



Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG

domiciled in Aßlar, Germany

ISIN DE0006916604

Annual Shareholders' Meeting of Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG

Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 2:00 p.m.

Stadthalle, Brühlsbachstr. 2B, 35578 Wetzlar, Germany

Explanations

pursuant to § 121 (3) sentence 3 no. 3 German Stock Corporation Act (*Aktiengesetz* - "AktG") on the rights of shareholders pursuant to § 122 (2) AktG, § 126 (1) AktG, and § 131 (1) AktG

Pursuant to § 121 (3) sentence 3 no. 3 AktG, the convening of the Annual Shareholders' Meeting is restricted to information on the deadlines for exercise of shareholders' rights pursuant to § 122 (2) AktG, § 126 (1) AktG, § 127 AktG, and § 131 (1) AktG. The purpose of the following information is to provide further explanations of the above-indicated shareholders' rights.

1. Request to add items to the agenda pursuant to § 122 (2) AktG

Pursuant to § 122 (2) AktG, shareholders of the company whose aggregate holdings represent one-twentieth of the share capital (equivalent to 493,383 shares of the company) or the proportionate amount of 500,000.00 euros (equivalent to 195,313 shares of the company) may request that items be put on the agenda of the Annual Shareholders' Meeting and published accordingly. Each new item must be accompanied by an explanatory statement or a proposed resolution.

Requests to add items to the agenda must be received by the Management Board of Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG in writing at the following address by no later than 12 p.m. (midnight), Saturday, 21 April 2012:

Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG
Investor Relations
Berliner Strasse 43
35614 Asslar, Germany

The requestors must evidence that they have held their shares for a period of at least three months prior to the date the request is received by the Company.

Immediately upon receipt of the request, additions to the agenda that are to be announced will be published in the electronic version of the German Federal Gazette (*e/elektronischer Bundesanzeiger*) – to the extent that they have not already been published when the Annual Shareholders' Meeting was convened – and will be forwarded for publication to media which can be expected to distribute the information throughout the entire European Union. Immediately upon receipt, they will also be made available on the Company's website at http://www.pfeiffer-vacuum.de/shareholders_meeting, and notified to such shareholders in accordance with § 125 AktG who so request.

The provisions of the German Stock Corporation Act upon which these shareholders' rights are based read as follows:

§ 121 General [Extract]

- (4) The notice of convening a shareholders' meeting shall be announced in the company's designated journals. If the shareholders are known to the company by name, the shareholders' meeting can be called by registered letter, unless otherwise stipulated in the articles of association; the date of dispatch shall be deemed to be the date of announcement. §§ 125 through 127 shall apply analogously.
- (4a) In the case of listed companies that have not exclusively issued registered shares and that do not send the notice of convening a shareholders' meeting directly to the shareholders pursuant to subparagraph 4 sentence 2 and 3, said notice shall be sent by no later than the time of announcement to media which can be expected to distribute the information throughout the entire European Union.

§ 122 Calling of a meeting at the request of a minority

- (1) A shareholders' meeting shall be called if shareholders whose aggregate shareholdings equal or exceed one-twentieth of the share capital demand said meeting in writing, stating the purpose of and reasons for such meeting; such demand shall be addressed to the management board. The articles of association may provide that the right to demand convening a shareholders' meeting shall require a different form or the holding of a lower proportion of the share capital. § 142 (2) sentence 2 shall apply analogously.
- (2) In the same manner, shareholders whose aggregate holdings equal or exceed one-twentieth of the share capital or represent a proportionate amount of 500,000 euros may demand that items are put on the agenda and published. Each new item shall be accompanied by an explanatory statement or a proposed resolution. The demand in the sense of sentence 1 shall be provided to the company at least 24 days, in the case of a listed company at least 30 days, prior to the meeting; the date of receipt shall not be considered in this calculation.

- (3) If such demand is not complied with, the court may authorize those shareholders, who have made the demand, to convene a shareholders' meeting or to publish such item. At the same time, the court may appoint the chairman of the meeting. The notice of convening a shareholders' meeting or the publication shall refer to such authorization. The decision of the court is subject to an immediate appeal.
- (4) The company shall bear the costs of the shareholders' meeting, and, in the case of subparagraph 3, also the court costs if the court has adopted the motion.

§ 124 Publication of requests for additional agenda items; proposed resolutions [Extract]

- (1) If the minority set forth in § 122 (2) has demanded that items be put on the agenda, such items shall be published either already together with the notice of convening the meeting, or otherwise immediately following receipt of such demand. § 121 (4) shall apply analogously; moreover, in the case of listed companies, § 121 (4a) shall apply analogously. Publication and submission shall be effected in the same manner as for convening a meeting.

§ 125 Communications to shareholders and supervisory board members [Extract]

- (1) The management board shall, at least 21 days prior to the shareholders' meeting, communicate the notice of convening a meeting to those credit institutions and shareholders' associations which had exercised voting rights on behalf of shareholders in the preceding shareholders' meeting or which have requested such communication. The date of such notification shall not be considered in the calculation. If, in case of listed companies, the agenda needs to be amended pursuant to § 122 (2), the amended agenda shall be communicated. Such communication shall refer to the option of having the voting right exercised by a proxy, including a shareholders' association. In the case of listed companies, nominations for the election of supervisory board members shall include information as to their membership in other supervisory boards whose establishment is required by law; information relating to their membership in comparable domestic or foreign controlling bodies of commercial enterprises should also be included.
- (2) The management board shall provide the same communication to those shareholders who make such request or are registered as shareholders in the company's register of shares at the beginning of the 14th day prior to the shareholders' meeting. The articles of association may restrict transmittal to electronic communication channels.
- (5) The rules set out for credit institutions shall also apply for financial services institutions or enterprises operating in accordance with § 53 (1) sentence 1 or § 53b (1) sentence 1 or (7) of the German Banking Act (*Kreditwesengesetz*).

§ 142 Appointment of special auditors [Extract]

- (2) If the shareholders' meeting rejects a motion for the appointment of special auditors to audit any matter relating to the formation of the company or the management of the company's business affairs which has occurred within the past five years, the court shall, upon the motion of shareholders whose aggregate holdings equal or exceed one-hundredth of the share capital or represent at least a proportionate amount of 100,000 euros, appoint special auditors, provided that facts exist that give reason to suspect that dishonesty or gross infringement of applicable law or the articles of association have occurred in connection with such matter; this shall also apply to matters that occurred within the past ten years, provided that the company was listed on a stock exchange at that time. The petitioners shall furnish evidence that they have held their shares for at least three months prior to the date of the shareholders' meeting and that they will continue to hold the shares until a decision on such motion is rendered. § 149 shall apply analogously to any agreement to avoid such special audit.

2. Countermotions and nominations pursuant to § 126 (1) AktG and § 127 AktG

Shareholders of the company are entitled to submit countermotions in opposition to proposals made by the management board and/or the supervisory board relating to individual items of the Agenda pursuant to § 126 (1) AktG, or to submit nominations for the election of supervisory board members or auditors pursuant to § 127 AktG.

Countermotions pursuant to § 126 (1) AktG, must be accompanied by an explanatory statement.

In particular, the Management Board needs not to make a nomination for the election of supervisory board members or auditors accessible if the nomination does not include the nominee's name, profession exercised and place of residence. Moreover, a nomination for the election of supervisory board members needs not be made accessible if no information relating to the nominee's membership on other supervisory boards, whose establishment is required by law, has been included. A nomination pursuant to § 127 AktG needs not to be accompanied by an explanatory statement.

Countermotions and nominations shall be sent to one of the Company's following addresses:

Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG
Investor Relations
Berliner Strasse 43
35614 Asslar, Germany
Telefax: +49 (0)6441-802-365
E-Mail: HV2012@pfeiffer-vacuum.de

Countermotions and nominations by the Company's shareholders, including the name of the shareholder, the explanatory statement and the statement of the Management, if any, that are required to be made accessible, will be made available on the Company's website at the following address http://www.pfeiffer-vacuum.de/shareholders_meeting if received by the Company by no later than 12 p.m. (midnight), Monday, 7 May 2012.

The provisions of the German Stock Corporation Act upon which these shareholder rights are based and that also stipulate the cases where countermotions and shareholders' nominations need not be made accessible read as follows:

§ 124 Publication of requests for supplements; proposed resolutions [Extract]

- (3) With respect to each item on the agenda which is to be resolved by the shareholders' meeting, the management board and the supervisory board, but in case of elections of supervisory board members and auditors, only the supervisory board shall in the publication of the agenda submit a proposed resolutions. In the case of companies within the meaning of § 264d of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*), the proposal of the supervisory board relating to election of the auditor shall be based upon the recommendation of the audit committee. Sentence 1 shall not apply if the shareholders' meeting is bound by nominations for the election of supervisory board members pursuant to § 6 of the German Coal and Steel Codetermination Act or if the subject matter of the resolution has been put on the agenda upon request of a minority. The nominations for the election of supervisory board members or auditors shall state their name, profession exercised and place of residence. [...]

§ 125 Communications to shareholders and supervisory board members [Extract]

- (1) The management board shall, at least 21 days prior to the shareholders' meeting, communicate the notice of convening a meeting to those credit institutions and shareholders' associations which had exercised voting rights on behalf of shareholders in the preceding shareholders' meeting or which have requested such communication. The date of such notification shall not be considered in the calculation. If, in case of listed companies, the agenda needs to be amended pursuant to § 122 (2), the amended agenda shall be communicated. Such communication shall refer to the option of having the voting right exercised by a proxy, including a shareholders' association. In the case of listed companies, nominations for the election of supervisory board members shall include information as to their membership in other supervisory boards whose establishment is required by law; information relating to their membership in comparable domestic or foreign controlling bodies of commercial enterprises should also be included.

§ 126 Motions by shareholders

- (1) Motions by shareholders, including the name of the shareholder, the explanatory statement and the statement of the management, if any, shall be made available to the eligible persons set forth in § 125 (1) through (3) under the conditions set

forth therein if, at least 14 days prior to the shareholders' meeting, the shareholder has sent to the address, included in the notice of convening the meeting, a countermotion to a proposal by the management board and supervisory board relating to an individual agenda item together with an explanatory statement. The date of receipt shall not be considered in the calculation. In the case of listed companies, accessibility shall be provided via the company's website. § 125 (3) shall apply analogously.

- (2) A countermotion and the explanatory statement therefor need not be made available
1. insofar as the management board would become criminally liable as a result of such accessibility,
 2. if the countermotion would result in a resolution of the shareholders' meeting that would be illegal or in violation of the articles of association,
 3. if the explanatory statement contains statements that are manifestly false or misleading in material respects or that are libelous,
 4. if a countermotion by such shareholder that is based upon the same facts has already been made available with respect to a shareholders' meeting of the company pursuant to § 125,
 5. if the same countermotion by such shareholder with an essentially identical explanatory statement has already been communicated pursuant to § 125 to at least two shareholders' meetings of the company within the past five years and at such shareholders' meeting less than one-twentieth of the share capital represented has voted in favor of such countermotion,
 6. if such shareholder indicates that s/he will neither attend nor be represented at the shareholders' meeting, or
 7. if such shareholder has failed to make or cause to be made on his/her behalf a countermotion communicated by him/her within the past two years at two shareholders' meetings.

The explanatory statement needs not be made available if it exceeds 5,000 characters in length.

- (3) If multiple shareholders make countermotions for resolution relating to the same subject matter, the management board may combine such countermotions and the respective explanatory statements.

§ 127 Nominations by shareholders

§ 126 shall apply analogously with respect to a nomination by a shareholder for the election of supervisory board members or auditors. The nomination needs not be sup-

ported by an explanatory statement. The management board is also not required to make the nomination available if such nomination fails to contain the details set forth in § 124 (3) sentence 3 [*Note: this reference to sentence 3 is a typographical error in the Act due to the legislative procedure; the reference should rather read § 124 (3) sentence 4*] and § 125 (1) sentence 5.

3. Information rights pursuant to § 131 (1) AktG

Pursuant to § 131 (1) AktG, shareholders of the Company are entitled to demand information from the Management Board at the Shareholders' Meeting relating to the affairs of the Company, to the Company's legal and business relationships with affiliated companies, as well as to the position of the group and of the companies included in the consolidated financial statements, to the extent that such information may be required for proper assessment of the agenda item.

The Management Board is entitled to refrain from answering individual questions for the reasons set forth in § 131 (3) AktG.

If information has been provided to a shareholder in his/her capacity as a shareholder outside a shareholders' meeting, such information will be provided to any other shareholder upon demand at the Shareholders' Meeting, even if the information is not necessary for proper assessment of the agenda item.

The shareholders' right to information may be exercised at the Shareholders' Meeting.

The provisions of the German Stock Corporation Act upon which these shareholder rights are based read as follows:

§ 131 Right of shareholders to information

- (1) At the shareholders' meeting, the management board shall provide each shareholder upon request with information relating to the company's affairs to the extent that such information is required for proper assessment of the agenda item. Such information obligation shall also extend to the company's legal and business relationships with any affiliated enterprise. If a company makes use of the simplified procedure pursuant to § 266 (1) sentence 3, § 276 or § 288 of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*), each shareholder may request that the annual financial statements be presented to him/her at the shareholders' meeting relating to the respective annual financial statements in the form that would have been used if the above mentioned provisions had not been applied. The obligation of the management board of a parent company (§ 290 (1), (2) of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*)) to provide information to the shareholders' meeting at which the consolidated financial statements and the group management report (*Konzernlagebericht*) are presented shall also include the general situation and outlook of the group and of the companies included in the consolidated financial statements.

- (2) The information shall comply with the principles of conscientious and accurate accounting. The articles of association or the rules of procedure in the sense of § 129 may authorize the chairman of the meeting to appropriately limit the time for questions and speaking of a shareholder, and stipulate further rules in this regard.
- (3) The management board may refuse to provide information
 1. to the extent that the provision of such information is, on the basis of sound business judgment, likely to cause material damage to the company or to an affiliated enterprise;
 2. to the extent that such information relates to tax valuations or to the amount of individual taxes;
 3. relating to the difference between the value at which items are shown in the annual balance sheet and the higher fair market value of such items, unless the annual financial statements are to be adopted by the shareholders' meeting;
 4. relating to the methods of accounting and valuation to the extent that disclosure of such methods in the notes suffices to provide an appropriate view of the actual conditions of the company's assets, financial position and profitability within the meaning of § 264 (2) of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*); the foregoing shall not apply if the annual financial statements are adopted by the shareholders' meeting;
 5. to the extent to which the provision of such information would render the management board criminally liable;
 6. insofar as, in case of a credit institution or a financial services institution, information relating to the accounting and valuation methods applied, as well as to settlements made in the annual financial statements, management report (*Lagebericht*), the consolidated financial statements or group management report (*Konzernlagebericht*) need not be provided;
 7. to the extent to which such information is continuously available on the company's website for at least seven days prior to the shareholders' meeting, as well as during the course of the shareholders' meeting.

The provision of information may not be denied for other reasons.

- (4) If information has been provided to a shareholder by reason of his/her capacity as a shareholder outside a shareholders' meeting, such information shall be provided to any other shareholder upon request at the shareholders' meeting, even if such information is not necessary for proper assessment of the agenda item. The management board may not refuse to provide information pursuant to (3) sen-

tence 1 nos. 1 through 4. Sentences 1 and 2 shall not apply if a subsidiary (§ 290 (1), (2) of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*)), a cooperative enterprise (§ 310 (1) German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*)) or an affiliate (§ 311 (1) of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*)) provides such information to a parent company (§ 290 (1), (2) of the German Commercial Code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*)) for the purpose of including such company in the consolidated financial statements of the parent company, and the information is required for this purpose.

- (5) A shareholder who has been denied information may request that his/her question and the reasons for which provision of the information was denied be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Asklar, April 2012

Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG
Management Board