KLA TENCOR CORP Form PRE 14A September 11, 2012 Table of Contents

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

x

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

KLA-Tencor Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

| Pay | ment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box): |
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

November 7, 2012

To the Stockholders:

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of KLA-Tencor Corporation (we or the Company), a Delaware corporation, will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 12:00 p.m., local time, in Building Three of our Milpitas facility, located at Three Technology Drive, Milpitas, California 95035, for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect as Class II Directors the four candidates nominated by our Board of Directors to each serve for a three-year term, each until his successor is duly elected.
- To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.
- 3. To amend our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board of Directors.
- 4. Advisory approval of our executive compensation.
- 5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof. The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement accompanying this Notice.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on September 18, 2012 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Sincerely,

Richard P. Wallace

President and Chief Executive Officer

Milpitas, California

This Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders, Proxy Statement and form of proxy are being distributed and made available on or about September , 2012.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting in person; however, regardless of whether you expect to attend the Annual Meeting in person, we encourage you to vote as soon as possible. You may vote by proxy over the Internet or by telephone, or, if you received paper copies of the proxy materials by mail, you can also vote by mail by following the instructions on the proxy card or voting instruction card. Voting over the Internet, by telephone or by written proxy or voting instruction card will ensure your representation at the Annual Meeting regardless of whether you attend in person.

KLA-TENCOR CORPORATION

2012 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS PROXY STATEMENT

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ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

OF

KLA-TENCOR CORPORATION

To be held on November 7, 2012

PROXY STATEMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING PROXY MATERIALS

1. Why am I receiving these materials?

The Board of Directors (the Board) of KLA-Tencor Corporation (KLA-Tencor, the Company or we) is providing these proxy materials to you connection with KLA-Tencor s Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 12:00 p.m., local time (the Annual Meeting). As a stockholder of record, you are invited to attend the Annual Meeting, which will be held in Building Three of our Milpitas facility, located at Three Technology Drive, Milpitas, California 95035. The purposes of the Annual Meeting are set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and this Proxy Statement.

These proxy solicitation materials, together with our Annual Report for fiscal year 2012, were first made available on or about September , 2012 to all stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. KLA-Tencor s principal executive offices are located at One Technology Drive, Milpitas, California 95035, and our telephone number is (408) 875-3000.

2. How may I obtain KLA-Tencor s Annual Report on Form 10-K?

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal year 2012 is available free of charge on the Internet from the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) at http://www.sec.gov, as well as on our website at http://ir.kla-tencor.com.

3. Why did I receive a notice in the mail regarding the Internet availability of the proxy materials instead of a paper copy of the proxy materials?

This year, relying on the SEC rule that allows companies to furnish their proxy materials over the Internet, we are again mailing to our stockholders a notice regarding the Internet availability of the proxy materials instead of a paper copy of the proxy materials. All stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials over the Internet and request to receive a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a paper copy may be found in the notice. In addition, the notice contains instructions on how you may request to access proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically on an ongoing basis.

4. How can I access the proxy materials over the Internet?

Your notice regarding the Internet availability of the proxy materials, proxy card or voting instruction card will contain instructions on how to:

Access and view our proxy materials for the Annual Meeting on the Internet; and

Instruct us to send our future proxy materials to you electronically by e-mail.

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Our proxy materials are also available on our website at the following address: http://www.kla-tencor.com/annualmeeting.

Your notice regarding the Internet availability of the proxy materials, proxy card or voting instruction card will contain instructions on how you may request to access proxy materials electronically on an ongoing basis. Choosing to access your future proxy materials electronically will help us conserve natural resources and reduce the costs of printing and distributing our proxy materials. If you choose to access future proxy materials electronically, you will receive an e-mail with instructions containing a link to the website where those materials are available and a link to the proxy voting website. Your election to access proxy materials by e-mail will remain in effect until you terminate it.

5. How may I obtain a paper copy of the proxy materials?

Stockholders receiving a notice regarding the Internet availability of the proxy materials will find instructions in that notice about how to obtain a paper copy of the proxy materials. Stockholders receiving notice of the availability of the proxy materials by e-mail will find instructions in that e-mail about how to obtain a paper copy of the proxy materials. Stockholders who have previously submitted a standing request to receive paper copies of our proxy materials will receive a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail.

6. What should I do if I receive more than one set of voting materials?

You may request delivery of a single copy of our future proxy statements and annual reports by writing to the address provided in the answer to Question 7 below or calling our Investor Relations department at the telephone number below. Stockholders may also request electronic delivery of future proxy statements by writing to the address below, by calling our Investor Relations department at (408) 875-3600 or via our website at http://ir.kla-tencor.com.

7. I received one copy of these materials. May I get additional copies?

Certain stockholders who share an address are being delivered only one copy of this Proxy Statement. You may receive additional copies of this Proxy Statement without charge by sending a written request to KLA-Tencor Corporation, Attention: Investor Relations, One Technology Drive, Milpitas, California 95035. Requests may also be made by calling our Investor Relations department at (408) 875-3600.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING THE ANNUAL MEETING

8. Who may vote at the Annual Meeting?

You may vote at the Annual Meeting if our records showed that you owned shares of KLA-Tencor Common Stock as of the close of business on September 18, 2012 (the Record Date). At the close of business on that date, we had a total of shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding, which were held of record by approximately stockholders. As of the Record Date, we had shares of Preferred Stock outstanding. You are entitled to one vote for each share that you own.

The Annual Meeting will be held if a majority of the outstanding Common Stock entitled to vote is represented at the Annual Meeting. If you have returned valid proxy instructions or attend the Annual Meeting in person, your Common Stock will be counted for the purpose of

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determining whether there is a quorum, even if you wish to abstain from voting on some or all matters at the Annual Meeting.

9. What proposals are being voted on at the Annual Meeting?

In addition to such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof, the following four proposals will be presented at the Annual Meeting:

- A. Election as Class II Directors of four candidates nominated by our Board to each serve for a three-year term;
- B. Ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013;
- Approval of an amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board of Directors; and
- D. Advisory approval of our executive compensation.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING PROXY SOLICITATION AND VOTING

10. How can I vote if I own shares directly?

Most stockholders do not own shares registered directly in their name, but rather are beneficial holders of shares held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee (that is, shares held in street name). Those stockholders should refer to Question 11 below for instructions regarding how to vote their shares.

If, however, your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, you are considered, with respect to those shares, the stockholder of record, and these proxy materials are being sent directly to you. You may vote in the following ways:

- A. By Telephone: Votes may be cast by telephone prior to 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 6, 2012. Stockholders of record who have received notice of the availability of the proxy materials by mail must have the control number that appears on their notice available when voting. Stockholders of record who received notice of the availability of the proxy materials by e-mail must have the control number included in the e-mail available when voting. Stockholders of record who have received a proxy card by mail must have the control number that appears on their proxy card available when voting;
- B. **By Internet**: Votes may be cast through the Internet voting site prior to 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 6, 2012. Stockholders who have received notice of the availability of the proxy materials by mail may submit proxies over the Internet by following the instructions on the notice. Stockholders who have received notice of the availability of the proxy materials by e-mail may submit proxies over the Internet by following the instructions included in the e-mail. Stockholders who have received a paper copy of a proxy card or voting instruction card by mail may submit proxies over the Internet by following the instructions on the proxy card or voting instruction card;

C.

By Mail: Votes may also be cast by mail, as long as the proxy card or voting instruction card is delivered to the Company prior to 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on

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November 6, 2012. Stockholders who have received a paper copy of a proxy card or voting instruction card by mail may submit proxies by completing, signing and dating their proxy card or voting instruction card and mailing it in the accompanying pre-addressed envelope; or

D. <u>In Person</u>: Attend the Annual Meeting and vote your shares in person.

Whichever of these methods you select to transmit your instructions, the proxy holders will vote your shares in accordance with those instructions.

If you vote by mail, telephone or Internet without giving specific voting instructions, your shares will be voted FOR Proposal One (the election of the four nominees listed herein for the Board), FOR Proposal Two (the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm), FOR Proposal Three (the approval of an amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board), and FOR Proposal Four (the advisory approval of our executive compensation). When proxies are properly dated, executed and returned (whether by returned proxy card, telephone or Internet), the shares represented by such proxies will be voted at the Annual Meeting in accordance with the instructions of the stockholder. However, if no specific instructions are given, the shares will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of our Board and as the proxy holders may determine in their discretion with respect to any other matters that properly come before the meeting.

11. How may I vote if my shares are held in a stock brokerage account, or by a bank or other nominee?

If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered the *beneficial* owner of shares held in street name, and your broker or nominee is considered the *stockholder of record* with respect to those shares. Your broker or nominee should be forwarding these proxy materials to you. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker how to vote, and you are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting. However, since you are not the stockholder of record, you may not vote these shares in person at the Annual Meeting. If a broker, bank or other nominee holds your shares, you will receive instructions from them that you must follow in order to have your shares voted.

12. Can I change my vote?

You may change your vote at any time prior to the vote at the Annual Meeting. To change your proxy instructions if you are a stockholder of record, you must:

Advise our General Counsel in writing at our principal executive offices, before the proxy holders vote your shares, that you wish to revoke your proxy instructions; or

Deliver proxy instructions dated after your earlier proxy instructions, in any of the voting methods described in the response to Question 10 above.

If you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, you should contact the broker, bank or other nominee that holds your shares for instructions regarding how to change your vote.

13. Who will bear the cost of this proxy solicitation?

KLA-Tencor is making this proxy solicitation, and we will pay the entire cost of this solicitation, including preparing, assembling, printing, mailing and distributing the notices and

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these proxy materials and soliciting votes. We have retained the services of D.F. King & Company to aid in the solicitation of proxies from brokers, bank nominees and other institutional owners. We estimate that we will pay D.F. King fees of approximately \$7,500 (plus reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses) for this solicitation activity, forwarding solicitation material to beneficial and registered stockholders and processing the results. Certain of our Directors, officers and regular employees, without additional compensation, may solicit proxies personally or by telephone.

14. Can my broker vote my shares if I do not instruct him or her how I would like my shares voted?

Yes, but only on a limited range of proposals. If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by your broker or nominee (the record holder) along with a voting card. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your record holder how to vote your shares, and your record holder is required to vote your shares in accordance with your instructions. Record holders do not have discretion to vote your shares on the election of directors, on the amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board, or on the advisory vote to approve our executive compensation, in each case in the absence of specific instructions from you (the beneficial owner). Therefore, if you do not give instructions to your record holder, the record holder will only be entitled to vote your shares in its discretion on Proposal Two (the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm).

15. Are abstentions and broker non-votes counted?

Shares that are voted FOR, AGAINST, WITHHELD or ABSTAIN are treated as being present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum and are also treated as shares entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting (Votes Cast).

For Proposal One (the election of Directors), you are only able to vote your shares as either FOR or WITHHELD. Shares that are voted without giving specific voting instructions will be voted as described in the answers to Questions 10 and 14. Accordingly, abstentions will not be relevant to or impact the election of Directors.

For Proposal Two (the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm), Proposal Three (the amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board) and Proposal Four (the advisory vote to approve our executive compensation), you are able to vote your shares as FOR, AGAINST or ABSTAIN. Since abstentions will be counted for Proposals Two, Three and Four for purposes of determining both (i) the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business and (ii) the total number of Votes Cast with respect to the proposal, an abstention on Proposal Two, Three or Four will have the same effect as a vote against that proposal.

Proposals Two and Four are non-binding advisory votes, for which our Board and its committees will give careful consideration to the voting results.

For all proposals, shares that are subject to a broker non-vote are counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists but not for purposes of determining whether a proposal has passed.

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16. How does the Board recommend that I vote?

The Board recommends that stockholders vote as follows:

- A. FOR the election of the four Class II Director candidates nominated by our Board: Robert P. Akins, Robert T. Bond, Kiran M. Patel and David C. Wang;
- B. FOR the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013;
- C. FOR the amendment of our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board; and
- D. FOR the approval of our executive compensation.

17. Will any other business be transacted at the Annual Meeting?

We are not aware of any matters to be presented other than those described in this Proxy Statement. In the unlikely event that any matters not described in this Proxy Statement are properly presented at the Annual Meeting, the proxy holders will use their own judgment to determine how to vote.

18. What happens if the Annual Meeting is adjourned or postponed?

If the Annual Meeting is adjourned or postponed, the proxy holders can vote your shares on the new meeting date as well, unless you have properly revoked your proxy instructions.

19. Where can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?

We intend to announce preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting and publish final results in a Current Report on Form 8-K to be filed with the SEC within four business days of the Annual Meeting.

<u>OUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS, DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS BY STOCKHOLDERS AND RELATED BYLAW PROVISIONS</u>

20. Can I present other business to be transacted from the floor at the Annual Meeting?

A stockholder may only present a matter from the floor of a meeting of stockholders for consideration at that meeting if certain procedures set forth in our bylaws are followed, including delivery of advance notice by such stockholder to us. We only received one timely notice with respect to the Annual Meeting regarding the presentation by a stockholder of business from the floor of the meeting, and that notice was subsequently withdrawn by the proposing stockholder. Accordingly, we do not expect to acknowledge any business presented from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

21. What is the deadline to propose actions for consideration at next year s annual meeting of stockholders?

You may submit proposals for consideration at future stockholder meetings. For a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement for next year s annual meeting of stockholders (which is expected to be held in November 2013), our Corporate Secretary must

receive the written proposal at our principal executive offices no later than May 30, 2013.

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Such proposals also must comply with SEC regulations under Rule 14a-8 regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary

KLA-Tencor Corporation

One Technology Drive

Milpitas, California 95035

Fax: (408) 875-4266

For a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement under Rule 14a-8, the stockholder must provide the information required by our bylaws and give timely notice to our Corporate Secretary in accordance with our bylaws, which, in general, require that the notice be received by our Corporate Secretary:

No earlier than the close of business on July 10, 2013, and

No later than the close of business on August 9, 2013.

If the date of the stockholders meeting is moved more than 30 days before or 60 days after November 7, 2013, then notice of a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in our proxy statement under Rule 14a-8 must be received no earlier than the close of business 120 days prior to the meeting and no later than the close of business on the later of the following two dates:

90 days prior to the meeting; and

10 days after public announcement of the meeting date.

22. How may I recommend or nominate individuals to serve as directors?

You may propose director candidates for consideration by the Board s Nominating and Governance Committee. Any such recommendations should include the nominee s name and qualifications for Board membership and should be directed to our Corporate Secretary at the address of our principal executive offices set forth in Question 21 above.

In addition, our bylaws permit stockholders to nominate directors for election at an annual meeting of stockholders. To nominate a director, the stockholder must deliver the information required by our bylaws and a statement by the nominee acknowledging that he or she will owe a fiduciary obligation to KLA-Tencor and its stockholders.

23. What is the deadline to propose or nominate individuals to serve as directors?

A stockholder may send a proposed director candidate s name and information to the Board at any time. Generally, such proposed candidates are considered at the first or second Board meeting prior to the annual meeting.

To nominate an individual for election at an annual meeting of stockholders, the stockholder must give timely notice to our Corporate Secretary in accordance with our bylaws, which, for next year s annual meeting of stockholders, will generally require that the notice be received by our Corporate Secretary between the close of business on July 10, 2013 and the close of business on August 9, 2013, unless the annual meeting is

moved by more than 30 days before or 60 days after November 7, 2013, in which case the deadline will be as described in Question 21 above.

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24. How may I obtain a copy of KLA-Tencor s bylaws?

For a free copy of our bylaws, please contact our Investor Relations department at (408) 875-3600. A copy of our bylaws is also available free of charge on the Internet on our website at http://ir.kla-tencor.com and from the SEC s website at http://ir.kla-tencor.com and from the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov.

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PROPOSAL ONE:

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Background

We currently have a classified Board consisting of 11 directors divided into three classes, designated Class I, Class II and Class III. At each annual meeting, a class of Directors is elected for a full term of three years to succeed those Directors whose terms expire at that annual meeting. At this Annual Meeting, the terms of the Class II Directors are expiring.

Subject to approval of Proposal Three below (the amendment to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to declassify our Board), commencing with our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders, directors will be elected annually for one-year terms. However, directors elected prior to our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders (including those directors elected at this Annual Meeting under this Proposal One) will continue to serve the balance of their existing three-year terms. If Proposal Three is not approved, our Board will remain classified, and directors will continue to be elected for three-year terms.

The three incumbent Class I Directors are Robert M. Calderoni, John T. Dickson and Kevin J. Kennedy. The Class I Directors will serve until the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2014 or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified.

The four incumbent Class II Directors are Robert P. Akins, Robert T. Bond, Kiran M. Patel and David C. Wang. These Directors are up for re-election at the Annual Meeting.

The four incumbent Class III Directors are Edward W. Barnholt, Emiko Higashi, Stephen P. Kaufman and Richard P. Wallace. The Class III Directors will serve until the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2013 or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified.

Nominees

The term of the four current Class II Directors will expire on the date of the Annual Meeting. The four incumbent Class II Directors are nominated for election at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating and Governance Committee, consisting solely of independent Directors as determined under the rules of the NASDAQ Stock Market, recommended the Class II Director nominees as set forth in this Proposal One. Based on that recommendation, the members of the Board resolved to nominate such individuals for election.

The four candidates nominated by the Board for election as Class II Directors by the stockholders are:

Robert P. Akins;
Robert T. Bond;
Kiran M. Patel; and

David C. Wang.

If elected, the nominees for Class II Directors will serve as Directors until our annual meeting of stockholders in 2015, each until his successor is duly elected and qualified. If any nominee declines to serve or becomes unavailable for any reason, or a vacancy occurs before the election,

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the proxies may be voted for such substitute nominees as the Board may designate. As of the date of this Proxy Statement, the Board is not aware of any nominee who is unable or who will decline to serve as a Director.

Vote Required and Recommendation

If a quorum is present and voting, the four nominees for Class II Directors receiving the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected as Class II Directors. Votes withheld from any Director and broker non-votes are counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum but have no other legal effect on the selection of nominees for Directors. In accordance with our corporate governance policies, anyone who is elected as a Director in any uncontested election by a plurality and not a majority of votes cast is expected to promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board, subject to acceptance by the Board, after certification of the election results. The Nominating and Governance Committee will make a recommendation to the Board whether to accept or reject the resignation or take some other appropriate action, taking into account any stated reasons why stockholders withheld votes and any other factors that the Nominating and Governance Committee determines in its sole discretion are relevant to such decision. The Board will in its sole discretion act on the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee within 90 days after the date of certification of the election results. The Director who tenders his or her resignation will not participate in the decisions of the Nominating and Governance Committee or the Board regarding his or her resignation.

The Board unanimously recommends a vote <u>FO</u>R each of the Class II Director nominees, with the Directors who are nominees abstaining.

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INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ITS COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors

Our Board held a total of seven meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. All Directors other than Mr. Wallace meet the definition of independence within the meaning of the NASDAQ Stock Market director independence standards.

The Board has three standing committees: the Audit Committee; the Compensation Committee; and the Nominating and Governance Committee. The Board has determined that each of the members of each of the Committees has no material relationship with the Company (including any relationship that, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment as a Director) and is independent within the meaning of the NASDAQ Stock Market director independence standards, including, in the case of the Audit Committee, the heightened independence standard required for such Committee members.

Each Committee meets regularly and has a written charter approved by the Board, all of which are available on our website at http://ir.kla-tencor.com. The Board and each Committee regularly review the Committee charters. In addition, at each quarterly Board meeting, a member of each Committee reports on any significant matters addressed by the Committee.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, each of the incumbent Directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate of (a) the total number of meetings of the Board held during the period for which such person served as a Director and (b) the total number of meetings held by all Committees of the Board on which such Director served (during the periods that such Director served), with the exception of Mr. Akins, who attended nine of the 13 applicable Board and Committee meetings during the year (i.e., 69%). Mr. Akins has maintained an excellent attendance record at Board and Committee meetings during his tenure as a Director of the Company, attending 100%, 88% and 93% of the applicable meetings during fiscal years 2009, 2010 and 2011 (Mr. Akins first three full fiscal years of Board service), respectively, and, during fiscal year 2012, he attended seven of the eight regularly scheduled quarterly meetings (i.e., 88%) of the Board and Compensation Committee (the Committee on which he served). Three of the four meetings that Mr. Akins did not attend during fiscal year 2012 were special meetings (including two separate meetings of the Board and Compensation Committee that were held on one day), which in each case were scheduled on short notice at times that, though unavailable for Mr. Akins, were available for a majority of the applicable Board or Committee members. Throughout fiscal year 2012, Mr. Akins participated in major decisions of the Board and communicated with his fellow Directors and with Company management before and after the meetings that he was unable to attend in order to remain apprised of, and provide feedback regarding, the activities of the Board and Compensation Committee.

Although we do not have a formal policy mandating attendance by members of the Board at our annual meetings of stockholders, we do have a formal policy encouraging their attendance at such meetings. Ten of the eleven members of our Board attended our annual meeting of stockholders held on November 3, 2011.

For more information regarding the responsibilities of our Board Committees, please refer to the various charters which can be found, along with our Standards of Business Conduct, Corporate Governance Standards and other governance-related information, on our corporate governance website located at http://ir.kla-tencor.com.

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Board Leadership Structure

KLA-Tencor currently separates the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board. Since October 2006, Mr. Barnholt, one of our independent Directors, has served as our Chairman of the Board. The responsibilities of the Chairman of the Board include: setting the agenda for each Board meeting, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer; chairing the meetings of the Board; presiding at executive sessions; facilitating and conducting, with the Nominating and Governance Committee, the annual self-assessments by the Board and each standing committee of the Board; and conducting, with the Compensation Committee, a formal evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer in the context of the annual compensation review.

Separating the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board allows our Chief Executive Officer to focus on our day-to-day business, while allowing the Chairman of the Board to lead the Board in its fundamental role of providing advice to and independent oversight of management. The Board believes that having an independent Director serve as Chairman of the Board is the appropriate leadership structure for the Company at this time.

However, our Corporate Governance Standards permit the roles of the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer to be filled by the same or different individuals. This provides the Board with flexibility to determine whether the two roles should be combined in the future based on KLA-Tencor s needs and the Board s assessment of the Company s leadership from time to time. Our Corporate Governance Standards provide that, in the event that the Chairman of the Board is not an independent Director, the independent members of the Board will designate a lead independent director.

Board s Role in Oversight of Risk

Our Board, as a whole and through its committees, has responsibility for the oversight of risk management. In its oversight role, our Board has the responsibility to satisfy itself that the risk management processes designed and implemented by management are adequate and functioning as designed. The involvement of the Board in working with management to establish our business strategy at least annually is a key part of its oversight of risk management, its assessment of management is appetite for risk and its determination of what constitutes an appropriate level of risk for KLA-Tencor. In addition, the Board conducts a comprehensive review of the Company is overall risk environment and its risk management efforts at least once per year. The Board and its committees also regularly receive updates from management (including representatives of our legal and internal audit teams) regarding certain risks that we face, including industry, business, macroeconomic, litigation and other operating risks.

While our Board is ultimately responsible for risk oversight at KLA-Tencor, our Board has delegated to the Audit Committee the primary responsibility for the active oversight of our enterprise risk management activities. Our Audit Committee is not only responsible for overseeing risk management of financial matters, the adequacy of our risk-related internal controls, financial reporting and internal investigations, but its charter also provides that the Committee will discuss at least annually KLA-Tencor s risk assessment, enterprise risk management processes and major financial exposures, as well as the steps our management has taken to monitor and control those exposures. Our Audit Committee reports its findings and activities to the Board at each quarterly Board meeting.

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In addition, our other Board committees each oversee certain aspects of risk management. Our Compensation Committee oversees risks related to our compensation policies and practices, and our Nominating and Governance Committee oversees governance related risks, such as Board independence and conflicts of interest, as well as management and director succession planning. The Committees report their findings and activities to the Board.

While the Board is responsible for risk oversight, management is responsible for risk management. KLA-Tencor maintains an effective internal controls environment and has processes to identify and manage risk, including an Executive Risk Council comprised of representatives from our legal, human resources, finance, internal audit, compliance and operational teams. This council reports to our Chief Executive Officer and has oversight of the various risk assessment, monitoring and controls processes across the Company.

Audit Committee

From the beginning of fiscal year 2012 through the date of this Proxy Statement, the Audit Committee has consisted of Ms. Higashi and Messrs. Bond, Calderoni, Patel and Wang, with Mr. Calderoni serving as the Chairman of the Committee.

The Board has determined that, of the current members of the Audit Committee, each of Mr. Calderoni, Ms. Higashi and Mr. Patel is an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of the rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC.

The Audit Committee is responsible for appointing and overseeing the work of our independent registered public accounting firm, approving the services performed by our independent registered public accounting firm, and reviewing and evaluating our accounting principles and system of internal accounting controls. In addition, our Vice President of Internal Audit, who is supervised by our Chief Financial Officer, formally reports into the Audit Committee and provides updates at each quarterly meeting. The Audit Committee held eight meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

The Board has determined that each of the members of the Audit Committee: (1) meets the definition of independence within the meaning of NASDAQ s director independence standards, (2) meets the definition of audit committee member independence within the meaning of Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and (3) has no material relationship with KLA-Tencor (including any relationship that, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment as a Director).

Compensation Committee

From the beginning of fiscal year 2012 through the date of this Proxy Statement, the Compensation Committee has consisted of Messrs. Akins, Barnholt, Dickson, Kaufman and Kennedy, with Mr. Kennedy serving as the Chairman of the Committee.

The Compensation Committee reviews and either approves or recommends to the full Board (depending upon the compensation plan and the executive involved) our executive compensation policy and administers our employee equity award plans. The Compensation Committee also reviews and, except with respect to our Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, has the authority to approve the cash and equity compensation for our executive officers and for members of the Board. See Compensation Discussion and Analysis Compensation Approval Procedures for more information concerning the procedures and

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processes the Compensation Committee follows in setting such compensation and implementing the various cash and equity compensation programs in effect for such individuals, including the retention of an independent compensation consultant to provide relevant market data and advice. The Compensation Committee held six meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

Risk Considerations in Our Compensation Programs

Our management conducted an extensive review and analysis of the design and operation of KLA-Tencor s compensation practices, policies and programs for all employees, including the Named Executive Officers, to assess the risks associated with such practices, policies and programs. Our Compensation Committee has reviewed the results of that analysis, including underlying plan data and a risk assessment of significant elements of our compensation program. Based on this review and assessment, we and our Compensation Committee do not believe our compensation program encourages excessive or inappropriate risk-taking for the following reasons:

Our use of different types of compensation provides a balance of short-term and long-term incentives with fixed and variable components;