

Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc.
Form DEF 14A
March 14, 2013

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

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 (Amendment No.)

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 under §240.14a-12

HAWAIIAN TELCOM HOLDCO, 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 transaction applies:
 - (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (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):

Edgar Filing: Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. - Form DEF 14A

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

o 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

Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc.

**P.O. Box 2200
Honolulu, HI 96841**

March 13, 2013

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. to be held on Friday, May 3, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at our headquarters at 1177 Bishop Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

The Secretary's formal notice of the meeting and the Proxy Statement appear on the following pages and describe the matters to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting. You also will have the opportunity to hear an update on certain aspects of our business that have occurred in the past year.

Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please vote your shares as soon as possible so that your vote will be counted.

Sincerely,

/s/ ERIC K. YEAMAN

Eric K. Yeaman
President and Chief Executive Officer

Table of Contents

Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc.

**P.O. Box 2200
Honolulu, HI 96841**

March 13, 2013

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. will hold its Annual Meeting of Stockholders on Friday, May 3, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at our headquarters at 1177 Bishop Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

The Annual Meeting is being held for the following purposes:

1. To elect seven directors to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified;
2. To ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2013; and
3. To transact any other business that properly comes before the meeting.

The Board of Directors has selected March 12, 2013 as the record date for determining stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. A list of stockholders as of that date will be available for inspection during ordinary business hours at our headquarters at 1177 Bishop Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 for ten days before the Annual Meeting.

Pursuant to rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have elected to provide access to our proxy materials by sending you this full set of proxy materials, including a proxy card, and by notifying you of the availability of our proxy materials on the Internet. This Proxy Statement and our 2013 Annual Report to Stockholders are available at <http://ir.hawaiiantel.com>.

Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please vote your shares as soon as possible in accordance with the instructions provided to you, to ensure that your vote is counted at the Annual Meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ FRANCIS K. MUKAI

Francis K. Mukai
Secretary

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>General Information</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Proposal No. 1 Election of Directors</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Proposal No. 2 Ratification of the Appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the Company's Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for 2013</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Audit Committee Report</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Stock Ownership</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Security Ownership of Certain Stockholders, Directors and Executive Officers</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Compensation of the Named Executive Officers and Directors</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Compensation Committee Report</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>Relationship between Compensation Plans and Risk</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>Summary Compensation Table</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>Employment Agreements</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>Grants of Plan-Based Awards</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Pension Benefits</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Nonqualified Deferred Compensation</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Potential Payments on Termination or Change in Control</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Compensation of Directors</u>	<u>34</u>
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>Other Information</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>Stockholder Proposals for the 2014 Annual Meeting</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>Other Matters</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>Appendix A</u>	<u>A-1</u>

Table of Contents

PROXY STATEMENT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Q: Who is soliciting my proxy?

A: The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. ("we," "us" or the "Company") is sending you this Proxy Statement in connection with the Board's solicitation of proxies for use at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or any adjournment or postponement thereof (the "Annual Meeting"). Certain of our directors, officers and employees also may solicit proxies on the Board's behalf by mail, telephone, email, facsimile transmission, or in person.

Q: Who is paying for this solicitation and what are the means of solicitation?

A: We will pay for the solicitation of proxies. Solicitation of proxies may be made by means of personal calls upon, or telephonic, facsimile or electronic communications with, stockholders or their personal representatives by our directors, officers and employees. Our directors, officers and employees will not receive additional remuneration. We will reimburse banks, brokers, custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their reasonable charges and expenses to forward our proxy materials to the beneficial owners of our common stock.

Q: What am I voting on?

A: You will be voting on two proposals:

Proposal No. 1 is for the election of directors.

Proposal No. 2 is for the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2013.

Q: Who can vote?

A: Only our stockholders of record at the close of business on March 12, 2013 may vote. Each share of common stock outstanding on that date is entitled to one vote on all matters to come before the meeting

Q: How do I vote and how do I revoke my proxy?

A: If you hold your shares in your own name as a stockholder of record (i.e., your shares are registered directly in your name with Computershare Shareowner Services LLC, our stock transfer agent), you may vote your shares either by proxy or in person at the meeting. To vote in person, please bring a form of identification, such as a valid driver's license or passport, and proof that you are a stockholder as of March 12, 2013 and we will give you a ballot when you arrive. To vote by proxy, please vote in one of the following ways:

Via the Internet. You may vote through the Internet by following the instructions on the proxy card.

Edgar Filing: Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. - Form DEF 14A

By Telephone. You may vote by touchtone telephone by following the instructions on the proxy card.

By Mail. You may vote by mail by marking, dating, signing and mailing the proxy card in the envelope provided.

Voting by proxy will not affect your right to vote your shares in person by voting in person you automatically revoke your proxy. You also may revoke your proxy at any time before the applicable voting deadline by giving our Secretary written notice of your revocation, by submitting a later-

Table of Contents

dated proxy card or by voting again using the telephone or Internet (your latest telephone or Internet proxy is the one that will be counted). If your shares are registered in "street name" (i.e., held in a brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee), you will receive a voting instruction card or other information from your broker or other holder of record seeking instruction as to how your shares should be voted. If you do not provide such instruction, your broker or nominee may vote your shares at its discretion on your behalf on the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal year 2013, but not on the election of directors.

Q: What is the deadline for submitting a proxy?

A: Telephone and Internet voting facilities for stockholders of record will be available 24 hours a day. In order to be counted, proxies submitted by telephone or the Internet must be received at the Company's headquarters by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 2, 2013. Proxies submitted by mail must be received prior to the start of the Annual Meeting.

Q: What constitutes a quorum?

A: On the record date, we had 10,291,897 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding. Voting can take place at the Annual Meeting only if stockholders owning a majority of the issued and outstanding stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting are present in person or represented by proxy.

Q: What are abstentions and broker non-votes and how do they affect voting?

A: *Abstentions* If you specify that you wish to "abstain" from voting on an item, your shares will not be voted on that particular item. Abstentions are counted toward establishing a quorum and included in the shares entitled to vote on Proposal No. 2. On Proposal No. 2, abstentions have the effect of a vote against the proposal.

Broker Non-Votes If your broker holds your shares in its name and does not receive voting instructions from you, your broker has discretion to vote these shares on certain "routine" matters, such as the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. However, on non-routine matters, such as the election of directors, your broker must receive voting instructions from you, as it does not have discretionary voting power for those particular items. So long as the broker has discretion to vote on at least one proposal, these "broker non-votes" are counted toward establishing a quorum. When voted on "routine" matters, broker non-votes are counted toward determining the outcome of that "routine" matter. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the election of directors.

Q: What dissenter's rights of appraisal do I have?

A: There are no dissenters' rights of appraisal with respect to the matters to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting.

Q: What vote is needed?

A: For Proposal No. 1, the directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast.

For Proposal No. 2, an affirmative vote of the majority of shares present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on Proposal No. 2 is required to approve the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm.

Table of Contents

Q: How do I contact the Board?

A: You can send written communications to our Board or any individual director addressed to:

Board of Directors
c/o Secretary
Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc.
P.O. Box 2200
Honolulu, HI 96841

Our Secretary will then direct such communications to the appropriate director(s), except for solicitations or other matters unrelated to us.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL NO. 1

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

At the Annual Meeting, directors will be elected to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The individuals named as proxy holders will vote your proxy for the election of the seven nominees unless you direct them to withhold your vote. If any nominee becomes unable to serve as a director before the Annual Meeting (or decides not to serve), the individuals named as proxy holders may vote for a substitute. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors.

Our Nominating and Governance Committee is charged with identifying, evaluating, and recommending to the Board candidates for election to the Board or for appointment by the Board to fill a vacancy. The Nominating and Governance Committee seeks individuals with, among other things, knowledge of our industry and technologies, business management and financial oversight experience, and reputation in the industry and community. While we do not have a formal diversity policy for Board membership, we look for potential candidates that help ensure that the Board has the benefit of a wide range of attributes. We believe that our directors should represent the interests of our stockholders, be committed to enhancing stockholder value, and have sufficient time to carry out their duties. Their service on other boards of public companies should be limited to a number that permits them, given their individual circumstances, to perform and carry out all director duties in a responsible manner. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider director candidates recommended by security holders, applying the same evaluation criteria described above. Any recommendation must be received by the Nominating and Governance Committee, c/o Secretary, Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc., P.O. Box 2200, Honolulu, HI 96841, no earlier than January 3, 2014 and no later than February 2, 2014 for consideration for the 2014 Annual Meeting, and must include a resume and other written information supporting the nominee's qualifications to serve on the Board, a statement signed by the nominee confirming the nominee's willingness to serve as a director, and evidence of the security holder's ownership of our stock. Stockholders who wish to nominate directors for election must also comply with the advance notice provisions of our Bylaws as described in "Stockholder Proposals for the 2014 Annual Meeting" below.

Nominees for Directors

Each of the current directors has been nominated for election by the Board upon recommendation by the Nominating and Governance Committee and has decided to stand for election. Set forth below are the names and ages of these nominees, the years they became directors, their principal occupations or employment for at least the past five years, and the names of other public companies for which they serve as a director or have served as a director during at least the past five years. Also set forth are the specific experience, qualifications, attributes, or skills that led our Nominating and Governance Committee and Board to conclude that they should serve as directors.

Edgar Filing: Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. - Form DEF 14A

Table of Contents

The following table provides information regarding directors as of March 1, 2013:

Name	Age	Position(s)	Director Since
Kurt M. Cellar(1)(2)	43	Director	2010
Walter A. Dods, Jr.(2)(3)(4)	71	Director	2005
Warren H. Haruki(3)(5)	60	Director	2010
Richard A. Jalkut(2)(5)	68	Director	2010
Steven C. Oldham(1)(5)	62	Director	2010
Bernard R. Phillips III(1)(3)	60	Director	2010
Eric K. Yeaman(5)	45	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	2008

- (1) Member of the Audit Committee.
- (2) Member of the Nominating and Governance Committee
- (3) Member of the Compensation Committee.
- (4) Served as a Director from May 2, 2005 until October 28, 2010, and since December 9, 2010.
- (5) Member of the Executive Committee.

Kurt M. Cellar is President of Corner Pocket Investors, Inc. and has been a consultant to companies in the telecommunications, retail and insurance industries since January 2008. He previously had been a Partner and Portfolio Manager of Bay Harbour Management L.C., a hedge fund, from 1999 until January 2008. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors of Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Horizon Lines, Inc., Six Flags Entertainment Corporation, and U.S. Concrete, Inc. Mr. Cellar is a Chartered Financial Analyst. Mr. Cellar has extensive experience in telecommunications, both as an investor and a board member, as well as significant financial analysis experience. He has chaired audit and compensation committees of other companies and has been designated by the Board as an "audit committee financial expert."

Walter A. Dods, Jr. became a Director on December 9, 2010, having previously served as a Director from May 2, 2005 until October 28, 2010 (Chairman of the Board from May 8, 2008 until October 28, 2010). Mr. Dods was the non-executive Chairman of the Board of BancWest Corporation, a \$74 billion bank holding company wholly-owned by BNP Paribas based in Honolulu, Hawaii, from January 2005 through December 2007, and a director since 1983. He also has been the non-executive Chairman of the Board of First Hawaiian Bank from January 2005 until December 2008 and a director since 1979, as well as Vice Chairman of Bank of the West since 1998. First Hawaiian Bank and Bank of the West are subsidiaries of BancWest, Corporation. From 1996 to 1997, Mr. Dods served as the National President of the American Bankers Association and was a member of the Federal Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve System, representing the 12th district of the Federal Reserve from 1999 to 2000. Mr. Dods also is the Chairman of the Board of Matson, Inc. since June 2012, has served on the Board of Directors of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. since 1989, and served on the Board of Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc. from October 2004 through May 2010. Mr. Dods brings to the Board extensive experience managing complex business organizations as well as extensive knowledge of the Hawaii markets in which the Company operates.

Warren H. Haruki has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Grove Farm Company, Inc., a privately-held land development company located on Kauai, Hawaii, since February 2005. He also is the Chairman (since January 2009) and Chief Executive Officer (since May 2011) of Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc. He also serves on the Board of Directors of several privately-held companies located in Hawaii. From 1991 until his retirement in 2003, Mr. Haruki served as President of the predecessors of Hawaiian Telcom, Inc., and as a result is knowledgeable about the strategic issues

Table of Contents

facing the Company and the Hawaii markets and communities in which the Company operates. During his 26-year career with GTE and Verizon, he gained in-depth experience in all aspects of operations of a telecommunications company.

Richard A. Jalkut has been President and Chief Executive Officer of U.S. TelePacific Corp. (dba TelePacific Communications), the third largest wireline telecom provider in California and second largest in Nevada, since 2002. Mr. Jalkut has more than 35 years' experience in the telecommunications industry, including previously serving as President and Chief Executive Officer of Pathnet Telecommunications, Inc., a wholesale provider of services to more than one hundred second- and third-tier markets located across the U.S., and President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of NYNEX Telephone Companies. Mr. Jalkut has served on the Board of Directors of other telecom companies, including Covad Communications Group, Inc. from 2005 to 2008 and Birch Telecom from 2000 to 2005. He brings to the Board extensive board experience with both telecom and non-telecom companies and experience managing telecommunication companies, and has an in-depth understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the telecommunications industry.

Steven C. Oldham recently retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of SureWest Communications, a publicly-held integrated communications provider headquartered in Northern California, having served in that capacity from January 2006 to June 2012. Prior to joining SureWest, Mr. Oldham served as a Senior Advisor to The Brattle Group, which provides consulting services and expert testimony on economic, finance, regulatory and strategic issues, from May 2002 to May 2005. Mr. Oldham was a member of SureWest's Board of Directors from January 2004 to June 2012 and was chairman of its audit committee from June 2004 to December 2005. He served as Chairman of the United States Telecom Association, the leading trade association representing broadband service providers, manufacturers and suppliers, from October 2009 to November 2011. He brings to the Board extensive experience managing a telecommunication company and an in-depth understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the telecommunications industry. He has been designated by the Board as an "audit committee financial expert."

Bernard R. Phillips III served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC) from 1987 until his retirement at the end of May 2010. NRTC is a cooperative that represents the advanced telecommunications and information technology interests of more than 1,500 rural utilities and affiliates, including an affiliate of the Company. Mr. Phillips served on the Board of Directors of Digital Bridge Communications Corp., a private operator of WiMAX 4G broadband networks in underserved and rural America, and served on the Board of Director of privately-held Avail-TVN, a digital media services company, until May 12, 2010. Mr. Phillips brings to the Board extensive legislative and regulatory telecom experience and broad experience generally in the telecommunications industry.

Eric K. Yeaman became our President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director in June 2008, and led the Company through its filing for bankruptcy protection under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in December 2008 and its emergence from chapter 11 in October 2010. Prior to joining us, Mr. Yeaman served as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (HECO) from January 2008 to June 2008, where he was responsible for its Oahu operations, energy solutions, public affairs and the financial and administrative process areas. From January 2003 to January 2008, Mr. Yeaman served as Financial Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc. (HEI), HECO's parent company. At HEI, he oversaw the controller, treasury, investor relations, corporate tax, information technology and enterprise risk management functions. Mr. Yeaman began his career at Arthur Andersen LLP in September 1989. Mr. Yeaman has been a director of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. since June 2012 and a director of Alaska Air Group, Inc. since November 2012. He also is a director of the United States Telecom Association. Mr. Yeaman brings to the Board extensive experience managing complex business organizations as well as knowledge of the Hawaii markets in which the Company operates.

Table of Contents

Recommendation of the Board

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE "FOR" EACH OF THE ABOVE NOMINEES.

Governance of the Corporation

Corporate Governance

We are committed to strong corporate governance and have adopted policies and practices in furtherance of such objective. These policies and practices include:

All of the members of the Board other than Mr. Yeaman are "independent" under the NASDAQ rules.

All members of our Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, and Nominating and Governance Committee are independent.

The Board has adopted a Code of Business Conduct applicable to all of our employees, including our executive officers, as well as a Code of Conduct for the directors of the Company. The Code of Business Conduct and Code of Conduct for the Board of Directors can be found at <http://ir.hawaiiantel.com>.

We have a hotline for employees to report on an anonymous basis any concerns regarding ethics matters, including without limitation any accounting, internal control, or audit concerns.

We have a policy regarding conflicts of interest under which all potential conflicts of interest must be reported to the Company on an annual basis and as they arise.

Director Independence

The Board has determined that Messrs. Cellar, Dods, Haruki, Jalkut, Oldham, and Phillips are "independent" under the NASDAQ rules. In making its independence determination, the Board considered the Company's banking transactions and relationships with First Hawaiian Bank, of which (i) Mr. Dods is a former Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (more than three years ago) and (ii) Directors Dods and Haruki are members of the Board of Directors; the Company's purchase of bulk fuel on a competitive bid basis from Mid Pacific Petroleum, LLC, of which Mr. Dods is Chairman of the Board and which is wholly-owned by a company of which Mr. Dods is a minority owner and Vice Chairman of the Board; and the Company's contractual relationship with the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative, of which Mr. Phillips previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer. The Board also considered Mr. Haruki's prior position (more than three years ago) as President of the predecessor of Hawaiian Telcom, Inc.

Board Meetings

The Board met ten times in 2012. All of these Board meetings included executive sessions of the non-management directors. Each current director attended at least 75% of the total Board meetings and meetings of the committees on which they serve that were held in 2012. Directors are allowed to attend meetings of committees on which they do not serve as members. However, the Audit Committee and Compensation Committee regularly hold executive sessions of only the committee members or non-management Directors.

Board Leadership Structure

We currently separate the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board in recognition of the differences between the two roles as they presently are defined. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for setting our strategic direction and for our day-to-day

leadership and

Table of Contents

performance, while the Chairman provides guidance to the Chief Executive Officer and leads the Board.

Committees of the Board of Directors

Our Board has an Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Nominating and Governance Committee, and Executive Committee. Each of our committees has a written charter approved by the Board that clearly establishes the committee's roles and responsibilities. Copies of the charters for the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Nominating and Governance Committee and the Executive Committee can be found through the "Investor Relations" link on our website at www.hawaiiantel.com. Please note that information on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not part of the proxy soliciting materials, is not deemed "filed" with the SEC and is not to be incorporated by reference into any of our filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

Audit Committee. The duties and responsibilities of the Audit Committee include recommending the appointment or termination of the engagement of our independent registered public accounting firm, overseeing the relationship with our independent registered public accounting firm, and reviewing significant accounting policies and controls. The members of the Audit Committee are Messrs. Oldham (Chairman), Cellar, and Phillips, each of whom is an independent director under the NASDAQ rules. The Audit Committee met four times in 2012. Each member of the Audit Committee meets the additional requirements regarding independence for Audit Committee members under the NASDAQ rules.

The Board has determined that the Audit Committee includes two "audit committee financial experts", Steven C. Oldham and Kurt M. Cellar, as that term is defined in SEC regulations. Mr. Oldham has financial expertise through his experience as Chief Executive Officer and past audit committee chairman of a publicly-held telecommunications company. Mr. Cellar currently is the chairman of two public company audit committees and has financial expertise as a Chartered Financial Analyst and former investor with a hedge fund. Messrs. Oldham and Cellar also are "independent" under the NASDAQ independence standards. In addition, the Board believes that all of the members of the Audit Committee are fully qualified to address any issues that are likely to come before the Audit Committee, including the evaluation of our financial statements and supervision of our independent registered public accounting firm.

Compensation Committee. The duties and responsibilities of the Compensation Committee include reviewing and approving the compensation of executive officers and reviewing and making recommendations to the Board concerning the compensation of the independent directors. The members of the Compensation Committee are Messrs. Haruki (Chairman), Dods, and Phillips. The Compensation Committee met three times in 2012. In addition to being independent under the NASDAQ rules, each member of the Compensation Committee is a "non-employee director" for purposes of the Exchange Act and is an "outside director" for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code").

The Compensation Committee determines all compensation for our executive officers. Before making decisions on compensation for each of the executive officers other than the Chief Executive Officer, the Compensation Committee reviews with our Chief Executive Officer each executive's performance and accomplishments over the prior year. Mr. Yeaman makes recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding base salary increases and other compensation matters for each executive other than himself.

To independently assist and advise the Compensation Committee, the Compensation Committee has retained Pay Governance LLC ("Pay Governance"), a national compensation consulting firm. The engagement of Pay Governance is exclusively with the Compensation Committee, which has sole

Table of Contents

authority to retain and terminate any compensation consultant or other advisor that it uses. In March 2013, Pay Governance provided a letter to the Compensation Committee confirming its independence. As needed, the Compensation Committee consults with Pay Governance on our executive compensation programs, compensation program design changes, compensation strategy, and effectiveness of pay delivery, and asks it to review and analyze market information on compensation trends and practices and to make recommendations to the Compensation Committee based on competitive compensation data.

Nominating and Governance Committee. The duties and responsibilities of the Nominating and Governance Committee include making recommendations regarding individuals qualified to become directors, the structure and composition of the Board and committees of the Board, and corporate governance policies and practices. The members of the Nominating and Governance Committee are Messrs. Dods (Chairman), Cellar, and Jalkut, each of whom is an independent director under the NASDAQ rules. The Nominating and Governance Committee met one time in 2012.

Executive Committee. The purpose of the Executive Committee is to act for the Board in the event formal action is required between Board meetings. The Executive Committee has all the powers of the Board except as otherwise provided in the Company's Bylaws or the corporation laws of the State of Delaware. The members of the Executive Committee are Messrs. Jalkut (Chairman), Haruki, Oldham, and Yeaman. The Executive Committee met four times in 2012.

Director Stock Ownership Guidelines

To align the Board's interests with the interests of our stockholders, the Board has adopted stock ownership guidelines for its members. The guidelines state that each Board member, not later than five years after the later of the date of adoption of the guidelines and the date the individual becomes a member of the Board, should own shares of our common stock with a value at least equal to two times the applicable annual cash retainer. Such shares may be owned directly or by the individual's revocable living trust. All of our Board members have met the ownership guidelines or have time remaining under the guidelines.

The Board's Role in Risk Oversight

Our Company faces a number of risks, including operational, competitive, regulatory, financial, economic, and legal risks. Our management is responsible for the day-to-day management of the risks we face. While our Board, as a whole, has ultimate responsibility for the oversight of risk management, it administers its risk oversight role in part through the Board committee structure, with the Audit Committee and Compensation Committee responsible for monitoring and reporting on the material risks associated with their respective subject matter areas.

The Board's role in our risk oversight process includes receiving regular reports from members of senior management, as well as from external advisors such as Deloitte & Touche LLP, on areas of material risk to us, including operational, competitive, regulatory, financial, economic, and legal risks. The full Board (or the appropriate Board committee in the case of risks that are reviewed by a particular committee) reviews these reports in order to understand our risk exposures and the steps that management has taken to monitor and control these exposures. Reports received by a Board committee, or summaries thereof, are provided to the full Board, thereby enabling the Board and its committees to coordinate the risk oversight role. The Audit Committee assists the Board in oversight and monitoring of principal risk exposures related to financial statements, legal, regulatory and other matters, as well as related mitigation efforts. The Compensation Committee assesses the risks associated with the Company's compensation policies. See also "Compensation of the Named Executive Officers and Directors Relationship Between Compensation Plans and Risk."

Table of Contents

Annual Meeting Attendance

We encourage, but do not require, our directors to attend our annual meetings of stockholders. All of our directors other than Mr. Dods and Mr. Phillips attended our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Table of Contents**PROPOSAL NO. 2****RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR 2013****Selection of the Accounting Firm**

The Audit Committee has appointed Deloitte & Touche LLP ("Deloitte") as our independent registered public accounting firm to perform the audit of our financial statements for 2013, and we are asking you to ratify this appointment. Deloitte has been our independent accounting firm since 2005.

The Audit Committee annually reviews the independent registered public accounting firm's independence, including reviewing all relationships between the independent registered public accounting firm and us and any disclosed relationships or services that may impact the objectivity, independence, and performance of the independent registered public accounting firm. Additionally, our Deloitte engagement audit partner is subject to regular rotation, the most recent rotation having occurred in 2010. As a matter of good corporate governance, the Board, upon recommendation of the Audit Committee, has determined to submit to stockholders for ratification the appointment of Deloitte. In the event that a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on Proposal No. 2 does not ratify the appointment of Deloitte, the Audit Committee will review its future appointment of Deloitte.

We expect that a representative of Deloitte will be present at the Annual Meeting and that the representative will have an opportunity to make a statement if he or she desires and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit and Permissible Non-Audit Services of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Audit Committee must pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services, and other services. Pre-approval is generally requested annually and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service, which must be classified in one of the four categories of services. The Audit Committee also may, on a case-by-case basis, pre-approve particular services that are not contained in the annual pre-approval request. In connection with this pre-approval policy, the Audit Committee also considers whether the categories of pre-approved services are consistent with the rules on accountant independence of the SEC.

Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The following is a summary of the fees billed or to be billed to us by Deloitte for professional services rendered for the years ended December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (fees reflect additional audit efforts related to the Company being in, and emerging from, chapter 11 bankruptcy):

Fee Category	Fiscal Year 2012	Fiscal Year 2011
Audit Fees	\$ 920,418	\$ 916,230
Audit-Related Fees		5,759
Tax Fees		
All Other Fees		
Total Fees	\$ 920,418	\$ 921,989

Audit Fees. Consist of fees billed for professional services rendered for the annual audit of our consolidated financial statements and services that Deloitte normally provides in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements.

Table of Contents

Audit-Related Fees. Consist of fees billed 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."

The Audit Committee determined that Deloitte's provision of these services, and the fees that we paid for these services, are compatible with maintaining the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee pre-approved all services that Deloitte provided in 2012 and 2011 in accordance with the pre-approval policy discussed above.

Recommendation of the Board

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE "FOR" RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR 2013.

Table of Contents

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit Committee of the Board (the "Audit Committee") consists of the three directors whose names appear below. Each member of the Audit Committee meets the definition of "independent director" and otherwise qualifies to be a member of the Audit Committee under the NASDAQ rules.

The Audit Committee's general role is to assist the Board in monitoring the Company's financial reporting process and related matters. Its specific responsibilities are set forth in its charter. The Audit Committee reviews its charter annually. The charter was last reviewed in March 2013 and is available through the "Investor Relations" link on our website at www.hawaiiantel.com.

As required by the charter, the Audit Committee reviewed the Company's financial statements for 2012 and met with management, as well as with representatives of Deloitte & Touche LLP ("Deloitte"), the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, to discuss the financial statements. The Audit Committee also discussed with members of Deloitte the matters required to be discussed by applicable Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and Securities and Exchange Commission rules.

In addition, the Audit Committee received the written disclosures and letter required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding Deloitte's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and discussed with members of Deloitte its independence from management and the Company.

Based on these discussions, the financial statement review and other matters it deemed relevant, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the Company's audited financial statements for 2012 be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Furthermore, in connection with the standards for independence promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Audit Committee reviewed the services provided by Deloitte, the fees the Company paid for these services, and whether the provision of the services is compatible with maintaining the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee deemed that the provision of the services is compatible with maintaining that independence.

The Audit Committee has selected Deloitte to be the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2013. In doing so, the Audit Committee considered the results from its review of Deloitte's independence, including (a) all relationships between Deloitte and the Company and any disclosed relationships or services that may impact Deloitte's objectivity and independence, (b) Deloitte's performance and qualification as an independent registered public accounting firm and (c) the fact that the Deloitte engagement audit partner is rotated on a regular basis as required by applicable laws and regulations. As a matter of good corporate governance, the Audit Committee has determined to submit its appointment of Deloitte to the stockholders for ratification. In the event that a majority of the shares of common stock present or represented at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on the matter do not ratify this appointment, the Audit Committee will review its future appointment of Deloitte.

Steven C. Oldham, Chairman
Kurt M. Cellar
Bernard R. Phillips III

Table of Contents

STOCK OWNERSHIP

Security Ownership of Certain Stockholders, Directors and Executive Officers

The following table sets forth information with respect to the beneficial ownership of the common stock of the Company as of March 1, 2013, by:

each person that is a beneficial owner of more than 5% of the common stock;

each of our directors and Named Executive Officers identified in the Summary Compensation Table below; and

all of our directors and executive officers as a group.

The amounts and percentages of common stock beneficially owned are reported on the basis of regulations of the SEC governing the determination of beneficial ownership of securities. The information relating to the Company's 5% beneficial owners is based on information received by the Company from such holders or filed by such holders with the SEC. Under the rules of the SEC, a person is deemed to be a "beneficial owner" of a security if that person has or shares voting power, which includes the power to vote or direct the voting of a security, or investment power, which includes the power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of a security. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities of which that person has a right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days. Securities that can be so acquired are deemed to be outstanding for purposes of computing such person's ownership percentage, but not for purposes of computing any other person's percentage. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed a beneficial owner of the same securities and a person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of securities as to which such person has no economic interest.

Except as otherwise indicated in these footnotes, each of the beneficial owners listed has, to our knowledge, sole voting and investment power with respect to the indicated shares of common stock.

Edgar Filing: Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. - Form DEF 14A

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise noted below, the address of each person listed in the table is: c/o General Counsel, Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc., 1177 Bishop Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percentage of Class
<i>5% or Greater Stockholders</i>		
Twin Haven Special Opportunities Fund III, L.P.(1)	1,202,100	11.7%
Black Diamond Capital Management, L.L.C.(2)	1,154,043	11.2%
THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC(3)	934,851	9.3%
Paloma International L.P.(4)	907,622	8.7%
Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P.(5)	816,128	7.9%
Nokomis Capital, L.L.C.(6)	605,206	5.9%
<i>Directors and Named Executive Officers</i>		
Richard A. Jalkut	3,832	
Kurt M. Cellar	27,299	
Walter A. Dods, Jr.	2,299	
Warren H. Haruki	2,299	
Steven C. Oldham	2,299	
Bernard R. Phillips III	5,299	
Eric K. Yeaman	85,000	
Kurt Hoffman	9,301	
Robert F. Reich	14,212	
John T. Komeiji	13,380	
Michael E. Czerwinski	2,610	
Bradley J. Fisher	3,500	
All executive officers and directors as a group (14 persons)	172,975	1.7%

- (1) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on January 24, 2013. According to the Schedule 13G/A, Twin Haven Special Opportunities Fund III, L.P., Twin Haven Special Opportunities Partners III, L.L.C., Twin Haven Capital Partners, L.L.C., Robert Webster, and Paul Mellinger have shared voting and shared dispositive power over all 1,202,100 shares. The address for Twin Haven Special Opportunities Fund III, L.P., Twin Haven Special Opportunities Partners III, L.L.C., Twin Haven Capital Partners, L.L.C., Robert Webster, and Paul Mellinger is 33 Riverside Avenue, 3rd Floor, Westport, CN 06880.
- (2) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 14, 2013. According to the Schedule 13G/A, Black Diamond Capital Management, L.L.C. and Stephen H. Deckoff have shared voting and shared dispositive power over all 1,154,043 shares. The address for Black Diamond Capital Management, L.L.C. is One Sound Shore Drive, Suite 200, Greenwich, CT 06830. The address for Stephen H. Deckoff, is c/o Black Diamond, 5330 Yacht Haven Grande, Suite 100, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802.
- (3) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 1, 2013. According to the Schedule 13G/A, THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC (successor to McDonnell Investment Management, LLC) may be deemed to have beneficially owned an aggregate of 934,851 shares of Common Stock representing 9.3% of the outstanding Common Stock, which included (i) 252,522 shares held of record by McDonnell Loan Opportunity, Ltd. (now known as THL Credit Loan Opportunity Ltd.), over which THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC has shared voting and investment power, (ii) 16,750 shares held of record by McDonnell Bank Loan Select Series Trust I (now known as THL

Table of Contents

Bank Loan Select Series Trust I), over which THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC has shared voting and investment power, (iii) 160,341 shares held of record by Wind River CLO I, Ltd., over which THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC has shared voting and investment power, (iv) 199,431 shares held of record by Wind River CLO II Tate Investors, Ltd., over which THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC has shared voting and investment power, (v) 292,580 shares held of record by Gannett Peak CLO I, Ltd., over which THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC has shared voting and investment power, and (vi) 13,227 shares held of record by the Illinois State Board of Investment, over which THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC has shared investment power but does not have any power to vote or direct the vote of such shares. THL Credit Senior Loan Strategies LLC's address is 1515 West 22nd Street, Suite 1200, Oak Brook, IL 60523.

- (4) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 14, 2013. According to the Schedule 13G/A, Paloma International L.P. and S. Donald Sussman have sole voting and sole dispositive power over all 907,622 shares. Paloma International L.P.'s address is Two American Lane, Greenwich, Connecticut 06836, and Mr. Sussman's address is 217 Commercial Street, 5th Floor, Portland, ME 04101.
- (5) Based on a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 14, 2013. According to the Schedule 13G/A, Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P. has sole voting and sole dispositive power over all 816,128 shares. Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P.'s address is One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111.
- (6) Based on a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 14, 2013. According to the Schedule 13G, Nokomis Capital, L.L.C. and Brett Hendrickson have shared voting and shared dispositive power over all 605,206 shares. The address for Nokomis Capital, L.L.C. and Brett Hendrickson is 2305 Cedar Springs Rd., Suite 420, Dallas, TX 75201.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Under U.S. securities laws, directors, certain executive officers and persons holding more than 10% of our common stock must report their initial ownership of the common stock and any changes in that ownership to the SEC. The SEC has designated specific due dates for these reports and we must identify in this Proxy Statement those persons who did not file these reports when due. Based solely on our review of copies of the reports filed with the SEC and written representations of our directors and executive officers, we believe that all persons subject to reporting filed the required reports on time in 2012.

COMPENSATION OF THE NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis provides information concerning the 2012 compensation program for the executive officers identified in the Summary Compensation Table below (the "Named Executive Officers"). This Compensation Discussion and Analysis contains forward-looking statements that are based on our current plans, considerations, expectations, and determinations regarding future compensation programs. The actual compensation programs that we adopt in the future may differ materially from currently planned programs as summarized in this discussion.

Executive Summary

We believe our executive compensation programs are effectively designed, are aligned with the interests of our stockholders, and are instrumental to achieving our business strategy. In determining

Table of Contents

executive compensation for fiscal year 2012, the Compensation Committee considered the strong stockholder support that the "Say-on-Pay" proposal received at our May 13, 2011 annual meeting of stockholders. Further, beginning with the 2011 fiscal year, in an effort to help support our business strategy and operations going forward, the Compensation Committee has sought to target total direct compensation for our Named Executive Officers, on average, at the 50th percentile (median) based on competitive survey and peer company data.

As has been the case in the past, the Compensation Committee will consider stockholder concerns and feedback on our executive compensation program that it receives. Also, consistent with the results of our stockholder vote at our May 13, 2011 annual meeting of stockholders on the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation, we will hold an advisory vote on the compensation of our Named Executive Officers every three years until the next required vote on the frequency of advisory votes on the compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

Highlights of our executive compensation programs include the following:

We currently target total direct compensation (consisting of base salary, annual cash performance incentives, and long-term incentive opportunities) for Named Executive Officers at the 50th percentile of market.

A significant portion of our Named Executive Officers' total compensation (ranging from 41% to 64%) is considered by us to be "at risk."

Our Named Executive Officers receive long-term equity awards subject to performance-based as well as time-based vesting requirements. These long-term incentives are targeted to constitute between 30% and 80% of our Named Executive Officers' base salaries. We believe these awards ensure that a significant portion of the executives' compensation is tied to long-term Company performance, including stock price performance, thereby aligning the executives' interests with those of stockholders.

The Board has adopted stock ownership guidelines that require executives to hold a minimum amount of our common stock, again aligning executives' interests with those of our stockholders.

The Compensation Committee, with the assistance of Pay Governance LLC ("Pay Governance"), an independent, national compensation consulting firm, periodically evaluates our executive compensation policies and practices and adjusts them as appropriate to reflect our performance and competitive needs.

Fiscal 2012 Financial Performance and Executive Compensation

In 2012, our senior management continued to make progress in executing our strategic plan and investing in the key growth areas of our business, the ultimate goal of which is to increase stockholder value. We recorded our third consecutive year of profitability, and the price of our common stock increased 26.6% in 2012. We continued our transformation to a next-generation communications company and made strategic decisions to enhance our overall growth profile and better position the Company to be successful over the long-term. This transformation is reflected in our achievement of delivering sequential revenue growth in our consumer channel beginning the second quarter of 2012, marking a key inflection point and reversing long-standing secular declines from legacy services. We continued investing in our broadband network to expand and enhance our broadband capabilities and strengthen our competitive position. In particular, we were able to expand our portfolio of IP-based business products, expand the speed and reach of our high-speed Internet service, and expand the footprint and subscriber base of our *Hawaiian Telcom TV* service. Consistent with our philosophy of paying for performance and maintaining competitive compensation packages, in 2012, after two years of no increase, the Named Executive Officers received base salary increases based on a two percent merit increase pool for non-union employees, as well as performance compensation awards reflecting

Table of Contents

performance against corporate and individual performance metrics for 2011 and restricted stock unit awards pursuant to our 2010 Equity Incentive Plan.

Executive Compensation Philosophy

We are in a highly technical and competitive industry and compete with many other companies for qualified executives. To meet this challenge, our Compensation Committee seeks to offer a compensation program that is competitive; attracts, retains, and motivates highly-skilled executives who contribute to our success; aligns our executives' interests with the interests of stockholders; and helps us to achieve our financial and strategic objectives by tying a substantial portion of the executives' annual and long-term compensation to the achievement of meaningful performance objectives. To date, we have not adopted any formal policies or guidelines for allocating compensation between current and long-term compensation, between cash and non-cash compensation, or among different forms of non-cash compensation, but our Compensation Committee refers to surveys conducted by its compensation consultant in determining the appropriate allocation of our executives' total compensation among annual base salary, annual cash performance compensation, and long-term, equity-based compensation. Since 2011, the Compensation Committee, based on an evaluation of the compensation of our Named Executive Officers by its compensation consultant, has sought to target total direct compensation, on average, at the 50th percentile (median) based on competitive survey and peer company data.

Executive Compensation Process

Role of the Compensation Committee

Our Compensation Committee is responsible for establishing our executive compensation philosophy and administering our executive compensation program, including reviewing and approving the compensation of our Named Executive Officers. It also has the responsibility to assess the compensation policies and practices for all employees to determine if they create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. The Compensation Committee regularly consults with and reports to our full Board of Directors on its deliberations and actions.

The Compensation Committee intends to review our executive compensation program on a periodic basis to determine whether it is appropriate, properly coordinated, and achieves its intended purposes.

Role of Management

In carrying out its responsibilities, our Compensation Committee works with our Chief Executive Officer and other members of our senior management team to obtain information such as Company and individual performance, market data, and management's perspective and recommendations on compensation matters. Typically, our Chief Executive Officer makes recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding the compensation of executives other than himself and attends Compensation Committee and Board meetings at which such compensation matters are discussed (other than those portions of such meetings involving his own compensation).

Role of Compensation Consultant

The Compensation Committee has the authority to retain the services of compensation consultants and other advisors from time to time, as it deems necessary or appropriate, in connection with the establishment and administration of our compensation and employee benefit plans, policies and programs. In November 2010, the Compensation Committee engaged Pay Governance to perform various compensation advisory services on behalf of the Compensation Committee. Pay Governance serves at the discretion of the Compensation Committee. In March 2011, pursuant to the request of the

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee, Pay Governance completed an evaluation of the competitiveness and effectiveness of the total compensation package offered to our Named Executive Officers and other senior vice presidents and vice presidents. More recently, in November 2012 Pay Governance was engaged to review the Company's compensation of our executives, including our Named Executive Officers, and our directors. This review was completed in February 2013. Pay Governance does not advise the Company on any other matters.

Use of Competitive Data

The March 2011 evaluation of the compensation of the Company's executives by Pay Governance compared the pay levels for 14 executive positions to competitive market data from the following sources: the Towers Watson 2010/2011 Survey Report on Top Management Compensation, the Mercer 2010 Executive Benchmark Database, and proxy-reported compensation at the following peer telecommunications companies: Alaska Communications Systems Group Inc., CenturyLink, Inc., Consolidated Communications Holdings Inc., FairPoint Communications Inc., Frontier Communications Corporation, General Communication Inc., Iowa Telecommunications Services Inc., NTELOS Holdings Corp., SureWest Communications, USA Mobility, Inc., and Windstream Corporation. The recent evaluation completed by Pay Governance in February 2013 employed the same peer group. The Compensation Committee intends to review our peer group periodically and make adjustments to its composition as necessary.

The results of the March 2011 evaluation showed that, on average, executive base salaries were positioned between the 50th and 62.5th percentiles of the competitive survey and peer company data, target annual performance payments were positioned around the 75th percentile, and our long-term incentive compensation (as a percentage of base salary) was below the 50th percentile (and in some cases falling at or below the 25th percentile). Target total cash compensation (the sum of base salary and target annual performance compensation) was, on average, between the 62.5th and 75th percentiles, while target total direct compensation (the sum of base salary, target annual performance compensation, and long-term incentive compensation) was, on average, between the 50th and 62.5th percentiles. The results of Pay Governance's February 2013 evaluation are described in "Approach to Fiscal Year 2013 Compensation" below.

Tax and Accounting Considerations

In determining executive compensation, the Compensation Committee also considers, among other factors, the possible tax consequences to the Company and to its executives, accounting consequences to the Company, and the impact of certain arrangements on stockholder dilution. However, to maintain maximum flexibility in designing compensation programs, the Compensation Committee, while considering these items as factors in determining compensation, will not limit compensation to those levels or types of compensation that are intended to have a particular tax or accounting result, to be deductible by the Company, or to achieve a specific level of stockholder dilution.

Our Compensation Committee considers the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations that restrict deductibility for federal income tax purposes of executive compensation paid to certain of our executive officers, to the extent such compensation exceeds \$1,000,000 for any of such officers in any year and does not qualify for an exception under the statute or regulations. The members of our Compensation Committee qualify as outside directors for purposes of exempting executive compensation from the limits on deductibility under Section 162(m). However, in the event our Compensation Committee believes that our interests are best served, in a particular situation, by providing compensation that does not qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), it may grant compensation which may be subject to the \$1,000,000 annual limit on deductibility, including base salary, annual cash bonuses, and equity awards.

Table of Contents

Sections 280G and 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code provide that executive officers, persons who hold significant equity interests, and certain other highly-compensated service providers may be subject to an excise tax if they receive payments or benefits in connection with a change in control of our Company that exceeds certain prescribed limits, and that our Company (or a successor) may forfeit a deduction on the amounts subject to this additional tax. Further, Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code imposes certain additional taxes on service providers who enter into certain deferred compensation arrangements that do not comply with the requirements of Section 409A. We have not agreed to pay any executive officer, including any Named Executive Officer, a "gross-up" or other reimbursement payment for any tax liability that he might owe as a result of the application of Sections 280G, 4999 or 409A.

Executive Compensation Program

For 2012, our Named Executive Officers' compensation consisted of (1) base salary, (2) cash-based performance compensation, and (3) equity compensation. These elements are designed together to motivate our Named Executive Officers to perform in a manner that will enable us to meet our strategic goals. Set forth below is the rationale for each element of our executive compensation program and a discussion of the decisions made with respect to each such element for fiscal year 2012.

Base Salary. Base salaries for our Named Executive Officers are based on the scope of their responsibilities, taking into account competitive survey data and compensation paid by comparable companies for similar positions. Base salary merit increases for Named Executive Officers are considered each year and are based on the individual performance appraisals of the executives and on the amount of the merit increase pool budgeted by management and approved by the Compensation Committee for the year in question. The 2011 Pay Governance study determined that our executive base salaries, on average, were positioned between the 50th and 62.5th percentiles of the market. Given that their long-term incentive compensation was determined to be below competitive survey and peer company data, the base salaries of our Named Executive Officers were not revised at that time as a result of the study. For 2012, the Compensation Committee took into consideration projected merit increases in the telecom and general industries described in the Aon Hewitt September 2011 survey, salary adjustment survey data obtained from Hawaii businesses by the Hawaii Employers Council, and the fact that our Named Executive Officers did not receive a base salary increase in either 2010 or 2011. Taking into account such considerations, the Compensation Committee approved a merit increase for non-union employees, including the Chief Executive Officer and the other Named Executive Officers, averaging two percent. The two percent merit increase was consistent with the survey data obtained from Hawaii businesses but lower than average national increases. When making the decisions on base salary increases, our Chief Executive Officer reviews the performance of the other Named Executive Officers and the Compensation Committee reviews the performance of our Chief Executive Officer.

The following table shows the base salary information for each Named Executive Officer:

Name	Base Salary as of December 31, 2011	Base Salary as of December 31, 2012	Percentage Increase in Base Salary
Eric K. Yeaman	\$ 696,000	\$ 710,000	2.0%
Kurt Hoffman(1)	\$ 400,000	N/A	N/A
Robert F. Reich	\$ 320,000	\$ 326,400	2.0%
John T. Komeiji	\$ 317,200	\$ 324,000	2.1%
Michael E. Czerwinski	\$ 290,000	\$ 294,600	1.6%
Bradley J. Fisher	\$ 295,000	\$ 298,400	1.2%

(1) Mr. Hoffman's employment with the Company terminated October 5, 2012.

Table of Contents

Annual Performance Compensation Plan. The annual Performance Compensation Plan provides our Named Executive Officers and other key employees with the opportunity to obtain, in addition to their base salary, an annual cash performance payment that is dependent upon achieving stated corporate and/or individual performance goals. Any cash performance payments generally are awarded no later than the end of the first quarter of the following year. Employment with the Company at the time of award is a prerequisite to receiving an award.

The 2011 Pay Governance market compensation study determined that our target annual cash performance payments for our executives generally were positioned near the 75th percentile of the competitive survey and peer company data.

The Performance Compensation Plan is reviewed annually and its terms may be modified from time to time to reflect changes in our business strategies and focus. Pursuant to the Performance Compensation Plan, the Compensation Committee approves the target annual performance payment awards for our Chief Executive Officer and other Named Executive Officers and the corporate and individual performance goals, if any, and their relative weights. The performance payment is calculated as a percentage of the employee's annual salary. For our Named Executive Officers in 2012, the percentages of annual salary used to determine the target annual performance payment ranged from 40% to 100%. Depending on the achievement of the predetermined targets, as determined by the Compensation Committee, the annual performance payment may be less than or greater than the target annual performance payment. In addition, solely at our discretion, additional performance-based compensation may be paid to our Named Executive Officers and other key employees apart from the Performance Compensation Plan. The corporate performance calculations under our Performance Compensation Plan are based on our audited financial results.

For the 2012 plan year, the Compensation Committee determined, and the Board of Directors subsequently ratified, that the Performance Compensation Plan should be based on the achievement of both Company goals and individual performance goals. The weighting toward Company goals was greater for executives than for non-executives, reflecting that executives have a greater influence on corporate performance. Company goals were given a 100% weighting for our Chief Executive Officer and a 75% weighting for our other Named Executive Officers. The individual performance goals of the Named Executive Officers other than our Chief Executive Officer were determined by our Chief Executive Officer and were aligned with our core strategies. The Company goals consisted of revenue, adjusted EBITDA, net cash flow, and customer satisfaction. Customer satisfaction was based on transactional surveys of our consumer and business customers conducted by an independent market research firm. Target customer satisfaction was a composite of various percentages of total surveys in various customer service categories in which survey participants rated the Company either a "9" or

Edgar Filing: Hawaiian Telcom Holdco, Inc. - Form DEF 14A

Table of Contents

"10" on a scale from 1 to 10. The relative weighting of the Company goals, performance target levels, and threshold and maximum levels are set forth in the table below:

Company Goal	Weighting	Percentage of Target	Target (\$ in mils)	% Payout
Revenue	30%			
Threshold		95%	\$ 381.9	75%
Target		100%	\$ 402.0	100%
Maximum		105%	\$ 422.1	120%
Adjusted EBITDA	25%			
Threshold		95%	\$ 116.4	75%
Target		100%	\$ 122.5	100%
Maximum		105%	\$ 128.6	120%
Net Cash Flow	20%			
Threshold		50%	\$ 4.2	75%
Target		100%	\$ 8.5	100%
Maximum		150%	\$ 12.7	120%
Customer Satisfaction	25%			
Threshold		4% Less than Target on average		75%
Target		Target		100%
Maximum		4% Better than Target on average		120%

The Compensation Committee determined that no payments for the 2012 plan year would be made unless the minimum thresholds for both revenue and adjusted EBITDA were achieved. In addition, individual payouts were contingent upon the executive obtaining a "meets expectations" or better performance evaluation. Target annual performance payments were based on a payout schedule that provided for target opportunities of 100% of annual salary for the Chief Executive Officer, 75% for the Chief Operating Officer, and between 40% and 65% for the Named Executive Officers who were senior vice presidents, and maximum payout opportunities of 120% for the Chief Executive Officer, 90% for the Chief Operating Officer, and between 48% and 78% for the other Named Executive Officers.

The Company's performance for 2012 was \$385.5 million for revenue, which was below target but above the threshold level; \$122.0 million for adjusted EBITDA, which was below target but above the threshold level; \$6.0 million for net cash flow (adjusted for the refinancing of the term loan in February 2012 and the acquisition of Wavecom Solutions Corporation in December 2012), which was below target but above the threshold level; and below target for customer satisfaction results. Based on the foregoing, the Compensation Committee approved 2012 performance payments for the Named Executive Officers that were approximately 70% of their target annual performance payments, summarized as follows:

Corporate Performance Metric	Target (\$ in millions)(1)	Actual Result (\$ in millions)(1)	Actual Result as a Percentage of Target(2)(3)	Weighting	Actual Payout as a Percentage of Target(2)
Revenue	\$ 402.0	\$ 385.5	95.9%	30%	23.8%
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 122.5	\$ 122.0	99.6%	25%	24.5%
Net Cash Flow	\$ 8.5	\$ 6.0	70.6%	20%	17.1%
Customer Satisfaction			(below target on average)	25%	4.6%
Payout percentage					70.0%

(1) Rounded to nearest million dollars.

(2) Rounded to nearest tenth of a percent.

- (3) Determined by interpolation based on how the actual results compared to the threshold, target, and maximum levels.

Table of Contents

The following chart shows the 2012 target and actual annual performance payment awards, as represented by reference to the applicable percentage of base salary, and dollar payouts for each Named Executive Officer:

Name	Target as a Percentage of Annual Salary	Potential Payout Range as a Percentage of Annual Salary	Actual Payout as a Percentage of Annual Salary	Actual Payout
Eric K. Yeaman	100%	0 - 120%	70.0%	\$ 494,362
Kurt Hoffman	75%	0 - 90%	48.8%	\$ 167,212(1)
Robert F. Reich	65%	0 - 78%	48.9%	\$ 158,702
John T. Komeiji	65%	0 - 78%	45.8%	\$ 147,634
Michael E. Czerwinski	40%	0 - 48%	29.0%	\$ 85,075
Bradley J. Fisher	40%	0 - 48%	28.2%	\$ 83,891

- (1) Payout in connection with termination of employment effective October 5, 2012, pursuant to the terms of Mr. Hoffman's employment agreement and General Waiver and Release of Claims.

2010 Equity Incentive Plan. The 2010 Equity Incentive Plan provides key employees and non-employee directors of the Company and its subsidiaries with the opportunity to receive stock options, restricted stock units, and other equity-based awards. The maximum number of shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to awards granted under the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan is 1,400,000 shares. As explained above, the 2011 evaluation of our executive compensation by the Company's compensation consultant determined that our long-term incentive compensation (as a percentage of base salary) was below the 50th percentile, and in some cases falling at or below the 25th percentile. During 2012, the Compensation Committee granted a total of 103,496 restricted stock units (RSUs) to executives, including the Named Executive Officers in the chart below. The RSU awards granted in 2012 were intended to provide long-term compensation for a three-year period beginning 2012, and the size of the RSU awards was based on the recommendations of Pay Governance consistent with its assessment of competitive long-term incentive compensation levels, as well as on the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date. The following chart shows the RSU awards for each Named Executive Officer in 2012:

Name	Number of RSUs
Eric K. Yeaman	34,857
Kurt Hoffman	12,146
Robert F. Reich	10,015
John T. Komeiji	9,942
Michael E. Czerwinski(1)	2,938
Bradley J. Fisher(1)	687

- (1) Pro-rated amounts based on date of hire in 2011.

The RSUs awarded to the Named Executive Officers in 2012 were divided equally into time-based RSUs and performance-based RSUs. The time-based RSUs will vest in equal installments over a four-year period on the annual anniversaries of their grant dates. The performance-based RSUs will vest in equal installments on the applicable determination date for each of four calendar years beginning with 2012, subject to the applicable performance goal being met. The determination date for each calendar year is the date in the year following such calendar year on which the Compensation Committee determines whether the applicable performance goal has been met. The performance goal is met for a given year if the Company's adjusted EBITDA for that year exceeds the prior year's

Table of Contents

adjusted EBITDA by at least three percent. However, the Compensation Committee will have the discretion to reduce the number of RSUs that are deemed vested if it determines that the facts and circumstances justify such reduction. Although the performance goal for the 2011 performance year was achieved, the Compensation Committee exercised its discretion and determined that only 97.2% of the performance-based RSUs scheduled to vest in 2012 vested. The Compensation Committee's decision to exercise its discretion and vest less than 100% of the performance-based RSUs scheduled to vest in 2012 was based upon the Company's performance against the following threshold and target levels for 2011 revenue and adjusted EBITDA:

Measurement	Weighting	Factor	Amount	% Vested (B)
\$'s in mils				
Revenue	50%			
Threshold		95%	\$ 380.1	75%
Target		100%	\$ 400.1	100%
Adjusted EBITDA	50%			
Threshold			\$ 110.0	75%
Target		100%	\$ 118.7	100%

The Compensation Committee also has the discretion, in the event the performance goal is not met in a given year, to determine that, taking into consideration the degree of the Company's success in meeting its performance targets under the Company Performance Compensation Plan, some of the performance-based RSUs nevertheless should vest. Further, if the Company's adjusted EBITDA for a particular year does not exceed the adjusted EBITDA for the prior (measurement) year by at least three percent, the Company has the opportunity to make up for such shortfall in a later year if the adjusted EBITDA for such later year exceeds the adjusted EBITDA for the measurement year by at least 3% on an annual compounded basis. The RSU awards are non-transferable, and the shares issued pursuant to vesting of performance-based RSUs will be non-transferable subject to such transfer restriction lapsing in equal annual installments over a three-year period.

In the event of death, disability, or termination of employment without cause or for good reason, unvested time-based RSUs held by our Named Executive Officers other than Mr. Yeaman that otherwise would have vested on the next vesting date would vest immediately on a pro-rated basis, and unvested performance-based RSUs held by our Named Executive Officers other than Mr. Yeaman that otherwise would have vested on the next determination date depending upon achievement of the applicable performance goal would remain outstanding and vest on such determination date on a pro-rated basis. In the case of Mr. Yeaman, death or disability would result in the immediate vesting of both the unvested time-based RSUs scheduled to vest on the next vesting date and the unvested performance-based RSUs scheduled to vest on the next determination date, and termination of employment without cause or for good reason would result in the immediate vesting of the unvested time-based RSUs scheduled to vest on the next vesting date while the unvested performance-based RSUs scheduled to vest on the next determination date would remain outstanding and would vest on such determination date depending upon achievement of the applicable performance goal. Any transfer restrictions applicable to any shares of common stock previously issued to the Named Executive Officers upon vesting of performance-based RSUs would immediately lapse.

In the event of a change in control, all unvested RSUs held by our Named Executive Officers other than Mr. Yeaman would vest immediately. In the case of Mr. Yeaman, his unvested performance-based RSUs scheduled to vest on the next determination date would vest immediately subject to achievement of the applicable performance goal as determined by the Compensation Committee at the time of the change in control, and the unvested time-based RSUs scheduled to vest on the next vesting date would vest immediately on a pro-rated basis. Any transfer restrictions applicable to any shares of common stock previously issued to our Named Executive Officers upon vesting of performance-based RSUs would immediately lapse.

Table of Contents

Retirement and Other Benefits

We have a tax-qualified Section 401(k) retirement savings plan for our employees, including the Named Executive Officers, who satisfy certain eligibility requirements. Under this plan, participants may elect to make pre-tax contributions, not to exceed the applicable statutory income tax limitation (which was \$17,000 in 2012). In addition, we may make discretionary contributions to the plan in any year, up to certain limits. In 2012, we provided a matching contribution equal to 100% of a participant's salary deferrals, up to a maximum of 6% of a participant's compensation. Our contributions to the accounts of the Named Executive Officers are shown in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table below. We intend for the plan to qualify under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code so that contributions by participants to the plan, and income earned on plan contributions, are not taxable to participants until withdrawn from the plan.

Additional benefits received by our Named Executive Officers include Company- funded executive group life, disability, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance; reimbursement of out-of-pocket medical expenses; entitlement to severance benefits in the event of termination of employment under certain circumstances (as described in more detail below); and group medical plans and medical and dependent care flexible spending accounts available to salaried employees generally.

Except as described herein, we generally do not provide perquisites or other personal benefits to our Named Executive Officers. Currently, we do not view perquisites or other personal benefits as a significant component of our executive compensation program. In the future, we may provide perquisites in limited circumstances, such as where we believe they are appropriate to assist our executives in the performance of their duties, to make our executives more efficient and effective, and/or for recruitment, motivation, or retention purposes. All future practices with respect to perquisites or other personal benefits will be approved and subject to periodic review by the Compensation Committee.

While we intend to continue to maintain our current benefits and perquisites for our Named Executive Officers, we have discretion to revise, amend, or add to them. We believe these benefits and perquisites are at competitive levels for comparable companies.

Severance Benefits

Our Board of Directors recognized that it needed to provide competitive compensation packages to attract experienced and skilled executives in a dynamic labor market, including competitive severance packages. We believe that the severance benefits provided by the employment agreements with our Named Executive Officers, among other things, allows them to maintain continued focus and dedication to their assigned duties to maximize stockholder value. In 2012, our Board of Directors adopted an Executive Severance Plan, applicable to new executives at the Senior Vice President level and higher hired after December 1, 2012, that provides severance benefits consistent with those found in the Company's standard employment agreement, and the Company contemporaneously revised its form of employment agreement to reference the severance benefits provided by the Executive Severance Plan. A discussion of the severance benefits of our Named Executive Officers is explained in greater detail under "Potential Payments on Termination or Change in Control" set forth below.

Approach to Fiscal Year 2013 Compensation

In February 2013, pursuant to the request of the Compensation Committee, Pay Governance LLC completed an evaluation of the total compensation package offered to our Named Executive Officers and other senior vice presidents and vice presidents. Such evaluation compared Company compensation levels for 13 executive positions to data from the following sources: the Towers Watson 2011/2012 Survey Report on Top Management Compensation and proxy-reported compensation for peer telecommunications companies. The evaluation determined that, on average, the total compensation of

Table of Contents

the executives was below competitive survey and peer company data due to the below competitive equity compensation. Specifically, the evaluation concluded that, on average, current executive base salaries were positioned near the 50th percentile of the competitive survey and peer company data, current target annual performance payments were positioned between the 50th and 62.5th percentiles of the competitive survey and peer company data, and our long-term incentive compensation (as a percentage of base salary) was below the 50th percentile of the competitive survey and peer company data for the NEOs. Target total cash compensation (the sum of base salary and target annual performance compensation) was, on average, between the 50th and 62.5th percentiles of the competitive survey and peer company data, while target total direct compensation (the sum of base salary, target annual performance compensation, and long-term incentive compensation) was, on average, 7% below the 50th percentile of the competitive survey and peer company data.

Other Compensation Policies

Stock Ownership Guidelines

Our Board of Directors believes that ownership of our common stock by our directors and officers promotes a focus on long-term growth and aligns the interests of our directors and officers with those of our stockholders. As a result, our Board of Directors, in October 2010, adopted stock ownership guidelines requiring our Chief Executive Officer, senior vice presidents, and non-employee directors to achieve, not later than five years after the later of the date of adoption of the stock ownership guidelines and the date the individual becomes Chief Executive Officer, senior vice president, or non-employee director, ownership of our common stock with a value at least as great as the values noted below:

Chief Executive Officer and senior vice presidents 200% of annual base salary

Non-employee directors 200% of annual cash retainer

Such ownership includes ownership of restricted as well as unrestricted shares of common stock, whether owned by the individual, jointly, or by the individual's revocable living trust. All of our named executive officers have met the ownership guidelines or have time remaining under the guidelines.

Prohibition Against Certain Equity Transactions

We have a policy regarding hedging the economic risk of the ownership of shares of our common stock which prohibits the Named Executive Officers from engaging in short sales and similar arrangements involving our common stock.

Compensation Recovery Policy

Once final rules contemplated by the Dodd-Frank Act are issued regarding clawback policies, we intend to develop a policy regarding retroactive adjustments to our Named Executive Officers' compensation in situations where such compensation was predicated upon the achievement of financial results that subsequently were the subject of a financial restatement.

Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis contained in this Proxy Statement. Based on this review and discussion, the Compensation Committee has recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and

Table of Contents

Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement and incorporated into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted By:
The Compensation Committee
Warren H. Haruki, Chairman
Walter A. Dods, Jr.
Bernard R. Phillips III

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in any of the Company's filings under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that might incorporate future filings, including this Proxy Statement, in whole or in part, the Compensation Committee Report shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any such filings, unless we specifically incorporate these reports by reference in some other filed document.

Relationship between Compensation Plans and Risk

We believe that the Company's compensation programs, either individually or in the aggregate, do not encourage executives or employees to undertake unnecessary or excessive risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us. We note the following mitigating factors:

The Compensation Committee sets the performance goals for our annual Performance Compensation Plan. These goals typically are objective financial goals which the Compensation Committee believes are appropriately correlated with stockholder value;

The use of equity awards fosters executive retention and aligns our executives' interests with those of our stockholders;

The use of a long-term incentive vehicle, restricted stock units, that vest over a number of years and serve to align our executives' interests with those of our stockholders; and

Stock ownership guidelines for senior executives, monitored by the Compensation Committee, that encourage alignment with stockholder interests over the long term.

Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth information regarding compensation earned during 2012, 2011, and 2010 by our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, the three other most highly compensated executive officers who were serving as executive officers at the end of 2012, and one former executive who would have been among the three other most highly compensated executive officers had he been an executive officer at year end.

Table of Contents**Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)(4)	Stock Awards (\$)(5)	Option Awards (\$)(6)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(7)	Change in Pension Value and Non-qualified Deferred Compensation (\$)(8)	All Other Compensation (\$)(9)	Total (\$)
Eric K. Yeaman President and Chief Executive Officer	2012	706,231		567,472		494,362		24,982	1,796,046
	2011	696,000		0		572,982		22,341	1,291,323
	2010	696,000	2,218,350	2,547,158		636,696		624,532	6,722,736
Robert F. Reich Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2012	325,908		163,044		158,702		20,629	668,283
	2011	320,000		0		179,348		20,585	519,933
	2010	320,000	327,930	509,442		193,204		21,918	1,372,494
Kurt Hoffman(1) Chief Operating Officer	2012	342,819		197,737		167,212		106,534	814,303
	2011	300,000		784,453		180,482		61,018	1,325,953
	2010								
John T. Komeiji Senior Vice President and General Counsel	2012	323,546		161,856		147,634		20,929	653,965
	2011	317,200		0		171,799		20,848	509,847
	2010	317,200	327,930	504,978		191,514		22,178	1,363,800
Michael E. Czerwinski(2) Senior Vice President Customer Operations	2012	294,583		47,831		85,075		20,854	448,342
	2011	159,500		253,721		53,396		42,915	509,531
	2010								
Bradley J. Fisher(3) Senior Vice President Strategy and Marketing	2012	298,698		11,184		83,891		22,001	415,773
	2011	34,038		257,049		9,556		453,082	753,7251
	2010								

- (1) Mr. Hoffman's employment with the Company terminated October 5, 2012.
- (2) Mr. Czerwinski's employment with the Company as Senior Vice President Customer Operations commenced June 15, 2011.
- (3) Mr. Fisher's employment with the Company as Senior Vice President Strategy and Marketing commenced November 21, 2011. He previously served as a consultant for the Company.
- (4) Represents one-time cash performance payments earned for the fiscal year identified in column (b) under the Company's Special Performance Program.
- (5) Represents the aggregate grant date fair values, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, of restricted stock unit awards under the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan. There can be no assurance that these grant date fair values will ever be realized by the Named Executive Officers. See the "Grants of Plan-Based Awards" table below for information on restricted stock unit awards made in fiscal 2012.
- (6) Represents cash performance payments earned for the fiscal year identified in column (b) under the Company's Performance Compensation Plan.
- (7) "All Other Compensation" in 2012 includes: (i) amounts contributed by the Company to its 401(k) plan (Mr. Yeaman \$17,090, Mr. Reich \$17,267, Mr. Hoffman \$8,203, Mr. Komeiji \$17,083, Mr. Czerwinski \$16,383, and Mr. Fisher \$17,413), (ii) severance amounts paid to Mr. Hoffman in the amount of \$95,254, (iii) premiums paid with respect to supplemental term life, accidental death and dismemberment, disability and health benefits for the benefit of the Named Executive Officers, and (iv) reimbursement of out-of-pocket medical expenses for each of the Named Executive Officers.

Employment Agreements

Each of Messrs. Yeaman, Hoffman, Reich, Komeiji, and Czerwinski has entered into an employment agreement with us.

Each of the employment agreements of Messrs. Hoffman, Reich, Komeiji, and Czerwinski has no specified term but instead provides that the Named Executive Officer is an employee at-will of the

Table of Contents

Company and that either party may terminate the employment agreement at any time. Mr. Yeaman's employment agreement provides for a term of four years beginning with the date of the Company's emergence from chapter 11 bankruptcy, renewable by the Board upon written notice no later than ninety days prior to the end of such new four-year term. Under the terms of his employment agreement, Mr. Yeaman is eligible to receive an annual performance payment under our Performance Compensation Plan, pursuant to which performance payments are tied to achieving certain corporate and/or individual performance goals, with a target performance payment equal to 100% of his annual salary and a maximum opportunity of 120% of his annual salary. His agreement also provides that his potential lump sum cash severance payment in the event of termination without cause or for good reason will be two times the sum of his annual base salary and his target level payment under the Performance Compensation Plan.

Under the terms of their employment agreements, Messrs. Hoffman, Reich, Komeiji, and Czerwinski also are each eligible to receive an annual performance payment under our Performance Compensation Plan, pursuant to which performance payments are tied to achieving certain corporate and/or individual performance goals, with target performance payments ranging from 40% to 75% of annual salary. They also are entitled to participate in our Equity Incentive Plan and our employee benefit plans, programs and arrangements at a level commensurate with their position. Mr. Reich's employment agreement was amended in December 2012 to provide him with the severance benefits available under the Company's Executive Severance Plan adopted by the Board of Directors at the same time. See "Executive Compensation Program *Severance Benefits*" above for a discussion of the severance benefits available under the Executive Severance Plan. His employment agreement previously did not provide the severance benefits included in the employment agreements of other Senior Vice Presidents of the Company. Mr. Czerwinski's employment with the Company terminated effective March 13, 2013 as part of an internal reorganization, and he will be entitled to receive the severance benefits provided under his employment agreement.

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

The following table summarizes pertinent information concerning plan-based awards granted to the Named Executive Officers during 2012:

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1)			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards			All Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Underlying Stock	All Other Awards: Number of Securities	Exercise Price (\$/Sh)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards
		Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (#)(2)	Maximum (#)	(#)(2)	(#)		(\$)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)
Eric K. Yeaman President and Chief Executive Officer and Director	3/12/12	531,923	70,923	851,077							
Robert F. Reich	3/12/12							17,428			283,728
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	3/12/12	158,880	211,840	254,208							
Kurt Hoffman	3/12/12								5,007		81,514
Chief Operating Officer	3/12/12	192,836	257,114	308,537					5,007		81,514
John T. Komeiji	3/12/12										
Senior Vice President and General Counsel	3/12/12	157,729	210,305	252,366							
Michael E. Czerwinski	3/12/12								4,971		80,928
Senior Vice President Customer Operations	3/12/12	88,375	117,833	141,400					4,971		80,928
Bradley J. Fisher	3/12/12										
Senior Vice President Strategy and Marketing	3/12/12	89,609	119,479	143,375							
	3/12/12								343		5,584
									343		5,584

(1) Represents potential payouts under the Company's Performance Compensation Plan. The actual payouts are reflected in column (g) of the Summary Compensation Table.

(2) Each restricted stock unit award listed in columns (g) was granted under the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan and represents half of the restricted stock unit awards granted on the grant dates shown in column (b). These restricted stock unit awards are performance-based and vest over four years subject to the performance goal being met each of the four years beginning 2012. The other half of the restricted stock unit awards granted on the grant date shown in column (b) are listed in column (i). These restricted stock unit awards are time-based and vest in equal annual increments over a four-year period starting from the grant dates shown in column (b).

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

The following table summarizes the outstanding equity award holdings held by the Named Executive Officers at December 31, 2012.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

Name	Option Awards					Stock Awards			Equity Incentive Awards: Market or Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$)(2)
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Exercisable Options (#)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)	Equity Incentive Awards: Number of Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#)	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Eric K. Yeaman President and Chief Executive Officer and Director								163,242	3,183,219
Robert F. Reich Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer								35,693	696,014
Kurt Hoffman(1) Chief Operating Officer								0	0
John T. Komeiji Senior Vice President and General Counsel								35,394	690,183
Michael E. Czerwinski Senior Vice President Customer Operations								10,122	197,379
Bradley J. Fisher Senior Vice President Strategy and Marketing								14,178	276,471

(1) Upon Mr. Hoffman's termination of employment effective October 5, 2012, his unvested restricted stock units were cancelled.

(2) The market value of the restricted stock units that have not vested is calculated by multiplying the number of units that have not vested by the closing price of our common stock on December 31, 2012, which was \$19.50 per share.

Table of Contents**Option Exercises and Stock Vested**

The following table sets forth the number of shares acquired on vesting of restricted stock units by each of the Named Executive Officers during fiscal year 2012. The table also presents the value realized upon such vesting, as calculated based on the closing price per share of our common stock on the vesting date. Amounts presented in the "Valued Realized on Vesting" column under "Stock Awards" do not necessarily mean that the Named Executive Officer has actually sold the vested shares for cash. None of our Named Executive Officers exercised stock options during fiscal year 2012.

Name	Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)
Eric K. Yeaman President and Chief Executive Officer and Director	50,635	836,912
Robert F. Reich Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	10,126	167,383
Kurt Hoffman Chief Operating Officer	9,162	124,624
John T. Komeiji Senior Vice President and General Counsel	10,038	165,911
Michael E. Czerwinski Senior Vice President Customer Operations	2,360	40,372
Bradley J. Fisher Senior Vice President Strategy and Marketing	4,434	75,603

Pension Benefits

None of the Named Executive Officers participate in or have account balances in the Hawaiian Telcom Management Pension Plan.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

None of the Named Executive Officers participate in or have account balances in a non-qualified defined contribution plan or other deferred compensation plan maintained by the Company.

Potential Payments on Termination or Change in Control

The quantities stated below assume termination as of December 31, 2012, except for Mr. Hoffman, whose employment terminated effective October 5, 2012, and Mr. Czerwinski, whose employment terminated effective March 13, 2013.

Upon termination of Mr. Yeaman's employment either by us without cause or by him for good reason as of December 31, 2012, he is entitled to receive a lump sum equal to (i) two times the sum of his annual base salary and his annual performance payment at the target level under the Performance Compensation Plan (\$2,838,462), and (ii) the amount of his annual performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan deemed to be earned for the most recent fiscal year but not yet paid, in the event the termination occurs after the beginning of the year but prior to the date of payment (\$494,362).

Upon termination of Mr. Reich's employment either by us without cause or by him for good reason, he is entitled to (i) continue to receive his base salary for twelve months following termination (\$326,400), subject to termination in the event he breaches any of the covenants described in his employment agreement, (ii) continue to receive, for 12 months, coverage for himself and any

Table of Contents

dependents under the Company group health benefit plans in which they were entitled to participate immediately prior to the date of termination other than certain supplemental coverage plans available to senior executives (\$11,072), and (iii) a pro-rata portion of his performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan for the year of termination (\$158,702), to be paid at the same time as performance payments are paid to the other executive officers. His employment agreement also provides that, upon termination of his employment due to his death or disability, he or his estate is entitled to receive a lump sum equal to six months of his base salary (\$163,200) and the pro-rata portion of his performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan based upon the Company's year-to-date performance (\$158,702), to be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee.

Upon termination of Mr. Komeiji's employment either by us without cause or by him for good reason, he is entitled to (i) continue to receive his base salary for twelve months following termination (\$324,000), subject to termination in the event he breaches any of the covenants described in his employment agreement, (ii) continue to receive, for 12 months, coverage for himself and any dependents under the Company group health benefit plans in which they were entitled to participate immediately prior to the date of termination other than certain supplemental coverage plans available to senior executives (\$15,658), and (iii) a pro-rata portion of his performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan for the year of termination (\$147,634), to be paid at the same time as performance payments are paid to the other executive officers. His employment agreement also provides that, upon termination of his employment due to his death or disability, he or his estate is entitled to receive a lump sum equal to six months of his base salary (\$162,000) and the pro-rata portion of his performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan based upon the Company's year-to-date performance (\$147,634), to be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee.

Upon termination of Mr. Fisher's employment either by us without cause or by him for good reason, he is entitled to (i) continue to receive his base salary for twelve months following termination (\$298,400), subject to termination in the event he breaches any of the covenants described in his employment agreement or becomes employed with another company based on more than twenty hours per week, (ii) continue to receive, for 12 months, coverage for himself and any dependents under the Company group health benefit plans in which they were entitled to participate immediately prior to the date of termination other than certain supplemental coverage plans available to senior executives (\$16,246.80), and (iii) a pro-rata portion of his performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan for the year of termination (\$83,891), to be paid at the same time as performance payments are paid to the other executive officers. His employment agreement also provides that, upon termination of his employment due to his death or disability, he or his estate is entitled to receive a lump sum equal to six months of his base salary (\$149,200) and the pro-rata portion of his performance payment under the Performance Compensation Plan based upon the Company's year-to-date performance (\$83,891), to be determined in good faith by the Compensation Committee.

In addition, upon termination of employment, each of the Named Executive Officers other than Mr. Hoffman will be entitled to receive the sum of his unpaid annual base salary through the date of termination, any unpaid expenses, and any unpaid accrued vacation pay. None of the Named Executive Officers was entitled to a payment in the event of a change in control of the Company as of December 31, 2012. As described in "Executive Compensation Program *2010 Equity Incentive Plan*" above, the Named Executive Officers also have certain vesting rights with respect to their unvested restricted stock units in the event of a change in control of the Company as of December 31, 2012 or termination by us without cause, by them for good reason, or due to death or disability.

Mr. Hoffman's employment with the Company terminated effective October 5, 2012. In accordance with the terms of his employment agreement and a waiver of claims, Mr. Hoffman is entitled to receive continued base salary payments and continued health care coverage benefits until the earlier of

Table of Contents

(i) 18 months following October 5, 2012, or (ii) the first date he violates any of the restrictive covenants contained in his employment agreement.

Mr. Czerwinski's employment with the Company terminated effective March 13, 2013. In accordance with the terms of his employment agreement and a waiver of claims, Mr. Czerwinski is entitled to receive continued base salary payments and continued health care coverage benefits until the earlier of (i) 12 months following March 13, 2013, or (ii) the first date he violates any of the restrictive covenants contained in his employment agreement.

The following table reflects the total payments that each Named Executive Officer other than Messrs. Hoffman and Czerwinski would have received if the following events had occurred as of December 31, 2012:

Name	Termination w/o Cause or Resignation for Good Reason(1)	Termination Upon Death/Disability(1)	Change in Control(3)
Eric K. Yeaman	\$ 4,335,765(2)	\$ 1,171,331	\$ 1,171,331(2)
Robert F. Reich	\$ 745,276(2)	\$ 579,830(2)	\$ 798,935
John T. Komeiji	\$ 734,289(2)	\$ 556,631(2)	\$ 792,246
Bradley J. Fisher	\$ 489,578(2)	\$ 324,131(2)	\$ 276,471

- (1) Represents the sum of cash payments pursuant to the Named Executive Officers' employment agreements and the value of their RSUs that vest as a result of such termination.
- (2) Assumes that the applicable performance goal was achieved with respect to the Named Executive Officers' unvested performance-based RSUs scheduled to vest at the next determination date.
- (3) Represents the value of the Named Executive Officers' RSUs that vest as a result of a change in control. In addition, each Named Executive Officer would receive the payment listed in the column "Termination w/o Cause or Resignation for Good Reason" in the event that executive is terminated without cause or terminates for good reason upon a change in control.

Each employment agreement prohibits the Named Executive Officer from competing with us or soliciting our employees and customers during the term of his employment and for one year (two years in the case of Mr. Yeaman) following the termination of his employment or the expiration of his term of employment, whichever is longer. Each employment agreement also places restrictions on the dissemination by the Named Executive Officer of confidential or proprietary information.

Compensation of Directors

The compensation of directors is determined by the full Board. The Compensation Committee annually reviews the non-employee director compensation (including cash retainer, cash meeting fees and equity awards) and recommends to the full Board for adoption any changes to such compensation. Changes to non-employee director compensation are made to ensure that their compensation levels are market-competitive and that the compensation structure supports our business objectives, aligns the directors' interests with those of our stockholders, and reflects competitive best practices. In 2009, at the request of the Compensation Committee, Towers Watson performed a review of non-employee director compensation. Based on Towers Watson's review, which included a competitive benchmark analysis of the non-employee director compensation at our peer companies, the Board, in 2010, following our emergence from chapter 11 bankruptcy, approved a cash and equity compensation structure for our non-employee directors which is discussed below.

Table of Contents

Non-employee directors receive an annual cash retainer of \$50,000, an additional \$25,000 if also serving as Chairman of the Board, and an additional annual fee if also serving as Chairperson of a committee of the Board (\$15,000 for the Audit Committee, \$10,000 for the Compensation Committee, and \$5,000 for each of the Nominating and Governance Committee and Executive Committee). The non-employee directors also receive an attendance fee of \$1,500 per Board or committee meeting attended in person or telephonically. In addition, we granted restricted stock units pursuant to our 2010 Equity Incentive Plan to each non-employee director in 2012.

In November 2012, the Compensation Committee engaged Pay Governance to evaluate the Company's non-employee director compensation. As a result of the evaluation, Pay Governance recommended increasing the value of the annual restricted stock unit grants and the director stock ownership guideline to be within competitive levels and changing the vesting period from three years to one year to align with the directors' one-year term. It also determined that the total compensation for Board Committee members was competitive but that the total compensation for the Chairman of the Board was below competitive, and recommended increasing the Chairman's compensation to \$80,000 in annual cash retainer and \$80,000 in annual equity.

The following table sets forth a summary of the compensation earned by our non-employee directors during 2012.

Director Compensation

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)(1)	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
					(f)		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Kurt M. Cellar	74,000	11,233				0	85,233
Walter A. Dods, Jr.	76,000	11,233				0	87,233
Warren H. Haruki	87,000	11,233				0	98,233
Richard A. Jalkut	104,000	18,738				0	122,738
Steven C. Oldham	92,000	11,233				0	103,233
Bernard R. Phillips III	77,000	11,233				0	88,233

(1) "Stock Awards" represent the aggregate grant date fair values, computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 718, of restricted stock unit awards issued to non-employee directors pursuant to the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan. There can be no assurance that these grant date fair values will ever be realized by the non-employee directors.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

The members of our Compensation Committee are Messrs. Haruki (Chairman), Dods, and Phillips. None of the members of our Compensation Committee serves, or has served, as an officer or employee of the Company. None of our executive officers currently serves, or in the past year has served, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers who serve on our Board or Compensation Committee.

Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

The Company's Code of Business Conduct and conflict of interest procedures require employees to disclose any actual or perceived conflict of interest and any material transaction that could be

Table of Contents

expected to give rise to a conflict of interest, including a potential related party transaction. Any potential conflict of interest must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer, or if the conflict of interest involves a material amount, by the Board of Directors, based on consideration of all relevant facts and circumstances. Directors also are required, pursuant to the Code of Conduct of the Board of Directors of the Company, to disclose any situation that involves, or may reasonably be expected to involve, a conflict of interest with the Company. Such disclosure must be made promptly to the Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Table of Contents

OTHER INFORMATION

Stockholder Proposals for the 2014 Annual Meeting

Proposals of stockholders intended to be presented pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act at the Company's Annual Meeting in 2014 must be received at the Company's headquarters on or before November 14, 2013 in order to be considered for inclusion in the 2013 Proxy Statement and proxy. In order for proposals of stockholders made outside of Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act to be considered "timely" within the meaning of Rule 14a-4(c) under the Exchange Act, such proposals must be received at the Company's headquarters not later than February 2, 2014. The Company's Bylaws require that proposals of stockholders made outside of Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act be submitted, in accordance with section 2.9 of the Bylaws, not earlier than January 3, 2014 and not later than February 2, 2014; provided, however, that in the event the 2014 Annual Meeting is called for a date that is not within 30 days before or after the anniversary date of the 2013 Annual Meeting, notice by the stockholders in order to be timely must be received by the Company not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the day on which notice of the date of the 2014 Annual Meeting was mailed or public disclosure of the date of the 2014 Annual Meeting was made, whichever occurs first.

OTHER MATTERS

The Board knows of no other matters to be presented for stockholder action at the Annual Meeting. However, if other matters do properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof, the Board intends that the persons named in the proxies will vote upon such matters in accordance with their best judgment.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ FRANCIS K. MUKAI

Francis K. Mukai
Secretary

Dated: March 13, 2013

Table of Contents**Appendix A****Schedule of Adjusted EBITDA Calculation
(Unaudited, dollars in thousands)**

	For Three Months Ended December 31,		For the Year Ended December 31,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Net income	\$ 98,639	\$ 6,511	\$ 109,982	\$ 26,155
Income tax benefit	(91,016)	(528)	(91,362)	(1,341)
Interest expense and other income and expense, net	5,262	6,467	27,236	25,274
Reorganization items		170		1,050
Depreciation and amortization	18,943	16,203	70,908	63,806
Non-cash stock compensation	529	646	1,872	2,135
EBITDA	32,357	29,469	118,636	117,079
Non-recurring costs	910	386	2,565	1,890
Severance and lease termination costs		(98)	752	2,102
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 33,267	\$ 29,757	\$ 121,953	\$ 121,071

A-1

