OVERSTOCK.COM, INC Form DEF 14A March 16, 2015

Use these links to rapidly review the document <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

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 ý

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- ý Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

#### Overstock.com, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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

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o	Fee p	aid previously with preliminary materials.	
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	(4)	Date Filed:	

#### 6350 South 3000 East Salt Lake City, Utah 84121 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To Be Held at 1:00 p.m. on May 5, 2015

#### Dear Fellow Stockholders:

We cordially invite you to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Overstock.com, Inc. (the "Company"). The meeting will be held at the Calvin L. Rampton Salt Palace Convention Center, located at 100 S. West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, at 1:00 p.m. Mountain Time on May 5, 2015. At the meeting, holders of our common stock will act on the following matters:

- The election of three Class I directors of the Company to serve terms of three years. The Company's Board of Directors intends to present Patrick M. Byrne, Barclay F. Corbus and Jonathan E. Johnson III for re-election to the Board; and
- The ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015.

Stockholders will also consider and act upon any other matter properly coming before the Annual Meeting.

Following the meeting, we will discuss the status of the business and answer appropriate questions.

Holders of record of shares of our common stock at the close of business on March 9, 2015 are entitled to vote at the meeting and any postponements or adjournments. To ensure that your vote is recorded promptly, **please vote as soon as possible**, even if you plan to attend the meeting in person. We encourage you to vote via the Internet or by telephone. If you received a printed set of proxy materials, you also have the option of voting by completing, signing, dating and returning the proxy card that accompanied the printed materials. Submitting your vote via the Internet or by telephone or proxy card will not affect your right to vote in person if you decide to attend the annual meeting.

We are mailing to most of our stockholders a notice of Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a paper copy of this proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 (the "2014 Form 10-K"). The notice contains instructions on how to access those documents via the Internet. The notice also contains instructions on how to request a paper copy of our proxy materials, including this proxy statement, our 2014 Form 10-K and a form of proxy card or voting instruction card, as applicable. Stockholders who do not receive a notice of Internet availability of proxy materials will receive a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail. We anticipate that this process will minimize the costs of printing and distributing our proxy materials.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Jonathan E. Johnson III *Chairman of the Board* 

Salt Lake City, Utah March 12, 2015

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 5, 2015

The Notice of Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement, and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 are available at http://www.overstock.com/proxy.

Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, please vote via the Internet or by phone or by completing, signing, dating and returning the accompanying Proxy Card in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

### **OVERSTOCK.COM, INC.**

6350 South 3000 East Salt Lake City, Utah 84121

## PROXY STATEMENT ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held at 1:00 p.m. on May 5, 2015

#### General

Our Board of Directors (the "Board") is soliciting proxies for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Overstock.com, Inc. ("Overstock," the "Company," "we" or "our") to be held at the Calvin L. Rampton Salt Palace Convention Center, located at 100 S. West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, at 1:00 p.m. Mountain Time on May 5, 2015. This Proxy Statement contains important information for you to consider when deciding how to vote on the matters before the meeting.

We have elected to provide access to our proxy materials to our stockholders via the Internet. Accordingly, a notice of Internet availability of proxy materials has been mailed to the majority of our stockholders, while other stockholders have instead received paper copies of the proxy materials accessible via the Internet. Stockholders who received the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials have the ability to access the proxy materials at <a href="http://www.overstock.com/proxy">http://www.overstock.com/proxy</a> or request that a printed set of the proxy materials be sent to them by following the instructions set forth on the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials.

Please visit <a href="http://www.overstock.com/proxy">http://www.overstock.com/proxy</a> for details on how to instruct us to send future proxy materials to you electronically by e-mail or in printed form by mail. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by e-mail, you will receive an e-mail next year with instructions containing a link to those materials or a link to a special website to access our proxy materials. Your election to receive proxy materials by e-mail or printed form by mail will remain in effect until you terminate it.

Choosing to receive future proxy materials by e-mail will allow us to provide you with the proxy materials you need in a timelier manner and will save us the cost of printing and mailing documents to you.

Our principal offices are located at 6350 South 3000 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121, and our telephone number is (801) 947-3100.

#### **Record Date and Voting Securities**

The Board set March 9, 2015 as the record date for the meeting. Stockholders who owned common stock at the close of business on that date are entitled to attend and vote at the meeting. Each share is entitled to one vote. There were 24,272,099 shares of common stock outstanding on the record date. A majority of the outstanding shares of common stock present at the meeting in person or by proxy will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### **Proxy Materials**

Voting materials, which include this Proxy Statement, the proxy card and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, are first being sent or given to stockholders on or about March 16, 2015.

The date of this Proxy Statement is March 12, 2015.

#### Table of Contents

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROXY STATEMENT	<u>1</u>
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS	1 4 8 8 8 11
PROPOSALS TO BE VOTED ON:	8
PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	8
PROPOSAL 2 RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM	8
OTHER BUSINESS	11
THE BOARD	<u>12</u>
General General	12
Board Independence	12 12 12 13
Committees of the Board	12
Board and Committee Meetings	13
Board Leadership Structure	<u>13</u>
Board Role in Risk Oversight	<u>14</u>
Director Qualifications	14
Identification and Evaluation of Nominees for Director	14
Communications with the Board	<u>14</u> <u>15</u>
Annual Meeting Attendance	<u>15</u>
Code of Ethics	<u>15</u>
Policies and Procedures Regarding Related Party Transactions	<u>15</u>
Information Regarding Director Nominees and Other Directors	<u>16</u>
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION	<u>20</u>
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	<u>20</u>
COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	<u>20</u>
Introduction	<u>20</u>
2014 Say on Pay Vote and 2011 Say on When Vote	<u>20</u>
Compensation Objectives	<u>21</u>
Employment Agreements	<u>23</u>
Retirement Benefits	<u>23</u>
Role of Compensation Consultants	<u>23</u>
Elements of Compensation	<u>23</u>
Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan	26 27
Executive Compensation Action Taken After Year-End	<u>27</u>
Timing of Equity Awards	<u>28</u>
Severance and Change of Control Arrangements	<u>28</u>
Security Ownership Requirements	<u>28</u>
Hedging Policy	<u>28</u>
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT	<u>29</u>
Compensation Paid to Executive Officers	<u>29</u>
SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE	<u>29</u>
<u>GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR-END</u>	<u>32</u>
OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED	29 29 29 31 32 33 34 34 35
NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION	<u>34</u>
COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS	<u>34</u>
DIRECTOR COMPENSATION TABLE	<u>35</u>
POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE-OF-CONTROL	<u>36</u>
EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION	<u>38</u>
3	

#### Table of Contents

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE	<u>38</u>
SHARE OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT, DIRECTORS, NOMINEES AND 5% STOCKHOLDERS	40
OTHER INFORMATION	<u>41</u>
Certain Relationships and Related Transactions	<u>41</u>
Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance	<u>42</u>
Procedure for Submitting Stockholder Proposals	<u>42</u>
Procedure for Nominating Directors for Election at an Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting.	<u>43</u>
Costs of Proxy Solicitation	<u>44</u>
<u>Householding</u>	<u>44</u>
3	

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

#### What is the purpose of the Annual Meeting?

At our Annual Meeting, stockholders will act upon the matters outlined in the meeting notice provided with this proxy statement, including: (i) the election of directors; and (ii) ratification of our Audit Committee's selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm.

#### Who can vote at the Annual Meeting?

Stockholders who owned Overstock common stock of record at the close of business on March 9, 2015 may attend and vote at the Annual Meeting. Each share is entitled to one vote. There were 24,272,099 shares of common stock outstanding at the close of business on March 9, 2015.

#### What are the recommendations of the Board?

Overstock's Board unanimously recommends a vote:

- 1. "FOR" the election of the nominated directors (see proposal 1); and
- "FOR" the ratification of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015 (see proposal 2).

#### What is a quorum?

The presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of common stock will constitute a quorum. A quorum is necessary to transact business at the meeting. Shares of common stock represented by proxies that reflect abstentions or "broker non-votes" (i.e., shares held by a broker or nominee that are represented at the meeting, but with respect to which such broker or nominee is not empowered to vote on a particular proposal) will be counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum. The inspector of election will tabulate the proxies and votes cast prior to the meeting and at the meeting to determine whether a quorum is present.

#### How do I vote?

You may submit your vote via the Internet, by telephone or in person at the annual meeting. If you received printed proxy materials, you also have the option of submitting your proxy card by mail or attending the meeting and delivering the proxy card. The designated proxies will vote according to your instructions; however, if you are a registered stockholder and you return an executed proxy card without specific instructions on how to vote, the proxies will vote:

"FOR" the election of the nominated directors in proposal 1; and

"FOR" the ratification of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm in proposal 2.

If you are a "street name" stockholder and you do not return instructions on how to vote to your broker, your shares will not be voted on proposal 1. The voting of shares held by "street name" stockholders is further discussed below. Additionally, in order to vote at the meeting, you will need to obtain a signed proxy from the broker or nominee that holds your shares, because the broker or nominee is the legal, registered owner of the shares. If you have the broker's proxy, you may vote by ballot or you may complete and deliver another proxy card in person at the meeting.

If you are a member of a retirement or savings plan or other similar plan, you may submit your vote via the Internet or by telephone or by means of the direction on the proxy card. The trustee or administrator of the plan will vote according to your directions and the rules of the plan.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### What happens if a nominee is unable to stand for election?

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors may select a substitute nominee. In that case, if you have submitted your proxy via the Internet or by telephone or completed and returned your proxy card or voting instruction card, the proxy holders will have the discretion to vote your shares for the substitute nominee. They cannot vote for more than three Class I nominees.

#### Can I vote via the Internet or by telephone?

You may submit your vote via the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions contained in the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials. If you received a printed set of proxy materials, you may submit your vote via the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions contained on the proxy card that accompanied the printed materials.

If you are a registered stockholder, the deadline for submitting your vote by telephone or via the Internet is 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 4, 2015. If you are a member of a retirement or savings plan or other similar plan, the deadline for submitting your voting directions by telephone or via the Internet is 2:00 a.m. Eastern Time on May 1, 2015.

#### Can I change my vote or revoke my proxy?

Subject to the deadlines set forth in the paragraph above, you may change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by re-submitting your vote via the Internet or by telephone.

If you are a registered stockholder and have delivered a proxy, you may revoke your proxy at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with our corporate Secretary a written notice of revocation at our Company headquarters at the address shown on the first page of this proxy statement. At the meeting, you also may revoke your proxy by submitting a written revocation or a later-dated proxy to the inspector of election. Your attendance at the meeting will not by itself revoke your vote.

If your shares are held in "street name" or you are a member of a retirement or savings plan or other similar plan, please contact your broker, nominee, trustee or administrator to determine whether you will be able to revoke or change your vote.

#### Why did I receive a notice of Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of the proxy materials?

The SEC's rules allow companies to furnish their proxy materials via the Internet. Accordingly, we sent to some of our stockholders a notice of Internet availability of proxy materials for this year's annual meeting of stockholders. Other stockholders were instead sent paper copies of the proxy materials accessible via the Internet. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials via the Internet or to request a paper copy can be found in the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials. In addition, stockholders may request proxy materials in printed form, by mail or electronically by e-mail on an ongoing basis by submitting a request to us at <a href="http://www.overstock.com/proxy">http://www.overstock.com/proxy</a>. A stockholder's election to receive proxy materials by mail or e-mail will remain in effect until the stockholder terminates it.

#### Can I vote my shares by filling out and returning the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials?

No, but the notice of Internet availability of proxy materials provides instructions on how to vote your shares.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### What are Broker Non-Votes?

If you hold your shares in "street name" through a broker or other nominee, your broker or nominee may not be permitted to exercise voting discretion with respect to some proposals. "Broker non-votes" are shares as to which a broker or nominee does not vote, or has indicated that it does not have discretionary authority to vote and has not received instructions on how to vote. If you do not give specific instructions, your broker or nominee may nevertheless cast your vote in its discretion for proposal 2, the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm.

#### What is the voting requirement to approve each of the proposals?

A plurality of the voting power of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting is required for the election of each nominee to the Board. Thus, assuming a quorum is present, the three nominees for Class I director receiving the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected as members of our Board of Directors to serve until the 2018 Annual Meeting. There is no cumulative voting in the election of directors. Brokers generally will not have discretion to vote on this proposal without instruction from their clients. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on this proposal.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and voting on the matter (which shares voting affirmatively also constitute at least a majority of the required quorum) is required to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on this proposal; however, broker non-votes will count for purposes of establishing a quorum.

#### How many votes are required to approve other matters that may come before the stockholders at the meeting?

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the common shares represented and voting at the meeting (which shares voting affirmatively also constitute at least a majority of the required quorum) will be required to approve any other matters that may properly come before the meeting, unless the vote of a greater number is required by law, by the Certificate of Incorporation or by the bylaws.

#### Is my vote kept confidential?

Proxies, ballots and voting tabulations identifying stockholders are kept confidential and will not be disclosed except as may be necessary to meet legal requirements.

#### Where do I find the voting results of the meeting?

We will announce preliminary voting results at the meeting, and will file a Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") reporting the results within four business days after the date of the meeting. You can get a copy of that Form 8-K by calling Overstock Investor Relations at (801) 947-3100 or the SEC at (800) SEC-0330 for the location of the nearest public reference room, or through the EDGAR system at www.sec.gov. You can also get a copy from our website at <a href="http://www.overstock.com/proxy">http://www.overstock.com/proxy</a>.

#### Who pays for the proxy solicitation process?

We will pay the costs of soliciting proxies, including the cost of preparing, posting and mailing proxy materials. In addition to soliciting stockholders by mail, we will request brokers, banks and other nominees to solicit their customers who hold shares of Overstock common stock in street name. We

#### **Table of Contents**

may reimburse such brokers, banks and nominees for their reasonable, out-of- pocket expenses. We may also use the services of our officers, directors and employees to solicit proxies, personally or by telephone, mail, facsimile or email, without additional compensation other than reimbursement for reasonable, out-of-pocket expenses. We intend to use the services of a proxy solicitation firm in connection with the meeting and anticipate that the costs of such services will be approximately \$8,800 plus reimbursement for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.

#### How can I get an additional copy of the proxy materials?

If you would like an additional copy of this proxy statement or our 2014 Form 10-K, these documents are available in digital form for download or review at <a href="http://www.overstock.com/proxy">http://www.overstock.com/proxy</a>. Alternatively, we will promptly send a copy to you at no charge upon request by mail to Overstock.com, Inc., Attention: Investor Relations, 6350 South 3000 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121, or by calling Overstock Investor Relations at (801) 947-3100.

#### Who can help answer my questions?

If you have questions about voting or the proposals described in this Proxy Statement, please call Georgeson Inc., our proxy solicitor, toll-free at (866) 357-4029.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 5, 2015

The Notice of Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement, and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 are available at http://www.overstock.com/proxy.

7

#### PROPOSALS TO BE VOTED ON:

#### PROPOSAL 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

#### **Nominees**

The nominees for election this year as Class I directors, for three-year terms ending in 2018, are Patrick M. Byrne, Barclay F. Corbus and Jonathan E. Johnson III.

Dr. Byrne has served as our Chief Executive Officer (our principal executive officer) and as a Director since 1999, as Chairman of the Board from February 2001 through October 2005 and from July 2006 through April 2014.

Mr. Corbus has been a director since 2007. Mr. Corbus is a member of the Audit Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and is the Chairman of the Compensation Committee.

Mr. Johnson served as our President and Corporate Secretary from July 2008 to February 2013, as our Acting Chief Executive Officer and Corporate Secretary from February 2013 to April 2013, as Executive Vice Chairman of the Board and Corporate Secretary from April 2013 to April 2014, and is currently serving as Chairman of the Board. From 2002 to 2008 he served us in a number of other executive capacities. Mr. Johnson is currently serving as a member of Class II of our Board. As such, his current term runs through 2016. Mr. Johnson is preparing for a possible run for election as Governor of the State of Utah in 2016. Given his anticipated increasingly busy schedule in early 2016, Mr. Johnson and Dr. Byrne suggested, with the approval of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board, that Mr. Johnson stand for early re-election at the 2015 meeting. Mr. Johnson has informed the Committee and the Board that, assuming he is re-elected as described above and assuming he is elected Governor of the State of Utah in 2016, he intends to resign from the Board in January 2017.

Each of the nominees has consented to serve a three-year term, subject to the matter discussed above regarding Mr. Johnson. For additional information about the nominees, see "The Board" Information Regarding Director Nominees and Other Directors."

#### Vote Required

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting. Votes withheld are counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business, but otherwise they have no legal effect on the election of directors under Delaware law. Brokers generally may not use discretionary authority to vote shares in the election of directors if they have not received instructions from their clients.

#### **Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" each of the nominees.

#### PROPOSAL 2 RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

#### Proposed Ratification of Appointment of KPMG LLP

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has appointed KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015 and audit the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015. KPMG LLP has served as our independent registered public accounting firm since

#### **Table of Contents**

December 2009. Although ratification of the Audit Committee's selection of KPMG LLP is not required under our bylaws or other legal requirements, we are submitting the appointment of KPMG LLP to the stockholders as a matter of good corporate practice. If the stockholders do not ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP, the Audit Committee will reconsider whether or not to retain KPMG LLP. Even if the stockholders ratify the selection of KPMG LLP, the Audit Committee may appoint a different independent registered public accounting firm or replace KPMG LLP with a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time if the Audit Committee determines that it is in the best interests of the Company and the stockholders to do so. Representatives of KPMG LLP are expected to attend the annual meeting to respond to appropriate questions and will have an opportunity to make a statement if they so desire.

#### **Audit Fees**

KPMG LLP was engaged as our independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, to audit the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, to review our 2014 and 2013 interim financial statements, to perform services in connection with our registration statements and SEC comment letter responses, and to perform accounting consultation services. The aggregate audit fees KPMG LLP billed us for professional services for 2014 and 2013 were \$1,237,000 and \$1,146,000. All audit fees and other fees were pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

#### **Audit-Related Fees**

KPMG LLP billed us \$24,000 in 2014 and \$38,000 in 2013 for the audits of our 401(k) employee benefit plan.

#### Tax Fees

KPMG LLP billed us \$421,000 in 2014 for professional services rendered in connection with research and development tax credit study, and compliance, tax advice, or tax planning and \$283,000 in 2013 for professional services rendered in connection with our research and development tax credit study, Section 382 tax study, and compliance, tax advice, or tax planning.

#### **All Other Fees**

KPMG LLP billed us \$0 in 2014 and 2013 for other fees.

#### **Auditor Independence**

The Audit Committee has considered the role of KPMG LLP in providing us with the services described above, and has concluded that those services were compatible with the independence of KPMG LLP from management and from the Company.

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

#### General

The Audit Committee has adopted an Audit and Non-Audit Services Pre-Approval Policy (the "Policy"), which sets forth the procedures and the conditions pursuant to which all services to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm are required to be pre-approved. Under the Policy, proposed services either may be pre-approved by agreeing to a framework with descriptions of allowable services with the Audit Committee ("general pre-approval"), or require the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee ("specific pre-approval"). Unless a type of service has

#### **Table of Contents**

received general pre-approval, it requires specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee if it is to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm.

The Policy describes the Audit, Audit-related, Tax and All Other Services that are subject to the general pre-approval of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee annually reviews and pre-approves the services that may be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm that are subject to general pre-approval. Under the Policy, the Audit Committee may delegate either type of pre-approval authority to its chairperson or any other member or members. The member to whom such authority is delegated must report, for informational purposes only, any pre-approval decisions to the Audit Committee at its next meeting. The Policy does not delegate the Audit Committee's responsibilities to pre-approve services performed by the independent registered public accounting firm to management.

#### **Audit Services**

The annual audit services engagement scope and terms are subject to the general pre-approval of the Audit Committee. Audit services include the annual financial statement audit (including required interim reviews performed in accordance with applicable standards) and other procedures required to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm to be able to form an opinion on our consolidated financial statements. Audit services also include the attestation engagement for the independent registered public accounting firm's audit of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. The Policy provides that the Audit Committee will monitor the audit services engagement throughout the year and will also approve, if necessary, any changes in terms and conditions resulting from changes in audit scope or other items. The Policy provides for Audit Committee pre-approval of specific audit services outside the engagement scope.

#### Audit-related Services

Audit-related services are assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our financial statements or that are traditionally performed by the independent registered public accounting firm. Under the Policy, the Audit Committee grants general pre-approval for audit-related services.

#### Tax Services

Under the Policy, the Audit Committee may grant general pre-approval for specific tax compliance, planning and advice services to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, that the Audit Committee has reviewed and believes would not impair the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm, and that are consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence. Tax services to be performed by our independent registered public accounting firm must be specifically approved by the Audit Committee.

#### All Other Services

Under the Policy, the Audit Committee may grant pre-approval for specific permissible non-audit services classified as All Other Services that it believes are routine and recurring services, would not impair the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm and are consistent with the SEC's rules on auditor independence. Services permissible under applicable rules but not specifically approved in the Policy require further specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee.

#### Procedures

Under the Policy, each year the Senior Vice President, Finance and Risk Management (our principal financial and accounting officer) and our independent registered public accounting firm jointly

#### **Table of Contents**

submit to the Audit Committee a schedule of audit, audit-related, tax and other non-audit services that are subject to pre-approval. This schedule provides a description of each type of service that is subject to pre-approval and, where possible, provides projected fees (or a range of projected fees) for each service. The Audit Committee reviews and approves the types of services and reviews the projected fees for the next fiscal year. Any changes to the fee amounts listed in the schedule are subject to further specific approval of the Audit Committee. The Policy prohibits the independent registered public accounting firm from commencing any project not described in the schedule approved by the Audit Committee until specific approval has been given.

#### **Vote Required**

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and voting on the matter (which shares voting affirmatively also constitute at least a majority of the required quorum) is required to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015.

#### **Recommendation of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that the stockholders vote "FOR" ratification of the selection of KPMG LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board knows of no other business for consideration at the meeting. If other matters are properly presented at the meeting, or at any adjournment or postponement of the meeting, Messrs. Byrne and Johnson will vote, or otherwise act, on your behalf in accordance with the Board's (or, in the absence of instructions from the Board, their) judgment on such matters.

#### THE BOARD

#### General

The Board of Directors currently consists of eight members. Each of the three nominees for election is a current member of the Board. The remaining five directors are expected to continue to serve their terms as described below. Our directors serve staggered terms. This is accomplished as follows:

each director serves a three-year term,
the directors are divided into three classes,
the classes are as nearly equal in number as possible, and

the term of each class begins on a staggered schedule.

Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders will vote the proxies received by them for each of the nominees. If any nominee is unable or declines to serve as a director at or prior to the time of the Annual Meeting, the proxies will be voted for a substitute nominee, if any, designated by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. The proxy holders intend to vote all proxies received by them in such a manner as will ensure the election of the nominees. The terms of office of the persons elected as Class I directors will continue until the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified or until their earlier incapacity, resignation or removal, subject to the matter described above in Proposal 1 regarding Mr. Johnson. It is not expected that any nominee will be unable or will decline to serve as a director.

#### **Board Independence**

The Board has determined that a majority of our Board consists of independent members. The Board has determined that, except for Patrick M. Byrne, who serves as our Chief Executive Officer, Jonathan E. Johnson III, who serves as Chairman of the Board and has previously served in a number of executive positions with the Company, and Stormy D. Simon, who serves as our President, each of our current directors is independent within the meaning of the Nasdaq director independence standards. In reaching this determination, the Board considered that neither Allison H. Abraham nor Joseph J. Tabacco, Jr. has any relationship with the Company except as a director and stockholder. With respect to Barclay F. Corbus, the Board considered the fact that Mr. Corbus formerly served as Co-CEO of WR Hambrecht + Co., and considered the services that WR Hambrecht + Co. has performed for the Company in the past and determined that Mr. Corbus met the independence requirements. With respect to Mr. Mitchell, the Board considered the fact that Mr. Mitchell is a managing director of Hamblin Watsa Investment Counsel and a member of the investment committee, which manages the investment portfolios of Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited, which is directly or indirectly the beneficial owner of approximately 13.1% of the Company's outstanding common stock, and determined that Mr. Mitchell met the independence standards. With respect to Dr. Kalyanam, the Board considered the fact that Dr. Kalyanam served as a consultant to the Company prior to his appointment as a director, and was or is to be paid by the Company for his 2014 consulting services an amount between \$30,000 and \$45,000, and determined that Dr. Kalyanam met the independence standards.

#### **Committees of the Board**

The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, each of which has adopted a written charter. Current copies of the committee charters are available on the Company's website at <a href="http://investors.overstock.com">http://investors.overstock.com</a>. All

#### **Table of Contents**

members of the committees are appointed by the Board of Directors, and each member is independent within the meaning of the Nasdaq director independence standards and SEC rules. The committees are described in more detail below.

Audit Committee. The Board has a separately designated standing audit committee consisting of Allison H. Abraham, who serves as Chair, Barclay F. Corbus, Samuel A. Mitchell and Joseph J. Tabacco, Jr., each of whom is independent within the meaning of the Nasdaq director independence standards. The Board of Directors has determined that each of Ms. Abraham, Mr. Corbus, Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Tabacco is an "audit committee financial expert" as defined by the SEC. The experience of each such director that led the Board to the determination that such director is an "audit committee financial expert" is described below under "Information Regarding Director Nominees and Other Directors." The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring our financial statements and our internal control over financial reporting, and selecting, reviewing and monitoring our independent registered public accounting firm, evaluating the scope of the annual audit, reviewing audit results, and consulting with management and our independent registered public accounting firm prior to presentation of financial statements to stockholders. The Report of the Audit Committee is included beginning on page 38 of this proxy statement.

Compensation Committee. The Board also has a Compensation Committee consisting of Barclay F. Corbus, who serves as Chair, Allison H. Abraham, Samuel A. Mitchell and Joseph J. Tabacco, Jr., each of whom is a non-employee and independent as described above. The Compensation Committee is responsible for approving salaries, incentives and other forms of compensation for our executive officers and certain other employees and administering various incentive compensation and benefit plans. The Compensation Committee Report is included on page 29 of this proxy statement.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Board also has a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consisting of Joseph J. Tabacco, Jr., who serves as Chair, Barclay F. Corbus, Allison H. Abraham, and Samuel A. Mitchell, each of whom is a non-employee and independent as described above. The Committee has authority to recommend Board nominees to the full Board, and also has authority over matters of corporate governance. Each member of the Board of Directors has historically participated in the consideration of director nominees.

#### **Board and Committee Meetings**

The Board held nine meetings during 2014. The Audit Committee held eight meetings during 2014; the Compensation Committee held six meetings during 2014; and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee held four meetings during 2014. Each director attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Board and of each committee on which he or she served during 2014. The non-management members of the Board of Directors meet regularly in executive session without management present.

#### **Board Leadership Structure**

Patrick M. Byrne serves as our principal executive officer and as a member of the Board of Directors, and Jonathan E. Johnson III, who has previously served as our President and in other executive capacities with the Company, serves as Chairman of the Board. We have not named a lead independent director. At present the Board consists of eight directors; five of whom are independent. We believe that our leadership structure is appropriate because the size of the Board and the composition of the Board permit and encourage each member to take an active role in all discussions, and each member does actively participate in all substantive discussions. We believe that our current structure is serving the Company well at this time. Although Dr. Byrne previously served as both Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Byrne has previously stated that as a matter of good institutional design, the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer should be split and, in April

#### **Table of Contents**

2014, Dr. Byrne requested, with the approval of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the rest of the Board, that Mr. Johnson, who has previously served the Company in the areas of finance, legal, and government affairs, and who has also had, at one time or another, nearly every part of the Company reporting to him, assume the position of Chairman of the Board. Our decision to separate the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in April 2014 was based on our perceptions of the Company's best interests at the time. We do not have any procedures for deciding when to separate these positions.

#### **Board Role in Risk Oversight**

The Board has delegated responsibility for oversight of risk management relating to compensation matters to the Compensation Committee, and for financial and other risk management to the Audit Committee, although the full Board remains involved in risk management. The Committees and the Board receive periodic reports from management regarding various aspects of the Company's risk management program. The manner in which the Board and Committees administer the oversight of risk management has not had any effect on the Board's leadership structure.

#### **Director Qualifications**

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has developed the Company's Corporate Governance Principles ("Principles"), which have been adopted by the Board. The Principles set forth the Committee's belief that while there are no specific minimum qualifications the Committee believes must be met by a candidate to be recommended by the Committee, candidates for election to the Board should have the highest professional and personal ethics and values. Candidates should have broad relevant experience, and should be committed to enhancing long-term stockholder value. They should be able and willing to provide insight and practical advice, and they must actively represent the interests of the stockholders. The Committee believes that a variety of types and a balance of knowledge, experience and capabilities among the members of the Board are in the best interests of the stockholders. The Principles set forth the Committee's belief that diversity of viewpoint, professional experience and other individual qualities and attributes should be considered to the extent that they relate to the contribution a director is expected to make to the Board and the Company. The Committee periodically reviews the Principles, including the portion regarding diversity. The ability of a candidate to make independent analytical inquiries, the ability to understand the Company's business, and the willingness of a candidate to devote adequate attention and time to the duties of the Board, are all relevant to the qualifications of a candidate. The specific experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led the Committee to the conclusion that each director should be a director in light of our business and structure are described under "Information Regarding Director Nominees and Other Directors," below.

#### **Identification and Evaluation of Nominees for Director**

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes that the current Board composition is serving the stockholders of the Company well. In the future, the Committee may consider additional candidates identified through current members of the Board, professional search firms, stockholders or other persons. Candidates may be evaluated at regular or special meetings of the Board, and may be considered at any point during the year.

Stockholders may propose director candidates for general consideration by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee by submitting in proper written form the individual's name, qualifications, and the other information required by the Bylaws as described below in "Other Information Procedure for Nominating Directors for Election at an Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting" to the Secretary of the Company. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

#### Table of Contents

will evaluate any candidates recommended by stockholders against the same criteria applicable to the evaluation of candidates proposed by directors or management.

The Committee has not approved any nominee for inclusion on our proxy card for the 2015 Annual Meeting other than Patrick M. Byrne, Barclay F. Corbus and Jonathan E. Johnson III, each of whom is a current member of the Board. We have not paid a fee to any third party or parties to identify or evaluate or assist in identifying or evaluating potential nominees. The Committee did not receive, by a date not later than the 120th calendar day before the date of the Company's proxy statement released to security holders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting, a recommended nominee from a security holder that beneficially owned more than 5% of the Company's voting common stock for at least one year as of the date the recommendation was made, or from a group of security holders that beneficially owned, in the aggregate, more than 5% of the Company's voting common stock, with each of the securities used to calculate that ownership held for at least one year as of the date the recommendation was made.

#### Communications with the Board

The Board has adopted resolutions to provide a formal process by which stockholders may communicate with the Board. The process adopted by the Board permits stockholders to communicate with the Board either in writing, addressed to the Board at the Company's headquarters at 6350 South 3000 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121, or by e-mail, sent to boardofdirectors@overstock.com. All communications from stockholders regarding matters appropriate for stockholder communications with the Board and delivered as described will be delivered to one or more Board members. The determination whether a communication involves a matter appropriate for stockholder communications with the Board is made by either the General Counsel or the Chairman of the Board. Stockholders who desire to utilize the procedures described under "Other Information Procedure for Submitting Stockholder Proposals" or " Procedure for Nominating Directors for Election at an Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting" should read those sections and the applicable portions of our bylaws and follow the procedures described.

#### **Annual Meeting Attendance**

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