UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

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
- " Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

Cott Corporation

(Name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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(Name of person(s) filing proxy statement, if other than the registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- x No fee required.
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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Cott Corporation 6525 Viscount Road Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4V1H6 (905) 672-1900 5519 West Idlewild Avenue Tampa, Florida, United States 33634 (813) 313-1800

March , 2014

Dear Shareowners:

We are pleased to invite you to attend our annual and special meeting of shareowners, which will be held at the Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel and Suites, 5875 Airport Road, Toronto, Ontario, Canada at 8:30 a.m. (Toronto time) on Tuesday, May 6, 2014. At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet our directors and members of our senior management team, learn more about our Company and our plans for the future, and receive our financial results for the 2013 fiscal year.

The notice of meeting and circular that accompany this letter describe the business to be conducted at the meeting.

This year, we are pleased to furnish our proxy materials over the Internet in accordance with applicable law. As a result, we are mailing to many of our shareowners a notice instead of paper copies of our proxy circular, form of proxy and 2013 annual report. The notice contains instructions on how to access these materials over the Internet, as well as instructions on how shareowners can receive paper copies of these materials. Employing this distribution process will conserve natural resources and reduce the costs of printing and distributing these materials.

Even if you cannot attend the meeting, it is important that your shares be represented and voted by using the form of proxy provided. We encourage you to read the circular and vote as soon as possible. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

JERRY FOWDEN

Chief Executive Officer

Cott Corporation

Notice of Annual and Special Meeting of Shareowners

The Annual and Special Meeting of Shareowners of Cott Corporation (Cott) will be held

- on: Tuesday, May 6, 2014
- at: 8:30 a.m. (local time in Toronto)
- at the: Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel and Suites, 5875 Airport Road, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- to: receive the financial statements for the year ended December 28, 2013 and the report on those statements by Cott s independent registered certified public accounting firm,

elect directors,

approve the appointment of Cott s independent registered certified public accounting firm,

hold a non-binding advisory vote on executive compensation,

approve an amendment to Cott s Second Amended and Restated By-Laws, which requires advance notice to Cott in certain circumstances where director nominations are made by Cott shareowners, and

transact any other business that properly may be brought before the meeting and any adjournment of the meeting. By order of the board of directors

Marni Morgan Poe

Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Tampa, Florida, U.S.A.

March , 2014

YOU ARE INVITED TO VOTE BY COMPLETING, DATING AND SIGNING THE FORM OF PROXY AND RETURNING IT BY MAIL OR BY FACSIMILE, OR BY FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING OVER THE INTERNET IN THE PROXY CIRCULAR. A VOTE BY PROXY WILL BE COUNTED IF IT IS COMPLETED PROPERLY AND IS RECEIVED BY OUR TRANSFER AGENT NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. TORONTO TIME ON MAY 2, 2014 OR THE LAST BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO ANY POSTPONED OR ADJOURNED MEETING OR IS OTHERWISE RECEIVED BY OUR SECRETARY, AS DESCRIBED HEREIN, PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OR ANY POSTPONED OR ADJOURNED MEETING. OUR TRANSFER AGENT S MAILING ADDRESS IS COMPUTERSHARE INVESTOR SERVICES INC., 100 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, 9TH FLOOR, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA, M5J 2Y1 AND FACSIMILE NUMBER IS 1-866-249-7775 or (416) 263-9524.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE

ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREOWNERS TO BE HELD ON MAY 6, 2014

This communication is not a form for voting and presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials, which are available on the Internet or by mail. We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting.

Our proxy circular, form of proxy and 2013 annual report are available at our website (*www.cott.com/en/for-investors/overview*), as well as our profile on SEDAR (*www.sedar.com*). Our proxy circular includes information on the following matters, among other things:

The date, time and location of the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareowners;

A list of the matters being submitted to the shareowners for approval; and

Information concerning voting in person at the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareowners.

If you want to receive a paper copy or e-mail of these documents, you must request one. There is no charge to you for requesting a copy. Please make your request for a copy to Computershare Investor Services by telephone at 1-800-564-6253 or contact Cott s Investor Relations Department directly at our principal executive office: Cott Corporation, 5519 W. Idlewild Ave., Tampa, FL 33634, telephone (813) 313-1777, email InvestorRelations@cott.com.

Cott Corporation

Annual and Special Meeting of Shareowners

THIS BOOKLET EXPLAINS:

details of the matters to be voted upon at the meeting, and

how to exercise your right to vote even if you cannot attend the meeting. THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS:

the notice of the meeting,

the proxy circular for the meeting, and

a proxy form that you may use to vote your shares without attending the meeting. **REGISTERED SHAREOWNERS**

A form of proxy is enclosed with this booklet. This form may be used to vote your shares if you are unable to attend the meeting in person. Instructions on how to vote using this form are found starting on page 1 of this proxy circular.

NON-REGISTERED BENEFICIAL SHAREOWNERS

If your shares are held on your behalf or for your account by a broker, securities dealer, bank, trust company or other intermediary, you will not be able to vote unless you carefully follow the instructions provided by your intermediary.

The accompanying circular and form of proxy are furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by or on behalf of management and the board of directors for use at the annual and special meeting of shareowners to be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 and any continuation of the meeting after an adjournment of such meeting.

AVAILABILITY OF QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

If you are a shareowner and wish to receive (or continue to receive) our quarterly interim financial statements (and the related management discussion and analysis) by mail, you must complete and return the enclosed request form. If you do not do so, quarterly financial statements will not be sent to you. Financial results are announced by media release, and financial statements are available on our website at *www.cott.com*, on the SEDAR website maintained by the Canadian securities regulators at *www.sedar.com* and on the EDGAR website maintained by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission at *www.sec.gov*.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
GENERAL INFORMATION	1
VOTING AT THE MEETING	1
Who Can Vote	1
Voting By Registered Shareowners	1
Voting By Non-Registered Beneficial Shareowners	3
Confidentiality of Vote	4
Quorum	5
Vote Counting Rules	5
Solicitation of Proxies	5
Say-on-Pay and Say-on-Frequency Results	5
Please Complete Your Proxy	6
PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING SHAREOWNER PROPOSALS	6
PRINCIPAL SHAREOWNERS	7
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	8
ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	8
Majority Voting and Director Resignation Policy	13
COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS	14
Directors Compensation Schedule	14
Share Ownership Requirements for Board Members	15
SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT	16
Security Ownership	16
Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance	16
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS	17
COMPENSATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	19
Compensation Discussion and Analysis	19
Summary Compensation Table	36
Named Executive Officer Employment Agreements	37
Grants of Plan-Based Awards in Fiscal 2013	39
Outstanding Equity Awards at 2013 Fiscal Year End	40
Option Exercises and Stock Vested in Fiscal 2013	41
Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change of Control	41
THE HUMAN RESOURCES AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT	48
EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION	48
Amended and Restated Equity Plan	49
Restated 1986 Common Share Option Plan	50
DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS INSURANCE	51
<u>CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</u>	51
Board and Management Roles	51
Allocation of Responsibility between the Board and Management	51
Board Oversight of Risk	52
Board s Expectations of Management	52
Board Leadership	52
Shareowner Communications	53
Composition of the Board	53
Independence of the Board	53
Board Committees	53
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION	58
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM	58
Approval of Appointment of Independent Registered Certified Public Accounting Firm	58

	Page
Principal Accounting Fees	59
Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures	59
Audit Committee Report	60
ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	61
APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO COTT CORPORATION SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS	63
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	64
Information about Cott	64
Householding	64
Approval	64
APPENDIX A RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO COTT CORPORATION SECOND AMENDED AND	
RESTATED BY-LAWS	A-1
APPENDIX B AMENDMENT TO COTT CORPORATION SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS	B-1
APPENDIX C MANDATE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	C-1
APPENDIX D AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER	D-1

ii

Cott Corporation

Proxy Circular

GENERAL INFORMATION

This proxy circular is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by or on behalf of management and the board of directors of Cott Corporation (Cott or the Company) for use at the annual and special meeting of shareowners that is to be held at the time and place, and for the purposes, described in the accompanying notice of the meeting and any continuation of the meeting after an adjournment of such meeting.

We are first mailing or making available to shareowners this proxy circular, our 2013 annual report and related materials on or about March , 2014. All dollar amounts are in United States dollars unless otherwise stated. All information contained in this proxy circular is as of March 17, 2014, unless otherwise indicated. Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to December 31 of each year. In this proxy circular, therefore, references to the year 2011 are to the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, references to the year 2012 are to the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012, and references to the year 2013 are to the fiscal year ended December 28, 2013. As used herein, GAAP means United States generally accepted accounting principles.

VOTING AT THE MEETING

Who Can Vote

March 17, 2014 is the record date to determine shareowners who are entitled to receive notice of the meeting. Shareowners at the close of common shares were outstanding. Each common share entitles the holder to one vote on all matters presented at the meeting.

Voting By Registered Shareowners

The following instructions are for registered shareowners only. If you are a non-registered beneficial shareowner, please follow your intermediary s instructions on how to vote your shares. See below under Voting By Non-Registered Beneficial Shareowners.

Voting in Person

Registered shareowners who attend the meeting may vote the shares registered in their name on resolutions put before the meeting. If you are a registered holder who will attend and vote in person at the meeting, you do not need to complete or return the form of proxy. Please register your attendance with the scrutineer, Computershare Investor Services Inc. (**Computershare**), upon your arrival at the meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend the annual and special meeting of shareowners, you are requested to complete and promptly return the enclosed proxy.

Voting by Proxy

If you are a registered shareowner but do not plan to attend the meeting in person, there are four ways that you can vote your proxy:

Mail: You may vote by completing, dating and signing the enclosed form of proxy and returning it to Computershare no later than 5:00 p.m. local time in Toronto on May 2, 2014, or the last business day prior to any postponed or adjourned meeting, by mail to 100 University Avenue, 9th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 2Y1 using the envelope provided.

Fax: You may vote by completing, dating and signing the enclosed form of proxy and faxing it to Computershare at 1-866-249-7775 (toll free within Canada and the United States) or 1-416-263-9524 (outside Canada and the United States) no later than 5:00 p.m. local time in Toronto on May 2, 2014 or the last business day prior to any postponed or adjourned meeting.

Internet: You may vote over the Internet by accessing *www.investorvote.com* and following the proxy login and voting procedures described for the meeting. The enclosed form of proxy contains certain information required for the Internet voting process. Detailed voting instructions will then be conveyed electronically via the Internet to those who have completed the login procedure. You may vote (and revoke a previous vote) over the Internet at any time before 5:00 p.m. local time in Toronto on May 2, 2014 or the last business day prior to any postponed or adjourned meeting.

The Internet voting procedure, which complies with Canadian law, is designed to authenticate shareowners identities, to allow shareowners to vote their shares and to confirm that shareowners votes have been recorded properly. Shareowners voting via the Internet should understand that there may be costs associated with electronic access, such as usage charges from Internet access providers and telephone companies that must be borne by the shareowners. Also, please be aware that Cott is not involved in the operation of the Internet voting procedure and cannot take responsibility for any access or Internet service interruptions that may occur or any inaccurate, erroneous or incomplete information that may appear.

Other: If you have not availed yourself of any of the foregoing voting procedures by 5:00 p.m. local time in Toronto on May 2, 2014 or the last business day prior to any postponed or adjourned meeting but still wish to vote by proxy, you may vote by (i) completing, dating and signing the enclosed form of proxy and faxing it to the attention of our Secretary at (813) 881-1923, or (ii) having the person you have chosen as your proxyholder deliver it in person to our Secretary, in each case so that it is received prior to the commencement of the meeting or any postponed or adjourned meeting.

What Is a Proxy?

A proxy is a document that authorizes another person to attend the meeting and cast votes on behalf of a registered shareowner at the meeting. If you are a registered shareowner, you can use the accompanying proxy form. You may also use any other legal form of proxy.

How do You Appoint a Proxyholder?

Your proxyholder is the person you appoint to cast your votes for you at the meeting. The persons named in the enclosed form of proxy are directors or officers of Cott. You may choose those individuals or any other person to be your proxyholder. Your proxyholder does not have to be a shareowner of Cott. If you want to authorize a director or officer of Cott who is named on the enclosed proxy form as your proxyholder, please leave the line near the top of the proxy form blank, as their names are pre-printed on the form. **If you want to authorize another person as your proxyholder, fill in that person s name in the blank space located near the top of the enclosed proxy form.**

Your proxy authorizes the proxyholder to vote and otherwise act for you at the meeting, including any continuation of the meeting if it is adjourned.

How Will a Proxyholder Vote?

If you mark on the proxy how you want to vote on a particular issue, your proxyholder must cast your votes as instructed. By checking WITHHOLD on the proxy form, you will be abstaining from voting.

If you do NOT mark on the proxy how you want to vote on a particular matter, your proxyholder is entitled to vote your shares as he or she sees fit. If your proxy does not specify how to vote on any particular matter, and if you have authorized a director or officer of Cott to act as your proxyholder, your shares will be voted at the meeting:

FOR the election of the nominees named in this proxy circular as directors,

FOR the approval of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Cott s independent registered certified public accounting firm,

FOR the approval, on a non-binding advisory basis, of the compensation of the Company s named executive officers, as such information is disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and the accompanying narrative disclosure beginning on page 19 (commonly referred to as say-on-pay), and

FOR the approval of the Amendment to Cott Corporation s Second Amended and Restated By-Laws described under Approval of Amendment to Cott Corporation s Second Amended and Restated By-Laws beginning on page 63 of this proxy circular, in accordance with the resolution attached as Appendix A to this proxy circular on page A-1.

For more information on these matters, please see Election of Directors, beginning on page 8 Independent Registered Certified Public Accounting Firm Approval of Appointment of Independent Registered Certified Public Accounting Firm on page 58, Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation on page 61, and Approval of Amendment to Cott Corporation s Second Amended and Restated By-Laws on page 63.

If any amendments are proposed to these matters, or if any other matters properly arise at the meeting, your proxyholder can generally vote your shares as he or she sees fit. The notice of the meeting sets out all the matters to be presented at the meeting that are known to management as of March 17, 2014.

How do You Revoke Your Proxy?

Any proxy given pursuant to this solicitation may be revoked by the person giving it at any time before the meeting by delivering to our Secretary a written notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date (or voting via the Internet at a later date) or by attending the meeting and voting in person. You may send a written notice to our Secretary to the following address: 5519 West Idlewild Avenue, Tampa, Florida U.S.A. 33634.

This revocation must be received by our Secretary before the meeting (or before the date of the reconvened meeting if it is adjourned), or in any other way permitted by law.

If you revoke your proxy and do not replace it with another form of proxy that is properly deposited, you may still vote shares registered in your name in person at the meeting.

Voting By Non-Registered Beneficial Shareowners

If your common shares are not registered in your name but in the name of an intermediary (typically a bank, trust company, securities dealer or broker, or a clearing agency in which an intermediary participates), then you are a non-registered beneficial shareowner (as opposed to a registered shareowner). Copies of this document have been distributed to intermediaries who are required to deliver them to, and seek voting instructions from, our

non-registered beneficial shareowners. Intermediaries often use a service company (such as Computershare or Broadridge Investor Communications (**Broadridge**)) to forward meeting materials to beneficial shareowners. Cott intends to pay for intermediaries to deliver proxy-related materials and the request for voting instructions (Form 54-101F7) to objecting beneficial owners in accordance with National Instrument 54-101. If you are a non-registered beneficial shareowner, you can vote your common shares by proxy, by following the instructions your intermediary provides to you, through your intermediary or at the meeting. As a non-registered beneficial shareowner, while you are invited to attend the meeting, you will not be entitled to vote at the meeting unless you make the necessary arrangements with your intermediary to do so.

Voting in Person

A non-registered beneficial shareowner who received a voting instruction form from the intermediary and who wishes to attend and vote at the meeting in person (or have another person attend and vote on their behalf) should strike out the proxyholders named in the voting instruction form and insert the beneficial shareowner s (or such other person s) name in the blank space provided or follow the corresponding instructions provided by the intermediary.

Voting by Proxy through Intermediary

Internet: If your intermediary is registered with Computershare or Broadridge, both of which we have retained to manage beneficial shareowner Internet voting, you may vote over the Internet by following the proxy login and voting instructions on your voting instruction form.

Through Intermediary: A beneficial shareowner who does not vote via the Internet will be given a voting instruction form or other document by his or her intermediary that must be submitted by the beneficial shareowner in accordance with the instructions provided by the intermediary. In such case, you *cannot* use the Internet voting procedures described above and *must* follow the intermediary s instructions (which in some cases may allow the completion of the voting instruction form by telephone or on the intermediary s Internet website). Occasionally, a beneficial shareowner may be given a form of proxy that has been signed by the intermediary and is restricted to the number of shares owned by the beneficial shareowner but is otherwise not completed. This form of proxy does not need to be signed by the beneficial shareowner. In this case, you can complete the form of proxy and vote by mail or facsimile only in the same manner as described above under **Voting by Registered Shareowners Voting by Proxy** on page 2 of this proxy circular.

In all cases, beneficial shareowners should carefully follow the instructions provided by the intermediary.

Proxies returned by intermediaries as non-votes because the intermediary has not received instructions from the beneficial shareowner with respect to the voting of certain shares, or because under applicable stock exchange or other rules, the intermediary does not have the discretion to vote those shares on one or more of the matters that come before the meeting, will be treated as not entitled to vote on any such matter and will not be counted as having been voted in respect of any such matter. Shares represented by such broker non-votes will, however, be counted in determining whether there is a quorum for the meeting. In addition to being able to submit to Cott or the intermediary, as applicable, a voting instruction form, beneficial shareowners are permitted to submit any other documents in writing that requests that the beneficial shareowner or a nominee thereof be appointed as a proxyholder.

Confidentiality of Vote

Computershare counts and tabulates proxies in a manner that preserves the confidentiality of your votes. Proxies will not be submitted to management unless:

there is a proxy contest,

the proxy contains comments clearly intended for management, or

it is necessary to determine a proxy s validity or to enable management and/or the board of directors to meet their legal obligations to shareowners or to discharge their legal duties to Cott.

Quorum

The annual and special meeting requires a quorum, which for this meeting means:

at least two persons personally present, each being a shareowner entitled to vote at the meeting or a duly appointed proxy for an absent shareowner so entitled, and

persons owning or representing not less than a majority of the total number of our shares entitled to vote. **Vote Counting Rules**

All matters that are scheduled to be voted upon at the meeting, other than as set out below, are ordinary resolutions. Ordinary resolutions are passed by a simple majority of votes: if more than half of the votes that are cast are cast in favor, the resolution passes. Eleven directors nominated must be elected by ordinary resolution of the shareowners. Pursuant to Cott s Majority Voting and Director Resignation Policy, if a nominee in an uncontested election does not receive the vote of at least the majority of the votes cast (including votes for and votes withheld), such director is required to promptly tender his or her resignation from the board of directors. Cott s Majority Voting and Director Resignation Policy is described more particularly below under the heading **Majority Voting and Director Resignation Policy** on page 13 of this proxy circular.

The approval of Cott s independent registered certified public accounting firm and the approval of the Amendment to Cott s Second Amended and Restated By-Laws (the **By-Law Amendment**) must be approved by ordinary resolution of the shareowners. Due to the non-binding advisory nature of the matter to be voted upon in respect of the compensation of Cott s executive officers, there is no minimum vote requirement for the proposal. However, the matter will be considered to have passed with the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by shareowners that are present or represented and entitled to vote at the meeting.

Proxies may be marked FOR, AGAINST or WITHHOLD/ABSTAIN. For purposes of the resolution to approve the By-Law Amendment, proxies may be marked FOR or AGAINST. Abstentions/withholding and broker non-votes are counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, but they are not counted as votes cast for or against a proposal.

Solicitation of Proxies

The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by Cott. In addition, Cott may reimburse brokerage firms and other persons representing beneficial owners of shares for their expenses in forwarding solicitation materials to such beneficial owners. Proxies may also be solicited by certain of our directors, officers and employees, without additional compensation, personally or by telephone, telegram, letter or facsimile. We have hired MacKenzie Partners, Inc., a professional soliciting organization, to assist us in conducting bank and broker searches, distributing proxy solicitation materials and responding to information requests from shareowners with respect to the materials. For these services, MacKenzie Partners, Inc. will be paid a fee of \$12,000, plus limited reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses.

Say-on-Pay and Say-on-Frequency Results

At the 2013 annual and special meeting of shareowners, we solicited from our shareowners an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers. The shareowners voted to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of our named executive officers, as such information is disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and the accompanying narrative disclosure, set forth in our

2013 annual and special meeting proxy circular. The vote was 76,522,583 shares For (98.16% of the shares voted), 1,385,920 shares Against (1.78% of the shares voted), and 47,131 shares Withheld (0.06% of the shares voted).

The Human Resources and Compensation Committee of Cott s board of directors (the **Compensation Committee**) took into account the result of the shareowner vote in determining executive compensation policies and decisions since the 2013 annual and special meeting of shareowners. The Compensation Committee viewed the vote as an expression of the shareowners general satisfaction with our current executive compensation programs. While the Compensation Committee considered the outcome of the advisory vote in determining to continue our executive compensation programs for fiscal 2014, decisions regarding incremental changes in individual compensation were made in consideration of the factors described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

Consistent with our shareowners preference expressed in voting at the 2011 annual meeting of shareowners, the board determined that an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers will be conducted every year. The next advisory vote on the frequency of an advisory vote on executive compensation will take place at the 2017 annual meeting of shareowners.

Please Complete Your Proxy

Our management, with the support of the board of directors, requests that you fill out your proxy to ensure your votes are cast at the meeting. This solicitation of your proxy (your vote) is made on behalf of management and the board of directors.

PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING SHAREOWNER PROPOSALS

If you want to propose any matter for inclusion in our 2015 proxy circular, it must be received by our Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary no later than November 27, 2014 at Cott Corporation, 5519 West Idlewild Avenue, Tampa, Florida, U.S.A. 33634.

If shareowners confirm the By-Law Amendment as contemplated herein, the By-Law Amendment fixes a deadline by which shareowners must submit director nominations prior to any meeting of shareowners. In the case of annual meetings, advance notice must be delivered to Cott not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to the date of the annual meeting; provided, however, that if the annual meeting is called for a date that is less than 50 days after the date on which the first public announcement of the date of the annual meeting was made, advance notice may be made not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the date on which the public announcement of the date of the annual meeting is first made by Cott. In the case of a special meeting of shareowners (which is not also an annual meeting), advance notice must be delivered to Cott no later than the close of business on the 15th day following the day on which the public announcement of the date of the special meeting is first made by Cott. The By-Law Amendment also requires any shareowner making a director nomination to provide certain important information about its nominees with its advance notice. Only shareowners who comply with the requirements of the By-Law Amendment are waived by the board of directors to the board of directors unless the advance notice requirements of the By-Law Amendment are waived by the board of directors in its sole discretion. You are advised to review the By-Law Amendment, which contains additional requirements about advance notice of director nominations.

PRINCIPAL SHAREOWNERS

We are not aware of any person who, as of March 17, 2014, beneficially owned or exercised control or direction, directly or indirectly, over more than 5% of our common shares except as set forth below:

	Nature of Ownership or		
Name	Control	Number of Shares	Percentage of Class
FMR LLC ⁽¹⁾	Beneficial ownership	14,163,751	15.00%
245 Summer Street Boston, Massachusetts 02110			
Valinor Management, LLC ⁽²⁾	Beneficial ownership	7,041,546	7.46%
510 Madison Avenue, 25 th Floor New York, New York 10022			
Levin Capital Strategies, L.P. ⁽³⁾	Beneficial ownership	5,112,774	5.42%
595 Madison Avenue, 17 th Floor New York, New York 10022			

- (1) Based solely on information reported in an amended Schedule 13G filed by FMR LLC (FMR) on February 14, 2014 with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). As reported in such filing, Fidelity Management & Research Company (Fidelity), a wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, is the beneficial owner of 12,880,072 shares, or 13.641% of the shares outstanding as a result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 owning such shares (the Fidelity Funds). Edward C. Johnson 3d, as Chairman of FMR, and FMR, through its control of Fidelity, and the Fidelity Funds each has sole power to dispose of the 12,880,072 shares owned by the Fidelity Funds. Members of the family of Mr. Johnson (the Johnson Family), are the predominant owners, directly or through trusts, of Series B voting common shares of FMR, representing 49% of the voting power of FMR. The Johnson Family and all other Series B shareowners have entered into a shareowners voting agreement under which all Series B voting common shares will be voted in accordance with the majority vote of Series B voting common shares. Accordingly, through their ownership of voting common shares and the execution of the shareowners voting agreement, members of the Johnson Family may be deemed, under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to form a controlling group with respect to FMR. Neither Mr. Johnson nor FMR has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the Fidelity Funds, which power resides with the Fidelity Funds Boards of Trustees. Fidelity carries out the voting of the shares under written guidelines established by the Fidelity Funds Boards of Trustees. Pyramis Global Advisors Trust Company (PGATC), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of FMR and a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, is the beneficial owner of 1,283,679 shares or 1.359% of the shares outstanding as a result of its serving as investment manager of institutional accounts owning such shares. Mr. Johnson and FMR, through its control of PGATC, each has sole dispositive power over 1,283,679 shares and sole power to vote or to direct the voting of 1,187,179 shares owned by the institutional accounts managed by PGATC as reported above.
- (2) Based solely on information reported in an amended Schedule 13G filed by Valinor Management, LLC (Valinor) on February 14, 2014 with the SEC. As reported in such filing, Valinor and David Gallo have shared voting power and shared dispositive power with respect to 7,041,546 shares, constituting approximately 7.46% of the shares outstanding, and Valinor Capital Partners Offshore Master Fund, L.P. has shared voting power and shared dispositive power with respect to 4,657,540 shares, constituting approximately 4.93% of the shares outstanding Mr. Gallo disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares owned in the aggregate by the other members of the group, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (3) Based solely on information reported in an amended Schedule 13G filed by Levin Capital Strategies, L.P. (Levin Capital) on January 31, 2014 with the SEC. As reported in such filing, Levin Capital is the beneficial owner of 5,122,744 shares, constituting approximately 5.4% of the shares outstanding, with sole voting power and sold dispositive power with respect to 264,862 shares, shared voting power with respect to 3,759,292 shares, and shared dispositive power with respect to 4,138,435 shares.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

At the meeting, we will submit Cott s annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 28, 2013, and the related report of Cott s independent registered certified public accounting firm to you. No vote will be taken regarding the financial statements.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Corporate Governance Committee of the board of directors (the **Corporate Governance Committee**) reviews annually the qualifications of persons proposed for election to the board and submits its recommendations to the board for consideration. In the opinion of the Corporate Governance Committee and the board, each of the 11 nominees for election as a director is well qualified to act as a director of Cott and, together, the nominees bring the mix of independence, diversity, expertise and experience necessary for the board and its committees to function effectively. Our approach to corporate governance and the roles of the board and its committees are described under **Corporate Governance** on page 51 of this proxy circular.

During 2013, the board of directors held six meetings. Each of our incumbent directors who served in 2013 attended, in person or by telephone, 75% or more of the applicable meetings of the board of directors and committees on which they served in 2013.

Set forth below is certain information concerning our nominees for election as directors of Cott, including information regarding each person s service as a director, business experience, director positions held currently or at any time during the last five years, information regarding involvement in certain legal or administrative proceedings, if applicable, and the experiences, qualifications, attributes or skills that caused the Corporate Governance Committee and the board of directors to determine that the person should serve as a director of Cott. Because Cott is a Canadian corporation, we are required to have at least 25% of our directors be Canadian residents. The directors who are Canadian residents are identified below.

The board has considered the independence of each of the nominees for election as directors of Cott for purposes of the rules of the SEC, New York Stock Exchange (**NYSE**) and, where applicable, National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices (**NI 58-101**) of the Canadian Securities Administrators. All nominees are independent except for Mr. Fowden, our Chief Executive Officer. See **Certain Relationships and Related Transactions** on page 17 of this proxy circular for further discussion of the board s determinations as to independence.

Nominee

Mark Benadiba, 61, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, served as executive Vice-President, North American Operations, of Cott Corporation from 1996 until 2006. Mr. Benadiba held several roles during his tenure at Cott from 1990 through 2006, including Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of Cott Canada from 1990 to 1998. Previously, Mr. Benadiba was a Senior Executive of Pepsi/Seven-Up, Toronto/Canada (a division of Seven-Up Canada Inc.). He has served on Cott s board since June 2008. The board nominated Mr. Benadiba to be a director because of his management experience in, and extensive knowledge of, the beverage industry. The board believes Mr. Benadiba s experience in the beverage industry, including the various positions he held within Cott, enable him to make valuable contributions to the board. Mr. Benadiba is a Canadian resident.

Committee Membership Corporate Governance Committee

Nominee

George A. Burnett, 58, of Scottsdale, Arizona, U.S.A., is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Northcentral University and a director of Northcentral University Holdings, LLC. Previously, Mr. Burnett served as Chief Executive Officer of Alta Colleges, Inc. from August 2006 to September 2011. Mr. Burnett was Chairman of R.H. Donnelley, a Yellow Pages publisher, in 2006 and Chief Executive Officer of Dex Media, Inc. from 2001 to 2005. Mr. Burnett has served on Cott s board since June 2006. The board nominated Mr. Burnett to be a director because it believes his senior level experience with multinational public companies lends valuable executive and financial expertise to the board.

Jerry Fowden, 57, of Tampa, Florida, U.S.A., was appointed as our Chief Executive Officer on February 18, 2009. Prior to this appointment, he served as President of Cott s international operating segments and Interim President, North America from May 2008 to February 2009, and as Interim President of Cott s United Kingdom business unit from September 2007 to May 2008. He served as Chief Executive Officer of Trader Media Group Ltd., a media company, and as a member of its parent Guardian Media Group plc s board of directors from 2005 until 2007. From 2001 until 2004, he served in a variety of roles with ABInBev S.A. Belgium, an alcoholic beverage company, including President, European Zone, Western, Central and Eastern Europe from 2003 to 2004, Global Chief Operating Officer from 2002 to 2003 and Chief Executive Officer of Bass Brewers Ltd., a subsidiary of ABInBev S.A. Belgium, from 2001 to 2002. Mr. Fowden also served on the board of directors of Chesapeake Corporation (now known as Canal Corporation), a supplier of specialty paperboard packaging products, when it filed a voluntary Chapter 11 petition in the United States on December 29, 2008. He served as a director of such company until May 2009. In 2010, Mr. Fowden joined the board of directors of Constellation Brands, Inc., a premium wine company. Mr. Fowden has served on Cott s board since March 2009. The board nominated Mr. Fowden to be a director because he is Cott s Chief Executive Officer, and has held operational management positions within Cott in North America and Europe. Under Mr. Fowden s leadership, Cott has focused its resources and investments, streamlined operations and cut costs, and broadened its product portfolio.

David T. Gibbons, 70, of Naples, Florida, U.S.A., was Cott s Interim Chief Executive Officer from March 2008 to February 2009. Prior to joining Cott, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of Perrigo Company, a manufacturer of retailer brand over-the-counter pharmaceutical and nutritional products, from 2000 to 2006, and from 2003 to 2007, he also held the role of Chairman of that company. Mr. Gibbons currently serves on the board of directors of Perrigo and has served on the board of directors of Robbins & Myers, Inc., a manufacturer of fluid management products. He has served on Cott s board since April 2007, and is currently the Chairman of the Board. The board nominated Mr. Gibbons to be a director because he has an extensive consumer products background, with leadership experience in strategic planning, sales and marketing, operational improvements and international operations, as well as extensive board and corporate governance experience from serving as a director and committee member on public, private and non-profit boards.

Committee Membership Audit Committee

Chairman of the Board; Corporate Governance Committee

Nominee

Stephen H. Halperin, 64, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is a partner at the law firm of Goodmans LLP and a member of that firm s Executive Committee. He has been a partner with Goodmans since 1987 and a member of the Executive Committee since 1993. He also serves as a director of Gluskin Sheff + Associates, Inc., a Toronto Stock Exchange listed wealth management company. Mr. Halperin served on the board of trustees of KCP Income Fund, a custom manufacturer of national brand and retailer brand consumer products. He has served on Cott s board since 1992. The board nominated Mr. Halperin to be a director because he is an expert in Canadian corporate law, with over 30 years of experience counseling boards and senior management regarding corporate governance, compliance, disclosure, international business conduct, capital markets, corporate strategy and other relevant issues. Mr. Halperin is a Canadian resident.

Betty Jane (BJ) Hess, 65, of Hingham, Massachusetts, U.S.A., was Senior Vice President, Office of the President, of Arrow Electronics, Inc., an electronics distributor, for five years prior to her retirement in 2004. Ms. Hess currently serves on the board of Harvest Power, a firm specializing in the management of organic waste. Ms. Hess served on the board of directors of the ServiceMaster Company, a company providing lawn care, landscape maintenance, and other cleaning, repair and inspection services. She has served on Cott s board since 2004. The board nominated Ms. Hess to be a director because it believes that her executive experience, leadership and communication skills are valuable assets to the board.

Gregory Monahan, 40, of Darien, Connecticut, U.S.A., has been a Managing Director of Crescendo Partners, L.P., a New York-based investment firm, since December 2008 and has held various positions at Crescendo Partners since May 2005. Prior to Mr. Monahan s time with Crescendo Partners, he was the founder of Bind Network Solutions, a consulting firm focused on network infrastructure and security. Mr. Monahan also serves on the board of directors of Absolute Software Corp., a leader in firmware-embedded endpoint security and management for computers and ultra-portable devices. He also serves on the board of directors of COM DEV International Ltd., a supplier of space equipment and services, and SAExploration Holdings Inc., a seismic data services company. He previously served on the board of Bridgewater Systems, a telecommunications software provider, and O Charley s Inc., a multi-concept restaurant company. Mr. Monahan has served on Cott s board since June 2008. The board nominated Mr. Monahan to be a director because it believes he possesses valuable financial expertise, including extensive expertise with capital markets transactions and investments in both public and private companies. He has served in managing roles in investment and technology consulting firms, which experience informs his judgment and risk assessment as a board member. **Committee Membership**

Human Resources and

Compensation Committee

Audit Committee

Nominee

Mario Pilozzi, 67, of Oakville, Ontario, Canada, was, until January 2008, President and CEO of Wal-Mart Canada. He joined Wal-Mart Canada in 1994 as Vice-President of Hardline Merchandise and was promoted to Senior Vice-President of Merchandise and Sales, and later Chief Operating Officer, before serving as President and CEO. Prior to joining Wal-Mart Canada, Mr. Pilozzi held a broad range of positions with Woolworth Canada spanning more than 30 years, including the positions of Vice-President of Hardline Merchandise, Administrator of Store Openings, District Manager, Store Manager and several other key roles in Woolworth s variety and discount-store divisions. Mr. Pilozzi serves on the board of directors of Protenergy Natural Foods Corp., a manufacturer of natural food products. Mr. Pilozzi has served on Cott s board since June 2008. The board nominated Mr. Pilozzi to be a director because he has extensive executive experience with two well-known, multinational corporations and understands the retail sales business of our retailer partners. Mr. Pilozzi is a Canadian resident. Andrew Prozes, 68, of Greenwich, Connecticut, U.S.A., was Global Chief Executive Officer of LexisNexis Group, a provider of legal and risk management solutions and information in New York City, from 2000 to December 2010. Mr. Prozes served on the board of directors of Reed Elsevier plc and Reed Elsevier NV, parent entities to LexisNexis, until his retirement from LexisNexis Group. Mr. Prozes also served as a director on the boards of Transunion LLC, Asset International Inc., Interactive Data Corporation, Alert Global Media, Inc., Scribestar Ltd., Quality Solicitors Organisation Ltd., Ethoca Limited and a number of other for-profit and not-for-profit boards. He has served on Cott s board since January 2005. The board nominated Mr. Prozes to be a director because it believes he possesses valuable executive and financial expertise that makes him an asset to the board. Cott benefits from Mr. Prozes s experience as an executive officer and director of large, international companies.

Committee Membership Human Resources and

Compensation Committee

Corporate Governance Committee;

Chair, Human Resources and Compensation Committee

Nominee

Eric Rosenfeld, 56, of New York, New York, U.S.A., has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Crescendo Partners, L.P., a New York based investment firm, since its formation in November 1998. Prior to forming Crescendo Partners, he held the position of Managing Director at CIBC Oppenheimer and its predecessor company Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. for 14 years. Mr. Rosenfeld currently serves as a director for Primoris Services Corporation, a specialty construction company, CPI Aerostructures Inc., a company engaged in the contract production of structural aircraft parts, for which he also serves as Chairman, Absolute Software Corp., a leader in firmware-embedded endpoint security and management for computers and ultraportable devices, SAExploration Holdings Inc., a seismic data services company and Quartet Merger Corp., a blank-check company, for which he serves as Chairman and CEO. Mr. Rosenfeld has also served as a director for numerous companies, including Arpeggio Acquisition Corporation, Rhapsody Acquisition Corporation and Trio Merger Corp., all blank check corporations that later merged with Hill International, Primoris Services Corporation and SAExploration Holdings Inc., respectively. He also served on the board a directors of Sierra Systems Group Inc., an information technology, management consulting and systems integration firm, Emergis Inc., an electronic commerce company, Hill International, a construction management firm, Matrikon Inc., a company that provides industrial intelligence solutions, DALSA Corp., a digital imaging and semiconductor firm, GEAC Computer, a software company, and Computer Horizons Corp., an IT services company. Mr. Rosenfeld was a director of Hip Interactive Corp. in 2005 while a cease trade order was issued because the company did not file its year-end financial information. Mr. Rosenfeld then resigned from the board. An interim receiver was later appointed. Mr. Rosenfeld has served on Cott s board since June 2008 and is our Lead Independent Director. The board nominated Mr. Rosenfeld to be a director because he has extensive experience serving on the boards of multinational public companies and in capital markets and mergers and acquisitions transactions. Mr. Rosenfeld also has valuable experience in the operation of a worldwide business faced with a myriad of international business issues. Mr. Rosenfeld s leadership and consensus-building skills, together with his experience as senior independent director of all boards on which he currently serves, make him an effective Lead Independent Director for the board.

Committee Membership Chair, Corporate

Governance Committee

Nominee

Graham Savage, 64, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is a corporate director. Between 2002 and 2007, Mr. Savage served as the Chairman of Callisto Capital L.P., a Toronto-based private equity firm. Prior to this, since 1998, Mr. Savage was Managing Director at Savage Walker Capital Inc., Callisto Capital L.P. s predecessor. Between 1975 and 1996, Mr. Savage was with Rogers Communications Inc. in various positions culminating in being appointed the Senior Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer, a position he held for seven years. In addition, Mr. Savage serves on the boards of Canadian Tire Corporation, Postmedia Network Canada Corp. and Whistler Blackcomb Holdings Inc. He has also served on the boards of Rogers Communications Inc., Hollinger International, Inc., Alias Corp., Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. and Royal Group Technologies Limited, among others. Mr. Savage was a director of Microcell Inc., a telecommunications provider, when it filed for bankruptcy protection in Canada in 2003. He served as a director of Microcell Inc. until 2005. Mr. Savage has served on Cott s board since February 2008. The board nominated Mr. Savage to be a director because of his financial expertise, including expertise in the area of private equity. He is our audit committee financial expert and has served as Chief Financial Officer of a large public company. Mr. Savage also has board and committee experience at both public and private companies, and his extensive executive experience brings strong financial and operational expertise to the board. Mr. Savage is a Canadian resident.

Committee Membership Chair, Audit Committee

It is intended that each director will hold office until the close of business of the 2015 annual meeting or until his or her earlier resignation, retirement or death. Cott does not have a retirement policy for its directors.

Unless otherwise instructed, the persons named in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote FOR the election to the board of directors of the 11 nominees who are identified above. Management and the board of directors do not contemplate that any of the nominees will be unable to serve as a director. If, for any reason at the time of the meeting, any of the nominees are unable to serve, then the persons named in the accompanying form of proxy will, unless otherwise instructed, vote at their discretion for a substitute nominees.

Majority Voting and Director Resignation Policy

Pursuant to Cott s Majority Voting and Director Resignation Policy, if a nominee in an uncontested election does not receive the vote of at least the majority of the votes cast, the director is required to promptly tender his or her resignation from the board of directors to the Corporate Governance Committee. Following receipt of a resignation, the Corporate Governance Committee must consider whether or not to accept the offer of resignation and recommend to the board of directors whether or not to accept it. With the exception of special circumstances that would warrant the continued service of the applicable director on the board of directors, the Corporate Governance Committee is expected to accept and recommend acceptance of the resignation by the board of directors. In considering whether or not to accept the resignation, the Corporate Governance Committee may consider factors provided as guidance by the Toronto Stock Exchange and all factors deemed relevant by members of the Corporate Governance Committee including, without limitation, the stated reasons why shareowners withheld votes from the election of that nominee, the length of service and the qualifications of the director whose resignation has been submitted, such director s contributions to Cott, Cott s governance guidelines and Cott s obligations under applicable laws. The board of directors must make its decision on the Corporate Governance Committee s recommendation promptly following the meeting of Cott s shareowners. In considering the Corporate Governance Committee and such additional information and factors that the board

of directors considers to be relevant. If a resignation is accepted in accordance with this policy, the board of directors may in accordance with the provisions of Cott s articles and by-laws appoint a new director to fill any vacancy created by the resignation or reduce the size of the board of directors.

COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

We use a combination of cash and stock-based compensation to attract and retain qualified candidates to serve on the board. We set director compensation at a level that reflects the significant amount of time and high skill level required of directors in performing their duties for Cott and for its shareowners.

In 2013, other than Jerry Fowden, our Chief Executive Officer, no employees served as directors. Mr. Fowden s compensation during 2013 has been fully reflected in the Summary Compensation Table on page 36 of this proxy circular. We provided the following annual compensation to our non-employee directors in 2013:

	Fees Earned or	
Name	Paid in Cash (\$) ⁽²⁾	Stock Awards (\$) ⁽³⁾
Mark Benadiba ⁽¹⁾	81,000	81,000
George Burnett	81,000	81,000
David Gibbons	181,000	81,000
Stephen Halperin ⁽¹⁾	81,000	81,000
Betty Jane Hess	81,000	81,000
Gregory Monahan	81,000	81,000
Mario Pilozzi ⁽¹⁾	81,000	81,000
Andrew Prozes	96,000	81,000
Eric Rosenfeld	121,000	81,000
Graham Savage ⁽¹⁾	98,500	81,000

- (1) Messrs. Benadiba, Halperin, Pilozzi and Savage are compensated in Canadian dollars. The amounts paid to such individuals are converted from the U.S. dollar amounts listed above to Canadian dollar amounts at the U.S. to Canadian conversion rate in effect at the time of payment.
- (2) Non-employee directors are also reimbursed for certain business expenses, including travel expenses, in connection with board and committee meeting attendance. These amounts are not included in the above table.
- (3) Represents common shares issued in payment of the annual director long-term incentive fee for non-employee directors pursuant to the Company s Amended and Restated Cott Corporation Equity Incentive Plan. No stock options were granted to directors in 2013. Options held by our directors are governed by our Restated 1986 Common Share Option Plan, as amended. The total number of common shares that may be acquired upon exercise of outstanding stock options held by our directors on December 28, 2013 was as follows: Mr. Burnett, 25,000; Mr. Gibbons, 25,000; Mr. Monahan, 25,000; Mr. Pilozzi, 25,000; and Mr. Rosenfeld, 25,000.

Directors Compensation Schedule

The compensation of directors is considered in light of the overall governance structure of Cott. Compensation for directors is recommended to the board by the Compensation Committee and is approved by the independent directors. Director compensation is set solely on an annual fee basis (paid quarterly in arrears) and per-meeting attendance fees are not paid. Directors are not separately compensated for service on board committees in roles other than the committee chair.

During 2013, directors of Cott were entitled to the following annual fees:

Category	Annual Fees
Annual board retainer	\$ 81,000
Annual fee for the non-executive chair of the board	\$ 100,000
Annual fee for chairing the:	
Audit Committee	\$ 17,500
Compensation Committee	\$ 15,000
Corporate Governance Committee	\$ 10,000
Annual fee for the lead independent director	\$ 30,000
Annual long-term equity incentive fee (stock award)	\$ 81,000

The amounts listed in the table above are denominated in U.S. dollars. U.S. resident directors receive their applicable retainers in U.S. dollar amounts, while Canadian resident directors receive their applicable retainers in Canadian dollar amounts. Directors are also reimbursed for certain business expenses, including their travel expenses in connection with board and committee meeting attendance.

Share Ownership Requirements for Board Members

The board of directors has adopted minimum share ownership requirements for non-management directors. Under the requirements, each such director must own common shares having a minimum aggregate value equal to four (4) times his or her annual board retainer fee (excluding additional committee or chairman retainers). The Compensation Committee or the board of directors may, from time to time, reevaluate and revise these guidelines to give effect to changes in Cott s common share price or capitalization. The value of shares owned by each director as calculated under the guidelines, and compliance with the share ownership requirements, is measured on December 31st of each year. Directors are not required to attain the minimum ownership level by a particular deadline. However, until the guideline amount is achieved, such directors are required to retain an amount equal to 100% of net shares received as equity compensation. Net shares are defined as those shares that remain after shares are sold or netted to pay the exercise price of stock options (if applicable) and taxes payable upon the grant of a stock payment or the vesting of restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, or performance share units or the exercise of stock options or stock appreciation rights. Failure to meet or to show sustained progress toward meeting the guidelines may be a factor considered by the Compensation Committee in determining future long-term incentive equity grants to such directors. Shares purchased on the open market may be sold in compliance with Cott s policies and applicable securities law. These requirements are designed to ensure that directors long-term interests are closely aligned with those of our shareowners.

Due to an increase in the amount of the board retainer fee and changes to Cott s common share price, the minimum value provided for in the guidelines increased. All but one director met this increased threshold as of December 28, 2013.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT

Security Ownership

The following table and the notes that follow show the number of our common shares beneficially owned as of March 17, 2014 by each of our directors and the individuals named in the Summary Compensation Table, as well as by our current directors and executive officers as a group.

		Options		
	Common Shares	Exercisable		Common
	Beneficially Owned,	within		Shares
Name	Controlled or Directed ⁽¹⁾	60 days	Total	Percentage of Class ⁽²⁾
Mark Benadiba	35,320		35,320	*
George Burnett	58,970	25,000	83,970	*
David Gibbons	104,428	25,000	129,428	*
Stephen Halperin	87,992		87,992	*
Betty Jane Hess	65,567		65,567	*
Gregory Monahan	53,818	25,000	78,818	*
Mario Pilozzi	70,071	25,000	95,071	*
Andrew Prozes	55,048		55,048	*
Eric Rosenfeld	472,046	25,000	497,046	*
Graham Savage	51,857		51,857	*
Jerry Fowden ⁽³⁾	419,942		419,942	*
Jay Wells ⁽³⁾				*
Steven Kitching ⁽³⁾	68,339		68,339	*
Marni Poe ⁽³⁾	50,343		50,343	*
Carlos Baila ⁽³⁾				*
Directors and executive officers as a group (consisting of 17 persons, including the directors and executive officers named above)	$1.678.047^{(2)}$	125,000	1,803,047	1.91%
	1,078,047	125,000	1,003,047	1.91%

* Less than 1%

(1) Each director and officer has provided the information on shares beneficially owned, controlled or directed. The shareowners named in this table have sole voting and investment power over all shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

(2) Percentage of class is based on ######## shares outstanding as of March 17, 2014.

(3) Amounts reported in the above table do not include unvested time-based restricted share units included in the amount of securities beneficially owned by such person as reported on Form 4.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Our directors and executive officers and any beneficial owner of more than 10% of our common shares, as well as certain affiliates of those persons, must file reports with the SEC showing the number of common shares they beneficially own and any changes in their beneficial ownership. Based on our review of these reports and written representations of our directors and executive officers, we believe that all required reports in 2013 were filed in a timely manner.

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The board has determined that ten of the nominees for director, Mark Benadiba, George A. Burnett, David T. Gibbons, Stephen Halperin, Betty Jane Hess, Gregory Monahan, Mario Pilozzi, Andrew Prozes, Eric Rosenfeld and Graham W. Savage, are independent within the meaning of the rules of the SEC, NYSE and NI 58-101. A director is independent in accordance with the rules of the SEC, NYSE and NI 58-101 if the board affirmatively determines that such director has no material relationship with us (either directly or as a partner, shareowner or officer of an organization that has a relationship with us).

With respect to Mr. Halperin, the board of directors considered Mr. Halperin s position as a partner of Goodmans LLP, a law firm that provides services to Cott on a regular basis, and determined that Mr. Halperin is independent. The amount of fees earned by Goodmans LLP for legal services rendered to Cott is financially immaterial to Goodmans LLP and to Mr. Halperin s compensation from such firm. Although fees paid by the Company to Goodmans LLP are immaterial to that firm and Mr. Halperin s compensation, concern has been expressed by certain shareowners with respect to Mr. Halperin s service on board committees comprised solely of independent directors in light of this relationship. To address this concern, Mr. Halperin and the board of directors agreed that he not serve on standing board committees. Mr. Halperin ceased serving on the Corporate Governance Committee on April 30, 2013.

In addition, although Mr. Savage serves on the audit committees of more than two other publicly traded companies, the board of directors determined that such simultaneous service does not impair his ability to serve on Cott s Audit Committee.

Mr. Fowden is a management director and is therefore not independent.

Each director and nominee for election as director delivers to Cott annually a questionnaire that includes, among other things, a request for information relating to any transactions in which both the director or nominee, or their family members, and Cott participates, and in which the director or nominee, or such family member, has a material interest. Pursuant to Cott s Corporate Governance Guidelines and the charter of the Corporate Governance Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee is required to review all transactions between Cott and any related party (including transactions reported to it by a director or nominee in response to the questionnaire, or that are brought to its attention by management or otherwise), regardless of whether the transactions are reportable pursuant to Item 404 of Regulation S-K under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act).

After considering advice from the Corporate Governance Committee, the board of directors is required to review, and, if appropriate, approve or ratify, such related party transactions. A related party transaction is defined under the Corporate Governance Guidelines as any transaction in which Cott was or is to be a participant and in which any related party has a direct or indirect material interest, other than transactions that (i) are available to all employees generally, (ii) involve compensation of executive officers or directors duly authorized by the appropriate board committee, or (iii) involve reimbursement of expenses in accordance with Cott s established policy.

A related party is defined under the Corporate Governance Guidelines as any person who is, or at any time since the beginning of Cott s last fiscal year was, an executive officer or director (including in each case nominees for director), any shareowner owning in excess of 5% of Cott s common shares, or an immediate family member of an executive officer, director, or 5% shareowner.

An immediate family member is defined under the Corporate Governance Guidelines as a person s spouse, parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, siblings, mother- and father-in-law, sons- and daughters-in-law, brothers- and sisters-in-law, and anyone (other than employees) who shares such person s home.

Management and directors must also update the board of directors as to any material changes to proposed transactions as they occur.

Because related party transactions potentially vary, the Corporate Governance Committee or the board of directors has not to date developed a written set of standards for evaluating them, but rather addresses any such transactions on a case-by-case basis.

To the knowledge of the directors, no insider, director or proposed nominee for election as a director, or any associate or affiliate of any such persons, had any material interest, direct or indirect, by way of beneficial ownership of securities or otherwise, in any material transaction with Cott since January 1, 2013.

COMPENSATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Executive Summary

We seek to incentivize management to increase long-term, sustainable shareowner value giving appropriate consideration to risk and reward, and to focus management on increasing revenue, controlling costs, and implementing our capital deployment strategy, which includes investing in the diversification of our product, package and channel mix, along with the return of funds to shareholders and continued debt and interest expense reduction. Our compensation programs are designed to reward executives based on the achievement of both individual and corporate performance targets, while at the same time avoiding the encouragement of unnecessary or excessive risk-taking. Our named executive officers total compensation consists of a base salary, opportunities for annual performance-based cash bonus compensation, and long-term compensation in the form of equity ownership.

We believe that our named executive officers were instrumental in helping us deliver \$100 million in free cash flow, from \$155 million of net cash provided by operating activities less \$55 million of capital expenditures in 2013 (free cash flow is net cash provided by operating activities, less capital expenditures), which enabled us to execute our capital deployment strategy, including the retirement of \$215 million in debt and the return of approximately \$32 million to shareowners through quarterly dividends and stock repurchases.

In 2013, the Compensation Committee and management continued to implement compensation and corporate governance practices that reflect our ongoing efforts to reduce operating expenses due to challenging market conditions, as well as our financial position and our role as a low-cost producer of beverages, including:

Salary and bonus decisions reflecting our results for the year, including:

- ¹ The base salary and target bonuses for our named executive officers remained consistent with 2012 base salary and target bonuses, and perquisites available to our named executive officers continued to be limited to an annual executive physical examination and a car allowance.
- ¹ Each of our named executive officers, other than the President of our U.S. Business Unit, received a performance bonus equal to 0.60 times target, and the President of our U.S. Business received a performance bonus equal to 0.56 times target.

We awarded a combination of performance-based restricted share units (37.5%), time-based restricted share units (25%), and stock options (37.5%) to our named executive officers. All of these restricted share units and stock options cliff vest at the end of fiscal 2015, with the performance-based restricted share units vesting based upon the achievement of a specific level of cumulative pre-tax income over the three-year period ending at the end of fiscal 2015. By linking an element of our long-term incentives to three-year financial results, we hope to more closely align our named executive officers incentives with the long-term interests of shareowners. For grants in 2014, our named executive officers received the same types and relative percentages of equity awards as were awarded in 2013.

A clawback policy to allow the board of directors to recoup any excess incentive compensation paid to our current and former executive officers in the event of a required accounting restatement of a financial statement of Cott, whether or not based on misconduct, due to material non-compliance with any financial reporting requirement under the securities laws of the United States. The clawback policy is intended to reduce potential risks associated with our incentive plans, and thus better align the long-term interests of our named executive officers and shareowners.

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A no-hedging policy that prohibits our directors, named executive officers, and other key executive officers from engaging in any hedging or monetization transactions, such as zero-cost collars and forward sale contracts, with respect to Cott securities.

A policy prohibiting directors and employees, including named executive officers, from engaging in any short-term, speculative transactions involving Cott securities, including purchasing securities on margin, engaging in short sales, buying or selling put or call options, and trading in options.

A policy prohibiting directors and employees, including named executive officers, from holding Cott securities in a margin account or pledging Cott securities as collateral for a loan.

Share ownership guidelines that require our directors, named executive officers, and other key employees to hold a certain amount of Cott shares, with the amount set at a particular multiple of base salary.

The Compensation Committee s continued engagement of an independent compensation consultant that does not provide any services to management and that had no relationship with management prior to the engagement.

The continued administration of a robust risk management program, which includes our Compensation Committee s oversight of the ongoing evaluation of the relationship between our compensation programs and risk, as well as the oversight of risk by the Audit Committee on behalf of the full board pursuant to the Audit Committee Charter.

We believe that the following two tables are helpful in understanding the actual performance-based compensation received by our named executive officers in fiscal 2011 through 2013. These tables supplement the information in the Summary Compensation Table, the Grants of Plan-Based Awards in Fiscal 2013 Table, and the Outstanding Equity Awards at 2013 Fiscal Year End Table appearing following Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

Table 1 illustrates the targeted versus actual payout of the performance-based cash bonuses to our named executive officers over the previous three fiscal years.

TABLE 1: PERFORMANCE-BASED CASH BONUS ACHIEVEMENT HISTORY

Named Executive Officer Jerry Fowden Chief Executive Officer	Fiscal Year 2013 2012 2011	Cash Incentives Actual Payout Against Target 60.0% 129.0% 71.0%
Jay Wells ⁽¹⁾ Chief Financial Officer	2013 2012 2011	60.0% 129.0%
Steven Kitching ⁽²⁾ President U.S. Business Unit	2013 2012 2011	56.0%
Marni Morgan Poe	2013 2012	60.0% 129.0%
Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel	2011	71.0%
Carlos Baila ⁽²⁾ Chief Procurement Officer	2013 2012 2011	60.0%

(1) Mr. Wells was not a named executive officer in 2011.

(2) Messrs. Kitching and Baila were not named executive officers in 2011 or 2012.

Table 2 shows the grant date fair values and share-based compensation expense for performance-based restricted share units granted over the last three years to our named executive officers. We believe that this supplemental table presents a meaningful illustration of the actual fiscal year end value of performance-based restricted share units granted to our named executive officers in fiscal 2013 and in previous years. The performance targets established for the performance-based restricted share units granted to our named executive officers in fiscal 2011 were not met, and as a result, those awards did not vest. The data set forth in this table excludes time-based restricted share units and stock options.

TABLE 2: PERFORMANCE-BASED RESTRICTED SHARE UNITS

	Fiscal	Grant Date Fair Value	Share-Based Compensation
Named Executive Officer	Year	(\$)	Expense (1) (\$)
Jerry Fowden	2013	682,500	0
	2012	600,000	450,000
Chief Executive Officer	2011	880,875	0
Jay Wells ⁽²⁾	2013	172,031	0
Chief Financial Officer	2012		