

CLARCOR INC.
Form DEFA14A
December 01, 2016

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

SCHEDULE 14A
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

CLARCOR Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

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

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- (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of 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):

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December 1, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to share some exciting news about CLARCOR's future. Today we are announcing that we have entered into a definitive agreement to be acquired by Parker Hannifin, a global leader in motion and control technologies. A copy of the press release being issued this morning is attached.

I understand this news comes as a surprise, so I'd like to provide some background on how it came about, why it makes sense for CLARCOR, and what you can expect as next steps.

First, we were approached by Parker—we were not seeking to sell the Company. Based on their great respect for our talent and products, as well as Parker's plans to grow their filtration business, Parker was attracted to CLARCOR and approached us with an offer to acquire the Company. As you know, our Board has a duty to shareholders to evaluate such offers. The full Board reviewed the offer thoroughly and determined that it was in the best interest of our shareholders. We also think it is in the best interests of our employees and customers.

There are a lot of reasons why combining with Parker will help CLARCOR grow and succeed. Our businesses are highly complementary both operationally and culturally.

Structurally, Parker has a similarly decentralized operating model, so they understand our model and how we work.

Parker has a similar strong legacy, tracing its roots back to 1917 with the founding of the Parker Appliance Company in Cleveland, Ohio, and they share our dedication to innovation and hard work.

Parker also shares our focus on excellence, safety, integrity, and putting customers first.

Like CLARCOR, Parker is focused on supporting and developing employees to promote long-term career advancement.

Parker has a strong track record of completing successful acquisitions and helping the businesses they acquire to grow and succeed over the long-term.

The bottom line is that becoming part of Parker—a complementary, larger and more diversified global company—will create growth and opportunities across all of our business units.

Today is just the first step in the process of combining these two great companies. We expect the transaction to be finalized by or during Parker's FY18 first quarter (July-September 2017), subject to various approvals and closing conditions. As we work toward the transaction completion, we will work closely with Parker to plan the integration of our businesses, subject to limitations that apply to us under applicable law. An integration team with individuals from both CLARCOR and Parker is being established to lead this process.

Until the transaction is finalized, CLARCOR and Parker will continue to operate independently. It is important that we all remain focused on our day-to-day responsibilities and putting quality and customer service first like we always do. It is also important that we do not coordinate market activity with Parker employees, or engage with them directly.

Throughout the day and over the coming weeks, our Group Presidents and other senior leaders will be in touch with you to discuss the transaction and address your questions. We will be sure to keep you informed of important developments as we continue to work through the integration process. You should also feel free to speak with your manager or Human Resources representatives. Consistent with our company policy, if you receive any inquiries from reporters, investors, or other outside parties, please promptly refer them to Susie Butler at 615-771-3100 or Susie.Butler@CLARCOR.com.

On behalf of the Board and entire management team, I want to thank you for your hard work and dedication to CLARCOR. Parker's interest in CLARCOR is a reflection of the success of the business, and we can look forward to continued success with them in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Conway

Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer

Additional Information and Where to Find It

In connection with the proposed transaction, CLARCOR intends to file a preliminary proxy statement on Schedule 14A with the SEC. CLARCOR'S SHAREHOLDERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO READ THE PRELIMINARY PROXY STATEMENT AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY AND IN THEIR ENTIRETY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED MERGER. The final proxy statement will be mailed to shareholders of CLARCOR. Investors and security holders will be able to obtain the documents free of charge at the SEC's website, www.sec.gov, or from CLARCOR's website at www.CLARCOR.com under the heading "Investor Information" or by emailing CLARCOR at investor@CLARCOR.com.

Participants in Solicitation

Parker, CLARCOR and their respective directors and executive officers and other members of management and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed merger. Information concerning Parker's directors and executive officers is set forth in the proxy statement, filed September 26, 2016, for Parker's 2016 annual meeting of shareholders as filed with the SEC on Schedule 14A and in its most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 as filed with the SEC on August 26, 2016. Information concerning CLARCOR's directors and executive officers is set forth in the proxy statement, filed February 19, 2016, for CLARCOR's 2016 annual meeting of shareholders as filed with the SEC on Schedule 14A and in its most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 28, 2015 as

filed with the SEC on January 22, 2016. Additional information regarding the interests of such participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed merger will be included in the proxy statement and other relevant materials to be filed with the SEC when they become available.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Forward-looking statements contained in this and other written and oral reports are made based on known events and circumstances at the time of release, and as such, are subject in the future to unforeseen uncertainties and risks. These statements may be identified from use of forward-looking terminology such as anticipates, believes, may, should, could, potential, continues, plans, forecasts, estimates, projects, predicts, would, intends, anticipates, is likely, will, or the negative of these terms and similar expressions, and include all statements regarding future performance, earnings projections, events or developments. CLARCOR and Parker caution readers not to place undue reliance on these statements. The risks and uncertainties in connection with such forward-looking statements related to the proposed transaction include, but are not limited to, the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could delay the closing of the proposed transaction; the possibility of non-consummation of the proposed transaction and termination of the merger agreement; the failure to obtain CLARCOR stockholder approval of the proposed transaction or to satisfy any of the other conditions to the merger agreement; the possibility that a governmental entity may prohibit, delay or refuse to grant a necessary regulatory approval in connection with the proposed transaction; the risk that stockholder litigation in connection with the proposed transaction may affect the timing or occurrence of the proposed transaction or result in significant costs of defense, indemnification and liability; adverse effects on CLARCOR's common stock or Parker's common stock because of the failure to complete the proposed transaction; CLARCOR's or Parker's respective businesses experiencing disruptions due to transaction-related uncertainty or other factors making it more difficult to maintain relationships with employees, business partners or governmental entities; the parties being unable to successfully implement integration strategies; and significant transaction costs related to the proposed transaction.

It is possible that the future performance and earnings projections of Parker and/or CLARCOR, including projections of any individual segments, may differ materially from current expectations, depending on economic conditions within each company's key markets, and each company's ability to maintain and achieve anticipated benefits associated with announced realignment activities, strategic initiatives to improve operating margins, actions taken to combat the effects of the current economic environment, and growth, innovation and global diversification initiatives. A change in the economic conditions in individual markets may have a particularly volatile effect on segment performance. Among other factors which may affect future performance of Parker and/or CLARCOR are, as applicable: changes in business relationships with and purchases by or from major customers, suppliers or distributors, including delays or cancellations in shipments; CLARCOR's potential inability to realize the anticipated benefits of the strategic supply partnership with GE; disputes regarding contract terms or significant changes in financial condition, changes in contract cost and revenue estimates for new development programs and changes in product mix; ability to identify acceptable strategic acquisition targets; uncertainties surrounding timing, successful completion or integration of acquisitions and similar transactions; the ability to successfully divest businesses planned for divestiture and realize the anticipated benefits of such divestitures; the determination to undertake business realignment activities and the expected costs thereof and, if undertaken, the ability to complete such activities and realize the anticipated cost savings from such activities; ability to implement successfully capital allocation initiatives, including timing, price and execution of share repurchases; availability, limitations or cost increases of raw materials, component products and/or commodities that cannot be recovered in product pricing; ability to manage costs related to insurance and employee retirement and health care benefits; compliance costs associated with environmental laws and regulations; potential labor disruptions; threats associated with and efforts to combat terrorism and cyber-security risks; uncertainties surrounding the ultimate resolution of outstanding legal proceedings, including the outcome of any appeals; competitive market conditions and resulting effects on sales and pricing; and global economic factors, including manufacturing activity, air travel trends, currency exchange rates, difficulties entering new markets and general economic conditions such as inflation, deflation, interest rates and credit availability. Additional information

about the risks related to Parker and its business may be found in Parker's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 filed

on August 26, 2016. Additional information about the risks related to CLARCOR and its business may be found in CLARCOR's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 28, 2015 filed on January 22, 2016. Parker and/or CLARCOR make these statements as of the date of this disclosure, and undertake no obligation to update them unless otherwise required by law.