

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

**SCHEDULE 14A**  
(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

(Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  o

Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule14a-6(e)(2))
- x Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Under Rule 14a-12

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**STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- x No fee required.
  - Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
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(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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

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

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(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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(5) Total fee paid:

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(1) Amount previously paid:

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

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(3) Filing Party:

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(4) Date Filed:

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**STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P.**  
**590 Madison Avenue, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**New York, New York, 10022**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LIMITED PARTNERS**  
**TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 30, 2012**

To the Limited Partners of Steel Partners Holdings L.P.:

The Annual Meeting of Limited Partners (the "Meeting") of STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (the "Company"), will be held at the Portofino Hotel, located at 260 Portofino Way, Redondo Beach, CA 90277, on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., local time, for the following purposes:

1. To elect five (5) independent directors to serve on the Board of Directors (the "Board" or "Board of Directors") of our general partner, Steel Partners Holdings GP Inc. ("General Partner"), until the limited partners' annual meeting in 2013 and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL PARTNER RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE NOMINEES.**

These proposals are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this notice. The Meeting may be postponed or canceled by action of the Board of Directors of the General Partner upon public notice given prior to the time previously scheduled for the Meeting or adjourned by action of the Board of Directors of the General Partner. Only limited partners of record at the close of business on October 8, 2012 are entitled to vote at the Meeting.

All limited partners are cordially invited to attend the Meeting in person. However, to ensure your representation at the Meeting, you are urged to vote as promptly as possible. Any limited partner attending the Meeting may vote in person even if such limited partner has returned a proxy, as long as the units are held in the limited partner's name or the brokerage firm, bank or other holder of record acting as the limited partner's nominee confirms the limited partner's ownership in writing. If you have any further questions concerning the Meeting or any of the proposals, please contact our proxy solicitor, MacKenzie Partners, Inc., at 105 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016 or call MacKenzie toll-free at 1-800-322-2885.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Warren Lichtenstein  
Warren Lichtenstein  
Chairman

October 12, 2012

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**Important Notice Regarding The Availability Of Proxy Materials  
For The Annual Meeting Of Limited Partners To Be Held On October 30, 2012**

**We are furnishing proxy materials for the Meeting on the Internet in addition to mailing paper copies of the materials to each limited partner of record on the Record Date. This Proxy Statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 are available at: [www.steelpartners.com](http://www.steelpartners.com).**

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**STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P.**

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PROXY STATEMENT

FOR

ANNUAL MEETING OF LIMITED PARTNERS

TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 30, 2012

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**Date, Time, Place and Purpose of the Meeting**

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Steel Partners Holdings GP Inc. (“General Partner”), the general partner of Steel Partners Holdings L.P. (the “Company”), for use at the annual meeting of limited partners of the Company and at all adjournments and postponements thereof (the “Meeting”). The Meeting will be held at the Portofino Hotel, located at 260 Portofino Way, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 at 9:00 a.m. local time, for the following purposes:

1. To elect five (5) independent directors to serve on the Board of Directors (the “Board” or “Board of Directors”) of our General Partner until the limited partners’ annual meeting in 2013 and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL PARTNER RECOMMENDS A VOTE “FOR” THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE NOMINEES.**

**Record Date, Voting and Quorum**

The Board of Directors of the General Partner has fixed the close of business on October 8, 2012 as the record date (the “Record Date”) for the determination of limited partners entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof. Accordingly, only limited partners of record at the close of business on the Record Date are entitled to notice of, and shall be entitled to vote at, the Meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof. As of the close of business on the Record Date, there were 25,183,039 outstanding limited partnership units of the Company, no par value, and 6,939,647 outstanding Class B common units, no par value (collectively, the “LP Units”). Each LP Unit entitles the holder thereof to cast one vote on each matter submitted for a vote of the limited partners at the Meeting. The Class B common units have the same rights as the common units, except that they may not be sold in the public market until the capital account allocable to such Class B common units is equal to the capital account allocable to the common units. There was no other class of voting securities of the Company outstanding on the Record Date. The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding LP Units is required for a quorum. The directors must be elected by the holders of a plurality of LP Units present at the meeting.

LP Units that are voted “FOR” a proposal or marked “WITHHOLD” are treated as being present at the Meeting for purposes of establishing a quorum and are also treated as LP Units entitled to vote at the Meeting with respect to such proposal.

#### **Treatment and Effect of Abstentions and “Broker Non-Votes”**

Broker “non-votes” are included for purposes of determining whether a quorum of LP Units is present at the Meeting. A broker “non-vote” occurs when a nominee holding LP Units for the beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. Votes withheld in the election of directors and broker non-votes, if any, will not be counted towards the election of any person as director.

#### **Voting of Proxies; Revocability of Proxies**

The Board of Directors is asking for your proxy. Giving the Board of Directors your proxy means you authorize it to vote your LP Units at the Meeting in the manner you direct. You may vote for all, some or none of the director nominees. All valid proxies received prior to the Meeting will be voted. All LP Units represented by a proxy will be voted, and where a limited partner specifies by means of the proxy a choice with respect to any matter to be acted upon, the LP Units will be voted in accordance with the specification so made. If no choice is indicated on the proxy, the LP Units will be voted FOR the five (5) director nominees and as the proxy holders may determine in their discretion with respect to any other matters that properly come before the Meeting. A limited partner giving a proxy has the power to revoke his or her proxy, at any time prior to the time it is voted, by delivering to the Secretary of the General Partner a written instrument that revokes the proxy or a validly executed proxy with a later date, or by attending the Meeting and voting in person. The form of proxy accompanying this proxy statement confers discretionary authority upon the named proxyholders with respect to amendments or variations to the matters identified in the accompanying notice and with respect to any other matters which may properly come before the Meeting. As of the date of this Proxy Statement, management of the Company knows of no such amendment or variation or of any matters expected to come before the Meeting which are not referred to in the accompanying notice.

Your vote is very important to us regardless of the number of LP Units you own. A plurality of the votes cast will be sufficient to elect the five (5) director nominees. Whether or not you are able to attend the Meeting in person, please complete, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and return it as soon as possible or submit your proxy by telephone or over the Internet following the instructions on the proxy card. Granting a proxy will not limit your right to vote in person if you wish to attend the Meeting and vote in person. Your prompt cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

#### **Attendance at the Meeting**

Only holders of LP Units, their proxy holders and the Company’s invited guests may attend the Meeting. If you wish to attend the Meeting in person but you hold your LP Units through someone else, such as a broker, you must bring proof of your ownership and identification with a photo at the Meeting. For example, you could bring an account statement showing that you beneficially owned LP Units of the Company as of the Record Date as acceptable proof of ownership.

## **No Right of Appraisal**

Neither the Delaware Limited Partnership Act, nor the Company's Limited Partnership Agreement (the "Partnership Agreement") provides for appraisal or other similar rights for dissenting unitholders in connection with any the proposal to be voted upon at the Meeting.

## **Costs of Solicitation**

The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by the Company. Such costs include the reasonable expenses of brokerage firms and others for forwarding the proxy materials to beneficial owners of LP Units. In addition to solicitation by mail, solicitation may be made by certain directors, officers and employees of the General Partner and may be made in person or by telephone. No additional compensation will be paid to any director, officer or employee of the General Partner for such solicitation.

In addition, the Company has retained the firm of MacKenzie Partners, Inc. to assist in the solicitation of proxies.

You are urged to review carefully the information contained in the enclosed proxy statement prior to deciding how to vote your LP Units.

The notice and proxy statement are first being mailed to our limited partners on or about October 12, 2012.

After carefully reading and considering the information contained in this proxy statement, you should either complete, date and sign the enclosed proxy card and mail the proxy card in the enclosed return envelope as soon as possible or promptly submit your proxy by telephone or over the Internet following the instructions on the proxy card. If you elect to submit your proxy by telephone or via the Internet, you will need to provide the control number set forth on the enclosed proxy card.

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The nominees listed below have been nominated to serve as directors of the General Partner until the 2013 annual meeting of limited partners (subject to their respective earlier removal, death or resignation) and until their successors are elected and qualified.

### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL PARTNER RECOMMENDS A VOTE “FOR” THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE NOMINEES

#### Information with Respect to Director Nominees

Set forth below are the names, ages, business background and qualifications of the Company’s directors and their principal occupations at present and for the past five years. Except as otherwise stated below, there are, to the knowledge of the Company, no agreements or understandings by which these individuals were so selected. No family relationships exist between any directors or executive officers, as such term is defined in Item 402 of Regulation S-K promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). The Company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) under the symbol SPLP and the Board has adopted independence standards for directors that conform to the standards required by the NYSE for listed companies. Based on the Company’s director independence standards, the Board has affirmatively determined that each of Messrs. Bergamo, McNiff, Mullen and Tessler and General Neal, if elected, will be, independent. All of the directors have served in such capacity since 2009.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position</b>
Warren G. Lichtenstein	47	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Jack Howard	51	President, Director
Anthony Bergamo(1)(2)(3)(6)	66	Director
John P. McNiff(1)(4)(5)(6)	51	Director
Joseph L. Mullen(1)(2)(6)(7)	66	Director
General Richard I. Neal(1)(2)(4)	70	Director
Allan R. Tessler(1)(4)	76	Director

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- (1) Independent Director.
  - (2) Member of Audit Committee.
  - (3) Chairman of Audit Committee.
  - (4) Member of Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.
  - (5) Chairman of Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.
  - (6) Member of Compensation Committee.
  - (7) Chairman of Compensation Committee.



**Anthony Bergamo** has been a member of our Board of Directors since July 15, 2009. Mr. Bergamo held various positions with MB Real Estate, a property development and management company based in New York City and Chicago, since April 1996, including the position of Vice Chairman since May 2003. Mr. Bergamo served as Managing Director with Milstein Hotel Group, a hotel operator, since April 1996. He has also served as the Chief Executive Officer of Niagara Falls Redevelopment, LLC, a real estate development company, since August 1998. Mr. Bergamo was a director of Lone Star Steakhouse & Saloon, Inc., an owner and operator of restaurants, from May 2002 until December 2006, at which time such company was sold to a private equity fund. At the time of such sale, Mr. Bergamo was the Chairman of the Audit Committee of Lone Star Steakhouse & Saloon, Inc. He has also been a director since 1995, a Trustee since 1986 and currently is Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Executive and Compensation Committees of Dime Community Bancorp. Mr. Bergamo is also the Founder of the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation, a foundation that provides economic assistance to both federal and local law enforcement officers suffering from serious illness and to communities recovering from natural disasters, and has served as its Chairman since 1988. Mr. Bergamo serves on the New York State Commission for Sentencing Reform, is a Board Member of New York Offtrack Betting Corporation and serves on the New York State Judicial Screening Committee. Mr. Bergamo serves as Chairman of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors. He earned a B.S. in History from Temple University, and a J.D. from New York Law School. He is admitted to the New York, New Jersey and Federal Bars, the US Court of Appeals and the US Supreme Court. Mr. Bergamo's qualifications to sit on our Board of Directors include his broad experience as chief executive officer and operating officer of public and private companies and his more than fifteen years of service on boards of public companies and various public service organizations.

**John P. McNiff** has been a member of our Board of Directors since July 15, 2009. Mr. McNiff co-founded Mera Capital, an investment fund, in 2007. He has been chairman of Discovery Capital Management, LLC, a fund of funds, since 2004. Mr. McNiff has served as a director of ICM Insurance, a New York corporation, since 1999. In 1993, Mr. McNiff co-founded Longwood Investment Advisors, Inc., a Pennsylvania corporation, and served as President from 1993 until 2005. In 1991, Mr. McNiff also co-founded Radnor Holdings Corporation, a diversified chemical manufacturer, and served as its Senior Vice President, from 1991 until 2004. From 1988 until 1991, Mr. McNiff served as Vice President of Corporate Development of Airgas, a publicly traded New York Stock Exchange company. From 1986 until 1988, Mr. McNiff was an associate at the law firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell. Mr. McNiff has served on the boards of Colonial Penn Insurance Company, Lincoln Mortgage Company, Chartwell Investment Partners, Radnor Holdings Corporation, Insurance Capital Management, Cooke & Bieler, and Alliance Healthcare. He holds a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from New York University School of Law. Mr. McNiff is qualified to serve on our Board of Directors due to his extensive knowledge of securities law and financial management and his service on numerous boards.

**Joseph L. Mullen** has been a member of our Board of Directors since July 15, 2009. Mr. Mullen served as a director of our predecessor entity WebFinancial Corporation (“WebFinancial”) from 1995 until December 2008. Since January 1994, Mr. Mullen has served as Managing Partner of Li Moran International, Inc., a management consulting company, and has functioned as a senior officer overseeing the merchandise and marketing departments for such companies as Leewards Creative Crafts Inc. and Office Depot of Warsaw, Poland. Mr. Mullen’s qualifications to sit on our board include his experience as a member of various audit committees, including membership on the audit committee of WebFinancial, as well as over 20 years experience working with various banks and retailers and as vice president of Hills Department Stores with line item responsibility.

**General Richard I. Neal** has been a member of our Board of Directors since July 15, 2009. General Neal became President of Sisvel US, Inc. in 2010 and is President of Audio MPEG since 2003; both companies license intellectual property. Additionally, General Neal was President of IP Global and Safer Display, both IP licensing companies. He was the Senior Mentor for the United States Marine Corps for five years and has been a Senior Fellow for the National Defense University since his retirement from the Marines Corps in 1998. General Neal currently serves as a director of Humanetics Corporation and is a Trustee for Norwich University and on the Board of Overseers for Northeastern University. He was recently selected to be a Senior Fellow for the Institute for Defense and Business. He was a director for United Industrial Corporation and for AgustaWestland Inc. Following graduation from Northeastern University in 1965, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. For the next thirty-five years, General Neal commanded at every level within the Marine Corps; battery, battalion, brigade and as the Second Marine Division Commander. He served two tours in the Republic of Vietnam. During Operation Desert Storm, General Neal served as the Director of Operations for U.S. Central Command and was also responsible for briefing the international press on the war. Before his retirement in 1998, General Neal’s last assignment was as the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. General Neal holds a B.S. in History and Education from Northeastern University, and a M.Ed. from Tulane University and is a graduate of the National War College. General Neal’s unique experience in negotiating licensing agreements, developing financial settlements, and collecting and distributing royalties, along with his experience as Chairman of the 38-member Board of the Military Officers Association of America that represents a membership of 375,000 and is intimately involved in governance issues and policy development, make General Neal qualified to serve on our Board of Directors.

**Allan R. Tessler** has been a member of our Board of Directors since July 15, 2009. Mr. Tessler has served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of International Financial Group, Inc., an international merchant banking firm, since 1987. Mr. Tessler served as Chief Executive Officer of Epoch Holding Corporation, a NASDAQ-listed investment management company, from February 2000 until June 2004, and has served as Chairman of the Board since May 1994. Previously, he was Co-Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer of Interactive Data Corporation (formerly Data Broadcasting Corporation), a securities market data supplier, from June 1992 until February 2000. Mr. Tessler was co-founder and Chairman of the Board of Enhance Financial Services, Inc., a public insurance holding company, from 1986 until 2001, and was Chairman of the Board of Great Dane Holdings Inc., a private diversified holding company, from 1987 until 1996. He presently is lead director of Limited Brands, Inc. and director of TD Ameritrade Holding Corporation. He serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Hudson Institute and is a member of the Board of Governors of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Mr. Tessler received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University and L.L.B. from Cornell University Law School. As a result of his broad business experience and financial expertise, together with his involvement in various public policy issues, we believe Mr. Tessler is qualified to serve on our Board of Directors.

## Additional Directors

In addition to the nominees listed above, pursuant to the Fourth Amended and Restated Management Agreement (the “Management Agreement”), dated as of May 11, 2012, by and between the Company and SP General Services LLC (“SPGS”), Steel Partners has designated Warren G. Lichtenstein and Jack Howard to serve as directors of the General Partner effective as of the date of the Meeting.

**Warren G. Lichtenstein** has served as our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer since July 15, 2009. He has served as Chairman of the Board of Handy & Harman Ltd. (formerly known as WHX Corporation) (“HNH”), a NASDAQ-listed, Delaware corporation in which the Company has a majority ownership interest, since July 2005. Mr. Lichtenstein is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of SPGS and has been associated with SPGS and its affiliates since 1990. He is a Co-Founder of Steel Partners Japan Strategic Fund (Offshore), L.P., a private investment partnership investing in Japan, and Steel Partners China Access I LP (“SPCA”), a private equity partnership investing in China. He also co-founded Steel Partners II, L.P. (“SPII”), a private investment partnership that is now a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, in 1993. Mr. Lichtenstein has served as a director of GenCorp Inc., a NYSE-listed company, since March 2008. Mr. Lichtenstein also served as the Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of SP Acquisition Holdings, Inc. (“SPAH”), a company formed for the purpose of acquiring one or more businesses or assets, from February 2007 until October 2009. He has served as a director of SL Industries, Inc. (“SLI”), which is listed on NYSE Amex, since March 2010. He previously served as a director (formerly Chairman of the Board) of SLI from January 2002 to May 2008 and served as Chief Executive Officer from February 2002 to August 2005. Mr. Lichtenstein has served as a director (currently Chairman of the Board) of Steel Excel, since October 2010. He served as a director of our predecessor, WebFinancial, a consumer and commercial lender, from 1996 to June 2005, as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from December 1997 to June 2005 and as President from December 1997 to December 2003. From May 2001 to November 2007, Mr. Lichtenstein served as a director (formerly Chairman of the Board) of United Industrial Corporation (“United Industrial”), a company principally focused on the design, production and support of defense systems, which was acquired by Textron Inc. He served as a director of KT&G Corporation, South Korea’s largest tobacco company, from March 2006 to March 2008. Mr. Lichtenstein served as a director of the NASDAQ-listed Layne Christensen Company, a provider of products and services for the water, mineral, construction and energy markets, from January 2004 to October 2006. We believe Mr. Lichtenstein is qualified to serve as Chairman of the Board due to his expertise in corporate finance, record of success in managing private investment funds and his related service as a director of, and advisor to, a diverse group of public companies, including other companies having attributes similar to the Company.

**Jack Howard** has served as our President since July 15, 2009 and has been a member of our Board of Directors since October 18, 2011. He also served as the Company's Assistant Secretary from July 15, 2009 until September 19, 2011 and as the Company's Secretary from September 19, 2011 until January 2012. He has been a registered principal of Mutual Securities, Inc., a Financial Industry Regulatory Authority registered broker-dealer, since 1989. Mr. Howard is the President of SPGS and has been associated with SPGS and its affiliates since 1993. Mr. Howard co-founded SPII in 1993. Mr. Howard has been a director of HNH since July 2005. He has been a director of Steel Excel since December 2007. Mr. Howard has also served as a director of DGT Holdings Corp. ("DGT") since September 2011. Mr. Howard served as Chairman of the Board of our predecessor, WebFinancial, from June 2005 to December 2008, as a director since 1996 and its Vice President since 1997. From 1997 to May 2000, he also served as Secretary, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of WebFinancial. Mr. Howard served as a director of SPAH from February 2007 until June 2007, and was Vice-Chairman from February 2007 until August 2007. He also served as Chief Operating Officer and Secretary of SPAH from June 2007 and February 2007, respectively, until October 2009. He currently holds the securities licenses of Series 7, Series 24, Series 55 and Series 63. We believe Mr. Howard is qualified to serve as a member of the Board due to his financial expertise and record of success as a director, chairman and top-level executive officer of numerous public companies.

### **Board Committees and Meetings**

The Board met on six occasions during the year ended December 31, 2011 and acted by written consent on four occasions. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of (i) the total number of meetings of the Board, and (ii) the total number of meetings held by all committees of the Board on which he served. All members of the Board then serving as directors attended the 2011 annual meeting of the Company's limited partners. Our policy is that our Board members are expected to attend each Annual Meeting.

There are three principal committees of the Board: the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, and the Compensation Committee.

### **Audit Committee**

The General Partner has a separately standing Audit Committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee has a charter, a current copy of which is available on the Company's website, [www.steelpartners.com](http://www.steelpartners.com). The members of the Audit Committee are Anthony Bergamo, Joseph L. Mullen, and General Richard I. Neal. Each of Messrs. Bergamo, Mullen, and General Neal are non-employee members of the Board of Directors. After reviewing the qualifications of the current members of the Audit Committee, and any relationships they may have with the General Partner that might affect their independence from the General Partner, the Board of Directors has determined that (i) all current Audit Committee members are "independent" as that concept is defined in Section 10A of the Exchange Act, (ii) all current Audit Committee members are financially literate, and (iii) Mr. Bergamo, who is independent, qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" under the applicable rules promulgated pursuant to the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee met seven times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 and acted by written consent on one occasion.

## **Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee**

The General Partner has a separately standing Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee (“Nominating Committee”). The Nominating Committee has a charter, a current copy of which is available on the Company’s website, [www.steelpartners.com](http://www.steelpartners.com). The current members of the Nominating Committee are John P. McNiff, General Richard I. Neal, and Allan R. Tessler. Each of Messrs. McNiff and Tessler and General Neal are non-employee members of the Board. The Nominating Committee evaluates and recommends to the full Board for their selection, nominees for directors. The Nominating Committee Charter provides that the Nominating Committee may delegate certain duties to a consultant and/or advisor. The Nominating Committee acted by written consent one time during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

## **Compensation Committee**

The Company has a separately standing Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee has a charter, a current copy of which is available on the Company’s website, [www.steelpartners.com](http://www.steelpartners.com). The current members of the Compensation Committee are Anthony Bergamo, John P. McNiff, and Joseph L. Mullen. The Compensation Committee reviews compensation arrangements and personnel matters. The Compensation Committee charter provides that the Compensation Committee may delegate certain duties to a consultant and/or advisor. The Compensation Committee acted by written consent three times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

## **Director Independence**

The LP Units are listed on the NYSE and the Board has determined that Messrs. Bergamo, McNiff, Mullen and Tessler, and General Neal are “independent” as defined in the currently applicable listing standards of the NYSE. The NYSE’s listing standards require that all listed companies have a majority of independent directors. For a director to be “independent” under the NYSE listing standards, the board of directors of a listed company must affirmatively determine that the director has no material relationship with the company, or its subsidiaries or affiliates, either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the company or its subsidiaries or affiliates. In accordance with the NYSE listing standards, the Board has affirmatively determined that each of Messrs. Bergamo, McNiff, Mullen and Tessler, and General Neal have no material relationships with the Company, either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company.

## **Nominating Process**

The Nominating Committee of the Board, which is comprised solely of independent directors, selects, or recommends for the full Board's selection, all director nominees.

The Nominating Committee identifies director candidates through recommendations made by Board members, management, unitholders and others. At a minimum, a nominee to the Board should have significant management or leadership experience which is relevant to the Company's business, as well as personal and professional integrity. Recommendations are developed based on the nominee's knowledge and experience in a variety of fields, as well as research conducted by the Company's staff and outside consultants at the Nominating Committee's direction.

Any unitholder recommendation should be directed to Steel Partners Holdings L.P. 590 Madison Avenue, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, New York, 10022, attention Corporate Secretary, and should include the candidate's name, business contact information, detailed biographical data, relevant qualifications for Board membership, information regarding any relationships between the candidate and the Company within the last three years and a written indication by the recommended candidate of his/her willingness to serve. Unitholder recommendations must also comply with the notice provisions contained in the Partnership Agreement in order to be considered. Current copies of the Partnership Agreement are available at no charge on the Company's website at <http://www.steelpartners.com>.

## **Procedures for Contacting Directors**

The Company has adopted a procedure by which unitholders may send communications, as defined within Item 407(f) of Regulation S-K, to one or more directors by writing to such director(s) or to the entire Board, care of the Corporate Secretary, Steel Partners Holdings L.P. 590 Madison Avenue, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, New York, 10022. Any such communications will be promptly distributed by the Secretary to such individual director(s) or to all directors if addressed to the entire Board.

## **The Board's Leadership Structure**

The Board of Directors is currently comprised of seven members, five of whom are elected annually by our unitholders and two of whom are appointed by SPGS. Warren G. Lichtenstein, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of our Manager, has served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer since July 15, 2009. We determined it was in the Company's best interest to combine the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer to ensure a strong leadership for the Board, particularly since SPGS is tasked with the day-to-day management of the Company. We do not have a Lead Independent Director. Rather, the Company's five independent directors, who are the sole members of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees, provide strong independent leadership for each of those three committees. The independent directors meet in executive session from time to time, as deemed appropriate in their discretion, in their various capacities, and as the Audit Committee, the three independent directors meet in executive sessions with our outside auditors on a regular basis.

## **The Board's Role in Risk Oversight**

The Company is managed by SPGS (the "Manager"), pursuant to the terms of an amended and restated management agreement, or the "Management Agreement" discussed in further detail in the section entitled "Executive Compensation - The Management Agreement." From its founding in 1990, the Manager and its affiliates have created significant increases in value for investors in the entities it has managed, including the Company and SPII. Since the Company's day-to-day business affairs are managed by our Manager, the Company does not have any employees.

The Board is actively involved in overseeing the Company's risk management processes. The Board focuses on the Company's general risk management strategy and ensures that appropriate risk mitigation strategies are implemented by management. Further, operational and strategic presentations by management to the Board include consideration of the challenges and risks of the Company's businesses, and the Board and management actively engage in discussion on these topics.

Each of the Board's committees considers risk within its area of responsibility. For example, the Audit Committee provides oversight to legal and compliance matters and assesses the adequacy of the Company's risk-related internal controls. The Compensation Committee considers risk and structures our executive compensation programs to provide incentives to appropriately reward executives for growth without undue risk taking.

## **Code of Ethics**

The General Partner has adopted a code of business conduct and ethics (the "Code of Conduct") that applies to all of its directors, officers and employees. The Code of Conduct is reasonably designed to deter wrongdoing and to promote (i) honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships, (ii) compliance with applicable governmental laws, rules and regulations, (iii) the prompt internal reporting of violations of the Code of Conduct to appropriate persons identified in the Code of Conduct, and (iv) accountability for adherence to the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is available on the Company's website at [www.steelpartners.com](http://www.steelpartners.com). Amendments to the Code of Conduct and any grant of a waiver from a provision of the Code of Conduct requiring disclosure under applicable SEC rules will be disclosed on the Company's website at [www.steelpartners.com](http://www.steelpartners.com).

## Information with Respect to Executive Officers

The names, offices held and ages of the executive officers of the General Partner who are not also directors are set forth below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>
James F. McCabe, Jr.	49	Chief Financial Officer
Leonard J. McGill	54	Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary

In addition to the executive officers listed above, Warren G. Lichtenstein is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Jack Howard is the President of the Company. Please see above for biographical information of Warren G. Lichtenstein and Jack Howard.

**James F. McCabe, Jr.** has been our Chief Financial Officer since October 18, 2011 and has been the Senior Vice President of each of HNH and Handy & Harman (“H&H”), since March 2007, and Chief Financial Officer of HNH, since August 2008. From July 2004 to February 2007, Mr. McCabe served as Vice President of Finance and Treasurer, Northeast Region, of American Water Works Company. From August 1991 to September 2003, he was with Teleflex Incorporated, a NYSE-listed company, where he served in senior management positions including President of Teleflex Aerospace, President of Sermatech International, Chief Operating Officer of Sermatech International, President of Airfoil Technologies International and Chief Financial Officer of Teleflex Aerospace.

**Leonard J. McGill** joined Steel Partners LLC (“SPLLC”) in November 2011, and was appointed Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of the General Partner and Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of HNH in January 2012. From May 2010 to October 2011 he was Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of Ameron International Corporation (“Ameron”), which traded on the NYSE. Prior to joining Ameron, until April 2010, Mr. McGill was Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc. Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in May 2009.

Our executive officers are appointed by our Board and serve until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. There are no family relationships among any of our directors or executive officers.

## Executive Compensation

In this “Executive Compensation” section, all dollar amounts are in thousands, except for per share amounts.

Until December 31, 2011, SPLLC was the manager of our Company. Effective January 1, 2012, SPLLC assigned its interest as the Manager to SPGS, formerly an affiliate of SPLLC.



Since our Management Agreement, which is described in greater detail below, provides that the Manager is responsible for managing our affairs, our executive officers who are employees of the Manager or one or more of its affiliates, do not receive cash compensation from us or any of our subsidiaries for serving as our executive officers. Accordingly, the Manager has informed us that it cannot identify the portion of the compensation awarded to our executive officers by the Manager that relates solely to their services to us, as the Manager does not compensate its employees specifically for such service.

Under the Management Agreement, the Manager receives a quarterly Management Fee at a rate of 1.5% of total partner's capital, payable on the first day of each quarter and subject to quarterly adjustment plus certain incentive compensation. Prior to January 1, 2012, the Manager received a monthly Management Fee at a rate of 1.5% per annum payable monthly. Until such time as the common units were listed on a national securities exchange, the Management Fee was calculated based on the sum of the net asset value of the common units and any amounts in the deferred fee accounts as of the last day of the prior calendar month. Thereafter, the Management Fee was to be based on the sum of the market capitalization of the Company and any amounts in the deferred fee accounts as of the last day of the prior calendar month. Warren G. Lichtenstein, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Manager. Jack L. Howard, our President, is also President of the Manager.

Prior to January 1, 2012, the services of James F. McCabe, Jr. were provided to us pursuant to an arrangement with HNH. HNH cannot identify the portion of compensation awarded to Mr. McCabe by HNH that relates solely to us, as HNH does not compensate its employees specifically for such services. Effective January 1, 2012, Mr. McCabe became an employee of SP Corporate Services LLC ("SP Corporate"), which is a subsidiary of our subsidiary, SPH Services, Inc. ("SPH Services"). SPH Services was created to consolidate the executive and corporate functions of the Company and certain of its affiliates, including SP Corporate and SPLLC, to provide such services to other companies.

Prior to January 1, 2012, Leonard J. McGill was an employee of SPLLC. Effective January 1, 2012, SPLLC became a wholly-owned subsidiary of SPH Services. SPLLC cannot identify the portion of compensation awarded to Mr. McGill that relates solely to us, as SPLLC does not compensate its employees specifically for such services.

In addition to serving as executive officers of the Company, Mr. Lichtenstein and Mr. Howard serve as directors of the Company's subsidiary, HNH, for which they receive compensation. In 2011, Mr. Lichtenstein and Mr. Howard received cash compensation of approximately \$102 and \$54, respectively, and restricted stock awards with a grant date fair value of approximately \$1,077 and \$11, respectively, from HNH for their service as directors.

### ***The Management Agreement***

Under the Management Agreement, subject to the supervision of the Board, the Manager provides management services, including providing the services of the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of the General Partner, to the managed entities, which includes: (i) us, (ii) SPII, and (iii) certain entities that the Manager designates as a managed entity from time to time.

On November 23, 2011, the Company entered into the Third Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of the Company, dated as of July 14, 2009, to, among other things, amend the existing limited partnership agreement to provide for the incentive compensation to be paid to Manager pursuant to the Third Amended and Restated Management Agreement.

On May 10, 2012, the Company, SPH Group LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and SPGS entered into that certain Fourth Amended and Restated Management Agreement, effective as of January 1, 2012, to clarify the manner in which the annual incentive fee is calculated.

*Duties of the Manager*

Pursuant to the terms of the Management Agreement, the Manager is responsible for the day-to day operations of the managed entities including, but not limited to:

- acting as a consultant with respect to the periodic reviews of the managed entities' business;
- investigating, analyzing and implementing business opportunities for the managed entities;
- negotiating with any and all counterparties with respect to business opportunities for the managed entities;
- entering into agreements on behalf of the managed entities;
- engaging independent contractors on behalf of the managed entities, including accountants, legal counsel, administrators and custodians;
- providing executive and administrative personnel, office space and office services required to perform its obligations under the Management Agreement;
- communicating with equity or debt interest holders in the managed entities;
- counseling the managed entities in connection with policy decisions to be made by the Board of Directors or the relevant management team of the managed entities;
- monitoring and reporting to the Board of Directors on the performance of the managed entities;
- handling and resolving all claims, disputes or controversies (including all litigation, arbitration, settlement or other proceedings or negotiations) in which managed entities are involved arising out of the day-to-day operations of the managed entities;
- performing any other services in relation to the managed entities as the Board of Directors may from time to time reasonably request;

- appointing such other service providers, including any affiliates of the Manager, to provide services to the managed entities provided that if such services relate to services to be performed by the Manager under the Management Agreement and in respect of which Steel Partner receives the Management Fee, then the Manager must give prompt notice of such appointment to the independent directors of the Board of Directors;
- retaining, for and on behalf of, and at our sole cost and expense of, or the managed entities, such accountants, legal counsel, appraisers, insurers, brokers, transfer agents registrars, developers, investment banks, financial advisors, banks and other lenders as it deems necessary or advisable and we or the managed entities will reimburse the Manager or its affiliates performing such services for the cost and expenses thereof, provided that such costs and reimbursements to affiliates of the Manager are no greater than those which would be payable to outside professionals or consultants engaged to perform such services pursuant to agreements negotiated on an arm's-length basis; and
- preparing or causing to be prepared such reports, financial or otherwise, with respect to us or the managed entities as may be reasonably required by the Board of Directors or required by law or regulation.

The Manager is not obligated to expend money in connection with the performance of its obligations in excess of any money available in any of our accounts or made available by the managed entities. Officers and other personnel of the Manager are entitled to serve as officers or personnel of the managed entities.

#### *Devotion of Time and Additional Activities*

The Manager must devote such time and personnel to the management of the managed entities as it reasonably deems necessary and appropriate from time to time. The Manager may provide services similar or identical to those it provides to us to other persons and entities including to those whose business is substantially similar to the managed entities.

The Manager and its members, officers, employees, agents and affiliates are not prevented from buying, selling or trading for its or their own account. The Manager and any person affiliated or associated with the Manager may contract and enter into transactions with the managed entities, and any unitholder, or any person the securities of which are held by or for the account of the managed entities, may be interested in any such transactions, except to the extent prohibited by applicable law.

### *Restrictions*

The Manager may not, without the consent of the independent directors of the Board of Directors, consummate any transaction on behalf of the managed entities which would involve the purchase or sale by any of the managed entities of any interest or asset in which the Manager has a direct or indirect ownership interest or as would constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest for the Manager.

### *Term and Termination*

The Management Agreement will continue until December 31, 2012 and will be automatically renewed thereafter for successive one-year terms unless otherwise determined at least 60 days prior to each renewal date by a majority of the independent directors.

We may terminate the Management Agreement effective upon 30 days' prior written notice of termination from us to the Manager if (i) the Manager materially breaches any provision of the Management Agreement and such breach continues for a period of more than 30 days after written notice thereof specifying such breach and requesting that the same be remedied in such 30-day period, (ii) the Manager engages in any act of fraud, misappropriation of funds, or embezzlement against any managed entity, (iii) there is an event of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Manager in the performance of its duties under the Management Agreement, (iv) there is a commencement of any proceeding relating to the Manager's bankruptcy or insolvency, (v) there is a dissolution of the Manager, or (vi) there is a change of control of the Manager, not consented to by us pursuant to the Management Agreement.

The Manager may terminate the Management Agreement effective upon 60 days' prior written notice of termination to us in the event that the managed entities default in the performance or observance of any material term, condition or covenant contained in the Management Agreement and such default continues for a period of 30 days after written notice thereof specifying such default and requesting that the same be remedied in such 30-day period.

The Manager may terminate the Management Agreement in the event any of the managed entities becomes regulated as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, with such termination deemed to have occurred immediately prior to such event.

The Manager may terminate the Management Agreement at any time immediately effective upon written notice of termination to us in the event that the election of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors that were originally elected and approved by the Manager no longer constitute a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, unless their replacements or successors were approved by the Manager.

### *Management Fees and Incentive Compensation*

We rely significantly on the resources and personnel of the Manager to conduct our operations. For performing services under the Management Agreement, the Manager receives a Management Fee and incentive compensation based on our performance. The Manager also receives reimbursements for certain expenses.

### *Management Fee*

Effective January 1, 2012, the Manager receives a quarterly Management Fee at a rate of 1.5% of the total partner's capital, payable on the first day of each quarter and subject to quarterly adjustment. The Management Fee is calculated based on the total partners' capital as of the last day of the most recently completed fiscal quarter. Prior to January 1, 2012, the Management Fee was at a rate of 1.5% per annum payable monthly. Until such time as the common units were listed on a national securities exchange, the Management Fee was calculated based on the sum of the net asset value of the common units and any amounts in the deferred fee accounts as of the last day of the prior calendar month. Thereafter, the Management Fee was to be based on the sum of the market capitalization of the Company and any amounts in the deferred fee accounts as of the last day of the prior calendar month.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Manager earned a Management Fee of \$8,119. The Manager incurred \$2,833 of reimbursable expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011 in connection with its provision of services under the Management Agreement.

The Manager will compute each installment of the Management Fee as of the last day of the immediately preceding quarter with respect to which the Management Fee is due. A copy of the computations made by the Manager to calculate such installment is to promptly be delivered to the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors for informational purposes only. At the request of the Manager, we are to, from time to time, advance to the Manager or its designees the amount of any Management Fee for such quarter based on the Manager's good faith estimate of the Management Fee for the quarter pending the final determination of the Management Fee for such quarter. Upon such delivery of the final computation of the Management Fee for that quarter, after taking into account any advances to the Manager or its designees, the amount due (i) to the Manager or its designees by us or (ii) to us by the Manager or its designees is to be paid no later than the first day of the next fiscal quarter following the fiscal quarter in which the final Management Fee computation was delivered to us. Prior to January 1, 2012, each installment of the Management Fee was computed on a monthly basis.

Any services provided by an affiliate of the Manager or any officers or employees thereof (other than services specifically required to be provided by the Manager pursuant to the Management Agreement), to other than the managed entities will be provided under a separate agreement.

### *Reimbursement of Expenses*

We or the managed entities will bear (or reimburse the Manager or its designees with respect to) all reasonable costs and expenses of the managed entities, the Manager, the General Partner or their affiliates, including but not limited to: legal, tax, accounting, auditing, consulting, administrative, compliance, investor relations costs related to being a public entity rendered for the managed entities or the General Partner as well as expenses incurred by the Manager and the General Partner which are reasonably necessary for the performance by the Manager of its duties and functions under the Management Agreement and certain other expenses incurred by managers, officers, employees and agents of the Manager or its affiliates on behalf of the managed entities.

The Manager will prepare and deliver from time to time a statement documenting the expenses of the managed entities and the expenses incurred by the Manager on behalf of the managed entities. The managed entities must reimburse expenses incurred by and payable to the Manager within 30 days following the date of delivery of such statement.

#### *Incentive Compensation*

Effective January 1, 2012, the Manager was granted incentive units which entitle the Manager to receive Class B common units of the Company, which Class B common units have the same rights as the common units, except that they may not be sold in the public market until the capital account allocable to such Class B common units is equal to the capital account allocable to the common units. The number of incentive units granted is equal to 100% of the sum of the common units outstanding and the number of notional units used to determine the deferred fee accounts in accordance with the Deferred Fee Agreement (as herein defined), each as of January 1, 2012. On the last day of each fiscal year the Company will issue to the Manager Class B common units, on a fully diluted basis. The Manager shall receive Class B common units, determined as of the last day of each fiscal year of the Company, representing 15% of the increase in equity value during the year. If equity value does not increase the Manager shall not receive Class B common units until there is an increase in equity value at the end of a fiscal year. The Company shall make any adjustment that it determines is equitably required by reason of the raising of new capital, including, without limitation, adding such new capital to the baseline equity value per common unit to the extent that the issue price of the new common units exceeds the baseline equity value per common unit.

If any issuance of common units, options, convertible securities or any other right to acquire common units by us results in an increase in the number of common units outstanding on a fully diluted basis as compared to the number outstanding as of the date of the most recent issuance (or, in the case of the first issuance, since the initial incentive unit grant date), the Manager will be issued additional incentive units so that as of the grant date of the additional incentive units, after taking into account the number of outstanding common units on a fully diluted basis and all incentive units granted since the initial incentive units grant date, the Manager holds outstanding incentive units (in the aggregate) equal to 100% of the sum of the common units outstanding and the number of notional units used to determine the deferred fee accounts in accordance with the Deferred Fee Agreement, on a fully diluted basis. Each additional incentive unit shall otherwise be subject to the same terms as the incentive units, unless the Manager otherwise agrees.

Prior to January 1, 2012, the Manager had been granted options to purchase an aggregate of 4,973,863 common units. The Manager was initially granted an option to purchase 4,965,690 common units, which is equal to 15% of the sum of the common units outstanding and the number of notional units used to determine the deferred fee accounts in accordance with that certain Second Amended and Restated Deferred Fee Agreement, effective as of July 15, 2009, between us and WGL Capital Corp. (“WGL”), an affiliate of the Manager, or the “Deferred Fee Agreement”, each as of July 15, 2009, on a fully diluted basis. WGL is controlled by Warren. G. Lichtenstein. The options had an initial per common unit exercise price of \$31.81, which is subject to adjustment for any cash distributions, any distributions-in-kind and the release of any reserves by Steel Partners II (Onshore) LP (“SPII Onshore”) to its former limited partners. The exercise price decreased by \$1.95 per unit to \$29.86 for the April 1, 2010 common unit distribution and further decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$28.68 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution. On March 21, 2011, the Manager was granted an additional (i) option to purchase 5,671 common units at an exercise price of \$16.89, per common unit, as based on the net asset value of the common units as of June 30, 2010 and the exercise price decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$15.71 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution, (ii) option to purchase 1,291 common units at an exercise price of \$18.80, per common unit, as determined based on the net asset value of the common units as of September 30, 2010 and the exercise price decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$17.62 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution, and (iii) option to purchase 1,211 common units at an exercise price of \$20.03, per common unit, as determined based on the net asset value of the common units as of December 31, 2010 and the exercise price decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$18.85 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution. Such options expired on December 31, 2011.

## Employment Agreements

*James F. McCabe, Jr.* On February 1, 2007, James F. McCabe, Jr. entered into a one-year employment agreement with each of HNH and H&H, effective on March 1, 2007, and which, by the terms of the employment agreement, will automatically extend for successive one-year periods unless earlier terminated pursuant to its terms. The employment agreement provides for an annual salary of no less than \$300,000 and an annual bonus to be awarded at HNH's sole discretion. In addition, Mr. McCabe's employment agreement provided for the grant of options to purchase 50,000 shares of HNH's common stock upon HNH's adoption of a stock option plan and registration of underlying shares by September 30, 2007, or alternatively 50,000 "phantom" options in lieu of such options if such a plan had not been adopted by such date. HNH satisfied this obligation by granting Mr. McCabe an option to purchase 50,000 shares of HNH's common stock options on July 6, 2007 at an exercise price equal to \$9.00. Effective November 24, 2008, the outstanding option to purchase shares of HNH's common stock granted pursuant to Mr. McCabe's employment agreement was adjusted pursuant to the 2007 Plan to reflect the reverse stock split by reducing the number of shares issuable thereunder to 5,000 and by increasing the exercise price of such option to \$90.00 per share.

In addition, pursuant to Mr. McCabe's employment agreement, he is entitled to four weeks paid vacation, health insurance coverage (if and to the extent provided to all of our other employees), a car allowance of \$600 per month, life insurance, disability insurance and 401(k) benefits, if and to the extent provided to executives of either HNH or H&H. Mr. McCabe was also entitled to a temporary living allowance of \$3,400 per month through February 2009 under his employment agreement, and thereafter is receiving a monthly living and travel allowance of up to \$3,400 per month. Effective January 4, 2009, HNH amended its employment agreement with Mr. McCabe to permit the reduction of the annual salary payable thereunder by 5% in accordance with the company-wide salary reductions. Certain technical amendments were also made to Mr. McCabe's employment agreement, effective January 1, 2009, for the purpose of bringing the severance payment provisions of the employment agreement into compliance with the applicable provisions of Section 409A. Effective January 1, 2012, Mr. McCabe's employment agreement was assigned to SP Corporate. See "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions." On May 10, 2012, the Company's Board of Directors approved an increase in the salary to be paid by SP Corporate to Mr. McCabe, effective as of February 1, 2012. As a result, Mr. McCabe's base salary will be \$400,000 per year. In addition, the Company's Board of Directors awarded a bonus of \$85,000 to Mr. McCabe.

## Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

There were no outstanding equity awards at fiscal year-end.

Effective January 1, 2012, the Manager was granted incentive units which entitle the Manager to receive Class B common units of the Company, which Class B common units have the same rights as the common units, except that they may not be sold in the public market until the capital account allocable to such Class B common units is equal to the capital account allocable to the common units. The number of incentive units granted is equal to 100% of the sum of the common units outstanding and the number of notional units used to determine the deferred fee accounts in accordance with the Deferred Fee Agreement, each as of January 1, 2012. On the last day of each fiscal year the Company will issue to the Manager Class B common units, on a fully diluted basis. The Manager shall receive Class B common units, determined as of the last day of each fiscal year of the Company, representing 15% of the increase in equity value during the year. If equity value does not increase the Manager shall not receive Class B common units until there is an increase in equity value at the end of a fiscal year. The Company shall make any adjustment that it determines is equitably required by reason of the raising of new capital, including, without limitation, adding such new capital to the baseline equity value per common unit to the extent that the issue price of the new common units exceeds the baseline equity value per common unit. See "Executive Compensation".

If any issuance of common units, options, convertible securities or any other right to acquire common units by us results in an increase in the number of common units outstanding on a fully diluted basis as compared to the number outstanding as of the date of the most recent issuance (or, in the case of the first issuance, since the initial incentive unit grant date), the Manager will be issued additional incentive units so that as of the grant date of the additional incentive units, after taking into account the number of outstanding common units on a fully diluted basis and all incentive units granted since the initial incentive units grant date, the Manager holds outstanding incentive units (in the aggregate) equal to 100% of the sum of the common units outstanding and the number of notional units used to determine the deferred fee accounts in accordance with the Deferred Fee Agreement, on a fully diluted basis. Each additional incentive unit shall otherwise be subject to the same terms as the incentive units, unless the Manager otherwise agrees.



Prior to January 1, 2012, the Manager had been granted options to purchase an aggregate of 4,973,863 common units. The Manager was initially granted an option to purchase 4,965,690 common units, which is equal to 15% of the sum of the common units outstanding and the number of notional units used to determine the deferred fee accounts in accordance with that certain Second Amended and Restated Deferred Fee Agreement, effective as of July 15, 2009, between us and WGL, an affiliate of the Manager, or the “Deferred Fee Agreement”, each as of July 15, 2009, on a fully diluted basis. WGL is controlled by Warren G. Lichtenstein. The options had an initial per common unit exercise price of \$31.81, which is subject to adjustment for any cash distributions, any distributions-in-kind and the release of any reserves by SPII Onshore to its former limited partners. The exercise price decreased by \$1.95 per unit to \$29.86 for the April 1, 2010 common unit distribution and further decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$28.68 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution. On March 21, 2011, the Manager was granted an additional (i) option to purchase 5,671 common units at an exercise price of \$16.89, per common unit, as based on the net asset value of the common units as of June 30, 2010 and the exercise price decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$15.71 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution, (ii) option to purchase 1,291 common units at an exercise price of \$18.80, per common unit, as determined based on the net asset value of the common units as of September 30, 2010 and the exercise price decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$17.62 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution, and (iii) option to purchase 1,211 common units at an exercise price of \$20.03, per common unit, as determined based on the net asset value of the common units as of December 31, 2010 and the exercise price decreased by \$1.18 per unit to \$18.85 for the April 6, 2011 common unit distribution. Such options expired on December 31, 2011.

#### **Potential Payments Upon Termination or a Change in Control**

*James F. McCabe, Jr.* In the event that Mr. McCabe’s employment agreement is terminated without cause or he is given notice that the term of his employment agreement will not be extended, HNH will pay to Mr. McCabe, as aggregate compensation, (i) a lump-sum cash payment equal to one (1) year of the greater of his then current annual base salary or his base salary as of December 31, 2008, (ii) the continuation of certain health-related benefits for up to a twelve (12) month period following termination, (iii) any bonus payment that he is entitled to pursuant to any bonus plans as are then-in-effect and (iv) a car allowance for a one-year period after termination. Mr. McCabe will also receive the same compensation set forth in the preceding sentence if he terminates the employment agreement due to the material diminution of duties or HNH relocates more than 50 miles from its headquarters, as more specifically described in the employment agreement. Effective January 1, 2012, SP Corporate entered into a Management Services Agreement (the “Management Services Agreement”) with HNH. In connection with the Management Services Agreement, HNH assigned its employment agreement with Mr. McCabe to SP Corporate, effective January 1, 2012. See “Certain Relationships and Related Transactions.”

#### **Risk Assessment of the Company’s Compensation Policies**

The Company’s compensation programs are discretionary, balanced and focused on the long term. Goals and objectives of the Company’s compensation programs reflect a balanced mix of quantitative and qualitative performance measures to avoid excessive weight on a single performance measure. Accordingly, the Company believes that its compensation policies and practices do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

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

The members of the Compensation Committee are Anthony Bergamo, Joseph L. Mullen and John P. McNiff. None of the members of the Compensation Committee is our current or former officer or employee. None of the members of the Compensation Committee had any relationship requiring disclosure by us under any paragraph of Item 404 of Regulation S-K.

None of our executive officers served as a director (including as a member of the compensation committee) of any entity that had one or more executive officers who served on our Board of Directors (including as a member of the Compensation Committee).

## **Compensation Committee Report**

We have reviewed and discussed with management certain Director Compensation provisions to be included in the Company's Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Based on the reviews and discussions referred to above, we recommend to the Board of Directors that the Director Compensation provisions referred to above be included in this Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A.

Submitted by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors.

Joseph L. Mullen, Chairman  
Anthony Bergamo  
John P. McNiff

This Compensation Committee Report is not deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this Proxy Statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under either such Acts.

## **Director Compensation**

Directors who are also executive officers are not separately compensated for their service as directors. Our non-management directors earned the following aggregate amounts of compensation for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash(1) (\$)	Stock Awards(2) (\$)	Total (\$)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(h)
Anthony Bergamo	101,083	75,000	176,083
John P. McNiff	83,583	75,000	158,583
Joseph L. Mullen	91,083	75,000	166,083
General Richard I. Neal	84,583	75,000	159,583
Allan R. Tessler	77,083	75,000	152,083

- (1) For the year ended December 31, 2011 each director earned annual cash compensation in the amount of \$75,000.
- (2) For the year ended December 31, 2011 each director earned annual equity compensation in the amount of \$75,000 in the form of restricted common units of the Company, with one-third of such restricted common units vesting on November 28, 2012, one-third of such restricted common units vesting on November 28, 2013 and one-third of such restricted common units vesting on November 28, 2014. The per unit value of such restricted common units is \$13.80, determined based on the fair market value of the Company's common units as of November 28, 2011.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, our non-management directors received cash fees of \$1,500 for each board committee meeting attended. The chairmen of the Audit Committee, Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and Compensation Committee were paid an additional cash fee of \$15,000, \$5,000 and \$5,000 annually, respectively.

#### Limitation on Liability and Indemnification Matters

The Partnership Agreement provides for indemnification of its directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law.

#### Directors' and Officers' Insurance

The Company currently maintains a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy that provides its directors and officers with liability coverage relating to certain potential liabilities.

#### Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

Effective as of March 21, 2011, the Company issued to its independent directors an aggregate of 7,315 common units at a per unit value of \$18.80, which was determined based on the net asset value of the Company's common units as of September 30, 2010 and an aggregate of 6,865 common units at a per unit value of \$20.03, which was determined based on the net asset value of the Company's common units as of December 31, 2010. The Company does not currently have any equity compensation plans. However, for the year ended December 31, 2011 each director earned annual equity compensation in the amount of \$75,000 in the form of restricted common units of the Company, with one-third of such restricted common units vesting on November 28, 2012, one-third of such restricted common units vesting on November 28, 2013 and one-third of such restricted common units vesting on November 28, 2014. The per unit value of such restricted common units is \$13.80, determined based on the fair market value of the Company's common units as of November 28, 2011. Total expense for the common units issued was \$275,000.

## Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of our common units as of October 8, 2012 for (a) each director of the General Partner, (b) each executive officer of the General Partner, (c) each unitholder known to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of any class of our voting securities, and (d) all directors and executive officers of the General Partner as a group. Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act and does not necessarily bear on the economic incidents of ownership or the rights to transfer the common units described below. Unless otherwise indicated, (a) each unitholder has sole voting power and dispositive power with respect to the indicated common units and (b) the address of each unitholder who is a director or executive officer is c/o Steel Partners Holdings L.P., 590 Madison Avenue, 32nd Floor, New York, New York 10022. The percentage of common units owned is based on 32,122,686 common units outstanding as of October 8, 2012.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Number of Common Units Beneficially Owned(1)	Percentage of Common Units Beneficially Owned(1)
<b>5% Unitholders</b>		
Entities affiliated with Benchmark Plus Institutional Partners, L.L.C.	2,501,624(2)	7.8%
Entities affiliated with Entrust Capital Diversified Fund Ltd.	2,661,906(3)	8.3%
WGL	6,939,647(4)	21.6%
<b>Directors and Executive Officers</b>		
Warren G. Lichtenstein	8,723,233(5)	27.2%
Jack Howard	2,821,238(6)	8.8%
Anthony Bergamo	17,652(8)	*
John P. McNiff	146,301(7)(8)	*
Joseph L. Mullen	12,873(8)	*
General Richard I. Neal	10,428(8)	*
Allan R. Tessler	10,310(8)	*
James F. McCabe, Jr.	–	*
Leonard J. McGill	–	*
All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (9 persons)	11,742,035	36.6%

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\* Less than 1%.

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), based on factors including voting and investment power with respect to the common units.
- (2) Consists of the following: (i) 1,453,211 common units beneficially owned by Benchmark Plus Institutional Partners, L.L.C., (ii) 492,894 common units beneficially owned by Benchmark Plus Long Short Select Partners, LP; (iii) 356,548 common units beneficially owned by Benchmark Plus Long Short Partners, LP; and (iv) 198,971 common units beneficially owned by Aviva Alternative Funds – Alpha Optimum. The address for the entities listed in (i) through (iii) above is 800 A Street, Suite 700, Tacoma, WA 98402. The address for Aviva Alternative Funds – Alpha Optimum is 5 Rue Plaetis, Luxembourg, L-2338.
- (3) Consists of the following: (i) 1,936,033 common units beneficially owned by Entrust Capital Diversified Fund Ltd; (ii) 204,629 common units beneficially owned by Entrust Capital Diversified Fund LP; (iii) 127,992 common units beneficially owned by Entrust Capital Diversified Fund Ltd; (iv) 64,673 common units beneficially owned by Entrust Capital Diversified Fund II LP; (v) 59,168 common units beneficially owned by Entrust Diversified Select Equity Fund LP; (vi) 37,010 common units beneficially owned by Entrust Diversified Select Equity Fund Ltd; and (vii) 232,401 common units beneficially owned by Illinois State Board of Investment. The address for the entities listed in (i) through (iv) above is 1011 Centre Road, Suite 200, Wilmington, DE 19805. The address for Entrust Diversified Select Equity Fund LP is 375 Park Avenue, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10152. The address for Entrust Diversified Select Equity Fund Ltd is 90 Fort Street, Admiral Financial Center, 5th Floor, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, KY1-1208. The address for Illinois State Board of Investment is 180 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2015, Chicago, IL 60601. Absent banking regulatory approval, voting rights are forfeited with respect to all common units in excess of 9.9%, and such common units may not be voted on any matter and will not be considered to be outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders (unless otherwise required by law), calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum or for other similar purposes.
- (4) Represents Class B Units, which may not be sold in the public market until the capital account allocable to such Class B common units is equal to the capital account allocable to the common units.

- (5) Consists of the following: (i) 1,665,195 common units held directly by Mr. Lichtenstein; (ii) 6,939,647 Class B common units beneficially owned by WGL; and (iii) 118,391 common units beneficially owned by an entity controlled by Mr. Lichtenstein. Mr. Lichtenstein is the Chief Executive Officer, Secretary and sole director of WGL. Mr. Lichtenstein may be deemed to have shared investment and voting power with respect to such common units held indirectly by him. Mr. Lichtenstein disclaims beneficial ownership of such common units not directly held by him, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (6) Consists of the following: (i) 543,648 common units held directly by Mr. Howard; (ii) 1,519,552 common units beneficially owned by The II Trust; (iii) 747,938 common units beneficially owned by The III Trust; and (iv) 10,100 common units held by EMH Howard, LLC (“EMH”). Mr. Howard is the trustee for The II Trust and The III Trust and the managing member of EMH. Mr. Howard may be deemed to have investment and voting power with respect to the common units held by The II Trust, The III Trust and EMH. Mr. Howard disclaims beneficial ownership of such common units beneficially owned by The II Trust, The III Trust and EMH, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein. Absent banking regulatory approval, voting rights are forfeited with respect to all common units in excess of 9.9%, and such common units may not be voted on any matter and will not be considered to be outstanding when sending notices of a meeting of unitholders (unless otherwise required by law), calculating required votes, determining the presence of a quorum or for other similar purposes.
- (7) Consists of the following: (i) 54,937 common units in an account jointly owned by Mr. McNiff and his wife, Evelyn McNiff; (ii) 1,812 restricted units which vest on November 28, 2012; (iii) 73,351 common units beneficially owned by the Evelyn B Olin Irrevocable Trust, or the “Olin Trust”; and (iv) 16,201 common units beneficially owned by the JNS Charitable Lead Annuity Trust, or the “JNS Trust”. Mr. McNiff is the co-trustee of each of the Olin Trust and the JNS Trust. Mr. McNiff may be deemed to have shared investment and voting power with respect to the common units held by the Olin Trust and the JNS Trust. Mr. McNiff disclaims beneficial ownership of such common units beneficially owned by the Olin Trust and the JNS Trust, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (8) Includes a grant of 1,812 restricted units which vest on November 28, 2012.

## Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

In this “Certain Relationships and Related Transactions” section, all dollar amounts are in thousands, except for per share amounts.

### *Deferred Fee Agreement*

Effective as of July 15, 2009, the Company entered into an investor services agreement (the “Investor Services Agreement”) with WGL, an entity controlled by Warren G. Lichtenstein, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the investor services agreement, WGL performs certain investor relations services on the Company’s behalf and the Company pays WGL a fee in an amount of \$50 per year.

The Company entered into an assignment and assumption agreement, as of July 15, 2009, with Steel Partners II (Offshore) Ltd. (“SPII Offshore”) and WGL, pursuant to which we assumed all of SPII Offshore’s liabilities and obligations under the Deferred Fee Agreement, pursuant to which WGL deferred certain fees due to it under its management agreement with SPII Offshore. In connection with the assignment and assumption agreement, SPII Offshore transferred to us assets, consisting of cash and our common units, equal in the aggregate in value to the assumed liabilities. Pursuant to the Deferred Fee Agreement, WGL has the option, but not the obligation, to elect to be paid in cash or common units, or a combination thereof, which payment may become immediately due and payable upon certain termination events as specified in the Deferred Fee Agreement.

On April 11, 2012 (the “Termination Date”), the Company and WGL terminated the Investor Services Agreement, dated as of July 15, 2009, by mutual consent. As a result of the termination of the Investor Services Agreement the full amount of the deferred fee liability became immediately payable. Instead of receiving the deferred fee in cash, WGL elected for the total amount to be paid in common units of the Company. Under the Deferred Fee Agreement, the number of common units to be issued was determined by applying a 15% discount to the market price of the common units, which represents the fair value of the common units giving effect to the discount for lack of marketability. As a result, 6,403,002 Class B common units were issued to the Investment Manager on April 11, 2012. In connection with the termination of the Investor Services Agreement, the Investment Manager agreed not to sell any of the common units issued as payment for the deferred fee during the one-year period following the Termination Date. On May 11, 2012, the Company issued an additional 536,645 Class B common units to WGL reflecting an adjustment based on the deferred fee liability as of March 31, 2012.

### *Management Agreement*

See “Executive Compensation” for a description of the Management Agreement.

### *WGL Capital*

Under an investor services agreement with WGL, WGL performs certain investor relations services on our behalf and the Company pays WGL a fee in an amount of \$50 per year (the "Investor Services Fee"). The Management Fee payable to the Manager pursuant to the Management Agreement is offset and reduced on each payment date by the amount of the fee payable to WGL under the investor services agreement. In addition, the Company bears (or reimburse WGL with respect to) all reasonable costs and expenses of ours, and WGL, or their affiliates relating to the investor relations services performed for the Company, including but not limited to all expenses actually incurred by WGL that are reasonably necessary for the performance by WGL of its duties and functions under the investor services agreement. For the year ended December 31, 2011, WGL earned an Investor Services Fee of \$50.

### *HNH Accounting Services*

Commencing on July 16, 2009, HNH provided certain accounting services to the Company until December 31, 2011. For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company incurred \$1,308 for these accounting services.

### *SPII Liquidating Trust*

The Steel Partners II Liquidating Series Trust ("SPII Liquidating Trust"), a Delaware statutory trust, was formed and commenced operations on July 15, 2009. The purpose of the SPII Liquidating Trust is to effect the orderly liquidation of certain assets previously held by SPII in connection with the withdrawal of the limited partners of SPII Onshore. Steel Partners II GP LLC ("SPIIGP") is the liquidating trustee, and along with a Delaware trustee, has responsibilities that are generally limited to providing certain services in connection with the administration of the SPII Liquidating Trust. Mr. Lichtenstein is the managing member of SPIIGP. The Manager is the investment manager of the SPII Liquidating Trust.

On July 15, 2009, SPII contributed \$243,844 of non-cash assets and \$39,235 of cash to the SPII Liquidating Trust and became the initial beneficiary of each series of the SPII Liquidating Trust. In connection with the full withdrawal of the limited partners of SPII Onshore on July 15, 2009, 56.25% of the beneficial interests of each series were transferred to certain of the withdrawing limited partners, and SPII retained 43.75% of the beneficial interests of each series. SPII held certain assets of the SPII Liquidating Trust for the benefit of the SPII Liquidating Trust as its nominee until such assets could be assigned to the SPII Liquidating Trust. After December 31, 2009, SPII held no assets on behalf of the SPII Liquidating Trust.

The Company currently holds interests in the SPII Liquidating Trust. The Company's interest in the SPII Liquidating Trust was \$33,643 and \$42,653 at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. The SPII Liquidating Trust has an investment in (i) Steel Partners Japan Strategic Fund, L.P. ("SPJSF"), (ii) SPCA, and (iii) SPAH, a blank check company formed for the purpose of acquiring, through a merger, capital stock exchange, asset acquisition or other similar business combination, one or more businesses or assets controlled by an affiliate of the Manager. We, through the SPII Liquidating Trust, had an interest in a co-investment obligation to SPAH should a business combination involving SPAH have taken place by October 10, 2009. The SPII Liquidating Trust held sufficient cash to fund such obligation, but it was terminated because a business combination was not completed, rendering the investment held by the SPII Liquidating Trust in SPAH worthless. The capital commitment has been terminated and capital has been distributed to the investors in the SPAH, including the SPII Liquidating Trust. At December 31, 2009, our interest in the SPII Liquidating Trust related to SPJSF and SPCA was \$10,305 and \$11,872, respectively. At December 31, 2011, SPH's interest in the SPII Liquidating Trust related to SPJSF and SPCA was \$3,496 and \$9,552, respectively. At June 30, 2012, the Company's interest in the SPII Liquidating Trust related to SPJSF and SPCA was \$3,473 and \$10,030, respectively. We have no obligation to make any capital contributions to the SPII Liquidating Trust.



Effective as of July 1, 2007, we entered into a services agreement, or the "Services Agreement", with SP Corporate, an entity previously controlled by Warren G. Lichtenstein, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the Services Agreement, SP Corporate provided the Company with certain management, consulting and advisory services. The Services Agreement is automatically renewable on an annual basis unless terminated by either party on any anniversary date, upon at least 30 days written notice. Effective January 1, 2012, SP Corporate became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Additionally, SPH Services, a new subsidiary of the Company, was created to consolidate the executive and corporate functions of the Company and certain of its affiliates, including SP Corporate and SPLLC, and to provide such services to other portfolio companies. SPH Services acquired the membership interests of SP Corporate and SPLLC from Steel Partners, Ltd. ("SPL"), an affiliate of the Manager.

In consideration of the services rendered, a fixed annual fee totaling \$310 was charged, adjustable annually upon agreement. Effective as of July 15, 2009, the Services Agreement was amended to provide for the provision of accounting, investor relations, compliance and other services related to our operation. The fee to be paid is agreed upon by SP Corporate and us from time to time. SP Corporate earned \$1,038 for the year ended December 31, 2011 under the Services Agreement.

On each of March 26, 2010, January 24, 2011 and March 10, 2011, a special committee of the Board of Directors of HNH, composed entirely of independent directors, approved a management and services fee to be paid to SP Corporate in the amount of \$950 and \$1,950 for services performed in 2009 and 2010, respectively, and of \$1,740 for services to be performed in 2011. In each of 2009, 2010 and 2011 this fee was paid as consideration for the services of Warren G. Lichtenstein, as Chairman of the Board, Glen M. Kassan, as Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman, John J. Quicke, as Vice President and, until December 2010, as director, and Jack L. Howard and John H. McNamara, Jr., both as directors. In addition, in 2011 the management services fee was also paid as consideration for management and advisory services with respect to operations, strategic planning, finance and accounting, sale and acquisition activities and other aspects of the businesses of HNH. HNH does not have a written agreement with SP Corporate relating to the services described above.

On March 9, 2010, WebBank, a Utah chartered industrial bank and our subsidiary through WebFinancial Holding Corporation, and SP Corporate entered into a servicing agreement under which SP Corporate receives \$63 quarterly and provides certain services to WebBank. The agreement is effective January 1, 2010, continues for three years and automatically renews for successive one year terms unless terminated in accordance with the agreement. For the year ended December 31, 2011, WebBank paid SP Corporate fees of \$250.

Effective as of July 1, 2007, SP Corporate entered into services agreements with each of BNS Holding, Inc. ("BNS") and CoSine Communications, Inc. ("CoSine"). The Company has an approximately 85% ownership interest in BNS and a 47% ownership interest in Cosine. Pursuant to the terms of the services agreements, of which the services agreement with BNS was amended on May 12, 2010, SP Corporate initially provided each of BNS and CoSine with certain services and each of BNS and CoSine pays SP Corporate a monthly fee of \$42 and \$17, respectively, which fees are adjustable annually upon agreement by the parties or at other times upon amendment to the services agreements. In addition, each of BNS and CoSine are obligated to reimburse SP Corporate for certain expenses, including legal expenses, as well as all reasonable and necessary business expenses, incurred on behalf of each of BNS and CoSine. Services provided under the services agreements include the non-exclusive services of persons to perform accounting, tax, administrative, compliance and investor relations services. Under the terms of an amended and restated services agreement effective as of May 12, 2010, SP Corporate receives a monthly fee of \$42 monthly from BNS. BNS incurred \$1,083 (includes \$500 for assistance provided to BNS related to a financing arrangement) for the period from November 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011.

Effective as of September 1, 2009, SP Corporate entered into a management services agreement with DGT, a subsidiary of the Company. Pursuant to the terms of the management services agreement, which was amended on October 1, 2011, SP Corporate provides DGT with certain services and DGT pays SP Corporate a monthly fee of \$48, which fee is adjustable annually upon agreement by the parties or at other times upon amendment to the management services agreement. In addition, DGT is obligated to reimburse SP Corporate for certain expenses, including legal expenses, as well as all reasonable and necessary business expenses, incurred on behalf of DGT. Services provided under the management services agreement include the non-exclusive services of persons, including a chief executive officer and chief financial officer, to perform certain management and leadership services.

Effective as of August 1, 2011, as amended and restated effective January 1, 2012, SP Corporate has entered into a management services agreement with Steel Excel. Pursuant to the terms of the management services agreement as amended, SP Corporate provides Steel Excel with certain services and Steel Excel pays SP Corporate a monthly fee of \$300, which fee is adjustable annually upon agreement by the parties or at other times upon amendment to the management services agreement. Under the agreement, SP Corporate will provide Steel Excel with corporate and executive services including, without limitation, legal, tax, accounting, treasury, consulting, auditing, administration, compliance, environmental health and safety, human resources, marketing, investor relations and other similar services rendered for Steel Excel and its subsidiaries. In addition, SP Corporate will provide Steel Excel with the continued service of John Quicke, as Steel Excel's Chief Executive Officer, Mark Zorko, as Steel Excel's Chief Financial Officer, and certain other employees and corporate services.

Effective January 1, 2012, SP Corporate also entered into management services agreements with JL Howard Inc. and with NOVT Corporation (“NOVT”) and SPL, a shareholder of NOVT. Under the Management Services Agreement with NOVT and SPL, SP Corporate will provide the non-exclusive services of a person to serve as NOVT’s Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer, with responsibility for any and all financing matters for NOVT and its subsidiaries, and a person to review annual and quarterly budgets and related matters, supervise and administer, as appropriate, all accounting/financial duties and related functions on behalf of each of the companies, and other similar items, and also provide the non-exclusive services of a person to serve as the companies’ corporate secretary, and as may be requested of a person to periodically review the status of the companies’ net operating losses. Under the management services agreement with JL Howard Inc., SP Corporate provides the non-exclusive services of a FINRA licensed person or people to execute securities orders and other related tasks. JL Howard Inc. pays SP Corporate \$10 a month and NOVT and SPL pay SP Corporate \$17 and \$7, respectively, per month, which fees are adjustable annually upon agreement by the parties or at other times upon amendment to the management services agreement.

#### *Mutual Securities*

Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Manager is responsible for selecting executing brokers. Securities transactions for us are allocated to brokers on the basis of reliability and price and execution. The Manager has selected Mutual Securities as an introducing broker and may direct a substantial portion of the managed entities’ trades to such firm among others. Jack L. Howard, our President, is a registered principal of Mutual Securities. The Manager only uses Mutual Securities when such use would not compromise the Manager’s obligation to seek best price and execution. The Company has the right to pay commissions to Mutual Securities, which are higher than those that can be obtained elsewhere, provided that the Manager believes that the rates paid are competitive institutional rates. Mutual Securities also served as an introducing broker for the Company’s trades. The Commissions paid by the Company to Mutual Securities were approximately \$1,105 for the year ended December 31, 2011 and \$105 for the six months ended June 30, 2012. Such commissions are included in the net investment gains (losses) in the consolidated statements of operations. The portion of the commission paid to Mutual Securities ultimately received by such officer is net of clearing and other charges.

#### *Other*

On March 31, 2012, SPL assigned its rights, obligations and title to its New York City office lease to SPH Services. In connection with the assignment, SPL agreed to remit \$3,286 to SPH Services, subject to adjustment, which represents the present value of the lease payment obligations over the fair value of the leased facilities. This amount is included in Receivable from related parties in the consolidated balance sheet at June 30, 2012. In addition, for a total consideration of \$1,203, SPL sold to SPH Services the fixed assets held by it relating to the New York City location, which includes furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements. This amount is included in payable to related parties as of June 30, 2012. The Company agreed to reimburse SPL \$254 for occupancy costs for the three months ended March 31, 2012, which amount is included in Payable to related parties as of June 30, 2012.

The Company has an arrangement whereby it holds an asset on behalf of a related party in which it has an investment. The asset had a fair value of \$31,782 and \$47,605 at June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. Under the terms of this arrangement, the related party is the sole beneficiary and the Company does not have an economic interest in the asset and the Company has no capital at risk with respect to such asset, other than indirectly through its indirect investment in such related party. For the six months ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, the Company was indirectly compensated for providing this arrangement by the payment of a fee. The fees were not material.

#### **Review, Approval or Ratification of Transactions with Related Persons**

The Partnership Agreement generally provides that affiliated transactions and resolutions of conflicts of interest between the Manager or its affiliates, or any director of the Board of Directors, on the one hand, and us, on the other, must be approved by a majority of the disinterested directors of the Board of Directors or a conflicts committee established by the Board of Directors and must be on terms no less favorable to us than those generally provided to or available from unrelated third parties or “fair and reasonable” to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships between the parties involved.

In addition, the Company has a written Related Person Transaction Policy, which is administered by the Audit Committee. The Related Person Transaction Policy provides that the Audit Committee is to consider all relevant factors when determining whether the terms of a related person transaction are fair and reasonable to us and whether to approve or ratify a related person transaction; provided however that these requirements will be deemed satisfied and not a breach of any duty as to any transaction (i) approved by the Audit Committee; (ii) approved by the vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of outstanding voting units (excluding voting units owned by us, the General Partner and persons that we and the General Partner control); (iii) the terms of which are no less favorable to us than those generally being provided to or available from unrelated third parties; or (iv) that is fair and reasonable to us, taking into account the totality of the relationships between the parties involved (including other transactions that may be or have been particularly favorable or advantageous to us). Among other relevant factors, the Audit Committee will consider the size of the transaction and the amount payable to a related person, the nature of the interest of the applicable related person, whether the transaction may involve a conflict of interest and whether the transaction involves the provision of goods or services to us that are available from unaffiliated third parties.

Under the Related Person Transaction Policy, a related person means:

(1) any person who was, at any time since the beginning of our last fiscal year, a director, director nominee or executive officer of the General Partner, even if the person was not a director, director nominee or executive officer of the General Partner at the time of the transaction;

(2) any person who was, at any time since the beginning of our last fiscal year, an immediate family member of a director, director nominee or executive officer of the General Partner and any person (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household of such director, director nominee or executive officer of the General Partner, even if the person was not an immediate family member of such director, director nominee or executive officer of the General Partner at the time of the transaction;

(3) any unitholder that was, at the time the transaction in question occurred or existed, a holder of 5% or more of our voting units;

(4) any person who was, at the time the transaction in question occurred or existed, an immediate family member of a holder of 5% or more of our voting units and any person (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household of such unitholder;

(5) an entity in which any of the persons identified in (1) through (4) above acts as an officer or general partner of or otherwise controls such entity or in which such person, together with any other persons identified in clauses (1) through (4) above, holds an aggregate ownership interest of at least 10%.

Under the Related Person Transaction Policy, a related person transaction includes any transaction or currently proposed transaction that occurred since the beginning of our most recent fiscal year in which we were or are to be a participant, a related person had or will have a direct or indirect material interest and the amount involved exceeds or reasonably can be expected to exceed \$120,000. Under the Related Person Transaction Policy, a transaction includes, but is not limited to, any financial transaction, arrangement or relationship or any series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships.

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

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires the Company's directors and officers, and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of its equity securities, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership (typically, Forms 3, 4 and/or 5) of such equity securities with the SEC. Such entities are also required by SEC regulations to furnish the Company with copies of all such Section 16(a) reports. Based solely on a review of Forms 3 and 4 and amendments thereto furnished to the Company and written representations that no Form 5 or amendments thereto were required, the Company believes that during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, the directors and officers of the General Partner, and greater than 10% beneficial owners, have complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements.

**Vote Required**

If a quorum is present, the directors must be elected by the holders of a plurality of LP Units present at the Meeting.

**Board Recommendation**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE “FOR” EACH OF THE NOMINEES TO THE BOARD SET FORTH IN THIS PROPOSAL.**

**Independent Public Accountants**

Grant Thornton LLP (“GT”) serves as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm. Representatives from GT are not expected to be present at the Meeting and therefore will not have the opportunity to make a statement, or be available to respond to appropriate questions.

In this “Independent Public Accountants” section, all dollar amounts are in thousands.

*Audit Fees*

The aggregate fees billed by GT for professional services rendered was \$3,140 and \$2,484 for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which services included costs related to the audit of annual consolidated financial statements and internal controls, review of quarterly financial statements, review of reports filed with the SEC and other services, including services related to consents and registration statements filed with the SEC.

*Audit-Related Fees*

The Company incurred \$97 in audit-related fees and expenses from GT for fiscal 2011 relating primarily to services provided in connection with offering memorandums, potential acquisitions and employee benefit plans. The Company incurred \$52 of audit-related fees in fiscal 2010, relating principally to assistance and services pertaining to audits of the financial statements of certain of the Company’s pension and benefit plans.

*Tax Fees*

The Company incurred \$249 and \$378 for tax services from GT for fiscal 2011 and 2010, respectively, relating principally to tax compliance, advice and planning.

### *All Other Fees*

There were no fees for other professional services rendered during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010.

The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve services to be performed by the Company's independent public accountants in the categories of audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Additionally, the Audit Committee will consider on a case-by-case basis and, if appropriate, approve specific engagements that are not otherwise pre-approved. The Audit Committee has approved all fees and advised us that it has determined that the non-audit services rendered by GT during our most recent fiscal year are compatible with maintaining the independence of such auditors.

### **Audit Committee Report**

The Audit Committee operates pursuant to a written charter adopted by the Board. The role of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board in its oversight of our financial reporting process, as more fully described in this Proxy Statement. As set forth in the charter, our management is responsible for the preparation, presentation and integrity of our financial statements, our accounting and financial reporting principles and internal controls and procedures designed to assure compliance with accounting standards and applicable laws and regulations. Our independent auditors are responsible for auditing our financial statements and expressing an opinion as to their conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In the performance of its oversight function, the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with the management of the Company and has discussed matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (Codification of Statements on Auditing Standards, AU 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "PCAOB") in Rule 3200T, with Grant Thornton LLP ("GT"), the Company's independent auditors for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. The Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from GT, as required by the applicable requirements of the PCAOB, regarding the independent auditors' communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with GT the independence of GT. The Audit Committee also considered whether GT's non-audit services, including tax planning and consulting, are compatible with maintaining GT's independence.

Based upon the reports and discussions described in this report, and subject to the limitations on the role and responsibilities of the Audit Committee referred to above and in the Charter, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the audited financial statements be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as amended, filed with the SEC.

Submitted By The Audit Committee Of The Board

Anthony Bergamo  
Joseph L. Mullen  
General Richard I. Neal

## LIMITED PARTNER PROPOSALS FOR THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING AND OTHER MATTERS

### Limited Partner Proposals

Limited partner nominations or other proposals that are intended to be presented at the Company's 2013 annual meeting of limited partners must be received by the General Partner at the General Partner's principal executive office located at 590 Madison Avenue, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10022 no earlier than July 2, 2013 and no later than later than August 1, 2013. If the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 70 days after the anniversary date of the prior year's meeting, then the deadline for providing written notice of a proposal to be included in the proxy statement for the Company's 2013 annual meeting of limited partners is not earlier than the close of business on the one hundred twentieth (120th) day prior to such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the ninetieth (90th) day prior to such annual meeting or the tenth (10th) day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made by the Company or the General Partner.

Under SEC rules, if a unitholder wants the Company to include a proposal in the Company's proxy statement and form of proxy for presentation at its 2013 Annual Meeting of limited partners, the proposal must be received by the Company, Attention: Corporate Secretary, at the Company's principal executive offices by June 14, 2013.

### Solicitation of Proxies

The cost of the solicitation of proxies will be paid by us. In addition, the Company has engaged MacKenzie to act as its proxy solicitation agent. MacKenzie will be paid a fee of \$5,000 and will be reimbursed for disbursements made on the Company's behalf. In addition to solicitation by mail, the Company's directors, officers and employees may solicit proxies from stockholders by telephone, facsimile, electronic mail or in person. The Company will also make arrangements with brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries to send the proxy materials to beneficial owners. Upon request, the Company will reimburse those brokerage houses and custodians for their reasonable expenses in so doing.

### Annual Report and Available Information

The Company is concurrently sending all of its unitholders of record as of October 8, 2012 a copy of its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. Such report contains the Company's certified consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, including those of the Company's subsidiaries. Upon your request, we will provide, without any charge, a copy of any of our filings with the SEC. Requests should be directed to Steel Partners Holdings L.P., 590 Madison Avenue, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, New York, 10022, or (212) 520-2300. You may also access a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K electronically in the SEC Filings section of the Company's website, <http://www.steelpartners.com>.



**Other Matters to be Considered at the Annual Meeting**

As of the date of this Notice, management knows of no matters other than those set forth herein which will be presented for consideration at the Meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors of the General Partner

/s/ Warren G. Lichtenstein  
Warren G. Lichtenstein

Dated: October 12, 2012  
New York, New York

ANNUAL MEETING OF LIMITED PARTNERS OF  
**STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P.**

October 30, 2012

**NOTICE OF INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIAL:**

The Notice of Meeting, proxy statement and proxy card are available at <http://www.amstock.com/ProxyServices/ViewMaterial.asp?CoNumber=26154>

Please sign, date and mail  
your proxy card in the  
envelope provided as soon  
as possible.

↓ Please detach along perforated line and mail in the envelope provided. ↓

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PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND RETURN PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. PLEASE MARK YOUR VOTE IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS SHOWN HERE

1. To elect the following individuals as directors to the Board of Directors of the Company's general partner, Steel Partners Holdings GP Inc.:

FOR ALL NOMINEES

WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR ALL NOMINEES

FOR ALL EXCEPT  
(See instructions below)

NOMINEES:

- Anthony Bergamo
- John P. McNiff
- Joseph L. Mullen
- General Richard I. Neal
- Allan R. Tessier

This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed by the undersigned limited partner. If no direction is made, this proxy will be voted FOR the proposal. In their discretion, the proxies are authorized to vote upon such other and further business as may properly come before the meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark "FOR ALL EXCEPT" and fill in the circle next to each nominee you wish to withhold, as shown here: ●

To change the address on your account, please check the box at right and indicate your new address in the address space above. Please note that changes to the registered name(s) on the account may not be submitted via this method.

Signature of Limited Partner  Date  Signature of Limited Partner  Date

**Note:** Please sign exactly as your name or names appear on this Proxy. When units are held jointly, each holder should sign. When signing as executor, administrator, attorney, trustee or guardian, please give full title as such. If the signer is a corporation, please sign full corporate name by duly authorized officer, giving full title as such. If signer is a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF LIMITED PARTNERS OF  
STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P.**

October 30, 2012

**PROXY VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

**INTERNET** - Access "[www.voteproxy.com](http://www.voteproxy.com)" and follow the on-screen instructions. Have your proxy card available when you access the web page.

**TELEPHONE** - Call toll-free **1-800-PROXIES** (1-800-776-9437) in the United States or **1-718-921-8500** from foreign countries from any touch-tone telephone and follow the instructions. Have your proxy card available when you call.

Vote online/phone until 11:59 PM EST the day before the meeting.

**MAIL** - Sign, date and mail your proxy card in the envelope provided as soon as possible.

**IN PERSON** - You may vote your shares in person by attending the Annual Meeting.

<b>COMPANY NUMBER</b>	
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	

**NOTICE OF INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIAL:** The Notice of Meeting, proxy statement and proxy card are available at <http://www.amstock.com/ProxyServices/ViewMaterial.asp?CoNumber=26154>

↓ Please detach along perforated line and mail in the envelope provided IF you are not voting via telephone or the Internet. ↓

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- WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR ALL NOMINEES
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Signature of Limited Partner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Limited Partner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Please sign exactly as your name or names appear on this Proxy. When units are held jointly, each holder should sign. When signing as executor, administrator, attorney, trustee or guardian, please give full title as such. If the signer is a corporation, please sign full corporate name by duly authorized officer, giving full title as such. If signer is a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person.

**STEEL PARTNERS HOLDINGS L.P.**

590 Madison Avenue, 32nd Floor

New York, New York, 10022

**This Proxy is Solicited on Behalf of the Board of Directors of Steel Partners Holdings GP Inc.**

The undersigned hereby appoints Warren Lichtenstein and Jack Howard, as Proxies, each with the power to appoint his substitute, and hereby authorizes them, and each of them acting singly, to represent and vote, as designated below, all the limited partnership units of Steel Partners Holdings L.P. (the "Company") held of record by the undersigned on October 8, 2012 at the Annual Meeting of Limited Partners to be held on October 30, 2012 or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

**(Continued and to be signed on the reverse side.)**