Hudson Global, Inc.
Form 10-K/A
April 27, 2018
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM 10-K/A

(Amendment No. 1)

x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF  $^{\rm 0}$  1934

Commission file number: 000-50129

HUDSON GLOBAL, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 59-3547281

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(212) 351-7300

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class Name of each exchange on which registered

Common Stock, \$0.001 par value The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC Preferred Share Purchase Rights The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes o No x

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Act. Yes o No x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit to post such flies). Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. x

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definition of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer", "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filero

Accelerated filer

0

Non-accelerated filer o(do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company x

Emerging growth company o

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. o

Indicate by checkmark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes o No x

The aggregate market value of the voting common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$37,596,000 based on the closing price of the Common Stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on June 30, 2017.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class Outstanding on January 31, 2018

Common Stock - \$0.001 par value 31,158,407

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Hudson Global, Inc. filed its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 (the "Original Form 10-K"), with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on March 1, 2018. The Company is filing this Amendment No. 1 to the Original Form 10-K (this "Form 10-K/A") solely for the purpose of including in Part III, the information that was to be incorporated by reference from the Company's definitive proxy statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. This Form 10-K/A hereby amends and restates in their entirety Items 10 through 14 of Part III of the Original Form 10-K.

Pursuant to Rule 12b-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), this Form 10-K/A also contains new certifications pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Accordingly, the Exhibit Index contained in Item 15 of Part IV has also been amended and restated in its entirety to include the currently dated certifications as exhibits and to reflect other applicable changes.

No attempt has been made in this Form 10-K/A to modify or update the other disclosures presented in the Original Form 10-K, including, without limitation, the financial statements. This Form 10-K/A does not reflect events occurring after the filing of the Original Form 10-K or modify or update the disclosures in the Original Form 10-K, except as set forth in this Form 10-K/A, and should be read in conjunction with the Original Form 10-K and the Company's other filings with the SEC.

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#### **PART III**

## ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The information required by Item 10 with respect to our Executive Officers is included in Part I of the Original Form 10-K.

#### **DIRECTORS**

Our directors and director nominees and their ages and positions with us as of April 26, 2018, are as follows:

Name Age Position Alan L. Bazaar 48 Director Richard K. Coleman, Jr. 61 Director

Jeffrey E. Eberwein 47 Chief Executive Officer and Director

Ian V. Nash 62 Director

Alan L. Bazaar has served as a director since June 2015. Mr. Bazaar is the Chief Executive Officer of Hollow Brook Wealth Management LLC, a position he has held since December 2013, where he is responsible for firm-wide operations, investment research and portfolio management, and previously served in this position as Co-Executive Officer since January 2013. Prior to that, Mr. Bazaar served at Hollow Brook as Managing Director from 2010 through 2012. Mr. Bazaar also is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Wireless Telecom Group, Inc., which designs and manufactures radio frequency and microwave-based products for wireless and advanced communications industries, and has served as a director of that company since June 2013. Since May 2016, Mr. Bazaar also has served as a director of Sparton Corporation, a contract designer and manufacturer of complex electromechanical devices. Mr. Bazaar served as a director of LoJack Corporation, a provider of tracking and recovery systems as well as equipment and fleet telematics, from March 2015 until the completion of its sale in March 2016. Mr. Bazaar also served as a director of NTS, Inc., a broadband services and telecommunications company, from 2012 until the completion of its sale in 2014. From 2004 until 2008, Mr. Bazaar served as a director of Media Sciences International, Inc., which manufactured and distributed business color printer supplies and industrial ink applications in the United States. From 1999 until 2009, Mr. Bazaar was a Managing Director and Portfolio Manager at Richard L. Scott Investments, LLC where he co-managed the public equity portfolio and was responsible for all elements of due diligence. Previously, Mr. Bazaar served as a director of Airco Industries, Inc., a privately held manufacturer of aerospace products, and was employed by Arthur Andersen LLP in the Assurance and Financial Buyer's Practices group and in the Business Fraud and Investigation Services Unit. Mr. Bazaar is a certified public accountant, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bucknell University and a Master of Science and Master of Business Administration from the Stern School of Business at New York University. The particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led our Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Bazaar should continue to serve as a director of our company include his public market, financial and accounting expertise.

Richard K. Coleman, Jr. has served as a director since May 2014. Mr. Coleman is the President, Chief Executive Officer and director of Command Center, Inc., a provider of on-demand flexible employment solutions, positions he has held since April 2018. Mr. Coleman has deep experience serving in senior executive positions and on various public company boards, and has gained extensive expertise in business development and operations. Mr. Coleman also is the founder and President of Rocky Mountain Venture Services, a firm that helps companies plan and launch new business ventures and restructuring initiatives. Mr. Coleman also has served in a variety of senior operational roles, including President and Chief Executive Officer of Crossroads Systems, Inc., CEO of Vroom Technologies Inc., Chief Operating Officer of MetroNet Communications, and President of US West Long Distance. He also has held significant officer-level positions with Frontier Communications, Centex Telemanagement and Sprint Communications. He formerly served as a director of Crossroads Systems, Inc., an intellectual property licensing company, from 2013 to 2017, Ciber, Inc., a leading global information technology company, from 2014 to 2017, NTS, Inc., a broadband services and telecommunications company, On Track Innovations Ltd., one of the pioneers of

cashless payment technology, from 2012 to 2014, and Aetrium Incorporated, a recognized world leader in the global semiconductor industry from 2013 to 2014. The particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led our Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Coleman should continue to serve as a director of our company include his extensive business development and operating expertise, his public company board experience, and his broad leadership experience.

Jeffrey E. Eberwein has served as a director since May 2014. Mr. Eberwein is the Chief Executive Officer of our company and has served in that capacity since April 1, 2018. Mr. Eberwein is the Chief Executive Officer of Lone Star Value Management, an investment firm he founded in 2013, and which is in the process of winding down. He has 25 years of Wall

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Street experience, and has valuable public company and financial expertise gained through his employment history and directorships. Prior to founding Lone Star in 2013, Mr. Eberwein was a private investor and served as a portfolio manager at Soros Fund Management from 2009 to 2011 and Viking Global Investors from 2005 to 2008. Mr. Eberwein also is chairman of the board at three other publicly traded companies: AMERI Holdings, Inc., an IT services company; ATRM Holdings, Inc., a modular building company; and Digirad Corporation, a medical imaging company. Additionally, Mr. Eberwein served as a director of Novation Companies, Inc. from April 2015 to March 2018. Mr. Eberwein previously served as chairman of the board of Crossroads Systems, Inc. from June 2013 to May 2016; NTS, Inc. and On Track Innovations Ltd. from 2012 to 2014 and Goldfield Corporation from 2012 to 2013. Mr. Eberwein earned an MBA from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania and a BBA with High Honors from The University of Texas at Austin. The particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led our Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Eberwein should continue to serve as a director of our company include his expertise in finance and experience in the investment community. On February 14, 2017, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission issued an order (Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80038) (the "Order") finding that certain groups of investors failed to properly disclose ownership information during a series of five campaigns to influence or exert control over microcap companies, including Hudson Global, Inc. The Order alleged violations of Section 13(d)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Rule 13d-1 thereunder, Section 13(d)(2) of the Exchange Act and Rule 13d-2(a) thereunder and Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and Rules 16a-2 and 16a-3 thereunder by Mr. Eberwein and a hedge fund adviser headed by him, Lone Star Value Management, mutual fund adviser Heartland Advisors and another investor. Without admitting or denying the findings, they consented to the Order and agreed to cease and desist from committing any violations of the above-referenced Exchange Act provisions and civil penalties of \$90,000 for Mr. Eberwein, \$120,000 for Lone Star Value Management, \$180,000 for Heartland Advisors and \$30,000 for the other investor.

Ian V. Nash has served as a director since October 2015. Mr. Nash has 30 years of experience within the recruitment industry. Mr. Nash served as Chief Financial Officer and as a director of Robert Walters PLC, a London Stock Exchange-listed global recruitment company, from 2001 to 2007. Prior to that, Mr. Nash served as Chief Financial Officer of Michael Page International PLC, a London Stock Exchange-listed global recruitment company, from 1987 to 1999. From 2007 to 2010, Mr. Nash provided consultancy services to several recruitment companies. Currently, Mr. Nash serves as Chairman of two privately-held recruiting firms: Acre Resources Limited, which specializes in sustainability recruitment, and EarthStream Global Limited (a subsidiary of Cloudstream Group Holdings Limited since 2018), a technology and engineering recruiting firm. Mr. Nash has served as Chairman of Acre Resources Limited and EarthStream Global Limited since 2010. Mr. Nash also has served as a director of Cloudstream Group Holdings Limited since 2018. Mr. Nash also has served since 2012 as a director, and until 2018 as Chairman, of Fulfil(1) TopCo Limited, which does business as Investigo Limited, and specializes in professional services recruitment. Mr. Nash also has served since 2013 as a director of Morgan Hunt Holdings Limited, a public-sector recruitment firm. Mr. Nash is a chartered accountant. The particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led our Board of Directors to conclude that Mr. Nash should continue to serve as a director of our company include his extensive recruitment industry experience and expertise in finance.

Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated By-Laws provide that all of our directors stand for election on an annual basis. At the 2018 annual meeting, our stockholders will elect four directors to hold office until the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

**Board Committees** 

Our Board of Directors has standing Audit, Compensation, Nominating and Governance and Strategic Planning Committees. Under the listing standards of the Nasdaq Global Select Market, the members of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees must be comprised solely of independent directors. Accordingly, Mr. Eberwein is not eligible to serve on such committees. All directors receive materials for all Board

committee meetings even if they do not serve, or are not eligible to serve, on the committee.

The Board has adopted, and may amend from time to time, a written charter for each of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Nominating and Governance Committee and Strategic Planning Committee. We maintain a Web site at www.hudson.com and make available on that Web site, free of charge, copies of each of the charters for the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees. We are not including the information contained on or available through this Web site as a part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this proxy statement.

**Audit Committee** 

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The Audit Committee presently consists of Ian V. Nash (Chairman), Alan L. Bazaar and Richard K. Coleman, Jr., each of whom is an independent director under the independence standards of the Nasdaq Global Select Market and Securities and Exchange Commission rules. Our Board of Directors has determined that each of Messrs. Nash, Bazaar and Coleman qualify as an "audit committee financial expert," as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Audit Committee held four meetings in 2017.

The Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities are to assist our Board of Directors in monitoring:

- the integrity of our financial statements;
- the independent registered public accounting firm's qualifications and independence;
- the performance of our internal audit function and of the independent registered public accounting firm; and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

#### **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee presently consists of Richard K. Coleman, Jr. (Chairman), Alan L. Bazaar and Ian V. Nash, each of whom is an independent director under the independence standards of the Nasdaq Global Select Market and Securities and Exchange Commission rules. Our Compensation Committee members also qualified as "outside directors" under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to years prior to 2018. The Compensation Committee held four meetings in 2017.

The Compensation Committee's primary responsibility is to assure that the non-employee members of our Board of Directors, the executive officers, including the Chief Executive Officer, and key management are compensated effectively and in a manner consistent with our stated compensation strategy, internal equity considerations, competitive practices and the requirements of the appropriate regulatory bodies. The Compensation Committee has overall responsibility for approving and evaluating the compensation of executive officers (including the Chief Executive Officer), key management and outside directors, and administers our long-term incentive programs, including our equity compensation plan.

The Compensation Committee has retained the services of an independent, external compensation consultant, Pay Governance LLC. Pay Governance LLC has served as the independent compensation consultant to the Compensation Committee since 2010. The mandate of the consultant is to work for the Compensation Committee in its review of executive and director compensation practices, including the competitiveness of pay levels, executive compensation design issues, market trends and technical considerations. The consultant does not determine or recommend amounts or forms of compensation. The historical and ongoing nature and scope of services rendered by the independent compensation consultant on the Compensation Committee's behalf is described below:

competitive market pay analyses, Board of Director pay studies, dilution analyses, and market trends;

ongoing support with regard to the latest relevant regulatory, technical, and/or accounting considerations affecting executive compensation and benefit programs;

guidance on overall compensation program structure and executive employment agreement terms; and

preparation for and attendance at selected management, Board committee, or Board of Director meetings.

The Compensation Committee has the final authority to hire and terminate Pay Governance LLC or any other compensation adviser. The Compensation Committee also evaluates Pay Governance LLC periodically. In addition, the Compensation Committee has the responsibility to consider the independence of Pay Governance LLC or any other compensation adviser before engaging the adviser. During 2017, the Compensation Committee reviewed the

independence of Pay Governance LLC and the individual representatives of Pay Governance LLC who served as the Compensation Committee's consultants pursuant to the requirements of Nasdaq and the Securities and Exchange Commission and the specific independence factors that the requirements cite and concluded, based on such review, that Pay Governance LLC's work for the Compensation Committee does not raise any conflict of interest. In 2017, Pay Governance LLC did not provide any services to the Compensation Committee other than the executive and director compensation-related consulting services as described previously. Management did not obtain any services from Pay Governance LLC in 2017.

Nominating and Governance Committee

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The Nominating and Governance Committee presently consists of Alan L. Bazaar (Chairman), Richard K. Coleman, Jr., and Ian V. Nash, each of whom is an independent director under the independence standards of the Nasdaq Global Select Market. The Nominating and Governance Committee held four meetings in 2017.

The Nominating and Governance Committee provides assistance to our Board of Directors by:

identifying individuals qualified to become directors and recommending to the Board candidates for all directorships to be filled by the Board or by our stockholders;

identifying directors qualified to serve on the committees established by the Board and recommending to the Board members for each committee to be filled by the Board;

identifying directors qualified to serve as Chairman of the Board and recommending to the Board nominees for Chairman of the Board; and

developing and recommending to the Board a set of corporate governance principles, including matters of:

Board organization, membership and function;

Board committee structure and membership;

succession planning for our Chief Executive Officer; and

taking a leadership role in shaping our corporate governance.

In identifying and evaluating nominees for director, the Nominating and Governance Committee seeks to ensure that our Board of Directors possesses, in the aggregate, the strategic, managerial and financial skills and experience necessary to fulfill its duties and to achieve its objectives. The Nominating and Governance Committee also seeks to ensure that the Board is comprised of directors who have broad and diverse backgrounds, possessing knowledge in areas that are important to us. In addition, the Nominating and Governance Committee believes it is important that at least one director has the requisite experience and expertise to be designated as an "audit committee financial expert." The Nominating and Governance Committee looks at each nominee on a case-by-case basis regardless of who recommended the nominee.

In looking at the qualifications of each candidate to determine if their election would further the goals described above, the Nominating and Governance Committee takes into account all factors it considers appropriate, which may include strength of character, mature judgment, career specialization, relevant technical skills or financial acumen, diversity of viewpoint and industry knowledge. The Nominating and Governance Committee also believes that candidates should be selected so that the Board of Directors is a diverse body, with diversity reflecting, among other things, age, gender, race and professional experience. At a minimum, each director nominee must have displayed the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values, and sound business judgment. In addition, the Nominating and Governance Committee believes a director should possess the following minimum qualifications to be recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee to the Board:

A director must be highly accomplished in his or her respective field, with superior credentials and recognition and broad experience at the administrative and/or policy-making level in business, government, education, technology or public interest.

• A director must have expertise and experience relevant to our business and be able to offer advice and guidance to the Chief Executive Officer based on that expertise and experience.

A director must be independent of any particular constituency, be able to represent all of our stockholders and be committed to enhancing long-term stockholder value.

A director must have sufficient time available to devote to activities of the Board and to enhance his or her knowledge of our business.

The Nominating and Governance Committee has the authority to retain a search firm to assist it in identifying director nominees, and the Nominating and Governance Committee provides the search firm with the criteria for the director nominees as described above.

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The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider persons recommended by stockholders to become nominees for election as directors in accordance with the foregoing and other criteria set forth in our Nominating and Governance Committee Charter, which is available on our website as described above. Recommendations for consideration by the Nominating and Governance Committee should be sent to our Corporate Secretary in writing, together with appropriate biographical information concerning each proposed nominee. Our By-Laws also set forth certain requirements for stockholders wishing to nominate director candidates directly for consideration by the stockholders. With respect to an election of directors to be held at an annual meeting, a stockholder must, among other things, give notice of an intent to make such a nomination to our Corporate Secretary in advance of the meeting in compliance with the terms and within the time period specified in our By-Laws. Pursuant to our By-Laws, a stockholder must give a written notice of intent to our Corporate Secretary not less than 45 days and not more than 75 days prior to the first anniversary of the date on which we first mailed our proxy materials for the preceding year's annual meeting of stockholders.

#### Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee presently consists of Ian V. Nash (Chairman), Alan L. Bazaar, and Richard K. Coleman, Jr. The Strategic Planning Committee held five meetings in 2017.

The Strategic Planning Committee provides assistance to our Board of Directors by:

assisting our Board of Directors in assessing whether our management has the resources necessary to implement our company's strategy;

assessing external developments and factors, including changes in the economy, competition, and technology, on our company's strategy and execution of its strategy; and

advising on strategic development activities, including those not in the ordinary course of business, under consideration from time to time by our company.

#### **Board Leadership Structure**

We have separate positions of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. The reasons why our Board of Directors separates the positions of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer include that we believe this leadership structure helps to promote more effective governance and oversight of our company by our Board of Directors and to allow our Chief Executive Officer to focus on the execution of our company's strategy and operations.

Our independent directors meet regularly without management, including our Chief Executive Officer, and are active in the oversight of our company. Our Board of Directors and each Board committee have access to members of our management and the authority to retain independent legal, accounting or other advisors as they deem necessary or appropriate. Our Chief Executive Officer does not serve on any Board committee.

The duties and responsibilities of our independent Chairman include the following:

coordinate the activities of the independent directors and serve as a liaison between the independent directors and our Chief Executive Officer;

chair meetings and executive sessions at which only the independent directors attend;

advise our Chief Executive Officer as to the quality, quantity and timeliness of the flow of information from management that is necessary for the independent directors to effectively perform their duties;

jointly with the Compensation Committee, conduct an annual evaluation of the performance of the Chief Executive Officer and report to the Board of Directors the results of that evaluation;

•in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer, consider potential conflicts of interest of directors;

conduct, as appropriate, exit interviews of senior management upon resignation; and

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recommend to the Chief Executive Officer the retention of outside advisors and consultants who report directly to the Board of Directors.

We believe that our board leadership structure provides an appropriate balance between strong and strategic leadership and independent oversight of our company, and that our board leadership structure continues to serve the best interests of our company and stockholders.

#### Risk Oversight

The Audit Committee of our Board of Directors oversees our risk management process. Our Risk Committee, which consists of certain members of our senior management and our Internal Audit, Enterprise Risk and Controls consultant, has day-to-day responsibility for our risk management process. The members of the Risk Committee are our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Counsel and our Internal Audit, Enterprise Risk and Controls consultant. Our Internal Audit, Enterprise Risk and Controls consultant serves as the liaison between the Risk Committee and the Audit Committee. Our Internal Audit, Enterprise Risk and Controls consultant provides periodic updates to the Audit Committee on behalf of the Risk Committee regarding, among other things, risk assessments and actions taken to mitigate risks. In addition, our Internal Audit, Enterprise Risk and Controls consultant reports directly to the Chairman of the Audit Committee and provides periodic updates to the Audit Committee about risk management issues, particularly those regarding accounting and finance related risks. Also, our Corporate Counsel provides periodic updates to our Board of Directors regarding claims against our company.

#### Corporate Governance Guidelines

Our Board of Directors has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines to further promote the effective functioning of our Board and Board committees and to set forth a common set of expectations as to how our Board and Board committees should perform their functions. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines are available, free of charge, on our Web site at www.hudson.com.

#### Compensation Recovery Policy

In December 2016, our Board of Directors adopted a compensation recovery policy, effective January 1, 2017, pursuant to which certain incentive-based compensation received by our executive officers on the basis of financial results that are later restated may be subject to recovery. The incentive-based compensation subject to the policy includes any compensation that is granted, earned or vested based wholly or in part upon the attainment of a measure that is determined and presented in accordance with the accounting principles used in preparing our financial statements, any measures that are derived wholly or in part from such measures, or stock price or total shareholder return. We intend to amend the policy as and when necessary to reflect applicable changes in law and stock exchange listing standards, including the requirements of the final regulations and listing standards expected to be promulgated pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010.

#### Meetings and Attendance

Our Board of Directors held eleven meetings in 2017. Each of the directors currently serving on our Board of Directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board held in 2017 and meetings held by each committee of the Board on which such director served during the period that the director so served in 2017. Directors are expected to attend our annual meeting of stockholders each year. At the 2017 annual meeting of stockholders, all of the directors then serving were in attendance either in-person or by teleconference.

#### Communications with Board of Directors

You may communicate with our Board of Directors by writing to our Corporate Secretary at Hudson Global, Inc., c/o the Board of Directors (or, at your option, c/o a specific director), 1325 Avenue of the Americas, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10019. The Corporate Secretary will deliver this communication to the Board or the specified director, as the case may be.

#### Code of Conduct

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our employees and a Code of Ethics for the Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Financial and Accounting Officers. We have posted a copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and the Code of Ethics on our website at www.hudson.com. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and

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the Code of Ethics are also available in print to any stockholder who requests them in writing from the Corporate Secretary at 1325 Avenue of the Americas, 12th Floor, New York, New York 10019. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirements under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding amendments to, or waivers from, our Code of Ethics by posting such information on our website at www.hudson.com. We are not including the information contained on our website as part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this report.

#### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires our directors and executive officers to file reports concerning their ownership of our equity securities with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Based solely on a review of the copies of such forms furnished to us and on written representations that no Form 5 was required to be filed, we believe that, during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, all of our directors and executive officers timely complied with the Section 16(a) filing requirements.

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#### ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

#### **DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

The following table sets forth information regarding the compensation received during 2017 by each of our directors during 2017, other than Mr. Nolan who did not receive any compensation for serving as a director and whose compensation as an executive officer is set forth below under "Executive Compensation-Summary Compensation Table."

	Fees			
	Earned	Stock	Option	
Name	or	Awards	Awards	Total
	Paid in	(1)	(2)	
	Cash			
Alan L. Bazaar	<b>\$</b> —	\$124,003	\$	-\$124,003
Richard K. Coleman, Jr.	<b>\$</b> —	\$137,003	\$	_\$137,003
Jeffrey E. Eberwein (3)	<b>\$</b> —	\$134,003	\$	_\$134,003
Ian V. Nash	\$75,000	\$124,503	\$	_\$199,503

The dollar amount shown reflects the aggregate grant date fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 for all awards of share units granted during the fiscal year under our Director Deferred Share Plan.

Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts are included in Note 6 to the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017.

- (2) During 2017, no directors were granted options to purchase shares of our common stock. The aggregate number of outstanding stock options as of December 31, 2017 for each of our directors named above was: Mr. Bazaar, 0; Mr. Coleman, 0; Mr. Eberwein, 0; and Mr. Nash, 50,000.
- (3) Mr. Eberwein became our Chief Executive Officer on April 1, 2018 and, as such, will not receive Compensation as a director after that date. See "Executive Compensation Executive Employment Agreement with Jeffrey E. Eberwein" for more information regarding compensation Mr. Eberwein will be entitled to for serving as our Chief Executive Officer.

## Retainer and Meeting Fees

Each non-employee director is entitled to receive an annual retainer of \$25,000 paid in quarterly installments, a fee of \$2,000 for each Board and Board committee meeting attended in person, and a fee of \$1,000 for each telephonic Board and Board committee meeting in which the director participates. The Chairmen of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, Nominating and Governance Committee and Strategic Planning Committees receive an additional annual retainer of \$25,000, \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$75,000, respectively, paid in quarterly installments. The annual retainer, the fees for attending in-person and telephonic Board and Board committee meetings, and the retainer for serving as a Chairman of a Board committee, except for the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee, are paid in share units each pursuant to the "Director Deferred Share Plan" as described below. The retainer for serving as the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee is paid in cash in quarterly installments. Also, each non-employee director is entitled to receive \$65,000 annually paid in share units as described below under "Director Deferred Share Plan." Additionally, directors are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses associated with attending meetings of the Board and Board committees.

Director Deferred Share Plan

Each quarter, effective seven calendar days following the release of our earnings, the retirement account of each non-employee director is credited under our Director Deferred Share Plan with the applicable number of share units for the quarterly portion of the annual retainer, the fees for attending in-person and telephonic Board and Board committee meetings, and the quarterly portion of the retainer for serving as a chairman of a Board committee. Also, on the date of our annual meeting of stockholders, the retirement account of each non-employee direc