms of equity compensation.

Stock Ownership Guidelines. Delta’s stock ownership guidelines strengthen the alignment between executive officers and stockholders. Under these guidelines, which were significantly enhanced in 2013, the current executive officers are required to own the shares of Delta common stock equal or greater to:

	Shares Equal to a Multiple of Base Salary	OR	Shares
CEO	8x		400,000
President	6x		200,000

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Executive Vice Presidents

4x

150,000

In addition, each executive officer must hold at least 50% of all net shares received through restricted stock vesting or realized through stock option exercises until the stock ownership guidelines applicable to the executive officer are achieved. For these purposes, net shares means all shares retained after applicable withholding of any shares for tax purposes, and stock ownership includes restricted stock; restricted stock units; shares owned directly or by a spouse or dependent children of the executive officer; shares owned in trust by or for the executive officer, the executive officer's spouse or immediate family member residing in the same household; and shares owned by an entity wholly-owned by the executive officer or immediate family members residing in the same household. It does not include shares an executive officer has the right to acquire through the exercise

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

40

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

of stock options. The stock ownership of our executive officers is measured based on the three-month average of the closing price of Delta common stock on the NYSE. As of December 31, 2014, all of our executive officers exceeded their required stock ownership level.

Equity Award Grant Policy. Delta's equity award grant policy provides objective, standardized criteria for the timing, practices and procedures used in granting equity awards. Under this policy, the P&C Committee will consider approval of annual equity awards for management employees in the first quarter of the calendar year. Once approved, the grant date of these awards will be the later of (1) the date the P&C Committee approves the awards and (2) the third business day following the date on which Delta publicly announces its financial results for the most recently completed fiscal year. Equity awards for new hires, promotions or other off-cycle grants may be approved as appropriate and, once approved, these awards will be made on the later of (1) the date on which the grant is approved and (2) the third business day following the date on which Delta publicly announces its quarterly or annual financial results if this date is in the same month as the grant.

Supplemental Equity Compensation Plan Policy. The P&C Committee adopted this policy to supplement the Delta 2007 Performance Compensation Plan. The policy reaffirms the prohibition against the repricing of stock options and stock appreciation rights under the Delta 2007 Performance Compensation Plan without stockholder approval, except in connection with certain corporate events; and clarifies that this repricing prohibition includes cash buyouts. In addition, the policy provides that all performance-based awards granted under the plan must be subject to a one year minimum vesting period, with certain limited exceptions.

Anti-Hedging and Anti-Pledging Policy. As part of an update to its insider trading policy in 2012, Delta expanded and clarified prohibitions related to transactions in short-term or highly leveraged transactions. Under the updated policy, Delta prohibits employees from engaging in transactions in Delta securities involving publicly traded options, short sales and hedging transactions because they may create the appearance of unlawful insider trading and, in certain circumstances, present a conflict of interest. In addition, Delta expanded its insider trading policy to prohibit employees from holding Delta securities in a margin account or otherwise pledging Delta securities as collateral for a loan.

Compensation for Mr. Anderson

The P&C Committee determines the compensation of Mr. Anderson consistent with the approach used for our other executive officers. In accordance with our executive compensation philosophy and to further align the interests of Mr. Anderson and our stockholders, the vast majority of Mr. Anderson's compensation opportunity is at risk and dependent on Company and stock price performance.

To reward Mr. Anderson's outstanding performance and bring his total compensation more in line with the CEOs of our custom peer group, the P&C Committee increased Mr. Anderson's base salary from \$725,000 to \$800,000 and his long-term incentive plan target opportunity for 2014. No change was made to Mr. Anderson's annual incentive plan target opportunity for 2014. In addition, as noted in last year's proxy statement, Mr. Anderson received the remaining half of the one-time Transition Award Program award, consisting of 50% performance awards and 50% restricted stock.

Mr. Anderson's total compensation is competitive when compared to the CEOs at the 100 largest U.S. public companies and to the CEOs at companies with revenues comparable to Delta, as reported by the New York Times on April 10, 2015.

See the Summary Compensation Table and the related footnotes in this proxy statement for additional information about Mr. Anderson's compensation. The amounts reported in the columns for Stock Awards include the 2014 LTIP and represent the aggregate fair value of the awards computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 on the applicable grant date. The amounts do not reflect the risk there will be no payout of the performance awards or, in the case of performance stock options, there is no vesting, because the performance conditions are not met.

The P&C Committee designed Mr. Anderson's compensation arrangements to provide incentive for him to focus on long-term improvements in Company performance that will lead to greater stockholder value. For example,

Table of Contents

the following chart illustrates that a substantial percentage of Mr. Anderson's total compensation is concentrated in equity-based award opportunities.

Taken in total with the other elements of Delta's executive compensation program, the P&C Committee believes the right balance is struck between annual operating performance and long-term investments in the Company's operations.

Post-Employment Compensation

Our executive officers do not have employment contracts, supplemental executive retirement plans, deferred compensation plans or change in control agreements. They are eligible to receive certain benefits in the event of specified terminations of employment, including as a consequence of a change in control. The P&C Committee believes these provisions strengthen the alignment of the executives' compensation with future company performance.

The severance benefits and the forfeiture provisions under our long-term incentive plans for our named executive officers are described in *Post-Employment Compensation – Potential Post-Employment Benefits upon Termination or Change in Control* in this proxy statement.

Tax and Accounting Impact and Policy

The financial and tax consequences to Delta of the elements of the executive compensation program are important considerations for the P&C Committee when analyzing the overall design and mix of compensation. The P&C Committee seeks to balance an effective compensation program with an appropriate impact on reported earnings and other financial measures.

In making compensation decisions, the P&C Committee considers that Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) limits deductions for certain compensation to any covered executive to \$1 million per year. Under Section 162(m), compensation may be excluded from the \$1 million limit if required conditions are met. The 2014 MIP and the performance awards under the 2014 LTIP meet the conditions for exclusion. From time to time, in order to ensure competitive levels of compensation for our executive officers, the P&C Committee may approve compensation, including base salary and benefits that are not deductible under Section 162(m).

Equity awards granted under our executive compensation program are expensed in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, Stock Compensation.

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee Report

The P&C Committee has reviewed and discussed with Delta management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and, based on such review and discussion, the P&C Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement.

THE PERSONNEL & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

David G. DeWalt, *Chairman*

John S. Brinzo

Shirley C. Franklin

David R. Goode

George N. Mattson

Sergio A. L. Rial

Kenneth B. Woodrow

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

43

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Table of Contents**Information about Summary Compensation Table and Related Matters**

The table below contains information about the compensation of the following executive officers during 2014: (1) Mr. Anderson, Delta's principal executive officer; (2) Mr. Jacobson, Delta's principal financial officer; and (3) Mr. Bastian, Mr. Hauenstein and Mr. West, who were Delta's three other most highly compensated executive officers on December 31, 2014.

Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)		Option Awards (\$)(1)(4)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(5)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)(6)	All Other Compensation (\$)(7)	Total \$(8)
				(1)	(2)(3)					
Richard H. Anderson <i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	2014	790,625	0	9,576,901	3,833,459	3,090,001	0	298,881	17,589,867	
	2013	725,000	0	8,910,176	2,000,000	2,446,876	0	293,850	14,375,902	
	2012	652,083	0	7,000,052	2,000,054	2,749,926	0	173,457	12,575,572	
Edward H. Bastian <i>President</i>	2014	618,750	0	4,000,128	2,000,013	2,112,305	67,075	211,059	9,009,330	
	2013	575,000	0	5,340,193	1,000,000	1,698,047	0	231,966	8,845,206	
	2012	531,250	0	3,500,026	1,000,027	1,908,354	43,405	139,435	7,122,497	
Glen W. Hauenstein <i>Executive Vice President & Chief Revenue Officer</i>	2014	523,750	0	3,500,227	0	1,520,859	0	166,933	5,711,769	
	2013	487,292	0	3,340,264	0	1,139,942	0	156,018	5,123,516	
	2012	420,833	0	3,150,145	0	1,066,781	0	104,272	4,742,031	
Paul A. Jacobson <i>Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer</i>	2014	496,875	0	2,550,139	0	1,448,438	30,186	139,487	4,665,125	
	2013	467,708	0	2,820,065	0	1,001,953	0	118,781	4,408,507	
W. Gil West (9) <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	2014	496,875	0	2,550,139	0	1,448,438	0	128,264	4,623,716	

(1) The amounts in the Stock Awards and Option Awards columns do not represent amounts the named executive officers received or are entitled to receive. Rather, the reported amounts represent the aggregate fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, Stock Compensation (FASB ASC Topic 718), on the applicable grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date. The reported amounts do not reflect the risk the stock awards may be forfeited in certain circumstances; for awards subject to performance conditions, the risk there is no payout; or in the case of performance stock options, that there is no vesting because the performance conditions are not met. The fair value of restricted stock awards is based on the closing price of Delta common stock on the grant date.

The reported amounts for 2014, 2013 and 2012 in the Stock Awards column reflect award opportunities under Delta's long-term incentive plans. Because Mr. Anderson only received fifty percent of his One Time Transition Award Program (One Time TAP) award value in 2013, \$1.9 million of the reported amounts for the 2014 LTIP in the Stock Awards column include the remaining value of his One Time TAP award. For additional information, see footnotes 2 and 3 below.

(2) The 2014 Long-Term Incentive Program (2014 LTIP) links pay and performance and aligns the interests of Delta management and stockholders. As discussed in Compensation Discussion and Analysis Elements of Compensation, the long-term incentive opportunity for

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

executive officers under these programs consists of performance awards and restricted stock, and with respect to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Bastian, performance stock options.

The performance awards under the 2014 LTIP are denominated in dollars. The payouts, if any, earned by a named executive officer will be made in stock based on Delta's average annual operating income margin relative to other airlines, on Delta's return on invested capital and Delta's customer service performance based on the percentage point improvement in Delta's net promoter scores.

The restricted stock granted under the 2014 LTIP vests in equal installments on February 1, 2015, 2016 and 2017. All restricted stock is subject to forfeiture in certain circumstances.

The reported amounts for 2014 in the Stock Awards column include the fair value of the performance awards and restricted stock under the 2014 LTIP, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 on February 6, 2014 the date the 2014 LTIP awards became effective.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

44

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

See footnote 4 below for additional information regarding the performance stock options.

- (3) For awards in the **Stock Awards** column that are subject to performance conditions, the fair value is computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 based on the probable outcome of the performance condition as of the applicable grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date. For these purposes, the fair value of the performance awards under the 2014 LTIP is computed based on performance at the target level.

If the performance awards were assumed to pay out at the maximum level, the aggregate fair value of such awards, which does not include the restricted stock component of the 2014 LTIP, for the named executive officers would be as follows:

Name	2014(\$)	2013(\$)	2012(\$)
Richard H. Anderson	9,576,666	8,910,000	7,000,000
Edward H. Bastian	4,000,000	5,340,000	3,500,000
Glen W. Hauenstein	3,500,000	3,340,000	2,150,000
Paul A. Jacobson	2,550,000	2,820,000	800,000
W. Gil West	2,550,000		

- (4) The stock options granted to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Bastian under the 2014 LTIP are subject to performance conditions. Because the conditions for vesting have been met, the stock options vest in equal installments on each of February 5, 2015 and February 1, 2016 and 2017. We determined the grant date fair value of stock options based on achievement of the target level under an option pricing model using the following assumptions: (1) a 1.85% risk-free interest rate, (2) a 55% expected volatility of common stock and (3) a six year expected life.

- (5) The 2014 Management Incentive Plan (2014 MIP) is an annual incentive plan that links pay and performance, and aligns the interest of Delta management and employees. As discussed in **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Elements of Compensation**, the annual incentive opportunity for executive officers under the 2014 MIP is based on Delta's financial, operational and revenue performance relative to key business plan goals.

Payments, if any, earned by the named executive officers under the 2014 MIP are made (a) in cash if there is a payout under Delta's broad-based employee profit sharing program (**Profit Sharing Program**) for 2014 and (b) in restricted stock if there is no such payout (**MIP Restricted Stock**).

Because Delta was profitable in 2014, 2013 and 2012, there were payouts to Delta employees under the Profit Sharing Program in each of those years. Accordingly, payments earned by executive officers under the 2014 MIP, 2013 MIP and 2012 MIP were made in cash. These cash payments are reported for 2014, 2013 and 2012 in the **Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation** column of the Summary Compensation Table. See **Compensation Discussion and Analysis Elements of Compensation Annual Incentives** for details on Delta's 2014 MIP performance.

- (6) Delta does not sponsor a supplemental executive retirement plan for any named executive officer.

The Delta Retirement Plan is a broad-based, non-contributory tax qualified defined benefit pension plan for nonpilot employees. Effective December 31, 2005, the Delta Retirement Plan was amended to freeze service, earnings and pay credits for all participants, including any participating named executive officers. See **Post-Employment Compensation Defined Benefit Pension Benefits** for a description of this plan.

The reported amounts for 2014 reflect the aggregate change in the actuarial present value of each applicable named executive officer's accumulated benefit under the Delta Retirement Plan measured from December 31, 2013 to December 31, 2014. For the period from December 31, 2012 to December 31, 2013, the actuarial present value of the accumulated benefits decreased during this period by \$20,013 for Mr. Bastian and \$12,235 for Mr. Jacobson. This decrease is the result of an increase in the discount rate assumption in calculating these values.

Mr. Anderson, Mr. Hauenstein and Mr. West are not eligible to participate in the Delta Retirement Plan because they did not complete 12 months of service before the plan was frozen on December 31, 2005.

Table of Contents

(7) The reported amounts of all other compensation for 2014 include the following items:

Name	Contributions to Qualified Defined Contribution Retirement Plan \$(a)	Payments due to Internal Revenue Code Limits Applicable to Qualified Defined Contribution Plan \$(b)	Life Insurance Premiums \$(c)	Reimbursement of Taxes \$(d)	Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits \$(e)
Richard H. Anderson	18,200	208,425	2,064	35,199	34,993
Edward H. Bastian	18,200	143,976	1,618	24,012	23,253
Glen W. Hauenstein	18,200	98,258	1,380	18,424	30,670
Paul A. Jacobson	18,200	86,718	1,305	14,961	18,303
W. Gil West	18,200	86,718	1,305	11,884	10,157

- (a) Represents Delta's contributions to the Delta Family-Care Savings Plan, a broad-based tax qualified defined contribution plan, based on the same fixed and matching contribution formula applicable to all participants in this plan.
- (b) Represents amounts paid directly to the named executive officer that Delta would have contributed to the officer's account under the Delta Family-Care Savings Plan absent limits applicable to such plans under the Internal Revenue Code. These payments are based on the same fixed and matching contribution formula applicable to all participants in this plan and are available to any plan participant affected by such limits.
- (c) Represents the annual premium on supplemental life insurance coverage equal to two times base salary that Delta provided to named executive officers.
- (d) Represents tax reimbursements for flight benefits as described below.
- (e) The amounts consist of financial planning services, home security services, an annual physical examination for officers and flight benefits as described below, except Mr. Bastian did not have costs for financial planning services and Mr. West did not have costs for home security services. From time to time, the named executive officers attend events sponsored by Delta at no incremental cost to Delta.

As is common in the airline industry, Delta provides complimentary travel and certain Delta Sky Club privileges for named executive officers; the officer's spouse, domestic partner or designated companion; the officer's children and parents; and, to a limited extent, other persons designated by the officer.

Complimentary travel for such other persons is limited to an aggregate imputed value of \$20,000 per year for the Chief Executive Officer and President and \$15,000 per year for executive vice presidents. Delta reimburses the officer for associated taxes on complimentary travel with an imputed tax value of up to \$25,000 per year for the Chief Executive Officer and President and \$20,000 per year for executive vice presidents. Unused portions of the annual allowances described in the previous two sentences accumulate and may be carried into succeeding years during employment. Complimentary travel is provided to the surviving spouse or domestic partner of eligible officers after the eligible officer's death. Delta will not reimburse surviving spouses or domestic partners for associated taxes on complimentary travel under the survivor travel benefit. Delta's incremental cost of providing flight benefits includes incremental fuel expense and the incremental cost on a flight segment basis for customer service expenses such as meals, onboard expenses, baggage handling, insurance, airport security and aircraft cleaning. In addition, certain named executive officers have flight benefits on another airline at no incremental cost to Delta.

(8) As required by SEC rules, the amount in the Total column for each named executive officer represents the sum of the amounts in all the other columns. As discussed in footnote (1) above, the amounts in the Stock Awards and Option Awards columns do not represent amounts

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

the named executive officers received or are entitled to receive. Rather, these amounts represent the aggregate fair value of awards computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 on the applicable grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date. The amounts do not reflect the risk the awards may be forfeited in certain circumstances, for awards subject to performance conditions, the risk there is no payout or in the case of performance stock options, there is no vesting, because the performance conditions are not met.

(9) Mr. West became Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer on March 1, 2014.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

46

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents**Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table**

The following table provides information about annual and long-term award opportunities granted to the named executive officers during 2014 under the 2014 MIP and the 2014 LTIP. These award opportunities are described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of the proxy statement under Elements of Compensation Annual Incentives and Elements of Compensation Long-Term Incentives.

Name/Type of Award	Grant Date(1)	Date of Personnel & Compensation Committee or Board Action	Estimated Possible Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(2)			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards(3)			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares or Units (#)(4)	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Option Awards (#)(5)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh)(6)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)(7)
			Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)				
Richard H. Anderson												
2014 MIP	1/1/2014	12/11/2013	800,000	1,600,000	3,200,000							
2014 LTIP												
Performance Award	2/6/2014	2/6/2014				2,394,167	4,788,333	9,576,666			4,788,333	
2014 LTIP Restricted Stock	2/6/2014	2/6/2014							155,020		4,788,568	
2014 LTIP Performance Stock Options	2/6/2014	2/6/2014								252,700	30.89	3,833,459
Edward H. Bastian												
2014 MIP	1/1/2014	12/11/2013	546,875	1,093,750	2,187,500							
2014 LTIP												
Performance Award	2/6/2014	2/6/2014				1,000,000	2,000,000	4,000,000			2,000,000	
2014 LTIP Restricted Stock	2/6/2014	2/6/2014							64,750		2,000,128	
2014 LTIP Performance Stock Options	2/6/2014	2/6/2014								131,840	30.89	2,000,013
Glen W. Hauenstein												
2014 MIP	1/1/2014	12/11/2013	393,750	787,500	1,575,000							
2014 LTIP												
Performance Award	2/6/2014	2/6/2014				875,000	1,750,000	3,500,000			1,750,000	
2014 LTIP Restricted Stock	2/6/2014	2/6/2014							56,660		1,750,227	
Paul A. Jacobson												
2014 MIP	1/1/2014	12/11/2013	375,000	750,000	1,500,000							
2014 LTIP Performance Award	2/6/2014	2/6/2014				637,500	1,275,000	2,550,000			1,275,000	
2014 LTIP Restricted Stock	2/6/2014	2/6/2014							41,280		1,275,139	
W. Gil West												
2014 MIP	1/1/2014	12/11/2013	375,000	750,000	1,500,000							
2014 LTIP												
Performance Award	2/6/2014	2/6/2014				637,500	1,275,000	2,550,000			1,275,000	
2014 LTIP Restricted Stock	2/6/2014	2/6/2014							41,280		1,275,139	

(1) For purposes of this column, the grant date for the 2014 MIP is the date the performance period began. The grant date for the 2014 LTIP is the grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date determined under FASB ASC Topic 718.

(2) These columns show the annual award opportunities under the 2014 MIP. For additional information about the 2014 MIP, see footnote 5 to the Summary Compensation Table and the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of the proxy statement under Elements of

Compensation Annual Incentives.

- (3) These columns show the long-term award opportunities under the performance award component of the 2014 LTIP. For additional information about the 2014 LTIP, see footnotes 2 and 3 to the Summary Compensation Table and the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement under Elements of Compensation Long-Term Incentives.
- (4) This column shows the restricted stock component of the 2014 LTIP.
- (5) This column shows the performance stock option component of the 2014 LTIP. For additional information about the performance stock option component of the 2014 LTIP, see footnote 4 to the Summary Compensation Table.
- (6) The exercise price is equal to the closing price of Delta common stock on the NYSE on the date of grant.
- (7) The amounts in this column do not represent amounts the named executive officers received or are entitled to receive. Rather, the reported amounts represent the fair value of the awards computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 on the applicable grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date. For awards subject to performance conditions, the value shown is based on the probable outcome of the performance condition as of the applicable grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date. The amounts do not reflect the risk that the awards may be forfeited in certain circumstances or, in the case of performance awards, that there is no payout, or in the case of performance stock options, that there is no vesting, if the required performance measures are not met.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

47

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Table of Contents**Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End Table**

The following table provides information regarding the outstanding equity awards on December 31, 2014 for each of the named executive officers.

Name	Grant Date(1)	Option Awards				Stock Awards			
		Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)(2)	Option Price (\$)(3)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)(4)	Market Value of Stock That Vested (\$)(5)	Equity Awards: Number of Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#)(6)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested ($)
Richard H. Anderson									
2013 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013						157,026	7,724,109	
One-Time TAP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013						64,270	3,161,441	
2014 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/6/2014						155,020	7,625,434	
Stock Options	9/1/2007	264,300			16.88	8/31/2017			
2008 LTIP-Stock Options	4/3/2008	126,390			8.81	4/2/2018			
Merger Award-Stock Options	10/29/2008	1,520,000			7.99	10/28/2018			
2012 LTIP-Performance Stock Options	2/2/2012	212,320	106,160		11.10	2/1/2022			
2013 LTIP-Performance Stock Options	2/7/2013	83,334	166,666		14.86	2/6/2023			
2014 LTIP-Performance Stock Options	2/6/2014			252,700	30.89	2/5/2024			
Edward H. Bastian									
2013 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013						78,513	3,862,054	
One-Time TAP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013						61,920	3,045,845	
2014 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/6/2014						64,750	3,185,053	
Stock Options	6/4/2007	142,900			18.84	4/29/2017			
Stock Options	9/1/2007	60,100			16.88	8/31/2017			
2008 LTIP-Stock Options	4/3/2008	71,090			8.81	4/2/2018			
Merger Award-Stock Options	10/29/2008	440,000			7.99	10/28/2018			
2012 LTIP-Performance Stock Options	2/2/2012	106,160	53,080		11.10	2/1/2022			
2013 LTIP-Performance Stock Options	2/7/2013	41,667	83,333		14.86	2/6/2023			
2014 LTIP-Performance Stock Options	2/6/2014			131,840	30.89	2/5/2024			
Glen W. Hauenstein									
2012 LTIP-Restricted Stock Retention Award	2/2/2012						45,050	2,216,010	
2013 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013						48,233	2,372,581	
One-Time TAP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013						40,050	1,970,060	
2014 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/6/2014						56,660	2,787,105	
Stock Options	6/4/2007	105,500			18.84	4/29/2017			
Stock Options	11/1/2007	67,000			20.20	10/31/2017			
2008 LTIP-Stock Options	4/3/2008	31,600			8.81	4/2/2018			

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

Paul A. Jacobson

2013 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013				41,500	2,041,385
One-Time TAP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013				32,640	1,605,562
2014 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/6/2014				41,280	2,030,563
Stock Options	6/4/2007	40,100		18.84	4/29/2017	
2008 LTIP-Stock Options	4/3/2008	7,900		8.81	4/2/2018	
Merger Award-Stock Options	10/29/2008	193,000		7.99	10/28/2018	

W. Gil West

2013 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013				41,500	2,041,385
One-Time TAP-Restricted Stock	2/7/2013				32,640	1,605,562
2014 LTIP-Restricted Stock	2/6/2014				41,280	2,030,563

(1) For purposes of this column, the grant date for the awards is the grant date or, if earlier, the service inception date determined under FASB ASC Topic 718.

(2) The 2014 LTIP Performance Stock Options vest as follows: (a) if there is a payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2014, then ratably over three years with 1/3 vesting on each of February 1, 2015, 2016 and 2017; (b) if there is no payout under the Profit Sharing Program for 2014, but there is a payout for 2015, then 2/3 vest on February 1, 2016 and 1/3 vest on February 1, 2017; and (c) if there is no payout for 2014 or 2015 under the Profit Sharing Program, then the options will be forfeited. Because there was a payout for 2014 under the Profit Sharing Program, the options vest as described in

Table of Contents

(a) of the foregoing sentence, except that the first vesting date occurred on February 5, 2015, the date on which the P&C Committee certified the satisfaction of the performance measure. Performance stock options are subject to forfeiture in certain circumstances.

(3) The exercise price of the stock options other than those granted on September 1, 2007 is the closing price of Delta common stock on the NYSE on the applicable grant date. The exercise price of the stock options granted on Saturday, September 1, 2007 is the closing price of the common stock on the NYSE on Friday, August 31, 2007, the last trading day immediately preceding the grant date.

(4) These shares of restricted stock vest as follows:

February 2, 2012 Retention Award Grant Date. In equal installments on February 1, 2014 and 2015.

February 7, 2013 LTIP Grant. In equal installments on February 1, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

One-Time TAP Grant. On February 1, 2015.

February 6, 2014 LTIP Grant Date. In equal installments on February 1, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Restricted stock is subject to forfeiture in certain circumstances.

(5) In accordance with SEC rules, the amounts in this column for the market value of restricted stock are based on the \$49.19 closing price of Delta common stock on the NYSE on December 31, 2014.

(6) This table does not include the performance award component of the 2014 LTIP and the 2013 LTIP because (a) these award opportunities are denominated in dollars and (b) the payout, if any, earned by the named executive officers will be made in stock based on achievement of the average annual operating income margin, the return on invested capital and customer service performance measures during the measurement periods for each program. For additional information about the performance award component of the 2014 LTIP, see footnote 2 to the Summary Compensation Table and the Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table in this proxy statement.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested Table

The following table provides information regarding the vesting of stock for the named executive officers in 2014.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$ (1))	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$ (2))
Richard H. Anderson	0	0	277,570	9,139,297
Edward H. Bastian	0	0	157,966	5,454,660
Glen W. Hauenstein	0	0	143,384	4,789,534
Paul A. Jacobson	0	0	59,793	2,156,751
W. Gil West	0	0	95,365	2,919,123

(1) The value realized on exercise is based on the difference between the market price on the date of exercise and the exercise price of the options.

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

- (2) The value realized on vesting is based on the closing price of Delta common stock on the NYSE on the applicable vesting date. These amounts represent the vesting of award opportunities granted in 2012 and 2013.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

49

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Table of Contents**Post-Employment Compensation*****Defined Benefit Pension Benefits***

Qualified Nonpilot Retirement Plan. The Delta Retirement Plan (Retirement Plan) is a broad-based, non-contributory qualified defined benefit pension plan for Delta nonpilot employees. To participate in the Retirement Plan, a nonpilot employee must have completed 12 months of service before the plan was frozen on December 31, 2005. As a result, Mr. Bastian and Mr. Jacobson are eligible to participate in the Retirement Plan but Mr. Anderson, Mr. Hauenstein and Mr. West are not. We do not offer any supplemental executive retirement plans or deferred compensation plans to our named executive officers.

Until July 1, 2003, benefits for participants in the Retirement Plan, including the eligible named executive officers, were calculated using only a final average earnings formula (FAE formula). Under this formula, the benefit is based on an employee s (1) final average earnings; (2) years of service prior to January 1, 2006; (3) age when the payment of benefits begins (which may not be before age 52); and (4) primary Social Security benefit. Final average earnings are the average of an employee s highest average monthly earnings (based on the employee s salary and eligible annual incentive compensation, if any) for the 36 consecutive months in the 120-month period immediately preceding the earlier of termination of employment or January 1, 2006. The monthly retirement benefit payable at the normal retirement age of 65 is determined by multiplying final average earnings by 60%, and then reducing that amount for service of less than 30 years with Delta and by 50% of the primary Social Security benefit payable to the employee. The 50% Social Security offset is also reduced for service of less than 30 years. Participants become fully vested in their FAE formula benefits after completing three years of service. Benefits determined under the FAE formula are paid in the form of a monthly annuity.

Effective July 1, 2003, the Retirement Plan was amended to transition to a cash balance formula. Generally, for employees hired (or rehired) after July 1, 2003, retirement benefits earned after that date are based only on the cash balance formula. Under this formula, each participant has an account, for recordkeeping purposes only, to which pay credits were allocated annually until January 1, 2006. These pay credits were based on 6% of a participant s salary and eligible annual incentive compensation, if any. In addition, all balances in a participant s account are credited with an annual interest credit which is currently based on a market rate of interest (the Annual Interest Credit). Participants become fully vested in their cash balance formula benefits after completing three years of service. At termination of employment, an amount equal to the then-vested balance of a participant s cash balance account is payable to the participant, at his election, in the form of an immediate or deferred lump sum (to the extent the lump sum payment is available under the Internal Revenue Code) or equivalent monthly annuity benefit.

Employees covered by the Retirement Plan who were employed on July 1, 2003 are eligible for transition benefits as long as they remained continuously employed. For the period that began July 1, 2003 and ended December 31, 2005, these employees earned retirement benefits equal to the greater of the benefit determined under the Retirement Plan s FAE formula or its cash balance formula.

Effective December 31, 2005, the Retirement Plan was amended (1) to freeze accrual of future benefits attributable to years of service and pay increases after December 31, 2005 under the FAE formula; and (2) to cease pay credits under the cash balance formula. Effective March 31, 2007, all benefits under the Retirement Plan were frozen; however, Annual Interest Credits will continue to be added to the cash balance account after December 31, 2005.

Table of Contents***Pension Benefits Table***

The table below shows certain pension benefit information for Mr. Bastian and Mr. Jacobson as of December 31, 2014. The table does not include any information for Mr. Anderson, Mr. Hauenstein or Mr. West because they are not eligible to participate in the Retirement Plan.

Name	Plan Name	Number of Years of Credited Service (as of December 31, 2014) ⁽¹⁾	Present Value of Accumulated Benefits (\$) ⁽²⁾	Payments During Last Fiscal Year
Mr. Bastian ⁽³⁾	Delta Retirement Plan	6 years,	FAE Formula: 243,622	0
Mr. Jacobson ⁽⁴⁾	Delta Retirement Plan	10 months	Cash Balance Formula: 66,693	0
		8 years,	FAE Formula: 86,444	
		2 months	Cash Balance Formula: 8,314	

⁽¹⁾ As discussed above, the Retirement Plan was frozen effective December 31, 2005, and no additional service credit will accrue after that date. All years of service reflected in this column include service until December 31, 2005.

⁽²⁾ Benefits were calculated using interest rate and mortality rate assumptions consistent with those used in our financial statements (see Assumptions in Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Delta's 2014 Form 10-K). In addition, certain individual data were used in developing these values. Benefits accrued under the FAE formula and the cash balance formula are listed separately. For purposes of the FAE formula benefit, the assumed retirement age is 62. The form of benefit payable under the FAE formula for Mr. Bastian and Mr. Jacobson is a single life annuity.

⁽³⁾ Mr. Bastian resigned from Delta as of April 1, 2005 and rejoined Delta in July 2005. His years of credited service include the 6 years, 5 months of service he had completed as of April 1, 2005. As a result, the portion of his benefit calculated under the FAE formula was determined under the rules applicable to vested employees who terminate their service with Delta prior to early retirement age instead of under the rules applicable to retirees at early retirement age. Accordingly, Mr. Bastian's benefit is smaller than it would have been had he retired at early retirement age. All benefits earned by Mr. Bastian after he rejoined Delta in July 2005 are based solely on the cash balance formula.

⁽⁴⁾ Mr. Jacobson resigned from Delta as of March 18, 2005 and rejoined Delta in August 2005. His years of credited service include the 7 years, 10 months of service he had completed as of March 18, 2005. As a result, the portion of his benefit calculated under the FAE formula was determined under the rules applicable to vested employees who terminate their service prior to early retirement age instead of under the rules applicable to retirees at early retirement age. Accordingly, Mr. Jacobson's benefit is smaller than it would have been had he retired at early retirement age. In addition, following his resignation in March 2005, Mr. Jacobson elected to receive the cash balance portion of his benefit in a lump sum payment. All benefits earned by Mr. Jacobson after he rejoined Delta in August 2005 are based solely on the cash balance formula.

Table of Contents***Potential Post-Employment Benefits upon Termination or Change in Control***

This section describes the potential benefits that may be received by our named executive officers in the event of certain terminations of employment or, in limited circumstances, in connection with a change in control, assuming termination of employment on December 31, 2014.

Severance Plan. Officers and director level employees are generally eligible to participate in Delta's 2009 Officer and Director Severance Plan (Severance Plan). The following table summarizes the principal benefits the named executive officers are eligible to receive under the Severance Plan. The Severance Plan may be amended at any time by the Company.

Name	Termination by Delta Without Cause (no Change in Control)	Resignation by the Executive for Good Reason (no Change in Control)	Termination by Delta without Cause or Resignation by the Executive for Good Reason in Connection with a Change in Control ⁽¹⁾
Mr. Anderson	24 months base salary	24 months base salary	24 months base salary
and Mr. Bastian	200% target MIP	200% target MIP	200% target MIP
Mr. Hauenstein,	24 months benefits continuation 18 months base salary	24 months benefits continuation None	24 months benefits continuation 18 months base salary
Mr. Jacobson and Mr. West	150% target MIP 18 months benefits continuation		150% target MIP 18 months benefits continuation

⁽¹⁾ These benefits apply if the termination of employment occurs during the two-year period after a change in control. To receive benefits under the Severance Plan, executive officers must enter into a general release of claims against Delta and non-competition, non-solicitation and confidentiality covenants for the benefit of Delta.

Under the Severance Plan, the cash severance amount is paid in a lump sum following termination of employment. For purposes of the chart above, benefits continuation means (1) continuation of certain medical, dental and vision benefits for which the COBRA premiums will be waived for the participant's severance period and (2) continuation of basic life insurance coverage of one times annual base salary, up to a maximum amount of \$250,000, for which premiums will be waived for the severance period. In addition, executive officers are eligible for reimbursement of expenses for financial planning services through the end of the year in which the termination occurred and outplacement services with fees not to exceed \$5,000.

The Severance Plan does not provide for any excise tax gross-ups for benefits received in connection with a change in control. If a participant is entitled to benefits under the Severance Plan in connection with a change in control, the amount of such benefits will be reduced to the statutory safe harbor under Section 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code if this results in a greater after tax benefit than if the participant paid the excise tax.

Table of Contents***Other Benefits***

Our named executive officers are eligible to receive certain additional benefits in the event of certain terminations of employment or in connection with a change in control. The definitions of cause, change in control, disability and good reason, as such terms are used in the following sections, are summarized below.

The 2014 Long-Term Incentive Program. If a participant's employment is terminated (1) by Delta without cause or by the participant for good reason in connection with a change in control or (2) due to death or disability, the participant's performance award (including any Earned Awards*) and restricted stock award will immediately vest, with the performance award paid in cash at the target level (or, for any Earned Award, at the level at which it was earned). In addition, with respect to the performance stock options awarded to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Bastian, if their employment is terminated for the foregoing reasons, such awards will immediately vest and become exercisable.

For named executive officers other than the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer, if an executive officer's employment is terminated on or after October 1, 2014 for any reason other than by Delta for cause, he will continue to be eligible to receive his performance award, restricted stock award and, if applicable, performance stock option award pursuant to the same vesting, performance and general payment provisions as if his employment had continued. In consideration for this treatment, these named executive officers entered into award agreements containing enhanced non-competition and non-solicitation covenants for the benefit of Delta. In the event the executive breaches such covenants during the two-year period following his termination of employment, he will forfeit any outstanding awards.

If the Chief Financial Officer's or Chief Operating Officer's or, if prior to October 1, 2014, the other named executive officer's employment is terminated (1) by Delta without cause or (2) by him for good reason without a change in control, he will receive any Earned Awards, a pro-rated performance award under the same vesting, performance and general payment provisions as if his employment had continued, and the immediate vesting of a pro rata portion of his restricted stock award and, if applicable, performance stock option award. Any remaining portions will be forfeited. In addition, if the executive terminates his employment without good reason, the entire performance award (including any Earned Awards), restricted stock award and, if applicable, performance stock option award will be forfeited.

In all cases, if a participant's employment is terminated by Delta for cause, the participant's performance award (including any Earned Awards), restricted stock award and, if applicable, performance stock option award will be forfeited.

The 2013 Long-Term Incentive Program and the One-Time Transition Award Program. The awards under the 2013 LTIP and the One-Time Transition Award Program are subject to the same termination provisions applicable to awards under the 2014 LTIP, except the named executive officers, other than the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer, would be eligible for the treatment described in the second paragraph of the The 2014 Long-Term Incentive Program section above in the event of their termination for any reason other than by Delta for cause regardless of the date such termination occurred.

2014 Management Incentive Plan. The 2014 MIP generally provides that a participant whose employment with Delta terminates prior to the end of the workday on December 31, 2014 is not eligible for a 2014 MIP payment. If, however, the participant's employment is terminated (1) due to death or disability or (2) by Delta without cause or for any other reason that would entitle the participant to benefits under the Severance Plan, the participant is eligible for a pro rata 2014 MIP payment based on (a) the number of months during 2014 the participant was employed in a MIP-qualified position and (b) the terms and conditions of the 2014 MIP that would have applied if his employment had continued through December 31, 2014.

* For the portion of the performance award attributable to the return on invested capital performance measure, achievement of such measure is determined independently for each calendar year during the applicable performance period (each an ROIC Installment) and, to the extent that Delta's actual performance meets or exceeds the threshold level at the end of each calendar year, each such ROIC Installment will be treated as an Earned Award. Generally, Earned Awards, if any, will accumulate until the end of the performance period at which time all Earned Awards will vest and become payable.

The portion of the performance award attributable to the return on invested capital performance measure will be pro-rated as follows: for any ROIC Installment (as defined in the footnote above) outstanding in the year in which the termination occurred, he will receive the ROIC Installment based on actual performance for the applicable year, pro-rated based on the number of months he was employed with Delta during the year. Any remaining ROIC Installment(s) will be forfeited.

Table of Contents

Special Retention Award. The special retention award of restricted stock provided to Mr. Hauenstein in 2012 is subject to the following termination provisions. If Mr. Hauenstein's employment is terminated (1) by Delta without cause or by him for good reason in connection with a change in control or due to death or disability, the restricted stock award will immediately vest; (2) by Delta without cause or by him for good reason without a change in control, a pro rata portion of the restricted stock award, based on the number of months he was employed with Delta from the award grant date, will immediately vest, with any remaining portion of the restricted stock award being forfeited; and (3) by Delta for cause or by the participant without good reason, the restricted stock award will be forfeited.

Triggering Events. As noted above, eligibility for severance benefits and acceleration of the vesting of equity awards are triggered by certain events. The terms "cause," "change in control," "disability" and "good reason," as they apply to our executive officers, are summarized below.

Cause means, in general, a person's (1) continued, substantial failure to perform his duties with Delta; (2) misconduct which is economically injurious to Delta; (3) conviction of, or plea of guilty or no contest to, a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude, fraud, theft, embezzlement or dishonesty; or (4) material violation of any material Delta policy or rule regarding conduct. A person has ten business days to cure, if curable, any of the events which could lead to a termination for cause. For executive vice presidents or more senior executives, a termination for cause must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the entire Board of Directors.

Change in control means, in general, the occurrence of any of the following events: (1) any person becomes the beneficial owner of more than 35% of Delta common stock; (2) during a period of 12 consecutive months, the Board of Directors at the beginning of the period and their approved successors cease to constitute a majority of the Board; (3) the consummation of a merger or consolidation involving Delta, other than a merger or consolidation which results in the Delta common stock outstanding immediately before the transaction continuing to represent more than 65% of the Delta common stock outstanding immediately after the transaction; or (4) a sale, lease or other transfer of Delta's assets which have a total gross fair market value greater than 40% of the total gross fair market value of Delta's assets immediately before the transaction.

Disability means long-term or permanent disability as determined under the applicable Delta disability plan.

Good reason:

For purposes of Delta's outstanding equity awards, good reason generally means the occurrence of any of the following without a person's written consent: (1) a diminution or other reduction of a person's authorities, duties or responsibilities, other than an insubstantial and inadvertent act that is promptly remedied by Delta after written notice by the person; (2) the relocation of a person's office by more than 50 miles and, if the relocation occurs prior to a change in control, the relocation would place the person in a position of reduced status and importance at Delta; (3) a reduction in a person's base salary or incentive compensation opportunities, other than pursuant to a uniform percentage salary reduction for similarly situated persons (or, following a change in control, all full-time domestic employees who are not subject to a collective bargaining agreement); (4) Delta does not keep in effect compensation and benefit programs under which a person receives benefits substantially similar, in the aggregate, to those in effect prior to a reduction (other than a reduction pursuant to an equivalent reduction in such benefits for similarly situated persons (or, following a change in control, all full-time domestic employees who are not subject to a collective bargaining agreement)); or (5) a material breach by Delta of any material term of a person's employment.

For purposes of the Severance Plan, good reason generally means the occurrence of any of the following without a person's written consent: (1) a diminution or other reduction of a person's authorities, duties or responsibilities, other than an insubstantial and inadvertent act that is promptly remedied by Delta after written notice by the person; (2) the relocation of a person's

Table of Contents

office by more than 50 miles; (3) a reduction in a person's base salary or incentive compensation opportunities, other than pursuant to a uniform percentage salary reduction for all full-time domestic employees who are not subject to a collective bargaining agreement; (4) Delta does not keep in effect compensation and benefit programs under which a person receives benefits substantially similar, in the aggregate, to those in effect prior to a reduction (other than a reduction pursuant to an equivalent reduction in such benefits for all full-time domestic employees who are not subject to a collective bargaining agreement); or (5) a material breach by Delta of any material term of a person's employment.

An event described above constitutes good reason only if a person gives Delta certain written notice of his intent to resign and Delta does not cure the event within a specified period.

Retiree Flight Benefits. An executive officer who retires from Delta at or after age 52 with at least ten years of service, or at or after age 62 with at least five years of service, may continue to receive Flight Benefits (see footnote 7(e) to the Summary Compensation Table for a description of Flight Benefits including survivor travel benefits) during retirement, except the unused portion of the two annual allowances will not accumulate into succeeding years (Retiree Flight Benefits).

Notwithstanding the above, a person who is first elected an officer on or after June 8, 2009, will not receive reimbursement for taxes for Retiree Flight Benefits. Delta also does not provide reimbursement for taxes associated with travel by the surviving spouse or domestic partner of any officer.

In exchange for certain non-competition, non-solicitation and confidentiality covenants for the benefit of Delta and a general release of claims against Delta, an officer who served in that capacity during the period beginning on the date Delta entered into the merger agreement with Northwest and ending on the date the merger occurred, or who joined Delta from Northwest on the date the merger occurred and who had been a Northwest officer on the date Delta entered into the merger agreement, will receive, on his termination of employment (other than by death or by Delta for cause), a vested right to Retiree Flight Benefits, regardless of the officer's age and years of service at his termination of employment.

Pre-existing Medical Benefits Agreement With Northwest. In 2001, Northwest Airlines, Inc. entered into an agreement with its then Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Anderson, agreeing to provide Mr. Anderson, his spouse and eligible dependents with medical and dental coverage at the levels then provided to Mr. Anderson under the Northwest medical plans for the life of Mr. Anderson and his spouse. This coverage is secondary to any medical coverage Mr. Anderson receives while he is employed by another company. The agreement with Mr. Anderson was reviewed and approved by the compensation committee of the board of directors of Northwest, and was consistent with Northwest's then existing practices. As a result of the merger between Delta and Northwest, Delta is required to honor this agreement. The P&C Committee confirmed this obligation in a letter to Mr. Anderson, who has voluntarily waived the benefits under this agreement while he is employed with Delta.

Tables Regarding Potential Post-Employment Benefits upon Termination or Change in Control

General. The following tables describe the termination benefits for each named executive officer, assuming termination of employment on December 31, 2014. Also included is a column that describes the benefits, if any, each named executive officer would have received in connection with a change in control. Further, because termination is deemed to occur at the end of the workday on December 31, 2014, the executive would have earned his 2014 MIP award and, as applicable, the performance award under the One-Time Transition Award Program, to the extent otherwise payable. Accordingly, these awards are unrelated to the termination of employment.

Retirement. For purposes of the following tables, an executive officer is eligible to retire from Delta (1) at or after age 52 with ten years of service or (2) at or after age 62 with five years of service. None of our named executive officers is eligible to retire under these requirements and, therefore, none is eligible for any retirement-related compensation or benefits.

Broad-based Benefits. We have not included in this section any benefit that is available generally to all employees on a non-discriminatory basis such as payment of retirement, disability and death benefits. See "Defined Benefit Pension Benefits" above, for a discussion of the benefits accrued for eligible named executive officers under the Delta Retirement Plan.

Table of Contents

Certain Assumptions. We used the general assumptions summarized below in calculating the dollar amounts included in the following tables:

Performance Awards. The value of the performance awards (except with respect to the portion of the award attributable to return on invested capital) in the tables is based on payment at the target level. As actual performance for the 2013 and 2014 ROIC Installments under the 2013 LTIP and the 2014 ROIC Installment under the 2014 LTIP each exceeded the maximum performance measure of 12%, these ROIC Installments are considered Earned Awards and the value of such Earned Awards in the tables are based on payment at the maximum level.

Performance Stock Options. We used intrinsic value for the performance stock options in the following tables assuming that the performance criteria attributable to the stock options under the 2012, 2013, and 2014 LTIPs were met. The exercise price for our unexercisable stock options outstanding on December 31, 2014 was (1) \$11.10 for the options granted on February 2, 2012; (2) \$14.86 for the options granted on February 7, 2013; and (3) \$30.89 for the options granted on February 6, 2014.

Restricted Stock. As required by SEC rules, the values in these tables for restricted stock are based on the \$49.19 closing price of Delta common stock on the NYSE on December 31, 2014.

Benefits. Under our severance arrangements, our officers may receive financial planning services until the end of the year in which their employment terminated. For purposes of the tables, we have assumed each named executive officer would use his remaining available 2014 allowance. The maximum amount available under the program for executive vice presidents and more senior executives is \$15,000 per year.

The Retiree Flight Benefits reflected for each named executive officer in the following tables were determined by using the following assumptions for each officer: (1) Flight Benefits continue for the life expectancy of the officer or the joint life expectancy of the officer and his spouse or domestic partner, measured using a mortality table projected to 2022; (2) the level of usage of Retiree Flight Benefits for each year is the same as the officer's and his spouse's or domestic partner's actual usage of Flight Benefits during 2014; (3) the incremental cost to Delta of Retiree Flight Benefits for each year is the same as the actual incremental cost incurred by Delta for the officer's Flight Benefits in 2014; and (4) the value of Retiree Flight Benefits includes a tax gross up equal to 60% of the lesser of (i) the officer's actual usage of Flight Benefits in 2014 and (ii) the annual tax reimbursement allowance (as described in footnote 7(e) to the Summary Compensation Table) (surviving spouses and domestic partners do not receive reimbursement for taxes associated with Retiree Flight Benefits). On the basis of these assumptions, we determined the value of Retiree Flight Benefits for each named executive officer by calculating the present value of the benefit over the officer's life expectancy (or joint life expectancy with his spouse or domestic partner) using a discount rate of 4.99%.

Table of ContentsRichard H. Anderson

	Termination not Involving a Change in Control						Change in Control	
	Termination without Cause (\$)	Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Termination for Cause (\$)	Resignation Without Good Reason (\$)	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Termination Without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Employment Continues (\$)
Severance Payment (1):	4,800,000	4,800,000	0	0	0	0	4,800,000	0
Equity:								
Performance Awards	9,270,655	9,270,655	0	9,270,655	9,270,655	9,270,655	9,270,655	0
Performance Stock Options	14,277,399	14,277,399	0	10,346,054	14,389,688	14,389,688	14,389,688	0
Restricted Stock	18,510,984	18,510,984	0	18,510,984	18,510,984	18,510,984	18,510,984	0
Benefits and Perquisites:								
Company-Paid COBRA Coverage and Basic Life Insurance Premiums (2)	321,220	321,220	320,500	320,500	157,300	320,500	321,220	0
Career Transition Services	5,000	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000	0
Financial Planning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retiree Flight Benefits	719,234	719,234	0	719,234	19,990	719,234	719,234	0

(1) The severance payment, if applicable, represents 24 months of base salary and 200% of Mr. Anderson's MIP target award (which is 200% of his base salary).

(2) This amount includes the present value of medical and dental coverage at the levels provided under Northwest's plans for Mr. Anderson, his spouse and eligible dependents for the life of Mr. Anderson and his spouse, as described above under Other Benefits Pre-existing Medical Benefits Agreement With Northwest.

Edward H. Bastian

	Termination not Involving a Change in Control						Change in Control	
	Termination without Cause (\$)	Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Termination for Cause (\$)	Resignation Without Good Reason (\$)	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Termination Without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Employment Continues (\$)
Severance Payment (1):	3,437,500	3,437,500	0	0	0	0	3,437,500	0
Equity:								
Performance Awards	4,208,315	4,208,315	0	4,208,315	4,208,315	4,208,315	4,208,315	0
Performance Stock Options	7,239,166	7,239,166	0	5,273,494	7,295,311	7,295,311	7,295,311	0
Restricted Stock	10,092,952	10,092,952	0	10,092,952	10,092,952	10,092,952	10,092,952	0
Benefits and Perquisites:								
Company-Paid COBRA Coverage and Basic Life Insurance Premiums	33,430	33,430	0	0	0	0	33,430	0
Career Transition Services	5,000	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000	0
Financial Planning	15,000	15,000	0	0	0	0	15,000	0
Retiree Flight Benefits	937,667	937,667	0	937,667	32,524	937,667	937,667	0

- (1) The severance payment, if applicable, represents 24 months of base salary and 200% of Mr. Bastian's MIP target award (which is 175% of his base salary).

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

57

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Table of ContentsGlen W. Hauenstein

	Termination not Involving a Change in Control						Change in Control	
	Termination without Cause (\$)	Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Termination for Cause (\$)	Resignation Without Good Reason (\$)	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Termination Without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Employment Continues (\$)
Severance Payment (1):	1,968,750	0	0	0	0	0	1,968,750	0
Equity:								
Performance Awards	3,149,987	3,149,987	0	3,149,987	3,149,987	3,149,987	3,149,987	0
Restricted Stock	9,284,219	9,284,219	0	7,129,746	9,345,756	9,345,756	9,345,756	0
Benefits and Perquisites:								
Company-Paid COBRA Coverage and Basic Life Insurance Premiums	9,518	0	0	0	0	0	9,518	0
Career Transition Services	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0
Financial Planning	12,000	0	0	0	0	0	12,000	0
Retiree Flight Benefits	613,930	613,930	0	613,930	0	613,930	613,930	0

(1) The severance payment, if applicable, represents 18 months of base salary and 150% of Mr. Hauenstein's MIP target award (which is 150% of his base salary).

Paul A. Jacobson

	Termination not Involving a Change in Control						Change in Control	
	Termination without Cause (\$)	Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Termination for Cause (\$)	Resignation Without Good Reason (\$)	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Termination Without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Employment Continues (\$)
Severance Payment (1):	1,875,000	0	0	0	0	0	1,875,000	0
Equity:								
Performance Awards	1,302,063	1,302,063	0	0	2,460,406	2,460,406	2,460,406	0
Restricted Stock	4,306,535	4,306,535	0	0	5,677,510	5,677,510	5,677,510	0
Benefits and Perquisites:								
Company-Paid COBRA Coverage and Basic Life Insurance Premiums	22,168	0	0	0	0	0	22,168	0
Career Transition Services	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0
Financial Planning	6,500	0	0	0	0	0	6,500	0
Retiree Flight Benefits	500,230	500,230	0	500,230	6,030	500,230	500,230	0

(1) The severance payment, if applicable, represents 18 months of base salary and 150% of Mr. Jacobson's MIP target award (which is 150% of his base salary).

Table of ContentsW. Gil West

	Termination not Involving a Change in Control						Change in Control	
	Termination without Cause (\$)	Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Termination for Cause (\$)	Resignation Without Good Reason (\$)	Death (\$)	Disability (\$)	Termination Without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason (\$)	Employment Continues (\$)
Severance Payment (1):	1,875,000	0	0	0	0	0	1,875,000	0
Equity:								
Performance Awards	1,302,063	1,302,063	0	0	2,460,406	2,460,406	2,460,406	0
Restricted Stock	4,306,535	4,306,535	0	0	5,677,510	5,677,510	5,677,510	0
Benefits and Perquisites:								
Company-Paid COBRA Coverage and Basic Life Insurance								
Premiums	27,481	0	0	0	0	0	27,481	0
Career Transition Services	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0
Financial Planning	13,150	0	0	0	0	0	13,150	0
Retiree Flight Benefits	298,697	298,697	0	298,697	20,255	298,697	298,697	0

(1) The severance payment, if applicable, represents 18 months of base salary and 150% of Mr. West's MIP target award (which is 150% of his base salary).

Table of Contents**DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

Non-employee directors receive the following for their service on the Board of Directors:

Annual Board Retainer: \$90,000

Annual Equity Grant: \$160,000 in restricted stock (or restricted stock units to be settled on a one for one basis in common stock for a director who resides outside the United States) that vests at or shortly before the next annual meeting of stockholders, subject to the director's continued service on the Board of Directors on the vesting date. Dividends (or dividend equivalents) accrue on these awards and are paid upon vesting of the restricted stock and restricted stock units.

Annual Committee Chair Retainer: \$20,000

Annual Committee Member Retainer: \$10,000
Annual Non-executive Chairman of the

Board Retainer: \$175,000 and \$50,000 in restricted stock, with the vesting schedule and accrual of dividends as described above

Expense Reimbursements: Reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in attending meetings
As is common in the airline industry, Delta provides complimentary travel and certain Delta Sky Club privileges for members of the Board of Directors; the director's spouse, domestic partner or designated companion; the director's children and parents; and, to a limited extent, other persons designated by the director (Director Flight Benefits). Complimentary travel for such other persons is limited to an aggregate imputed value of \$20,000 per year. Delta reimburses the director for associated taxes on complimentary travel with an imputed tax value of up to \$25,000 per year. Unused portions of the annual allowances described in the previous two sentences accumulate and may be carried into succeeding years during Board service. Complimentary travel is provided to an eligible director's surviving spouse or domestic partner after the eligible director's death. Delta will not reimburse the surviving spouse or domestic partner for associated taxes on complimentary travel under the survivor travel benefit.

A director who retires from the Board at or after age 52 with at least ten years of service as a director, at or after age 68 with at least five years of service as a director, or at his or her mandatory retirement date, may continue to receive Director Flight Benefits during retirement, except the unused portion of the annual allowances does not accumulate into succeeding years (Retired Director Flight Benefits). A director who served on the Board of Directors during the period beginning on the date Delta entered into the merger agreement with Northwest and ending on the date the merger occurred, or who joined the Board at the closing of the merger on October 29, 2008, will receive, at the completion of his or her Board service (other than due to death or due to removal by stockholders for cause), a vested right to receive Retired Director Flight Benefits, regardless of the director's age and years of service when his or her Board service ends. A director is not eligible to receive Retired Director Flight Benefits if the director engages in certain wrongful acts.

Notwithstanding the above, a person who is first elected to the Board of Directors on or after June 8, 2009, will not receive reimbursement for taxes for Retired Director Flight Benefits. Directors who are employees of Delta are not separately compensated for their service as directors. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Ralph are not eligible to receive Director or Retired Director Flight Benefits.

Stock Ownership Guidelines

The non-employee director stock ownership guidelines require each non-employee director to own shares of Delta common stock equal to or greater than (1) shares with a value of five times the annual Board retainer paid to the director or (2) 35,000 shares. Nonemployee directors must achieve this ownership level within five years after initial election to the Board. For this purpose, stock ownership includes restricted stock and

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

restricted stock units; shares owned directly or by a spouse or dependent children; shares held in trust by or for the director or an immediate family member who resides in the same household as the director (an immediate family member);

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

60

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

or shares owned by an entity wholly-owned by the director or an immediate family member. It does not include shares a director has the right to acquire through the exercise of stock options.

In addition, each non-employee director must hold at least 50% of all net shares received through restricted stock vesting (or settlement of restricted stock units) or realized through stock option exercises until the director stock ownership guidelines are achieved. For this purpose, net shares means all shares retained after any applicable withholding of any shares for tax purposes.

As of December 31, 2014, all non-employee directors exceeded the required stock ownership level, except two directors who were elected in 2014. One director was first elected in 2015. Each has five years from the date of his election to achieve the required ownership level under the non-employee director stock ownership guidelines.

Director Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the compensation paid to non-employee members of Delta's Board of Directors for 2014:

Name ⁽¹⁾	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) ⁽²⁾	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$) ⁽³⁾	Total (\$)
Francis S. Blake	55,000	160,000	0	0	0	6,545	221,545
Roy J. Bostock	107,500	160,000	0	0	0	29,173	296,673
John S. Brinzo	107,500	160,000	0	0	0	10,265	277,765
Daniel A. Carp	292,500	210,000	0	0	0	6,578	509,078
David G. DeWalt	117,500	160,000	0	0	0	11,286	288,786
William H. Easter III	107,500	160,000	0	0	0	739	268,239
Mickey P. Foret	107,500	160,000	0	0	0	47,466	314,966
Shirley C. Franklin	107,500	160,000	0	0	0	14,927	282,427
David R. Goode	107,500	160,000	0	0	0	9,137	276,637
George N. Mattson	112,500	160,000	0	0	0	29,716	302,216
Paula Rosput Reynolds	117,500	160,000	0	0	0	8,057	285,557
Sergio A.L. Rial	27,500	160,000	0	0	0	0	187,500
Kenneth B. Woodrow	112,500	160,000	0	0	0	4,083	276,583

⁽¹⁾ As Delta employees, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Bastian and Mr. Rogers are not separately compensated for their service on the Board of Directors. Mr. Anderson's and Mr. Bastian's compensation is included in the Summary Compensation Table in this proxy statement. Mr. Rogers' compensation is described in Proposal 1 Election of Directors in this proxy statement.

⁽²⁾ On June 27, 2014, the Board of Directors granted 4,070 shares of restricted stock to each non-employee director at that date. Dan Carp received an additional grant of 1,270 shares as part of his compensation as non-executive chairman of the Board. Also, Mr. Blake and Mr. Rial, who were elected to the Board of Directors on July 25, 2014 and December 9, 2014, respectively, received upon election to the Board a grant of 4,190 shares of restricted stock and 3,460 restricted stock units settling in common stock, respectively. These awards will vest on June 27, 2015, subject to the director's continued Board service on that date. The Stock Awards column shows the fair value of the restricted stock or restricted stock units granted to each non-employee director in 2014 as determined under FASB ASC Topic 718, based on date of the grant.

⁽³⁾ The amounts in this column for each non-employee director represent reimbursement of taxes associated with Director Flight Benefits. The amount for Mr. Foret represents the incremental cost of Director Flight Benefits of \$7,722; \$20,291 in reimbursement under a benefit plan he had with Northwest Airlines, which the Company is required to honor as a result of its merger with Northwest; and \$19,453 in

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

reimbursement of taxes associated with these benefits. The amount for Mr. Mattson represents the incremental cost of Director Flight Benefits of \$12,273 and \$17,443 in reimbursement of taxes associated with this benefit. No other non-employee director received perquisites or other personal benefits with a total incremental cost of \$10,000 or more, the threshold for reporting under SEC rules. Mr. Anderson's and Mr. Bastian's perquisites and other personal benefits are included in the Summary Compensation Table in this proxy statement. From time to time, directors attend events sponsored by Delta at no incremental cost to Delta.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

61

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Table of Contents**AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Audit Committee presently consists of six independent directors and represents and assists the Board of Directors in a number of duties. These include oversight of the following matters: the integrity of Delta's financial statements; compliance with legal and certain regulatory requirements; the performance of the internal audit function; the financial reporting process; and the enterprise risk management (or ERM) process. In addition, the Committee retains, oversees and reviews the performance of the independent auditors, who report directly to the Committee. The Committee has the resources and authority it deems appropriate to discharge its responsibilities. The Committee operates pursuant to a written charter, which lists specific duties and responsibilities, and is available at http://ir.delta.com/files/doc_downloads/governance/Audit_Committee_Charter.pdf.

The Board of Directors has determined that each of Ms. Reynolds, Mr. Blake, Mr. Brinzo, Mr. Foret, Ms. Franklin and Mr. Rial has the necessary experience to qualify as an audit committee financial expert under SEC rules, and has so designated each of them. Each is considered financially literate as defined by the NYSE, but none is an auditor or an accountant for Delta or performs accounting field work, and none is employed by Delta. In accordance with the SEC's safe harbor relating to audit committee financial experts, a person designated as an audit committee financial expert will not be deemed an expert for purposes of the federal securities laws. In addition, this designation does not impose on a person any duties, obligations or liabilities that are greater than those otherwise imposed on the person as a member of the Audit Committee and Board of Directors, and does not affect the duties, obligations or liabilities of the Board of Directors.

Management is responsible for Delta's system of internal control over financial reporting, the preparation of its consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, or GAAP, and the financial reporting process, including management's assessment of internal control over financial reporting. The independent auditors, Ernst & Young LLP (or EY), are responsible for performing an independent audit of our consolidated financial statements and for expressing an opinion, based on the results of their audit, as to whether the consolidated financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with GAAP.

It is not the responsibility of the Audit Committee to prepare consolidated financial statements nor is it to determine that the consolidated financial statements and disclosures are complete and accurate and prepared in accordance with GAAP and applicable rules and regulations. These tasks are the responsibility of management. It is also not the responsibility of the Audit Committee to plan or conduct an independent audit of the consolidated financial statements. These tasks are the responsibility of the independent auditors. In carrying out its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee is not providing any expert, professional or special assurance as to the consolidated financial statements or any professional certification. The Audit Committee relies on the information provided by and representations made to it by management, and also on the report on our consolidated financial statements that it receives from the independent auditors.

In discharging its duties, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with management and the independent auditors the overall scope and process for the audit of the consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting. The Committee discussed with the independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by Auditing Standard No. 16 (Communications with Audit Committees) issued by the Public Company Accounting Board. In addition, the Committee received from the independent auditors the written disclosures and the letter required by applicable PCAOB requirements regarding the independent auditors' communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and discussed with the independent auditors their independence from Delta and its management. The Committee also determined that the independent auditors' provision of non-audit services in 2014 to Delta was compatible with the auditors' independence.

At its meetings, the Audit Committee met in private sessions as required by its charter with representatives of EY and members of Delta's management, including the Chief Executive Officer, the President, the Chief Financial Officer, the Controller, the Chief Legal Officer and the Vice President Corporate Audit and ERM. The Audit Committee and other attendees discussed and reviewed, the following, among other matters: Delta SEC filings; the scope, resources and work of the internal audit function; the financial reporting process; the consolidated financial statements and related notes; the scope and progress of testing of Delta's internal control over financial

Table of Contents

reporting; management's assessment of the effectiveness of Delta's internal control over financial reporting; ERM; legal and accounting matters; fuel risk management; accounting and controls related to specific Company functions; taxes, including the tax valuation allowance; and information technology matters. The Audit Committee believes the Company benefits when the Committee is briefed on selected business matters and brings its experience, curiosity and independence to an active exchange of information and ideas with management.

In determining whether to reappoint EY as Delta's independent auditors for 2014, subject to stockholder ratification, the Audit Committee took into consideration a number of factors. These factors include the length of time the firm has been engaged by Delta, nine years; EY's familiarity with Delta's operations and industry, accounting policies, financial reporting process, and internal control over financial reporting; its skills, expertise and independence; the quality of the Audit Committee's ongoing discussions with EY; a review of external data related to EY's legal risks and proceedings, audit quality and recent public portions of PCAOB reports; an assessment of the professional qualifications of EY, the performance of the engagement partner and the other professionals on the Delta account; the reasonableness of EY's fees for the services provided to Delta; management's relationship with EY and its assessment of EY's performance; the Audit Committee's views on the performance of EY in light of the foregoing matters and whether the Audit Committee believed retaining EY was in the best interest of Delta's stockholders. Pursuant to SEC rules and EY policy, the engagement partner on the Delta account was required to rotate off Delta's engagement after the 2012 audit. The Audit Committee was actively engaged in reviewing and meeting with candidates for the role in 2013; participated in discussions with management regarding the matter; and approved the selection of the new partner.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of Delta's internal control over financial reporting be included in Delta's 2014 Form 10-K filed with the SEC. The Audit Committee also appointed EY as Delta's independent auditors for 2015, subject to stockholder ratification.

THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Paula Rosput Reynolds, *Chair*

Francis S. Blake

John S. Brinzo

Mickey P. Foret

Shirley C. Franklin

Sergio A.L. Rial

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

63

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL 2 ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Stockholders have the opportunity to approve, on an advisory, nonbinding basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement. This is commonly referred to as a "say on pay" advisory vote. The Board of Directors recommends that you vote **FOR** this proposal.

As discussed in greater detail in the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of this proxy statement, the compensation paid to the named executive officers reflects the following principles of our executive compensation program:

Links pay with performance by placing a substantial majority of total compensation at risk.

For 2014, at-risk compensation constituted 95% of the targeted compensation for the Chief Executive Officer and 89% for the other named executive officers.

Utilizes stretch performance measures that provide incentives to deliver value to our stockholders.

The payout opportunities for named executive officers under our annual and long-term incentive plans depend on Delta's financial, operational and customer service performance as well as the value of our common stock.

Closely aligns the interests of management with frontline employees.

Many of the same performance measures are used in both our executive and broad-based employee compensation programs.

Provides compensation opportunities that assist in motivating and retaining existing talent and attracting new talent as needed. Approval, on an advisory basis, of the named executive officers' compensation disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with SEC rules on such disclosure, including the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section and the tables that follow it, requires the affirmative vote of the majority of shares present and entitled to vote. Abstentions have the same effect as votes against the proposal. **The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR this proposal.**

This vote is advisory in nature, which means that it is not binding on Delta, its Board of Directors or the Personnel and Compensation Committee. However, the Personnel and Compensation Committee intends to give careful consideration to the vote results and is committed to take any actions it deems necessary and appropriate in light of those results.

Table of Contents**PROPOSAL 3 RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has appointed Ernst & Young LLP as Delta's Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (independent auditors) for 2015, subject to ratification by the stockholders. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP, which also served as Delta's independent auditors for 2014, are expected to be present at the annual meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire and will be available to respond to questions.

Delta's Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws do not require that stockholders ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the independent auditors. We are submitting the selection of the independent auditors for stockholder ratification (as we have done in prior years) because we believe it is a matter of good corporate governance. Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2015 requires the affirmative vote of the majority of shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote. Abstentions have the same effect as votes against the proposal. If stockholders do not ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP, the Audit Committee will reconsider the selection of the independent auditors. **The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR this proposal.**

Fees of Independent Auditors for 2014 and 2013

The following table shows the aggregate fees and related expenses for professional services rendered by Delta's independent auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, for 2014 and 2013.

Description of Fees	Amount 2014 (\$)	Amount 2013 (\$)
Audit Fees (1)	3,625,000	4,630,000
Audit-Related Fees (2)	207,000	292,500
Tax Fees (3)	1,060,000	928,000
All Other Fees (4)	141,000	2,000

- (1) Represents fees for the audit and quarterly reviews of the consolidated financial statements (including an audit of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting); attestation services required by statute or regulation; assistance with and review of documents filed with the SEC; and accounting and financial reporting consultations and research work necessary to comply with generally accepted auditing standards.
- (2) Represents fees for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our consolidated financial statements and are not reported under Audit Fees. These services include an audit of our refinery subsidiary, employee benefit plan audits and attest services related to information systems regulatory compliance.
- (3) Represents fees for professional services provided for the review of tax returns prepared by the company; assistance with international tax compliance; and assistance related to the tax impact of proposed and completed transactions.
- (4) Represents fees in 2014 for commodity risk policy review; airline international financial reporting standards (IFRS) analysis; certain services in Japan; and online technical resources in both years.

Pre-Approval of Audit and Non-Audit Services

The charter of the Audit Committee provides that the Committee is responsible for the pre-approval of all audit and permitted non-audit services to be performed for Delta by the independent auditors. The Audit Committee has adopted a policy for the pre-approval of all services provided by the independent auditors.

Each year management requests Audit Committee pre-approval of the annual audits, statutory audits, quarterly reviews and any other engagement of the independent auditors known at that time. In connection with these

Table of Contents

requests, the Audit Committee may consider information about each engagement, including the budgeted fees; the reasons management is requesting the services to be provided by the independent auditors; and any potential impact on the auditors' independence. As additional proposed audit and non-audit engagements of the independent auditors are identified, or if pre-approved services exceed the pre-approved budgeted amount for those services, the Audit Committee will consider similar information in connection with the pre-approval of such engagements or services. If Audit Committee pre-approvals are required between regularly scheduled Committee meetings, the Audit Committee has delegated to the Chair of the Audit Committee, or an alternate member of the Audit Committee, the authority to grant pre-approvals. Pre-approvals by the Chair or the alternate member are reviewed with the Audit Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

PROPOSAL 3

66

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents**PROPOSAL 4 STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL SENIOR EXECUTIVE STOCK RETENTION REQUIREMENT**

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters on behalf of the Teamsters General Fund, 25 Louisiana Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20001, which represents that the Teamsters General Fund is the beneficial owner of 425 shares of common stock, has given notice that it intends to present the following resolution at the annual meeting.

RESOLVED: Shareholders of Delta Air Lines, Inc. (the Company) urge the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (the Committee) to adopt a policy requiring that senior executives retain a significant percentage of shares acquired through equity compensation programs until reaching normal retirement age or terminating employment with the Company. For the purpose of this policy, normal retirement age shall be defined by the Company's qualified retirement plan that has the largest number of plan participants. The shareholders recommend that the Committee adopt a share retention percentage requirement of at least 75 percent of net after-tax shares. The policy should prohibit hedging transactions for shares subject to this policy which are not sales but reduce the risk of loss to the executive. This policy shall supplement any other share ownership requirements that have been established for senior executives, and should be implemented so as not to violate the Company's existing contractual obligations or the terms of any compensation or benefit plan currently in effect.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT [OF PROPONENT]: Equity-based compensation is an important component of senior executive compensation at our Company. While we encourage the use of equity-based compensation for senior executives, we are concerned that our Company's senior executives are generally free to sell shares received from our Company's equity compensation plans. In our opinion, the Company's current share ownership guidelines for its senior executives do not go far enough to ensure that the Company's executive compensation plans continue to build stock ownership by senior executives over the long-term.

For example, our Company's share ownership guidelines require the Chief Executive Officer (the CEO) to hold 400,000 shares. In comparison, the 2014 proxy statement shows the CEO owns 3,607,871 shares. What's more, in 2013, the Company granted the CEO 235,540 restricted shares and 250,000 performance stock options. In other words, one year's worth of equity awards surpasses the Company's long-term share ownership guidelines for the CEO.

We believe that requiring senior executives to only hold shares equal to a set target loses effectiveness over time. After satisfying these target holding requirements, senior executives are free to sell all the additional shares they receive in equity compensation.

Our proposal seeks to better link executive compensation with long-term performance by requiring a meaningful share retention ratio for shares received by senior executives from the Company's equity compensation plans. Requiring senior executives to hold a significant percentage of shares obtained through equity compensation plans until they reach retirement age will better align the interests of executives with the interests of shareholders and the Company. A 2009 report by the Conference Board Task Force on Executive Compensation observed that such hold-through-retirement requirements give executives an ever growing incentive to focus on long-term stock price performance as the equity subject to the policy increases (available at http://www.conferenceboard.org/pdf_free/ExecCompensation2009.pdf).

We urge shareholders to vote FOR this proposal.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE AGAINST PROPOSAL 4 FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

The Board of Directors strongly supports the principle that Delta's executive compensation program should closely align management and stockholder interests. The current policies and programs achieve this alignment through appropriate stock ownership guidelines, an insider trading policy that prohibits hedging or pledging of Delta stock and an executive compensation program that emphasizes long-term equity performance. This view

Table of Contents

was shared by an overwhelming majority of Delta's stockholders who rejected an identical proposal from the proponent last year and also in 2013.

The Board has adopted stock ownership guidelines that require all executive officers to attain specific levels of stock ownership. Under the guidelines, the Chief Executive Officer, President, Executive Vice Presidents and Senior Vice Presidents named as reporting officers under Section 16 of the 1934 Act are required to beneficially own a number of shares of Delta common stock equal to or greater than the amounts specified below:

	Shares Equal to a Multiple of Base Salary	OR	Shares
CEO	8x		400,000
President	6x		200,000
Executive Vice Presidents	4x		150,000
Section 16 SVPs	4x		75,000

Each executive officer must hold at least fifty percent of all net shares received through restricted stock vesting or realized through stock option exercises until he or she achieves the applicable guidelines. The ownership levels must be achieved within five years after a person's initial appointment as an executive officer.

These guidelines create an alignment of the interests of the executive officers and stockholders. All of Delta's executive officers currently exceed these guidelines by significant amounts. In particular, as of the record date for this meeting, Delta's Chief Executive Officer owned more than 900,000 shares of common stock with a market value as of that date expected to be more than 50 times his annual base salary.

Delta's Board has also adopted a broad prohibition against hedging transactions. The proponent suggests either that Delta does not have this type of policy or it should adopt an unnecessarily redundant policy. In fact, Delta's insider trading policy has long prohibited executive officers from engaging in exchange-traded put and call transactions and short sales involving Delta stock. The policy was revised in 2012 to prohibit all employees from engaging in hedging transactions involving Delta securities and pledging Delta common stock. Therefore, the adoption of the proposal for the purpose of implementing restrictions on hedging is not necessary as this restriction is already in place and applicable to all shares owned by Delta executives whether obtained through equity compensation plans or otherwise.

As described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement, Delta's executive compensation philosophy creates a pay for performance culture that:

places a substantial majority of total compensation at risk and utilizes stretch performance measures that provide incentives to deliver value to our stockholders;

closely aligns the interests of management with frontline employees by using many of the same performance measures in both our executive and broad-based compensation programs; and

provides compensation opportunities that assist in motivating and retaining existing talent and attracting new talent to Delta when needed.

Delta's executive compensation program is therefore designed so that the majority of the executive officers' compensation consists of long-term incentive awards paid in the form of stock. Delta's Chief Executive Officer's total compensation opportunity is weighted approximately 85% towards equity-based pay components, the majority of which are earned contingent upon Delta meeting pre-established performance criteria. The compensation opportunity of other named executive officers is also heavily weighted towards stock-based compensation at 71% of their total compensation.

Edgar Filing: DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/ - Form DEF 14A

The structure of Delta's executive compensation program therefore aligns with the goal of creating long-term value for Delta's stockholders. This structure ties the ultimate value of long-term awards to the achievement of key measures of the success of the business, including return on invested capital, average annual operating margin relative to airline peers and customer service performance, as well as stock price performance and

PROPOSAL 4

68

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

continued employment with Delta. The Board believes that Delta's executive officers are appropriately incentivized to create long-term value for Delta's stockholders.

The current policies reflect an appropriate balance between offering the right incentives for executive officers to create long-term value for stockholders and providing compensation programs that attract and retain executives. Implementing the proponent's recommendation that executive officers retain 75% of their equity compensation until retirement would be unduly restrictive on Delta's compensation programs, thereby negatively affecting Delta's ability to retain and attract executive officers. Delta's stockholders are better served by flexible policies that are effective in retaining and attracting executive officers who can facilitate the creation of long-term stockholder value.

For these reasons, adoption of this policy is unnecessary and would not be beneficial to stockholders.

The Board recommends a vote AGAINST this proposal.

Table of Contents

OTHER MATTERS

Cost of Solicitation

Delta will pay the cost of soliciting proxies. Delta has retained Innisfree to solicit proxies, by telephone, in person or by mail, for a fee of \$10,000 plus certain expenses. In addition, certain Delta officers and employees, who will receive no compensation for their services other than their regular salaries, may solicit proxies. Delta will also reimburse banks, brokers and other nominees for their costs in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners of Delta stock. Other proxy solicitation expenses that Delta will pay include those for preparing, mailing, returning and tabulating the proxies.

Submission of Stockholder Proposals

To be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for the 2016 annual meeting, stockholder proposals must be submitted in writing and received by us no later than 5:00 p.m., local time, on January 8, 2016, at the following address:

By delivery:

Legal Department

Delta Air Lines, Inc.

Department 981

1030 Delta Boulevard

Atlanta, Georgia 30354

By mail:

Legal Department

Delta Air Lines, Inc.

Department 981

P.O. Box 20574

Atlanta, Georgia 30320

Attention: Assistant Corporate Secretary

In addition, a stockholder may only bring business before the annual meeting, other than a proposal included in the proxy statement, or may submit nominations for directors, if the stockholder complies with the requirements specified in Article II, Section 8 of Delta's Bylaws. The requirements include:

Attention: Assistant Corporate Secretary

providing written notice that is received by Delta's Corporate Secretary between February 26, 2016 and March 27, 2016 (subject to adjustment if the date of the 2016 annual meeting is moved by more than 30 days, as provided in Article II, Section 8(b) of the Bylaws); and

supplying the additional information listed in Article II, Section 8(b) of the Bylaws.

Delta's Bylaws are available at http://images.delta.com.edgesuite.net/delta/pdfs/By_laws.pdf.

A proxy granted by a stockholder will give discretionary authority to the proxies to vote on any matters introduced pursuant to the notice provision in our bylaws, subject to the applicable rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Section 16 Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the 1934 Act requires our directors, executive officers and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities (reporting persons) to file certain reports concerning their beneficial ownership of our equity securities. We believe that during 2014 all reporting persons timely complied with their Section 16(a) filing obligations.

Table of Contents**Supplemental Information about Financial Measures**

We sometimes use information that is derived from our Consolidated Financial Statements, but that is not presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. (GAAP). Certain of this information is considered non-GAAP financial measures under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission rules. The non-GAAP financial measures may be considered in addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP, but should not be considered a substitute for or superior to GAAP results. The tables below show reconciliations of non-GAAP financial measures used in this proxy statement to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures.

Pre-Tax Income. We exclude the following items from pre-tax income to determine pre-tax income, adjusted for the reasons described below:

Mark-to-market adjustments on fuel hedges recorded in periods other than the settlement period (MTM adjustments). MTM adjustments are based on market prices at the end of the reporting period for contracts settling in future periods. Such market prices are not necessarily indicative of the actual future value of the underlying hedge in the contract settlement period. Therefore, excluding these adjustments allows investors to better understand and analyze our core operational performance in the periods shown.

Restructuring and other. Because of the variability in restructuring and other, the exclusion of this item is helpful to investors to analyze our recurring core operational performance in the periods shown.

Loss on extinguishment of debt. Because of the variability in loss on extinguishment of debt, the exclusion of this item is helpful to investors to analyze our recurring core operational performance in the period shown.

Virgin Atlantic MTM Adjustments. We record our proportionate share of earnings from our equity investment in Virgin Atlantic in other expense. We exclude Virgin Atlantic's MTM adjustments to allow investors to better understand and analyze our financial performance in the periods shown.

(in billions)	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Pre-tax income	\$ 1.1	\$ 2.5	\$ 1.0	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.6
Items excluded:					
MTM adjustments	2.3	(0.3)			
Restructuring and other	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.5
Loss on extinguishment of debt	0.3		0.1	0.1	0.4
Virgin Atlantic MTM adjustments	0.1				
Pre-tax income, adjusted	\$ 4.5	\$ 2.6	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.5

Adjusted Net Debt. We use adjusted total debt, including aircraft rent, in addition to long-term adjusted debt and capital leases, to present estimated financial obligations. We reduce adjusted total debt by cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments and hedge margin receivable, resulting in adjusted net debt, to present the amount of assets needed to satisfy the debt. Management believes this metric is helpful to investors in assessing our overall debt profile. Management has reduced adjusted net debt by the amount of hedge margin receivable, which reflects cash posted to counterparties, as we believe this remove the impact of current market

Table of Contents

volatility on our unsettled hedges and is a better representation of the continued progress we have made on our debt initiatives.

(in billions)	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2009
Debt and capital lease obligations	\$ 9.8	\$ 11.3	\$ 12.7	\$ 13.8	\$ 15.3	\$ 17.2
Plus: unamortized discount, net from purchase accounting and fresh start reporting	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.1
Adjusted debt and capital lease obligations	\$ 9.9	\$ 11.7	\$ 13.2	\$ 14.4	\$ 15.9	\$ 18.3
Plus: 7x last twelve months aircraft rent	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.1	2.7	3.4
Adjusted total debt	11.5	13.2	15.1	16.5	18.6	21.7
Less: cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments	(3.3)	(3.8)	(3.4)	(3.6)	(3.6)	(4.7)
Less: hedge margin receivable	(0.9)					
Adjusted net debt	\$ 7.3	\$ 9.4	\$ 11.7	\$ 12.9	\$ 15.0	\$ 17.0

Pre-Tax Margin. We exclude MTM adjustments, restructuring and other, loss on extinguishment of debt and Virgin Atlantic MTM adjustments for the same reasons described above under Pre-Tax Income.

	Year ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	Change
Pre-tax margin	2.7%	6.7%	
Adjustments:			
MTM adjustments	5.8%	-0.7%	
Restructuring and other	1.8%	1.1%	
Loss on extinguishment of debt	0.7%		
Virgin Atlantic MTM adjustments	0.3%		
Pre-tax margin excluding special items	11.3%	7.1%	4.2 pts

Free Cash Flow. We present free cash flow because management believes this metric is helpful to investors to evaluate our ability to generate cash that is available for use for debt service or general corporate initiatives. This metric is adjusted for the posting of hedge margin to counterparties as we believe this inclusion removes the impact of current market volatility on our unsettled hedges and allows investors to better understand and analyze our core operational performance in the periods shown.

(in billions)	Year Ended December 31, 2014
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 4.9
Net cash used in investing activities	(2.5)
Adjustments:	
Purchases of short-term investments	1.8
Redemption of short-term investments and other	(1.4)
Hedge margin	0.9

Total free cash flow	\$	3.7
----------------------	----	-----

OTHER MATTERS

72

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

Table of Contents

Return on Invested Capital. We present return on invested capital as management believes this metric is helpful to investors in assessing our ability to generate returns using our invested capital and as a measure against the industry. Return on invested capital is adjusted total operating income divided by average invested capital.

(in billions, except % of return)	Year Ended December 31, 2014
Adjusted book value of equity	\$ 18.5
Average adjusted net debt	8.2
 Average invested capital	 \$ 26.7
 Adjusted total operating income	 \$ 5.5
Return on invested capital	20.7%

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

73

OTHER MATTERS

Table of Contents

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

1030 DELTA BLVD.

DEPARTMENT 829

ATLANTA, GA 30354-1989

You may submit this proxy or these voting instructions, as applicable, using the Internet, telephone or U.S. mail. Participants in the Delta Pilots Savings Plan and the Delta Family-Care Savings Plan and holders of unvested restricted common stock may submit voting instructions on this proxy card.

To vote online or by telephone have this proxy card in hand and go to www.proxyvote.com or call 1-800-690-6903 and follow the instructions.

If you mail this proxy card, mark, sign and date the card and return it in the postage-paid envelope, or send it to:
For registered stockholders and holders of unvested restricted common stock - Delta Air Lines, Inc. c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.
For Delta Pilots Savings Plan participants and Delta Family-Care Savings Plan participants - Fidelity Management Trust Company c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

VOTING DEADLINES

Delta Pilots Savings Plan and Delta Family-Care Savings Plan Participants:

Voting instructions submitted using the Internet or telephone must be submitted before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on Tuesday, June 23, 2015. Voting instructions submitted by mailing this proxy card must be received by the trustee by that time.

Registered Stockholders and Holders of Unvested Restricted Common Stock:

Voting instructions submitted using the Internet or telephone must be submitted before 5:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, June 24, 2015. Voting instructions submitted by mailing this proxy card must be received by Broadridge by that time.

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE STOCKHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS

Delta encourages stockholders to sign up to receive proxy materials electronically in the future. Using electronic communication significantly reduces our printing and postage costs, and helps protect the environment. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive stockholder communications electronically in the future.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

M90696-P66210

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR Proposals 1, 2 and 3 and AGAINST Proposal 4.

DELTA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR

ALL NOMINEES:

1. Election of Nominees for Director:

For Against Abstain

1a. Richard H. Anderson

“ “ “

11. David R. Goode

“ “ “

1b. Edward H. Bastian	..	..	..	1m. George N. Mattson	..	..	..
1c. Francis S. Blake	..	..	..	1n. Douglas R. Ralph	..	..	..
1d. Roy J. Bostock	..	..	..	1o. Sergio A.L. Rial	..	..	..
1e. John S. Brinzo	..	..	..	1p. Kenneth B. Woodrow	..	..	..
1f. Daniel A. Carp	..	..	..	DELTA S BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE <u>FOR</u> PROPOSALS 2 AND 3.			
1g. David G. DeWalt	..	..	..	2. To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of Delta s named executive officers.	..	..	..
1h. Thomas E. Donilon	..	..	..	3. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Delta s independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2015.	..	..	..
1i. William H. Easter III	..	..	..	DELTA S BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE <u>AGAINST</u> PROPOSAL 4.			
1j. Mickey P. Foret	..	..	..	4. A stockholder proposal for senior executives to retain significant stock.	..	..	..
1k. Shirley C. Franklin	..	..	..	

For address changes and/or comments, please check this box and write them on the back where indicated.

Please indicate if you plan to attend this meeting.

Yes No

(NOTE: Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) hereon. All holders must sign. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners should each sign personally. If a corporation, please sign in full corporate name by authorized officer. If a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person.)

Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN
BOX]

Date

Signature (Joint Owners)

Date

Table of Contents

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:

The Notice of Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 are available at www.proxyvote.com.

M90697-P66210

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

I hereby appoint Richard H. Anderson, Roy J. Bostock and Daniel A. Carp, and each of them, as proxies with full power of substitution, for and in my name, to vote all shares of Common Stock of Delta Air Lines, Inc. owned by me which I would be entitled to personally vote on all matters which may properly come before the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Delta to be held at the offices of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, 825 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10019 on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 7:30 a.m., local time, or any adjournment of the meeting.

The proxies shall vote subject to the directions indicated on the reverse side of this Proxy Card, and the proxies are authorized to vote in their discretion upon other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournment of the meeting. The proxies will vote as the Board of Directors recommends where a choice is not specified. The proxies cannot vote these shares unless you sign, date and return this Proxy Card or vote by the Internet or telephone.

If I am the holder of unvested restricted common stock granted under Delta's 2007 Performance Compensation Plan, I hereby instruct the administrator of the 2007 Performance Compensation Plan to vote the shares of unvested restricted common stock granted to me at the annual meeting, as indicated on the reverse side of this card. I understand that the administrator of the 2007 Performance Compensation Plan will not vote the shares of unvested restricted common stock granted to me if I do not submit voting instructions before 5:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

If I am a participant in the Delta Pilots Savings Plan (Pilot Plan) or the Delta Family-Care Savings Plan (Savings Plan), I hereby instruct Fidelity Management Trust Company, as Trustee, to vote the shares of Delta common stock attributable to the Pilot Plan account or the Savings Plan account, as applicable, at the annual meeting, as indicated on the reverse side of this card. These instructions shall be confidential. I understand that the Trustee will not vote shares attributable to the Pilot Plan account or the Savings Plan account if the Trustee does not receive voting instructions from me before 5:00 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, June 23, 2015.

I acknowledge receipt of Delta's Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, dated May 7, 2015, Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year Ended December 31, 2014.

Address Changes/Comments:

(If you noted any Address Changes/Comments above, please mark corresponding box on the reverse side.)

Continued and to be signed on reverse side