

Financial Report 2013



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PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

Defined Terms and Conventions

“Company”, “we”, “us” and “our” refer to (i) Aperam following the spin-off (as defined below), (ii) Aperam together with its subsidiaries following the spin-off or (iii) the stainless and specialty steels businesses of ArcelorMittal prior to the spin-off, in each case as the context requires. “ArcelorMittal” refers to ArcelorMittal, formerly known as Mittal Steel Company N.V., and its subsidiaries, except in each case where otherwise indicated or where the context otherwise requires. “ArcelorMittal Group” refers to ArcelorMittal and its subsidiaries.

On January 25, 2011, the shareholders of ArcelorMittal approved the separation of its stainless and specialty steels businesses from its global steel and steel related products businesses. As a result, the shareholders of ArcelorMittal received ordinary shares of the Company, which now owns ArcelorMittal’s stainless and specialty steels businesses. ArcelorMittal and the Company are independent from each other as of January 25, 2011.

References to “\$,” “U.S.\$” and “U.S. dollars” are to the United States dollar, the official currency of the United States, references to “real”, “reais” or “R\$” are to Brazilian reais, the official currency of Brazil and references to “euro”, “euros” or “€” are to the euro, the official currency of the European Union member states participating in the European Monetary Union. Certain information presented in Brazilian reais or euros has been translated into U.S. dollars. By including the U.S. dollar equivalents, we do not represent that the Brazilian reais or euro amounts actually represent the U.S. dollar amounts shown or that these amounts could be converted into U.S. dollars at the rates indicated. Unless otherwise indicated, foreign currency translations are presented on the basis of the noon buying rate on December 31, 2013, the date of the Company’s most recent audited statement of financial position. As of that date, the noon buying rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the Brazilian real was R\$2.3426 per U.S. dollar and for the euro was €0.7251 per U.S. dollar.

In addition, unless indicated otherwise, or the context otherwise requires, references to:

- “annealing” are to the process of heating cold steel to make it more suitable for bending and shaping and to prevent breaking and cracking;
- “Aperam BioEnergia” are to our wholly owned subsidiary Aperam BioEnergia Ltda. (formerly ArcelorMittal BioEnergia Ltda.);
- “Aperam South America” are to Aperam Inox America do Sul S.A. (formerly ArcelorMittal Inox Brasil S.A.);
- “Articles of Association” are to our articles of association;
- “Borrowing Base Facility” are to the secured borrowing base revolving credit facility entered into by the Company on March 15, 2011 and guaranteed by certain of our subsidiaries and as amended thereafter;
- “bright annealing” are to the final annealing lines (with an oven) with a reducing atmosphere which produces a bright annealed finish;
- “carbon steel scrap” are to recycled carbon steel that is remelted and recasted into new steel;
- “cold rolling” are to the forming method employed after hot rolling;
- “crude steel” are to the first solid steel product upon solidification of liquid steel, including ingots from conventional mills and semis (e.g., slab, billet and blooms) from continuous casters;
- “downstream” are to finishing operations, for example in the case of flat products, the operations after the production of hot-rolled coil;
- “ferritic steel” are to stainless steels which have a low carbon content and contain between 13% and 17% chromium, the main alloying element;

- “finishing facilities” are to downstream facilities (including rolling mills, pickle lines, tandem mills, annealing facilities and temper mills);
- “General Moly” are to General Moly, Inc., in which we held, as of December 31, 2013, a 9.00% interest;
- “greenfield project” are to the development of a new project;
- “IFRS” are to International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union;
- “integrated mills” are to steel mills encompassing in the same location facilities ranging from meltshops and hot and cold rolling mills to finishing lines;
- “Leadership Journey®” are to our Leadership Journey® strategic initiative aimed at achieving management gains, fixed and variable cost reductions, and increased productivity over the near and medium term;
- “martensitic” are to a small category of magnetic steels typically containing 12% chromium, a moderate level of carbon and a very low level of nickel;
- “pickling” are to the process where steel coils are cleaned using chemical baths to remove impurities, such as rust, dirt and oil;
- “production capacity” are to the annual production capacity of plant and equipment based on existing technical parameters as estimated by management;
- “sales” include shipping and handling fees and costs billed to a customer in a sales transaction;
- “Significant shareholder” are to a trust (HSBC Trust (C.I.) Limited, as trustee), of which Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal, Ms. Usha Mittal and their children are the beneficiaries, or (where the context requires) prior owners of the Significant shareholder’s stake in Aperam;
- “slabs” are to compact blocks of crude steel (usually a product of the casting process in steel mills), which are used as a pre-product in hot-rolling mills to produce hot-rolled coils or strips;
- “spin-off” are to the transfer of the assets comprising ArcelorMittal’s stainless and specialty steels businesses to us and the *pro rata* allocation of our ordinary shares to ArcelorMittal’s shareholders;
- “stainless steel scrap” are to recycled stainless steel materials that are remelted and recasted into new steel;
- “steckel mill” are to reversing steel sheet reduction mills with heated coil boxes at each end where steel sheet or plate is sent through the rolls of the reversing mill and then coiled at the end of the mill, reheated in the coil box and sent back through the steckel stands and recoiled;
- “upstream” are to operations that precede downstream steel-making, such as coke, sinter, blast furnaces, electric arc furnaces, casters and hot rolling/steckel mills;
- “tonnes” are to metric tonnes and are used in measurements involving stainless and specialty steel products (a metric tonne is equal to 1,000 kilograms or 2,204.62 pounds);
- “W/kg” are to watts per kilogram and are used in measurements involving electrical steel; and
- “width” are to the lateral dimension of rolled steel, as opposed to the length or the gauge.

The fiscal years presented in this financial report are the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, which we refer to as “2013,” “2012” and “2011”, respectively.

Financial Information

The Company was formed for the purpose of holding ArcelorMittal's stainless and specialty steels businesses. The Company was initially incorporated under the name of ArcelorMittal Stainless & Specialty Steels and its name was changed to Aperam following a notarial deed dated December 10, 2010.

This financial report contains the audited consolidated financial statements of Aperam and its consolidated subsidiaries, including the consolidated statement of financial position as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, and the consolidated statement of operations, changes in equity and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2013, 2012, and 2011, respectively.

Our consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the European Union and are presented in U.S. dollars with all amounts rounded to the nearest million, except otherwise stated. Our consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for available-for-sale financial assets, derivative financial instruments and biological assets, which are measured at fair value, and inventories, which are measured at the lower of net realizable value or cost.

Companies controlled by ArcelorMittal entities as of our adoption of IFRS, January 1, 2007, were recognized in the opening combined statement of financial position as of that date at their initial carrying value in the ArcelorMittal consolidated financial statements by increasing combined equity. Substantially all of the subsidiaries within the scope of our combination were acquired in August 2006 as part of the acquisition of Arcelor by Mittal Steel. In connection with this acquisition, associated goodwill, intangible assets, and certain fair value adjustments were recorded. Any goodwill and fair value adjustments recorded by ArcelorMittal have been recognized in full in the historical combined financial statements.

The consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 have been audited by Deloitte Audit S.à r.l.

Market information

This financial report includes industry data and projections about our markets obtained from industry surveys, market research, publicly available information and industry publications. Statements regarding our competitive position contained in this financial report are based, in part, on public sources. Industry publications generally state that the information they contain has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but that the accuracy and completeness of such information is not guaranteed and that the projections they contain are based on a number of significant assumptions. In addition, in many cases we have made statements in this financial report regarding our industry and our position in the industry based on internal surveys, industry forecasts and market research, as well as our own experience.

We cannot assure that any of the assumptions underlying these statements are accurate or correctly reflect our position in the industry and none of our internal surveys or information has been verified by any independent sources. We haven't make any representation or warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of this information. All of the information set forth in this financial report relating to the operations or financial results of certain of our competitors and certain other information related to the stainless and electrical steel market has been obtained from information made available to the public in such companies' publicly-available reports and independent research. We haven't independently verified this information and cannot guarantee its accuracy.

Other information

This financial report contains references to some of our owned or licensed trademarks, trade names and service marks, which we refer to as our brands. All of the product names and logos included in this financial report are either protected trademarks of ours or of our licensors, including references to our Leadership Journey®.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This financial report contains forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding management's expectations as to savings from the Company's cost reduction programs; management's expectations of the long-term growth potential of the stainless steel industry; the Company's ability to achieve or maintain ongoing regulatory and environmental compliance in the various jurisdictions in which it operates; the adequacy of the Company's credit facilities to meet its present and future requirements; and the Company's expectations regarding its business, growth, future financial condition, results of operations and prospects. These statements usually contain the words "believes", "plans", "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "estimates" or other similar expressions. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Although management believes that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, there is no assurance that the actual results or developments anticipated will be realized or, even if realized, that they will have the expected effects on the business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects of the Company.

These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which the statements were made, and no obligation has been undertaken to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements made in this financial report as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable laws and regulations. In addition to other factors and matters contained in this financial report, the following major factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements:

- global economic cycle downturn, geopolitical risks, overcapacity in the stainless steel industry and/or China slowdown;
- the risk of nickel price decrease and raw material price uncertainty;
- fluctuations in currency exchange rates;
- the risk that developments in the competitive environment in the stainless steel industry could have an adverse effect on Aperam's competitive position;
- the risk of disruptions to Aperam's manufacturing operations or damage to Aperam's production facilities due to natural disasters or other events;
- litigation risks;
- customer risks with respect to default and credit insurance companies refusing to ensure the risks;
- the risks of lack of competitiveness of the workforce costs and retention;
- the funding risk, and
- the risk that changes in the macroeconomic environment result in the recognition of impairment against the goodwill and/or tangible assets carried on the balance sheet.

These factors are discussed in more detail in this financial report, including under "Risk Factors".

PART I

Item 1. Key Information

A. Selected Financial Data

The following tables present selected consolidated financial information of Aperam as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. This summary financial information should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this financial report. The consolidated financial statements are presented in U.S. dollars with all amounts rounded to the nearest million, except for share and per-share data. We have prepared the consolidated financial statements assuming an IFRS transition date as of January 1, 2007.

Consolidated Statement of Operations

The following table presents data from our consolidated statement of operations for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011. See "Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions and Results of Operations" for additional information.

	Year ended December 31,		
	2013	2012 ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽¹⁾
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
Sales ⁽²⁾	5,120	5,261	6,345
Cost of sales ⁽³⁾	4,903	5,125	6,032
Gross margin	217	136	313
Selling, general and administrative	228	239	261
Operating (loss) / income	(11)	(103)	52
(Loss) / income from investments and associates	(1)	2	2
Interest income	6	3	3
Interest expense and other net financing costs	(137)	(79)	(165)
Loss before taxes	(143)	(177)	(108)
Income tax benefit	44	66	48
Net loss (including non-controlling interests)	(99)	(111)	(61)
Net (loss) / income attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent	(100)	(111)	(61)
Non-controlling interests	1	—	1
Net loss (including non-controlling interests)	(99)	(111)	(60)
Basic earnings per share ⁽⁴⁾	(1.28)	(1.43)	(0.77)

Notes:

- (1) Figures for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been restated due to a change in accounting principle of defined benefit plans and other long term employee benefits, and adoption of revised IAS 19 standard.
- (2) Includes \$116 million, \$150 million and \$180 million of sales to related parties for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.
- (3) Includes depreciation and impairment of \$303 million, \$320 million and \$311 million and purchases from related parties of \$172 million, \$157 million and \$269 million for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.
- (4) Basic earnings per ordinary share is computed by dividing net loss attributable to equity holders of Aperam by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period presented.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

The following table presents data from our consolidated statement of financial position as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012 ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽¹⁾
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
Cash and cash equivalents	291	226	247
Trade accounts receivable	284	330	391
Inventories	1213	1,227	1,262
Property, plant and equipment	2,269	2,474	2,659
Total assets	5,627	5,923	6,201
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt.....	209	435	538
Long-term debt, net of current portion.....	773	607	587
Total liabilities	2,669	2,761	2,761
Total equity	2,958	3,162	3,440
Total liabilities and total equity	5,627	5,923	6,201

Note:

⁽¹⁾ Figures for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been restated due to a change in accounting principle of defined benefit plans and other long term employee benefits, and adoption of revised IAS 19 standard.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

The following table presents data from our consolidated statement of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
Net cash provided by operating activities	204	278	189
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(119)	(158)	498
Net cash used in financing activities	(14)	(146)	(552)

Operating Data

The following table presents certain operating data which we use to analyze our business:

	As of and for the year ended December 31,		
	2013	2012 ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽¹⁾
Shipments (in thousands of tonnes)	1,728	1,683	1,749
Average steel selling price (in U.S. dollars):			
Stainless & Electrical Steel	2,322	2,489	2,903
Services & Solutions	3,061	3,148	3,764
Alloys & Specialties	17,224	17,405	18,805
Adjusted EBITDA/tonne (in U.S. dollars).....	169	129	228

Note:

⁽¹⁾ Figures for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been restated due to a change in accounting principle of defined benefit plans and other long term employee benefits, and adoption of revised IAS 19 standard.

Other Financial Data

The following table presents other financial data which we use to analyze our business on a consolidated basis:

	As of and for the Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012 ⁽⁴⁾	2011 ⁽⁴⁾
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
Capital expenditures	125	161	158
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽¹⁾	292	217	399
Total debt ⁽²⁾	982	1,042	1,125
Net debt ⁽³⁾	690	816	878

Notes:

- (1) Adjusted EBITDA is defined as operating (loss) / income plus depreciation, impairment expenses and other items. Other items are those charges and gains that we describe below. We use adjusted EBITDA as a supplemental measure of operating performance. We also believe that adjusted EBITDA is a useful indicator of our ability to service our indebtedness. Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of performance under IFRS and not all companies calculate adjusted EBITDA or similarly titled financial measures in the same manner. As such, adjusted EBITDA as disclosed by other companies may not be comparable with our use of adjusted EBITDA.

Other items consist of: (i) inventory write-downs of at least 10% of total related net inventories value before write-down at the relevant quarter end or of at least \$75 million; (ii) restructuring charges / (gains) of at least \$10 million for the relevant quarters; (iii) capital loss / (gain) of at least \$10 million for the relevant quarter; or (iv) one-off capital loss / (gains) of at least \$10 million for the relevant quarter.

The following table presents a reconciliation of adjusted EBITDA to operating (loss) / income:

	As of and for the Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012 ⁽⁴⁾	2011 ⁽⁴⁾
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
Operating (loss) / income.....	(11)	(103)	52
Depreciation & impairment	303	320	311
Other items	—	—	36
Adjusted EBITDA.....	292	217	399

- (2) Total debt refers to short-term debt plus long-term debt.
- (3) Net debt refers to long term debt plus short term debt, less cash and cash equivalents (including short term investments) and restricted cash. Net debt is not a recognized measure under IFRS and does not purport to be an alternative to debt calculated in accordance with IFRS. Management believes that net debt is useful to investors in assessing our financial condition and results of operations, as well as our capital structure. Though other companies in the steel industry present net debt, they may not calculate it identically, and our presentation of net debt may not be comparable to such similarly titled measures.
- (4) Figures for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been restated due to a change in accounting principle of defined benefit plans and other long term employee benefits, and adoption of revised IAS 19 standard.

B. Risk Factors

The Company's business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects could be materially adversely affected by any of the major risks and uncertainties described below.

Global economic cycle downturn, geopolitical risks, overcapacity in the stainless steel industry and/or China slowdown

Global economic cycle downturn

The Company's business and results of operations are substantially affected by international, national and regional economic conditions, including geopolitical risks that might disrupt the economic activity in affected countries.

Global demand for stainless steel flat products grew at an average rate of approximately 7% per annum from 2000 to 2007, which was followed by a period of decline at an average rate of approximately 7% per annum from 2007 to 2009. Demand subsequently increased to an average growth rate of approximately 3% per annum from 2010 to 2012. In 2013, global demand for stainless steel flat products grew by 4%, primarily led by emerging markets (China accounting for 69% of the increase).

The reduced growth rate of global stainless steel flat products demand has triggered a significant increase of overcapacity. Although the industry has not overproduced compared to demand, structural overcapacity is expected to continue to affect the industry. Since the end of the year 2013, we have started to see signs of a rebound in the business but we continue to remain cautious considering the global economic uncertainty. Should the recovery falter, the outlook for stainless and specialty steel producers will again worsen.

In particular, the re-emergence of recessionary conditions or a period of weak growth in Europe, or slow growth in emerging economies that are, or are expected to become, substantial consumers of stainless and specialty steels (such as Brazil, Russia and India, as well as emerging Asian markets, the Middle East and the Commonwealth of Independent States ("CIS")) would have a material adverse effect on the stainless and specialty steel industry.

Overcapacity

In addition to economic conditions, the stainless steel industry is affected by global production capacity and fluctuations in stainless steel imports and exports. The stainless steel industry has historically suffered from structural overcapacity, particularly in the Europe. Production capacity in the developing world, particularly China, has increased substantially and China is the largest global stainless steel producer by a large margin. The balance between China's domestic production and consumption is accordingly an important factor in global stainless steel prices. Chinese stainless steel exports, or conditions favorable to them (such as excess capacity in China and/or higher market prices for stainless steel in markets outside of China), can have a significant impact on stainless steel prices in other markets, including Europe and South America. Over the short to medium term, the Company is exposed to the risk of stainless steel production increases in China and other markets outstripping increases in real demand, which may weigh on price recovery in the industry as a whole.

China slowdown

A significant factor in the worldwide strengthening of stainless and specialty steel pricing in recent years has been the significant growth in consumption in China, which at times has outpaced its manufacturing capacity. At times, this has resulted in China being a net importer of stainless and specialty steel products, as well as a net importer of raw materials and supplies required for the manufacturing of these products. A reduction in China's economic growth rate with a resulting reduction in stainless and specialty steel consumption, coupled with China's expansion of steel-making capacity, could have the effect of a substantial weakening of both domestic and global stainless and specialty steel demand and pricing.

The risk of Nickel price decrease and raw material price uncertainty

The Company's profitability correlates amongst others with nickel prices. A significant price decrease of nickel would have a negative impact on apparent demand and base prices due to a "wait and see" behavior from customers. Furthermore, nickel is listed on the LME and subject to speculation by the financial markets.

Stainless and specialty steel production requires substantial amounts of raw materials (primarily nickel, chromium, molybdenum, stainless and carbon steel scrap, charcoal (biomass) and iron ore). The Company is exposed to price uncertainty with respect to each of these raw materials, which it purchases mainly under short and long-term contracts, but also on the spot market.

The Company's results of operations could be affected by fluctuations in foreign exchange rates

The Company operates and sells its products globally, and a substantial portion of its assets, liabilities, costs, sales and income are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar (the Company's reporting currency). Accordingly, currency fluctuations, especially the fluctuation of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the euro and the Brazilian real, as well as fluctuations in the currencies of the other countries in which the Company has significant operations and/or sales, could have a material impact on its results of operations.

The stainless and specialty steel market is characterized by strong competition

The Company faces strong competition from other producers of stainless and specialty steels. Competitors may develop production technologies and products that are more cost effective than those of the Company, which could have a negative impact on its ability to increase its market share while maintaining profitability. Large, diversified producers of stainless and specialty steels may also use their resources, which could be greater than the Company's, in a variety of ways, including by making additional acquisitions, investing more aggressively in product development and capacity and displacing demand for the Company's products. In addition, competition from global stainless and specialty steel manufacturers with significant production capacity and from new market entrants could result in significant price competition, declining margins and reductions in the Company's sales.

The risk of disruptions to our manufacturing operations or damage to our production facilities due to natural disasters or other events

Stainless and specialty steel manufacturing processes are dependent on critical steel-making equipment, such as furnaces, continuous casters, rolling mills and electrical equipment (such as transformers). The Company has in the past experienced, and may continue to experience, unanticipated plant outages or equipment failures. In addition, it could experience transportation disruptions or disruptions in the supply of raw materials and energy. To the extent that the Company is unable to compensate for lost production as a result of such disruptions with production from unaffected facilities and/or existing inventory, its business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows could be adversely affected. The Company is particularly exposed to the risk of production disruptions in Brazil, where it operates its production facilities at or near full capacity production levels. Additionally, natural disasters could significantly damage the Company's production facilities and general infrastructure. The Company could also experience labor disputes that may disrupt its operations and its relationships with its customers.

The Company may be subject to litigation which could be costly, result in the diversion of management's time and efforts and require it to pay damages and/or prevent it from marketing its existing or future products

A number of lawsuits, claims and proceedings have been and may be asserted against the Company in relation to the conduct of its currently and formerly owned businesses, including those pertaining to product

liability, patent infringement, commercial practices, employment, employee benefits, taxes, environmental issues, health and safety and occupational disease. Due to the uncertainties of litigation, no assurance can be given that it will prevail on all claims made against it in the lawsuits that it currently faces or that additional claims will not be made against it in the future. While the outcome of litigation cannot be predicted with certainty, and some of these lawsuits, claims or proceedings may be determined adversely to the Company, Management does not believe that the disposition of any such pending matters is likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or liquidity, although the resolution in any reporting period of one or more of these matters could have a material adverse effect on its results of operations for that period. Management can also give no assurance that any litigation brought in the future will not have a material effect on its financial condition or results of operations. For a discussion of certain ongoing investigations and litigation matters involving the Company, see Note 22 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Customer risks with respect to default and credit insurance companies refusing to ensure the risks

Due to the challenging economic situation, the Company might face increased risk of customers to default or credit insurance companies refusing to ensure the risks of its receivables.

Risks of lack of competitiveness of the workforce costs and retention

The Company's total cost per employee is the main factor of cost disadvantage in comparison to competitors in certain countries. A lack of competitiveness in the workforce costs might have a material adverse effect on the Company's cost position. The Company's key personnel have an extensive knowledge of its business and, more generally, of the stainless and specialty steel sector as a whole. Its inability to retain key personnel could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Funding risk

If the stainless steel markets were to deteriorate, consequently reducing operating cash flows, Aperam may have difficulty accessing financial markets to refinance maturing debt on acceptable terms or, in extreme scenarios, come under liquidity pressure. Aperam's access to financial markets for refinancing also depends on conditions in the global capital and credit markets which are volatile and are sensitive in particular to developments in the Euro-zone sovereign debt situation. Financial markets could conceivably deteriorate sharply, including in response to significant political or financial news, such as large credit losses at a systemically important financial institution or the bankruptcy of a large company, a default or heightened risk of default by a sovereign country in Europe or elsewhere, or worse, the voluntary exit or expulsion of certain countries from the Euro currency block and/or a collapse of the Euro-zone financial system, which would be a deeply disruptive global economic event. Under such circumstances, the Company could experience difficulties in accessing the financial markets on acceptable terms or at all.

In addition, credit rating agencies could downgrade Aperam's ratings either due to factors specific to Aperam, a prolonged cyclical downturn in the stainless steel industry or macroeconomic trends (such as global or regional recessions) and trends in credit and capital markets more generally. In this respect, on November 8, 2012, Moody's downgraded the corporate family rating for Aperam S.A. to B1 from Ba3. Moody's maintained the company's negative outlook. On November 30, 2012, S&P lowered the long term corporate credit rating on Aperam to 'B+' from 'BB-'. S&P maintained its negative outlook on Aperam. Any further downgrades in Aperam's credit ratings would result in an increase in its cost of borrowing, could reduce the size of the sale of receivables program as well as hinder its ability to refinance its existing indebtedness on acceptable terms.

As described in the Liquidity section of this financial report, the borrowing base facility contains financial covenants, including: a minimum ratio of consolidated current assets to consolidated current liabilities of 1.1:1; a minimum consolidated tangible net worth of \$2.2 billion; and a maximum consolidated total debt of 70% of consolidated tangible net worth. On December 31, 2013, these financial covenants were fully met. Failure to comply with these covenants would enable the lenders to accelerate Aperam's repayment

obligations. In addition, even market perception of a potential breach of any financial covenant could have a negative impact on Aperam's ability to refinance its indebtedness on acceptable conditions.

Risks that changes in the macroeconomic environment result in the recognition of impairment against the goodwill and/or tangible assets carried on the balance sheet

At each reporting date, Aperam reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets (excluding goodwill, which is reviewed annually or whenever changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable) to determine whether there is any indication that the carrying amount of those assets may not be recoverable through continuing use. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset (or cash generating unit) is reviewed in order to determine the amount of the impairment, if any. The recoverable amount is the higher of its net selling price (fair value reduced by selling costs) and its value in use.

In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset (or cash generating unit). If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized. An impairment loss is recognized as an expense immediately as part of operating income in the consolidated statements of operations.

The goodwill recorded by the Company includes an allocation of the goodwill arising from the acquisition of Arcelor by Mittal Steel on August 1, 2006. Goodwill arising on acquisitions subsequent to January 1, 2007 is recognized as an asset and initially measured at cost, being the excess of the cost of the business combination over the Company's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities recognized. Goodwill has been allocated at the level of the Company's three operating segments; the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored for internal management purposes. Goodwill is tested for impairment annually at the levels of the groups of cash generating units which correspond to the operating segments during the fourth quarter, or when changes in the circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. The recoverable amounts of the groups of cash generating units are determined on the basis of value in use calculations, which depend on certain key assumptions. These include assumptions regarding the shipments, discount rates, growth rates and expected changes to selling prices and direct costs during the period. Management estimates discount rates using pre-tax rates that reflect current market rates for investments of similar risk. The growth rates are based on the Company's growth forecasts, which are in line with industry trends. Changes in selling prices and direct costs are based on historical experience and expectations of future changes in the market. See Notes 2 and 6 to Aperam's consolidated financial statements.

If management's estimates change, the estimate of the recoverable amount of goodwill or the asset could fall significantly and result in impairment. While impairment does not affect reported cash flows, the decrease of the estimated recoverable amount and the related non-cash charge in the consolidated statements of operations could have a material adverse effect on Aperam's results of operations or financial condition.

At December 31, 2013, substantial amounts of goodwill (\$719 million) and other intangible assets (\$89 million) remain recorded in its consolidated statements of financial position. No assurance can be given as to the absence of significant impairment losses in future periods, particularly if market conditions continue to deteriorate. In particular, Management believes that reasonably possible changes in key assumptions would cause an impairment loss to be recognized in respect of the Stainless & Electrical Steel and Services & Solutions segments, which account for \$691 million of goodwill at December 31, 2013. See Note 6 to Aperam's consolidated financial statements.

Item 2: Information on the Company

A. History and Development of the Company

Aperam Overview

We are a leading global stainless and specialty steel producer based on our annual production capacity of 2.5 million tonnes in 2013. We are the largest stainless and specialty steel producer in South America and we are the second largest producer in Europe. We are also a leading producer of high value-added specialty products, including grain oriented (“GO”) and non-grain oriented (“NGO”) electrical steels and nickel alloys. Our production capacity is concentrated in six production facilities located in Brazil, Belgium and France, and we have approximately 9,500 employees. Our distribution network is comprised of 18 Steel Service Centers (“SSCs”), 9 transformation facilities and 22 sales offices. We sell our products to customers on three continents in over 40 countries, including customers in the aerospace, automotive, catering, construction, household appliances and electrical engineering, industrial processes, medical, and oil & gas industries.

We had sales of \$5.1 billion, \$5.3 billion and \$6.3 billion and shipments of approximately 1.73 million tonnes, 1.68 million tonnes and 1.75 million tonnes for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

We manage our business according to three primary operating segments:

- **Stainless & Electrical Steel.** We are one of the largest global producers of stainless steel by production capacity. We produce a wide range of stainless and electrical steels (both GO and NGO) and continuously expand our product offerings by developing new and higher grades of stainless steel and electrical steel. We have a broad portfolio of stainless and electrical steel products and we continuously expand our product offerings. The segment accounted for 78.1% of sales and 72.6% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2013, respectively 79.5% of sales and 55.8% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2012, and respectively 79.9% of sales and 62.8% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2011
- **Services & Solutions.** Our Services & Solutions segment which includes our tubes and precision businesses performs three core activities: (i) the management of exclusive, direct sales of stainless steel products from our production facilities, primarily those located in Europe; (ii) distribution of our and, to a much lesser extent, external suppliers' products; and (iii) transformation services, which include the provision of value-added and customized steel solutions through further processing to meet specific customer requirements. The segment accounted for 42.8% of sales and 3.1% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2013, respectively 41.3% of sales and 9.7% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2012, and 41% of sales and 4.1% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2011.
- **Alloys & Specialties.** We believe that our Alloys & Specialties segment is the fourth largest producer of nickel alloys in the world. We are specialized in the design, production and transformation of various nickel alloys and certain specific stainless steels. Our products take the form of bars, semis, cold-rolled strips, wire and wire rods, and plates, and are offered in a wide range of grades. The segment accounted for 12.5% of sales and 20.5% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2013, respectively 12.5% of sales and 25.8% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2012, and 11.4% of sales and 19.3% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Additionally, we have sales and EBITDA that are reported within our “Other” segment. This segment, including our forest business in Brazil (Aperam BioEnergia) and eliminations between our primary operating segments, accounted for 3.8% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2013, respectively 8.7% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 13.8% of EBITDA for the year ended December 31, 2011.

On June 7, 2011, Aperam announced that its biomass operations in Brazil have been separated from ArcelorMittal's biomass operations and will be renamed Aperam BioEnergia. The legal steps of the demerger were completed in the third quarter 2011 and since then the results of Aperam BioEnergia are fully consolidated into those of the Company. Aperam's biomass operations constitute a leading company in the sector of biomass production for the steel industry with state-of-the-art forest management, harvesting machinery and carbonization kilns. In 2013, 2012 and 2011, we respectively produced 432,000 tonnes,

427,000 tonnes and 318,000 of charcoal through Aperam BioEnergia. We use the charcoal (biomass) produced by Aperam BioEnergia as a substitute for coke at our Timóteo production facility in Brazil, enabling us to produce stainless and specialty steel products in a more efficient and sustainable manner. We also hold a minority interest in General Moly (9.00% as of December 31, 2013), the owner of one of the world's largest development projects for the production of molybdenum, with which we have entered into a long-term supply agreement.

History and Development of the Company

The creation of Aperam

On December 7, 2010, the Board of Directors of Aperam and the Board of Directors of ArcelorMittal approved a proposal to spin off ArcelorMittal's stainless and specialty steels businesses to ArcelorMittal shareholders in order to enable it to benefit from better visibility in the markets, and to pursue its growth strategy as an independent company in the emerging markets and in specialty products, including electrical steel. On January 25, 2011, at an extraordinary general meeting, the shareholders of ArcelorMittal voted to approve the spin-off proposal. Since the creation of Aperam, the main shareholder ("Significant Shareholder") holds 40.8% of the issued share capital and the Luxembourg State 2.5% of the issued share capital. Please refer to "Item 5. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions" for more information about the share capital structure and the definition of the term "Significant shareholder".

The ordinary shares were admitted to listing and trading on the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, Euronext Amsterdam and Euronext Paris on January 31, 2011. The Aperam shares are also traded as New York registry shares on the OTC.

The company

The Company is a Luxembourg public limited liability company (*société anonyme*) incorporated on September 9, 2010 to hold the assets which comprise the stainless and specialty steels businesses historically held by ArcelorMittal.

The Company has its registered office at 12C, rue Guillaume Kroll, L-1882 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and is registered with the Luxembourg Register of Commerce and Companies under the number B-155.908.

History

The stainless and specialty steels businesses of Aperam are primarily composed of four entities, Ugine S.A., ALZ, Acesita and Imphy S.A., and were formed from several business combinations. The history of these four entities is described below.

Ugine S.A.

Ugine ACG was formed from three French ironworks plants: Gueugnon, which was founded in 1724 and introduced the first bright annealing line in 1962; Isbergues, which was founded in 1881 by the "Société des Aciéries de France"; and Ardoise, which was founded in the early twentieth century. Ugine Aciers, the predecessor entity of Ugine ACG, was acquired by Sacilor S.A. in 1982. Following the merger of Sacilor S.A. and Usinor S.A. in 1986, Ugine ACG was reorganized as Ugine S.A. in 1991 and restructured as the stainless steel division of Usinor. At the time of this reorganization, Ugine S.A. comprised Ugine-Savoie, which produced long stainless steel products, Industeel, J&L Steel and Thainox, which was subsequently separated from Ugine S.A.

In 1998, Usinor acquired 27.83% of Acesita, a Brazilian stainless steel producer that was renamed Aperam South America (formerly known as "ArcelorMittal Inox Brasil").

ALZ

In 1961, Allegheny Ludlum, an American stainless steel producer, and Espérance-Longdoz, a Belgian steel producer, formed Allegheny-Longdoz, which was originally a reroller of flat stainless steel. In 1970, Allegheny-Longdoz completed the construction of a steel plant in Genk, Belgium, and, in 1974, after the departure of Allegheny Ludlum, Allegheny-Longdoz was renamed ALZ. In 1985, Arbed S.A. acquired the majority of ALZ through its subsidiary Sidmar N.V. and in 1987, ALZ became a subsidiary of Arbed S.A. In 2000, ALZ completed an overhaul of the Genk production facility.

Acesita (Aperam South America formerly known as "ArcelorMittal Inox Brasil")

Acesita was founded in 1944 and commenced operations as a cold roller of flat stainless steel in 1977 and as a cold roller of electrical steels in 1979. In 1980, its steckel mill became fully operational. In 1992,

Acesita was privatized and in 1998, Usinor acquired 27.83% of its shares. Usinor subsequently increased its stake to 40.12% in 2005 and 57.30% in 2006. Following the merger of Arcelor with Mittal Steel in 2006, ArcelorMittal completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Acesita (which was renamed ArcelorMittal Inox Brasil afterward Aperam South America) in 2008 and Aperam South America was subsequently delisted from the São Paulo Stock Exchange ("Bovespa").

Imphy S.A. (Aperam Alloys Imphy formerly known as ArcelorMittal Stainless and Nickel Alloys)

Imphy S.A.'s core operations are located in Imphy, France, where the Forge d'Imphy commenced operations in the early seventeenth century. Imphy S.A. has been a pioneer in the development of iron-nickel grades, particularly through the discovery of the 36% iron-nickel alloy, known as Invar[®], which has been a registered trademark of Imphy S.A. since 1904. Since then, Imphy S.A.'s focus has been on specialty steels. In 1961, Imphy S.A. diversified into electrical components manufacturing through the creation of Mécanique de Montargis Co., which has been renamed as ArcelorMittal Stainless and Nickel Alloys Components. Imphy S.A. was part of the Creusot-Loire group until it became part of Sacilor S.A. in 1983. Following the merger of Sacilor S.A. and Usinor S.A. in 1986, Usinor-Sacilor was subsequently privatized in 1995 and then reorganized as Usinor in 1997.

Imphy S.A. completed the construction of an electrical arc furnace meltshop in 1982 and the revamping of its wire rolling mill in 1995. In 2008, ArcelorMittal Stainless and Nickel Alloys acquired Rescal S.A., which owns a wire drawing mill located outside Paris.

Formation of Ugine & ALZ (U&A)

Ugine & ALZ ("U&A") was formed in 2002 as part of the three-way merger of Usinor, the Arbed Group and Aceralia, a Spanish steel company which had a strategic alliance with the Arbed Group. Following the merger of Arcelor S.A. and Mittal Steel, Ugine & ALZ was renamed ArcelorMittal Stainless Europe.

In 2005, U&A completed the construction of Carinox in Belgium, a state-of-the-art meltshop, which replaced the L'Ardoise and Isbergues meltshops.

Expansion of the Company's Distribution Network

In the late 1990s, the stainless steel division of ArcelorMittal began to build its distribution network when it acquired independent distributors in Italy, Germany and Spain. From 2000 onwards, its distribution network was upgraded in order to improve the competitiveness of these distributors and increase the volumes handled by them. The Company also acquired Amorim, its first distributor in Brazil, in 2000. In 2005, it established Steel Service Centers in Poland, China and Vietnam, as well as a new tube making unit in Usti, Czech Republic. Recently, the Company has focused on expanding its distribution network in South America, and during 2007 and 2008, it acquired ArcelorMittal Montevideo (formerly Cínter), a tube manufacturer in Uruguay, M.T. Majdalani y Cia., the leading stainless steel distributor in Argentina, and Inox Tubos, a Brazilian tube mill.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditures for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 were \$125 million, \$161 million and \$158 million, respectively. Capital expenditures for 2013, 2012 and 2011 related primarily to the key projects of our Leadership Journey[®] with investments in Gueugnon (France), Imphy (France) and Campinas (Brazil) as well as maintenance investments in our facilities in Brazil, France and Belgium. On February 6, 2014, the Board of Directors of Aperam approved an investment of \$10 million in debottlenecking the finishing line of the Imphy wire rod mill. This follows the completion of the Imphy meltshop enhancement and aims at further improving competitiveness and increasing revenue in the Alloys & Specialties segment. Overall in 2014 we will remain cautious on capital expenditures whilst enabling adjustments based upon market conditions.

Divestitures

On June 7, 2011, Aperam announced that its biomass operations in Brazil had been separated from ArcelorMittal's biomass operations and would be renamed Aperam BioEnergia. The legal steps of the demerger were completed in the third quarter of 2011 and since then the results of Aperam BioEnergia are fully consolidated into those of the Company. Aperam's biomass operations constitute a leading company in the sector of biomass production for the steel industry with state-of-the-art forest management, harvesting machinery and carbonization kilns.

B. Business Overview

Our facilities

Stainless & Electrical Steel

Our European facilities produce the full range of our stainless steel products. In Europe, we have two electric arc furnace meltshops in Belgium, located in Genk and in Châtelet. The Genk facility also includes a cold rolling mill. The Châtelet facility is fully integrated from the meltshop to the hot rolling mill. In addition to our cold rolling mill in Genk, the Group has two other cold rolling mill plants in France, located in Gueugnon and in Isbergues. In Brazil, our Timóteo facility produces the full range of our stainless and electrical steel products, as well as relatively small volumes of special carbon steel. We are the only integrated producer of flat stainless and electrical steel in South America with fully integrated production and distribution facilities. The integrated Timóteo facility includes two blast furnaces, a melting shop consisting of an Oxygen Furnace and an Electric Arc Furnace, a stainless cold rolling shop and an electrical steel cold rolling shop. In 2013, steel shipments from Stainless & Electrical Steel facilities represented approximately 1,650 thousand tonnes, approximately 1,611 thousand tonnes in 2012 and approximately 1,675 thousand tonnes in 2011.

Services & Solutions

We sell and distribute our products through our Services & Solutions segment which includes our tubes and precision businesses, and which also provides value-added and customized steel solutions through further processing to meet specific customer requirements. Our distribution network comprises 18 SSCs, 9 transformation facilities and 22 sales offices. In 2013, steel shipments from Services and Solutions facilities represented approximately 679 thousand tonnes, approximately 661 thousand tonnes in 2012 and approximately 662 thousand tonnes in 2011.

Alloys & Specialties

Our Alloys & Specialties integrated production facility is located in Imphy, France and includes a meltshop, a wire rod facility and a cold rolling facility. We also own downstream nickel alloy and specialty assets, including a wire drawing facility and an electrical components manufacturer, both located in France, a transformation subsidiary located in China, and a production facility for industrial clads located in central India. In 2013 and 2012, steel shipments from Alloys & Specialties facilities represented approximately 36 thousand tonnes and approximately 37 thousand tonnes in 2011.

Other businesses: Charcoal (Biomass)

Through our Brazilian subsidiary Aperam BioEnergia, we produce wood and charcoal (biomass) from cultivated eucalyptus forests. We use the charcoal (biomass) produced by Aperam BioEnergia as a substitute for coke at our Timóteo production facility. In 2013, we produced 432,000 tonnes of charcoal through Aperam BioEnergia, 427,000 tonnes in 2012 and 318,000 tonnes in 2011.

Our key competitive strengths at a glance

Strong values and a commitment to sustainability and health and safety

Aperam understands its responsibility to future generations and local communities. In addition to Aperam BioEnergia enabling the use of sustainable biomass technology, the Company has created environmentally sustainable production solutions while still meeting the stainless and specialty steel demands of its customers. With a strong focus on health and safety, which remains the Company's top priority, the "lost time injury frequency rate", a key indicator of the success of the health and safety procedures measured by the time lost due to injuries per 1,000,000 worked hours, was 1.3 for the year ended December 2013.

A leading and geographically well-positioned stainless and specialty steel producer

Aperam is a leading stainless and specialty steel producer in South America and according to the International Stainless Steel Forum (the "ISSF"), the second largest producer in Europe. Aperam is well-positioned in both developed and emerging markets, with approximately 66% of the sales derived from

developed markets and 34% derived from emerging markets.

In South America, the Company has a leading presence in the flat stainless steel and electrical steel production with fully integrated production and distribution facilities, and its position in South America has contributed to its global leadership in the stainless and electrical steel industry. Aperam is well equipped to continue to serve the growing South American market as a result of its modern production and distribution facilities, and its leading position in the flat stainless and electrical steel production in Brazil and South America provides the Company with a key competitive advantage. Management expects to leverage these facilities going forward in order to capitalize on expected increases in demand for stainless and specialty steels in South America in the near-term.

Aperam also has a strong presence in the European stainless steel market. The Company's modern production facilities in Belgium and France are strategically located close to its major customers and have consistently maintained high performance standards through the optimization of production volumes, inventory and costs. The Company also has a highly integrated and technically advanced distribution network that is effective at maintaining direct contact with end-users through strong sales and marketing capabilities.

A competitive industrial platform

Aperam's modern production facilities allow the Company to support its customers' stainless and specialty steel requirements with a high level of operational efficiency. In Europe, the Company benefits from high quality and cost efficient plants with the largest and most recent electric arc furnace meltshop (Châtelet, Belgium), the largest hot rolling mill (Châtelet, Belgium) and one of the largest cold rolling mills (Genk, Belgium). In Brazil, the Company operates a fully integrated production facility using charcoal produced by Aperam BioEnergia.

Aperam continues to improve the competitiveness of its industrial base through restructurings and investments launched under the Leadership Journey® programme, which is described in more details below. The Company has invested and will continue to invest in its modern and cost-efficient production facilities, and management believes that the Company is therefore well positioned to benefit from the long-term growth potential of the stainless and specialty steel industry.

A global integrated distribution network with close proximity to a well-diversified customer base

Aperam has one of the largest integrated stainless and specialty steel sales, distribution and steel services networks in the world, with a total of 18 Steel Service Centers ("SSCs"), 9 transformation facilities and 22 sales offices. The Company is the only producer of flat stainless and electrical steel in South America with fully integrated production and distribution facilities, and has a highly integrated distribution network in Europe. The Company's distribution channels are strategically located in areas of high demand and close to many end-users. The Company works continuously to further develop its distribution network through internal development, partnerships and targeted acquisitions. Aperam normally expands its global distribution network either in response to an identified market opportunity or in response to the express business needs of major customers. The Company's global distribution network enables to tailor its products to address specific customer needs, thereby facilitating the maintenance of market share and the capture of growth opportunities. The Company's customer base, comprising a number of blue chip clients is well diversified.

A diversified product offering with a leading position in nickel alloys, supported by leading research and development capabilities

Aperam offers a wide range of products, including high margin value-added niche products to a diversified customer base in both emerging and developed markets. The Company's products are mainly sold to end-users in the automotive, building and construction, catering and appliance, energy and chemicals, and transportation industries, while electrical steel products are primarily sold to customers in the electric motors, generators and transformers industries. The Company is the fourth largest global producer of nickel alloys, which are sold to customers in the aerospace, automotive, electronics, petrochemical, and oil & gas industries. Aperam's diverse product offering, sold to a wide range of customers across numerous industries, allows the Company to enjoy greater stability and to mitigate some of the risks and cyclicity inherent in certain markets. In addition, Aperam's leading position in nickel alloys, which is a particularly high margin value-added niche product, helps the Company to maintain and improve its margins and profitability.

Aperam's research and development activities are closely aligned with our strategy and are focused on product development and process development. The Company's research and development team comprises 124 employees. These employees are based in two centers in Europe, located in Isbergues and

Imphy, France, and one center in Timóteo, Brazil. The research and development departments interact closely with the Company's operating segments and partner with industrial end-users and leading research organizations in order to remain at the forefront of product development. The research and development capabilities have contributed to both the Company's leadership in the industry and its development of longstanding and recognizable brands. Aperam concentrates a significant portion of its research and development budget on high margin value-added niche products, such as nickel alloys.

Resilient profitability, efficient cash flow management and a solid financial structure

Despite challenging market conditions, Aperam generated positive EBITDA in 2013. The Company's profitability is supported by its implementation of the Leadership Journey®, which has contributed at the end of December 2013 to approximately \$369 million to EBITDA since the beginning of 2011. In addition, the Company has been able to generate positive cash-flow from operations over the past three years. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had a net financial debt of \$690 million, representing a gearing of 23%.

Strong management team and motivated workforce

Aperam benefits from the experience and industry know-how of its Management Committee. The team is comprised of seven members led by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Philippe Darmayan. Mr. Darmayan had been a member of ArcelorMittal's management team since 2002 and brings with him more than 30 years of experience in leading industrial groups in Europe. He is supported by the other members of the Company's senior management team, including Mr. Sandeep Jalan, the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") since January 2014, who previously served as CFO of ArcelorMittal Long Carbon Europe, responsible for finance and strategy. Mr. Jalan has over twenty years of experience in finance and joined the ArcelorMittal group in 1999. The other members of the Management Committee are Mr. Timóteo Di Maulo, Chief Commercial and Sourcing Officer; Mr. Clenio Guimarães, Chief Operating Officer Stainless & Electrical Steel South America; Ms. Vanisha Mittal Bhatia, Responsible for Strategy; Mr. Jean-Paul Rouffiac, Chief Operating Officer Stainless & Electrical Steel Europe and Ms. Johanna Van Sevenant, Responsible for Sustainability, Human Resources and Communications. The collective industry knowledge and leadership of Aperam's senior management team and their record of accomplishment in responding to challenging economic conditions is a key asset to Aperam's business. The Company has also introduced various initiatives to improve the dedication and motivation of its work force, including development programs, employee self-evaluations, monthly career committee meetings to evaluate opportunities for managers and performance-based bonuses. Greater accountability improves motivation, and the Company's approach to human resources has contributed to the dedication and motivation of its workforce.

Our key strategic priorities

Our key strategic priorities are (i) improving operational efficiency and increasing EBITDA through the Leadership Journey®, (ii) driving value through our Top Line strategy and (iii) reducing our net debt and cost of debt. Our Top Line strategy includes (a) leveraging our unique stainless steel product portfolio, (b) driving additional value through the Services & Solutions segment and (c) growing the Alloys & Specialties segment.

Improving operational efficiency and increasing EBITDA through the Leadership Journey®

The Leadership Journey® is an initiative aimed at achieving management gains, fixed and variable cost reductions, and increased productivity over the near and medium term. The Leadership Journey® is composed of a number of initiatives which can be broadly characterized as restructuring projects, cost reduction projects and continuous improvement initiatives. Restructuring projects under the Leadership Journey® have traditionally focused on the closure of non-competitive capacities and the reduction of fixed costs through process simplification. Cost reduction projects have focused on cost-cutting through improvement of our industrial footprint. Continuous improvement initiatives have typically entailed detailed action plans to streamline our sourcing functions, reduce costs in areas such as IT, and generally reduce our sales, general and administrative costs.

As at December 31, 2013, the Leadership Journey® had contributed a total amount of \$369 million to EBITDA since the beginning of 2011. Key projects which continued to contribute to the Leadership Journey® achievements include the new hot annealing and picking line ("RD79") in Gueugnon, France, which was damaged by a fire in December 2012 and rebuilt in 2013, the steel service center in Campinas, Brazil, and the Imphy meltshop enhancement project in France. The Campinas and Imphy projects had already started operations by the end of 2012 and contributed to the continuous progress of the Leadership Journey® in 2013.

Our goal is to achieve \$475 million in gains and profit enhancements by 2015. This includes the previously announced target of \$425 million by the end of 2014. In order to achieve our goals under the Leadership Journey®, we will continue to optimize and rationalize our production facilities in Europe, while exchanging best practices between our European and Brazilian facilities in order to increase our global industrial performance. In addition, we will continue to focus on new sourcing initiatives, yield and quality improvements, organizational simplifications and further product development.

Leveraging our unique stainless steel product portfolio

We intend to continue to support the development of our wide range of products, with a focus on high-margin value-added niche products. Because of the specialized nature of these products, we are able to earn higher margins, typically attracting higher prices than our other more commoditized products. In order to grow our sales of high-margin value-added niche products and replace low contribution margin products, we target to increase the proportion of our research and development expenditure which is dedicated to developing new solutions for customers with specialty steel requirements, while focusing our marketing and advertising efforts on promoting these products more widely.

Driving additional value through the Services & Solutions segment

In a volatile environment, we believe that the development of the Services & Solutions segment and the provision of better services to our customers are key for achieving financial and operational excellence. Value-added services provided to our clients include cutting, polishing, brushing, forming, welding, pickling, annealing or packaging. We believe that the further development of the Services & Solutions segment will drive additional value creation while serving our customers more effectively. As part of this strategy, we invested \$35 million as part of the Leadership Journey® to create a new service center in Campinas in the Sao Paulo region of Brazil, which started operations by the end of 2012, and enables us to better serve customers in the Brazilian market. In particular, the facility's optimized footprint and its location close to high-consumption areas in the Brazilian market are expected to play a role in developing our operational capabilities and growing the Services & Solutions segment.

Growing the Alloys & Specialties segment

The Alloys & Specialties segment specializes in the design, production and transformation of various nickel alloys and certain specific stainless steels. These products are intended for high-end applications or addressing very specific customer requirements across a broad range of industries, including the oil and gas, aerospace, automotive, electronics, petrochemical and other industries. We believe that the Alloys & Specialties segment has significant growth potential which could be captured with new investments. As part of this strategy, we invested \$33 million as part of the Leadership Journey® at our Imphy plant in France to increase revenue and improve competitiveness, with operations started by the end of 2012. In February 2014, the Board of Directors of Aperam further approved an investment of \$10 million in debottlenecking the finishing line of the Imphy wire rod mill.

Reduction of net debt and cost of debt

As part of our efforts to become a more resilient company capable of responding to the volatile market environment, our shareholders have approved at our annual general meeting held on May 8, 2013 to stop the dividend payment in order to accelerate the net debt reduction with a target to reach \$650 million by the end of 2014. In February 2014 the Company announced that the Board of Directors decided to propose to the shareholders at the Company's next annual general meeting scheduled on May 8, 2014 to continue paying no dividend in 2014 in order to support the previously announced net debt reduction programme.

Our profit driving pillars

The Group's 5 key profit driving pillars based on our strategic priorities can be summarized as follows:

1. We are aiming at being the best in cost with our Leadership Journey® and are targeting a contribution of \$475 million to EBITDA from 2011 to 2015.
2. We are aiming at optimizing our product portfolio and replacing low contribution margin products by high margin products.
3. We are aiming at seizing opportunities from the growing domestic Brazilian market. With a leading presence in South America in flat stainless steel and electrical steel we are well positioned to capture the Brazilian market growth based on our domestic industrial presence. Moreover we believe that Aperam has further potential to improve its industrial performance in Brazil and optimize its product mix in the high grain oriented market. In addition, the recent antidumping measures taken in Brazil are expected to create a stable and fair market environment for the next 5 years.
4. We are aiming at growing in our Alloys & Specialties business with a particular focus on high margin products used for LNG tankers, continuously variable transmission belts, moulds for composite aircraft fuselage parts and special welding. Moreover we expect that our recent capex realized in our Alloys & Specialties division will allow us to follow these growing segments whilst improving our competitiveness.
5. Finally, the restructurings currently underway in Europe are expected to improve the industry's capacity utilization at the European level.

Business overview

We manage our business according to three primary operating segments: Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties. The following table sets forth selected financial data by operating segment:

	Stainless & Electrical Steel	Services & Solutions	Alloys & Specialties	Others/ Eliminations ⁽¹⁾	Total
Year Ended December 31, 2013					
Sales to external customers.....	2,362	2,117	637	4	5,120
Intersegment sales ⁽²⁾	1,635	72	4	(1,711)	—
Operating income (loss).....	(29)	(25)	50	(7)	(11)
Depreciation	239	26	7	18	290
Impairment	2	8	3	—	13
Capital expenditures	79	11	12	23	125
Year Ended December 31, 2012					
Sales to external customers.....	2,496	2,103	655	7	5,261
Intersegment sales ⁽²⁾	1,684	70	4	(1,758)	—
Operating income (loss).....	(147)	(8)	50	2	(103)
Depreciation	241	29	6	17	293
Impairment	27	—	—	—	27
Capital expenditures	91	31	23	16	161
Year Ended December 31, 2011					
Sales to external customers.....	3,126	2,505	712	2	6,345
Intersegment sales ⁽²⁾	1,942	98	9	(2,049)	—
Operating income (loss).....	(32)	(18)	64	38	52
Depreciation	259	30	6	12	307
Impairment	1	3	—	—	4
Capital expenditures	110	20	12	16	158

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Others/Eliminations includes all operations other than those that are part of the Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties operating segments, together with intersegment eliminations and/or non-operational items which are not segmented.

⁽²⁾ Transactions between segments are conducted on the same basis of accounting as transactions with third parties.

For a breakdown of sales by geography, see Note 23 to the consolidated financial statements.

Key Products

Stainless Steel

Stainless steel is a family of steels (which are alloys made of iron and carbon but containing less than 2% carbon) that is characterized by its superior resistance to corrosion. By contrast to plain or carbon steels, stainless steels have a chromium content of at least 10.5%, which increases corrosion resistance, and a carbon content of less than or equal to 1.2%. As a result of their chromium content, stainless steels are protected by a passive layer of chromium oxide, resulting from the natural reaction of chromium atoms with air moisture. This layer automatically heals itself in the event of damage, giving stainless steels their corrosion resistance. Therefore, stainless steels do not require any coating or other corrosion protection to retain their physical properties in the long term.

Various alloys are added to stainless steels to improve their mechanical, physical and anti-corrosive properties. Nickel, molybdenum, titanium and manganese are the most commonly used alloys in addition to chromium. The addition of these elements provides further advantages, such as resistance to corrosion in highly aggressive media, resistance to oxidation at high temperatures, toughness and ductility at very low temperatures, high mechanical strength and formability (including drawing, bending, hydro forming, welding and brazing). Initially used for cutlery, the application of stainless steels in industrial and other applications has expanded significantly, as it has proved significantly more cost effective than alternative materials across

a wide range of applications. Stainless steel's attractive properties, which include a high strength-to-weight ratio, heat tolerance, aesthetic qualities and the ability to be recycled, have contributed to the continued development of new products and applications. The Company sells stainless steel products primarily to end users in the catering and appliance, energy and chemicals, building and construction and automotive and transportation industries.

The Company offers one of the most complete ranges of stainless steel flat products available on the market, including:

- austenitic chromium-nickel alloys (300 series), with 8 to 13% nickel content;
- austenitic chromium-nickel-manganese alloys (200 series) with low nickel content (2 to 4%);
- ferritic steels (400 series), which do not contain nickel;
- duplex steels; and
- martensitic steels.

The Company's standard stainless steel products are produced in various shapes (HRAP/HRC or CR, ranging from 0.3 to 13mm thickness (up to 50mm for plates) and up to 2m width), with a variety of surface conditions, including annealed, bright annealed, polished, matte or brushed.

Electrical Steel

Electrical steels are silicon-iron alloys, which enable steel to have specific magnetic properties. Electrical steels are classified as GO steels, which are mainly used to build transformer cores, and NGO steels, which are mainly used to build rotating machines but also to build small transformers. NGO steels are categorized based on their core energy losses, which is a measure of energy efficiency. The Company sells its electrical steel products primarily to end users in the transformers, electric motors and generators industries.

The Company offers one of the most complete ranges of electrical steels available on the market, including:

- GO steels, from regular to M3+ grades (which are among the higher grades); and
- NGO fully processed steels, including:
 - regular grades (M600 and above, having core energy losses of 6W/kg or greater);
 - medium grades (M400 up to M600, having core energy losses from 4W/kg up to 6W/kg);
 - high grades (M300 up to M400, having core energy losses from 3W/kg up to 4W/kg); and
 - ultra-high grades (below M300, having core energy losses of less than 3W/kg).

Alloys & Specialties

The Company specializes in the design, production and transformation of various nickel alloys and certain specific stainless steels. Produced in the form of bars, cold rolled strip, wire rod and plates, and offered in a wide range of grades, these products are intended for high-end applications or applications addressing very specific customer requirements. The Company's nickel alloys and specialties products are utilized by customers across a broad range of industries, including the aerospace, automotive, electronics, petrochemical, oil and gas and other industries.

Nickel alloys generally have nickel content greater than 30% and contain other alloying elements, such as iron, chromium, molybdenum, copper and cobalt, among others. They are produced in a diverse range of grades which exhibit unique physical properties, including controlled thermal expansion, magnetism, resistance to highly corrosive environments and mechanical resistance.

Distribution Network

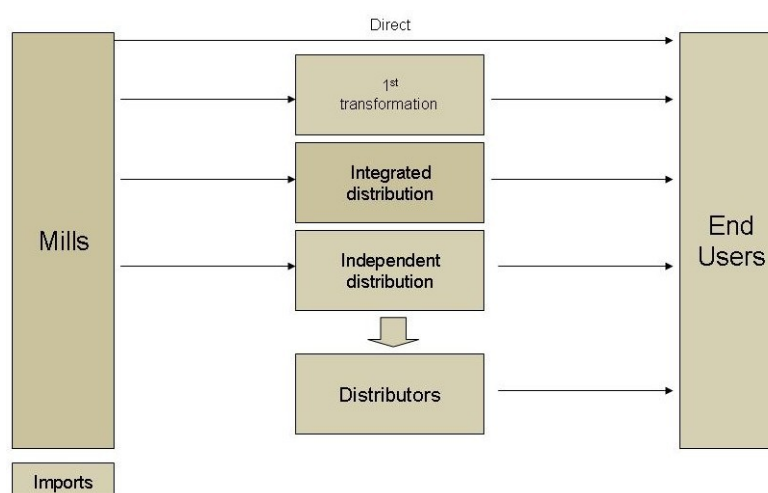
We sell and distribute our products through our Services & Solutions segment which includes our tubes and precision businesses, and which also provides value-added and customized steel solutions through further processing to meet specific customer requirements. Through our distribution network, we serve a variety of industries, including the automotive, construction, household appliances, public works, civil engineering and general industries. As of the date of this financial report, our distribution network is comprised of 18 Steel Service Centers, 9 transformation facilities and 22. Our largest Steel Service Centers in terms of sales are located in Germany, Benelux, France and Italy. Our transformation facilities include one precision unit located in France as well as tube making units located across Europe and South America. Our Steel Service Center in Luxembourg is specialized in the production and distribution of flat bars and slitting of heavy gauge coils. We also distribute our products through independent agents and through affiliated agents, none of which we own.

Our Services & Solutions segment performs three core activities: (i) apart of the key account management, the management of exclusive, direct sales of stainless steel products from our production facilities (mandated and guided by the central sales operations), primarily those located in Europe; (ii) distribution of our and, to a much lesser extent, external suppliers' products; and (iii) transformation services, which include the provision of value-added and customized steel solutions through further processing to meet specific customer requirements (including hire-work and service provider for the mill production facilities). We have the only integrated distribution network of stainless steel and specialty steel products in South America and, management believes, one of the most integrated distribution networks in Europe.

Through our integrated distribution network, management believes that we sell and distribute the widest range of stainless steel products in the industry, including flat products, tubes, transformed strips and precision strips. Our Steel Service Centers acquire hot or cold coils from our production facilities or from external suppliers, which they cut, polish or brush and then package for direct delivery to customers.

In 2013, steel shipments from Services and Solutions facilities represented approximately 679 thousand tonnes, approximately 661 thousand tonnes in 2012, and approximately 662 thousand tonnes in 2011.

The distribution chain for our products is depicted in the chart below:



Our distribution channels are strategically located close to many end users, which enhances our ability to provide customers with immediate availability of the entire range of our products, including flat, long, technical and specialty steel. Management believes that our distribution network also enables us to cover all the major customers in the European market and a significant proportion of customers in the South American market, and provides us with a presence in several key growth regions.

Charcoal (Biomass)

On June 7, 2011, Aperam announced that its biomass operations in Brazil had been separated from ArcelorMittal's biomass operations and would be renamed Aperam BioEnergia. The legal steps of the demerger were completed in the third quarter 2011 and since then the results of Aperam BioEnergia are fully consolidated into those of the Company.

Aperam BioEnergia produces wood and charcoal (biomass) for use in the steel industry from cultivated eucalyptus forests and is used at our Timóteo production facility in Brazil. The substitution of charcoal (biomass) for coke at the Timóteo production facility enables us to produce stainless and specialty steels in an environmentally and socially responsible manner in addition to improving our cost efficiency. In 2013, 2012 and 2011, we respectively produced 432,000 tonnes, 427,000 tonnes and 318,000 tonnes of charcoal through Aperam BioEnergia.

Aperam BioEnergia owns forests in the Brazilian states of Minas Gerais and Bahia. These forests have a six- to seven-year growing cycle.

BioEnergia's facilities include the following:

- three seedling nurseries, which have a capacity of approximately 12 million seedlings per year. The nursery has a temperature and humidity controlled vegetation house where more than 30 years of research with hybridation programs has been carried out with the aim of improving the productivity and quality of the forest;
- harvesting machinery with the capacity to process 3.5 million cubic meters of wood annually;
- charcoal (biomass) production units using the most advanced carbonization kilns. Each kiln has the capacity to process 700 cubic meters of wood. Aperam BioEnergia's kilns are equipped with automation systems, burning units for the carbonization of gases and a cooling system.

Certain of Aperam BioEnergia's facilities are located approximately 350 kilometers from our integrated production facility in Timóteo, Brazil. Our second Timóteo facility's blast furnace, which still used coke, has been converted fully from coke to charcoal (biomass) in June 2011. As a consequence Timóteo's two blast furnaces are fully converted to charcoal.

Strategic Participation

We hold a minority interest in General Moly (9.00% as of December 31, 2013), whose primary asset is an 80% interest in the Mt. Hope Project, a U.S. molybdenum property located in Nevada, United States. The Mt. Hope Project has proven and probable molybdenum reserves of 1.3 billion pounds. General Moly also holds a 100% stake in a second significant molybdenum project, the Liberty Property, also located in Nevada. In addition, General Moly owns certain other non-core properties and mineral rights. Production is expected to commence at the Mt. Hope Project in the medium term.

We are party to a molybdenum supply agreement with General Moly (the "General Moly Offtake Agreement") that provides for us to purchase 6.5 million pounds of molybdenum per year, plus or minus 10%, once the Mt. Hope Project commences commercial operations at minimum specified levels. The supply agreement provides for a floor price along with a discount formula based on a published reference price above the floor price and expires five years after the commencement of commercial production at the Mt. Hope Project. Both the floor and threshold levels at which the percentage discounts change are indexed to a producer price index. The General Moly Offtake Agreement is expected to provide us with 32.5 million pounds of molybdenum for the five years following the commencement of production.

The Company and General Moly have also entered into an extension molybdenum supply agreement (the "General Moly Extension Agreement"). The General Moly Extension Agreement provides us with a five-year option to purchase from General Moly 3 million pounds of molybdenum per year for 10 years following the expiration of the General Moly Offtake Agreement. In order for us to exercise this option and make the General Moly Extension Agreement effective, we must beneficially own more than 11,100,000 shares of General Moly common stock on or prior to April 15, 2015. We are currently General Moly's third largest shareholder and own 8,256,699 shares of common stock following our investment in November 2007.

General Moly entered into an agreement with China Han Long Mining Development Limited (“Han Long Mining”), pursuant to which Han Long Mining has agreed to invest in General Moly. Once this investment has been completed, our percentage interest in General Moly will decrease to approximately 8%.

Raw Materials and Energy

The Company’s production facilities use both the traditional blast furnace process as well as the electric arc furnace steelmaking process. In Brazil, the Company predominantly uses the traditional blast furnace production process, which requires, among other materials, iron ore and charcoal (biomass). In Europe, the electric arc furnaces at its Châtelet and Genk production facilities use stainless and carbon steel scrap as key raw material inputs. In addition, the Company uses nickel, ferrochrome and molybdenum, among other materials, in its products.

The Company’s raw materials purchasing strategy is focused on two principles: security of supply and flexibility. The needs of its production facilities are determined on the basis of five-year plans and annual budgets, and are largely met through the use of supply contracts which vary in duration from one to five years. In addition to long-term contracts, the Company’s purchasing strategy incorporates both short-term contracts and spot market purchases.

Aperam is responsible for the sourcing of its key raw materials, including nickel, chromium, molybdenum and stainless steel scrap. However, under the terms of the purchasing services agreement and the sourcing services agreement, Aperam relies on ArcelorMittal for advisory services in relation to the negotiation of certain contracts with global or large regional suppliers, including those relating to the following key categories: energy (electricity, natural gas, industrial gas), raw materials (ferro-alloys, certain base materials), operating materials (rolls, electrodes, refractories) and industrial products and services. The purchasing services agreement also permits Aperam to avail itself of the services and expertise of ArcelorMittal for certain capital expenditure items not specific to stainless and specialty steel production. The purchasing services agreement and the sourcing services agreement were each entered into for an initial term of two years, which was to expire on January 24, 2013. However, both agreements were extended for an additional year on similar terms. It is expected that the term of the purchasing services agreement will be further extended until the end of January 2015 on similar terms. It is also expected that the term of the sourcing servicing agreement will be extended until the end of January 2015, although its scope will be limited to IT maintenance and support until Aperam switches to its own system.

Raw Materials

Nickel

The Company buys nickel from a variety of global producers, with contracts varying in duration from one to five years. Nickel is bought as pure nickel (cathodes, briquettes) or as ferronickel (materials typically containing 20 to 40% nickel) and prices are based on the official cash or three-month settlement price quoted on the London Metal Exchange (the “LME”). For pure nickel, a premium is paid based on the quality of the material.

Ferrochrome

Chromium is mostly supplied in the form of ferrochrome (FeCr). Approximately 40% of worldwide ferrochrome production takes place in South Africa, which holds an estimated 75% of the world’s chrome ore reserves. For its European production units, the Company sources mainly charge chrome, a ferrochrome containing approximately 50% chrome, from producers in South Africa pursuant to long-term contracts that vary in duration. For its Brazilian operation, charge chrome is purchased from a local producer. The Company also sources smaller volumes of high and low carbon ferrochrome, containing about 60% to 70% chrome, under short-term contracts with producers in other chrome-producing countries. Although volumes are stipulated in the contracts, the reference price of charge chrome is negotiated quarterly between the major South African producers and the major consumers in Europe and Asia. As of January 2012, the Company stopped producing ferrochrome at its Timóteo production facility.

Molybdenum

The Company currently sources molybdenum using a combination of spot market purchases and one-year contracts with three different types of counterparties: miners/producers, independent converters and

traders. Molybdenum is mainly purchased as molybdenum oxide and ferromolybdenum and occasionally as molybdenum metal. Management expects that the Company's molybdenum needs will largely be met by the General Moly Offtake Agreement, which provides for it to purchase 6.5 million pounds of molybdenum per year, plus or minus 10%, once General Moly's Mt. Hope Project commences commercial operations at minimum specified levels. The General Moly Offtake Agreement provides for a floor price along with a discount formula based on the published reference price above the floor price. Both the floor and threshold levels at which percentage discounts change are indexed to a producer price index. See "— Upstream and Strategic Participation - General Moly".

Stainless Steel Scrap

On top of primary metals, the Company uses stainless steel scrap as an important source of nickel, chrome and molybdenum for its stainless steel products. The stainless steel scrap market is regional in nature, with specialized suppliers collecting and blending new stainless steel scrap (cuttings and turnings) and demolishing old scrap to produce a mix with consistent quality and composition. In contrast to the Company's other raw materials, stainless steel scrap is purchased on a monthly basis, allowing for adjustments in volume to account for variations in production. Stainless steel scrap pricing is based on its constituting elements (iron, nickel, chromium and, for some grades, molybdenum) and is negotiated monthly.

Charcoal (Biomass)

Aperam BioEnergia (fully consolidated) uses a unique and advanced biomass technology to produce charcoal (biomass), which is used as a substitute for coke at its Timóteo production facility. The Timóteo production facility has successfully totally switched to charcoal in June 2011 with the conversion of our second blast furnace from coke, to charcoal (biomass). Aperam BioEnergia has provided an adequately stable supply of charcoal (biomass) to support our operations at the Timóteo facility since the facility was transitioned to charcoal in June 2011, and management believes that it will be able to continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Iron Ore

The Company currently has an agreement with Vale pursuant to which Vale supplies most of its iron ore requirements for the blast furnaces at its Timóteo production facility.

Carbon Steel Scrap

The Company procures the majority of its carbon steel scrap, which it uses in its electric arc furnaces at its European production facilities, locally and regionally in order to optimize transportation costs. The Company typically enters into monthly contracts for its carbon steel scrap requirements.

Energy

Natural Gas

As part of the Leadership Journey®, the Timóteo production facility in Brazil switched from LPG to natural gas in 2011 and entered into a long-term natural gas supply contract with a Brazilian supplier.

In Europe, we purchase most of our natural gas requirements using the prevailing pricing systems, which combine both access to spot gas markets and prices indexed on oil prices, normalizing for each fuel's energy content. The shift to full spot market indexation in the market has been gradual.

Electricity

In most of the countries where we operate, electricity prices have moved in line with other energy commodities. With regard to electricity prices, we benefit from access to baseload nuclear power in France. Complementary needs are sourced in the market.

Industrial Gases

The Company procures its industrial gas requirements using long-term contracts with various suppliers in different geographical regions.

Research and Development

The Company's research and development activities are closely aligned with the Company's strategy and are focused on product development and process development. The Company's research and development team comprises 124 employees. These employees are based in two centers in Europe, located in Isbergues and Imphy, France, and one center in Timóteo, Brazil. The Isbergues center is dedicated to stainless cold flat products and the Imphy center is dedicated to nickel alloys, including electrical/magnetic nickel alloys, and flat and long products. The Timóteo center is dedicated to plates and cold rolled stainless, GO and NGO electrical steels. Each of these research and development centers is located within the relevant production facility, enabling the Company to coordinate its research and development activities based on demand for its products.

In the area of research and development, Aperam entered into an arrangement with ArcelorMittal to establish a framework for future cooperation between the two groups in relation to certain ongoing or new research and development programs. Moreover, Aperam and ArcelorMittal are keeping open the possibility to enter into ad hoc cooperation agreements for future research and development purposes.

Product Development

The Company's product development activities include new alloy designs, the reduction of costly and sometimes unnecessary alloying elements in its products and improvements in the sustainability of products. Product development activities including steel solutions are coordinated with the Company's sales and marketing activities in order to optimize material selection and tailor its products to customer demand and specific applications.

Within its product development research, the Company currently focuses on the following products:

Stainless Steel

- alloy design and application, with a special focus on ferritic and duplex stainless steels;
- stainless steel solutions and new applications for the automotive, building, construction and household appliances industries, which includes technical assistance to end users;
- stainless steel for capital goods (industry, transportation, Energy) including advanced corrosion-resistant steels;

Electrical Steels

- development of higher grades of GO steels in order to meet increasing demand for higher efficiency transformers;
- creation of new products designed to meet the challenges presented by the new generation of hybrid and electric cars by proactively anticipating market demand;
- further strengthening the Company's technological leadership in NGO steels, especially for traction; and

Alloys & Specialties

- bespoke products based on nickel, iron, chromium, cobalt and other alloying elements, all of which target the energy, oil and gas, electronics, electrical engineering, household appliances, safety and automotive and transportation industries.

Process Development

The Company's process optimization activities are aimed at achieving more cost effective production processes both through energy savings as well as through breakthrough processes.

Within its process development research, the Company currently focuses on the following areas:

- development and modelling of melting and casting processes (a new furnace has been ordered for Aperam Alloys Imphy);
- hot rolling, cold rolling knowledge and process modelling;
- bright annealing technology; and
- pickling process improvement in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

Intellectual Property

The Company's patent portfolio consists of approximately 69 patent families, with a total of approximately 650 patent applications or granted patents. From these families of patents, approximately 40% protect grades, 5% protect coatings and 55% protect processes or solutions. Some of these patents are co-owned with other entities, and a small number are used under licenses from third parties. Some proprietary techniques, such as LC2I or the Company's TOP AOD software were developed in partnership. The Company's trademark portfolio consists of about 70 trademark families, predominantly using the prefix "UGI" or the suffix "IMPHY", depending on the subsidiary owning the trademark. The Company is not dependent to a material extent on the patents and trademarks described above.

Sales Contracts

Our sales contracts generally have terms of one year or less. Sales to customers in the automotive and household appliance industries are typically concluded using one-year contracts. Sales to customers in other industries have a shorter duration, generally one month.

Sales to customers in Europe are typically denominated in euro, while sales to customers in Brazil are typically denominated in Brazilian real. No single customer accounted for more than 5% of our sales in 2013.

Sales and Marketing

We appointed a Chief Commercial and Sourcing Officer in May 2012 in order to promote a market and customer-driven approach aimed at enhancing our focus on offering our customers global solutions. The main objectives of the Commercial and Sourcing organization are the improvement of Aperam's Top Line value chain starting from R&D over Sourcing through Marketing and up to Sales & Distribution.

At the global level, marketing intelligence is shared with each operating segment in order to refine and update the Company's overall knowledge of the markets in which it operates. This exchange of information led by the marketing function helps the Company better identify new opportunities, such as new products or applications, new product requirements or new geographical areas of demand. Where a new product opportunity is identified, the Company's research and development unit is involved in developing the appropriate processes and products to enable it to respond to such opportunity.

An important part of the sales function is the management of short-term outlooks that provide a perspective on the state of market supply and demand. These outlooks are shared with the operating segments as part of the process of finalizing the sales strategy for the near term and with senior management when market conditions require adjustments to production volumes.

Competition

In 2013, the stainless steel flat producers with slab production capacity in excess of 2.0 million tonnes per year, were Aperam, Outokumpu, Acerinox, Baosteel, Pohang Iron and Steel Company ("POSCO"), Yieh United Steel ("YUSCO"), Taiyuan Iron & Steel ("TISCO") and Tsingshan. In Europe, we compete primarily with Outokumpu, Acerinox and to a growing extent with importers. In South America, we face competition primarily from imports from Asia, South Africa and India. Nickel alloys are a niche market in which our main competitors are ThyssenKrupp VDM, Carpenter Technologies, Special Metals, Hitachi and Haynes.

Stainless Steel Distribution

The Company's main competitors in the stainless steel distribution market are independent Steel Service Centers, integrated Steel Service Centers, distributors and traders. Most of the Company's main competitors, like the Company, have integrated distribution networks, including Outokumpu or Acerinox. The Company also competes with large independent distributors in Europe, who compete primarily by diversifying their product and service offerings. It also faces competition from strong distribution networks in the NAFTA region, although it possesses the only integrated distribution network in South America.

Insurance

Historically, the Company has maintained insurance on its property and equipment in amounts which management believes to be consistent with industry practices. Its insurance policies cover physical loss or damage to its property and equipment on a reinstatement basis arising from a number of specified risks and certain consequential losses, including business interruption arising from the occurrence of an insured event under these policies.

The Company has also maintained various other types of insurance, such as comprehensive construction and contractor insurance for its major capital expenditure projects, public and products liability insurance, directors and officers liability insurance, credit, commercial crime, transport and charterers' liability insurance, as well as other customary policies such as car insurance, travel assistance and medical insurance.

In addition, each of the Company's operating segments has maintained various local insurance policies that are mandatory at the local level, such as employer liability, workers compensation and auto liability insurance, as well as specific insurance policies covering compliance with local regulations.

Government measures to reinforce International Fair Trade in Brazil

On March 7, 2012, Brazil's Trade Defense Department ("Decom"), an investigative body under the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade, opened an anti-dumping investigation against imported welded austenitic stainless pipes from China and Taiwan. Furthermore, on April 13, 2012, Decom officially launched an anti-dumping investigation on flat stainless steel products (austenitic stainless steel grade 304 and ferritic stainless steel grade 430). As a result, the imports from China, Germany, South Korea, Finland, Taiwan and Vietnam were investigated. In addition to the above, on April 17, 2012, Decom officially launched an anti-dumping investigation on flat non-grain oriented products imported from South Korea, China and Taiwan. As a result of the investigations opened by Decom in 2012, anti-dumping rights were implemented for a period of 5 years as described in more details in the below table:

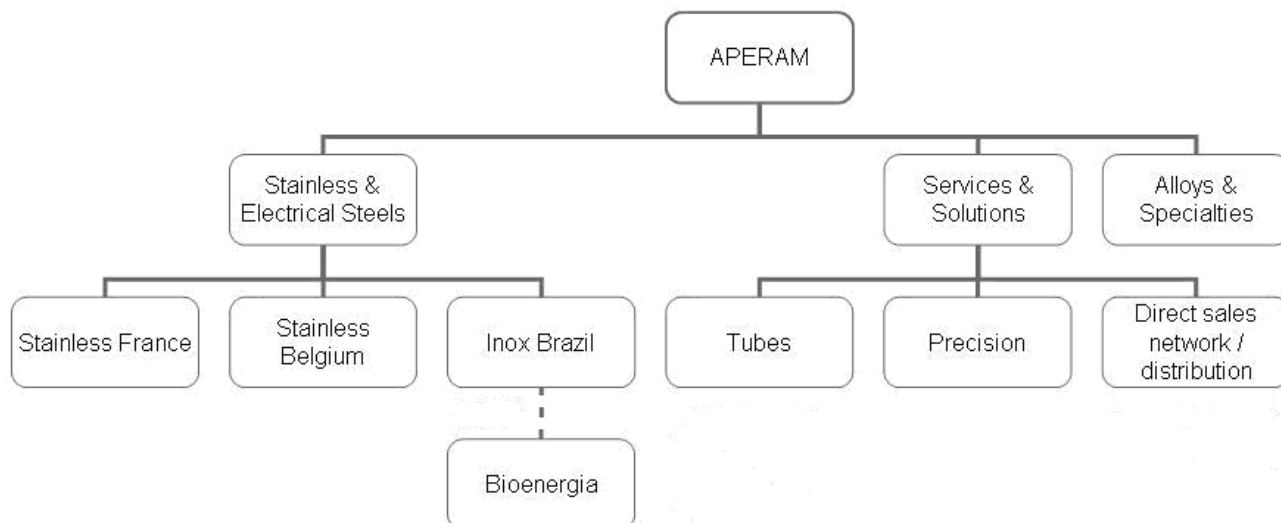
Product Type	Grade Family	Thickness	Countries	AD Duty Range (USD/mt)	Effective from
Cold Rolled Stainless Steel Flat Products	304 & 430	0,35mm to 4,75mm	China, Taiwan, South Korea, Vietnam, Germany and Finland	235.59 up to 1,076.86	October 3, 2013
Stainless Steel Circular Welded Tubes	304 & 316	0,4mm to 12,70mm	China and Taiwan	359.66 up to 911.71	July 29, 2013
Cold Rolled Electrical Flat Steel type NGO	All	All	China, Taiwan and South Korea	132,50 up to 567.16	July 17, 2013

Environmental Regulation

The Company's operations are subject to a broad range of laws and regulations relating to air emissions, wastewater storage, treatment and discharges, the use and handling of hazardous or toxic materials, waste disposal practices, the remediation of environmental contamination and other aspects of the protection of the environment at its multiple locations and operating subsidiaries. As these laws and regulations continue to become more stringent, management expects that the Company will continue to expend sufficient amounts to achieve or maintain ongoing compliance, as described in further detail in "Item 6. Financial Information – Legal Proceedings".

C. Organizational Structure

Aperam is a holding company with no business operations of its own. All of its significant operating subsidiaries are owned directly or indirectly through intermediate holding companies. The following chart represents its current operational structure. See Note 25 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a list of the Company's significant subsidiaries.



D. Property, Plant and Equipment

The following tables provide an overview of our principal production and downstream facilities, each of which we wholly-own, by operating segment, location, size (in the case of production facilities only), facility type and products:

Production Facilities by Geography

Country	Locations	Size (square kilometers)	Type of Plant	Products
Stainless & Electrical Steel				
Brazil	Timóteo	2.1	Integrated mill/Blast furnace	Stainless/Electrical
Belgium	Châtelet	0.5	Electric arc furnace meltshop/Hot rolling	Stainless flat
Belgium	Genk	0.8	Electric arc furnace/Cold rolling	Stainless flat
France	Gueugnon	0.4	Cold rolling	Stainless flat
France	Isbergues	0.9	Cold rolling (Recyco electric arc furnace)	Stainless flat
France	Pont de Roide	0.1	Cold rolling	Stainless flat
Nickel Alloys & Specialties				
France	Amilly	—	Downstream	Electrical components
France	Imphy	0.4	Electric arc furnace meltshop/Hot rolling/Cold rolling/Specialized foundry	Nickel Alloys/Stainless
France	Epone	—	Downstream	Wire drawing
China	Foshan	—	Downstream	Magnetic Cores

Facility Types

Facility ⁽¹⁾	Number of Facilities	Capacity (in millions of tonnes per year) ⁽²⁾	Production in 2013 (in millions of tonnes) ⁽²⁾
Blast furnace	2	0.7	0.5
Electric arc furnace	6	3.0	1.4
Continuous caster—slabs	4	3.0	1.9
Hot rolling mill	4	4.5	1.9
Cold rolling mill (Z mill)	17	2.1	1.2
Annealing & Pickling lines ⁽³⁾	21	4.4	2.3
Skin pass mill	6	1.2	0.5
Continuous bloom/billet caster	1	0.1	0.0

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Production facility details include the production numbers for each step in the steel-making process. Output from one step in the process is used as an input in the next step in the process. Therefore, the sum of the production numbers does not equal the quantity of saleable finished steel products.

⁽²⁾ Reflects design capacity, and does not take into account other constraints in the production process.

⁽³⁾ Including hot and final annealing & pickling capacities (including batch annealing and LC2i integrated line annealing & pickling capacity)

All of our production facilities are owned directly or indirectly by us and none of them is subject to any material encumbrances.

Stainless & Electrical Steel

Europe

Our European facilities produce the full range of our stainless steel products. Our stainless steel production facilities in Europe produced approximately 1.2 million tonnes of crude steel in 2013. The Genk, Châtelet, Gueugnon, Isbergues and Pont de Roide production facilities cover an area of approximately 0.8 square kilometer, 0.5 square kilometer, 0.4 square kilometer, 0.9 square kilometer and 0.1 square kilometer, respectively.

We have two electric arc furnace meltshops in Belgium, located in Genk and Châtelet. The Genk facility includes two electric arc furnaces, vacuum and argon-oxygen decarburizing facilities, ladle refining metallurgy and a slab continuous caster and slab grinders. It also includes a cold rolling mill facility. The Châtelet facility is an integrated facility with a meltshop and a hot rolling mill. The Châtelet meltshop includes an electric arc furnace, argon-oxygen decarburizing equipment, ladle furnaces refining metallurgy, a slab continuous caster and slab grinders.

Our cold rolling facilities in Europe consist of four cold rolling mill plants, located in Belgium (Genk) and France (Gueugnon, Isbergues and Pont de Roide). Our plants include annealing and pickling lines (with shot blasting and pickling equipment), cold rolling mills, bright annealing lines (in Gueugnon and Genk), skin-pass and finishing operations equipment. The Isbergues plant also includes a DRAP (Direct Roll Anneal and Pickle) line. The Genk plant is focused on austenitic steel products, the Gueugnon plant on ferritic products and the Isbergues plant on products dedicated to the automotive market (mainly ferritic steels) and industrial market (mainly austenitic steels). The Pont de Roide plant is focused on very low thickness products. Our electric arc furnace recycling facility Recyco, located in France (Isbergues) recycles dust and slugs to retrieve nickel and chromium.

South America

We are the only integrated producer of flat stainless and electrical steel in South America. Our integrated production facility in Timóteo, Brazil produces the full range of our electrical steel products, which account for approximately 10% of the Stainless & Electrical Steel operating segment's total shipments, and a wide range of stainless steel products. We also produce relatively small volumes of special carbon steel at our Timóteo production facility. In 2013, we produced 0.7 million tonnes of crude steel at this facility, from which we exported products to more than 40 countries. The Timóteo production facility covers an area of approximately 2.1 square kilometers and has an annual production capacity of 0.9 million tonnes.

The Timóteo integrated production facility includes two blast furnaces, one melting shop area (including two electrical furnaces, one FeCr smelter, two converters and two continuous casting machines), one hot rolling mill (including one walking beam and one pusher furnace with one rougher mill and one steckel mill), a stainless cold rolling shop (including one hot annealing pickling line, two cold annealing pickling lines, one cold preparation line, three cold rolling mills and 4 batch annealing furnaces) and an electrical steel cold rolling shop (including one hot annealing pickling line, two tandem annealing lines, one decarburizing line, one thermo flattening and carlite coating line, one cold rolling mill and 20 batch annealing furnaces).

Alloys & Specialties

The Alloys & Specialties integrated production facility is located in Imphy, France and includes a meltshop, a wire rod facility and a cold rolling facility. The meltshop is designed to produce specialty grades and includes one electric arc furnace, two Induction furnaces with two vacuum oxygen decarburization ladles and a ladle furnace, one vacuum induction melting furnace, two vacuum arc remelting furnaces and one electroslag remelting furnace. The meltshop is also equipped with ingot casting facilities and a continuous billet caster. Our wire rod mill specializes in the production of nickel alloys and has the ability to process a wide range of grades, including stainless steel. It comprises a blooming mill, billet grinding, a hot rolling mill, which has a capacity of 30 thousand tonnes, and finishing lines. The Imphy production facility covers an area of approximately 0.4 square kilometer.

We also own downstream nickel alloy and specialty assets, including Rescal S.A.S., a wire drawing facility located in Epone, France, Aperam Alloys Amilly, an electrical components manufacturer located in Amilly, France, Imhua Special Metals, a transformation subsidiary in Foshan, China. We hold a majority stake in Innovative Clad Solutions, a production facility for industrial clads in Central India.

Raw Materials and Energy

Our production facilities use both the traditional blast furnace process as well as the electric arc furnace steelmaking process. In Brazil, we predominantly use the traditional blast furnace production process, which requires, among other materials, iron ore and charcoal (biomass). In Europe, the electric arc furnaces at our Châtelet and Genk production facilities use stainless and carbon steel scrap as key raw material inputs. In addition, we use nickel, ferrochrome and molybdenum, among other materials, in our products.

Our raw materials purchasing strategy is focused on two principles: security of supply and flexibility. The needs of our production facilities are determined on the basis of five-year plans and annual budgets, and are largely met through the use of supply contracts which vary in duration from one to five years. In addition to long-term contracts, our purchasing strategy incorporates both short-term contracts and spot market purchases.

Our purchasing organization negotiates key raw material purchasing contracts globally with a variety of suppliers to secure our long-term needs.

Aperam is responsible for the sourcing of its key raw materials, including nickel, chromium, molybdenum and stainless steel scrap. However, under the terms of the purchasing services agreement (see Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Related Party Transactions), Aperam still relies on ArcelorMittal for advisory services in relation to the negotiation of certain contracts with global or large regional suppliers, including those relating to the following key categories: energy (electricity, natural gas, industrial gas), operating materials (rolls, electrodes, refractory materials) and industrial products and services. The purchasing services agreement also permits Aperam to avail itself of the services and expertise of ArcelorMittal for certain capital expenditure items.

Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the unaudited pro forma combined financial information included elsewhere in this financial report.

This discussion includes forward-looking statements which, although based on assumptions we consider reasonable, are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual events or conditions to differ materially from those expressed or implied herein. See "Forward-looking Statements" and "Risk Factors" for a discussion of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions associated with these statements.

Overview

We are a leading global stainless and specialty steel producer based on our annual production capacity of 2.5 million tonnes in 2013. We are the largest stainless and specialty steel producer in South America and we are the second largest producer in Europe. We are also a leading producer of high value-added specialty products, including grain oriented ("GO") and non-grain oriented ("NGO") electrical steels and nickel alloys. Our production capacity is concentrated in six production facilities located in Brazil, Belgium and France, and we have approximately 9,500 employees. Our distribution network is comprised of 18 Steel Service Centers ("SSCs"), 9 transformation facilities and 22 sales offices. We sell our products to customers on three continents in over 40 countries, including customers in the aerospace, automotive, catering, construction, household appliances and electrical engineering, industrial processes, medical, and oil & gas industries.

We had sales of \$5.1 billion, \$5.3 billion and \$6.3 billion and shipments of approximately 1.73 million tonnes, 1.68 million tonnes and 1.75 million tonnes for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Key Factors Affecting Results of Operations

Our results of operations are primarily affected by factors which impact the stainless and specialty steel industry generally, particularly stainless and electrical steel pricing, demand for stainless and specialty steels, production capacity, trends in raw material and energy prices and fluctuations in exchange rates. In addition, our results of operations are affected by certain factors specific to us, including several initiatives we have introduced in response to the challenging economic environment. These factors are described in greater detail below.

Stainless Steel Pricing

In contrast to carbon steel, the market for stainless steel is considered to be a global market. Stainless steel is suitable for transport over longer distances as logistics costs represent a small proportion of overall costs. As a result, prices for commoditized stainless steel products evolve similarly across regions. However, in general, stainless steel products are not completely fungible due to wide variations in shape, chemical composition, quality, specifications and application, all of which impact sales prices. Accordingly, there remains a limited market for uniform pricing or exchange trading of certain stainless steel products.

Stainless steel is a steel alloy with a minimum of 10.5% chromium content by mass and a combination of alloys which are added to confer certain specific properties depending upon the application. The cost of alloys used in stainless steel products varies across products and can fluctuate significantly. Prices for stainless steel in Europe and the United States generally include two components:

- the "base price", which is negotiated with customers and depends on market supply and demand; and
- the "alloy surcharge", which is a supplementary charge added by producers to the selling price of steel and offsets price increases in raw materials, such as nickel, chromium or molybdenum, by directly passing these increases on to customers. The concept of the "alloy surcharge", which is calculated using raw material prices quoted on certain accepted exchanges, such as the London Metals Exchange ("LME"), was introduced in Europe and the United States in response to significant volatility in the price of these materials, which has historically been driven by

fluctuations in demand, increasing or decreasing inventory levels, changes in production capacity and speculation by metal traders.

Notwithstanding the application of the “alloy surcharge”, the Company is still affected by changes in raw material prices, in particular nickel. In general, when the price of nickel is falling, purchasers of stainless steel products delay their orders to benefit from an expected decline in prices, which has the effect of reducing demand in the short term. By contrast, when nickel prices are rising, purchasers tend to acquire larger quantities of stainless steel in order to avoid having to buy at higher prices. The nickel price evolution over the period 2005 to 2013 is highlighted in the graph below under “—*Nickel price on the LME (in \$/tonne)*” and has shown a less volatile trend towards the end of period as explained below.

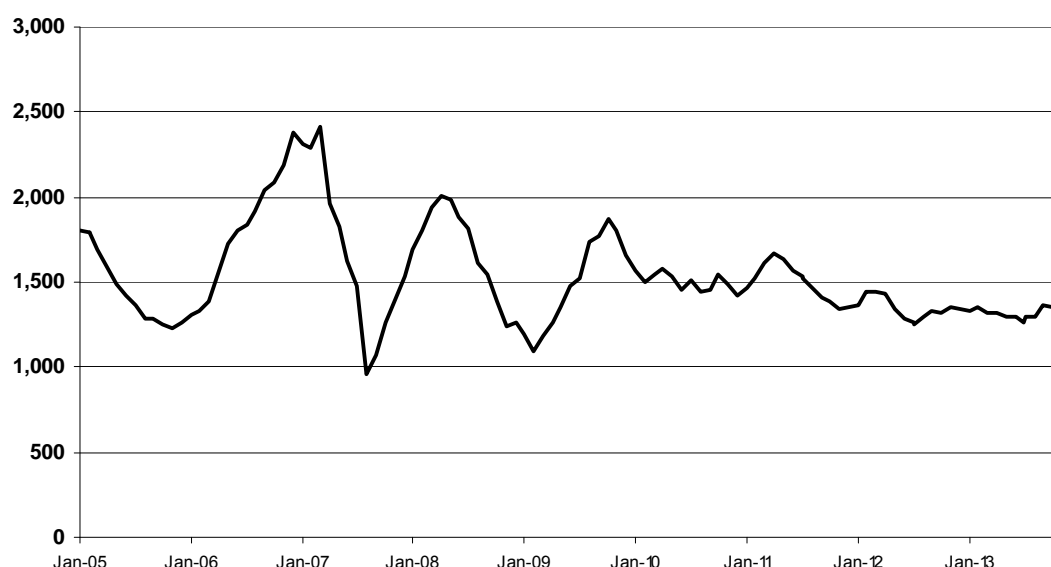
In 2011, nickel prices ended the year at approximately \$18,000 per tonne compared to approximately \$24,000 per tonne at the beginning of the year. Over the course of 2012, the volatility of nickel prices reduced considerably from previous year ending the year at a level of approximately 17,000\$/tonne. In the first half of 2013, nickel prices decreased from a January band of 17,000 to 18,000\$/tonne to below 14,000\$/tonne by the end of June. In the second half of 2013, prices remained stable in the 13,500 to 14,500\$/tonne range and reached approximately \$14,000 per tonne at the end of the year 2013. The decrease in nickel prices during the first half of 2013 was primarily driven by concerns about the growth rates of the major world economies which negatively impacted nickel demand and resulted in a growing oversupply of nickel worldwide. Moreover, continued fast growth of nickel pig iron production in China has continued to weaken demand for traditional sources of primary nickel, resulting in accumulation of a large global inventory of primary nickel at year end 2013 and more stabilized nickel prices. Even with the current nickel oversupply situation, enforcement of the Indonesian ban on export of nickel ores essential for nickel pig iron production in China in January 2014 places some uncertainty over the price evolution of nickel in 2014.

The graphs below show the price of nickel on the LME and the European base price for CR304 stainless steel for the period from January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2013:

Graph: Nickel price on the LME (in \$/tonne)



Graph: Stainless Steel Price/CR304 2B 2mm Coil Base/Northern Europe Domestic Delivered (in \$/tonne)



Source:

Nickel prices have been derived from the LME. Stainless steel/CR304 2B 2mm coil base/Northern European domestic delivered prices have been derived from Steel Business Briefing ("SBB").

In 2011 stainless steel base prices (based on the price of CR304 2B 2mm coil base prices/Northern Europe) decreased by approximately 20% from 2011 April peak down to approximately \$1,350 per tonne at year end. In 2012, stainless steel base prices reached approximately 1,350\$/tonne at year end compared to a similar level at the beginning of the year. In 2013, stainless steel base prices continued to increase until early February 2013, at which point they again began falling as a consequence of the decline in nickel prices. By the end of March 2013, the base price had decreased to approximately 1,315\$/tonne. By the end of June 2013, the base price had decreased to approximately 1,268\$/tonne due to the continued decline of nickel prices. During July and August 2013, the price of stainless steel bottomed out, with a gradual recovery of first quarter 2013 price levels by the fourth quarter 2013. Despite improved demand, restocking and capacity

utilization improvements, Aperam expects stainless steel prices to remain under pressure as a consequence of the Chinese production.

Electrical Steel Pricing

Electrical steel prices, like stainless steel base prices, are affected by global demand and supply dynamics. Because China is the most important source of demand for electrical steel, prices are dependent in particular upon Chinese demand.

GO steel prices (based on RGO 30Q130 – Shanghai Market) in China recovered during 2011 to reach approximately 2,360 \$/tonne at the end of year. Over the course of 2012, GO prices declined to reach approximately 1,960\$/tonne by the end of the year. During the first quarter of 2013, GO prices mostly remained at that price level and decreased to approximately 1,695\$/tonne at year end. The decreases during 2012 and 2013 were primarily due to increased competition in the GO market.

Prices in China for NGO steel (based on NGO M470-50A – Shanghai Market), which accounts for approximately 80% of the global electrical steel market, recovered during 2011 to reach approximately 1,400 \$/tonne during the year. Over the course of 2012, NGO prices declined to approximately 930\$/tonne. In the first quarter of 2013 NGO prices continued to decrease to approximately 900\$/tonne at the end of the quarter and mostly remained at that price level through the end of the second quarter. During the second half of 2013 prices continued to decrease to approximately 850\$/tonne. The decline during the year 2012 and 2013 was primarily due to increased competition on the NGO market.

Demand for Stainless and Electrical Steel and Nickel Alloys Products

Demand for stainless and electrical steel, which represents approximately 2.5% of the global steel market by volume, is affected to a significant degree by trends in the global economy and industrial production. Demand is also affected in the short term by fluctuations in nickel prices, as discussed in greater detail under “—Stainless Steel Pricing” above.

Global demand for stainless steel flat products grew at an average rate of approximately 7% per annum from 2000 to 2007, which was followed by a period of decline at an average rate of approximately 7% per annum from 2007 to 2009. Demand subsequently increased to an average growth rate of approximately 3% per annum from 2010 to 2012. In 2013, global demand for stainless steel flat products grew by 4%, primarily led by emerging markets (China accounting for 69% of the increase). Global demand for stainless steel flat products is expected to increase by approximately 5% per annum from 2014 until 2018, with growth of approximately 1% and 3% expected for Europe and South America, respectively.

Global production decreased by approximately 13% from 2006 to 2009. In 2010, however, global production began to recover and increased by approximately 24%, followed by a strong decline in growth to approximately 4% in 2011 and 2.5% in 2012. In 2013, there was a 4% global growth in stainless production, driven primarily by increased production in China.

Global economic conditions had a similar impact on demand for electrical steel. Global demand for GO steel decreased by approximately 11% from 2007 to 2009, mainly due to a steep decline in demand in the developed world of approximately 30%, which was partially offset by an increase in demand in China of approximately 35%. Global demand for NGO steel decreased by approximately 4% from 2007 to 2009, as a result of global macroeconomic conditions. Demand for both GO and NGO steel increased in 2010 by approximately 3% and 16%, respectively, from 2009 levels. In 2011 and 2012, demand for GO and NGO steel each continued to grow by approximately 9% and 4%, respectively, per year. The increase since 2010 was due to the demand recovery for electrical equipment across all regions, driven primarily by China. In 2013, demand for GO and NGO continued to grow by approximately 3% per year. Global demand for GO and NGO is expected to continue its growth trend, mostly driven by China.

In 2008, demand for nickel alloy products was strong, partly as a result of robust demand stemming from the construction of LNG tankers. Demand for nickel alloy products decreased by approximately 22% in 2009, partly due to a slowdown in the production of tankers. In 2010 and 2011, demand recovered and increased year-on-year by approximately 13%. In 2012, demand continued its recovery at a slower pace, increasing by approximately 6% from 2011. This decline in the growth rate in demand was primarily due to the uncertain economic environment and the cyclical characteristic of the LNG segment with low demand during 2009, 2010 and 2011. The trend reversed in 2012 and 2013, in particular benefiting from a growing role of natural gas in the world energy mix and the post Fukushima effect. The outlook for 2014 remains positive

since average annual growth of LNG demand is viewed at 5% to 6% through 2020. The macro trends of the aerospace, power generation and oil and gas industries are key growth drivers of the nickel alloys market. In particular, the surge in the construction of new aircraft but also the introduction of new, energy efficient jet engines, have fuelled the growth in the last three years and are expected to continue to do so. Aircraft deliveries were very strong in 2013 and aircraft demand is expected to remain strong based on current order books. As a result, the growth in the utilization of specialty alloys, including nickel alloys, is meant to reach 4 to 5% annually, exceeding the growth of the industrial production. The global market for nickel alloys was estimated by management at 270 thousand tonnes in 2008, in all product forms, both long (wire, bars, forgings and semis) and flat products (sheets, strips and plates). After a severe drop in 2009 (estimated by management at minus 20 to 25%) the market recovered sharply and reached its pre-crisis level in 2012. Market conditions in 2013 were softer following a general de-stocking in the aerospace and energy markets' supply chain. Lower than expected overall demand for nickel alloys products in 2013 from the American and Chinese markets led to higher price sensitivity and available production capacity. The outlook for 2014 is to improve, thanks to better prospects for these economies and to the pursuit of large scale investment projects in the oil and gas and aerospace industries worldwide.

Production Capacity

Structural overcapacity in the sector has in the past affected the stainless steel industry. Global sector utilization rates have declined significantly in recent years, from approximately 88% in 2006 to 62% in 2009. Over the period between 2010 and 2013, global utilization rates recovered and reached approximately 68% in 2013 based on management estimates. Global utilization rates are expected to gradually improve until 2018 primarily as a consequence of the demand growth as described in greater detail above under “—Demand for Stainless and Electrical Steel and Nickel Alloys Products”.

Current and anticipated trends in stainless steel production and prices

Global demand for stainless steel flat products is expected to increase by approximately 5% per annum from 2014 until 2018, with growth of approximately 1% and 3% expected for Europe and South America, respectively. Despite improved demand, restocking and capacity utilization improvements by the end of 2013, Aperam expects stainless steel prices to remain under pressure as a consequence of the Chinese production.

Raw Materials and Energy

Raw Materials

Stainless and specialty steel production requires substantial amounts of raw materials (primarily nickel, chromium, molybdenum, stainless and carbon steel scrap, charcoal (biomass), ferrochrome and iron ore). Except for charcoal, which is produced internally, we are exposed to price uncertainty with respect to each of these raw materials, which we typically purchase under short-term and long-term supply contracts, as well as on the spot market.

Prices for these raw materials are strongly correlated with demand for stainless steel and carbon steel and accordingly tend to fluctuate in response to changes in supply and demand dynamics in the industry. In addition, since most of the raw materials we use are finite resources, their prices may also fluctuate in response to any perceived scarcity of reserves and the evolution of the pipeline of new exploration projects to replace depleted reserves. As a result of the global macroeconomic crisis and the consequent decrease in demand for steel, the prices for most raw materials we use decreased in 2009. Since then, prices have generally recovered to more stable levels, supported in part by the demand from China.

In 2011 and 2012, raw materials continued a downward trend as the markets remained essentially oversupplied as economies were impacted worldwide by difficult market conditions. In 2013, the oversupply situation on the nickel market continued with as main factors the ramp up of new production facilities and expanding nickel pig iron production in China. The nickel price evolution is described in greater detail above under “—*Stainless Steel Pricing*”. On December 31, 2013 LME stocks stood at an all time high of 261,468 tonnes, a year-on-year increase of almost 130,000 tonnes. Molybdenum oxide prices traded around 25,000\$/tonne in the first half of 2013, but lost ground in July to 21,000\$/tonne and remained at this level for most of the second half of the year. After a marginal increase of the European ferrochrome benchmark price by 2.3% in the first quarter of 2013, the price rose significantly to 1.27\$/pound of chrome in the second quarter of 2013, related to power issues in South Africa. Traditionally, a correction followed in the third quarter and the

benchmark came back to 1.125\$/pound of chrome and stabilized at this level in the last quarter of 2013. On the spot market, high carbon ferrochrome prices varied in a range of 0.92\$ to 1.06\$/pound of chrome. The reference iron ore price (62% Fe₂O₃; CIF China) started the year quite strong with a high of 158\$/tonne but quickly dropped to reach a low of 110\$/tonne by the end of May 2013. Some recovery followed in June but for most of the second half 2013, iron ore traded in a range of 130\$ to 140\$/tonne. Ferrous scrap prices showed more or less the same trend, starting the year at 316€/tonne (E8 quality; Western Europe) in January, but weakening to 273€/tonne in July to end the year 2013 at 293€/tonne in December.

Energy

As part of the Leadership Journey®, the Timóteo production facility in Brazil switched from LPG to natural gas in 2011 and entered into a long-term natural gas supply contract with a Brazilian supplier. In Europe, we purchase most of our natural gas requirements using the prevailing pricing systems, which combine both access to spot gas markets and prices indexed on oil prices, normalizing for each fuel's energy content. The shift to full spot market indexation in the market has been gradual. In most of the countries where we operate, electricity prices have moved in line with other energy commodities. With regard to electricity prices, we benefit from access to baseload nuclear power in France. Complementary needs are sourced in the market.

Impact of Exchange Rate Movements

Our results of operations can be affected by fluctuations in exchange rates as follows:

- Transactions in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are initially recorded at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of the transaction. Any movements in exchange rates will result in a gain or loss being reflected on our consolidated statement of operations.
- Because the functional currency of the majority of our subsidiaries is a currency other than the U.S. dollar, the income statement and balance sheet of each of those subsidiaries must be translated for purposes of preparing our consolidated financial statements. At the end of each reporting period, any assets or liabilities recorded on the balance sheet of a subsidiary whose functional currency is other than the U.S. dollar are translated at the closing rate on the last day of the relevant period. Items recorded on any such subsidiary's income statement are translated at the average rate for the period. The exchange differences arising on the translation are recognized in other comprehensive income through the foreign currency translation reserve.

At the end of 2011, the U.S. dollar amounted to 0.7728 Euro/U.S.dollar and 1.8758 Brazilian real/U.S. dollar. At the end of 2012, the U.S. dollar amounted to 0.7579 Euro/U.S.dollar and 2.0435 Brazilian real/U.S. dollar. In 2013, the U.S. dollar depreciated by 4.3% against the Euro to reach 0.7251 Euro/U.S. dollar at year end. In 2013, the U.S. dollar appreciated by 14.6% against the Brazilian real to reach 2.3426 Brazilian real/U.S. dollar at year end. Because a substantial portion of Aperam's assets, liabilities, sales and earnings are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar (its presentation currency), Aperam has exposure to fluctuations in the values of these currencies relative to the U.S. dollar. In order to minimize its currency exposure, the Company enters into hedging transactions to lock in a set exchange rate, in accordance with its management policies, which are described in further detail in section G "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk".

Related Party Transactions

We are engaged in certain commercial and financial transactions with related parties. Please refer to Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further details.

Offering of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds (the "bonds") for \$200 million in September 2013 and Share Lending Agreement in connection therewith

On September 19, 2013, Aperam announced the successful placing and pricing of its offering of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds for \$200 million (the "bonds" hereafter). The bonds are convertible into new or existing ordinary shares of the Company. The Significant Shareholder, subscribed for \$81.8 million of bonds, equal to its 40.8% stake in the Company's share capital.

On September 25, 2013, Aperam entered into a Share Lending Agreement with Lumen Investments Sarl, Luxembourg ("Lumen" thereafter), pursuant to which Lumen agrees to make available for borrowing by Aperam, at any time and from time to time while any bond is outstanding, ordinary shares up to, in aggregate, a maximum amount of 2.6 million shares, in consideration for the payment of an agreed loan fee.

The bonds and the Share Lending Agreement are described in greater below under "—Convertible bonds".

Agreements with ArcelorMittal post Spin-Off

In connection with the spin-off of the stainless steel division of ArcelorMittal into a separately focused company, Aperam, which was completed on January 25, 2011, Aperam entered into several agreements with ArcelorMittal. These agreements include a Master Transitional Services Agreement dated January 25, 2011 (the "Transitional Services Agreement") for support for/from corporate activities, a purchasing services agreement for negotiation services from ArcelorMittal Purchasing and a sourcing services agreement for negotiation services from ArcelorMittal Sourcing, certain commitments regarding cost-sharing in Brazil and certain other ancillary arrangements governing the relationship between Aperam and ArcelorMittal following the spin-off, as well as certain agreements relating to financing.

The Transitional Services Agreement between ArcelorMittal and Aperam expired at year-end 2012. The parties agreed to renew a limited number of services where expertise and bargain powers create values for both parties. ArcelorMittal will continue to provide certain services during 2014 relating to certain areas, including environmental and technical support, IT services relating to the Global Wide Area Network contract, press clipping communication, ArcelorMittal University training in human resources, maintenance and customization of back office finance software and registered shareholder management.

In the area of research and development, Aperam entered into an arrangement with ArcelorMittal to establish a framework for future cooperation between the two groups in relation to certain ongoing or new research and development programs. Moreover, Aperam and ArcelorMittal are keeping open the possibility to enter into ad hoc cooperation agreements for future research and development purposes.

The purchasing and sourcing of raw materials generally were not covered by the Transitional Services Agreement. Aperam is responsible for the sourcing of its key raw materials, including nickel, chromium, molybdenum and stainless steel scrap. However, under the terms of the purchasing services agreement, Aperam still relies on ArcelorMittal for advisory services in relation to the negotiation of certain contracts with global or large regional suppliers, including those relating to the following key categories: energy (electricity, natural gas, industrial gas), operating materials (rolls, electrodes, refractory materials) and industrial products and services. The purchasing services agreement also permits Aperam to avail itself of the services and expertise of ArcelorMittal for certain capital expenditure items. The purchasing services agreement and the sourcing services agreement were each entered into for an initial term of two years, which was to expire on January 24, 2013. However, both agreements were extended for an additional year on similar terms. It is expected that the term of the purchasing services agreement will be further extended until the end of January 2015 on similar terms. It is also expected that the term of the sourcing servicing agreement will be extended until the end of January 2015, although its scope will be limited to IT maintenance and support until Aperam switches to its own system.

In connection with the spin-off, management also renegotiated an existing Brazilian cost-sharing agreement between, inter alia, ArcelorMittal Brasil and Aperam Inox América do Sul S.A. (formerly known as ArcelorMittal Inox Brasil), pursuant to which starting as of April 1, 2011, ArcelorMittal Brasil continued to perform only purchasing, insurance and real estate activities for the benefit of certain of Aperam's Brazilian subsidiaries, with costs being shared on the basis of cost allocation parameters agreed between the parties. Since the demerger of ArcelorMittal BioEnergia Ltda in July 2011, its payroll functions have also been handled by ArcelorMittal Brasil. The real estate and insurance activities of Aperam's Brazilian subsidiaries have not been handled by ArcelorMittal Brasil since January 1, 2013 and June 30, 2013, respectively.

Certain services will continue to be provided to Aperam pursuant to existing contracts with ArcelorMittal entities that it has specifically elected to assume.

Financing Arrangements with ArcelorMittal

The Company's principal sources of financing until the end of March 2011 included loans from ArcelorMittal entities at the level of Aperam South America (formerly known as "ArcelorMittal Inox Brasil"), which holds the Company's assets in Brazil, and Aperam Stainless Belgium (formerly known as "ArcelorMittal

Stainless Belgium”), which holds its assets in Belgium. Facilities entered into with ArcelorMittal entities have been fully reimbursed in March 2011.

Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Judgments and Estimates

Management’s discussion and analysis of our results of operations and financial condition is based on the consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS recognition and measurement principles and, in particular, making the critical accounting judgments summarized below, require the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Management reviews its estimates on an ongoing basis using currently available information. Changes in facts and circumstances may result in revised estimates, and actual results could differ from those estimates.

For a summary of all of our significant accounting policies, see Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements.

Deferred Tax Assets

We record deferred tax assets and liabilities based on the differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases. Deferred tax assets are also recognized for the estimated future effects of tax losses carried forward. We review the deferred tax assets in the different jurisdictions in which we operate periodically to assess the possibility of realizing such assets based on projected taxable profit, the expected timing of the reversals of existing temporary differences, the carry forward period of temporary differences and tax losses carried forward and the implementation of tax-planning strategies.

Note 17 describes the total deferred tax assets recognized in the consolidated statements of financial position. As of December 31, 2013, the amount of future income required to recover the Company’s deferred tax assets was approximately 1,008 at certain operating subsidiaries.

Deferred Employee Benefits

Our operating subsidiaries have different types of pension plans for their employees. Also, some of the operating subsidiaries offer other post-employment benefits. The expense associated with these pension plans and post-employment benefits, as well as the carrying amount of the related liability/asset on the statement of financial position is based on a number of assumptions and factors such as discount rates, expected rate of compensation increase, expected return on plan assets, mortality rates, and retirement rates.

- **Discount Rates.** The discount rate is based on several high quality corporate bond indexes in the appropriate jurisdictions (rated AA or higher by a recognized rating agency). Nominal interest rates vary worldwide due to exchange rates and local inflation rates.
- **Rate of Compensation Increase.** The rate of compensation increase reflects actual experience and our long-term outlook, including contractually agreed upon wage rate increases for represented hourly employees.
- **Mortality and Retirement Rates.** Mortality and retirement rates are based on actual and projected plan experience.

Actuarial gains or losses resulting from experience and changes in assumptions are recognized in the Company’s statement of other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

Note 21 details the net liabilities of pension plans and other post-employment benefits including a sensitivity analysis illustrating the effects of changes in assumptions.

Legal, Environmental and Other Contingencies

We may be involved in litigation, arbitration or other legal proceedings. Most of these claims involve highly complex issues, actual damages and other matters. Often these issues are subject to substantial uncertainties and, therefore, the probability of loss and an estimation of damages are difficult to ascertain. These assessments can involve a series of complex judgments about future events and can rely heavily on estimates and assumptions. Our assessments are based on estimates and assumptions that have been

deemed reasonable by management. We recognize a liability for contingencies when it is more likely than not that we will sustain a loss and the amount can be estimated.

We are subject to changing and increasingly stringent environmental laws and regulations concerning air emissions, water discharges and waste disposal, as well as certain remediation activities that involve the clean-up of soil and groundwater. We recognize a liability for environmental remediation when it is more likely than not that such remediation will be required and the amount can be estimated.

The estimates of loss contingencies for environmental matters and other contingencies are based on various judgments and assumptions including the likelihood, nature, magnitude and timing of assessment, remediation and/or monitoring activities and the probable cost of these activities. In some cases, judgments and assumptions are made relating to the obligation or willingness and ability of third parties to bear a proportionate or allocated share of cost of these activities, including third parties who sold assets to us or purchased assets from us subject to environmental liabilities. We also consider, among other things, the activity to date at particular sites, information obtained through consultation with applicable regulatory authorities and third-party consultants and contractors and our historical experience with other circumstances judged to be comparable. Due to the numerous variables associated with these judgments and assumptions, and the effects of changes in governmental regulation and environmental technologies, both the precision and reliability of the resulting estimates of the related contingencies are subject to substantial uncertainties. As estimated costs to remediate change, we will reduce or increase the recorded liabilities through credits or charges in the statement of operations. We do not expect these environmental issues to affect the utilization of our plants, now or in the future.

Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets

Tangible and Intangible Assets

At each reporting date, we review whether there is any indication that the carrying amounts of our tangible and intangible assets (excluding goodwill) may not be recoverable through continuing use. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is reviewed in order to determine the amount of the impairment, if any. The recoverable amount is the higher of its net selling price (fair value reduced by selling costs) and its value in use.

In assessing its value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For an asset that does not generate cash inflows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets corresponding to operating units that generate cash inflows. If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized. An impairment loss is recognized as an expense immediately as part of operating income in the statement of operations.

In the case of permanently idled assets, the impairment is measured at the individual asset level on the basis of salvage value. Otherwise, it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset because the cash flows are not independent from that of the cash generating unit to which it belongs. Accordingly, our assets are measured for impairment at the cash generating unit level. In certain instances, the cash generating unit is an integrated manufacturing facility which may also be an operating subsidiary. Further, a manufacturing facility may be operated in concert with another facility, with neither facility generating cash flows that are largely independent from the cash flows of the other. In this instance, the two facilities are combined for purposes of testing for impairment. As of December 31, 2013, we had determined we have six cash generating units.

An impairment loss recognized in prior years is reversed if, and only if, there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognized. However, the increased carrying amount of an asset due to a reversal of an impairment loss will not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of amortization or depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognized for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognized immediately as part of operating income in the statement of operations.

Goodwill

With respect to goodwill, the recoverable amounts of the groups of cash generating units are determined from the higher of its net selling price (fair value reduced by selling costs) or its value in use

calculations, as described above. See Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements for further information on our definition of our groups of cash generating units. The key assumptions for the value in use calculations are those regarding the discount rates, growth rates and expected changes to selling prices and direct costs during the period. Management estimates discount rates using pre-tax rates that reflect current market rates for investments of similar risk. The growth rates are based on industry growth forecasts. Changes in selling prices and direct costs are based on historical experience and expectations of future changes in the market.

Cash flow forecasts are derived from the most recent financial budgets for the next five years. Beyond the specifically forecasted period, we extrapolate cash flows for the remaining years based on an estimated growth rate. This rate does not exceed the average long-term growth rate for the relevant markets. Once recognized, impairment losses recognized for goodwill are not reversed.

Derivative Financial Instruments

We enter into derivative financial instruments principally to manage the Company's exposure to fluctuation in exchange rates and prices of raw materials and energy. Derivative financial instruments are classified as current assets or liabilities based on their maturity dates and are accounted for at trade date. Embedded derivatives are separated from the host contract and accounted for separately if required by IAS 39, "Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement". We measure all derivative financial instruments based on fair values derived from market prices of the instruments or from option pricing models, as appropriate. See Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements for analysis of the Company's sensitivity to changes in certain of these inputs. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of derivatives are recognized in the statement of operations, except for derivatives that are highly effective and qualify for treatment as a cash flow hedge. Changes in the fair value of a derivative that is highly effective and that is designated and qualifies as a cash flow hedge are recorded in equity.

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of a derivative that is designated and that qualifies as a cash flow hedge are recorded in other comprehensive income. Amounts deferred in other comprehensive income are recorded in the statement of operations in the periods when the hedged item is recognized in the statement of operations and within the same line item. Any ineffective portion of changes in the fair value of the derivative is recognized directly in the statement of operations.

We formally assess, both at the hedge's inception and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items. When a hedging instrument is sold, terminated, expires or is exercised, the cumulated unrealized gain or loss on the hedging instrument is maintained in equity until the forecasted transaction occurs. If the hedged transaction is no longer probable, the cumulative unrealized gain or loss, which had been recognized in equity, is reported immediately in the statement of operations.

For instruments not accounted for as cash flow hedges, gains or losses arising from changes in fair value of derivatives and gains or losses realized upon settlement of derivatives are recognized in the statement of operations.

A. Operating Results

We have three operating segments: Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties.

Key Indicators

The key performance indicators that we use to analyze operations are sales, steel shipments, average steel selling prices and operating income. Our analysis of liquidity and capital resources is based on operating cash flows.

Year Ended December 31, 2013 compared to Year Ended December 31, 2012

The following table provides our sales, steel shipments and average selling prices by operating segment for the year ended December 31, 2013, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2012:

Operating Segment	Sales for the Year Ended December 31, ⁽¹⁾		Steel Shipments for the Year Ended December 31, ⁽²⁾		Average Steel Selling Price for the Year Ended December 31,		Changes in		
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	Sales	Steel Shipments	Average Steel Selling Price
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		(thousands of tonnes)		(in U.S. dollars/tonne)			(%)	
Stainless & Electrical Steel ⁽³⁾	3,997	4,180	1,650	1,611	2,322	2,489	(4.4)	2.4	(6.7)
Services & Solutions	2,189	2,173	679	661	3,061	3,148	0.7	2.7	(2.8)
Alloys & Specialties	641	659	36	36	17,224	17,405	(2.7)	—	(1.0)
Total (before intragroup eliminations)	6,827	7,012	2,366	2,308			(2.6)	2.5	
Total (after intragroup eliminations)	5,120	5,261	1,728	1,683			(2.7)	2.7	

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Amounts are shown prior to intragroup eliminations. For additional information, see Note 23 to the consolidated financial statements.

⁽²⁾ Steel shipments amounts are shown prior to intersegment shipments of 638 thousand tonnes and 625 thousand tonnes in 2013 and 2012, respectively.

⁽³⁾ Includes shipments of special carbon steel from our Timóteo production facility.

The Company had sales of \$5,120 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 representing a decrease of 2.7% compared to sales of \$5,261 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The decrease in sales was primarily due to the lower average selling price, which decreased from \$2,991 per tonne in 2012 to \$2,836 per tonne in 2013. Steel shipments amounted to approximately 1,728 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2013, increasing by 2.7% from 1,683 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Stainless & Electrical Steel

Sales in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment (including intersegment sales) were \$3,997 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. Sales to external customers in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment were \$2,362 million, representing 46.1% of total sales in 2013, a decrease of 5.4% as compared to sales to external customers of \$2,496 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, or 47.4% of total sales in 2012. Steel shipments for this segment (including intersegment shipments) increased to 1,650 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2013 (of which 646 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in South America and 1,004 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in Europe, including intersegment shipments) from 1,611 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012 (of which 617 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in South America and 994 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in Europe, including intersegment shipments), which represented an increase of 2.4%.

Sales in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment decreased by 4.4%, from \$4,180 million in 2012 to \$3,997 million in 2013, mainly as a result of decreasing average steel selling price. The average steel selling price for the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment was \$2,322 per tonne in 2013 which is a decrease of 6.7% as compared to average steel selling price of \$2,489 per tonne in 2012.

Services & Solutions

Sales in the Services & Solutions segment (including intersegment sales) were \$2,189 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. Sales to external customers in the Services & Solutions segment were \$2,117 million, representing 41.3% of total sales in 2013, an increase of 0.7% as compared to sales to external customers of \$2,103 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, or 40.0% of total sales in 2012. Steel shipments for this segment slightly increased to 679 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2013 from 661 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012, which represented an increase of 2.7%. Sales in the Services & Solutions segment increased from \$2,173 million in 2012 to \$2,189 million in 2013, a 0.7% increase year-over-year. This increase in sales is the result of higher shipments for the segment in 2013 compared to 2012 partially offset by lower average steel selling price in 2013 as compared to 2012. The average steel selling price for the Services & Solutions segment decreased by 2.8%, from \$3,148 per tonne in 2012 to \$3,061 per tonne in 2013.

Alloys & Specialties

Sales in the Alloys & Specialties segment (including intersegment sales) were \$641 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. Sales to external customers in the Alloys & Specialties segment were \$637 million, representing 12.4% of total sales for the year ended December 31, 2013, a decrease of 2.7% as compared to sales to external customers of \$655 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, or 12.5% of total sales. Steel shipments for this segment remained in line with previous year, at 36 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2013. The average steel selling price for the Alloys & Specialties segment decreased by 1.0%, from \$17,405 per tonne in 2012 to \$17,224 per tonne in 2013. Sales in the Alloys & Specialties segment decreased by 2.7%, from \$659 million in 2012 to \$641 million in 2013, as a result of lower average steel selling prices.

Additionally, we had sales to external customers that are reported within our Other & Elimination segment for \$4 million, or 0.2% of total sales and \$7 million, or 0.1% of total sales for the year ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Operating Income/(Loss)

The following table provides our operating income/(loss) and operating margin for the year ended December 31, 2013, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2012:

Operating Segment	Operating Income/(Loss) Year Ended December 31,		Operating Margin Year Ended December 31,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		(%)	
Stainless & Electrical Steel	(29)	(147)	(0.7)	(3.5)
Services & Solutions	(25)	(8)	(1.1)	(0.4)
Alloys & Specialties	50	50	7.8	7.6
Total ⁽¹⁾	<u>(11)</u>	<u>(103)</u>	<u>(0.2)</u>	<u>(2.0)</u>

Note:

⁽¹⁾ Amounts shown include eliminations of (7) and 2 for the year ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively, which includes all operations other than those that are part of the Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties operating segments, together with intersegment eliminations and/or non-operational items which are not segmented.

The Company's operating loss for the year ended December 31, 2013 was \$11 million, compared to an operating loss of \$103 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The stainless steel market deterioration and especially the decrease of stainless steel market prices impacted negatively the profitability over the year. The Company was, however, able to more than offset the difficult market conditions with higher

shipments and thanks to the continuing progress made in 2013 with the management gains and profit enhancement initiative respectively known as the Leadership Journey® and the Top Line strategy.

Stainless & Electrical Steel

The operating loss for the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment was \$29 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 (of which an operating profit of \$27 million and an operating loss of \$56 million were attributable to our operations in South America and Europe, respectively), compared to operating loss of \$147 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 (of which an operating loss of \$16 million and \$131 million was attributable to our operations in South America and Europe, respectively). The decrease of the operating loss in 2013 compared to 2012 in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment was mainly driven by higher volumes and the continuing progress of the Leadership Journey®.

Services & Solutions

The operating loss for the Services & Solutions segment was \$25 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to an operating loss of \$8 million in the year ended December 31, 2012. The operating loss in 2013 increased compared to 2012 in the Services & Solutions segment mainly as a consequence of lower prices, restructuring provision and some impairments in 2013. This was partly offset by higher shipments and positive contribution of the Leadership Journey®.

Alloys & Specialties

The operating income for the Alloys & Specialties segment remained stable at \$50 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to \$50 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Income from Other Investments and Associates

We recorded a loss of \$1 million from other investments and associates for the year ended December 31, 2013 on account of a \$2 million write-down of shares in Blue Sky Amercoeur which are equity accounted for, partly offset by dividends of \$1 million received from a minority stake we held in Gerdau, a Brazilian steelmaker. We recorded an income of \$2 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, exclusively due to dividends received from our minority stake in Gerdau.

Interest Income

Interest income was \$6 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$3 million recorded for the year ended December 31, 2012, mainly due to interest income on short-term investments in Brazil.

Interest Expense and Other Net Financing Costs

Interest expense and other net financing costs include interest expense, net foreign exchange and derivative results and other financing costs. Interest expense and other net financing costs increased to \$137 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$79 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Interest expense and other financing costs for the year ended December 31, 2013 were \$124 million, primarily related to financing costs of \$87 million, compared to interest expense and other financing costs of \$77 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, primarily related to financing costs of \$78 million. Financing costs relate to interest and other expenses related to the service of debt and other financing facilities. The increase in financing costs for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to the year ended December 31, 2012 was primarily related to the increase of the service cost of the Borrowing Base Facility.

Realized and unrealized foreign exchange and derivative losses were \$13 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to realized and unrealized foreign exchange and derivative losses of \$2 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. Foreign exchange results primarily relate to the accounting

revaluation of U.S. dollar denominated external debt held in subsidiaries and results on derivatives primarily related to financial instruments we entered into to hedge our exposure to nickel prices which do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment under IAS 39.

Income Tax

We recorded an income tax benefit of \$44 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to an income tax benefit of \$66 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. Our income tax benefit in 2013 was primarily due to negative operational results in several countries with high tax rates. The decrease by \$22 million in income tax benefit for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to income tax benefit for the year ended December 31, 2012 is primarily due to the derecognition of deferred tax assets on tax losses in Brazil for \$24 million.

Non-controlling Interests

Net income attributable to non-controlling interests was \$1 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to nil for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Net Loss / Income

Our net result was a loss of \$100 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to a loss of \$111 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Year Ended December 31, 2012 compared to Year Ended December 31, 2011

The following table provides our sales, steel shipments and average selling prices by operating segment for the year ended December 31, 2012, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2011:

Operating Segment	Sales for the Year Ended December 31, ⁽¹⁾		Steel Shipments for the Year Ended December 31, ⁽²⁾		Average Selling Price for the Year Ended December 31,		Changes in		
	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	Sales	Steel Shipments	Average Steel Selling Price
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		(thousands of tonnes)		(in U.S. dollars/tonne)			(%)	
Stainless & Electrical Steel ⁽³⁾	4,180	5,068	1,611	1,675	2,489	2,903	(17.5)	(3.8)	(14.3)
Services & Solutions	2,173	2,603	661	662	3,148	3,764	(16.5)	(0.2)	(16.4)
Alloys & Specialties	659	721	36	37	17,405	18,805	(8.6)	(2.7)	(7.4)
Total (before intragroup eliminations)	7,012	8,392	2,308	2,374			(16.4)	(2.8)	
Total (after intragroup eliminations)	5,261	6,345	1,683	1,749			(17.1)	(3.8)	

Notes:

- ⁽¹⁾ Amounts are shown prior to intragroup eliminations. For additional information, see Note 23 to the consolidated financial statements.
- ⁽²⁾ Steel shipments amounts are shown prior to intersegment shipments of 625 thousand tonnes and 625 thousand tonnes in 2012 and 2011, respectively.
- ⁽³⁾ Includes shipments of special carbon steel from our Timóteo production facility.

Sales decreased by 17.1% to \$5,261 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$6,345 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease in sales was primarily due to the lower average selling

price, which decreased to \$2,991 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$3,475 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2011. Steel shipments amounted to approximately 1,683 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012, decreasing from 1,749 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2011. The average steel selling price decreased due to the decline in nickel prices and global economic conditions.

Stainless & Electrical Steel

Sales in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment decreased by 17.5% to \$4,180 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$5,068 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, mainly as a result of decreasing average selling price and lower shipment volumes. The average selling price for the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment decreased by 14.3%, to \$2,489 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$2,903 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2011, primarily as a result of the sharp decline in nickel prices and global economic conditions. Sales to external customers in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment were \$2,496 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, representing 47.4% of total sales, a decrease of 20.2% as compared to sales to external customers of \$3,126 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, or 49.3% of total sales. Steel shipments for this segment (including intersegment shipments) decreased to 1,611 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012 (of which 617 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in South America and 994 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in Europe, including intersegment shipments) from 1,675 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2011 (of which 647 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in South America and 1,028 thousand tonnes were attributable to our operations in Europe, including intersegment shipments), which represented a decrease of 3.8%.

Services & Solutions

Sales in the Services & Solutions segment decreased by 16.5% to \$2,173 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$2,603 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The main reason for this decrease in sales was the lower average selling price for the segment in 2012 compared to 2011. The average selling price for the Services & Solutions' segment decreased by 16.4%, to \$3,148 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$3,764 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2011. This decrease was caused by a decline in demand and prices as a result of the sharp decline in the price of nickel and global economic conditions. Sales to external customers in the Services & Solutions segment were \$2,103 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, representing 40.0% of total sales, a decrease of 16.0% as compared to sales of \$2,505 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, or 39.5% of total sales. Steel shipments for this segment slightly decreased to 661 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012 from 662 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2011, which represented a decrease of 0.2%.

Alloys & Specialties

Sales in the Alloys & Specialties segment decreased by 8.6% to \$659 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$721 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease was primarily due to lower average steel selling price. The average selling price for the Alloys & Specialties segment decreased by 7.4%, to \$17,405 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$18,805 per tonne for the year ended December 31, 2011, as a consequence of the sharp decline in the price of nickel. Sales to external customers in the Alloys & Specialties segment were \$655 million, representing 12.5% of total sales for the year ended December 31, 2012, a decrease of 8.0% as compared to sales to external customers of \$712 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, or 11.2% of total sales. Steel shipments for this segment decreased to 36 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2012 from 37 thousand tonnes for the year ended December 31, 2011, which represented a decrease of 2.7%.

Operating Income/(Loss)

The following table provides our operating income/(loss) and operating margin for the year ended December 31, 2012, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2011:

Operating Segment	Operating Income/(Loss) Year Ended December 31,		Operating Margin Year Ended December 31,	
	2012 ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽¹⁾	2012 ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽¹⁾
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		(%)	
Stainless & Electrical Steel	(147)	(32)	(3.5)	(0.6)
Services & Solutions	(8)	(18)	(0.4)	(0.7)
Alloys & Specialties	50	64	7.6	8.9
Total ⁽²⁾	(103)	52	(2.0)	0.8

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Figures for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been restated due to a change in accounting principle of defined benefit plans and other long term employee benefits, and adoption of revised IAS 19 standard.

⁽²⁾ Amounts shown include eliminations of 2 and 38 for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, which includes all operations other than those that are part of the Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties operating segments, together with intersegment eliminations and/or non-operational items which are not segmented.

Our operating loss for the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$103 million, compared to an operating income of \$52 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease in our 2012 operating result was mainly due to a negative price squeeze resulting from the decreasing difference between the purchase price of raw materials and average steel selling prices. We were, however, able to significantly offset the difficult market conditions with the progress made with the management gains and profit enhancements from our Leadership Journey initiatives, including a reduction of selling, general and administrative expenses.

Stainless & Electrical Steel

The operating loss for the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment was \$147 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 (of which an operating loss of \$16 million and \$131 million was attributable to our operations in South America and Europe, respectively), compared to operating loss of \$32 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 (of which operating loss of \$3 million and \$29 million was attributable to our operations in South America and Europe, respectively). The decrease in operating result was primarily due a net pricing squeeze and lower shipments. The general economic environment and the sharp decline of nickel prices put pressure on demand and prices of stainless steel. The domestic Brazilian environment exhibited similarly challenging trends with high inflation and a strong domestic currency compared to the U.S. dollar. Average steel selling prices for electrical steel also declined during the period. However, the effects of these declines were significantly offset by the progress made on the Leadership Journey program in 2012.

Services & Solutions

The operating loss for the Services & Solutions segment was \$8 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to an operating loss of \$18 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. This decrease in operating loss was mainly as a consequence of positive stock effect due to the nickel price rebound at year end.

Alloys & Specialties

The operating income for the Alloys & Specialties segment was \$64 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to operating income of \$50 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. This decrease in operating income was primarily a result of a net pricing squeeze, the effects of which were significantly offset by the progress made on the Leadership Journey program in 2012.

Income from Other Investments

We recorded income of \$2 million from other investments for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to \$2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The income from other investments for each

year was attributable to dividends received from a minority stake we held in Gerdau. See note 10 to the historical consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Interest Income

Interest income was \$3 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, in line with \$3 million recorded for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Interest Expense and Other Net Financing Costs

Interest expense and other net financing costs include interest expense, net foreign exchange and derivative results and other financing costs. Interest expense and other net financing costs decreased to \$79 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to \$165 million for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Interest expense and other financing costs for the year ended December 31, 2012 were \$77 million, primarily related to financing costs of \$78 million, compared to interest expense and other financing costs of \$123 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, primarily related to financing costs of \$86 million. Financing costs relate to interest and other expenses related to the service of debt and other financing facilities. The decrease in financing costs for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to the year ended December 31, 2011 was primarily related to the full year effect of the new financing structure that we put in place in March 2011 to replace high interest rate intercompany loans transferred from ArcelorMittal during the spin-off.

Realized and unrealized foreign exchange and derivative losses were \$2 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to realized and unrealized foreign exchange and derivative losses of \$42 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Foreign exchange results primarily relate to the accounting revaluation of U.S. dollar denominated external debt held in subsidiaries, and results on derivatives primarily relate to results on financial instruments we entered into to hedge our exposure to nickel prices which do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment under IAS 39. Realized and unrealized foreign exchange and derivative losses of \$42 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 were primarily related to unrealized foreign exchange losses on U.S. dollar denominated external debt in Brazil where the Brazilian real depreciated by 11% against U.S. dollar during the year.

Income Tax

We recorded an income tax benefit of \$66 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to an income tax benefit of \$48 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Our income tax benefit in 2012 was primarily due to negative operational results in several countries with high tax rates.

Non-controlling Interests

Net income attributable to non-controlling interests was nil for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to \$1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Net Loss / Income

Our net result was a loss of \$111 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to a loss of \$61 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. This was primarily due to the net pricing squeeze that occurred in 2012.

B. Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity

Our principal sources of liquidity are cash generated from our operations, our senior credit facility and our credit facilities at the level of our operating subsidiaries. Management believes that the cash generated from our operations and our credit facilities are sufficient to meet our present requirements.

Aperam S.A. is dependent upon the earnings and cash flows of, and dividends and distributions from, its operating subsidiaries to pay expenses and meet its debt service obligations since it is a holding company.

Our cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash amounted to \$292 million, \$226million and \$247 million as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Our total debt, which includes long-term debt and short-term debt, was \$982 million, \$1,042 million and \$1,125 million as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Net debt (defined as long-term and short-term debt less cash, cash equivalents (including short term investments) and restricted cash) was \$690 million as of December 31, 2013, compared to \$816 million at December 31, 2012 and \$878 million at December 31, 2011. Gearing (defined as net debt divided by total equity) was 23.3% as of December 31, 2013 compared to 25.6% and 25.5% at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Certain debt is held by our subsidiaries. In particular, prior to the spin-off, our principal sources of financing consisted of loans from ArcelorMittal entities to us at the level of Aperam South America (Brazil) and Aperam Stainless Belgium (formerly ArcelorMittal Stainless Belgium). While the ArcelorMittal loans were repaid simultaneously with the spin-off, our Brazilian subsidiary is party to various outstanding credit facilities.

As of December 31, 2013, we had drawn \$163 million of the \$669 million Borrowing Base Facility, leaving a committed credit line of \$506 million under the facility subject to eligible collateral being available. In addition, as of December 31, 2013, we had \$115 million of debt outstanding at the subsidiary level, of which we had granted security over \$44 million of indebtedness.

As of December 31, 2013, we had total liquidity of \$797 million, consisting of cash and cash equivalents (including short term investments) of \$291 million and committed credit lines (subject to availability of eligible collateral) of \$506 million.

These facilities, which include debt held at the subsidiary level, together with other forms of financing, including the notes, represent an aggregate amount of approximately \$1.5 billion, with borrowing capacity of approximately \$500 million. In management's opinion, such financing will be sufficient for our future requirements.

Until the end of the first quarter of 2011, we were still involved in loans and borrowings under cash pooling arrangements with ArcelorMittal. These balances were transferred to us during the first quarter of 2011 and are now managed internally through Aperam Treasury S.N.C. and Aperam Treasury S.C.A.

Financing

The principal financings of Aperam are summarized below by category:

Borrowing Base Facility

On March 15, 2011, Aperam entered into a \$800 million Secured Borrowing Base Revolving Credit Facility (the "Borrowing Base Facility").

The purpose of the Borrowing Base Facility is to finance the working capital requirements of the Company. The Borrowing Base Facility may be repaid and redrawn from time to time until its final maturity in March 2014.

On March 15, 2013, the Company amended the Borrowing Base Facility to extend the maturity of \$600 million ("tranche B") of the Borrowing Base Facility from March 2014 to March 2015. The remaining \$200 million ("tranche A") of the Borrowing Base Facility matures in March 2014. The Borrowing Base Facility may be repaid and re-drawn from time to time until its final maturity in March 2014 for tranche A and March 2015 for tranche B.

Following the issuance of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds in September 2013, available commitments under tranche A of the Borrowing Base Facility have been cancelled for an amount of \$131 million, representing 2/3rd of the convertible bonds' net proceeds. The convertible and/or exchangeable bonds issued in September 2013 are described in greater detail under "— Convertible bonds" below.

On February 6, 2014, Aperam announced that it obtained a new in-principle refinancing commitment to extend tranche B portion of \$600 million Borrowing Base Facility from March 2015 until March 2016, subject to documentation amendments.

The Borrowing Base Facility charges interest at a rate of LIBOR (or EURIBOR, in the case of an advance denominated in euro) plus a margin (depending on the Company's most recent corporate rating by Standard & Poor's or Moody's or both) for the relevant interest period, which may be one, two, three or six months or any other period agreed between the parties. The facility also charges a commitment fee of on the undrawn and uncanceled portion of the total facility amount, payable quarterly in arrears.

The Company's obligations under the Borrowing Base Facility are guaranteed by Aperam Stainless Belgium N.V., Aperam Stainless France S.A.S., Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Precision S.A.S., Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Europe S.A.S., Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions France S.A.S., Aperam Alloys Imphy S.A.S., Aperam South America Ltda., Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Brasil Ltda., Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Brasil Ltda., Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Germany GmbH, Aperam Treasury S.N.C. and Aperam Treasury S.C.A.

The Borrowing Base Facility is secured by first-ranking, second-ranking and third-ranking security interests over certain eligible receivables and inventory of certain of the guarantors, as well as over substantially all of the assets (other than fixed assets) of Aperam Stainless Belgium N.V. and certain bank accounts and insurance policies. The aggregate amount of advances drawn under the borrowing base facility may not exceed a borrowing base value equal to 70% to 100% of the book value (or, in some cases, market value or scrap value) of certain eligible receivables and inventory, which is reported to the facility agent on a monthly basis.

In addition to restrictive covenants limiting encumbrances on assets of Aperam and its subsidiaries, the ability of subsidiaries to incur debt and the ability of Aperam and its subsidiaries to dispose of assets in certain circumstances, the borrowing base facility contains financial covenants, including:

- a minimum ratio of consolidated current assets to consolidated current liabilities of 1.1:1;
- a minimum consolidated tangible net worth of \$2.2 billion; and
- a maximum consolidated total debt of 70% of consolidated tangible net worth.

On December 31, 2013, these financial covenants were fully met.

Notes

On March 28, 2011, Aperam issued two series of U.S. dollar denominated notes, consisting of \$250 million aggregate principal amount of its 7.375% notes due 2016 and \$250 million aggregate principal amount of its 7.75% notes due 2018, in a private placement in the international capital markets.

The notes are senior unsecured obligations, ranking equally in right of payment with all other existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness and senior in right of payment to all existing and future subordinated indebtedness. The notes are effectively subordinated to all the Company's secured obligations, including any indebtedness under its senior credit facility, to the extent of the value of the collateral. In addition, the notes are effectively subordinated to all current and future indebtedness and other obligations of the Company's subsidiaries, including trade payables and amounts drawn under the credit facilities of the Company's Brazilian subsidiary, Aperam South America Ltda.

The notes contain optional redemption options and certain covenants and events of default that, among other things, limit the ability of the Company and certain subsidiaries to incur or guarantee additional indebtedness, issue preferred shares, pay dividends or make other distributions.

Convertible Bonds

On September 19, 2013, Aperam announced the successful placing and pricing of its offering of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds for \$200 million (the "bonds" hereafter). The bonds are convertible into new or existing ordinary shares of the Company. The Significant Shareholder (defined page 91), subscribed for \$81.8 million of bonds, equal to its 40.8% stake in the Company's share capital. The bonds are senior and unsecured, and ranking equally in right of payment with all other existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness and senior in right of payment to all existing and future subordinated indebtedness. They have an annual coupon of 2.625% payable semi-annually in arrear and an initial conversion price of \$21.96. The bonds were issued and will be redeemed at 100% of their principal amount and will, unless previously redeemed, converted, purchased and cancelled under certain conditions, mature on September 30, 2020. The Company will have the option to redeem the bonds at their principal amount plus accrued interest on or after October 15, 2017, if the parity value (translated into USD at the prevailing exchange rate), shall have exceeded 130% of the bonds' principal amount. Bondholders will be entitled to have their bonds redeemed at their principal amount plus accrued interest on September 30, 2017.

Unless previously redeemed, or purchased and cancelled, each bond will be convertible and / or exchangeable into shares at the option of the bondholder during the conversion period. The delivery of new and / or existing shares is at Aperam's absolute discretion, subject to the limits and conditions set out below. Should the number of new shares to be issued be in excess of the number of new shares which Aperam is authorized to issue, Aperam will deliver existing shares. As at the closing date on September 30, 2013, Aperam had the authority to issue up to 7,804,573 new shares, representing 10% of the issued capital. On the basis of the current conversion ratio convertible, the issuance of up to 9,107,468 new shares would be required to deliver the necessary new shares upon conversion of the bonds.

On September 25, 2013, Aperam entered into a Share Lending Agreement with Lumen Investments Sarl, Luxembourg ("Lumen" thereafter), pursuant to which Lumen agrees to make available for borrowing by Aperam, at any time and from time to time while any bond is outstanding, ordinary shares up to, in aggregate, a maximum amount of 2.6 million shares, in consideration for the payment of an agreed loan fee of \$0.00046 per lent ordinary share, accruing daily from and including the date on which the loaned ordinary shares were delivered to the borrower to, but excluding, the date of return of the borrowed ordinary shares. Under the Share Lending Agreement, deliveries of the loaned shares by Lumen is to occur on the dates an equal number of ordinary shares are required to be delivered by Aperam pursuant to the terms of the bonds. The share lending agreement provides that Aperam can terminate all or any portion of any loan made thereunder at any time and that all outstanding loans will terminate on the date which is three business days after the date on which a general meeting of shareholders of Aperam has approved a resolution approving sufficient authorized share capital and authorizes the Board of Directors of the Company to cancel the preferential subscription right of existing shareholders to allow return to Lumen of all borrowed ordinary shares. Under the Share Lending Agreement, Lumen has no rights (including voting or disposition rights) with respect to any ordinary shares that had been loaned to Aperam and not yet returned to Lumen. Subject to this condition being met, it is expected that any ordinary shares to be delivered by Aperam to Lumen upon termination of the loan(s) would be newly issued ordinary shares issued in favor of Lumen (with a cancellation of the shareholders' preferential subscription right).

If and to the extent that, upon exercise of a Conversion / Exchange Right, Aperam is unable to satisfy the conversion / exchange right in whole or in part through the issue of new shares from its authorised capital or through the delivery of existing shares from treasury or otherwise, Aperam will pay to the relevant bondholder an equivalent cash amount.

When taking into account the 9,107,468 ordinary shares required to cover the conversion of the bonds at the current conversion ratio and the 312,606 ordinary shares to be potentially issued based under the Company's existing equity-based incentive plans at the date of this financial report, the Company would need to be able to raise the number of issued ordinary shares to 87,469,804 (the "Minimum Requirement"), which means there is currently a shortfall in the necessary authorised share capital of 1,615,501 ordinary shares. Please refer to the below computation.

Table: Proposal of Authorised Share Capital Increase at the general meeting of May 8, 2014

	Number of shares
Current authorized share capital	85,854,303
Current issued share capital	78,049,730
Convertible and/or Exchangeable Bonds	9,107,468
Existing Equity Incentive plans	312,606
Shortage	1,615,501
Current authorized share capital	85,854,303
Minimum capital required	87,469,804
Proposed authorised capital (+10%)	96,216,785
<u>representing an increase in % of the</u> <u>current issued share capital of</u>	23.3%

Note: Figures of authorised share capital include issued share capital.

The Board of Directors will propose to the shareholders at the next general meeting on May 8, 2014 (i) to approve an increase of the Company's authorised shares by 10,362,482 ordinary shares without nominal value (which is 23.3% above the currently issued share capital, but corresponds to 10% of the Minimum Requirement and will therefore allow the Company to revert to a historical level of flexibility¹), so that the Company's authorised share capital shall will be represented by 96,216,785 ordinary shares without nominal value ; (ii) to renew, from the date of the general meeting until five years after the publication of the minutes of the general meeting in the Luxembourg official gazette (*Mémorial C*), the authority of the Board of Directors to issue additional ordinary shares in the Company within the limit of the new authorised share capital; (iii) to authorise the Board of Directors to limit or suppress the preferential subscription right of existing shareholders in this regard, and (iv) to amend the articles of association accordingly.

Notes:

¹ The 10% flexibility for the Board of the Directors to issue shares has been taken over from ArcelorMittal's practice at the creation of Aperam and is as a consequence in line with the Company's historical level of flexibility.

Other credit facility at Corporate level

On September 28, 2012, Aperam entered into a \$50 million credit facility secured by Gerdau shares. The two year facility, which is accounted for as a secured bank loan, was fully drawn on October 3, 2012. On September 27, 2013, Aperam entered into a \$50 million amended and restated credit facility to extend the maturity of such bank loan by one year beyond the initial maturity date.

True Sales of Receivables Program

Following the spin-off, the Company obtained liquidity from the sale of receivables through a true sale of receivables ("TSR") program. As of the end of June 2012 the program was subsequently split into two programs under similar terms and conditions to the existing program and the maximum combined amount of the programs that could be utilized as of the end of December 2013 was EUR 250 million. Through the TSR program, the Company and certain of its operating subsidiaries surrender the control, risks and benefits associated with the accounts receivable sold, allowing it to record the amount of receivables sold as a sale of financial assets and remove the accounts receivable from its statement of financial position at the time of the sale.

The amount of receivables we sold under the True Sale of Receivables program and derecognized in

accordance with IAS 39 for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 was \$1.7 billion, \$1.7 billion and \$1.7 billion, respectively. Expenses incurred under the TSR program (reflecting the discount granted to the acquirers of the accounts receivable) are recognized in the statement of operations as financing costs and amounted to \$13 million, \$10 million and \$19 million in the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. See Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Earnings distribution

On May 8, 2012 the Board of Directors submitted to a shareholder's vote, at the annual general meeting, a proposal to maintain the quarterly dividend payment at \$0.1875 per share. This proposal was approved by the shareholders. The dividend payments occurred on a quarterly basis for the full year 2012 on March 13, 2012, June 14, 2012, September 10, 2012 and December 10, 2012 taking into account that the first quarterly dividend payment paid on March 13, 2012 was an interim dividend.

On May 8, 2013, the Board of Directors submitted to a shareholder's vote, at the annual general meeting, a proposal to make no dividend payment in 2013 to accelerate the net debt reduction with a target to reach \$650 million by the end of 2014. This proposal was approved by the shareholders.

On February 6, 2014, Aperam announced that the Board of Directors would propose to the shareholders at the next annual general meeting on May 8, 2014 to continue paying no dividend in 2014 in order to support the previously announced net debt reduction programme.

Sources and Uses of Cash

Year Ended December 31, 2013 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2012

The following table presents a summary of our cash flow for the year ended December 31, 2013, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2012:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2013	2012
	(in million of U.S. dollars)	
Net cash provided by operating activities	204	278
Net cash used in investing activities	(119)	(158)
Net cash used in financing activities	(14)	(146)

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased to \$204 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$278 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. In spite of the improvement of the operating result from an operating loss of \$103 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 to an operating loss of \$11 million in 2013, there was a decrease of net cash provided by operating activities during the year compared to previous year due to a stronger release of working capital in 2012 compared to 2013. Working capital is defined for the purposes of this financial report as consisting of inventories plus trade accounts receivable less trade accounts payable.

Net Cash Used in Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities amounted to \$119 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to net cash used in investing activities of \$158 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The net cash used in investing activities in 2013 was mainly related to capital expenditure. Capital expenditures were \$125 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$161 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Net Cash Used in Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities was \$14 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to net cash used in financing activities of \$146 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The decrease of net cash used in financing activities was primarily due to \$197 million net proceeds received on the issuance of convertible bonds and the absence of dividend payments during the year ended December 31, 2013 when \$61 million of dividends have been paid during the year ended December 31, 2012. This was partly offset by \$162 million net reimbursements on the Borrowing Base Facility during the year ended December 31, 2013.

Equity

Equity attributable to the equity holders of the parent decreased to \$2,953 million at December 31, 2013, as compared to \$3,158 million at December 31, 2012, primarily due to foreign currency translation differences of \$117 million and the net loss of the year of \$100 million.

Year Ended December 31, 2012 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2011

The following table presents a summary of our cash flow for the year ended December 31, 2012, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2011:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2012	2011
	(in million of U.S. dollars)	
Net cash provided by operating activities	278	189
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(158)	498
Net cash used in financing activities	(146)	(552)

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities increased to \$278 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to \$189 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was due to decreased working capital requirements. Working capital for the year ended December 31, 2012 decreased by \$156 million from December 31, 2011 due to an increased focus on inventory management, lower material prices and lower demand at the end of the year.

Net Cash (Used in)/Provided by Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities amounted to \$158 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$498 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The net cash used in investing activities in 2012 was mainly related to capital expenditure. Capital expenditures were \$161 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to \$158 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease in net cash provided by investing activities was primarily due to the transfer to the Company in January 2011 of loans under cash pooling arrangements with ArcelorMittal in the amount of \$647 million.

Net Cash Used in Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities was \$146 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to \$552 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease of net cash used in financing activities was primarily due to the transfer to Aperam in 2011 of borrowings under cash pooling arrangements with ArcelorMittal in the amount of \$540 million.

Equity

Equity attributable to the equity holders of the parent decreased by \$251 million to \$3,186 million at December 31, 2012, as compared to \$3,437 million at December 31, 2011, primarily due to the net loss of the year of \$108 million, foreign currency translation differences of \$103 million, unrealized gain on other investments of \$18 million and dividend payments of \$59 million.

C. Research and Development, Patents and Licenses

Costs relating to research and development, patents and licenses were not significant as a percentage of sales. Research and development costs expensed (and included in selling, general and administration expenses) for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 amounted to \$20 million, \$20 million and \$18 million, respectively.

D. Trend information

All of the statements in this “Trend Information” section are subject to and qualified by the information set forth under the “*Disclaimer - Forward-Looking Statements*”. See also “**Risk Factors**”.

Outlook

On February 6, 2014, Aperam published its full year and fourth quarter 2013 results with its outlook for the first quarter 2014.

EBITDA in the first quarter 2014 is expected to increase compared to EBITDA in the fourth quarter 2013. Net debt is expected to remain under control in the first quarter 2014 compared to previous quarter.

The Board of Directors will propose to the shareholders at the next annual general meeting of May 8, 2014 to continue paying no dividend in 2014 in order to support the previously announced net debt reduction programme.

The full year and fourth quarter 2013 results press release including the outlook section is available on www.aperam.com under Investors & Shareholders, Earnings.

E. Off-balance Sheet Arrangements

We have no uncombined special purpose financing or partnership entities. As discussed above, however, we participate in a TSR program for sales without recourse of trade accounts receivable programs with financial institutions. For additional information, see “—Liquidity and Capital Resources—True Sale of Receivables Program.”

F. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations

We have various purchase commitments for materials, supplies and items of permanent investment incidental to the ordinary course of business. As of December 31, 2013, management believes that these commitments are not in excess of current market prices and reflect normal business operations.

As of December 31, 2013, we had outstanding various long-term obligations. These various purchase commitments and long-term obligations will have an effect on our future liquidity and capital resources. The table below shows, by major category of commitment and obligations outstanding as of December 31, 2013, management's current estimate of their annual maturities (undiscounted except for environmental).

	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	4-5 years	More than 5 years
	(in million of U.S. dollars)				
Long-term debt obligations— scheduled repayments— Note 13 to the consolidated financial statements	797	32	343	421	—
Operating lease obligations— Note 20 to the consolidated financial statements	38	6	8	6	18
Capital lease obligations	12	4	6	1	1
Environment commitments ⁽¹⁾ — Note 18 to the consolidated financial statements	27	7	5	2	13
Purchase obligations—Note 20 to the consolidated financial statements	1,734	784	269	169	512
Funding contribution to the pension and post-employment plans ⁽²⁾	11	11	—	—	—
Scheduled interest payments ⁽³⁾	173	53	80	38	2
Other long-term liabilities	8	—	—	—	8
Total	2,800	897	712	637	554

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ We may be subject to additional environmental liabilities not included in the table above.

⁽²⁾ The funding contributions to the pension and post-retirement plans are presented for the following year and to the extent known.

⁽³⁾ In determining the future interest payments on our variable interest debt we used the interest rates applicable as of December 31, 2010.

We had \$177 million, \$416 million and \$503 million of short-term debt (excluding current portion of long-term debt) as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Short-term debt includes short-term loans, which are payable within one year. As of December 31, 2011, short-term debt also included overdrafts with ArcelorMittal, which were payable on demand.

G. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

We are exposed to a number of different market risks arising from our normal business activities. Market risk is the possibility that changes in raw materials prices, foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates, base metal prices and energy prices (oil, natural gas and electricity) will adversely affect the value of our financial assets, liabilities or expected future cash flows.

The fair value information presented below is based on the information available to management as of the date of the statement of financial position.

Risk Management

Financial market risks are transferred from operating subsidiaries to Group treasury. They are managed centrally and according to Aperam's policies and procedures by a group specializing in foreign exchange, interest rate, commodity, internal and external funding and cash and liquidity management.

Derivative Instruments

We use derivative instruments to manage our exposure to movements in interest rates, foreign exchange rates, commodity prices and emissions rights allowances arising from operating, financing and investment activities. We have applied hedge accounting treatment under IAS 39 on some eligible contracts, and, as a consequence, changes in the fair value of these derivative instruments are recognized in other comprehensive income (while derivative instruments not qualifying for hedge accounting were recognized in the statement of operations).

Derivatives used are over-the-counter derivatives such as over-the-counter swaps, options and forward contracts.

Our portfolio of derivatives currently consists of transactions with Aperam Treasury S.N.C. and Aperam Treasury S.C.A., which in turn enters into offsetting positions with counterparties external to Aperam. Aperam manages the counterparty risk associated with its instruments by centralizing its commitments and by applying procedures which specify, for each type of transaction exposure limits based on the risk characteristics of the counterparty.

Our portfolio associated with derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2013 is as follows:

	Assets		Liabilities	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
	(in million of U.S. dollars)			
Foreign exchange rate instruments				
Forward purchase contracts	2	—	104	—
Forward sale contracts	23	—	4	—
Total foreign exchange rate instruments		—		—
Raw materials (base metal), energy				
Term contracts sales metals	7	—	13	—
Term contracts purchases metals	64	1	118	(5)
Total raw materials (base metal)		1		(5)
Total		1		(5)

Currency Exposure

Because a substantial portion of our assets, liabilities, sales and earnings are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar (our presentation currency), we are exposed to fluctuations in the values of these currencies relative to the U.S. dollar. These currency fluctuations, especially the fluctuation of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the euro and the Brazilian real, as well as fluctuations in the currencies of the other countries in which we have significant operations and/or sales, could have a material impact on our results of operations.

We face transaction risk, where our businesses generate sales in one currency but incur costs relating to that revenue in a different currency. For example, we may purchase raw materials in U.S. dollars,

but may sell finished steel products in other currencies. Consequently, an appreciation of the U.S. dollar will increase the cost of raw materials, thereby negatively impacting our operating margins.

We also face translation risk, which arises when we translate the statement of operations of our subsidiaries, our corporate net debt and other items denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar for inclusion in the consolidated financial statements.

We hedge our net exposure to exchange rates through spot and derivative transactions.

The following table details our sensitivity as it relates to derivative financial instruments to a 10% variation in the value of the U.S. dollar against the other currencies to which we are exposed. This sensitivity analysis does not include non-derivative foreign currency-denominated monetary items. A positive number indicates an increase in statement of operations, while a negative number indicates a decrease in statement of operations and other equity:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
10% appreciation in U.S. dollar	(10)	2	(2)
10% depreciation in U.S. dollar	10	(2)	2

Interest Rate Exposure

Short-term Interest Rate Exposure and Cash

Cash balances, which are primarily denominated in euro and U.S. dollars, are managed according to the short-term (up to one year) guidelines established by senior management on the basis of a daily interest rate benchmark.

Interest Rate Risk on Debt

Our policy consists of incurring debt at fixed and floating interest rates, primarily in U.S. dollars and euro according to general corporate needs.

We monitor the fixed/floating mix and may use interest rate derivatives if needed (mainly interest rate swaps) to manage our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates.

The carrying amount and fair value of our interest bearing financial instruments as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 was as follows:

	December 31,					
	2013		2012		2011	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
	(in million of U.S. dollars)					
Instruments payable bearing interest at fixed rates.....	692	773	527	482	525	447
Instruments payable bearing interest at variable rates..	117	111	108	103	102	101

The following table details our sensitivity to a change of 100 basis points ("bp") variation in interest rates. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency rates, remain constant:

	December 31, 2013		
	Rate Instrument	Interest Rate Swaps/ Forward Rate Agreements	Cash Flow Sensitivity (net)
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
100 bp increase	(1)	—	(2)
100 bp decrease	1	—	2

Commodity Exposure

We use derivative instruments such as forwards, swaps and options to manage our exposure to commodity prices both through the purchase of commodities and through sales contracts.

Fair values of raw material and energy instruments are as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
	(in million of U.S. dollars)		
Base metals.....	(4)	(3)	(2)
Total	(4)	(3)	(2)
Assets associated with raw material	1	5	4
Liabilities associated with raw material	(5)	(8)	(6)
Total	(4)	(3)	(2)

We consume large amounts of commodities (mainly nickel), the price of which is linked to the London Metals Exchange price index. As a general matter, we are exposed to price volatility in respect of our purchases in the spot market and under our long term supply contracts.

The following table details our income sensitivity to a 10% variation in the prices of base metals. The sensitivity analysis include only outstanding base metal derivative instruments both held for trading at fair value through the statement of operations and those designated as eligible for hedge accounting treatment.

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2013		2012		2011	
	Income	Other Equity Cash Flow Hedging Reserves	Income	Other Equity Cash Flow Hedging Reserves	Income	Other Equity Cash Flow Hedging Reserves
	(in million of U.S. dollars)					
+10% in prices Base Metals	2	14	9	5	7	6
-10% in prices Base Metals	(2)	(14)	(9)	(5)	(7)	(6)

Item 4. Directors, Senior Management and Employees

A. Directors and Senior Management

Aperam is governed by a Board of Directors and a Management Committee.

Board of Directors

Aperam places a strong emphasis on corporate governance. Aperam has four independent directors on its seven members of the Board of Directors and the Board's Audit and Risk Management Committee and Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee are each comprised exclusively of independent directors. In addition, two thirds of the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee is comprised of independent directors. Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal is the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Mr. Romain Bausch is the Lead Independent Director. Mr. Bausch's principal duties and responsibilities as Lead Independent Director are as follows: coordination of activities of the other Independent Directors; liaison between the Chairman and the other Independent Directors; calling meetings of the Independent Directors when necessary and appropriate; leading the Board of Directors' self-evaluation process and such other duties as are assigned from time to time by the Board of Directors. See "Item 4.C. - Board Practices/Corporate Governance - Committees of the Board of Directors". The annual general meeting of shareholders on May 8, 2013 acknowledged the expiration of the terms of office of Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal, Mr. Romain Bausch, Mr. David B. Burritt, Ms. Kathryn A. Matthews, Mr. Aditya Mittal and Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo. At the same meeting the shareholders re-elected the aforementioned directors for a new term of three years each. On May 24, 2013, the Board of Directors of Aperam decided to co-opt Mr. Joseph Greenwell as Director until Aperam's next general meeting of shareholders, where Mr. Greenwell's election will be submitted for confirmation to the shareholders. This decision follows the resignation of Mr. David B. Burritt from the Board of Directors for personal considerations effective May 24, 2013. No members of the Board of Directors have entered into a service contract with Aperam or any of its subsidiaries providing for benefits upon the end of his or her service on the Board. In December 2013, all non-executive Directors of the Company signed the Company's Appointment Letter, which confirms the conditions of their appointment including compliance with a non-compete provision, the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and the Company's Code of Business Conduct.

The members of the Board of Directors as of the date of this financial report are set forth below. The terms of the members of the Board of Directors expire at the annual general meeting of shareholders as described in the table below.

Name	Age⁽¹⁾	Position within the Company⁽²⁾	Date joined Board	Term Expires
Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal	63	Chairman, Non-independent member of the Board of Directors	December 2010	May 2016
Mr. Romain Bausch ^{(3) (4)}	60	Lead Independent Director, Independent member of the Board of Directors	January 2011	May 2016
Mr. Joseph Greenwell ^{(3) (4)}	62	Independent member of the Board of Directors	May 2013	⁽⁶⁾
Ms. Kathryn A. Matthews ^{(4) (5)}	54	Independent member of the Board of Directors	December 2010	May 2016
Mr. Aditya Mittal	37	Non-independent member of the Board of Directors	December 2010	May 2016
Ms. Laurence Mulliez ^{(3) (5)}	47	Independent member of the Board of Directors	May 2011	May 2014
Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo ⁽⁵⁾	52	Non-independent member of the Board of Directors	December 2010	May 2016

Notes:

Company Secretary: Mr. Laurent Beauloye

⁽¹⁾ Age on December 31, 2013.

⁽²⁾ See section Corporate Governance/Board of Directors for the status of independent director.

⁽³⁾ Member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

⁽⁴⁾ Member of the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee.

⁽⁵⁾ Member of the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee.

⁽⁶⁾ On May 24, 2013, the Board of Directors of Aperam decided to co-opt Mr. Joseph Greenwell as Director until Aperam's next general meeting of shareholders, where Mr. Greenwell's election will be submitted for confirmation to the shareholders.

The business address of Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal, Mr. Aditya Mittal and Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo is 19, Avenue de la Liberté, L-2930 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The business address of the other members of the Board of Directors is our registered office at 12C, rue Guillaume Kroll, L-1882 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal

Lakshmi N. Mittal, is the Chairman and CEO of ArcelorMittal. Mr. Mittal began his career in steel in 1976 by founding Ispat Indo, a company that today is still held privately by the Mittal family. He founded Mittal Steel Company (formerly the LNM Group) in 1989 and guided its strategic development, culminating in the merger in 2006 with Arcelor to form the world's largest steel maker. He is widely recognized for the leading role he has played in restructuring the steel industry towards a more consolidated and globalized model. Mr. Mittal is an active philanthropist and a member of various boards and trusts, including chairman of the board of ArcelorMittal and the boards of Goldman Sachs and European Aeronautic Defense & Space Company (EADS) N.V. He is a member of the Indian Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council, the Foreign Investment Council in Kazakhstan, the Ukrainian President's Domestic and Foreign Investors Advisory Council, the World Economic Forum's International Business Council and the World Steel Association's Executive Committee. He also sits on the Board of Trustees of Cleveland Clinic in the United States. In 1996, Mr. Mittal was awarded 'Steelmaker of the Year' by New Steel in the United States. Mr. Mittal began his career working in his family's steelmaking business in India, and has over 35 years of experience working in steel and related industries. In addition to spearheading the steel industry's consolidation, he championed the development of integrated mini-mills and the use of Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) as a scrap substitute for steelmaking. Following the merger of Ispat International and LNM Holdings to form Mittal Steel in December 2004, with the simultaneous acquisition of International Steel Group, he led the formation of the world's then leading steel producer. In 2006, he merged Mittal Steel and Arcelor to form ArcelorMittal. Mr. Mittal then led a successful integration of two large entities to firmly establish ArcelorMittal as one of the foremost industrial companies in the world. The company continues to be the largest and most global steel manufacturer. More recently, Mr. Mittal has been leading ArcelorMittal's expansion of its mining business through significant brownfield and greenfield growth. In 1996, Mr. Mittal was awarded 'Steelmaker of the Year' by New Steel in the United States and in 1998 the 'Willy Korf Steel Vision Award' by World Steel dynamics for outstanding vision, entrepreneurship and success in global steel development. He was named Fortune magazine's 'European Businessman of the Year 2004'. Mr. Mittal was awarded 'Business Person of 2006' by the Sunday Times, 'International Newsmaker of the Year 2006' by Time Magazine and 'Person of the Year 2006' by the Financial Times for his outstanding business achievements. In January 2007, Mr. Mittal was presented with a Fellowship from King's College London, the college's highest award. He also received in 2007 the Dwight D Eisenhower Global Leadership Award, the Grand Cross of Civil Merit from Spain and was named AIST Steelmaker of the year. In January 2008, Mr. Mittal was awarded the Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian honor, by the President of India. In September 2008, Mr. Mittal was chosen for the third 'Forbes Lifetime Achievement Award', which honors heroes of entrepreneurial capitalism and free enterprise. In October 2010 he was awarded World Steel Association's medal in recognition of his services to the Association as its Chairman and for his contribution to the sustainable development of the global steel industry. In January 2013, Mr. Mittal was awarded with a Doctor Honoris Causa by the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Poland. Mr. Mittal was born in Sadulpur in Rajasthan, India on June 15, 1950. He graduated from St Xavier's College in Kolkata, India where he received a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Mr. Mittal is married to Usha Mittal. They have a son, Aditya Mittal, and a daughter, Vanisha Mittal Bhatia. Mr. Mittal is a citizen of India.

Mr. Romain Bausch

Mr. Romain Bausch is President and Chief Executive Officer of SES since July 2001. SES is a world-leading telecommunications satellite operator, with a global fleet of 54 geostationary satellites. SES holds participations in a number of satellite operators and satellite service provision companies. Mr. Bausch is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of SES ASTRA and Vice-Chairman of the Board of O3b Networks. He became the Director General and the Chairman of the Management Committee of SES in 1995, following a career in the Luxembourg civil service (Ministry of Finance). Previously, he occupied key positions in the banking, media and telecommunications sectors in Luxembourg. Mr. Bausch is also a member of the Boards of Directors of Fedil (the Luxembourg Business Federation), of BIP Investment Partners and of Compagnie Financière La Luxembourgeoise. He graduated with a degree in economics (specialization in business administration) from the University of Nancy and holds an honorary doctorate from Sacred Heart University in Luxembourg. Mr. Bausch is a citizen of Luxembourg.

Mr. Joseph Greenwell

Mr. Joseph Greenwell has a career of 40 years in the motor industry and held senior roles in Jaguar Land Rover, Ford of Europe and Ford North America. Mr. Greenwell was appointed Chairman of Ford of Britain in 2009 and retired effective from this position end of April 2013. Prior to this role, Mr. Greenwell was Vice President, Government Affairs, Ford of Europe and Premier Automotive Group from 2005 to 2008 and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Jaguar and Land Rover from 2003 to 2005. Previously, he was Vice President, Marketing, Ford North America, Vice President, Global Marketing and Operations and Vice President Global Product Promotions from 2001 to 2003. Prior to that, he was Vice President Communications and Public Affairs for Ford of Europe from 1999 to 2001 and held similar responsibilities for Jaguar Cars from 1996 to 1999. Mr. Greenwell began his career as a graduate trainee with British Leyland Motor Corporation in 1973. In recognition of his services to the automotive industry he was awarded a CBE (Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) in the Queen's birthday honours list in 2011. In 2013 Mr. Greenwell was appointed Chief Executive Officer of The Automotive Investment Organisation, a Government organisation in the UK focussed on attracting investment to the UK automotive industry. Mr. Greenwell is also Chairman of the RAC Foundation, a UK transport research charity, since 2013. Mr. Greenwell holds a Bachelor of Art degree from the University of East Anglia. Mr. Greenwell is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

Ms. Kathryn A. Matthews

Ms. Kathryn A. Matthews has over thirty years of experience in the financial sector, with a focus on asset management, and has held senior management roles with Fidelity International Ltd, AXA Investment Managers, Santander Global Advisors Inc. and Baring Asset Management. Currently, Ms Matthews is a non-executive director of the corporate board of publicly listed Rathbone Brothers Plc. Ms Matthews is a non-executive director of the investment funds boards of publicly listed Fidelity Asian Values Plc, JPMorgan Chinese Investment Trust Plc and Montanaro UK Smaller Companies Investment Trust. Ms. Matthews is also a non-executive director of non-publicly listed Royal London Group and Hermes Fund Managers Ltd. Ms. Matthews is also a member of the charitable non listed Board of Trustees for The Nuffield Trust. Ms. Matthews holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Bristol University in Bristol, England. Ms. Matthews is a citizen of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Aditya Mittal

Mr. Aditya Mittal is a Member of the Group Management Board of ArcelorMittal, Chief Financial Officer of ArcelorMittal, CEO of ArcelorMittal Europe, Responsible for Flat Carbon Europe, Long Carbon Europe and Distribution Solutions. Mr. Aditya Mittal was previously member of the Group Management Board of ArcelorMittal, Chief Financial Officer of ArcelorMittal with responsibility for Flat Carbon Europe, Investor Relations and Communications. Prior to the merger to create ArcelorMittal, Mr. Aditya Mittal held the position of President and Chief Financial Officer of Mittal Steel Company from October 2004 to 2006. He joined Mittal Steel in January 1997 and has held various finance and management roles within the company. In 1999, he was appointed Head of Mergers and Acquisitions for Mittal Steel. In this role, he led the company's acquisition strategy, resulting in Mittal Steel's expansion into Central Europe, Africa and the United States. Besides M&A responsibilities, Aditya Mittal was involved in post-integration, turnaround and improvement strategies. As Chief Financial Officer of Mittal Steel, he also initiated and led Mittal Steel's offer for Arcelor to create the first 100 million tonne plus steel company. In 2008, Mr. Aditya Mittal was awarded 'European Business Leader of the Future' by CNBC Europe. In 2011, he was also ranked 4th in the '40 under 40' list of Fortune magazine. He is a member of the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders Forum, the Young President's Organization and a Board member at the Wharton School. Aditya Mittal holds a Bachelor's degree of Science in Economics with concentrations in Strategic Management and Corporate Finance from the Wharton School in Pennsylvania, United States. Mr. Aditya Mittal is the son of Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal. Mr. Aditya Mittal is a citizen of India.

Ms. Laurence Mulliez

Ms. Laurence Mulliez was CEO of Eoxis from 2010 to 2013. Privately held Eoxis produces energy from renewable sources. Ms. Laurence Mulliez was previously CEO of Castrol Industrial Lubricants and Services at BP from 2007 to 2009 and held various Managing Director level positions in BP starting in 1999, including Head of Strategy and Financial Planning globally for all of BP's Gas, Power and Renewable Energy businesses. From 1993 to 1999, she held several positions at Amoco in finance, mergers and acquisition, business analysis and business development. Ms. Laurence Mulliez had initially started her career at Banque Nationale de Paris as a Financial Analyst. She is also a non-executive director at Voltalia, a renewable electricity producer in four countries and quoted on the second market in Paris, and spent ten years as a non-

executive director at a leading international do-it-yourself retailer, Leroy Merlin, where she was also a member of the Audit Committee. Ms. Laurence Mulliez holds a degree in business from the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Rouen and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth, with a concentration in Finance and Strategy. Ms. Mulliez is a citizen of France.

Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo

Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo is a Member of the Group Management Board of ArcelorMittal and Responsible for Tubular Products, as well as for Health and Safety and Corporate Affairs (Government affairs, Corporate Responsibility and Communication). Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo serves as a director of publicly listed ArcelorMittal South Africa in addition to his other responsibilities within the ArcelorMittal group. Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo was previously member of the Group Management Board of ArcelorMittal, Responsible for AACIS (excluding China and India), Distribution Solutions, Tubular products, Corporate Responsibility and Investment Allocation Committee Chairman. Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo previously Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Arcelor, has held the following responsibilities: Finance, Purchasing, IT, Legal Affairs, Investor Relations, Arcelor Steel Solutions and Services, and other activities. Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo also held several other positions within Arcelor, including Deputy Senior Executive Vice President and Head of the functional directorates of distribution. Until the creation of Arcelor in 2002, when he became Executive Vice President of the Operational Unit South of the Flat Carbon Steel sector, Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo was CFO of Aceralia. Between 1984 and 1992, he held a variety of positions at Citibank and Crédit Agricole before joining Aristrain in 1992 as CFO and later Co-CEO. Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo is a graduate in Economics and Political Science of Yale University and holds an MBA from the Instituto de Empresa in Madrid. Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo is a citizen of Spain.

Senior Management

Each member of the Company's senior management is a member of the Management Committee, which is entrusted with the day-to-day management of the Company. The members of the Management Committee are appointed and dismissed by the Board of Directors. The Management Committee may exercise only the authority granted to it by the Board of Directors.

On July 31, 2013 Aperam announced that following the departure of Mr. Julien Burdeau effective July 15, 2013, Mr. Philippe Darmayan, Chief Executive Officer of Aperam, will also hold responsibilities for the Alloys & Specialties division. On November 6, 2013 Aperam announced the appointment of Mr. Sandeep Jalan as the Company's new Chief Financial Officer effective January 15, 2014 following the resignation of Mr. Julien Onillon to realize a personal project. Mr. Jalan has over twenty years of experience in finance and was previously the CFO of ArcelorMittal Long Carbon Europe, responsible for finance and strategy.

The members of the Company's senior management as of the date of this financial report are set forth below.

Name	Age⁽¹⁾	Function
Mr. Philippe Darmayan	61	Chief Executive Officer; Responsible for Alloys & Specialties; Member of the Management Committee
Mr. Sandeep Jalan	46	Chief Financial Officer; Member of the Management Committee
Mr. Timóteo Di Maulo	54	Chief Commercial and Sourcing Officer; Member of the Management Committee
Mr. Clenio Guimarães	56	Chief Operating Officer Stainless & Electrical Steel South America; Member of the Management Committee
Ms. Vanisha Mittal Bhatia.....	33	Responsible for Strategy; Member of the Management Committee
Mr. Jean-Paul Rouffiac.....	61	Chief Operating Officer Stainless & Electrical Steel Europe; Member of the Management Committee
Ms. Johanna Van Sevenant	45	Responsible for Sustainability, Human Resources and Communications; Member of the Management Committee

Note:

Secretary to the Management Committee: Mr. Guillaume Bazetoux, Head of Finance

⁽¹⁾ Age on December 31, 2013.

The business address of each member of senior management is the Company's registered office at 12C, rue Guillaume Kroll, L-1882 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, except that the business address of Mr. Clenio Guimarães is Av. Carandai, 1115, 23rd floor - Funcionários, 30130 915 - Belo Horizonte - MG, Brazil.

Mr. Philippe Darmayan

Mr. Philippe Darmayan is the Company's Chief Executive Officer since December 2011 with additional responsibility for Alloys & Specialties since July 2013. Since 2007, he has been President of the French Federation for Steel Industry ("FFA"). Mr. Darmayan graduated from the French business school – HEC in Paris. By joining Aperam, Mr. Darmayan's started its second period in the stainless steel industry as, from 2002 to 2006, he led the transformation of Ugine and ALZ – the stainless divisions of respectively Usinor and Arbed Groups – into one combined company which later became ArcelorMittal Stainless then Aperam. He has therefore a strong understanding of the stainless business fundamentals which led to heavily restructured Ugine and ALZ melt shop footprint and initiated the move to ferritic grades as a way to mitigate the high nickel price increase. Besides stainless steel, Mr. Darmayan has had an extensive experience in various metallurgical fields including nuclear fuel, aluminium and the carbon steel industries. From 2005 to 2011, before joining Aperam, Mr. Darmayan was Executive Vice President of ArcelorMittal, member of ArcelorMittal's Management Committee and the CEO of ArcelorMittal Distribution Solutions ("AMDS"), which activity gathers the ArcelorMittal processing and distribution businesses. Mr. Darmayan was previously in the aluminium industry and Vice President of Pechiney with various senior management positions as Head of the foil and bar divisions, followed by the leadership of the aerospace division, one of Pechiney's core assets with leading market shares at Airbus, Boeing and Embraer. Mr. Darmayan initiated his career in the nuclear fuel activity as plant manager and then managing director of Franco-Belge de Fabrication de Combustibles ("FBFC"), a subsidiary of Framatome. FBFC is the world largest nuclear fuel manufacturer for pressurized water reactors. As his continuous career vision, Mr. Darmayan has promoted entrepreneurship spirit and participative management, as the best way for large Groups to actively show renewed initiatives and decisions for fast development and value creation. Mr. Darmayan is a citizen of France.

Mr. Sandeep Jalan

Mr. Sandeep Jalan is the Chief Financial Officer of Aperam since January 2014. Mr. Sandeep Jalan has over twenty years of experience in finance and joined ArcelorMittal in 1999. During his time with ArcelorMittal he has held a number of positions including being an active member of the Mergers & Acquisition due diligence team for numerous acquisitions in both steel and mining and also helped in establishing the company's group-wide business performance management systems. Most recently Mr. Sandeep Jalan was Chief Financial Officer of ArcelorMittal Long Carbon Europe, responsible for finance and strategy. Mr. Jalan is a Commerce Graduate from Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Chartered Accountant (equivalent to CPA) and Company Secretary from the respective Institutes in India. He has also completed an Executive Education Programme at the London School of Business. Mr. Jalan is a citizen of India.

Mr. Timóteo Di Maulo

Mr. Timóteo Di Maulo is the Chief Commercial and Sourcing Officer of Aperam since May 2012. Prior to this function Mr. Di Maulo has served as Chief Executive Officer — Services & Solutions since 2005. In 1990, Mr. Di Maulo joined Ugine Italia, where he held various positions in the controlling, purchasing and sales departments. While at Ugine Italia, he successfully implemented and launched the ERP System, "Sidonie", across all of Ugine's subsidiaries worldwide. In 1996, Mr. Di Maulo joined Ugine's Commercial Direction in Paris where he was in charge of its Industry and Distribution division. Mr. Di Maulo was subsequently named Service Division Industrial Director in 1998 and took on additional responsibilities as Chief Executive Officer of the German SSC, RCC. In 2000, Mr. Di Maulo was named Chief Executive Officer of U&A Italy, a role which gave him full responsibility for its mill sales network and its two Italian SSCs. Mr. Di Maulo was then appointed Chief Executive Officer of ArcelorMittal's Stainless Europe Service Division in 2005 and, in 2008, of ArcelorMittal Stainless International (which included the division's worldwide mill sales network, all distribution and processing centers and ArcelorMittal Stainless Europe's tube mills and precision strips). Mr. Di Maulo is a graduate of Politecnico di Milano in Milan and holds an M.B.A. from Bocconi University in Milan. Mr. Di Maulo is a citizen of Italy.

Mr. Clenio Guimarães

Mr. Clenio Guimarães is the Chief Operating Officer Stainless & Electrical Steel South America since May 2012. Prior to this function, Mr. Guimarães was Chief Executive Officer — Stainless & Electrical Steel South America since December 2010. Mr. Guimarães joined Acesita in 1981 as a process engineer. In 1996, after performing various roles in quality, production and cost optimization, Mr. Guimarães was appointed Manager of Acesita's Continuous Improvement Department and then, Head of the stainless melt shop in 2002 and Industrial General Manager in 2005. Mr. Guimarães has since acted as the Chief Operating Officer of ArcelorMittal Inox Brazil since 2008. Mr. Guimarães was appointed Chief Executive Officer — Stainless & Electrical Steel South America in December 2010. Mr. Guimarães holds a degree in Metallurgical Engineering from the Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto in Brazil and post-graduate degrees in Marketing from Unileste-MG in Brazil and in General Management from Fundação Dom Cabral in Brazil. Mr. Guimarães also underwent training in the ArcelorMittal University Pioneer program in 2008. Mr. Guimarães is a citizen of Brazil.

Ms. Vanisha Mittal Bhatia

Ms. Mittal Bhatia joined Aperam in April 2011 and is Responsible for Strategy. She has a degree in business administration from the European Business School and a master's in South Asian studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. She has completed corporate internships at Mittal Shipping Ltd, Mittal Steel Hamburg GmbH and an internet-based venture capital fund. Vanisha Mittal Bhatia is a member of the Board of Directors of ArcelorMittal. She is also the daughter of Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal. Ms. Mittal Bhatia is a citizen of India.

Mr. Jean-Paul Rouffiac

Mr. Jean-Paul Rouffiac is the Chief Operating Officer Stainless & Electrical Steel Europe since May 2012. Prior to this function Mr. Jean-Paul Rouffiac has served as Chief Executive Officer — Stainless & Electrical Steel Europe since December 2007. Mr. Rouffiac joined the Usinor Group in 1978 as a lawyer and served as Secretary of the Management Board from 1982 to 1985. He subsequently held various senior sales and marketing positions in the Flat Carbon division between 1986 and 1997. In March 1997, Mr. Rouffiac was appointed Vice President of International & Economic Affairs and Secretary of the Board of Directors. Between 2000 and 2002, Mr. Rouffiac was appointed Vice President of Flat Carbon Sales and Marketing and, prior to the creation of ArcelorMittal, he headed negotiations with the EU's Competition Directorate General. Mr. Rouffiac was named Vice President in charge of SSCs in 2002 and, in 2006, was appointed Vice President responsible for SSCs within Arcelor's Distribution and Solutions division. He was appointed Chief Executive Officer of ArcelorMittal Stainless Steel — Europe in 2007. Mr. Rouffiac is a graduate of Sciences Po in Paris, France and Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne Law University. Mr. Rouffiac is a citizen of France.

Ms. Johanna Van Sevenant

Ms. Johanna Van Sevenant is Responsible for Sustainability, Human Resources and Communications. Ms. Johanna Van Sevenant started her career at PricewaterhouseCoopers Brussels in 1993 and later joined Deloitte & Touche in 1999 where she worked as a Senior Manager of the Human Resources Advisory Services. She subsequently joined the Arcelor Group in 2001 as Managing Director of the Belgian Pension Competence Center at Usinor in Liège, Belgium. Between 2003 and 2006, Ms. Van Sevenant served as International Manager—Pension and Risks Benefits at the Human Resources Corporate Center in Luxembourg. Ms. Van Sevenant became Manager of Integration in 2006 and, in 2007, was named Head of Human Resources, Communications and General Services of the ArcelorMittal International division within Steel Services & Solutions. She was later named Head of Human Resources and Communication of the Stainless Steel segment in December 2008. Ms. Van Sevenant holds a Master's degree in Political Science and Business Administration from Université Libre de Bruxelles in Brussels, Belgium and a Master's degree in Tax Law from HEC St. Louis in Brussels. Ms. Van Sevenant is a citizen of Belgium.

B. Compensation

Board of Directors

As of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, Aperam did not have any outstanding loans or advances to members of its Board of Directors and, Aperam had not given any guarantees for the benefit of any member of its Board of Directors. None of the members of the Board of Directors benefit from an Aperam pension plan.

At the May 8, 2013 annual general meeting of shareholders, the shareholders approved the annual remuneration for non-executive Directors for the 2012 financial year at \$ 778,446, based on the following annual fees set in Euros:

(Amounts in Euros):

Position	Compensation (annual basis)
Basic Director's remuneration.....	€ 70,000
Lead Independent Director's remuneration.....	€ 80,000
Additional remuneration for the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.....	€ 15,000
Additional remuneration for the other Audit and Risk Management Committee members ..	€ 7,500
Additional remuneration for the Chairs of the other Committees.....	€ 10,000
Additional remuneration for the members of the other Committees.....	€ 5,000

The table below shows the directors compensation paid in 2013 for the financial period ending December 31, 2012 and in 2012 for the financial period ending December 31, 2011. The directors' compensation for the financial period ending December 31, 2013 will be submitted to shareholder approval at the annual general meeting of May 8, 2014.

(Amounts in USD):

Name	Financial period ending December 31, 2011 ^{(1) (2)}	Financial period ending December 31, 2012	Financial period ending December 31, 2013
Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal.....	\$ 84,398	\$ 92,358	\$ 96,537
Mr. Romain Bausch.....	\$ 116,696	\$ 128 642	\$ 134,462
Mr. Joseph Greenwell ⁽¹⁾	-	-	\$ 69,201
Ms. Kathryn A. Matthews.....	\$ 107,531	\$ 118 746	\$ 96,537
Mr. Aditya Mittal.....	\$ 84,398	\$ 92 358	\$ 120,067
Ms. Laurence Mulliez	\$ 72,904	\$ 115 448	\$ 110,328
Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo.....	\$ 95,964	\$ 105 552	\$ 48,627
Mr. David B. Burritt ⁽¹⁾	\$ 113,314	\$ 125 343	\$ 786,087
Total	\$ 675,205	\$ 778 446	\$ 96,537
Shareholder approval date	May 8, 2012	May 8, 2013	May 8, 2014

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ On May 24, 2013, the Board of Directors of Aperam decided to co-opt Mr. Joseph Greenwell as director until Aperam's next general meeting of shareholders, where Mr. Greenwell's election will be submitted for confirmation to the shareholders. This decision follows the resignation of Mr. David B. Burritt from the Board for personal considerations effective May 24, 2013.

Senior Management

The total compensation paid in 2013, 2012 and 2011 to the persons comprising the Company's Management Committee members was respectively \$2.91 million, \$2.82 million and \$2.89 million in base salary (including certain allowances paid in cash) and respectively \$0.47 million, \$0.34 million and \$1.11 million in short-term performance related variable pay (consisting of a bonus linked to previous year's results). As of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 approximately \$430,000, \$450,000 and \$236,000 respectively was accrued to provide pension benefits to such persons.

The members of the Management Committee also participate in share-based compensation plans sponsored by Aperam. The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors decided to further improve the remuneration disclosure published by the Company by focusing the information on those executive officers whose remuneration is tied to the performance of the entire Aperam group. The Management Committee is defined going forward as Aperam's senior management.

The table below summarizes the detailed allocation of equity based incentives to the Management Committee ('MC' thereafter in the table) Members under the shareholder approvals. Additional information about the equity based incentives is available in greater detail under "— Long-term Incentives: Equity Based Incentives" below.

	Allocation under the shareholder approval of		
	July 12, 2011	May 8, 2012	May 8, 2013
Authorization to issue up to	70,000 RSU and 20,000 PSU, corresponding to a maximum 110,000 shares	70,000 RSU and 20,000 PSU, corresponding to a maximum 110,000 shares	220,000 shares for grants under the MC PSU Plan and other retention based grants below the level of the MC
Represented in percentage of issued shares	Less than 0.15%	Less than 0.15%	Less than 0.29%
Targeted population under the RSU Plan	30 most senior managers	30 most senior managers	Employees below the level of MC members
Targeted population under the PSU Plan	Subset of the RSU population	Subset of the RSU population	Management Committee members
Allocation under the shareholder approval limit to members of the Management Committee	23,750 RSU (vesting November 3, 2014) and 14,250 PSU (vesting March 31, 2015)	No PSUs and RSUs were granted to the members of the MC under the May 8, 2012 shareholder approval	66,792 PSU (vesting August 5, 2016) (MC members do not receive RSUs under the MC PSU Plan)
Allocations to Members of Management Committee in percentage of issued shares	Less than 0.05%	0.00% (see below)	Less than 0.09%
Performance criteria for PSU Plans	50% weighting: 2012-2014 average ROCE of 6.5%, and 50% weighting: management gains of \$350 million under Leadership Journey® by end of 2014	Not applicable as no PSUs were granted under the May 8, 2012 shareholder approval	50% weighting: Total Shareholder Return ('TSR') compared to a peer group of companies, and 50% weighting: Earnings Per Share ('EPS') compared to a peer group of companies

We do not have any outstanding loans or advances to members of the Company's senior management or any guarantees for the benefit of any member of the Company's senior management.

None of the members of senior management has entered into service contracts with the Company or any of our affiliates that provide for benefits upon the termination of their service.

The general meeting of the Company held on January 21, 2011, resolved to delegate to the Board of Directors to determine how to compensate employees who have outstanding ArcelorMittal stock options and who are transferring from ArcelorMittal to the Company. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors' Remuneration, Nomination & Corporate Governance Committee, the Board has approved that Aperam employees remain beneficiaries of the ArcelorMittal Stock option, under the same conditions as if they were still ArcelorMittal employees. The ArcelorMittal stock option plan administration committee has agreed this treatment for the ArcelorMittal management transferred to Aperam.

The table below summarizes the detailed target definitions for the PSU plans as well as the progress of meeting the vesting criteria on each grant anniversary date.

PSU Plan under the July 12, 2011 shareholder authorization

The PSUs will vest three years after their date of grant subject to the eligible employee's continued employment with the Company and the fulfilment of targets related to the following performance measures: Return On Capital Employed ("ROCE") and management gains reached under the "Leadership Journey®". Each performance measure has a weighting of 50%. Each PSU may give right to up to two shares of the Company. In case the level of achievement of both performance targets together is below 80%, there is no vesting, and the rights are automatically forfeited. The percentage of PSUs vesting over three years will be 50% for achieving 80% of both objectives, 100% for achieving both objectives, 150% for achieving 120% of both objectives, and up to a maximum of 200% for an achievement above 140% of both objectives.

Targets:

The two targets to be reached over the period 2012 to 2014 are an average Return On Capital Employed ('ROCE') of 6.5% and USD 350 million of management gains under the Leadership Journey®. ROCE is defined as (Adjusted EBITDA – Depreciation) X (1- Normalized tax of 10%) / Capital Employed. The Leadership Journey® is a strategic initiative launched to improve the operational efficiency of the Group. The Leadership Journey® is composed of a number of initiatives which can be broadly characterized as restructuring projects, cost reduction projects and continuous improvement initiatives.

Grant date: March 31, 2012

Vesting date: March 31, 2015

Progress at yearly anniversary grant dates:

Performance criteria	% Weighting of criteria	Percentage of achievement at review at first grant anniversary date (March 31, 2013)
ROCE	50%	0%
Leadership Journey®	50%	96%

PSU Plan under the May 8, 2013 shareholder authorization (no grants under the May 8, 2012 authorization)

Awards under the MC PSU Plan are subject to the fulfilment of cumulative performance criteria over a three-year period from the date of the PSU grant. The value of the grant at grant date will equal 35% of the year base salary for the Chief Executive Officer and for the other MC members. Each PSU may give right to up to two shares of the Company.

Targets:

Two sets of performance criteria must be met for vesting of the PSUs.

50% of the criteria is based on the Total Shareholder Return ("TSR") defined as the share price at the end of the period minus the share price at start of the period plus any dividend paid divided by the share price at the start of the period. No vesting will take place for performance below 80% of the median compared to the peer group over three years. The percentage of PSUs vesting will be 50% for achieving 80% of the median TSR, 100% for achieving the median TSR, 150% for achieving 120% of the median TSR, and up to a maximum of 200% for an achievement above the upper quartile.

The other 50% of the criteria to be met to trigger vesting of the PSUs is based on the development of Earnings Per Share ("EPS"), defined as the amount of earnings per share outstanding compared to a peer group of companies. The percentage of PSUs vesting will be 50% for achieving 80% of the median EPS, 100% for achieving the median EPS, 150% for achieving 120% of the median EPS, and up to a maximum 200% for an achievement above the upper quartile.

The applicable peer group of companies is described in greater detail below.

Grant date: August 5, 2013

Vesting date: August 5, 2016

Progress at yearly anniversary grant dates: No anniversary grant date yet reached

The table below lists the applicable group of companies used for the comparative performance as part of the Management Committee PSU Plan. The group of companies consists of three stainless steel companies, six steel companies and one mining company. These companies have been retained by the Board of Directors based on industry classification, size (limited to companies not smaller than approximately one quarter of Aperam's market capitalisation) and on correlation of TSR performance in order to identify whether this group is sound from a statistical viewpoint.

Company	Industry	Market Capitalization ⁽¹⁾	Correlation ⁽²⁾
ArcelorMittal	Steel	26,443.75	0.98
Acerinox	Stainless steel	2,746.55	0.95
Outokumpu	Stainless steel	2,146.44	0.95
ThyssenKrupp	Steel, Stainless steel & downstream	11,036.52	0.90
Voestalpine	Steel	5,672.77	0.90
Salzgitter	Steel	2,814.12	0.93
SSAB	Steel	2,816.50	0.97
Rautaruuki	Steel	1,091.53	0.96
AK Steel	Stainless steel	625.34	0.94
Eramet	Mining	3,846.87	0.98

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ At January 1, 2013, in USD million

⁽²⁾ Correlation calculated from 26/01/2011 to 01/01/2013 on the basis of the evolution of the respective shares prices

Remuneration policy

Board Oversight

The Board is responsible for ensuring that the Group's remuneration arrangements are equitable and aligned with the long-term interests of the Company and its shareholders. It is therefore critical that the Board remains independent of management when making decisions affecting remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer and its direct reports.

To this end, the Board has established the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee ("RNCG") to assist it in making decisions affecting employee remuneration. All members of the RNCG committee are required to be independent under the company's corporate governance guidelines, the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ Listing Rules. The definition of the independence criteria that applies to the Directors is described in greater detail page 80 under "*—Board of Directors*".

The members are appointed by the Board of Directors each year after the annual general meeting of shareholders. The members have relevant expertise or experience relating to the purposes of the committee. The RNCG Committee makes decisions by a simple majority with no member having a casting vote.

The RNCG Committee is chaired by Mr. Romain Bausch, Lead Independent Director.

Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee

The primary function of the RNCG Committee is to assist the Board of Directors, among others with respect to the following:

- review and approve corporate goals and objectives relevant to the Management Committee and other members of executive management as deemed appropriate by the committee regarding their remuneration, and assess performance against goals and objectives;
- review and evaluate on a yearly basis the performance of the Management Committee as a whole and its individual members ;

- make recommendations to the Board with respect to incentive remuneration plans and equity-based plans;
- identify candidates qualified to serve as members of the Board and the Management Committee;
- recommend candidates to the Board for appointment by the general meeting of shareholders or for appointment by the Board to fulfill interim Board vacancies;
- develop, monitor and review corporate governance principles applicable to the Company;
- facilitate the evaluation of the Board;
- review the succession planning and the executive development of the Management Committee members;
- submit proposals to the Board on the remuneration of the Management Committee members, and on the appointment of new directors and Management Committee members;
- make recommendations to the Board on the Company's framework of remuneration for the Management Committee and such other members of the executive management as designated by the committee. In making such recommendations, the committee may take into account factors that it deems necessary (the remuneration of directors on the Board shall be a matter to be decided by the Board). This may include total cost of employment (including equity based components) and determination on behalf of the Board specific remuneration packages and conditions of employment (including pension rights).

The RNGC Committee met five times in 2013. Its members comprise Messrs. Romain Bausch (Chairman) and Joseph Greenwell and Ms. Kathryn Matthews. Invitees at the Committee in 2013 include Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal (Chairman), Ms. Laurence Mulliez (Board Member), Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo (Board Member), Mr. Philippe Darmayan (CEO and Member of the Management Committee), Ms. Johanna Van Sevenant (Responsible for Sustainability, Human Resources and Communications, Member of the Management Committee). Mr. Laurent Beauloye (Group Company Secretary) acts as secretary of the Committee. The RNGC Committee Chairman presents its decisions and finding to the Board of Directors after each Committee meeting.

Remuneration Strategy

Scope

Aperam's remuneration philosophy and framework apply to the following group of senior managers:

- the Chief Executive Officer; and
- the six other members of the Management Committee.

The remuneration philosophy and governing principles also apply, with certain limitations, to a wider group of employees including General Managers and Managers.

Remuneration Philosophy

Aperam's remuneration philosophy for its senior managers is based on the following principles:

- provide total remuneration competitive with executive remuneration levels of a peer group composed of a selection of industrial companies of a similar size and scope;
- encourage and reward performance that will lead to long-term enhancement of shareholder value;

- promote internal pay equity and provide “market” median (determined by reference to its identified peer group) base pay levels for Aperam’s senior managers with the possibility to move up to the third quartile of the market base pay levels, depending on performance over time; and
- promote internal pay equity and target total direct remuneration (base pay, bonus, and long term incentives) levels for senior managers at the 75th percentile of the market depending on performance over time.

Remuneration Framework

The RNCG Committee develops proposals on senior management remuneration annually for consideration by the Board of Directors. Such proposals include the following components:

- fixed annual salary;
- short-term incentives (i.e., performance-based bonuses); and
- long-term incentives (i.e., RSUs (after July 2011) and PSUs (after July 2011), stock options (ArcelorMittal plans prior to the creation of Aperam in January 2011)). The decision was taken by the Board of Directors not to allocate any RSUs and PSUs to the members of Management Committee between May 2012 and May 2013. Since May 2013, Management Committee members only receive PSUs as equity based incentives (RSUs are only granted to employees below the MC level).

Fixed Annual Salary

Base salary levels are reviewed annually and compared to the market to ensure that Aperam remains competitive with market median base pay levels.

Short-term Incentives

Annual Performance Bonus Plan

Aperam has a short-term incentive plan consisting of a performance-based bonus plan. Bonus calculations for each employee reflect the performance of the Aperam group as a whole, the performance of the relevant business units, the achievement of objectives specific to the department and the individual employee’s overall performance.

The calculation of Aperam’s 2013 performance bonus is aligned with its strategic objectives of improving health and safety performance and overall competitiveness and the following principles:

- no performance bonus will be triggered if the achievement level of the performance measures is less than the threshold of 80% (75% for the trigger on EBITDA);
- achievement of 100% of the performance measure yields 100% of the performance bonus pay-out; and
- achievement of more than 100% and up to 120% of the performance measure generates a higher performance bonus pay-out, except as explained below.

The performance bonus for each individual is expressed as a percentage of his or her annual base salary. Performance bonus pay-outs may range from 30% of the base pay for achievement of performance measures at the threshold (75%), to up to 90% for an achievement at or in excess of the ceiling of 120%. Between the 75% threshold and the 120% ceiling, the performance bonus is calculated on a proportional, straight-line basis.

For the Chief Executive Officer and the Members of the Management Committee, the 2013 bonus formula is based on:

- EBITDA at group level: 40% (this acts as a “circuit breaker” with respect to group-level financial performance measures, as explained below);
- Free Cash Flow at group level: 30%;
- Health and Safety performance at group level: 10% (fatalities act as a “circuit breaker” with respect to the Health and Safety performance measures, as explained below);
- Quantified specific measures (including specific Health and Safety targets): 20%.

EBITDA operating as a “circuit breaker” for financial measures means that the 75% threshold described above must be met for EBITDA in order to trigger any bonus payment with respect to the EBITDA and Free Cash Flow performance measures. Fatalities operating as a “circuit breaker”, means that in case of fatalities no bonus will be paid out with respect to the Health and Safety performance measure.

For the Chief Executive Officer, the performance bonus at 100% achievement of performance targets linked to the business plan is equal to 60% of his base salary. For the other members of the Management Committee, the performance bonus at 100% achievement of performance targets linked to the business plan ranges from 30% to 40% of the relevant base salary.

The different performance measures are combined through a cumulative system: each measure is calculated separately and is added up for the performance bonus calculation.

Performance below threshold will result in zero performance bonus payout.

The achievement level of performance for performance bonus is summarized as follow:

	Business Plan Achievement Threshold at 75%	Business Plan Achievement Target at 100%	Business Plan Achievement Ceiling at 120%
CEO	30% of base pay	60% of base pay	90% of base pay
Management Committee Member (VP)	20% of base pay	40% of base pay	60% of base pay
Management Committee Member (GM)	15% of base pay	30% of base pay	45% of base pay

Note: VP, Vice-President; GM, General Manager

Individual performance and potential assessment ratings define the individual bonus multiplier that will be applied to the performance bonus calculated based on actual performance against the performance measures. Those individuals who consistently perform at expected levels will have an individual multiplier of 1. For outstanding performers, an individual multiplier of up to 1.3 may cause the performance bonus pay-out to be higher than 90% of the target bonus, up to 117% of target bonus being the absolute maximum. Similarly, a reduction factor will be applied for those at the lower end.

The principles of the performance bonus plan, with different weights for performance measures and different levels of target bonuses, are applicable to approximately 1,000 employees worldwide.

In exceptional cases, there are some entitlements to a retention bonus or a business specific bonus.

At the end of the financial year, achievement against the measures is assessed by the RNCG Committee and the Board and the short-term incentive award is determined. The achievement of the 2012 Performance Bonus Plan with respect to senior management and paid out in 2013 was as follows:

2012 Measures	% Weighting for the Chief Executive Officer and MC members	Assessment
EBITDA	40%	No incentive attributable to this metric
Free Cash Flow	30%	No incentive attributable to this metric
Health and Safety	10%	Incentive attributed to this metric
Quantified specific measures	20%	Incentive attributed to this metric

Other Benefits

In addition to the primary elements of compensation described above, other benefits may be provided to senior management, such as company cars and contributions to pension plans and insurance policies, which will be in line with relevant local market and peer group practices.

Long-term Incentives: Equity Based Incentives

Share Unit Plans

The first shareholders' meeting after the creation of Aperam of July 12, 2011 approved a equity-based incentive. The plan comprises a Restricted Share Unit Plan ("RSU Plan") and a Performance Share Unit Plan ("PSU Plan") designed to incentivize employees, improve the Company's long-term performance and retain key employees. Both the RSU Plan and the PSU Plan are intended to align the interests of the Company's shareholders and eligible employees by allowing them to participate in the success of the Company.

The maximum number of Restricted Share Units (each, an "RSU") and Performance Share Units (each, a "PSU") available for grant during any given year is subject to the prior approval of the Company's shareholders at the annual general meeting.

The table page 71 summarizes the key characteristics of the shareholders approved equity based incentives since the creation of Aperam.

RSU Plan

The aim of the RSU Plan is to provide a retention incentive to eligible employees. It is subject to "cliff vesting" after three years, with 100% of the grant vesting on the third anniversary of the grant contingent upon the continued active employment of the eligible employee within the Aperam group. The RSUs are an integral part of the Company's remuneration framework.

For the period from the July 12, 2011 general shareholders' meeting to the annual general meeting of shareholders held on May 8, 2012, a maximum of 70,000 RSUs corresponding to up to 70,000 of Aperam shares might be allocated to qualifying employees under the RSU Plan. In November 2011, a total of 59,750 RSUs under the RSU Plan were granted to a total of 28 employees at a fair value of \$16.04 per share (out of which 23,750 RSUs for the Members of the Management Committee).

The May 8, 2012 annual general meeting of shareholders authorized the Board of Directors to issue, during the period between the 2012 and the 2013 annual general meeting, to key employees of Aperam a maximum of 70,000 RSUs corresponding to up to 70,000 of Aperam shares. The decision was taken by the Board of Directors not to grant any RSUs to the members of the Management Committee under the May 2012 shareholder authorization and not to submit to shareholders approval RSU grants under the next equity incentives. As a consequence, the only grants of RSUs to Management Committee members are those under the July 12, 2011 share holder meeting authorization. In April 2013, a total of 40,000 RSUs under the RSU Plan were granted to a total of 27 employees at a fair value of \$12.16 per share, all grants were for employees below the level of the Management Committee.

The May 8, 2013 annual general meeting of shareholders authorized the Board of Directors to issue, during the period between the 2013 and the 2014 annual general meeting, to key employees of Aperam a maximum of 220,000 of the Company's shares for grants under the Management Committee PSU Plan and other retention based grants below the level of the Management Committee. In August 2013, a total of 44,000 RSUs were granted to a total of 28 employees at a fair value of \$13.40 per share, all grants were for

employees below the level of the Management Committee.

The allocation of RSUs to employees below the Management Committee level is reviewed by the RNCG Committee, comprised of three independent directors, which makes a recommendation to the full Board of Directors. The Committee also decides the criteria for granting RSUs and makes its recommendation to the Board of Directors.

PSU Plan

The PSU Plan's main objective is to be an effective performance-enhancing scheme based on the employee's contribution to the eligible achievement of the Company's strategy. Awards under the PSU Plan are subject to the fulfilment of cumulative performance criteria over a three-year period from the date of the PSU grant. The target group for PSU grants is primarily the Chief Executive Officer and the other members of the Management Committee. Each PSU may give right to up to two shares of the Company.

For the period from the July 12, 2011 general shareholders' meeting to the annual general meeting of shareholders held on May 8, 2012, a maximum of up to 20,000 PSUs corresponding to up to 40,000 of the Company's shares might be allocated to qualifying employees under the PSU Plan. In March 2012, a total of 14,250 PSUs were granted to the 8 members of the Management Committee of the Company at a fair value of \$16.53 per share. No PSUs were granted for employees below the level of the Management Committee.

The May 8, 2012 annual general meeting of shareholders authorized the Board of Directors to issue, during the period between the 2012 and the 2013 annual general meeting, to key employees of Aperam up to 20,000 PSUs corresponding to up to 40,000 of the Company's shares. No PSUs were granted under the May 8, 2012 authorization.

The May 8, 2013 annual general meeting of shareholders authorized the Board of Directors to issue, during the period between the 2013 and the 2014 annual general meeting, to key employees of Aperam a maximum of 220,000 of the Company's shares for grants under the Management Committee PSU Plan and other retention based grants below the level of the Management Committee. In August 2013, a total of 87,592 PSUs were granted to a total of 35 employees at a fair value of \$13.40 per share (out of which 66,792 PSUs for the 7 Members of the Management Committee).

The MC PSU Plan provides for cliff vesting on the third year anniversary of the grant date, under the condition that the relevant MC member continues to be actively employed by the Aperam group on that date. If the MC member is retired on that date or in case of an early retirement by mutual consent, the relevant MC member will not automatically forfeit PSUs and pro rata vesting will be considered at the end of the vesting period at the sole discretion of the Company. Awards under the MC PSU Plan are subject to the fulfilment of cumulative performance criteria over a three-year period from the date of the PSU grant. The value of the grant at grant date is to equal 35% of the year base salary for the Chief Executive Officer and for the other MC members. Each PSU may give right to up to two shares of the Company. The two sets of performance criteria to be met for vesting of the PSUs under this MC PSU Plan are Total Shareholder Return and Earnings Per Share versus a peer group. Each performance measure has a weighting of 50%. No vesting will take place for performance below 80% of the median compared to the peer group. 66,792 PSUs were allocated to Management Committee members under the MC PSU Plan with vesting date August 5, 2016.

The table page 72 summarizes the detailed target definitions for the PSU plans as well as the progress of meeting the vesting criteria on each grant anniversary date. The peer group is described page 73 of the financial report.

The allocation of PSUs is reviewed by the RNCG Committee, comprised of three independent directors, which makes a recommendation to the full Board of Directors. The RNCG Committee also reviews the proposed grants of PSUs to eligible employees other than the members of the Management Committee and the principles governing their proposed allocation. The Committee also decides the criteria for granting PSUs and makes its recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Employee Share Purchase Plan ("ESPP")

Upon the recommendation of the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee, the Board has decided not to implement an Aperam employee share purchase plan.

Certain of our employees became shareholders in Aperam through the 2008, 2009 and 2010 Employee Share Purchase Plans implemented by ArcelorMittal. Following the spin-off from ArcelorMittal, an addendum to the ArcelorMittal charter of the 2008, 2009 and 2010 ArcelorMittal ESPPs was adopted providing, among other measures, that:

- the spin-off was to be deemed an early exit event for the participants who were employees of one of the entities that was to be exclusively controlled by Aperam, except in certain jurisdictions where termination of employment was not an early exit event; and
- Aperam shares received by ESPP participants would be blocked in line with the lock-up period applicable to the ArcelorMittal shares in relation to which the Aperam shares were allocated based on a ratio of one Aperam share for twenty ArcelorMittal shares.

As at December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 Aperam employees were holding respectively 5,854, 21,735 and 27,311 Aperam shares under the ArcelorMittal ESPP 2008, 2009 and 2010 Plans.

Stock option plan

For historical reasons, certain of the Company's employees participate in stock-based compensation plans sponsored by ArcelorMittal. These plans provide employees with stock or options to purchase stock in ArcelorMittal. Given that the Company's employees directly benefit from participation in these plans, the expense incurred by ArcelorMittal for options granted to its employees has been reflected in the Company's consolidated statement of operations as selling, general and administrative. The compensation expense recognized for stock option plans was \$1 million, \$1 million and \$3 million respectively for each of the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011. For the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, the amount of outstanding options was 548,150, 661,909, and 843,681 respectively.

The amount of exercisable options was 548,150, 605,942 and 684,604 respectively for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011. Exercise prices of ArcelorMittal stock options vary from \$27.31 to \$78.44. Weighted average contractual life of the options varies from 0.5 to 7.6 years.

C. Board Practices/Corporate Governance

This item provides a summary of the corporate governance practices of Aperam.

The 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange constitute Aperam's domestic corporate governance code.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is in charge of the overall governance and direction of the Company. It is responsible for the performance of all acts of administration necessary or useful to implement the corporate purpose of the Company as described in the Articles of Association, except for matters expressly reserved by Luxembourg law or the Articles of Association to the general meeting of shareholders. The Articles of Association provide that the Board of Directors must be composed of a minimum of three members. None of the members of the Board of Directors may hold an executive position or executive mandate within the Company or any entity controlled by the Company.

The Articles of Association provide that directors are elected and removed by the general meeting of shareholders by a simple majority of votes cast. Directors are appointed for a maximum term of three years and are automatically eligible for reappointment at the end of such period. Any director may be removed with or without cause by a simple majority vote at any general meeting of shareholders. In the event that a vacancy arises on the Board of Directors for any reason, the remaining members of the Board of Directors may, by a simple majority, elect a new director to fulfill temporarily the duties attaching to the vacant post until the next general meeting of shareholders.

As of the date of this financial report, the Board of Directors is composed of seven members. Mr. Lakshmi N. Mittal was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors in December 2010. Mr. Romain Bausch was elected Lead Independent Director in February 2011. The Board is assisted by a Company Secretary who also acts as Secretary of all the Board Committees. The Company Secretary fulfills those tasks and functions that are assigned to him by the Board of Directors. In particular the Company Secretary ensures that all Directors are timely and properly informed and receive appropriate documentation for the performance of their tasks.

The 10 Principles of Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, which constitute Aperam's domestic corporate governance code, require Aperam to define the independence criteria that apply to its directors.

The Board of Directors has a majority of independent directors, with four members of the Board of Directors being independent and the remaining three members being non-independent. A member of the Board of Directors is considered as "independent", if (i) he or she is independent within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules, as amended from time to time, or any successor manual or provisions, subject to the exemptions available for foreign private issuers, if (ii) he or she is unaffiliated with any shareholder owning or controlling more than two percent (2%) of the total issued share capital of the Company and (iii) the Board of Directors makes an affirmative determination to this effect. For the purposes of this article, a person is deemed affiliated to a shareholder if he or she is an executive officer, or a director who is also employed by the shareholder, a general partner, a managing member, or a controlling shareholder of such shareholder.

Specific characteristics of the director role

There is no requirement in the Articles of Association that directors be shareholders of the Company.

The Board of Directors improved its corporate governance framework on February 4, 2013 to align the Company's corporate governance practices with developing best practices in the area of term limits and overboarding.

The purpose of these improvements is to limit the time of service of directors on the Board of Directors and to set limits with respect to the number of directorships they can hold. An independent director shall not serve on the Board of Directors for more than 12 consecutive years. The Board of Directors may, by way of exception to this rule, make an affirmative determination, on a case-by-case basis, that a director may continue to serve beyond 12 years in consideration of his or her exceptional contribution to the Board. An independent director will no longer be considered "independent" as defined in the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ Listing Rules as applicable to foreign private issuers when he or she has completed 12 years of service on the Board.

As membership of the Board of Directors represents a significant time commitment, directors require devoting sufficient time to the discharge of their duties as a director of Aperam. Directors are therefore required to consult with the Chairman and the Lead Independent Director before accepting any additional commitment that could conflict with or impact on the time they can devote to their role as a Director of Aperam. Furthermore, a director may not serve on more than four public company boards in addition to the Aperam Board of Directors. However, service on the board of directors of any subsidiary or affiliate of the foregoing companies shall not be taken into account for purposes of complying with the foregoing limitation. The Board may, by way of exception, allow for a temporary lifting of this rule.

None of the members of the Board of Directors have entered into service contracts with Aperam or any of its subsidiaries that provide for any form of remuneration or for benefits upon the termination of their term. In December 2013, all non-executive Directors of the Company signed the Company's Appointment Letter, which confirms the conditions of their appointment including compliance with a non-compete provision, the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and the Company's Code of Business Conduct.

The remuneration of the members of the Board of Directors is determined on a yearly basis by the annual general meeting of shareholders.

Operation of the Board of Directors

General

Luxembourg law permits the Board of Directors to engage the services of external experts or advisers, as well as to take all actions necessary or useful to implement the Company's corporate purpose (*objet social*).

Meetings

The Board of Directors meets when convened by the Chairman of the Board or two members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors holds meetings in person on at least a quarterly basis and additional meetings are held as circumstances require, either in person or by teleconference.

The Board of Directors held six meetings in 2013. The average attendance rate of the directors at the Board of Directors' meetings held in 2013 was 97.6%. Each Director attended at least 83% of the Board meetings.

In order for a meeting of the Board of Directors to be validly held, a majority of the directors must be present or represented. In the absence of the Chairman, the Board of Directors will appoint by majority vote a chairman pro tempore for the meeting in question. For any meeting of the Board of Directors, a director may designate another director to represent him or her and vote in his or her name.

The agenda of the meeting of the Board of Directors is agreed between the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Lead Independent Director.

Votes

Each member of the Board of Directors has one vote and none of the directors, including the Chairman, has a casting vote. Decisions of the Board of Directors are made by a majority of the directors present and represented at a validly constituted meeting.

Lead Independent Director

The independent members of the Board of Directors are entitled to nominate annually a Lead Independent Director, whose functions include the following:

- coordination of the activities of the independent directors;
- liaising between the non-independent directors and the independent directors;
- calling meetings of the independent directors when necessary and appropriate; and
- performing such other duties as may be assigned to him or her by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Mr. Romain Bausch was elected by the Board of Directors as Aperam's Lead Independent Director in February 2011.

Separate Meetings of Independent Members of the Board of Directors

The independent members of the Board of Directors may schedule meetings outside the presence of the management and the non-independent Directors. Four meetings of the independent Directors outside the presence of management and non-independent Directors were held in 2013.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Lead Independent Director held four meetings in 2013 enabling to provide feedback on the separate meetings of the independent directors outside the presence of the management and the non-independent directors.

Annual Self-Evaluation

The Board of Directors decided in 2011, the year of the creation of Aperam, to start conducting an annual self-evaluation of its functioning in order to identify potential areas for improvement. The self-evaluation process includes structured interviews between the Lead Independent Director and the members of the Board of Directors and covers the overall performance of the Board of Directors, its relations with senior management, the performance of individual Directors, and the performance of the committees. The process is supported by the Company Secretary under the supervision of the Chairman and the Lead Independent Director. The findings of the self-evaluation process are examined by the Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee and presented with recommendations from the Committee to the Board of Directors for adoption and implementation. Suggestions for improvement of the Board of Directors' process based on the prior year's performance and functioning are implemented during the following year.

The 2013 Board of Directors' self-evaluation was completed by the Board on February 6, 2014. Directors believe that the discussions on the industry and the strategic reviews continued to improve in 2013. The previous year's recommendation to have a deeper focus on specific industry briefings and training, the knowledge of the key Aperam facilities, succession planning and higher management exposure to the Board were successfully implemented. The Board has also identified a number of topics that it wishes to spend additional time on in 2014, such as specific attention reviews with respect to Aperam and its industry, site visits and exchanges with local management as well as continuous succession planning exercises.

The Board of Directors believes that its members have the appropriate range of skills, knowledge and experience, as well as the degree of diversity, necessary to enable it to effectively govern the business. Board composition is reviewed on a regular basis and additional skills and experience are actively searched for in line with the expected development of Aperam's business as and when appropriate.

Required Skills, Experience and Other Personal Characteristics

Diverse skills, backgrounds, knowledge, experience, geographic location, nationalities and gender are required in order to effectively govern a global business the size of the Company's operations. The Board and its committees are therefore required to ensure that the Board has the right balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge necessary to perform its role in accordance with the highest standards of governance.

The Company's directors must demonstrate unquestioned honesty and integrity, preparedness to question, challenge and critique constructively, and a willingness to understand and commit to the highest

standards of governance. They must be committed to the collective decision-making process of the Board and must be able to debate issues openly and constructively, and question or challenge the opinions of others. Directors must also commit themselves to remain actively involved in Board decisions and apply strategic thought to matters at issue. They must be clear communicators and good listeners who actively contribute to the Board in a collegial manner. Each Director must also ensure that no decision or action is taken that places his or her interests in front of the interests of the business. Each Director has an obligation to protect and advance the interests of the Company and must refrain from any conduct that would harm it.

In order to govern effectively, non-executive Directors must have a clear understanding of the Company's strategy, and a thorough knowledge of the Aperam group and the industries in which it operates. Non-executive Directors must be sufficiently familiar with the Company's core business to effectively contribute to the development of strategy and monitor performance.

With specific regard to the non-executive Directors of the Company, the composition of the group of non-executive Directors should be such that the combination of experience, knowledge and independence of its members allows the Board to fulfill its obligations towards the Company and other stakeholders in the best possible manner.

The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee ensures that the Board is comprised of high-caliber individuals whose background, skills, experience and personal characteristics enhance the overall profile of the Board and meets its needs and diversity aspirations by nominating high quality candidates for election to the Board by the general meeting of shareholders.

Board Profile

The key skills and experience of the Directors, and the extent to which they are represented on the Board and its committees, are set out below. In summary, the non-executive Directors contribute:

- international and operational experience;
- understanding of the industry sectors in which we operate;
- knowledge of world capital markets and being a company listed in several jurisdictions; and
- an understanding of the health, safety, environmental, political and community challenges that we face.

Each Director is required to adhere to the values set out in, and sign, the Aperam Code of Business Conduct. In addition each Director is expected to bring an area of specific expertise to the Board.

Renewal

The Board plans for its own succession, with the assistance of the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee. In doing this, the Board:

- considers the skills, backgrounds, knowledge, experience and diversity of geographic location, nationality and gender necessary to allow it to meet the corporate purpose;
- assesses the skills, backgrounds, knowledge, experience and diversity currently represented;
- identifies any inadequate representation of those attributes and agrees the process necessary to ensure a candidate is selected who brings them to the Board; and
- reviews how Board performance might be enhanced, both at an individual Director level and for the Board as a whole.

The Board believes that orderly succession and renewal is achieved through careful planning and by continuously reviewing the composition of the Board.

When considering new appointments to the Board, the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee oversees the preparation of a position specification that is provided to an independent recruitment firm retained to conduct a global search, taking into account, among other factors, geographic

location, nationality and gender. In addition to the specific skills, knowledge and experience required of the candidate, the specification contains the criteria set out in the Aperam Board profile.

Director Induction, Training and Development

The Board considers that the development of the directors' knowledge of the Company, the stainless steel-making and raw material industries, and the markets in which the Company operates is an ongoing process. Upon his or her election, each new non-executive director undertakes an induction program specifically tailored to his or her needs.

The Board's development activities include the provision of regular updates to directors on each of the Company's products and markets. Non-executive directors may also participate in training programs designed to maximize the effectiveness of the Directors throughout their tenure and link in with their individual performance evaluations. The training and development program may cover not only matters of a business nature, but also matters falling into the environmental, social and governance area.

Structured opportunities are provided to build knowledge through initiatives such as visits to plants and business briefings provided at Board meetings. Non-executive directors also build their Company and industry knowledge through the involvement of the Management Committee members and other senior employees in Board meetings. Business briefings, site visits and development sessions underpin and support the Board's work in monitoring and overseeing progress towards the corporate purpose of creating long-term shareholder value through the development of our business in stainless steel. We therefore continuously build Directors' knowledge to ensure that the Board remains up-to-date with developments within our segments, as well as developments in the markets in which we operate.

During the year, non-executive directors participated in the following activities:

- comprehensive business briefings intended to provide each Director with a deeper understanding of the Company's activities, environment, key issues and strategy of our segments. These briefings are provided to the Board by senior executives, including Management Committee members. The briefings provided during the course of 2013 included health and safety, stainless steel making, production flows, imports evolution, marketing strategy, top line strategy and key raw materials. Certain business briefings were combined with site visits and thus took place on-site and, in other cases, they took place at Board meetings; and
- development sessions on specific topics of relevance, such as commodity markets with a specific focus on Nickel, changes in corporate governance standards, directors' duties and shareholder feedback.

The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee oversees Director training and development. This approach allows induction and learning opportunities to be tailored to the Directors' committee memberships, as well as the Board's specific areas of focus. In addition, this approach ensures a coordinated process in relation to succession planning, Board renewal, training, development and committee composition, all of which are relevant to the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee role in securing the supply of talent to the Board.

Committees of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors has 3 committees: the Audit and Risk Management Committee, the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee and the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee.

Committee Composition

The composition of the Committees of the Board of Directors as of the date of this financial report is set forth below.

Name	Position within Aperam	Independent/ Non Independent Status	Audit and Risk Management Committee	Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee	Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee
Romain Bausch.....	Member of Board of Directors	Lead Independent Director	X	X (Chair)	
Joseph Greenwell	Member of Board of Directors	Independent	X	X	
Kathryn Matthews.....	Member of Board of Directors	Independent		X	X
Laurence Mulliez	Member of Board of Directors	Independent	X (Chair)		X
Gonzalo Urquijo	Member of Board of Directors	Non Independent			X (Chair)

Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee is composed of three directors. The members are appointed by the Board of Directors each year after the annual general meeting of shareholders. The Audit and Risk Management Committee takes decisions by a simple majority.

With respect to audit related matters, the primary function of the Audit and Risk Management Committee is to assist the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by reviewing:

- our financial reports and other financial information provided to any governmental body or the public;
- our system of internal control regarding finance, accounting, legal, compliance and ethics established by the Board of Directors and senior management; and
- our auditing, accounting and financial reporting processes generally.

With respect to audit related matters the Audit and Risk Management Committee's primary duties and responsibilities relating to this function are to:

- be an independent and objective party to monitor our financial reporting process and internal controls system;
- review and appraise the audit efforts of Aperam's independent external auditors and internal auditing department;
- review major legal and compliance matters and their follow up;
- provide an open avenue of communication among our independent auditors, senior management, the internal audit department, and the Board of Directors
- approve the appointment and fees of our independent auditors; and
- monitor the independence of the independent auditors.

With respect to risk management related matters, the primary function of the Audit and Risk Management Committee is to support the Board of Directors in fulfilling its corporate governance and oversight responsibilities by assisting with the monitoring and review of our risk management process. In that

regard, its main responsibilities and duties are to assist the Board of Directors by developing recommendations regarding the following matters:

- oversight, development and implementation of a risk identification and management process and the review of this process in a consistent manner throughout the Company;
- review of the effectiveness of our risk management framework, policies and process at the corporate and operating segment levels and the proposal of improvements, with the aim of ensuring that our management is supported by an effective risk management system;
- promotion of constructive and open exchanges on risk identification and management among senior management, the Board of Directors, the legal department and other relevant departments of the Company;
- review of proposals to assess, define and review the level of risk tolerance to ensure that appropriate risk limits are in place;
- review of our internal and external audit plans to ensure that they include a review of the major risks we face; and
- making recommendations within the scope of its charter to Aperam's senior management and to the Board of Directors about senior management's proposals concerning risk management.

In fulfilling its duties, the Audit and Risk Management Committee may seek the advice of outside experts.

The three members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee are Ms. Laurence Mulliez, Mr. Romain Bausch and Mr. Joseph Greenwell. Ms. Laurence Mulliez is the Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. Each of these members is an independent director in accordance with the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

According to its charter, the Audit and Risk Management Committee is required to meet at least four times a year. During 2013, the Audit Committee met five times. The average attendance rate of the directors at the Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings held in 2013 was 100%.

As part of the annual self-evaluation interviews, the Audit and Risk Management Committee performed an evaluation, which was completed in February 2014 with respect to performance in 2013.

Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee

The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee may be composed of two or three directors, and is currently composed of three directors. The members are appointed by the Board of Directors each year after the annual general meeting of shareholders. The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee takes decisions by a simple majority.

The Board of Directors has established the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee to:

- determine Aperam's compensation framework, including short and long term incentives for the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, the members of the Management Committee;
- review and approve succession and contingency plans for key managerial positions at the level of the Management Committee;
- review and evaluate on a yearly basis the performance of the Management Committee as a whole and its individual members.
- consider any candidate for appointment or reappointment to the Board of Directors at the request of the Board of Directors and provide advice and recommendations to it regarding the same;

- evaluate the functioning of the Board of Directors and monitor the Board of Directors' self-assessment process; and
- develop, monitor and review corporate governance principles and corporate responsibility policies applicable to Aperam, as well as their application in practice.

The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee's principal criteria in determining the compensation of executives is to encourage and reward performance that will lead to long-term enhancement of shareholder value. In fulfilling its duties, the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee may seek the advice of outside experts.

The three members of the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee are Messrs. Romain Bausch and Joseph Greenwell and Ms. Kathryn Matthews. Mr. Romain Bausch is the Chairman of the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee. Each of these members is an independent director in accordance with the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

The Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee is required to meet at least twice a year. During 2013, this committee met five times. The average attendance rate at the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee meetings held in 2013 was 100%.

As part of the annual self-evaluation interviews, the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee performed an evaluation, which was completed in February 2014 with respect to performance in 2013.

Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee

The Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee is composed of three directors. The members are appointed by the Board of Directors each year after the annual general meeting of shareholders. The Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee takes decisions by a simple majority.

The primary function of the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee is to review on a regular basis our sustainability, financial and industrial performance and strategy. With respect to sustainability related matters, Health and Safety is the top priority and reviewed systematically at each Committee meeting. Other sustainability related matters include the overall sustainability approach for the Company and its operating segments, in particular from the perspective of value creation, the use of green energy and, more generally, the environmental impact of production cycles and expansion projects.

The three members of the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee are Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo, Ms. Kathryn Matthews and Ms. Laurence Mulliez. Mr. Gonzalo Urquijo is the Chairman of the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee. Ms. Kathryn Matthews and Ms. Laurence Mulliez are independent directors in accordance with the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

During 2013, this committee met five times. The average attendance rate at the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee meetings held in 2013 was 100%.

As part of the annual self-evaluation interviews the Sustainability, Performance and Strategy Committee performed an evaluation, which was completed in February 2014 with respect to performance in 2013.

Management Committee

The Management Committee is entrusted with the day-to-day management of Aperam. Mr. Philippe Darmayan is the Chief Executive Officer and a member of the Management Committee. The members of the Management Committee are appointed and dismissed by the Board of Directors. As the Management Committee is not a corporate body created by Luxembourg law or Aperam's Articles of Association, the Management Committee may exercise only the authority granted to it by the Board of Directors.

Succession Planning

Succession planning at the Company is a systematic and deliberate process for identifying and preparing employees with potential to fill key organizational positions should the current incumbent's term expire. This process applies to all executives up to and including the Management Committee. Succession planning aims to ensure the continued effective performance of the organization by providing for the availability of experienced and capable employees who are prepared to assume these roles as they become available. For each position, candidates are identified based on performance and potential and their "years to readiness" and development needs are discussed and confirmed. Regular reviews of succession plans are conducted to ensure that they are accurate and up to date. Succession planning is a necessary process to reduce risk, create a pipeline of future leaders, ensure smooth business continuity and improve employee motivation.

Other Corporate Governance Practices

We are committed to adopting best practice corporate governance standards. We will continuously monitor legal requirements and best practices in order to make adjustments to our corporate governance controls and procedures where necessary.

We comply with the 10 Principles of Corporate Governance of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Ethics and conflicts of interest are governed by Aperam's Code of Business Conduct, which establishes the standards for ethical behavior that are to be followed by all employees and directors of Aperam in the exercise of their duties. They must always act in the best interests of Aperam and must avoid any situation in which their personal interests conflict, or could conflict, with their obligations to Aperam. As employees, they must not acquire any financial or other interest in any business or participate in any activity that could deprive Aperam of the time or the attention needed to devote to the performance of their duties. Any behavior that deviates from the Code of Business Conduct is to be reported to the employee's supervisor, a member of the management, the head of the legal department or the head of the combined assurance department. Code of Business Conduct training is offered throughout Aperam. The Code of Business Conduct is available in the "About – Investors & Shareholders - Corporate Governance—Code of Business Conduct" section of Aperam's website at www.aperam.com.

Process for Handling Complaints on Accounting and financial Matters

As part of the procedures of the Board of Directors for conducting the business in a fair and transparent manner, Aperam Code of Business Conduct and Anti-Fraud Policy (available on Aperam's website, www.aperam.com, under About - Investors & Shareholders - Corporate Governance and under About - Sustainability - Corporate Policies) encourage all employees to bring any issues related to accounting, internal controls, auditing or banking matters to the Audit and Risk Management Committee's attention on a confidential basis. In accordance with Aperam Anti-Fraud Policy and Aperam Whistleblower Charter, concerns with regard to possible fraud or irregularities in accounting, auditing or banking matters or financial corruption within Aperam or any of its subsidiaries or other controlled entities, apart from regular or internal information and reporting means, may be communicated using the Aperam whistleblowing line at the disposal of all employees.

During 2013, there were 10 complaints relating to fraud, which were referred to the Company's Combined Assurance Department for investigation. At the end of 2013, 8 forensic cases had been finalized and 2 were in progress. Following review by the Audit and Risk Management Committee, none of the 8 finalized cases were found to be significant.

Combined Assurance

Aperam has a Combined Assurance function that, through its Head of Combined Assurance, reports to the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The function, using best-in class methodology in line with the Institute of Internal Auditors standards, is staffed by full-time professional staff located at the Head Office and the main production sites. The function supports the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Management Committee in fulfilling their oversight responsibilities in Governance, Risk Management and

Forensic Services. Recommendations relating to the internal control environment are made by the Combined Assurance function and their implementation is regularly reviewed by the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Independent Auditors

The appointment and determination of fees of the independent auditors is the direct responsibility of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The Audit and Risk Management Committee is further responsible for obtaining, at least once each year, a written statement from the independent auditors that their independence has not been impaired. The Audit and Risk Management Committee has obtained from Aperam's principal independent auditors such an independence statement as well as a confirmation that none of its former employees are in a position within Aperam that may impair the principal auditors' independence. The appointment of the independent auditors is submitted to shareholder approval.

Audit fees in 2013 were \$2.6 million for the audits of financial statements. Please refer to Note 26 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further details.

Measures to Prevent Insider Dealing and Market Manipulation

The Board of Directors of Aperam has adopted Insider Dealing Regulations ("IDR"), which are updated when necessary and in relation to which training is conducted throughout the group. The IDR are available on Aperam's website, www.aperam.com, under "About - Investors & Shareholders - Corporate Governance—Insider Dealing Regulations".

The Board of Directors has appointed a group compliance officer who also acts as the IDR compliance officer and answers questions about the IDR's interpretation. Aperam maintains a list of insiders as required by the Luxembourg market manipulation ("*abus de marché*") law of May 9, 2006. The compliance officer may assist senior executives and directors with the filing of notices required by Luxembourg law to be filed with the Luxembourg financial regulator, the CSSF ("*Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier*"). Furthermore, the compliance officer has the power to conduct investigations in connection with the application and enforcement of the IDR, in which any employee or member of senior management or of the Board of Directors is required to cooperate.

In addition, Aperam's Code of Business Conduct contains a section "Trading in the Securities of the Company" that emphasizes the prohibition to trade on the basis of inside information. Aperam's Code of Business Conduct is available on Aperam's website, www.aperam.com, under "About - Investors & Shareholders - Corporate Governance—Code of Business Conduct".

D. Employees

We had 9,533, 9,815 and 10,533 employees respectively as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011.

The table below sets forth the total number of employees by operating segment as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011:

Operating Segment	2013 ⁽¹⁾	2012 ⁽¹⁾	2011 ⁽¹⁾
Stainless & Electrical Steel.....	4,987	5,166	5,642
Services & Solutions.....	2,299	2,349	2,617
Alloys & Specialties.....	1,046	1,008	989
Other ⁽²⁾	1,202	1,292	1,285
Total ⁽³⁾	9,533	9,815	10,533

Notes:

(1) The number of employees is presented on a full-time equivalent basis, including only employees who have standard permanent and fixed-term contracts. In 2013, the total number of employees included 330 part-time employees, of which 192 were employed by the Stainless & Electrical Steel operating segment, 78 were employed by the Services & Solutions operating segment, 55 were employed by the Alloys & Specialties operating segment and 5 were employed by Other. In 2012, the total number of employees included 235 part-time employees, of which 146 were employed by the Stainless & Electrical Steel operating segment, 55 were employed by the Services & Solutions operating segment, 32 were employed by the Alloys & Specialties operating segment and 2 were employed by Other. In 2011, the total number of employees included 278 part-time employees, of which 196 were employed by the Stainless & Electrical Steel operating segment, 56 were employed by the Services & Solutions operating segment, 25 were employed by the Alloys & Specialties operating segment and 1 was employed by Other.

(2) Includes employees of Aperam BioEnergia.

(3) The total number of employees includes 124 employees in our research and development units and 55 employees in corporate functions in our head office as of December 31, 2013.

We have a long track record of promoting social dialogue with employee representatives in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. Our employees in various parts of the world are represented by trade unions, and we are a party to collective labor agreements with employee organizations in certain locations. In 2013, the company and the trade unions completed the negotiations on the European Work Council of Aperam with success. During 2013, we also continued to improve our productivity and competitiveness with a particular focus on the administrative workforce. All these actions have been conducted in a good social climate, as evidenced by our good level of absenteeism and low attrition rate, and with a regular dialogue with our trade unions. At the same time, we launched competency renewal plans, mainly for critical jobs (quality, maintenance, production, metallurgy, research and commercial).

E. Share Ownership

As of December 31, 2013, the aggregate beneficial share ownership of Aperam directors and senior management totaled 17,842 Aperam shares (excluding shares owned by Aperam's Significant shareholder). Other than the Significant shareholder, no director and member of senior management beneficially owns more than 1% of Aperam's shares.

The allocation of Aperam equity incentives to senior management is described in the table on page 71 of this financial report.

In accordance with the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's 10 Principles of Corporate Governance, non-executive members of Aperam's Board of Directors do not receive share options, RSUs or PSUs.

See "Item 4.B. Compensation" for a description of the remuneration framework of Aperam.

Item 5. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions

A. Major Shareholders

As of December 31, 2013, the Company's authorized share capital, including the issued share capital, consisted of 85,854,303 shares without nominal value. The Company's issued share capital was represented by 78,049,730 fully paid up shares without nominal value. The following table sets forth information as of December 31, 2013 with respect to the beneficial ownership and voting rights in the Company by each person who is known to be the beneficial owner of 2.5% or more of the Company's issued share capital.

	Shares	% of Issued Shares	% of Voting Rights
Significant shareholder ⁽¹⁾	31,880,253	40.85%	40.85%
Other public shareholders	46,169,477	59.15%	59.15%
<i>of which is held by the Luxembourg State</i> ⁽²⁾	1,948,226	2.50%	2.50%
Total issued shares.....	78,049,730	100.00%	100.00%
Directors and Senior Management ^{(3) (4)}	17,842	0.02%	0.02%

Notes:

- (1) The term "Significant shareholder" means the trust (HSBC Trust (C.I.) Limited, as trustee) of which Mr Lakshmi N. Mittal, Mrs Usha Mittal and their children are the beneficiaries, holding Aperam shares through the following two companies: Nuavam Investments Sàrl and Lumen Investments Sàrl. For purposes of this table, ordinary shares owned directly by Mr. Lakshmi Mittal and his wife, Mrs. Usha Mittal are aggregated with those ordinary shares beneficially owned by the Significant Shareholder. At December 31, 2013, Mr. Lakshmi Mittal and his wife, Mrs. Usha Mittal, had direct ownership of Aperam ordinary shares and indirect ownership, through the Significant Shareholder, of two holding companies that own Aperam ordinary shares—Nuavam Investments S.à r.l. ("Nuavam") and Lumen Investments S.à r.l. ("Lumen"). Nuavam, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Luxembourg, was the owner of 5,616,913 Aperam ordinary shares. Lumen, a limited liability company organized under the laws of Luxembourg, was the owner of 26,250,000 Aperam ordinary shares. Mr. Mittal was the direct owner of 11,090 Aperam ordinary shares. Mrs. Mittal was the direct owner of 2,250 Aperam ordinary shares. Mr. Mittal, Mrs. Mittal and the Significant Shareholder shared indirect beneficial ownership of 100% of each of Nuavam and Lumen. Accordingly, Mr. Mittal was the beneficial owner of 31,878,003 Aperam ordinary shares, Mrs. Mittal was the beneficial owner of 31,869,163 Aperam ordinary shares and the Significant Shareholder was the beneficial owner of 31,880,253 ordinary shares.
- (2) According to the Company's Articles of Association, a shareholder owning 2.5% or more of the share capital must notify the Company. The only registered shareholder owning 2.5% or more but less than 5% of the share capital of the Company at December 31, 2013 is the Luxembourg State, with 1,948,226 shares, representing 2.5% of the total issued share capital.
- (3) Includes shares beneficially owned by directors and members of senior management listed in the sections "Board of Directors" and "Senior Management"; Excludes shares beneficially owned by Mr. Mittal.
- (4) These 17,842 Aperam common shares are included in the shares owned by Other public shareholders in the table above.

At the next annual general meeting of May 8, 2014, the Board of Directors will propose to the shareholders an increase of the authorised share capital. The need of additional authorised share capital is described in greater detail under "Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Convertible bonds".

The Company's ordinary shares are in registered form only and are freely transferable. Ownership of the Company's shares is recorded in a shareholders' register kept by the Company at its corporate headquarters at 12C, rue Guillaume Kroll, L-1882 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (the "Shareholders' Register").

The Company's ordinary shares may also be registered on one of two local registers, the European register (the "European Register") and the New York register (the "New York Register"). The European Register is kept by the Company. BNP Paribas Securities Services provides certain administrative services in relation to the European Register. The New York Register is kept by Citibank, N.A. (New York Branch) ("Citibank") on the Company's behalf. Ordinary shares registered on the European Register are referred to as "European Shares" and ordinary shares registered on the New York Register are referred to as "New York Registry Shares".

At December 31, 2013, there were 2,317 shareholders other than the Significant shareholder holding an aggregate of 2,665,858 Aperam common shares registered in Aperam's shareholder register, representing approximately 3.41% of the common shares issued.

At December 31, 2013, there were 107 U.S. shareholders holding an aggregate of 710,645 New York Registry Shares, representing approximately 0.91% of the common shares issued. Aperam's knowledge of the number of New York Registry Shares held by U.S. holders is based solely on the records of Citibank.

At December 31, 2013, there were 42,806,314 Aperam common shares being held through the Euroclear clearing system in The Netherlands, France and Luxembourg.

Voting Rights

None of the shareholders have voting rights different from any other shareholders.

Public Takeover Offers

No public takeover offers by third parties have been made in respect of the shares or by the Company in respect of other companies' shares during the last and current financial year.

B. Related Party Transactions

We are engaged in certain commercial and financial transactions with related parties. Please refer to "Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Related Party Transactions" and Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements for further details.

Item 6. Financial Information

A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information

Export Sales

Because Aperam has no significant operations in its home country of Luxembourg, all of its sales are considered to be export sales. Annual sales to a single customer did not exceed 5% of sales in any of the periods presented.

Legal Proceedings

The Company is involved in litigation, arbitration or other legal proceedings. Provisions related to legal and arbitral proceedings are recorded in accordance with the principles described in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements.

Most of these claims involve highly complex issues, actual damages and other matters. Often these issues are subject to substantial uncertainties and, therefore, the probability of loss and an estimation of damages are difficult to ascertain. Consequently, for certain of these claims, the Company is unable to make a reasonable estimate of the expected financial effect that will result from ultimate resolution of the proceeding. In those cases, the Company has disclosed information with respect to the nature of the contingency. The Company has not accrued a reserve for the potential outcome of these cases.

In the cases in which quantifiable fines and penalties have been assessed, the Company has indicated the amount of such fine or penalty, or the amount of provision accrued, which is the estimate of the probable loss.

In a limited number of ongoing cases, the Company is able to make a reasonable estimate of the expected loss or range of possible loss and has accrued a provision for such loss, but management believes that publication of this information on a case-by-case basis would seriously prejudice its position in the ongoing legal proceedings or in any related settlement discussions. Accordingly, in these cases, the Company has disclosed information with respect to the nature of the contingency, but has not disclosed its estimate of the range of potential loss.

These assessments can involve a series of complex judgments about future events and can rely heavily on estimates and assumptions. The Company's assessments are based on estimates and assumptions that have been deemed reasonable by management. Management believes that the aggregate provisions recorded for these matters are adequate based upon currently available information. However, given the inherent uncertainties related to these cases and in estimating contingent liabilities, the Company could, in the future, incur judgments that have a material adverse effect on its results of operations in any particular period.

In addition, in the normal course of business, the Company and its operating subsidiaries may be subject to audits by the tax authorities in the countries in which they operate. Those audits could result in additional tax liabilities and payments, including penalties for late payment and interest.

Environmental Liabilities

The Company is subject to a broad range of environmental laws and regulations. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had established reserves of \$27 million for environmental and remedial activities and liabilities.

Belgium

In Belgium, there is an environmental provision of \$14 million, of which the most significant elements are legal obligations linked to soil treatment and removal of slag and fines.

France

In France, there is an environmental provision of \$13 million, which relates to (i) the demolition and clean-up of the Company's Ardoise facility after operations ceased at the site and (ii) the clean-up and restructuring of its Firminy site.

Brazil

In Brazil, violation of an environmental regulation may result in fines, imprisonment, interruption of the Company's activities, cancellation of tax incentives and credit lines with governmental financial entities and dissolution of the corporate entity, in addition to the obligation to repair or to indemnify for damages caused to the environment and third parties.

Therefore, changes in environmental laws or regulations, or in the interpretation thereof, or in the administrative procedures and policies adopted under current environmental laws and regulations, could require the Company to invest in additional resources in environmental compliance and the renewal of its licenses, and could therefore adversely affect it. Additionally, non-compliance with or violation of any such laws and regulations could result in the revocation of the Company's licenses and suspension of its activities or in its responsibility for environmental remediation costs, which could be substantial. The Company cannot assure that its expenses relating to compliance with applicable environmental regulations will not be significant or that it will be able to renew its licenses in a timely manner, or at all. Moreover, under certain circumstances the Company's corporate shareholder structure could be disregarded in order to enable claimants to recover for environmental claims against it.

Tax Claims

The Company is party to various tax claims, the most significant of which are set out below. As of December 31, 2013, the Company has established reserves in the aggregate of approximately \$14 million for those of the claims as to which the criteria for provisioning were met.

- On December 20, 2013, Aperam South America received a tax assessment from Federal Revenue in the total amount of \$115 million. This assessment contains 2 parts for the years 2008 and 2009:
 - o Madeira Island Tax planning (the tax authorities required that the profits of Acesita Imports & Exports (Madeira Island) be added to Aperam South America's tax basis,
 - o The tax authorities disregarded the goodwill generated by the acquisition by Arcelor Aços Especiais do Brasil ("AAEB") of the minority shareholding of Aperam South America at the time of its delisting in 2008.

Aperam South America presented its defense at the first administrative level in January 2014.

- On October 31, 2013, Aperam South America was assessed by the Federal Revenue in connection with the compensation the company made since 2010 on undue payment of PIS and COFINS (social contributions on revenue) charges. The later was judged unconstitutional in 2005 and the Company launched at that time the necessary procedure to get reimbursed. The total amount claimed is \$80 million.
- In March 2012, the Company received two tax assessments regarding PIS and COFINS related to importation of services (freight, logistics and commercial representation services) made by the Company in 2007. The total amount claimed is \$9 million. In June 2012, the Company obtained a partial favorable decision from the first administrative instance. The case is pending at the second administrative instance.
- On December 27, 2011, Aperam South America received a tax assessment from the State of Minas Gerais regarding VAT tax credit ("ICMS") used by the Company related to the purchasing of scraps from a supplier which the State considered as not being authorized to issue invoices with VAT. The total amount claimed is \$8 million. The case is in first administrative instance where the Company presented its defense.
- On December 16, 2011, Aperam Stainless Services and Solutions Brazil has been assessed by the Tax authorities aiming at collecting \$34 million (including interest on late payments and penalties) related to VAT ("ICMS"). Tax authorities claimed that the Company has not collected to the State of Sao Paulo the ICMS imposed on importation of products performed by a trading company located in the State of Espirito Santo and disregarded the ICMS credit recognized by the Company at the time of acquisition of the goods from the trading company. The company obtained a partial favorable decision at the first administrative level, confirmed by the Superior court in October 2013. The Company will, nevertheless, bring the case at judicial level for the remaining amount.

- In December 2011, the Federal Revenue issued four tax assessments against Aperam South America for a total amount of \$25 million considering that the Company did not pay several social contributions due on payments made to employees under the Profit Sharing Program. These cases are at the first administrative instance where the Company presented its defense.
- On March 29, 2011, Aperam South America received a tax assessment related to drawback tax benefit. Federal revenue states that the Company did not respect the conditions to use the benefit and demand to pay taxes related to importation and fees. The total amount claimed is \$9 million. The Company presented its appeal at the first administrative level.
- On December 2, 2010, Aperam South America received a tax assessment in the total amount of \$31 million. The Minas Gerais State Revenue claims that the Company should have paid VAT ("ICMS") related to the distribution of electric power between 2005 and 2009. The Company believes that this charge should not prevail since the distribution of electrical power should not be considered as a good or transportation and therefore it should not be subject to VAT ("ICMS"). On May 5, 2011 the Company received a partial favorable decision. Minas Gerais State Revenue concluded that the Company has to pay ICMS but stated that the amount for late payments and penalties was wrong. In March 2012, the Company has brought the case before the judicial court that confirmed the favorable decision obtained by the administrative court. The Company's position was comforted by the court of Appeal in August 2013 but there are still some pending discussions at second level of judicial court.
- On December 5, 2007, the Federal Revenue Service challenged IPI tax credits (Tax on Industrialized Products similar to Federal VAT) registered by Aperam South America from January 2003 to December 2006 related to the acquisition of certain materials. The claim alleges that the products acquired are either not related to the final product or not integrally consumed during operations. In December 2010, there was a partial favorable decision that has been confirmed in May 2013 to the Company. The amount in dispute is approximately \$6 million.
- In June 2007, the Company was assessed for payment of social contributions on some payments made to employees related to bonus granted by collective work agreement. The total amount asked by the Federal Union is \$9 million. The first administrative instance's decision was favorable to the Company, but it still need to be confirmed by the second administrative instance.
- On December 21, 2005, Aperam South America has been assessed by the Federal Revenue Service in relation to its calculation of social contributions on revenue (PIS and COFINS) due to (i) unconditional discounts given to clients, (ii) the value of tax incentives granted by federal legislation (specifically, credits to be offset with IPI) and (iii) revenues derived from exchange rate variations. The amount in dispute is approximately \$23 million and the Company obtained a partial favorable decision from the Special Court in the second administrative instance but presented a special motion regarding the pending unfavorable decision.
- On March 15 and March 18, 2005, Aperam South America has been assessed by the INSS (the Brazilian Social Securities Institute) for the non-collection of certain payroll taxes between 1999 and 2004 related to the special retirement of employees exposed to unhealthy working conditions. On December 3, 2013, the Company has received a partial unfavorable decision by the second administrative instance but asked for a special motion to be clarified for which the Federal Revenue authorities presented a specific appeal at the Superior administrative level. The amount in dispute comprising six cases is \$26 million.
- On October 13, 1998, the Federal Revenue Service filed a tax foreclosure action against the Company in relation to the alleged underpayment of payroll taxes in the period of January 1987 to July 1997. After the Company initially prevailed in the Federal Court, the Brazilian Federal Revenue Service filed an appeal with the Federal Court of Appeals. The amount in dispute is approximately \$5 million.

- In November 1995, the Company was assessed for unauthorized compensation of losses and negative basis of social contribution between 1989 and 1994. The total amount claimed is \$10 million. After unfavorable decision in the first and second judicial instances, the Company is waiting for the final decision of the superior courts.

Labor and Other Claims

The Company is presently involved in a number of labor disputes, the most significant of which are set out below. As of December 31, 2013, the Company has established reserves in the aggregate of approximately \$42 million for those of the claims as to which the criteria for provisioning were met.

Brazil

- On April 1, 2004, a sanctioning administrative process with the Central Bank was brought against Aperam South America based on alleged irregular exchange operations utilized by it in the purchase and sale of treasury bills. On March 22, 2007, Aperam South America has been assessed with a fine of \$16 million. The Company brought the case before the judicial court in 2012.

Item 7. Listing

Nature of the trading market

The Company's ordinary shares are admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market and listed on the Official List of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (symbol "APAM") and are traded on the NYSE Euronext Single Order Book with Amsterdam as the Market of Reference (symbol "APAM" and Euronext code NSCNL00APAM5). The ordinary shares were admitted to listing and trading on the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, Euronext Amsterdam and Euronext Paris on January 31, 2011. The ordinary shares of the Company are accepted for clearance through Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg under common code number 056997440. The ISIN code of the ordinary shares of the Company is LU0569974404. The Aperam shares are also traded as New York registry shares on the OTC under the symbol APEMY.

Item 8. Additional Information

A. Share Capital

As of December 31, 2013, the issued share capital amounts to four hundred and eight million eight hundred and thirty-one thousand Euro (EUR 408,831,000). It is represented by seventy-eight million forty-nine thousand seven hundred and thirty (78,049,730) fully paid up shares without nominal value.

The Company's authorized share capital, including the issued capital, amounts to four hundred fifty million thirty-one thousand Euro (EUR 450,031,000) represented by eighty-five million eight hundred fifty-four thousand three hundred three (85,854,303) ordinary shares without nominal value.

At the next annual general meeting of May 8, 2014, the Board of Directors will propose to the shareholders an increase of the authorised share capital. The need of additional authorised share capital is described in greater detail under "Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations —Convertible bonds".

B. Articles of Association

Set out below is a summary description of the Articles of Association. For a full description, please see the Articles of Association, the full text of which is available at www.aperam.com in the section Corporate Governance.

Corporate Purpose of the Company

The corporate purpose of the Company, as stated in Article 3 (Corporate Purpose) of the Articles of Association as follows:

"The corporate purpose of the Company shall be the manufacture, processing and marketing of stainless and specialty steel, stainless and specialty steel products and all other metallurgical products, as well as all products and materials used in their manufacture, their processing and their marketing, and all industrial and commercial activities connected directly or indirectly with those objects, including mining and research activities and the creation, acquisition, holding, exploitation and sale of patents, licenses, knowhow and, more generally, intellectual and industrial property rights.

The Company may perform and carry out its corporate purpose either directly or through the creation of companies, the acquisition, holding or acquisition of interests in any companies or partnerships, membership in any associations, consortia and joint ventures.

In general, the Company's corporate purpose comprises the participation, in any form, in companies and partnerships, and the acquisition by purchase, subscription or in any other manner as well as the transfer by sale, exchange or in any other manner of shares, bonds, debt securities, warrants and other securities and instruments of any kind.

The Company may grant assistance of any kind (including financial assistance) to any affiliated company and take any measure for the control and supervision of such companies.

In general, it may carry out any commercial, financial or industrial activity, operation or transaction which it considers to be directly or indirectly necessary or useful in order to achieve or further its corporate purpose."

Form and Transfer of Shares

The Company's issued share capital consists of 78,049,730 ordinary shares that each carry the right to one vote. The ordinary shares are issued in registered form only and are freely transferable. Luxembourg law does not impose any limitations on the rights of Luxembourg or non-Luxembourg residents to hold or vote the Company's ordinary shares.

Under Luxembourg law, the ownership of registered shares is evidenced by the inscription of the name of the shareholder, the number of shares and the amount paid up on each share in the Shareholders' Register, which is kept by the Company at its corporate headquarters. Each transfer of shares is made by a

written declaration of transfer recorded in the Shareholders' Register, such declaration to be dated and signed by the transferor and the transferee or by their duly appointed agent. The Company may accept and enter into the Shareholders' Register any transfer made on the basis of an agreement between the transferor and the transferee provided a true and complete copy of the agreement is provided to the Company. The Company uses the services of BNP Paribas Securities Services to assist it with certain administrative tasks relating to the day-to-day management of the Shareholders' Register.

The Articles of Association provide that its ordinary shares may be held through a securities settlement system or a professional depository of securities. Shares held in this manner have the same rights and obligations as the registered shares. Shares held through a securities settlement system or a professional depository of securities may be transferred in accordance with customary procedures for the transfer of securities in book-entry form.

The shares may consist of:

- European Shares, which are registered in the European Register kept by the Company, in relation to which BNP Paribas Securities Services provides certain administrative services; or
- New York Registry Shares, which are registered in the New York Register kept on the Company's behalf by Citibank.

The law of April 6, 2013 concerning dematerialized securities allows Luxembourg issuers to opt for the full dematerialization of shares. If Aperam was to opt for full dematerialization in the future, shareholders would be required to hold their shares in a securities account at a bank or other financial intermediary, which would in turn hold the shares via an account with a securities depository such as Clearstream or Euroclear. Dematerialized securities would be solely represented by account entries with the securities depository and would therefore exist only in electronic form. If Aperam was to opt for the full dematerialization of its shares, it would no longer be possible for shareholders to hold shares through a direct, nominative registration in the Company's register of shareholders as is currently the case.

Issuance of Shares

The issuance of shares by Aperam requires either an amendment of the Articles of Association approved by an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders (EGM) or a decision of the Board of Directors that is within the limits of the authorized share capital set out in the Articles of Association. In the latter case, the Board of Directors may determine the conditions for the issuance of shares, including the consideration (cash or in kind) payable for such shares.

The EGM may not validly deliberate unless at least half of the share capital is present or represented upon the first call. If the quorum is not met, the meeting may be reconvened as described in "General Meetings of Shareholders" below. The second meeting will be held regardless of the proportion of share capital represented. At both meetings, resolutions, in order to be adopted, must be carried by at least two-thirds of the votes cast.

The Articles of Association authorize the Board of Directors, during a period ending on the fifth (5th) anniversary of the date of publication in the Luxembourg legal gazette of the articles of association, without prejudice to any renewals, to increase the issued share capital on one or more occasions up to the maximum amount of the authorized share capital in connection with the issue and the exercise of subordinated or non-subordinated bonds, notes or debentures, convertible into, or repayable by or exchangeable for, shares, or following the issue of bonds, notes or debentures with warrants or other rights to subscribe for shares attached, or through the issue of standalone warrants or any other instrument carrying an entitlement to, or the right to subscribe for, shares.

The Board of Directors has the power to determine the conditions for all share issues within the limits of the authorized share capital, including the payment in cash or in kind for such shares.

The Board of Directors will propose to the shareholders at the next general meeting on May 8, 2014 (i) to approve an increase of the Company's authorised shares by 10,362,482 ordinary shares without nominal value (which is 23.3% above the currently issued share capital, but corresponds to 10% of the Minimum Requirement and will therefore allow the Company to revert to a historical level of flexibility¹), so that the Company's authorised share capital shall will be represented by 96,216,785 ordinary shares without nominal value ; (ii) to renew, from the date of the general meeting until five years after the publication of the minutes of the general meeting in the Luxembourg official gazette (*Mémorial C*), the authority of the Board of Directors

to issue additional ordinary shares in the Company within the limit of the new authorised share capital; (iii) to authorise the Board of Directors to limit or suppress the preferential subscription right of existing shareholders in this regard, and (iv) to amend the articles of association accordingly.

Notes:

¹ The 10% flexibility for the Board of the Directors to issue shares has been taken over from ArcelorMittal's practice at the creation of Aperam and is as a consequence in line with the Company's historical level of flexibility.

The need of additional authorised share capital is described in greater detail under "Item 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations —Convertible bonds".

Pre-emptive Rights

Unless limited or cancelled by the Board of Directors as described below, holders of the Company's ordinary shares have a pro rata pre-emptive right to subscribe for newly issued shares, except for shares issued for consideration other than cash (i.e., in kind).

The Articles of Association provide that pre-emptive rights may be limited or cancelled by the Board of Directors in the event of an increase of the issued share capital decided by the Board of Directors within the limits of the authorized share capital.

Repurchase of Shares

The Company is prohibited by Luxembourg law from subscribing for its own shares.

The Company may, however, repurchase its ordinary shares or have another person repurchase its ordinary shares on its behalf, subject to the following conditions:

- a prior authorization of the general meeting of shareholders, which sets out the terms and conditions of the proposed repurchase, including at a minimum the maximum number of shares to be repurchased, the duration of the period for which the authorization is given (which may not exceed five years) and, in the case of repurchase for consideration, the minimum and maximum consideration per share;
- the repurchase may not reduce the net assets of the Company on a non-combined basis to a level below the aggregate of the issued share capital and the reserves that the Company must maintain pursuant to Luxembourg law or the Articles of Association; and
- only fully paid up shares may be repurchased.

In addition, Luxembourg law allows the Board of Directors to approve the repurchase of the Company's ordinary shares without the prior approval of the general meeting of shareholders if necessary to prevent serious and imminent harm to the Company. In such a case, the next general meeting of shareholders must be informed by the Board of Directors of the reasons for and the purpose of the acquisitions made, the number and nominal values, or in the absence thereof, the accounting value of the shares acquired, the proportion of the issued share capital which they represent and the consideration paid for them.

A general meeting of the Company held on January 21, 2011 adopted a resolution (which became effective upon the effectiveness under Luxembourg law of the spin-off of ArcelorMittal's stainless and specialty steels assets into the Company) whereby the general meeting authorizes the Company to acquire and to own Company shares, including through off-market and over-the-counter transactions, and through derivative financial instruments on any of the stock exchanges on which the Company is listed, for a period of five years or until the date of its renewal by a resolution of the general meeting of shareholders if such renewal date is prior to the expiration the five-year period, provided that (a) the maximum number of own shares the Company may hold at any time directly or indirectly may not exceed 10% of its issued share capital and may not have the effect of reducing the Company's net assets ("actif net") below the amount mentioned in the relevant provisions of the Luxembourg law on commercial companies of 10 August 1915, as amended (Article 72-1), and (b) the purchase price per share to be paid may not represent more than 105% of the trading price of the Company shares on the stock exchanges where the Company is listed, and may also not

be less than one euro cent. For off-market transactions, the maximum purchase price will be 105% of the Company share price on Euronext. The reference price will be deemed to be the average of the final listing prices per share on the relevant stock exchange during 30 consecutive days on which the relevant stock exchange is open for trading preceding the three trading days prior to the date of purchase. The total amount allocated for the Company's share repurchase program may not in any event exceed the amount of the Company's then available equity. The authorization is valid for a period of five years, or until the date of its renewal by a resolution of the general meeting of shareholders if such renewal date is prior to the expiration the five-year period.

Any acquisitions, disposals, exchanges, contributions or transfers of shares by the Company or other companies in the Aperam group must be in accordance with Luxembourg laws transposing Directive 2003/6/EC regarding insider dealing and market manipulation (the "Market Abuse Directive") and EC Regulation 2273/2003 regarding exemptions for buy-back programmes and stabilisation of financial instruments. Such transactions may be carried out by all means, on or off-market, including by a public offer to buy-back shares, or by the use of derivatives or option strategies. The fraction of the capital acquired or transferred in the form of a block of shares may amount to the entire program. Such transactions may be carried out at any time, including during a tender offer period, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Capital Reduction

The Articles of Association provide that the issued share capital of the Company may be reduced subject to the approval of at least two-thirds of the votes cast at an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders where at first call at least 50% of the issued share capital is required to be represented. No quorum is required at a reconvened meeting but the resolution must carry two-thirds of the votes at such reconvened meeting.

General meeting of shareholders

Directive 2007/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of July 11, 2007 on the exercise of certain rights of shareholders in listed companies of July 14, 2007 (the "Shareholders' Rights Directive") was transposed into Luxembourg law effective July 1, 2011.

The Shareholders' Rights Law abolished the blocking period and introduced the record date system into Luxembourg law. As set out in the Articles of Association, the record date applicable to Aperam is the 14th day at midnight before the general meeting date. Only the votes of shareholders who are shareholders of the Company on the record date will be taken into account, regardless of whether they remain shareholders on the general meeting date. Shareholders who intend to participate in the general meeting must notify the Company at the latest on the date indicated in the convening notice of their intention to participate (by proxy or in person).

Ordinary General Meetings of Shareholders – At an ordinary general meeting of shareholders there is no quorum requirement and resolutions are adopted by a simple majority, irrespective of the number of shares represented. Ordinary general meetings deliberate on any matter that does not require the convening of an extraordinary general meeting.

Extraordinary General Meetings of Shareholders – An extraordinary general meeting must be convened to deliberate on the following types of matters:

- an increase or decrease of the authorized or issued share capital,
- a limitation or exclusion of existing shareholders' preemptive rights,
- the acquisition by any person of 25% or more of the issued share capital of Aperam,
- approving a merger or similar transaction such as a spin-off, and
- any transaction or matter requiring an amendment of the Articles of Association.

The extraordinary general meeting must reach a quorum of shares present or represented at the meeting of 50% of the share capital in order to validly deliberate. If this quorum is not reached, the meeting may be reconvened and the second meeting will not be subject to any quorum requirement. In order to be adopted by the extraordinary general meeting (on the first or the second call), any resolution submitted must be approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast except for certain limited matters where the Articles of Association require a higher majority (see "Amendment of the Articles of Association" below). Votes cast do

not include votes attaching to shares with respect to which the shareholder has not taken part in the vote, has abstained or has returned a blank or invalid vote.

Voting and Information Rights

The voting and information rights of Aperam' shareholders have been further expanded since the entry into force of the Shareholders' Rights Law on July 1, 2011.

There are no restrictions on the rights of Luxembourg or non-Luxembourg residents to vote Aperam shares. Each share entitles the shareholder to attend a general meeting of shareholders in person or by proxy, to address the general meeting of shareholders and to vote. Each share entitles the holder to one vote at the general meeting of shareholders. There is no minimum shareholding (beyond owning a single share or representing the owner of a single share) required to be able to attend or vote at a general meeting of shareholders.

The Board of Directors may also decide to allow shareholders to vote by correspondence by means of a form providing for a positive or negative vote or an abstention on each agenda item. The conditions for voting by correspondence are set out in the Articles of Association and in the convening notice.

The Board of Directors may decide to arrange for shareholders to be able to participate in the general meeting by electronic means by way, among others, of (i) real-time transmission to the public of the general meeting, (ii) two-way communication enabling shareholders to address the general meeting from a remote location, or (iii) a mechanism allowing duly identified shareholders to cast their votes before or during the general meeting without the need for them to appoint a proxyholder who would be physically present at the meeting.

A shareholder may act at any general meeting of shareholders by appointing another person (who need not be a shareholder) as his or her attorney by means of a written proxy using the form made available on the website of the Company. The completed and signed proxy must be sent to the Company in accordance with the instructions set out in the convening notice.

General meetings of shareholders are convened by the publication of a notice at least 30 days before the meeting date in a Luxembourg newspaper, in the Luxembourg official legal gazette, the Mémorial, Recueil des Sociétés et Associations, and by way of press release sent to the major news agencies. Ordinary general meetings are not subject to any minimum shareholder participation level. Extraordinary general meetings, however, are subject to a minimum quorum of 50% of the share capital. In the event the 50% quorum is not met upon the first call, the meeting may be reconvened by way of convening notice published in the same manner as the first notice, at least 17 days before the meeting date. No quorum is required upon the second call.

Shareholders whose share ownership is directly registered in the shareholders' register of the Company must receive the convening notice by regular mail, unless they have accepted to receive it through other means (i.e., electronically). In addition, all materials relating to a general meeting of shareholders must be made available on the website of Aperam from the first date of publication of the convening notice.

Based on an amendment voted by the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders on May 8, 2012, the Articles of Association of Aperam provide that the annual general meeting of shareholders is held each year at a date and time set by the Board of Directors during the second or third week of May, between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. Central European Time, in Luxembourg.

Luxembourg law requires the Board of Directors to convene a general meeting of shareholders if shareholders representing in the aggregate 10% of the issued share capital so require in writing with an indication of the requested agenda. In this case, the general meeting of shareholders must be held within one month of the request. If the requested general meeting of shareholders is not so convened, the relevant shareholder or group of shareholders may petition the competent court in Luxembourg to have a court appointee convene the general meeting.

Shareholders representing in the aggregate 5% of the issued share capital may also request that additional items be added to the agenda of a general meeting and may draft alternative resolutions to be submitted to the general meeting regarding existing agenda items. The request must be made in writing and sent either to the electronic address or to the Company's postal address set out in the convening notice.

The Shareholders' Rights Law provides that a company's articles of association may allow shareholders to ask questions prior to the general meeting which will be answered by management during the general meeting's questions and answers session prior to the vote on the agenda items. The Articles of Association of Aperam provide Shareholders may send questions to the Company to be answered during the general shareholders' meeting provided they are received by the Company at the latest on the tenth (10 th) calendar day prior to the date of the meeting.

Election and Removal of Directors. Members of the Board of Directors are elected by simple majority of the represented shareholders at an ordinary general meeting of shareholders. Directors are elected for a period ending on a date determined at the time of their appointment. The directors of Aperam are elected for three-year terms. Any director may be removed with or without cause by a simple majority vote at any general meeting of shareholders.

Aperam's Articles of Association provide that the Significant Shareholder is entitled to nominate a number of candidates for election by the shareholders to the Board of Directors in proportion to its shareholding. The Significant Shareholder has not exercised this right to date.

Amendment of the Articles of Association

Any amendments to the Articles of Association other than those described below must be approved by an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders held in the presence of a Luxembourg notary, followed by the publications required by Luxembourg law.

In order to be adopted, amendments of the Articles of Association of Aperam relating to the size and the requisite minimum number of independent and non-executive directors of the Board of Directors, the composition of the audit and risk management committee, and the nomination rights to the Board of Directors of the Significant Shareholder require a majority of votes representing two-thirds of the voting rights attached to the shares in Aperam. The same majority rule would apply to amendments of the provisions of the Articles of Association that set out the foregoing rule.

Annual Accounts

Each year before submission to the annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders, the Board of Directors approves the parent company accounts for Aperam, the parent company of the Aperam group, consisting of an inventory of its assets and liabilities together with a statement of financial position and a profit and loss account, as well as the consolidated accounts of the Aperam group which are prepared in accordance with IFRS. The Board of Directors also approves the management reports on each of the stand-alone audited accounts and the consolidated accounts, and in respect of each of these sets of accounts a report must be issued by the independent auditors.

The annual accounts, the consolidated annual accounts, the management reports and the auditor's reports will be available on request from the Company and on the Company's website from the date of publication of the convening notice for the annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders. The parent company annual accounts and the consolidated annual accounts, after their approval by the annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders, are filed with the Luxembourg register of trade and companies.

Dividends

Subject to certain limitations set out by Luxembourg law, each ordinary share of the Company is entitled to participate equally in dividends when and if declared by the annual general meeting of shareholders out of funds legally available for such purposes. The Articles of Association provide that the annual general meeting of shareholders may declare a dividend and the Board of Directors may declare interim dividends within the limits set by Luxembourg law.

Declared and unpaid dividends held by the Company for the account of its shareholders do not bear interest. Under Luxembourg law, claims for dividends lapse in favor of the Company five years after the date on which the dividends have been declared.

Neither the Articles of Association nor Luxembourg law contain any restrictions on the payment of dividends specifically applicable to non-Luxembourg resident holders of ordinary shares.

On May 8, 2012 the Board of Directors submitted to a shareholder's vote, at the annual general meeting, a proposal to maintain the quarterly dividend payment at \$0.1875 per share. This proposal was approved by the shareholders. The dividend payments occurred on a quarterly basis for the full year 2012 on March 13, 2012, June 14, 2012, September 10, 2012 and December 10, 2012 taking into account that the first quarterly dividend payment paid on March 13, 2012 was an interim dividend.

On May 8, 2013, the Board of Directors submitted to a shareholder's vote, at the annual general meeting, a proposal to make no dividend payment in 2013 to accelerate the net debt reduction with a target to reach \$650 million by the end of 2014. This proposal was approved by the shareholders.

On February 6, 2014, Aperam announced that the Board of Directors would propose to the shareholders at the next annual general meeting on May 8, 2014 to continue paying no dividend in 2014 in order to support the previously announced net debt reduction programme.

Merger and Division

A merger whereby the Luxembourg company being acquired transfers to an existing or newly incorporated Luxembourg company all of its assets and liabilities in exchange for the issuance to the shareholders of the company being acquired of shares in the acquiring company, and a division whereby a company (the company being divided) transfers all its assets and liabilities to two or more existing or newly incorporated companies in exchange for the issuance of shares in the beneficiary companies to the shareholders of the company being divided or to such company, and certain similar restructurings must be approved by an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of the relevant companies held in the presence of a notary. These transactions require the approval of at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a general meeting of shareholders of each of the companies where at least 50% of the share capital is represented upon first call, with no such quorum being required at a reconvened meeting.

Liquidation

In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of Aperam, the assets remaining after allowing for the payment of all liabilities will be paid out to the shareholders pro rata to their respective shareholdings. The decision to liquidate, dissolve or wind-up requires the approval of at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a general meeting of shareholders where at first call at least 50% of the share capital is represented, with no quorum being required at a reconvened meeting. Irrespective of whether the liquidation is subject to a vote at the first or a subsequent extraordinary general meeting of shareholders, it requires the approval of at least two-thirds of the votes cast at the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders.

Mandatory Bids, Squeeze-out Rights and Sell-out Rights

Mandatory Bids

The Luxembourg law of May 19, 2006 implementing Directive 2004/25/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of April 21, 2004 on takeover bids (the “**Luxembourg Takeover Law**”) provides that if a person, acting alone or in concert, acquires securities of the Company which, when added to any existing holdings of the Company’s securities, give such person voting rights representing 33 1/3% of all of the voting rights attached to the issued shares in the Company, this person is obliged to make an offer for the remaining shares in the Company. In a mandatory bid situation the “fair price” is considered to be the highest price paid for the securities during the 12-month period preceding the mandatory bid.

The Articles of Association provide that any person who acquires shares in the Company giving such person 25% or more of the total voting rights of the Company must make or cause to be made in each country where the Company’s securities are admitted to trading on a regulated or other market and in each of the countries in which the Company has made a public offering of its shares, an unconditional public offer to acquire to all shareholders for all of their shares and also to all holders of securities giving access to capital or linked to capital or whose rights are dependent on the profits of the Company. The price offered in such public offerings must be fair and equitable and must be based on a report drawn up by a leading international financial institution or other internationally recognized expert.

Squeeze-out Rights

The Luxembourg Takeover Law provides that, when an offer (mandatory or voluntary) is made to all of the holders of voting securities of the Company and after such offer the offeror holds 95% of the securities carrying voting rights and 95% of the voting rights, the offeror may require the holders of the remaining securities to sell those securities (of the same class) to the offeror. The price offered for such securities must be a “fair price”. The price offered in a voluntary offer would be considered a “fair price” in the squeeze-out proceedings if 90% of the ordinary shares of the Company carrying voting rights were acquired in such voluntary offer. The price paid in a mandatory offer is deemed a “fair price”. The consideration paid in the squeeze-out proceedings must take the same form as the consideration offered in the offer or consist solely of cash. Moreover, an all-cash option must be offered to the remaining shareholders of the Company. Finally, the right to initiate squeeze-out proceedings must be exercised within three months following the expiration of the offer.

Sell-out Rights

The Luxembourg Takeover Law provides that, when an offer (mandatory or voluntary) is made to all of the holders of voting securities of the Company and if after such offer the offeror holds 90% of the securities carrying voting rights and 90% of the voting rights, the remaining security holders may require that the offeror purchase the remaining securities of the same class. The price offered in a voluntary offer would be considered “fair” in the sell-out proceedings if 90% of the ordinary shares of the Company carrying voting rights were acquired in such voluntary offer. The price paid in a mandatory offer is deemed a “fair price”. The consideration paid in the sell-out proceedings must take the same form as the consideration offered in the offer or consist solely of cash. Moreover, an all-cash option must be offered to the remaining shareholders of the Company. Finally, the right to initiate sell-out proceedings must be exercised within three months following the expiration of the offer.

Disclosure of Significant Ownership in the Company’s Shares

Holders of the Company’s ordinary shares and derivatives or other financial instruments linked to the Company’s ordinary shares may be subject to notification obligations pursuant to the Luxembourg law of January 11, 2008 on transparency requirements regarding information about issuers whose securities are admitted to trading on a regulated market (the “**Luxembourg Transparency Law**”). The following description summarizes these obligations. The Company’s shareholders are advised to consult with their own legal advisers to determine whether the notification obligations apply to them.

The Luxembourg Transparency Law provides that, if a person acquires or disposes of a shareholding in the Company, and if following the acquisition or disposal the proportion of voting rights held by the person reaches, exceeds or falls below one of the thresholds of 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 33 1/3%, 50% or 66 2/3% of the total voting rights existing when the situation giving rise to a declaration occurs, such person must simultaneously notify the Company and the CSSF of the proportion of voting rights held by it further to such event.

A person must also notify the Company of the proportion of his or her voting rights if that proportion reaches, exceeds or falls below the abovementioned thresholds as a result of events changing the breakdown of voting rights.

The Articles of Association provide that the above disclosure obligations also apply:

- to any acquisition or disposal of shares resulting in the threshold of 2.5% of voting rights in the Company being crossed upwards or downwards;
- to any acquisition or disposal of shares resulting in the threshold of 3.0% of voting rights in the Company being crossed upwards or downwards; and
- over and above 3.0% of voting rights in the Company, to any acquisition or disposal of shares resulting in successive thresholds of 1% of voting rights in the Company being crossed upwards or downwards.

Any person who acquires shares giving him or her 5% or more or a multiple of 5% or more of the voting rights in the Company must inform the Company within 10 Luxembourg Stock Exchange trading days following the date on which the threshold was crossed by registered letter with return receipt requested as to whether he or she intends to acquire or dispose of shares in the Company within the next 12 months or intends to seek to obtain control over the Company or to appoint a member to the Company's Board of Directors.

For the purposes of calculating the percentage of a shareholder's voting rights in the Company, the following will be taken into account:

- voting rights held by a third party with whom that person or entity has concluded an agreement and which obliges them to adopt, by concerted exercise of the voting rights they hold, a lasting common policy towards the Company;
- voting rights held by a third-party under an agreement concluded with that person or entity providing for the temporary transfer for consideration of the voting rights in question;
- voting rights attaching to shares pledged as collateral with that person or entity, provided the person or entity controls the voting rights and declares its intention to exercise them;
- voting rights attaching to shares in which a person or entity holds an interest for the duration of the life of such person or entity;
- voting rights which are held or may be exercised within the meaning of the four foregoing points by an undertaking controlled by that person or entity;
- voting rights attaching to shares deposited with that person or entity which the person or entity may exercise at its discretion in the absence of specific instructions from the shareholders;
- voting rights held by a third-party in its own name on behalf of that person or entity; and
- voting rights which that person or entity may exercise as a proxy where the person or entity may exercise the voting rights in its sole discretion.

Disclosure of Insider Transactions

Members of the Board of Directors and the Management Committee and other executives fulfilling senior management responsibilities ("Persons Discharging Senior Managerial Responsibilities", as defined below) within the Company and persons closely associated with them must disclose to the CSSF and to the Company all transactions relating to shares of the Company or derivatives or other financial instruments linked to shares of the Company conducted by them or for their account.

"Persons Discharging Senior Managerial Responsibilities" within the Company are the members of the Board of Directors and the Management Committee and executives who, while occupying a high level management position, are not members of the above corporate bodies, but who have regular access to non-public material information relating, directly or indirectly, to the Company and have the authority to make management decisions about the future development of the Company and its business strategy.

Information on trading in the Company's ordinary shares by "Persons Discharging Senior Managerial Responsibilities" are available on the Company's website: www.aperam.com, About, Investors & Shareholders, Corporate Governance. The Company's Insider Dealing Regulations can be found on the following website: www.aperam.com, About, Investors & Shareholders, Corporate Governance.

Disclosure to the public of “regulated information” (within the meaning of the Luxembourg Transparency Law) concerning the Company will be made by the Company by publishing the information via the centralized document storage system managed by the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. This information is accessible on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's website, www.bourse.lu in addition to the Company's website: www.aperam.com, About, Investors & Shareholders, Corporate Governance.

Limitation of Directors' Liability/Indemnification of Officers and Directors

The Articles of Association provide that the Company will, to the extent permitted by law, indemnify every member of the Board of Directors and the Management Committee as well as every former member of the Board of Directors or the Management Committee for fees, costs and expenses reasonably incurred in the defense or resolution (including a settlement) of any legal actions or proceedings, whether civil, criminal or administrative, he or she has been involved in his or her role as former or current member of the Board of Directors or the Management Committee.

The right to indemnification does not exist in the case of gross negligence, fraud, fraudulent inducement, dishonesty or for a criminal offense, or if it is ultimately determined that the member of the Board of Directors or the Management Committee has not acted honestly, in good faith and with the reasonable belief that he or she was acting in the best interests of the Company.

C. Material Contracts

The following are material contracts not entered into in the ordinary course of business that were entered into, novated or amended by the Company during the past two years:

Please refer to “Item 3. - Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Related Party Transactions” for details about the offering of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds in September 2013 and Share Lending Agreement in connection therewith, the agreements with ArcelorMittal in connection with the spin-off from ArcelorMittal and the historical financing arrangements with ArcelorMittal.

D. Exchange Controls

There are no other legal provisions currently in force in Luxembourg or arising under the Articles of Association that restrict the payment of dividends to holders of the Company's ordinary shares not resident in Luxembourg, except for regulations restricting the remittance of dividends and other payments in compliance with United Nations and European Union sanctions. There are no limitations, either under the laws of Luxembourg or in the Articles of Association, on the right of non Luxembourg nationals to hold or vote the Company's ordinary shares.

E. Taxation

THE BELOW TAX SUMMARIES ARE NOT INTENDED TO BE, NOR SHOULD IT BE CONSTRUED AS BEING LEGAL OR TAX ADVICE. SHAREHOLDERS OR PROSPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS ARE THEREFORE STRONGLY ADVISED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISERS REGARDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE RECEIPT, ANY PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP OR DISPOSAL OF THE SHARES. THE SPECIFIC TAX SITUATION OF EACH SHAREHOLDER CAN ONLY BE ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED BY INDIVIDUAL TAX ADVICE.

Material Luxembourg Tax Considerations

This section describes the material Luxembourg tax implications for investors in respect of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Company's ordinary shares.

This summary does not cover all aspects of Luxembourg taxation which may be relevant to, or the actual tax effect that any of the matters described herein will have on, a decision by particular investors to purchase, own or dispose of the Company's ordinary shares. This summary does not address foreign tax laws. It is based on the laws in force in Luxembourg as at the date of this financial report and subject to any change in law that might take effect after such date. Investors should be aware that the residence concept

used under the respective headings applies for Luxembourg income tax assessment purposes only. Any reference in the present section to a tax, duty, levy or other charge or withholding of a similar nature refers to Luxembourg tax law and/or concepts only. Moreover, a reference to Luxembourg income tax encompasses corporate income tax (*impôt sur le revenu des collectivités*), municipal business tax (*impôt commercial communal*), a solidarity surcharge (*contribution au fonds pour l'emploi*), as well as personal income tax (*impôt sur le revenu*) generally. Corporate shareholders may further be subject to net wealth tax (*impôt sur la fortune*) as well as other duties, levies or taxes. Corporate income tax, municipal business tax as well as the solidarity surcharge invariably apply to most corporate taxpayers resident of Luxembourg for tax purposes. Individual taxpayers are generally subject to personal income tax and the solidarity surcharge. Under certain circumstances, where an individual taxpayer acts in the course of a professional or business undertaking, municipal business tax may apply as well.

Luxembourg Tax Consequences of the Holding of the Ordinary Shares

Tax Residence

A holder of ordinary shares will not become resident, or be deemed to be resident, in Luxembourg by reason only of the holding of the ordinary shares, or the execution, performance, delivery and/or enforcement of the ordinary shares.

Withholding Tax

Under current Luxembourg tax law, dividends distributed by the Company to its shareholders will be subject to a 15% withholding tax computed on the gross amount of the dividends distributed.

This rate could be reduced pursuant to double taxation treaties concluded between Luxembourg and the country of residence of the non-resident shareholders. Withholding tax is usually reduced by refunding to the shareholder the excess of the total amount withheld over the withholding tax actually owed under the pertinent double taxation treaty upon the shareholder's application for a refund to the Luxembourg tax authorities (Administration des Contributions Directes, Division 5 – Relations Internationales, 45, boulevard Roosevelt, L-2982 Luxembourg). Forms for the refund request can be obtained from the Luxembourg tax authorities.

No withholding tax is levied if (A) the dividends are paid (i) to a joint-stock company which is a fully taxable Luxembourg resident company, (ii) to a company resident in a Member State of the European Union as defined in article 2 of the EU Directive 90/435/EEC of 23 July 1990 as amended or to its permanent establishment located in Luxembourg, (iii) to a company resident in a country with which Luxembourg has concluded a double taxation treaty and which is fully liable to a tax corresponding to Luxembourg corporate income tax or its permanent establishment located in Luxembourg, (iv) to a Swiss joint-stock company subject to the Swiss income tax without any exemption, (v) to a joint-stock company or a cooperative company resident in a Member State of the European Economic Area ("EEA") and which is fully liable to a tax corresponding to Luxembourg corporate income tax, or to its permanent establishment located in Luxembourg, and (B) provided that, at the date of the payment, the shareholder holds or commits to hold, directly or through a tax transparent vehicle, during an uninterrupted period of at least 12 months, a participation of at least 10% in the share capital of the Company or a participation with an acquisition price of at least EUR 1.2 million.

No Luxembourg withholding tax will be levied on liquidation proceeds distributed by the Company without any conditions. The redemption by the Company of all the ordinary shares belonging to one shareholder or of all the ordinary shares belonging to the same class of ordinary shares, followed by the cancellation of such ordinary shares, may be treated as a partial liquidation for Luxembourg tax purposes and will consequently not be subject to Luxembourg withholding tax.

Income Tax

Taxation of Dividends

(i) Luxembourg non-resident holders of ordinary shares

Dividends received by non-resident individuals or non-resident companies which do not have a permanent establishment in Luxembourg are not subject to any tax in Luxembourg, apart from the dividend withholding tax, if applicable.

(ii) Luxembourg resident holders of ordinary shares

According to the Luxembourg participation exemption regime, dividends and liquidation proceeds received from the Company by (i) a joint-stock company which is a fully taxable Luxembourg resident company, (ii) a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg of a company resident in a Member State of the European Union as defined in article 2 of the EU Directive 90/435/EEC of 23 July 1990 as amended, (iii) a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg of a company resident in a country which has concluded a double taxation treaty with Luxembourg, or (iv) a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg of a joint-stock company or of a cooperative company resident in a Member State of the EEA, will be exempt from income tax in Luxembourg provided that, at the date of the distribution, the shareholder holds or commits to hold, directly or through a tax transparent vehicle, during an uninterrupted period of at least 12 months, a participation of at least 10% in the share capital of the Company or a participation with an acquisition price of at least EUR 1.2 million. Ordinary shares held through a tax transparent entity are considered as a direct participation proportionally to the percentage held in the net assets of the transparent entity.

Dividends received from the Company by a Luxembourg resident company, or by a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg, which do not fall within the scope of the Luxembourg participation exemption regime, will be subject to Luxembourg corporate income tax (including the solidarity surcharge and the municipal business tax) at the ordinary rate. Dividends received by a Luxembourg resident individual shareholder will be subject to Luxembourg income tax (including the solidarity surcharge) at the ordinary progressive rate. Half of the dividends received from the Company will, however, be excluded from the taxable basis of the Luxembourg resident (individual or corporate) shareholder.

Upon their income tax assessment, resident shareholders and non-resident shareholders holding the ordinary shares via a permanent establishment (including a permanent representative) or fixed base in Luxembourg, may credit the dividend withholding tax against their final income tax liability.

(iii) Luxembourg companies benefitting from a special tax regime

Luxembourg companies, which benefit from a special tax regime under (i) the laws of 17 December 2010, as amended, on undertakings for collective investment, (ii) the law of 13 February 2007, as amended, on specialised investment funds or (iii) the law of 11 May 2007, as amended, on family estate management companies, are not subject to tax on dividends received from the Company.

Taxation of Capital Gains

(i) Luxembourg non-resident holders of Ordinary Shares

No Luxembourg income tax will be payable as a result of a disposal of the ordinary shares by a non-resident (individual or corporate) shareholder, unless the participation directly or indirectly held by the shareholder, together with his/her close relatives, represents more than 10% of the share capital of the Company, and the relevant shareholder (i) was a Luxembourg resident taxpayer for more than 15 years and has become a non-resident taxpayer less than 5 years before the sale of the ordinary shares, or (ii) has held the ordinary shares for less than 6 months at the time of the sale. These conditions could be relaxed by double taxation treaties concluded between Luxembourg and the country of residence of the shareholders.

(ii) Luxembourg resident holders of Ordinary Shares

Capital gains realized on the disposal of ordinary shares (including their sale, exchange, contribution or any other kind of alienation) by resident individuals acting in the course of their private wealth are not subject to income tax, unless said capital gains qualify either as speculative gains or as gains on a substantial participation.

Capital gains are deemed to be speculative and are subject to income tax at ordinary rates if the ordinary shares are disposed of within 6 months of their acquisition or if the disposal precedes the acquisition of the ordinary shares.

A participation is considered substantial where a resident individual has held, alone or together with his/her close relatives, directly or indirectly, at any time within the 5 years preceding the disposal, more than 10% of the share capital of the Company. A shareholder is also deemed to alienate a substantial participation if, within the 5 years preceding the transfer, he acquired, free of charge, a participation constituting a substantial participation in the hands of the alienator (or the alienators in case of several successive transfers free of charge within the same 5-year period). Capital gains realized on a substantial participation more than 6 months after the acquisition are subject to income tax according to the half-global rate method (i.e. the average rate applicable to the total income is calculated according to progressive income tax rates and half of the average rate is applied to the capital gains realized on the substantial participation).

Capital gains realized on the disposal of ordinary shares by resident individual shareholders, acting in the course of their professional/business activity, are subject to income tax at ordinary rates.

Capital gains realized upon the disposal of the ordinary shares by a Luxembourg resident company, or by a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg, will be fully subject to corporate income tax (including the solidarity surcharge and the municipal business tax) in Luxembourg, except if the Luxembourg participation regime is applicable.

According to the Luxembourg participation exemption regime, capital gains realized upon the disposal of ordinary shares by (i) a joint-stock company which is a fully taxable Luxembourg resident company, or (ii) a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg of a company resident in a Member State of the European Union as defined in article 2 of the EU Directive 90/435/EEC of 23 July 1990 as amended, or (iii) a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg of a company resident in a country which has concluded a double taxation treaty with Luxembourg, or (iv) a permanent establishment located in Luxembourg of a joint-stock company or of a cooperative company resident in a Member State of the EEA, will be exempt from income tax in Luxembourg provided that, at the date of the distribution, the shareholder holds or commits to hold, directly or through a tax transparent vehicle, during an uninterrupted period of at least 12 months, a participation of at least 10% in the share capital of the Company or a participation with an acquisition price of at least EUR 6 million. ordinary shares held through a tax transparent entity are considered as being a direct participation proportionally to the percentage held in the net assets of the transparent entity.

Taxable gains are determined as being the difference between the price for which the ordinary shares have been disposed of and the lower of their cost or book value.

(iii) Luxembourg companies benefitting from a special tax regime

Luxembourg companies, which benefit from a special tax regime under (i) the law of 17 December 2010, as amended, on undertakings for collective investment, (ii) the law of 13 February 2007, as amended, on specialised investment funds or (iii) the law of 11 May 2007, as amended, on family estate management companies, are not subject to tax on capital gains realized on the disposal of ordinary shares.

Net Wealth Tax

Luxembourg resident companies, which do not benefit from a special tax regime under (i) the law of 17 December 2010 on undertakings for collective investment, (ii) the law of 13 February 2007, as amended, on specialised investment funds, (iii) the law of 22 March 2004, as amended, on securitization, (iv) the law of 15 June 2004, as amended, on venture capital vehicles, or (v) the law of 11 May 2007, as amended, on family estate management companies, are subject to net wealth tax on their net assets. However, ordinary shares held by fully taxable Luxembourg resident companies will be excluded from their taxable basis for net wealth tax purposes, provided the conditions of the participation exemption regime (which are the same as for dividends, except that the twelve months holding period is not required) are met.

Non-resident companies will be subject to net wealth tax on their assets which are attributable to an enterprise or part thereof which is carried on in Luxembourg through a permanent establishment, except as otherwise provided for by a tax treaty concluded by Luxembourg and the country of residence of the non-resident company.

Other Taxes

No Luxembourg registration tax, stamp duty or any other similar tax or duty will be due by the shareholders as a consequence of the issuance of the ordinary shares, nor will any of these taxes become payable as a consequence of a subsequent transfer, exchange or redemption of the ordinary shares, unless the documents relating to the ordinary shares are voluntarily registered in Luxembourg.

There is no Luxembourg value added tax payable in respect of payments in consideration for the issuance of the ordinary shares or in respect of the payment of dividends or principal under the ordinary shares or the transfer of the ordinary shares.

No Luxembourg estate or inheritance taxes are levied on the transfer of the ordinary shares upon the death of a shareholder in cases where the deceased was not a resident of Luxembourg for inheritance tax purposes. No Luxembourg gift tax is levied on the transfer of the ordinary shares by way of a gift, unless the gift is recorded in a Luxembourg notarized deed or otherwise registered in Luxembourg.

Certain Dutch Income Tax Considerations

The following summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all Dutch tax considerations.

This summary is intended as general information only. This summary is based on Dutch tax legislation and published case law in force as of the date of this document. It does not take into account any developments or amendments thereof after that date, whether or not such developments or amendments have retroactive effect.

For the purposes of this section, “the Netherlands” and “Dutch” shall refer to that part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands that is in Europe. Regardless of whether or not a holder of Aperam shares (“Shares”) is, or is treated as being, a resident of the Netherlands, with the exception of the section on withholding tax below, this summary does not address the Dutch tax consequences for such a holder:

- having a substantial interest (*aanmerkelijk belang*) in the Company (such a substantial interest is generally present if an equity stake of at least 5% in a company, or a right to acquire such a stake in a company, is held, in each case by reference to the company’s total issued share capital, or the issued capital of a certain class of shares);
- who is a private individual and may be taxed for the purposes of Dutch income tax (*inkomstenbelasting*) as an entrepreneur (*ondernemer*) having an enterprise (*onderneming*) to which the Shares are attributable, or who may otherwise be taxed with respect to benefits derived from the Shares being treated as income derived from work and home (*werk en woning*);
- which is a corporate entity, and for the purposes of Dutch corporate income tax (*vennootschapsbelasting*) has, or is deemed to have, a participation (*deelname*) in the Company (such a participation in a company is generally present in the case of an interest of at least 5% of a company’s nominal paid-in capital);
- which is a corporate entity and an exempt investment institution (*vrijgestelde beleggingsinstelling*) or investment institution (*beleggingsinstelling*) for the purposes of Dutch corporate income tax, a pension fund, or otherwise not a taxpayer or exempt for tax purposes;
- which is a corporate entity and a resident of Aruba, Curaçao or Sint Maarten; or
- which is not considered the beneficial owner (*uiteindelijk gerechtigde*) of the Shares and/or the benefits derived from the Shares.

This summary does not describe the Dutch tax consequences for a person to whom the Shares are attributed on the basis of the separated private assets provisions (*afgezonderd particulier vermogen*) in the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001 (*Wet inkomstenbelasting 2001*) and/or the Netherlands Gift and Inheritance Tax Act 1956 (*Successiewet 1956*).

Dutch tax regime of the holding and disposal of Shares

Dividend tax

The Company is not required to withhold Dutch dividend tax in respect of distributions made on the Shares.

Income tax

Resident holders: A holder who is a private individual and a resident, or treated as being a resident of the Netherlands for the purposes of Dutch income tax, must record the Shares as assets that are held in box 3. Taxable income with regard to the Shares is then determined on the basis of a deemed return on income from savings and investments (*sparen en beleggen*), rather than on the basis of income actually received or gains actually realised. This deemed return is fixed at a rate of 4% of the holder’s yield basis (*rendementsgrondslag*) at the beginning of the calendar year, insofar as the yield basis exceeds a certain threshold (*heffingvrij vermogen*). Such yield basis is determined as the fair market value of certain qualifying assets held by the holder of the Shares, less the fair market value of certain qualifying liabilities at the

beginning of the calendar year. The fair market value of the Shares will be included as an asset in the holder's yield basis. The deemed return on income from savings and investments is taxed at a rate of 30%.

Luxembourg dividend tax which is withheld with respect to proceeds from the Shares will generally be creditable for Dutch income tax purposes.

Non-resident holders: A holder who is a private individual and neither a resident, nor treated as being a resident of the Netherlands for the purposes of Dutch income tax, will not be subject to such tax in respect of benefits derived from the Shares unless such holder is entitled to a share in the profits of an enterprise or a co-entitlement to the net worth of an enterprise which is effectively managed in the Netherlands, to which enterprise the Shares are attributable.

Corporate income tax

Resident holders: A holder which is a corporate entity and for the purposes of Dutch corporate income tax a resident (or treated as being a resident) of the Netherlands is taxed in respect of benefits derived from the Shares at rates of up to 25%.

Luxembourg dividend tax which is withheld with respect to proceeds from the Shares will generally be creditable for Dutch corporate income tax purposes.

Non-resident holders: A holder which is a corporate entity and for the purposes of Dutch corporate income tax neither a resident, nor is treated as being a resident, of the Netherlands will not be subject to corporate income tax, unless such holder has an interest in an enterprise that is, in whole or in part, carried on through a permanent establishment or a permanent representative in the Netherlands, a Netherlands Enterprise (*Nederlandse onderneming*), to which Netherlands Enterprise the Shares are attributable, or such holder is (other than by way of securities) entitled to a share in the profits of an enterprise or a co-entitlement to the net worth of an enterprise, which is effectively managed in the Netherlands and to which enterprise the Shares are attributable. Such holder is taxed in respect of benefits derived from the Shares at rates of up to 25%.

Gift and inheritance tax

Resident holders: Dutch gift tax or inheritance tax (*schenk- of erfbelasting*) will arise in respect of an acquisition (or deemed acquisition) of Shares by way of a gift by, or on the death of, a holder of Shares who is a resident, or treated as being a resident, of the Netherlands for the purposes of Dutch gift and inheritance tax.

Non-resident holders: No Dutch gift tax or inheritance tax will arise in respect of an acquisition (or deemed acquisition) of Shares by way of a gift by, or on the death of, a holder of Shares who is neither a resident, nor treated as being a resident, of the Netherlands for the purposes of Dutch gift and inheritance tax.

Other taxes

No Dutch registration tax, capital tax, transfer tax or stamp duty (nor any other similar tax or duty) will be payable in connection with the holding or disposal of the Shares.

Certain French Income Tax Considerations

The following is a summary of certain material French tax consequences that are likely to be relevant to French resident investors in respect of their investment in the Company's shares.

This summary is of general nature only and does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the French material tax considerations which may be relevant to the receipt of the Company's shares, nor to the decision to purchase, hold or dispose of the Company's shares. It is based on the laws, regulations, practice and applicable tax treaties in force in France as at the date of this financial report, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. More particularly, the following summary takes into account the tax measures included in several Finance Acts enacted in 2013.

This summary does not take into account the specific circumstances of particular investors some of which may be subject to special tax rules. French holders of Company's shares should consult their own tax advisors as to the particular French tax consequences of the receipt of the Company's shares and/or of the holding or disposal of the Company's shares.

As used herein, a "**French individual**" is an individual who is a resident of France for tax purposes, is subject to personal income tax (*impôt sur le revenu*) and owns the Company's shares as private assets

(otherwise than through a fixed base outside France) and a “**French legal entity**” is a legal entity which is a French tax resident subject to corporate income tax (*impôt sur les sociétés*) which does not own its interests in the Company through a permanent establishment outside France, and which does not hold an interest in the Company that would qualify as participation shares (*titres de participation*) or other interest representing more than 5% of the Company’s share capital and benefit from a taxation at a reduced rate. “**French holders**” shall mean all these holders collectively.

French tax regime of the holding and disposal of Company’s shares

Taxation of dividends

Pursuant to Article 19-3-b of the tax treaty dated April 1, 1958 between France and Luxembourg (the “**Treaty**”), France grants a tax credit for the withholding tax levied in Luxembourg on dividends. The amount of such tax credit is equal to the withholding tax as reduced by the Treaty that is, generally, 15/85 of the net amount of the dividends, capped at the amount of the French tax due with respect to such dividends.

French individuals

Dividends received by French individuals are generally included in their taxable income of the relevant tax year. Dividends are subject to personal income tax at the progressive scale (up to a marginal rate of 45%), plus the exceptional contribution on high income taxpayers (up to 4%) and 15.5% social related contributions (of which a portion representing 5.1% of the gain is tax-deductible – see further details below).

If the conditions set out in Article 158-3-2° of the *Code général des impôts* are satisfied with respect to such dividends, an allowance of 40% (the “**40% Allowance**”) is first applied to the gross amount of the dividends, including the attached tax credit determined for the Luxembourg withholding tax when computing the income subject to personal income tax.

A taxation at a 21% flat-rate tax is besides applied on dividends. Such 21% flat-rate tax is applied on the gross amount of dividends received and constitutes an instalment on the personal income tax due for the year during which the 21% flat-rate tax is applied. If the amount paid under the 21% flat-rate tax exceeds the amount of income tax due, the difference will be reimbursed. It does however not apply to shares held in a Share Savings Plan (*plan d’épargne en actions – PEA*).

Individuals belonging to a tax domicile (*domicile fiscal*) with a tax revenue of reference for the penultimate year that did not exceed €50,000 (taxpayers who are single or widowed) or €75,000 (taxpayers subject to joint taxation) may be exempted of such 21% flat-rate tax provided that they comply with some disclosure requirements set out in Article 242 *quater* of the *Code general des impôts*.

If dividends are paid by a French paying agent, the French paying agent will report and pay on behalf of the French taxpayer the 21% flat-rate tax to the French tax authorities, within the first fifteen days of the month following the month of payment of the dividends.

If dividends are paid by a foreign paying agent, the 21% tax is either (i) paid to the French tax authorities by the French taxpayer within the first fifteen days of the month following the month of payment or (ii) if the paying agent is established in a country within the EEA, and upon written authorization from the French taxpayer, withheld at the time of payment by the paying agent who will report and pay on behalf of the French taxpayer the 21% flat-rate tax to the French tax authorities.

Dividends are further subject to the following social security contributions: the general social contribution (*contribution sociale généralisée – CSG*) at the rate of 8.2% (of which 5.1% is deductible from the aggregate taxable income of the taxpayer of the year of payment of the social related contributions), the social levy (*prélèvement social*) at the rate of 4.5%, the contribution for the repayment of the social debt (*contribution au remboursement de la dette sociale – CRDS*) at the rate of 0.5% and the contributions payable in addition to the social levy at the respective rates of 0.3% and 2%, giving a global rate of 15.5% of social security contributions. These social security contributions are recovered under similar rules as those applicable to the 21% flat-rate tax when the dividend is paid by a French paying agent.

The tax credit granted by France in respect of the Luxembourg withholding tax can be set off against the personal income tax; any excess may neither be refunded nor carried forward.

Specific tax treatment applicable to Company’s shares held in Share Savings Plans (*plan d’épargne en actions – PEA*)

Company’s shares are eligible to be held in a PEA.

Under certain conditions, a PEA confers the right (i) during the duration of the PEA, to an exemption from income tax and social related contributions on the net proceeds and net capital gains resulting from

investments made through a PEA, provided that these proceeds and capital gains are kept in the PEA and (ii) upon closure of the PEA (if it takes place more than five years after the opening of the PEA) or after a partial withdrawal (if it takes place more than eight years after the opening of the PEA), to an income tax exemption on the net gain realised since the opening of the PEA. These proceeds and capital gains remain nevertheless subject to social related contributions (currently at a total rate of 15.5% but the effective rate of such contributions depends on the date when such gain will be realised). Specific rules apply to the use of capital losses realised within a PEA; investors are invited to consult their tax advisor on this issue.

A withdrawal from a PEA in the form of a life annuity is subject to a specific tax regime not described herein.

Individuals owning Company's shares in a PEA will not be able to use the tax credit granted by France in respect of the Luxembourg withholding tax.

French legal entities

Gross dividends (including the Luxembourg withholding tax) received by French legal entities will be subject to corporate income tax at the current standard rate of 33 1/3% (or, as the case may be, at the reduced rate of 15% within the limit of €38,120 of taxable income per twelve-month period for companies that meet the conditions of Article 219 I-b of the *Code général des impôts*, that is, which have a yearly turnover net of tax of less than €7,630,000 and with a fully paid up share capital of which at least 75% is held by individuals or by companies which themselves satisfy the conditions relating to turnover and share capital ownership), increased, as the case may be, by the social related contribution of 3.3% assessed on the corporate income tax due, after deduction of an allowance that may not exceed €763,000 per twelve-month period (Article 235 *ter* ZC of the *Code général des impôts*) and, as the case may be, by the exceptional contribution of 10.7% assessed on the corporate income tax due for financial years closed between 30 December 2011 and 30 December 2015 (Article 235 *ter* ZAA of the *Code général des impôts*). The exceptional contribution rate was recently increased from 5% to 10.7% by the Finance Act for 2014 for financial years closed as from 31 December 2013.

The tax credit granted by France in respect of the Luxembourg withholding tax is in principle offsettable against the corporate income tax; any excess may neither be refunded nor carried forward.

Taxation of capital gains

The capital gains, if any, realised by French holders on the disposal of their Company's shares held may be subject to tax in France but not in Luxembourg in accordance with Article 18 of the tax treaty dated April 1, 1958 between France and Luxembourg.

French individuals

Capital gains realised by French individuals on the sale of Company's shares are subject to personal income tax at the progressive scale (up to a marginal rate of 45%), plus the exceptional contribution on high income taxpayers (up to 4%) and 15.5% social related contributions (of which a portion representing 5.1% of the gain is tax-deductible from the aggregate taxable income of the taxpayer of the year of payment of the social related contributions). Special tax allowances based on duration of ownership: 50% after 2 years of ownership and 65% after 8 years, may apply to the amount of the capital gain for the determination of the personal income tax.

Under Article 150-0 D 11 of the *Code général des impôts*, capital losses incurred during a fiscal year may offset capital gains of the same nature realised over the same year or the ten following years.

Specific tax treatment applicable to Company's shares held in a PEA

See further the paragraph "Taxation of dividends – French individuals".

French legal entities

Capital gains realised upon the transfer of Company's shares will be, in principle, subject to corporate income tax under the same conditions as mentioned in the paragraph "Taxation of dividends – Legal entities".

Capital losses incurred as a result of the transfer of Company's shares will, in principle, be deductible from the taxable income subject to corporate income tax.

Wealth tax

Company's shares held by French individuals among their private assets will have to be included in their taxable estate and subject to, if applicable, French wealth tax (*Impôt de solidarité sur la fortune*).

Inheritance and gift tax

Company's shares acquired by French individuals through inheritance or as a gift will be subject to inheritance tax or gift tax.

Transfer tax

Disposals of Company's shares are as a rule not subject to registration taxes in France, provided that they are not recorded in an agreement entered into in France.

Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH TREASURY DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR 230, HOLDERS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT: (A) ANY DISCUSSION OF FEDERAL TAX ISSUES IN THIS FINANCIAL REPORT IS NOT INTENDED OR WRITTEN TO BE RELIED UPON, AND CANNOT BE RELIED UPON, BY HOLDERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF AVOIDING PENALTIES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED ON HOLDERS UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE; (B) SUCH DISCUSSION IS INCLUDED HEREIN BY THE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROMOTION OR MARKETING (WITHIN THE MEANING OF CIRCULAR 230) BY THE COMPANY OF THE TRANSACTIONS OR MATTERS ADDRESSED HEREIN; AND (C) HOLDERS SHOULD SEEK ADVICE BASED ON THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES FROM AN INDEPENDENT TAX ADVISER.

This summary assumes that U.S. Holders hold the Shares, as capital assets. The summary does not cover all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to, or the actual tax effect that any of the matters described herein will have on, the acquisition, ownership or disposition of Shares by particular investors, and does not address state, local, foreign or other tax laws. This summary also does not address tax considerations applicable to investors that own (directly or indirectly) 10% or more of the voting stock of the Company, nor does this summary discuss all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to certain types of investors subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws (such as financial institutions, insurance companies, investors liable for the alternative minimum tax, individual retirement accounts and other tax-deferred accounts, tax-exempt organizations, dealers in securities or currencies, investors that currently hold the Shares as part of straddles, hedging transactions or conversion transactions for U.S. federal income tax purposes or investors whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar).

As used herein, the term "U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of Shares that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation created or organized under the laws of the United States or any State thereof, (iii) an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax without regard to its source or (iv) a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or the trust has elected to be treated as a domestic trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

The U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner in a partnership that holds Shares will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Prospective purchasers that are partnerships should consult their tax advisers concerning the U.S. federal income tax consequences to their partners of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of Shares by the partnership.

The summary assumes that the Company is not a passive foreign investment company (a "PFIC") for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which the Company believes to be the case. The Company's possible status as a PFIC must be determined annually and therefore may be subject to change. If the Company were to be a PFIC in any year, materially adverse consequences could result for U.S. Holders.

The summary is based on the tax laws of the United States, including the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, and existing and proposed regulations thereunder, published rulings and court decisions, all as of the date hereof and all subject to change at any time, possibly with retroactive effect.

THE SUMMARY OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES SET OUT BELOW IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. ALL PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF COMPANY SHARES SHOULD CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISERS AS TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF OWNING THE SHARES, INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN AND OTHER TAX LAWS AND POSSIBLE CHANGES IN TAX LAW.

Ownership and disposition of Shares

Dividends

General – Distributions paid by the Company out of current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes), before reduction for any Luxembourg withholding tax paid by the Company with respect thereto, will generally be taxable to a U.S. Holder as foreign source dividend income, and will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction allowed to corporations. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of the U.S. Holder's basis in the Shares and thereafter as capital gain. However, the Company does not expect to maintain calculations of its earnings and profits in accordance with U.S. federal income tax accounting principles. U.S. Holders should therefore assume that any distribution by the Company with respect to its Shares will constitute ordinary dividend income. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisers with respect to the appropriate U.S. federal income tax treatment of any distribution received from the Company.

Foreign currency dividends – Dividends paid in euros will be included in income in a U.S. dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the day the dividends are received by the U.S. Holder, regardless of whether the euros are converted into U.S. dollars at that time. If dividends received in euros are converted into U.S. dollars on the day they are received by the U.S. Holder, the U.S. Holder generally will not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income.

Effect of Luxembourg withholding taxes – Under current law payments of dividends by the Company to foreign investors are subject to Luxembourg withholding tax. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, U.S. Holders will be treated as having received the amount of Luxembourg taxes withheld by the Company, and as then having paid over the withheld taxes to the Luxembourg taxing authorities. As a result of this rule, the amount of dividend income included in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes by a U.S. Holder with respect to a payment of dividends may be greater than the amount of cash actually received (or receivable) by the U.S. Holder from the Company with respect to the payment.

A U.S. Holder will generally be entitled, subject to certain limitations, to a credit against its U.S. federal income tax liability, or a deduction in computing its U.S. federal taxable income, for Luxembourg income taxes withheld by the Company. For purposes of the foreign tax credit limitation, foreign source income is classified in one of two "baskets", and the credit for foreign taxes on income in any basket is limited to U.S. federal income tax allocable to that income. Dividends paid by the Company generally will constitute foreign source income in the "passive income" basket. In certain circumstances, a U.S. Holder may be unable to claim foreign tax credits (and may instead be allowed deductions) for foreign taxes imposed on a dividend if the U.S. Holder has not held the Shares for at least 16 days in the 31-day period beginning 15 days before the ex dividend date.

U.S. Holders that are accrual basis taxpayers, and who do not otherwise elect, must translate Luxembourg taxes into U.S. dollars at a rate equal to the average exchange rate for the taxable year in which the taxes accrue, while all U.S. Holders must translate taxable dividend income into U.S. dollars at the spot rate on the date received. This difference in exchange rates may reduce the U.S. dollar value of the credits for Luxembourg taxes relative to the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability attributable to a dividend. However, cash basis and electing accrual basis U.S. Holders may translate Luxembourg taxes into U.S. dollars using the exchange rate in effect on the day the taxes were paid. Any such election by an accrual basis U.S. Holder will apply for the taxable year in which it is made and all subsequent taxable years, unless revoked with the consent of the IRS.

Prospective purchasers should consult their tax advisers concerning the foreign tax credit implications of the payment of Luxembourg taxes.

Sale or other disposition

Upon a sale or other disposition of Shares, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes equal to the difference, if any, between the amount realized on the sale or other disposition and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the Shares. This capital gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period in the Shares exceeds one year. Any gain or loss will generally be U.S. source.

The amount realized on a sale or other disposition of Shares for an amount in euros will be the U.S. dollar value of this amount on the date of sale or disposition. On the settlement date, the U.S. Holder will recognize U.S. source foreign currency gain or loss (taxable as ordinary income or loss) equal to the difference (if any) between the U.S. dollar value of the amount received based on the exchange rates in effect on the date of sale or other disposition and the settlement date. However, in the case of Shares traded on an

established securities market that are sold by a cash basis U.S. Holder (or an accrual basis U.S. Holder that so elects), the amount realized will be based on the exchange rate in effect on the settlement date for the sale, and no exchange gain or loss will be recognised at that time.

Disposition of foreign currency

Foreign currency received on the sale or other disposition of a Share will have a tax basis equal to its U.S. dollar value on the settlement date. Foreign currency that is purchased will generally have a tax basis equal to the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency on the date of purchase. Any gain or loss recognised on a sale or other disposition of a foreign currency (including its use to purchase Shares or upon exchange for U.S. dollars) will be U.S. source ordinary income or loss.

Backup withholding and information reporting

Payments of dividends and other proceeds with respect to Shares by a U.S. paying agent or other U.S. intermediary will be reported to the IRS and to the U.S. Holder as may be required under applicable regulations. Backup withholding may apply to these payments if the U.S. Holder fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number or certification of exempt status or fails to report all interest and dividends required to be shown on its U.S. federal income tax returns. Certain U.S. Holders are not subject to backup withholding. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers as to their qualification for exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining an exemption.

New legislation

Recently enacted legislation imposes new reporting requirements on the holding of certain foreign financial assets, including equity of foreign entities, if the aggregate value of all of these assets exceeds \$50,000. The Shares are expected to constitute foreign financial assets subject to these requirements unless the Shares are held in an account at a domestic financial institution. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of this legislation.

F. Dividends and Paying Agent

The paying agent for European Shares (which are listed on the official list of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, Euronext Amsterdam and Euronext Paris) is BNP Paribas Securities Services.

The paying agent for the New York Registry Shares (which are not listed on any U.S. exchange, but are eligible for trading on the OTC market) is Citibank.

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Aperam
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
(millions of U.S. dollars)

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents.....	291	226	247
Restricted cash.....	1	—	—
Trade accounts receivable (note 3).....	284	330	391
Inventories (note 4).....	1,213	1,227	1,262
Prepaid expenses and other current assets (note 5).....	116	120	133
Income tax receivable.....	13	14	12
Total current assets.....	<u>1,918</u>	<u>1,917</u>	<u>2,045</u>
Non-current assets:			
Goodwill and intangible assets (note 6)	808	859	904
Biological assets (note 7)	119	135	145
Property, plant and equipment (note 8).....	2,269	2,474	2,659
Investments in associates (note 9).....	—	2	2
Other investments (note 10)	89	120	98
Deferred tax assets (note 17)	333	303	249
Other assets (note 11).....	91	113	99
Total non-current assets.....	<u>3,709</u>	<u>4,006</u>	<u>4,156</u>
Total assets	<u>5,627</u>	<u>5,923</u>	<u>6,201</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Aperam

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
(millions of U.S. dollars)

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Current liabilities:			
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt (note 13)	209	435	538
Trade accounts payable.....	934	950	846
Short-term provisions (note 18)	30	33	41
Accrued expenses and other liabilities (note 19).....	299	297	309
Income tax liabilities (note 17)	4	3	4
Total current liabilities.....	<u>1,476</u>	<u>1,718</u>	<u>1,738</u>
Non-current liabilities:			
Long-term debt, net of current portion (note 13)	773	607	587
Deferred tax liabilities (note 17)	117	136	172
Deferred employee benefits (note 21).....	220	211	178
Long-term provisions (note 18)	71	75	80
Other long-term obligations.....	12	14	6
Total non-current liabilities	<u>1,193</u>	<u>1,043</u>	<u>1,023</u>
Total liabilities.....	<u>2,669</u>	<u>2,761</u>	<u>2,761</u>
Commitments and contingencies (note 20 and note 22)			
Equity (note 15):			
Common shares (no par value, 85,854,303 shares authorized and 78,049,730 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011).....	547	547	547
Additional paid-in capital	1,600	1,600	1,600
Retained earnings.....	858	957	1,126
Reserves	(52)	54	161
Equity attributable to the equity holders of the parent	<u>2,953</u>	<u>3,158</u>	<u>3,434</u>
Non-controlling interests	5	4	6
Total equity	<u>2,958</u>	<u>3,162</u>	<u>3,440</u>
Total liabilities and equity	<u>5,627</u>	<u>5,923</u>	<u>6,201</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Aperam
Consolidated Statement of Operations
(millions of U.S. dollars)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Sales	5,120	5,261	6,345
(including 116, 150 and 180 of sales to related parties in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively)			
Cost of sales	4,903	5,125	6,032
(including depreciation and impairment of 303, 320 and 311, and purchases from related parties of 172, 157 and 269 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively)			
Gross margin	217	136	313
Selling, general and administrative	228	239	261
Operating (loss) income	(11)	(103)	52
(Loss) income from other investments and associates	(1)	2	2
Interest income (note 16)	6	3	3
Interest expense and other net financing costs (note 16)	(137)	(79)	(165)
Loss before taxes	(143)	(177)	(108)
Income tax benefit (note 17)	44	66	48
Net loss (including non-controlling interests)	(99)	(111)	(60)
Net (loss) income attributable to			
Equity holders of the parent	(100)	(111)	(61)
Non-controlling interests	1	—	1
Net loss (including non-controlling interests)	(99)	(111)	(60)
Earnings per common share (in U.S. dollars):			
Basic common shares	(1.28)	(1.43)	(0.77)
Diluted common shares	(1.28)	(1.43)	(0.77)
Weighted average common shares outstanding (in thousands)			
Basic common shares	78,050	78,050	78,050
Diluted common shares	78,050	78,050	78,050

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Aperam
Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive (Loss) Income
(millions of U.S. dollars)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Net loss (including non-controlling interests)	(99)	(111)	(60)
Other comprehensive (loss) income:			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss :</i>			
Remeasurement of defined benefit obligation during the period, net of tax (expense) benefit of (4), 10 and nil for 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively	8	(21)	3
<i>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss :</i>			
Available-for-sale investments:			
(Loss) gain arising during the period, net of tax (expense) benefit of nil, (6) and 16 for 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.....	(23)	18	(59)
Cash flow hedges:			
Loss arising during the period, net of tax benefit of 7, 4 and 6 for 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively	(15)	(6)	(12)
Reclassification adjustments for loss included in the statement of operations, net of tax benefit of (7), (4) and (1) for 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively	14	6	3
	(1)	—	(9)
Exchange differences arising on translation of foreign operations, net of tax benefit of 28, 21 and 36 for 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively ...	(117)	(104)	(281)
Total other comprehensive loss	(133)	(107)	(346)
Total other comprehensive loss attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent.....	(133)	(107)	(346)
Net comprehensive loss	(232)	(218)	(406)
Net comprehensive loss attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent.....	(233)	(218)	(407)
Non-controlling interests.....	1	—	1
Net comprehensive loss	(232)	(218)	(406)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Aperam

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

(millions of U.S. dollars)

	Shares ⁽¹⁾	Share capital	Additional paid-in capital	Retained earnings	Foreign currency translation adjustments	Unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives financial instruments	Unrealized gains (losses) on available for sale securities	Recognized actuarial gains / (losses)	Option premium on convertible bonds	Equity attributable to the equity holders of the parent	Non-controlling interests	Total Equity
Balance at December 31, 2010 (Combined)	4	—	—	3,143	457	5	44	—	—	3,649	5	3,654
Impact of adoption of IAS 19 revised	—	—	—	(6)	1	—	—	—	—	(5)	—	(5)
Balance at January 1, 2011	4	—	—	3,137	458	5	44	—	—	3,644	5	3,649
Net income (loss).....	—	—	—	(61)	—	—	—	—	—	(61)	1	(60)
Other comprehensive income (loss).....	—	—	—	—	(281)	(9)	(59)	3	—	(346)	—	(346)
Total comprehensive income (loss).....	—	—	—	(61)	(281)	(9)	(59)	3	—	(407)	1	(406)
Recognition of share-based payments	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Capital transactions with ArcelorMittal (note 15)	—	—	—	33	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	33
Capital increase and Spin-off	78,046	547	1,600	(1,927)	—	—	—	—	—	220	—	220
Dividends...	—	—	—	(59)	—	—	—	—	—	(59)	(1)	(60)
Other movements	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Balance at December 31, 2011	78,050	547	1,600	1,126	177	(4)	(15)	3	—	3,434	6	3,440
Net loss.....	—	—	—	(111)	—	—	—	—	—	(111)	—	(111)
Other comprehensive income (loss).....	—	—	—	—	(104)	—	18	(21)	—	(107)	—	(107)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	(111)	(104)	—	18	(21)	—	(218)	—	(218)
Recognition of share-based payments.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Dividends.....	—	—	—	(59)	—	—	—	—	—	(59)	(2)	(61)
Balance at December 31, 2012	78,050	547	1,600	957	73	(4)	3	(18)	—	3,158	4	3,162
Net income (loss).....	—	—	—	(100)	—	—	—	—	—	(100)	1	(99)
Other comprehensive income (loss).....	—	—	—	—	(117)	(1)	(23)	8	—	(133)	—	(133)
Total comprehensive income (loss).....	—	—	—	(100)	(117)	(1)	(23)	8	—	(233)	1	(232)
Issuance of convertible bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	27	—	27
Recognition of share-based payments	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Balance at December 31, 2013	78,050	547	1,600	858	(44)	(5)	(20)	(10)	27	2,953	5	2,958

(1) Number of shares denominated in thousands.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Aperam
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
(millions of U.S. dollars)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Operating activities:			
Net loss (including non-controlling interests).....	(99)	(111)	(60)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operations and payments:			
Depreciation	290	293	307
Impairment	13	27	4
Interest expense	85	73	74
Income tax benefit.....	(44)	(66)	(48)
Write-downs of inventories to net realizable value (*)	48	38	35
Labor agreements and separation plans	3	5	21
Impairment of financial assets	—	—	1
Unrealized (gains) losses on derivative instruments.....	(2)	(3)	7
Unrealized foreign exchange effects, provisions and other non-cash operating expenses (net)	77	44	(7)
Changes in operating assets, liabilities and provisions:			
Trade accounts receivable.....	39	46	7
Inventories.....	(42)	(14)	176
Interest paid (net).....	(76)	(72)	(70)
Income taxes paid.....	(14)	(15)	(17)
Trade accounts payable	(15)	124	(149)
Cash paid for separation plans	—	(4)	(17)
Other working capital and provisions movements.....	(59)	(87)	(75)
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	204	278	189
Investing activities:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(125)	(161)	(158)
Loans under cash pooling arrangements (net)	—	—	647
Other investing activities (net)	6	3	9
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(119)	(158)	498
Financing activities:			
Proceeds from short-term debt.....	45	96	704
Proceeds from long-term debt.....	248	80	518
Payments of short-term debt	(298)	(259)	(1,165)
Payments of long-term debt.....	(1)	—	(2)
Borrowings under cash pooling arrangements (net)	—	—	(540)
Dividends paid to ArcelorMittal	—	—	(1)
Dividends paid (includes nil, 2 and 1 of dividends paid to non-controlling interests in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively)	—	(61)	(60)
Other financing activities (net)	(8)	(2)	(6)
Net cash used in financing activities.....	(14)	(146)	(552)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(6)	5	(8)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	65	(21)	127
Cash and cash equivalents:			
At the beginning of the year.....	226	247	120
At the end of the year	291	226	247

(*) Refer to Note 4 for more information on inventory write-downs

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Aperam

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

NOTE 1: NATURE OF BUSINESS, BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND CONSOLIDATION

Nature of business

Aperam Société Anonyme (the “Company” or “Aperam”) was incorporated in Luxembourg on September 9, 2010 to own certain operating subsidiaries of ArcelorMittal Société Anonyme (“ArcelorMittal”) which primarily comprise ArcelorMittal’s stainless steel and nickel alloys business. This business was transferred to the Company prior to the distribution of all its outstanding common shares to shareholders of ArcelorMittal on January 26, 2011. The Company’s shares have been trading on the European stock exchanges of Amsterdam, Paris (Euronext) and Luxembourg since January 31, 2011.

These consolidated financial statements were authorized for issuance on March 5, 2014 by Aperam’s Board of Directors.

Aperam is a global stainless steel producer with an annual capacity of 2.5 million tonnes in 2013. The Company’s production activities are concentrated in six main plants in Brazil, Belgium and France. Its worldwide-integrated distribution network is comprised of 18 service centers, 9 transformation facilities, and 22 sales offices including customer support.

The Company produces a broad range of stainless steel products and high value-added products including electrical steel (grain oriented, non-grain oriented and non-grain oriented semi-processed steel), nickel alloys and specialties. The Company sells its products in local markets to a diverse range of customers, including automotive, construction, catering, medicine, oil and gas, aerospace, industrial processes, electronics and electrical engineering.

Note 25 provides an overview of the Company’s principal operating subsidiaries.

Basis of presentation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for available for sale financial assets, derivative financial instruments and biological assets which are measured at fair value, and inventories, which are measured at the lower of net realizable value or cost. The consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2013 have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted in the European Union (“IFRS”) and are presented in U.S. dollars with all amounts rounded to the nearest million, except for share and per share data.

Adoption of new IFRS standards, amendments and interpretations applicable in 2013

As the Group adopted the amended IAS 19 standard as at January 1, 2013 the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been restated in accordance with IFRS for purposes of comparison. Accounting impacts of these restatements on the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were the following:

- Increase of the net loss for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 by \$3 million and \$1 million, respectively.

- Recognition of actuarial losses with an increase of deferred employee benefits liability by \$42 million and a corresponding decrease (net of deferred tax assets effect of \$14 million) in equity by \$28 million, of which \$18 million and \$10 million have been reflected in other comprehensive loss and retained earnings, respectively.

Unless otherwise indicated below, the following new standards, amended standards, or interpretations were adopted by the Company on January 1, 2013 and did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of Aperam.

- The Company early adopted IFRS 10 “Consolidated Financial Statements”, IFRS 11 “Joint

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

Arrangements”, IFRS 12 “Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities”, the amendments to IAS 27 “Separate Financial Statements” and IAS 28 “Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures” and the consequential amendments on investment entities and transition guidance, all effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014 with early adoption permitted.

- Amendments to IAS 1, “Presentation of Financial Statements”, change the presentation of items of other comprehensive income that are disclosed in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive (Loss) Income.
- IFRS 13 “Fair value measurement”,
- IFRIC 20 “Stripping Costs in the Production Phase of a Surface Mine”,
- Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2009 – 2011 Cycle,
- Amendments to IFRS 7 “Financial Instruments: Disclosures”.

New IFRS standards and interpretations applicable from 2014 onward

Unless otherwise indicated below, the Company does not expect the adoption of the following new standards, amended standards, or interpretations to have a significant impact on the consolidated financial statements of Aperam in future periods.

• IFRS 9, “Financial Instruments” : In November 2009, the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”) issued IFRS 9 “Financial Instruments” as the first step in its project to replace IAS 39 “Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement”. IFRS 9 introduces new requirements for classifying and measuring financial instruments, including:

- The replacement of the multiple classification and measurement models in IAS 39, “Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement” with a single model that has only two classification categories: amortized cost and fair value;
- The replacement of the requirement to separate embedded derivatives from financial asset hosts with a requirement to classify a hybrid contract in its entirety at either amortized cost or fair value; and
- The replacement of the cost exemption for unquoted equities and derivatives on unquoted equities with guidance on when cost may be an appropriate estimate of fair value.

The effective date of application of IFRS 9 is pending until finalization of the impairment and classification and measurement requirements by IASB, with earlier adoption permitted. IFRS 9 is not yet endorsed by the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group. The Company is in the process of assessing whether there will be any significant changes to its consolidated financial statements upon adoption.

• Amendments to IAS 36: Impairment disclosures for non-financial assets amended. Amendments reverse the requirement in IFRS 13 “Fair Value Measurement” to disclose the recoverable amount of every cash-generating unit to which significant goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible assets have been allocated. This standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

• On December 16, 2011, the IASB published amendments to IAS 32 “Financial Instruments: Presentation” to clarify the application of the offsetting of financial assets and financial liabilities requirement. These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

• On May 20, 2013, the IASB issued IFRIC Interpretation 21 “Levies”, which clarifies that an entity should recognize a liability for a levy only when the activity that triggers a payment, as identified by the relevant legislation, occurs. It also clarifies that a levy liability is accrued progressively only if the activity that triggers payment occurs over a period of time, in accordance with the relevant legislation. For a levy that is triggered upon reaching a minimum threshold, the interpretation clarifies that no liability should be recognized before the specified minimum threshold is reached. This interpretation is effective for annual periods

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

beginning on or after January 1, 2014 and is not yet endorsed by the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group. The adoption of this new interpretation is not expected to have any material impact on the financial statements of the Company.

- On June 27, 2013, the IASB published amendments to IAS 39 “Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement” entitled Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting. The amendments will allow hedge accounting to continue in a situation where a derivative, which has been designated as a hedging instrument, is novated to effect clearing with a central counterparty as a result of laws or regulation, if specific conditions are met. These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

- On December 12, 2013, the IASB published Annual Improvements 2010-2012 as part of its annual improvements process to make amendments to the following standards:

- IFRS 2 “Share-based Payment”, amends the definition of vesting condition and market condition and adds definitions for performance condition and service condition
- IFRS 3 “Business Combinations”, provides additional guidance for accounting for contingent consideration in a business combination
- IFRS 8 “Operating Segments”, provides clarification of the requirements for the aggregation of operating segments and the reconciliation of the total of the reportable segments’ assets to the entity’s assets
- IFRS 13 “Fair Value Measurement”, provides additional guidance for the measurement of short-term receivables and payables
- IAS 16 “Property, Plant and Equipment”, provides additional guidance for the proportionate restatement of accumulated depreciation when the revaluation method is applied
- IAS 24 “Related Party Disclosure”, provides additional guidance for the definition of key management personnel
- IAS 38 “Intangible Assets”, provides additional guidance for the proportionate restatement of accumulated depreciation when the revaluation method is applied.

Also, on December 12, 2013, the IASB published Annual Improvements 2011-2013 as part of its annual improvements process to make amendments to the following standards:

- IFRS 1 “First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards”, provides additional guidance for the effectiveness of IFRSs
- IFRS 3 “Business Combinations”, clarifies the scope of exception for joint arrangements
- IFRS 13 “Fair Value Measurement”, clarifies the scope of paragraph 52 (portfolio exception)
- IAS 40 “Investment Property”, provides clarification of the interrelationship of IFRS 3 and IAS 40 when classifying property as investment property or owner-occupied property.

These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2014 and are not yet endorsed by the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group. The Company is still in the process of assessing whether there will be any significant changes to its financial statements upon adoption of these new amendments.

Aperam

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company, its subsidiaries, and its respective interest in associated companies. Subsidiaries are consolidated from the date the Company obtains control until the date control ceases. Company controls an entity when it is exposed to or has rights to variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity.

Associated companies are those companies over which the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence on the financial and operating policy decisions, which are not operating subsidiaries. Generally, significant influence is presumed to exist when the Company holds more than 20% of the voting rights. In addition, jointly controlled entities are companies over whose activities the Company has joint control under a contractual agreement. The financial statements include the Company's share of the total recognized gains and losses of associates and jointly controlled entities on an equity accounted basis from the date that significant influence commences until the date significant influence ceases, adjusted for any impairment loss. Adjustments to the carrying amount may also be necessary for changes in the Company's proportionate interest in the investee arising from changes in the investee's equity that have not been recognized in the investee's profit or loss. The Company's share of those changes is recognized directly in equity.

Other investments are classified as available for sale and are stated at fair value when their fair value can be reliably measured. When fair value cannot be measured reliably, the investments are carried at cost less impairment.

While there are certain limitations on the Company's operating and financial flexibility arising from the restrictive and financial covenants of the Company's principal credit facilities described in Note 13, there are no significant restrictions resulting from borrowing agreements or regulatory requirements on the ability of consolidated subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities to transfer funds to the parent in the form of cash dividends to pay commitments as they come due.

Intra-company balances and transactions, including income, expenses and dividends, are eliminated in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements.

Non-controlling interests represent the portion of profit or loss and net assets not held by the Company and are presented separately in the statement of operations and within equity in the consolidated statement of financial position.

Reverse acquisition

The spin-off of the stainless steel and nickel alloys business of ArcelorMittal on January 25, 2011 resulted in the transfer to the Company of the assets and liabilities pertaining to this business.

The transaction has been accounted for in 2011 as a reverse acquisition. The effect of the accounting treatment, as a result of the reverse acquisition, is that even though the consolidated financial statements are issued under the name of Aperam, they represent a continuation of the stainless steel and nickel alloys business of ArcelorMittal.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES***Translation of financial statements denominated in foreign currency***

The functional currency of each of the major operating subsidiaries is the local currency. Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of a subsidiary are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities in currencies other than the functional currency are re-measured at the rates of exchange prevailing at the statement of financial position date and the related transaction gains and losses are reported in the consolidated statement of operations. Non-monetary items that are carried at cost are translated using the rate of exchange prevailing at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary items that are carried at fair value are translated using the exchange rate prevailing when the fair value was determined and the related transaction gains and losses are reported in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income.

Upon consolidation, the results of operations of the Company's subsidiaries and associates whose functional currency is other than the U.S. dollar are translated into the U.S. dollar, the Company's presentation currency, at the monthly average exchange rates and assets and liabilities are translated at the year-end exchange rates. Translation adjustments are recognized directly in other comprehensive income and are reclassified in income or loss in the statement of operations only upon sale or liquidation of the underlying foreign subsidiary or associate.

Exchange differences arising from the translation of the net investment in foreign subsidiaries at the year-end exchange rate are recorded as part of the shareholders' equity under "Foreign currency translation adjustments". When a foreign entity is sold, such exchange differences are recognized in the consolidated statement of operations as part of the gain or loss on sale.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to cash with original maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase and are carried at cost plus accrued interest, which approximates fair value.

Trade accounts receivable

Trade accounts receivable are initially recorded at their nominal amount which approximately equals fair value and do not bear interest. The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts at an amount that it considers to be a sufficient estimate of losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments. An allowance is recorded and charged to expense when an account is deemed to be uncollectible. In judging the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts, the Company considers multiple factors including historical bad debt experience, the current economic environment and the aging of the receivables. Recoveries of trade receivables previously reserved in the allowance for doubtful accounts are recorded as gains in the statement of operations.

The Company's policy is to provide for all receivables outstanding over 180 days, because historical experience is such that receivables that are past due beyond 180 days are generally not recoverable. Trade receivables between 60 days and 180 days are provided for based on estimated unrecoverable amounts from the sale of goods and/or services, determined by reference to past default experience.

Inventories

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost is determined using the average cost method. Costs of production in process and finished goods include the purchase costs of raw materials and conversion costs such as direct labor and an allocation of fixed and variable production overheads. Raw materials and spare parts are valued at cost inclusive of freight and shipping and handling costs. Net realizable value represents the estimated selling price at which the inventories can be realized in the normal course of business after allowing for the cost of conversion from their existing state to a finished condition and for the cost of marketing, selling, and distribution. Costs incurred when production levels are abnormally low are partially capitalized as inventories and partially recorded as a component of cost of sales in the statement of operations.

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Goodwill

The goodwill recorded by the Company includes an allocation of the goodwill arising from the acquisition of Arcelor by Mittal Steel on August 1, 2006. Goodwill arising on acquisitions subsequent to January 1, 2007 is recognized as an asset and initially measured at cost, being the excess of the cost of the business combination over the Company's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities recognized.

Goodwill is allocated to those groups of cash generating units that are expected to benefit from the business combination in which the goodwill arose and in all cases is at the operating segment level which represents the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored for internal management purposes. Goodwill is tested annually at the level of the groups of cash generating units which correspond to operating segments as of October 31 or whenever changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Until the year end December 31, 2012, the Company performed its annual impairment test of goodwill using November 30 as the measurement date. Effective October 2013, the Company changed its impairment test date to October 31 in order to better align with the internal strategic, financial planning and approval process. Whenever the cash generating units comprising the operating segments are tested for impairment at the same time as goodwill, the cash generating units are tested first and any impairment of the assets is recorded prior to the testing of goodwill. The recoverable amounts of the cash generating units are determined from the higher of fair value less cost to sell or value in use calculations, as described below in the "Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets" section. The key assumptions for the value in use calculations are those regarding the discount rates, growth rates and expected changes to selling prices and direct costs during the period. Management estimates discount rates using pre-tax rates that reflect current market rates for investments of similar risk. The growth rates are based on the Company's growth forecasts which are in line with industry trends. Changes in selling prices and direct costs are based on historical experience and expectations of future changes in the market.

Cash flow forecasts are derived from the most recent financial forecasts for the next five years. Beyond the specifically forecasted period, the Company extrapolates cash flows for the remaining years based on an estimated growth rate. This rate does not exceed the average long-term growth rate for the relevant markets. Once recognized, impairment losses recognized for goodwill are not reversed. On disposal of a subsidiary, any residual amount of goodwill is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

In a business combination in which the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired exceeds the cost of the acquired business, the Company reassesses the fair value of the assets acquired. If, after reassessment, the Company's interest in the net fair value of the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities exceeds the cost of the business combination, the excess (bargain purchase) is recognized immediately in the statement of operations.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets recorded by the Company include certain intangible assets acquired in connection with the acquisition of Arcelor by Mittal Steel on August 1, 2006. Intangible assets are recognized only when it is probable that the expected future economic benefits attributable to the assets will flow to the Company and the cost can be reliably measured. Intangible assets acquired separately by Aperam are initially recorded at cost and those acquired in a business combination are recorded at fair value. These primarily include the cost of technology and licenses purchased from third parties. Intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated economic useful lives which typically are not to exceed five years. Amortization is included in the statement of operations as part of depreciation.

Biological assets

The Company classifies eucalyptus plantations as biological assets. The purpose of such plantations is to produce charcoal to be used in its production process.

Biological assets are measured at fair value, net of estimated costs to sell at the time of harvest, with any change therein recognized in statement of operations.

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(millions of U.S. dollars)

The fair value is determined based on the discounted cash flow method, taking into consideration the cubic volume of wood, segregated by plantation year, and the equivalent sales value of standing trees. The average market price was estimated based on domestic market prices.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Cost includes professional fees and, for assets constructed by the Company, any related works to the extent that these are directly attributable to the acquisition or construction of the asset. Property, plant and equipment except land are depreciated using the straight-line method over the useful lives of the related assets which are presented in the table below. The Company reviews the residual value, the useful lives and the depreciation method of its property, plant and equipment at least annually.

Asset Category	Useful Life Range
Land	Not depreciated
Buildings	10 to 50 years
Steel plant equipment	15 to 30 years
Auxiliary facilities	15 to 30 years
Other facilities	5 to 20 years

Major improvements, which add to productive capacity or extend the life of an asset, are capitalized, while repairs and maintenance are charged to expense as incurred. Where a tangible fixed asset comprises major components having different useful lives, these components are accounted for as separate items.

Property, plant and equipment under construction are recorded as construction in progress until they are ready for their intended use; thereafter they are transferred to the related category of property, plant and equipment and depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Interest incurred during construction is capitalized. Gains and losses on retirement or disposal of assets are reflected in the statement of operations.

Property, plant and equipment acquired by way of finance leases are stated at an amount equal to the lower of the fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments at the inception of the lease. Each lease payment is allocated between the finance charges and a reduction of the lease liability. The interest element of the finance cost is charged to the statement of operations over the lease period so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

The residual values and useful lives of property, plant and equipment are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if expectations differ from previous estimates. Depreciation methods applied to property, plant and equipment are reviewed at each reporting date and changed if there has been a significant change in the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Investment in associates and other entities

Investments in associates, in which the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence, are accounted for under the equity method. The investment is carried at the cost at the date of acquisition, adjusted for the Company's share in undistributed earnings or losses since acquisition, less dividends received and impairment.

Any excess of the cost of the acquisition over the Company's share of the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities, and contingent liabilities of the associate recognized at the date of acquisition is recognized as goodwill. The goodwill is included in the carrying amount of the investment and is evaluated for impairment as part of the investment.

The Company reviews all of its investments in associates at each reporting date to determine whether there is an indicator that the investment may be impaired. If objective evidence indicates that the investment is impaired, the Company calculates the amount of the impairment of the investments as being the difference between the higher of the fair value less costs to sell or its value in use and its carrying value. The amount of

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any impairment is included in the overall income from investments in associated companies in the statement of operations.

Investments in other entities, over which the Company and/or its operating subsidiaries do not have the ability to exercise significant influence and have a readily determinable fair value, are accounted for at fair value with any resulting gain or loss included in equity. To the extent that these investments do not have a readily determinable fair value, they are accounted for under the cost method.

Deferred employee benefits

Defined contribution plans are those plans where the Company pays fixed contributions to an external life insurance or pension fund for certain categories of employees. Contributions are paid in return for services rendered by the employees during the period. They are expensed as they are incurred in line with the treatment of wages and salaries. No provisions are established in respect of defined contribution plans, as they do not generate future commitments for the Company.

Defined benefit plans are those plans that provide guaranteed benefits to certain categories of employees, either by way of contractual obligations or through a collective agreement. For defined benefit plans, the cost of providing benefits is determined using the Projected Unit Credit Method, with actuarial valuations being carried out at each statement of financial position date.

The retirement benefit obligation recognized in the statement of financial position represents the present value of the defined benefit obligation less the fair value of plan assets. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflows using interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension obligation. Actuarial gains and losses arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are charged or credited to other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise. Any asset resulting from this calculation is limited to the present value of available refunds and reductions in future contributions to the plan.

Current service cost, which is the increase of the present value of the defined benefit obligation resulting from the employee service in the current period, is recorded as an expense as part of cost of sales and selling, general and administrative expenses in the consolidated statements of operations. The net interest cost, which is the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability or asset that arises from the passage of time, is recognized as part of net financing costs in the consolidated statements of operations. The discount rate used is determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds.

The Company recognizes gains and losses on the curtailment of a defined benefit plan when the curtailment occurs. The gain or loss on curtailment comprises any resulting change in the fair value of plan assets, any change in the present value of the defined benefit obligation, any related actuarial gains and losses. Past service cost is the change in the present value of the defined benefit obligation resulting from a plan amendment or a curtailment. Past service cost is recognized immediately in the consolidated statements of operations in the period in which it arises.

Voluntary retirement plans primarily correspond to the practical implementation of social plans or are linked to collective agreements signed with certain categories of employees. Early retirement plans are those plans that primarily correspond to terminating an employee's contract before the normal retirement date. Early retirement plans are considered effective when the affected employees have formally been informed and when liabilities have been determined using an appropriate actuarial calculation. Liabilities relating to the early retirement plans are calculated annually on the basis of the effective number of employees likely to take early retirement and are discounted using an interest rate which corresponds to that of highly-rated bonds that have maturity dates similar to the terms of the Company's early retirement obligations. Termination benefits are provided in connection with voluntary separation plans. The Company recognizes a liability and expense when it has a detailed formal plan which is without realistic possibility of withdrawal and the plan has been communicated to employees or their representatives.

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Other long-term employee benefits include various plans that depend on the length of service, such as long service and sabbatical awards, disability benefits and long term compensated absences such as sick leave. The amount recognized as a liability is the present value of benefit obligations at the statement of financial position date, and all changes in the provision (including actuarial gains and losses or past service costs) are recognized in the statement of operations.

Provisions and accruals

Aperam recognizes provisions for liabilities and probable losses that have been incurred when it has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events and it is probable that the Company will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made. If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted using a current pre-tax rate that reflects, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. Where discounting is used, the increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognized as a financing cost. Provisions for onerous contracts are recorded in the statement of operations when it becomes known that the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received under it.

Provisions for restructuring relate to the estimated costs of initiated reorganizations that have been approved by the Aperam Management Committee, and which involve the realignment of certain parts of the industrial and commercial organization. When such reorganizations require discontinuance and/or closure of lines or activities, the anticipated costs of closure or discontinuance are included in restructuring provisions. A liability is recognized for those costs only when the Company has a detailed formal plan for the restructuring and has raised a valid expectation with those affected that it will carry out the restructuring by starting to implement that plan or announcing its main features to those affected by it.

Environmental costs

Environmental costs that relate to current operations are expensed or capitalized as appropriate. Environmental costs that relate to an existing condition caused by past operations, and which do not contribute to current or future revenue generation or cost reduction, are expensed. Liabilities are recorded when environmental assessments and or remedial efforts are probable and the cost can be reasonably estimated based on ongoing engineering studies, discussions with the environmental authorities and other assumptions relevant to the nature and extent of the remediation that may be required. The ultimate cost to the Company is dependent upon factors beyond its control such as the scope and methodology of the remedial action requirements to be established by environmental and public health authorities, new laws or government regulations, rapidly changing technology and the outcome of any potential related litigation. Environmental liabilities are discounted if the aggregate amount of the obligation and the amount and timing of the cash payments are fixed or reliably determinable.

Income taxes

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from profit as reported in the consolidated statement of operations because of items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and items that are never taxable or deductible. The Company's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted as of the statement of financial position date.

Deferred tax is recognized on differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax basis used in the computation of taxable profit and is accounted for using the statement of financial position liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognized for all taxable temporary differences, and deferred tax assets are generally recognized for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilized. Such assets and liabilities are not recognized if the taxable temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or if the differences arise from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit.

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(millions of U.S. dollars)

Deferred tax liabilities are recognized for taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries and associates, except where the Company is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences associated with such investments and interests are only recognized to the extent that it is probable that there will be sufficient taxable profits against which to utilize the benefits of the temporary differences and they are expected to reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period in which the liability is settled or the asset realized, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the statement of financial position date. The measurement of deferred tax liabilities and assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the Company expects, at the reporting date, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities. The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each statement of financial position date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the Company intends to settle its current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

Financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments

See critical accounting judgments.

Non-derivative financial instruments

Non-derivative financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, investments in equity securities, trade and other payables and debt and other liabilities. These instruments are recognized initially at fair value when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. They are derecognized if the Company's contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial instruments expire or if the Company transfers the financial instruments to another party without retaining control or substantially all risks and rewards of the instruments.

The Company classifies its investments in equity securities that have readily determinable fair values as available-for-sale which are recorded at fair value. Unrealized holding gains and losses, net of the related tax effect, on available-for-sale equity securities are reported as a separate component of other comprehensive income until realized. Realized gains and losses from the sale of available-for-sale securities are determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

Debt and liabilities, other than provisions, are stated at amortized cost. However, loans that are hedged under a fair value hedge are re-measured for the changes in the fair value that are attributable to the risk that is being hedged.

Impairment of financial assets

A financial asset is considered to be impaired if objective evidence indicates that one or more events have had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset. Estimated future cash flows are determined using various assumptions and techniques, including comparisons to published prices in an active market and discounted cash flow projections using projected growth rates, weighted average cost of capital, and inflation rates. In the case of available-for-sale securities, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the security below its cost is considered as an indicator that the securities are impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognized in the statement of operations is removed from equity and recognized in the statement of operations.

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If objective evidence indicates that cost-method investments need to be tested for impairment, calculations are based on information derived from business plans and other information available for estimating their value in use. Any impairment loss is charged to the statement of operations. An impairment loss related to financial assets is reversed if and to the extent there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. The loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined if no impairment loss had been recognized. Reversals of impairment are recognized in the statement of operations except for reversals of impairment of available-for-sale equity securities, which are recognized in other comprehensive income.

Emission rights

The Company's industrial sites which are regulated by the European Directive 2003/87/EC of October 13, 2003 on carbon dioxide emission rights, effective as of January 1, 2005, are located in Belgium and France. The emission rights allocated to the Company on a no-charge basis pursuant to the annual national allocation plan are recorded in the statement of financial position at nil and purchased emission rights are recorded at cost.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Revenue is reduced for estimated customer returns and other similar allowances.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognized when the Company has transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods, no longer retains control over the goods sold, the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Company, and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Shipping and handling costs

The Company records amounts billed to a customer in a sale transaction for shipping and handling costs as sales and the related shipping and handling costs incurred as cost of sales.

Financing costs

Financing costs include interest income and expense, amortization of discounts or premiums on borrowings, amortization of costs incurred in connection with the arrangement of borrowings, and unrealized gains and losses on foreign exchange and raw material derivative contracts.

Earnings per common share

Basic earnings per common share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year. Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing income available to equity holders and assumed conversion by the weighted average number of common shares and potential common shares from restricted share units and performance share units as well as potential common shares from the conversion of convertible bonds whenever the conversion results in a dilutive effect.

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Equity settled share-based payments

Aperam issues equity-settled share-based payments consisting in restricted share units to key employees of the Company. Prior the spin-off, ArcelorMittal issued equity-settled share-based payments consisting in stock options to certain Aperam employees. Equity-settled share-based payments issued to Aperam employees are measured at fair value (excluding the effect of non market-based vesting conditions) at the date of grant. The fair value determined at the grant date of the equity-settled share-based payments is expensed on a graded vesting basis over the vesting period, based on the Company's estimate of the shares that will eventually vest and adjusted for the effect of non market-based vesting conditions. Fair value is measured using the Black-Scholes pricing model. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted, based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions and behavioral considerations. For the restricted share units, the fair value determined at the grant date of the equity-settled share-based payments is expensed on a straight line method over the vesting period and adjusted for the effect of non market-based vesting conditions.

Segment reporting

Operating segments are components of the Company that engage in business activities from which they may earn revenues and incur expenses (including revenues and expenses relating to transactions with other components of the Company), for which discrete financial information is available and whose operating results are evaluated regularly by the Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM") to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance.

In conjunction with the spin-off, Aperam management identified the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company as its CODM, which is the individual or body of individuals responsible for the allocation of resources and assessment of performance of the operating segments. The newly identified CODM began managing the business according to three operating segments: Stainless & Electrical Steel, Alloys & Specialties and Services & Solutions.

These segments include attributable goodwill, intangible assets, property, plant and equipment, and equity method investments. They do not include other investments, other non-current receivables, cash and short-term deposits, short-term investments, tax assets, and other current financial assets. Segment liabilities are also those resulting from the normal activities of the segment, excluding tax liabilities and indebtedness but including post retirement obligations where directly attributable to the segment. Financing items are managed centrally for the Company as a whole and so are not directly attributable to individual operating segments.

Geographical information is separately disclosed and represents the Company's most significant regional markets. Attributed assets are operational assets employed in each region and include items such as pension balances that are specific to a country. Attributed assets exclude attributed goodwill, deferred tax assets, other investments or other non-current receivables and other non-current financial assets. Attributed liabilities are those arising within each region, excluding indebtedness. Financing items are managed centrally for the Company as a whole and so are not directly attributable to individual geographical areas.

Critical accounting judgments

The critical accounting judgments and significant assumptions made by management in the preparation of these financial statements are provided below.

Deferred Tax Assets

The Company records deferred tax assets and liabilities based on the differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases. Deferred tax assets are also recognized for the estimated future effects of tax losses carried forward. The Company reviews the deferred tax assets in the different jurisdictions in which it operates periodically to assess the possibility of realizing such assets based on projected taxable profit, the expected timing of the reversals of existing temporary differences, the carry forward period of temporary differences and tax losses carried forward and the implementation of tax-planning strategies.

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Note 17 describes the total deferred tax assets recognized in the consolidated statements of financial position. As of December 31, 2013, the amount of future income required to recover the Company's deferred tax assets was approximately 1,008 at certain operating subsidiaries.

Deferred Employee Benefits

The Company's operating subsidiaries have different types of pension plans for their employees. Also, some of the operating subsidiaries offer other post-employment benefits. The expense associated with these pension plans and post-employment benefits, as well as the carrying amount of the related liability/asset on the statement of financial position is based on a number of assumptions and factors such as discount rates, expected rate of compensation increase, mortality rates and retirement rates.

- Discount rates. The discount rate is based on several high quality corporate bond indexes in the appropriate jurisdictions (rated AA or higher by a recognized rating agency). Nominal interest rates vary worldwide due to exchange rates and local inflation rates.
- Rate of compensation increase. The rate of compensation increase reflects actual experience and the Company's long-term outlook, including contractually agreed upon wage rate increases for represented hourly employees.
- Mortality and retirement rates. Mortality and retirement rates are based on actual and projected plan experience.

Actuarial gains or losses resulting from experience and changes in assumptions are recognized in the Company's statement of other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

Note 21 details the net liabilities of pension plans and other post-employment benefits including a sensitivity analysis illustrating the effects of changes in assumptions.

Legal, Environmental and Other Contingencies

The Company may be involved in litigation, arbitration or other legal proceedings. Most of these claims involve highly complex issues, actual damages and other matters. Often these issues are subject to substantial uncertainties and, therefore, the probability of loss and an estimation of damages are difficult to ascertain. These assessments can involve a series of complex judgments about future events and can rely heavily on estimates and assumptions. The Company's assessments are based on estimates and assumptions that have been deemed reasonable by management. The Company recognizes a liability for contingencies when it is more likely than not that the Company will sustain a loss and the amount can be estimated.

The Company is subject to changing and increasingly stringent environmental laws and regulations concerning air emissions, water discharges and waste disposal, as well as certain remediation activities that involve the clean-up of soil and groundwater. The Company recognizes a liability for environmental remediation when it is more likely than not that such remediation will be required and the amount can be estimated.

The estimates of loss contingencies for environmental matters and other contingencies are based on various judgments and assumptions including the likelihood, nature, magnitude and timing of assessment, remediation and/or monitoring activities and the probable cost of these activities. In some cases, judgments and assumptions are made relating to the obligation or willingness and ability of third parties to bear a proportionate or allocated share of cost of these activities, including third parties who sold assets to the Company or purchased assets from the Company subject to environmental liabilities. The Company also considers, among other things, the activity to date at particular sites, information obtained through consultation with applicable regulatory authorities and third-party consultants and contractors and its historical experience with other circumstances judged to be comparable. Due to the numerous variables associated with these judgments and assumptions, and the effects of changes in governmental regulation and environmental technologies, both the precision and reliability of the resulting estimates of the related contingencies are subject to substantial uncertainties. As estimated costs to remediate change, the Company

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will reduce or increase the recorded liabilities through credits or charges in the statement of operations. The Company does not expect these environmental issues to affect the utilization of its plants, now or in the future.

Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets

Tangible and Intangible Assets

At each reporting date, the Company reviews whether there is any indication that the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets (excluding goodwill) may not be recoverable through continuing use. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is reviewed in order to determine the amount of the impairment, if any. The recoverable amount is the higher of its net selling price (fair value reduced by selling costs) and its value in use.

In assessing its value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For an asset that does not generate cash inflows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets corresponding to operating units that generate cash inflows. If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized. An impairment loss is recognized as an expense immediately as part of operating income in the statement of operations.

In the case of permanently idled assets, the impairment is measured at the individual asset level on the basis of salvage value. Otherwise, it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset because the cash flows are not independent from that of the cash generating unit to which it belongs. Accordingly, the Company's assets are measured for impairment at the cash generating unit level. In certain instances, the cash generating unit is an integrated manufacturing facility which may also be an operating subsidiary. Furthermore, a manufacturing facility may be operated together with another facility with neither facility generating cash flows that are largely independent from the cash flows of the other. In this instance, the two facilities are combined for purposes of testing for impairment. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had determined it has six cash generating units.

An impairment loss recognized in prior years is reversed if, and only if, there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognized. However, the increased carrying amount of an asset due to a reversal of an impairment loss will not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of amortization or depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognized for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognized immediately as part of operating income in the statement of operations.

Goodwill

With respect to goodwill, the recoverable amounts of the groups of cash generating units are determined from the higher of its net selling price (fair value reduced by selling costs) or its value in use calculations, as described above. The key assumptions for the value in use calculations are those regarding the discount rates, growth rates and expected changes to selling prices and direct costs during the period. Management estimates discount rates using pre-tax rates that reflect current market rates for investments of similar risk. The growth rates are based on industry growth forecasts. Changes in selling prices and direct costs are based on historical experience and expectations of future changes in the market.

Cash flow forecasts are derived from the most recent financial budgets for the next five years. Beyond the specifically forecasted period, the Company extrapolates cash flows for the remaining years based on an estimated growth rate. This rate does not exceed the average long-term growth rate for the relevant markets. Once recognized, impairment losses recognized for goodwill are not reversed.

Derivative financial instruments

The Company enters into derivative financial instruments principally to manage its exposure to fluctuation in exchange rates and prices of raw materials. Derivative financial instruments are classified as current assets or liabilities based on their maturity dates and are accounted for at trade date. Embedded

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derivatives are separated from the host contract and accounted for separately if required by IAS 39, "Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement". The Company measures all derivative financial instruments based on fair values derived from market prices of the instruments or from option pricing models, as appropriate. See Note 14 for analysis of the Company's sensitivity to changes in certain of these inputs. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of derivatives are recognized in the statement of operations, except for derivatives that are highly effective and qualify for cash flow hedge accounting.

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of a derivative that is designated and that qualifies as a cash flow hedge are recorded in other comprehensive income. Amounts deferred in other comprehensive income are recorded in the statement of operations in the periods when the hedged item is recognized in the statement of operations and within the same line item. Any ineffective portion of changes in the fair value of the derivative is recognized directly in the statement of operations.

The Company formally assesses, both at the hedge's inception and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items. When a hedging instrument is sold, terminated, expires or is exercised the cumulated unrealized gain or loss on the hedging instrument is maintained in equity until the forecasted transaction occurs. If the hedged transaction is no longer probable, the cumulative unrealized gain or loss, which had been recognized in equity, is reported immediately in the statement of operations.

For instruments not accounted for as cash flow hedges, gains or losses arising from changes in fair value of derivatives and gains or losses realized upon settlement of derivatives are recognized in the statement of operations.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS recognition and measurement principles and, in particular, making the aforementioned critical accounting judgments require the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Management reviews its estimates on an ongoing basis using currently available information. Changes in facts and circumstances may result in revised estimates, and actual results could differ from those estimates.

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NOTE 3: TRADE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Trade accounts receivable and allowance for doubtful accounts are as follows:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Gross amount	295	344	405
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(11)	(14)	(14)
Total	284	330	391

See Note 12 for information regarding trade accounts receivable from related parties.

Before accepting any new customer, the Company requests a credit limit authorization from credit insurance companies or uses an internally developed credit scoring system to assess the potential customer's credit quality and to define credit limits by customer. For all significant customers, the credit terms must be approved by relevant credit committees. Limits and scoring attributed to customers are reviewed periodically. There are no customers who represent more than 10% of the total balance of trade accounts receivable.

Included in the Company's trade accounts receivable balance are debtors with a carrying amount of 239, 275 and 331 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, which were not past due at the reporting date.

The amount of receivables pledged as collateral was 68, 98 and 83 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Pledges mainly aim at securing the borrowing base revolving credit facility entered into by the Company as described in Note 13.

Exposure to credit risk by operating segment

The maximum exposure to credit risk for trade accounts receivable by operating segment is:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Stainless & Electrical Steel	101	155	171
Alloys & Specialties	42	28	47
Services & Solutions	141	146	172
Others	—	1	1
Total	284	330	391

Exposure to credit risk by geography

The maximum exposure to credit risk for trade accounts receivable by geographical area is:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Europe	172	188	245
South America	81	117	115
North America	28	22	27
Asia	3	3	4
Total	284	330	391

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Aging of trade accounts receivable

The aging of trade accounts receivable is as follows:

	December 31,					
	2013		2012		2011	
	Gross	Allowance	Gross	Allowance	Gross	Allowance
Not past due	239	—	275	—	331	(1)
Past due 0-30 days.....	32	—	43	—	51	—
Past due 31-60 days.....	5	—	5	—	7	—
Past due 61-90 days.....	5	—	2	—	1	—
Past due 91-180 days.....	3	—	5	(1)	1	—
More than 180 days.....	11	(11)	14	(13)	14	(13)
Total	295	(11)	344	(14)	405	(14)

The movement in the allowance for doubtful accounts in respect of trade accounts receivable during the year is as follows:

Balance as of December 31, 2010 Combined	Additions	Deductions/Releases	Other Movements (primarily exchange rate changes)	Balance as of December 31, 2011
15	5	(5)	(1)	14

Balance as of December 31, 2011	Additions	Deductions/Releases	Other Movements (primarily exchange rate changes)	Balance as of December 31, 2012
14	4	(4)	—	14

Balance as of December 31, 2012	Additions	Deductions/Releases	Other Movements (primarily exchange rate changes)	Balance as of December 31, 2013
14	4	(6)	(1)	11

The Company has established sales without recourse of trade accounts receivable program with financial institutions, referred to as True Sales of Receivables ("TSR"). The amount of the Aperam facility available for the Company represented €250 million, €250 million and €200 million as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Through the TSR program, certain operating subsidiaries of Aperam surrender control, risks and the benefits associated with the accounts receivable sold. Therefore, the amount of receivables sold is recorded as a sale of financial assets and the balances are removed from the statement of financial position at the moment of the sale. The amounts of receivables sold under the TSR program and derecognized in accordance with IAS 39 for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 were \$1.7 billion, \$1.7 billion and \$1.7 billion, respectively. Expenses incurred under the TSR program (reflecting the discount granted to the acquirers of the accounts receivable) are recognized in the consolidated statement of operations as financing costs and amounted to 13, 10 and 19 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

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NOTE 4: INVENTORIES

Inventory, net of allowance for slow-moving inventory, excess of cost over net realizable value and obsolescence of 134, 124, and 139 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, is comprised of the following (there are no inventories which are carried at fair value less cost to sell):

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Finished products	519	524	505
Production in process	396	399	435
Raw materials	142	158	182
Manufacturing supplies, spare parts and other	156	146	140
Total	1,213	1,227	1,262

The amount of inventory pledged as collateral was 783, 748 and 639 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Pledges mainly aim at securing the borrowing base revolving credit facility entered into by the Company as described in Note 13.

The movement in the allowance for obsolescence is as follows:

Balance as of December 31, 2010 Combined	Additions	Deductions/Releases	Other Movements (primarily exchange rate changes)	Balance as of December 31, 2011
140	63	(56)	(8)	139
Balance as of December 31, 2011	Additions	Deductions/Releases	Other Movements (primarily exchange rate changes)	Balance as of December 31, 2012
139	47	(64)	2	124
Balance as of December 31, 2012	Additions	Deductions/Releases	Other Movements (primarily exchange rate changes)	Balance as of December 31, 2013
124	54	(48)	4	134

The amount of write-down of inventories to net realizable value recognized as an expense was 54, 47 and 63 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, and was reduced by 48, 64 and 56 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, due to normal inventory consumption.

NOTE 5: PREPAID EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

Prepaid expenses and other current assets consist of the following:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Value-added tax (VAT) and other amount receivable from tax authorities	66	66	76
Prepaid expenses and accrued receivables.....	18	17	13
Other	32	37	44
Total	116	120	133

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NOTE 6: GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Goodwill and intangible assets consist of the following:

	Goodwill on acquisition	Customer relationships, trade marks & technology	Concessions, patents and licenses	Total
Cost				
At December 31, 2010 (Combined)	825	280	104	1,209
Acquisitions	—	—	3	3
Foreign exchange differences	(59)	(19)	(10)	(88)
Transfers and other movements	—	(1)	16	15
At December 31, 2011	766	260	113	1,139
Accumulated amortization and impairment losses				
At December 31, 2010 (Combined)	—	127	93	220
Amortization charge	—	26	7	33
Impairment	—	3	—	3
Foreign exchange differences	—	(10)	(11)	(21)
At December 31, 2011	—	146	89	235
Carrying amount				
At December 31, 2011	766	114	24	904
Cost				
At December 31, 2011	766	260	113	1,139
Acquisitions	—	—	6	6
Disposals	—	—	(2)	(2)
Foreign exchange differences	(22)	(6)	(5)	(33)
Transfers and other movements	—	—	5	5
At December 31, 2012	744	254	117	1,115
Accumulated amortization and impairment losses				
At December 31, 2011	—	146	89	235
Disposals	—	—	(2)	(2)
Amortization charge	—	23	7	30
Foreign exchange differences	—	(3)	(4)	(7)
At December 31, 2012	—	166	90	256
Carrying amount				
At December 31, 2012	744	88	27	859
Cost				
At December 31, 2012	744	254	117	1,115
Acquisitions	—	—	5	5
Disposals	—	—	(1)	(1)
Foreign exchange differences	(25)	(7)	(6)	(38)
Transfers and other movements	—	—	4	4
At December 31, 2013	719	247	119	1,085
Accumulated amortization and impairment losses				
At December 31, 2012	—	166	90	256
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Amortization charge	—	24	9	33
Foreign exchange differences	—	(5)	(7)	(12)
At December 31, 2013	—	185	92	277
Carrying amount				
At December 31, 2013	719	62	27	808

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As a result of the acquisition of Arcelor by Mittal Steel on August 1, 2006, associated goodwill, intangible assets, and certain fair value adjustments were recorded.

The Company identified three operating segments. As a result, goodwill acquired in business combinations was allocated to these operating segments based on the relative fair values of the operating segments. Goodwill is allocated as follows to each of the Company's operating segments:

	Net value December 31, 2012	Foreign exchange differences	Net value December 31, 2013
Stainless & Electrical Steel	630	(30)	600
Alloys & Specialties	27	1	28
Services & Solutions	87	4	91
TOTAL	744	(25)	719

Goodwill is reviewed at the Group of cash-generating unit ("GCGU") level for impairment annually or whenever changes in circumstances indicate that its carrying amount may not be recoverable. For 2013, goodwill was tested at the GCGU level for impairment as of October 31. The GCGU is at the operating segment level of Aperam. The recoverable amounts of the GCGUs are determined based on their value in use. The Company determined to calculate value in use for purposes of its impairment testing and, accordingly, did not determine the fair value of the GCGUs as the carrying value of the GCGUs was lower than their value in use. The key assumptions for the value in use calculations are primarily the pre-tax discount rates, the terminal growth rate and the expected changes to raw material margin, shipments and added costs during the period. The impairment tests did not result in impairment for any periods presented in these consolidated financial statements.

The value in use of the GCGUs was determined by estimating cash flows for a period of five years, giving due consideration to the cyclical nature of the industry in which each GCGU operates. Assumptions for raw material margin and shipments were based on historical experience and expectations of future changes in the market. Cash flow forecasts were derived from the most recent financial plans approved by management.

Beyond the specifically forecasted period of five years, the Company extrapolated cash flows for the remaining years based on an estimated constant growth rate of 1.5% in Europe and 2% in South America. These rates did not exceed the average long-term growth rate for the relevant markets.

When estimating shipments for purposes of the 2013 impairment test, the Company used a growth rate of 1% in Europe compared to stable shipments in South America over the next 5 years. Those estimates were determined on the basis of the analysis of the markets where the Company is active in as well as on the basis of projections provided by external sources.

When estimating raw material margin for purposes of the 2013 impairment test, the Company used a stable ratio of raw material margin compared to sales over the next 5 years.

The nickel price estimate for the next 5 years was determined by the management based on internal analysis and forecasts published by external sources.

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Management estimated discount rates using pre-tax rates that reflected current market rates for investments of similar risk. The discount rate for the GCGUs was estimated from the weighted average cost of capital of producers which operate a portfolio of assets similar to those of the Company's assets.

	Stainless & Electrical Steel	Alloys & Specialties	Services & Solutions
GCGU weighted average pre-tax discount rate used in 2011 (in %)	13.1	11.4	13.3
GCGU weighted average pre-tax discount rate used in 2012 (in %)	13.6	16.5	14.9
GCGU weighted average pre-tax discount rate used in 2013 (in %)	14.1	16.9	15.2

When estimating GCGU's average selling price for the purpose of 2013 impairment test, the Company used an average range ("Stainless Base Price 304 Germany") of €1,078 per tonne.

The results of the goodwill impairment test of 2011, 2012 and 2013 for each GCGU did not result in an impairment of goodwill as the value in use exceeded the carrying value of the GCGU.

In validating the value in use determined for the GCGU, key assumptions used in the discounted cash-flow model (such as discount rates, raw material margins, shipments and terminal growth rate) were sensitized to test the resilience of value in use. Management believes that reasonably possible changes in key assumptions would cause an impairment loss to be recognized in respect of Stainless & Electrical Steel and Services & Solutions operating segments.

	Stainless & Electrical Steel	Services & solutions
Recoverable amount	3,482	520
Carrying amount	3,192	508
Excess of recoverable amount over carrying amount	290	12

The following changes in key assumptions in projected cash flows in every year of the initial five-year period, assuming unchanged values for the other assumptions, would cause the recoverable amount to equal the respective carrying value;

	Stainless & Electrical Steel	Services & solutions
Increase in pre-tax discount rate (change in basis points)	105 bps	31 bps
Decrease in terminal growth rate used for the years beyond the five-year plan (change in basis points)	188 bps	67 bps
Decrease in shipments (change in %)	2.8 %	1.2 %
Decrease in raw material margin (change in %)	2.8 %	1.2 %
Increase in added costs (change in %)	2.3 %	0.5 %

In addition, the Company analyzed the sensitivity of the estimated recoverable amounts to the reasonable expected changes in assumptions, assuming unchanged values for the other assumptions:

- For the Stainless & Electrical Steel GCGU, reasonable expected changes in excess of the changes outlined above in relation to shipments, raw material margin and fixed costs would result in a directly proportional decrease in the GCGU's recoverable amount. Reasonable expected changes comprising of a 100 basis point increase in the pre-tax discount rate or a 100 basis point decrease in the terminal growth rate would result in decreases in the GCGU's recoverable amount of 276 or 165 respectively.

- For the Services & Solutions GCGU, reasonable expected changes in excess of the changes outlined above in relation to shipments, raw material margin and fixed costs would result in a directly proportional decrease in the GCGU's recoverable amount. Reasonable expected changes comprising of a 100 basis point increase in the pre-tax discount rate or a 100 basis point decrease in the terminal growth rate would result in decreases in the GCGU's recoverable amount of 36 or 17 respectively.

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The analysis did not result in other scenarios whereby a reasonable possible change in the aforementioned key assumptions would result in a recoverable amount for the GCGU which is inferior to the carrying value.

Research and development costs

Research and development costs not meeting the criteria for capitalization are expensed and included in selling, general and administrative expenses within the consolidated statement of operations. These costs amounted to 20, 20 and 18 in the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. There were no research and development costs capitalized during any of the periods presented.

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(millions of U.S. dollars)

NOTE 7: BIOLOGICAL ASSETS

Biological assets movements are summarized as follows:

Balance at January 1, 2011.....	—
Full consolidation of Aperam BioEnergia (note 9).....	157
Additions.....	7
Change in fair value.....	37
Harvested trees.....	(26)
Foreign exchange differences	(30)
At December 31, 2011.....	<u>145</u>
Balance at January 1, 2012.....	145
Additions.....	14
Change in fair value.....	30
Harvested trees.....	(43)
Foreign exchange differences	(11)
At December 31, 2012.....	<u>135</u>
Balance at January 1, 2013.....	135
Additions.....	21
Change in fair value.....	19
Harvested trees.....	(39)
Foreign exchange differences	(17)
At December 31, 2013.....	<u>119</u>

Forest reserves

The total area of 126 thousand hectares is composed of eucalyptus forest reserves in Brazil. These areas are managed by Aperam BioEnergia Ltda that provides planting, lumber harvesting and coal production services.

Biological assets

The Company's biological assets comprise the cultivation and planting of eucalyptus forests in order to supply raw materials for the production of charcoal.

The Company recognizes its biological assets at fair value in accordance with the following assumptions:

- i) In determining the fair value of biological assets, a discounted cash flow model was used, with a harvest cycle of six to seven years.
- ii) The projected cash flows are consistent with area's growing cycle. The volume of eucalyptus production to be harvested was estimated considering the average productivity in cubic meters of wood per hectare from each plantation at the time of harvest. The average productivity varies according to the genetic material, climate and soil conditions and the forestry management programs.

The average net sales price was projected based on the estimated price for eucalyptus in the local market, through a market study and research of actual transactions, adjusted to reflect the price of standing trees by region. The average estimated cost considers expenses for felling, chemical control of growing, pest control, composting, road maintenance, inputs and labor services. Tax effects based on current rates, as well as the contribution of other assets, such as property, plant and equipment and land were considered in the estimation based on average rates of return for those assets.

The valuation model considers the net cash flows after income tax and the discount rate used. Fair value measurement of biological assets is categorized within level 3 of fair value hierarchy.

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NOTE 8: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment are summarized as follows:

	Machinery and equipment	Land, buildings and improvements	Construction in progress	Total
Cost				
At December 31, 2010 (Combined)	2,929	957	117	4,003
Full consolidation of Aperam BioEnergia (note 9)	54	9	15	78
Additions	32	2	121	155
Foreign exchange differences	(173)	(61)	(17)	(251)
Disposals	(35)	(2)	—	(37)
Other movements	57	25	(72)	10
At December 31, 2011	2,864	930	164	3,958
Accumulated depreciation and impairment				
At December 31, 2010 (Combined)	953	133	—	1,086
Full consolidation of Aperam BioEnergia (note 9)	27	4	—	31
Depreciation charge for the year	215	51	—	266
Impairment	1	—	—	1
Disposals	(19)	—	—	(19)
Foreign exchange differences	(55)	(11)	—	(66)
Other movements	(2)	2	—	—
At December 31, 2011	1,120	179	—	1,299
Carrying amount				
At December 31, 2011	1,744	751	164	2,659
Cost				
At December 31, 2011	2,864	930	164	3,958
Additions	25	2	120	147
Foreign exchange differences	(34)	(17)	(1)	(52)
Disposals	(145)	(22)	—	(167)
Other movements	177	52	(212)	17
At December 31, 2012	2,887	945	71	3,903
Accumulated depreciation and impairment				
At December 31, 2011	1,120	179	—	1,299
Depreciation charge for the year	208	45	—	253
Impairment	23	4	—	27
Disposals	(142)	(10)	—	(152)
Foreign exchange differences	1	(2)	—	(1)
Other movements	(3)	6	—	3
At December 31, 2012	1,207	222	—	1,429
Carrying amount				
At December 31, 2012	1,680	723	71	2,474
Cost				
At December 31, 2012	2,887	945	71	3,903
Additions	24	—	71	95
Foreign exchange differences	(19)	(14)	(4)	(37)
Disposals	(27)	—	—	(27)
Other movements	67	13	(78)	2
At December 31, 2013	2,932	944	60	3,936
Accumulated depreciation and impairment				
At December 31, 2012	1,207	222	—	1,429
Depreciation charge for the year	200	46	—	246
Impairment	13	—	—	13
Disposals	(24)	—	—	(24)
Foreign exchange differences	8	(5)	—	3
Other movements	1	(1)	—	—
At December 31, 2013	1,405	262	—	1,667
Carrying amount				
At December 31, 2013	1,527	682	60	2,269

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Other movements represent mostly transfers between the categories.

During the year ended December 31, 2013 and in conjunction with its testing of goodwill for impairment, the Company analyzed the recoverable amount of its property, plant and equipment. Property, plant and equipment were tested at the Cash Generating Unit ("CGU") level. In certain instances, the CGU is an integrated manufacturing facility which may also be an operating subsidiary. Furthermore, a manufacturing facility may be operated together with another facility, with neither facility generating cash flows that are largely independent from the cash flows in the other. In this instance, the two facilities are combined for purposes of testing for impairment. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had determined it has six CGUs. The recoverable amounts of the CGUs are determined based on value in use calculation and follow similar assumptions as those used for the test on impairment for goodwill.

The Company estimated discount rates using pre-tax rates that reflect current market rates for investments of similar risk. The rate for each CGU was estimated from the weighted average cost of capital of producers which operate a portfolio of assets similar to those of Aperam's assets.

The Company concluded that the value in use of certain of its property, plant and equipment was less than its carrying amount. Accordingly, an impairment of 8 was recognized as an expense as part of operating income (loss) in the statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2013. This impairment consisted for 5 of various tubular product operations that are included in Services & Solutions reportable segment and for 3 of assets that are included in Alloys & Specialties reportable segment.

In 2013, 2012 and 2011, various idle assets were written down to their salvage value as a decision was made to cease all future use. Accordingly, an impairment loss of 5, 27 and 1 was recognized as an expense as part of operating result in the consolidated statement of operations for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The carrying amount of these assets was nil at December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011. The impairment loss of 5 recorded in 2013 consisted for 3 of idled assets in relation to the closure of the Firminy plant in France and in idle assets at Aperam South America for 2. The impairment loss of 27 recorded in 2012 consisted primarily of damaged assets in the accidental fire that occurred in Aperam Stainless France's Gueugnon plant for 14, and in idle assets at Aperam Stainless Belgium and Aperam South America for 7 and 6, respectively. The impairment loss of 1 recorded in 2011 consisted primarily of Company's facilities in Aperam Stainless France. Aperam Stainless France, Aperam South America and Aperam Stainless Belgium are included in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment. As of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, temporarily idle assets included in the Stainless & Electrical Steel segment were 24, 25 and 18, respectively. There were no temporarily idle assets included in the other segments as of any of the periods presented.

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment includes 10, 18 and 20 of finance leases as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The carrying amount of these finance leases is included in machinery and equipment.

These finance lease arrangements are mainly equipment related to the scrap and slab yard in Belgium for a carrying amount of 10 which can be purchased for their book value at the end of the remaining leasing period.

No property, plant and equipment was pledged in 2013, 2012 and 2011.

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NOTE 9: INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATES

The Company had the following investments in associates:

Investee	Location	Ownership % at December 31, 2013	Net asset value at December 31, 2013	Net asset value at December 31, 2012	Net asset value at December 31, 2011
Blue Sky Amercoeur ¹	Belgium	18.5%	—	2	2

¹ Aperam with five other electricity intensive users in Belgium has developed a solution with Electrabel to cover part of their energy supply within the Blue Sky consortium. On November 4, 2011, the consortium members incorporated Blue Sky Amercoeur as a cooperative company under Belgian law.

On December 31, 2013, due to project termination in 2014 and absence of alternative solution, shares in Blue Sky Amercoeur have been fully written down.

NOTE 10: OTHER INVESTMENTS

The Company holds the following other investments:

			Fair value December 31,		
	Location	Ownership % at December 31, 2013	2013	2012	2011
Available-for-sale securities (at fair value)					
General Moly Inc.....	U.S.	9.00%	11	33	26
Gerdau S.A.	Brazil	0.53%	71	80	70
Investments accounted for at cost					
Exeltium S.A.S.....	France	2.05%	5	5	—
Other.....			2	2	2
Total.....			89	120	98

The change in fair value of available-for-sale securities for the period was recorded directly in equity (other comprehensive income) as an unrealized gain or (loss), net of income tax, of (23), 18 and (59) for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

On February 20, 2012, the Company acquired 35,818 shares in Exeltium S.A.S. from ArcelorMittal, representing a 2.05% stake, for an amount of 5, recorded at cost. Exeltium is a consortium bringing together a number of "electro-intensive" European industrials to secure electricity supply of industrial sites in France.

On September 28, 2012, shares of the Company's investment in Gerdau were pledged as security for the new 50 secured bank loan described in note 13.

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NOTE 11: OTHER ASSETS

Other assets consisted of the following:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Cash guarantees and deposits	41	56	48
Long-term VAT receivables.....	21	21	9
Tax indemnification from ArcelorMittal Bioflorestas.....	12	18	22
Long-term receivables from sale of tangible assets.....	2	7	9
Other financial assets	15	11	11
Total	91	113	99

NOTE 12: BALANCES AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Transactions with related parties, including associates, of the Company, were as follows:

Transactions	Category	Year Ended December 31,			December 31,		
		2013	2012	2011	2013	2012	2011
		Sales			Included in Trade accounts receivable		
ArcelorMittal and its subsidiaries	Other	116	150	180	9	8	17
Total.....		116	150	180	9	8	17

Transactions	Category	Year Ended December 31,			December 31,		
		2013	2012	2011	2013	2012	2011
		Purchases of raw material & others			Included in Trade accounts payable		
ArcelorMittal and its subsidiaries.....	Other	155	139	269	18	18	28
BlueSky Amercoeur (note 9).....	Associate	17	18	—	—	3	—
Total.....		172	157	269	18	21	28

The table above includes purchases of raw materials and energy from related parties as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Raw materials	49	41	214
Energy supply contracts.....	88	81	10

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Transactions with related parties also include the following:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Convertible bonds—long-term debt (note 13) ¹	82	—	—
Tax indemnification from ArcelorMittal Bioflorestas—current and non current assets (note 11)	15	21	27
Other current assets	1	5	7
Other current liabilities	3	6	10
Derivative financial instruments—assets (note 14)	—	—	4
Derivative financial instruments—liabilities (note 14)	—	3	6
Cash and cash equivalents ²	—	—	133
Selling, General and administrative	8	11	11
Interest expense	—	—	22
Interest income	—	—	1

¹ On September 19, 2013, Aperam issued convertible and/or exchangeable bonds for a total consideration of 200, of which 40.85% or 82 have been subscribed by Lumen Investments S.à r.l. ("Lumen" thereafter).

On September 25, 2013, Aperam entered into a Share Lending Agreement with Lumen, pursuant to which Lumen agrees to make available for borrowing by Aperam, at any time and from time to time while any bond is outstanding, ordinary shares up to, in aggregate, a maximum amount of 2.6 million shares, in consideration for the payment of an agreed loan fee of \$0.00046 per lent ordinary share, accruing daily from and including the date on which the loaned ordinary shares were delivered to the borrower to, but excluding, the date of return of the borrowed ordinary shares. Under the Share Lending Agreement, deliveries of the loaned shares by Lumen is to occur on the dates an equal number of ordinary shares are required to be delivered by Aperam pursuant to the terms of the bonds. The share lending agreement provides that Aperam can terminate all or any portion of any loan made thereunder at any time and that all outstanding loans will terminate on the date which is three business days after the date on which a general meeting of shareholders of Aperam has approved a resolution approving sufficient authorized share capital and authorizes the Board of Directors of the Company to cancel the preferential subscription right of existing shareholders to allow return to Lumen of all borrowed ordinary shares. Under the Share Lending Agreement, Lumen has no rights (including voting or disposition rights) with respect to any ordinary shares that had been loaned to Aperam and not yet returned to Lumen. Subject to this condition being met, it is expected that any ordinary shares to be delivered by Aperam to Lumen upon termination of the loan(s) would be newly issued ordinary shares issued in favor of Lumen (with a cancellation of the shareholders' preferential subscription right).

² Since March 2012, Aperam had no longer cash pooling transaction with ArcelorMittal.

Transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries, which are related parties of the Company, have been eliminated in consolidation and are not disclosed in this note.

Refer to Note 24 for disclosure of transactions with key management personnel.

The above mentioned transactions between Aperam and the respective entities were conducted on an arm's length basis.

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NOTE 13: SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBT

Short-term debt, including the current portion of long-term debt, consisted of the following:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Short-term bank loans and other credit facilities.....	173	407	498
Current portion of long-term debt	32	19	35
Lease obligations	4	9	5
Total	209	435	538

800 secured borrowing base revolving credit facility

On March 16, 2011, the Company entered into a 800 secured borrowing base revolving credit facility (the "Borrowing Base Facility") with a group of lenders. The Borrowing Base Facility is structured as a 3-year revolving credit facility. It is used for liquidity and working capital purposes including the repayment of part of the financing provided by ArcelorMittal at spin-off.

On March 15, 2013, the Company amended the Borrowing Base Facility to extend the maturity of \$600 million (tranche B) of the \$800 million Borrowing Base Facility from March 2014 to March 2015. The remaining \$200 million (tranche A) of the Borrowing Base Facility matures in March 2014. Following the issuance of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds in September 2013, available commitments under Tranche A of the Borrowing Base Facility have been cancelled for an amount of \$131 million, representing 2/3rd of the convertible bonds net proceeds.

The remaining Borrowing Base Facility may be repaid and redrawn from time to time until its final maturity in March 2014 for tranche A and March 2015 for tranche B.

As of December 31, 2013, 163 was outstanding under this facility.

Long-term debt is comprised of the following as of December 31:

	Year of maturity	Type of Interest	Interest rate ⁽¹⁾	2013	2012	2011
250 unsecured bonds	2016	Fixed	7.375%	248	247	246
250 unsecured bonds	2018	Fixed	7.750%	247	246	245
200 Convertible bonds	2017/2020 ⁽²⁾	Fixed	2.625%	160	—	—
Loans in Brazil	2015-2021	Fixed/Floating	2.50%-8.70%	91	67	89
50 secured bank loan	2015	Floating	3.35%	50	49	—
€17 million loan	2013	Floating	—	—	—	23
Other loans	2015	Fixed	5.01%-13.25%	1	6	4
Total				797	615	607
Less current portion of long-term debt				32	19	35
Total long-term debt (excluding lease obligations)				765	596	572
Lease obligations ⁽³⁾				8	11	15
Total long-term debt, net of current portion				773	607	587

(1) Rates applicable to balances outstanding at December 31, 2013.

(2) Convertible bonds maturity is on September 30, 2020 but bonds are puttable by the bondholders on September 30, 2017.

(3) Net of current portion of 4, 9 and 5 on December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

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Unsecured Bonds

On March 30, 2011, the Company issued 500 principal amount of unsecured fixed rated bonds in two tranches, in a private placement in the international capital markets. The first tranche of 250 bears interest at 7.375% and is due April 1, 2016 and the second tranche of 250 bears interest at 7.75% and is due April 1, 2018. Interests are payable semi-annually on April 1 and October 1 of each year commencing on October 1, 2011.

The net proceeds of this offering have been used to repay part of outstanding amounts under the company's 900 bridge loan facility with ArcelorMittal.

Convertible Bonds

On September 19, 2013, Aperam issued a 200 convertible and/or exchangeable debt instrument with a contractual maturity of 7 years. These bonds bear interest at 2.625% per annum payable semi-annually on March 30 and September 30 of each year, commencing on March 30, 2014. The bonds are puttable by the bondholders on September 30, 2017 at the principal amount (plus accrued interests).

At inception, the Company determined the bonds met the definition of a compound financial instrument in accordance with IFRS. As such, the Company determined the fair value of the financial liability component of the bonds was 158 on the date of issuance.

50 secured bank loan

On September 28, 2012, the Company signed a 2-year 50 secured bank loan which bear interest at a rate of US\$ Libor plus 310 basis point per annum. In 2013, the loan maturity was extended to October 2015. As at December 31, 2013, shares of the Company's investment in Gerdau, representing a carrying value of 71, were pledged as security.

€17 million loan

On September 27, 2011, Aperam signed a €17 million bilateral credit facility agreement. The facility was due on September 2013 and has therefore been reclassified into short term debt as at December 31, 2012.

Scheduled maturities of long-term debt including lease obligations are as follows:

	December 31, 2013
2014	36
2015	83
2016	266
2017	172
2018	251
Subsequent years	1
Total	809

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The following table presents the structure of the Company's debt and cash in original currencies:

	Total USD	In USD equivalent as of December 31, 2013			
		EUR	USD	BRL	Other
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt	209	75	109	19	6
Long-term debt	773	8	714	51	—
Cash	291	134	47	97	13

	Total USD	In USD equivalent as of December 31, 2012			
		EUR	USD	BRL	Other
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt	435	29	340	64	2
Long-term debt	607	13	562	30	2
Cash	226	134	21	62	9

	Total USD	In USD equivalent as of December 31, 2011			
		EUR	USD	BRL	Other
Short-term debt and current portion of long-term debt	538	9	483	41	5
Long-term debt	587	23	518	32	14
Cash	247	156	42	49	—

As a part of the Company's overall risk and cash management strategies, several loan agreements have been swapped from their original currencies to other foreign currencies.

At the reporting date the carrying amount and fair value of the Company's long-term debt including lease obligations was:

	December 31,					
	2013		2012		2011	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Instruments payable bearing interest at fixed rates	692	773	527	482	525	447
Instruments payable bearing interest at variable rates	117	111	108	103	102	101

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(millions of U.S. dollars)

NOTE 14: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND CREDIT RISK

The Company utilizes financial derivative instruments to manage its exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates and commodity prices arising from operating, financing and investment activities.

Fair values versus carrying amounts

The estimated fair values of certain financial instruments have been determined using available market information or other valuation methodologies that require considerable judgment in interpreting market data and developing estimates.

Cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, short term investments and trade receivables are included in the "Loans and receivables" category, which is measured at amortized cost. Prepaid expenses and other current assets include derivative instruments of 1, 5 and 4 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. These derivatives instruments are classified as "Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss". Other investments are classified as "Available-for-sale" with gains or losses arising from changes in fair value recognized in other comprehensive income. Other assets are classified as "Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss".

Except for derivative financial instruments, which are classified as "Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss", financial liabilities are classified as "Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost". Accrued expenses and other liabilities include derivative financial instruments amounting to (5), (8) and (6) as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Other long-term obligations include derivative financial instruments amounting to nil, nil and (2) as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Net gains and losses recognized in the statement of operations on derivative instruments amounted to (23), (15) and (11) for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, of which:

- Unrealized gains (losses), which are included in financial income and expense, which were 2, 3 and (7) (see Note 16) for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively;
- Realized gains (losses) which were (25), (18) and (4) for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The Company's short and long-term debt consists of debt instruments which bear interest at fixed rates and variable rates tied to market indicators. The fair value of fixed rate debt is based on estimated future cash flows, which are discounted using current market rates for debt with similar remaining maturities and credit spreads. See Note 13 for disclosures of the carrying amount and fair value of the Company's variable rate debt.

The following table summarizes the bases used to measure certain assets and liabilities at their fair value as of December 31, 2013. Assets and liabilities carried at fair value have been classified into three levels based upon a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements.

The levels are as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2: Significant inputs other than within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices);
- Level 3: Inputs for the assets or liabilities that are not based on observable market data and require management assumptions or inputs from unobservable markets. The Company did not have any assets or liabilities classified as Level 3.

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	Level 1	Level 2	Total
Assets at fair value:			
Available-for-sale financial assets	82	—	82
Derivative financial assets	—	1	1
Total assets at fair value	82	1	83
Liabilities at fair value			
Derivative financial liabilities	—	5	5
Total liabilities at fair value	—	5	5

Available-for-sale financial assets classified as Level 1 refer to listed securities quoted in active markets. The total fair value is either the price of the most recent trade at the time of the market close or the official close price as defined by the exchange on which the asset is most actively traded on the last trading day of the period, multiplied by the number of units held without consideration of transaction costs.

Derivative financial assets and liabilities classified as Level 2 refer to instruments to hedge fluctuations in interest rates, foreign exchange rates and commodity prices (base metals). The total fair value is based on the price a dealer would pay or receive for the security or similar securities, adjusted for any terms specific to that asset or liability. Market inputs are obtained from well established and recognized vendors of market data (Bloomberg and Reuters) and the fair value is calculated using standard industry models based on significant observable market inputs such as foreign exchange rates, commodity prices, swap rates, and interest rates.

Portfolio of Derivatives

The Company's portfolio of derivatives consists of transactions with Aperam Treasury S.N.C. and Aperam Treasury S.C.A. (ArcelorMittal Treasury S.N.C. until January 25, 2011), which in turn enters into offsetting positions with counterparties external to Aperam. Aperam manages the counterparty risk associated with its instruments by centralizing its commitments and by applying procedures which specify, for each type of transaction exposure limits based on the risk characteristics of the counterparty.

The portfolio associated with derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2013 is as follows:

	Assets		Liabilities	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
Foreign exchange rate instruments				
Forward purchase contracts	2	—	104	—
Forward sale contracts	23	—	4	—
Total foreign exchange rate instruments		—		—
Raw materials (base metal)				
Term contracts sales metals	7	—	13	—
Term contracts purchases metals	64	1	118	(5)
Total raw materials (base metal)		1		(5)
Total		1		(5)

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The portfolio associated with derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2012 is as follows:

	Assets		Liabilities	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
Foreign exchange rate instruments				
Forward purchase contracts	14	—	19	—
Forward sale contracts	87	—	28	—
Total foreign exchange rate instruments		—		—
Raw materials (base metal)				
Term contracts sales metals	33	1	8	—
Term contracts purchases metals	71	4	115	(8)
Total raw materials (base metal)		5		(8)
Total		<u>5</u>		<u>(8)</u>

The portfolio associated with derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2011 is as follows:

	Assets		Liabilities	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
Foreign exchange rate instruments				
Forward purchase contracts	4	—	4	—
Forward sale contracts	1	—	30	(2)
Total foreign exchange rate instruments		—		(2)
Raw materials (base metal)				
Term contracts sales	6	1	10	—
Term contracts purchases	77	3	67	(6)
Total raw materials (base metal)		4		(6)
Total		<u>4</u>		<u>(8)</u>

Exchange rate risk

The Company is exposed to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates due to a substantial portion of the Company's assets, liabilities, sales and earnings being denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar (its presentation currency). These currency fluctuations, especially the fluctuation of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the Euro, Brazilian real, as well as fluctuations in the other countries' currencies in which the Company has significant operations and/or sales, could have a material impact on its results of operations.

Following its Treasury and Financial Risk Management Policy, the Company hedges its net exposure to exchange rates through spot and derivative transactions.

Liquidity Risk

The Company's principal sources of liquidity are cash generated from its operations, bank credit lines and various working capital credit lines at its operating subsidiaries. The levels of cash, credit lines and debt are closely monitored and appropriate actions are taken in order to manage the maturity profile and currency mix.

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The following are the contractual maturities of financial liabilities, including estimated interest payments and excluding the impact of netting agreements:

	December 31, 2013					
	Carrying Amount	Contractual Cash Flows	Less than 1 year	1-2 Years	2-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Non-derivative financial liabilities						
Debt over 100.....	(818)	(1,017)	(208)	(43)	(766)	—
Trade and other payables.....	(934)	(934)	(934)	—	—	—
Other non-derivative financial liabilities.....	(164)	(180)	(54)	(88)	(37)	(1)
Total.....	(1,916)	(2,131)	(1,196)	(131)	(803)	(1)

Derivative financial liabilities						
Foreign exchange contracts.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other commodities contracts.....	(5)	(5)	(5)	—	—	—
Total.....	(5)	(5)	(5)	—	—	—

	December 31, 2012					
	Carrying Amount	Contractual Cash Flows	Less than 1 year	1-2 Years	2-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Non-derivative financial liabilities						
Debt over 100.....	(818)	(991)	(366)	(37)	(332)	(256)
Trade and other payables.....	(950)	(950)	(950)	—	—	—
Other non-derivative financial liabilities.....	(224)	(241)	(120)	(79)	(40)	(2)
Total.....	(1,992)	(2,182)	(1,436)	(116)	(372)	(258)

Derivative financial liabilities						
Foreign exchange contracts.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other commodities contracts.....	(8)	(8)	(8)	—	—	—
Total.....	(8)	(8)	(8)	—	—	—

	December 31, 2011					
	Carrying Amount	Contractual Cash Flows	Less than 1 year	1-2 Years	2-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Non-derivative financial liabilities						
Debt over 100.....	(891)	(1,091)	(442)	(37)	(353)	(259)
Trade and other payables.....	(846)	(846)	(846)	—	—	—
Other non-derivative financial liabilities.....	(234)	(247)	(144)	(64)	(35)	(4)
Total.....	(1,971)	(2,184)	(1,432)	(101)	(388)	(263)

Derivative financial liabilities						
Foreign exchange contracts.....	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	—	—
Other commodities contracts.....	(6)	(6)	(5)	(1)	—	—
Total.....	(8)	(8)	(6)	(2)	—	—

Cash flow hedges

The following table presents the periods in which cash flows hedges are expected to mature:

	December 31, 2013					
		(outflows)/inflows				
	Carrying amount	3 months and less	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years	More than 2 years
Commodities.....	4	2	1	1	—	—
Total	4	2	1	1	—	—

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The following table presents the periods in which cash flows hedges are expected to impact the statement of operations:

	December 31, 2013					
		(expense)/income				
	Carrying amount	3 months and less	3-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years	More than 2 years
Commodities.....	4	2	1	1	—	—
Total	4	2	1	1	—	—

Raw materials

The Company utilizes derivative instruments such as forwards, swaps and options to manage its exposure to commodity prices both through the purchase of commodities and through sales contracts.

Fair values of raw material instruments are as follows:

	At December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Base metals	(4)	(3)	(2)
Total	(4)	(3)	(2)
Assets associated with raw material	1	5	4
Liabilities associated with raw material	(5)	(8)	(6)
Total	(4)	(3)	(2)

The Company consumes large amounts of commodities (mainly nickel), the price of which is related to the London Metals Exchange price index. The Company is exposed to price volatility in respect of its purchases in the spot market and under its long-term supply contracts.

Sensitivity analysis

Foreign currency sensitivity

The following table details the Company's sensitivity as it relates to derivative financial instruments to a 10% variation of the U.S. dollar against the other currencies to which the Company is exposed. The sensitivity analysis does not include non-derivative foreign currency-denominated monetary items. A positive number indicates an increase in statement of operations where a negative number indicates a decrease in statement of operations and other equity.

	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
10% appreciation in U.S. dollar	(10)	2	(2)
10% depreciation in U.S. dollar	10	(2)	2

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Cash flow sensitivity analysis for variable rate instruments

The following table details the Company's sensitivity to a change of 100 basis points ("bp") variation in interest rates. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency rates, remain constant.

December 31, 2013			
	Rate Instrument	Interest Rate Swaps/Forward Rate Agreements	Cash Flow Sensitivity (net)
100 bp increase	(1)	—	(2)
100 bp decrease	1	—	2
December 31, 2012			
	Rate Instrument	Interest Rate Swaps/Forward Rate Agreements	Cash Flow Sensitivity (net)
100 bp increase	(4)	—	(4)
100 bp decrease	4	—	4
December 31, 2011			
	Rate Instrument	Interest Rate Swaps/Forward Rate Agreements	Cash Flow Sensitivity (net)
100 bp increase	(4)	—	(4)
100 bp decrease	4	—	4

Base metals

The following table details the Company's sensitivity to a 10% variation in the prices of base metals. The sensitivity analysis includes un-matured base metal derivative instruments.

	December 31, 2013		December 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Income	Other Equity Cash Flow Hedging Reserves	Income	Other Equity Cash Flow Hedging Reserves	Income	Other Equity Cash Flow Hedging Reserves
+10% in prices Base Metals.....	2	14	9	5	7	6
-10% in prices Base Metals.....	(2)	(14)	(9)	(5)	(7)	(6)

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NOTE 15: EQUITY

Authorized shares

The Company's authorized share capital is of €450,031,000 represented by 85,854,303 shares without nominal value.

Share capital

On September 9, 2010, the Company's subscribed share capital was fixed in the sum of \$40,000 represented by 4,000 shares without par value.

On December 6, 2010, the Company's subscribed share capital was converted from USD into EUR (€31,000).

On January 25, 2011, the Company allotted the 78,045,730 newly issued shares without par value as fully paid up to the shareholders of ArcelorMittal S.A. in proportion of their holding of ArcelorMittal S.A. shares based on the exchange ratio set out in the spin-off proposal.

On December 31, 2013, the Company has 78,049,730 shares issued and outstanding, with no par value, for a total amount of 547.

Capital transactions with ArcelorMittal

There were no capital transactions with ArcelorMittal in 2013 and 2012.

Capital transactions with ArcelorMittal amounted to 33 in 2011 and mainly included the reversal of amounts payables related to allocations of expenses from ArcelorMittal.

Dividends

On January 21, 2011, the Company announced that subject to legal and regulatory requirements being met, Aperam's dividend payment of \$0.75 per share will be applicable after the spin-off. As at December 31, 2011, dividend payments of 14, 16, 13 and 16 (\$0.1875 per share per quarter) were made on March 30, 2011, June 14, 2011, September 12, 2011 and December 12, 2011, respectively.

On May 8, 2012, the annual general meeting approved the dividend payment at \$0.75 per share. As at December 31, 2012, quarterly dividend payments of 15, 14, 15 and 15 (\$0.1875 per share per quarter) were made on March 13, 2012, June 14, 2012, September 10, 2012 and December 10, 2012.

On February 4, 2013, the Company announced that the Board of Directors will submit to a shareholder's vote, at the next annual general meeting, a proposal to stop the dividend payment. On May 8, 2013, the annual general meeting of shareholders approved a proposal to make no dividend payment in 2013 in order to accelerate the deleveraging.

On February 6, 2014, the Company announced that the Board of Directors will submit to a shareholder's vote, at the next annual general meeting, a proposal to continue paying no dividend payment in 2014 in order to support the previously announced net debt reduction program.

Stock Option Plans

For historical reasons, certain of the Company's employees participate in stock-based compensation plans sponsored by ArcelorMittal. These plans provide employees with stock or options to purchase stock in ArcelorMittal. Given that the Company's employees directly benefit from participation in these plans, the expense incurred by ArcelorMittal for options granted to its employees has been reflected in the Company's consolidated statements of operations as selling, general and administrative. The compensation expense recognized for stock option plans was below 1, 1 and 3 for each of the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012

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and 2011, respectively. The vesting period of these plans ended in 2013, there was no compensation expense recognized at end of December 31, 2013.

For the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, the amount of outstanding options was 548,150, 661,909 and 843,681 respectively. The amount of exercisable options was 548,150, 605,942 and 684,604 respectively for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011.

Exercise prices of ArcelorMittal stock options vary from \$27.31 to \$78.44. Weighted average contractual life of the options varies from 1.6 to 6.6 years.

Share Unit Plan

On July 12, 2011, the ordinary general meeting of shareholders approved an equity-based incentive plan to key employees of Aperam. The plan comprises a Restricted Share Unit Plan ("RSU Plan") and a Performance Share Unit Plan ("PSU Plan") designed to incentivize the targeted employees, to improve the long-term performance of the Company and to retain key employees. Both the RSU Plan and the PSU Plan are intended to promote the alignment of interests between the company's shareholders and eligible employees by allowing them to participate in the success of the Company.

The RSU and PSU plans shall vest in full on the three year anniversary of the date on which the award was granted contingent upon the continued active employment of the employee within the Group. The aim of the RSU Plan is to provide a retention incentive to eligible employees. The RSUs are an integral part of the Company's remuneration framework in which it serves the specific objective of medium-term and long-term retention.

The main objective of the PSU Plan is to be an effective performance-enhancing scheme based on the achievement of the Company's strategy.

The maximum number of shares available for grant is subject to the prior approval of the Company's shareholders at the annual general meeting, such approval being valid until the next annual general meeting.

The allocation of equity based incentives to eligible employees under the RSU Plan and the PSU Plan is reviewed by the Remuneration, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors, which makes a proposal and recommendation to the full Board of Directors.

For the period from the July 12, 2011 general shareholders' meeting to the annual general meeting of shareholders held on May 8, 2012, a maximum of 70,000 RSUs corresponding to up to 70,000 of Aperam shares and up to 20,000 PSUs corresponding to up to 40,000 of the Company's shares was authorized to be allocated to qualifying employees under the RSU Plan and the PSU Plan, respectively. In November 2011, a total of 59,750 RSUs under the RSU Plan was granted to a total of 28 employees at a fair value of \$16.04 per share. In March 2012, a total of 14,250 PSUs was granted to a total of 8 employees of the Company at a fair value of \$16.53 per share.

On May 8, 2012, the annual general meeting of shareholders authorized the Board of Directors to issue, during the period between the 2012 and the 2013 annual general meeting, to key employees of Aperam a maximum of 70,000 RSUs corresponding to up to 70,000 of Aperam shares and up to 20,000 PSUs corresponding to up to 40,000 of the Company's shares. In April 2013, a total of 40,000 RSUs under the RSU Plan was granted to a total of 27 employees at a fair value of \$12.16 per share, all grants were for employees below the level of the Management Committee. No PSUs were granted under the May 8, 2012 authorization.

On May 8, 2013 annual general meeting of shareholders authorized the Board of Directors to issue, during the period between the 2013 and the 2014 annual general meeting, to key employees of Aperam a maximum of 220,000 of the Company's shares for grants under the Management Committee PSU Plan and other retention based grants below the level of the Management Committee. In August 2013, a total of 87,592 PSUs was granted to a total of 35 employees and a total of 44,000 RSUs was granted to a total of 28 employees at a fair value of \$13.40 per share.

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The fair value of the shares allocated to the beneficiaries is recorded as an expense in the consolidated statements of operations over the relevant vesting or service periods. The compensation expense recognized for the restricted stock units was below 1, below 1 and below 1 for the year ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Option premium on convertible bonds

The option premium on convertible bonds of 39, net of deferred tax liability of 12 represents the equity component (conversion rights) of the 200 convertible debt instrument issued on September 19, 2013 (see Note 13).

Earnings per common share

For the purpose of calculating earnings per common share, diluted weighted average common shares outstanding excludes 9 million potential common shares from the convertible bond described in note 13 for the year ended December 31, 2013 because the potential common shares are anti-dilutive.

NOTE 16: FINANCIAL INCOME AND EXPENSE

Financial income and expense recognized in the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 is as follows:

	2013	2012	2011
Recognized in the statement of operations			
Interest income	6	3	3
Interest expense	(92)	(76)	(73)
Result on disposal of financial assets	(1)	—	(1)
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments	2	3	(7)
Impairment of financial assets.....	—	—	(1)
Net foreign exchange result	(14)	(5)	(30)
Others ⁽¹⁾	(32)	(1)	(45)
Total interest expense and other net financing costs.....	(137)	(79)	(157)
Recognized in the statement of comprehensive income (Company share)			
Net change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets	(23)	18	(59)
Effective portion of changes in fair value of cash flow hedge	(1)	—	(9)
Foreign currency translation differences for foreign operations.....	(117)	(104)	(281)
Total	(141)	(86)	(349)

⁽¹⁾ Others include mainly expenses related to True Sale of Receivables ("TSR"), bank fees and interest cost on deferred employee benefits plans.

Unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments are mainly related to the fair value adjustments of raw material financial instruments hedging the purchases of nickel and do not qualifying for hedge accounting.

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NOTE 17: INCOME TAX

Income tax benefit

The breakdown of the income tax benefit for each of the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, is summarized as follows:

	Year ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Total current tax expense	14	11	7
Total deferred tax benefit.....	(58)	(77)	(55)
Total income tax benefit.....	(44)	(66)	(48)

The following table reconciles the income tax benefit to the statutory tax benefit as calculated:

	Year ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Net loss	(100)	(111)	(61)
Non-controlling interest	1	—	1
Income tax benefit.....	44	66	48
Loss before tax:	(143)	(177)	(108)
Tax benefit at domestic rates applicable to countries where loss was generated	71	82	62
Tax exempt revenues.....	—	—	3
Net change in measurement of deferred tax assets	(101)	(121)	(40)
Tax deductible write-down on shares.....	70	109	—
Deductible interest on net equity	—	—	1
Non-deductible stock option charge	—	—	(1)
Other permanent difference	4	(4)	23
Income tax benefit	44	66	48

The weighted average statutory tax benefit was 71, 82 and 62 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The decrease of the tax benefit from 2012 to 2013 was mainly due to improvement in the entities results. The increase of the tax benefit from 2011 to 2012 was mainly due to negative result in Belgium, Brazil, France and distribution entities in countries with high tax rate.

Tax exempt revenues mainly relate to tax exempt results from companies held by Luxembourg entities and Aperam South America for nil, nil and 3 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Net change in measurement of deferred tax assets of 101 in 2013 mainly relates to tax expense of 70 due to unrecognized deferred tax assets on write-down of the value of shares of a consolidated subsidiary in Luxembourg, de-recognition of deferred tax assets on previous tax losses for 24 and not capitalization of tax losses for 6 in Brazil, partly offset by recognition of deferred tax assets on previous tax losses in Spain for 3. Further change relates to limitation of interest deduction for 3 in France due to the new legislation.

Net change in measurement of deferred tax assets of 121 in 2012 mainly relates to tax expense of 109 due to unrecognized deferred tax assets on write-down of the value of shares of a consolidated subsidiary in Luxembourg and not capitalization of tax losses for 6 in Brazil, partly offset by recognition of deferred tax assets on previous tax losses in Czech Republic for 2. Further change relates to limitation of interest deduction for 3 in France due to the new legislation.

Net change in measurement of deferred tax assets of 40 in 2011 mainly relates to de-recognition of deferred tax assets for previous tax losses for 5, de-recognition of deferred tax assets for other temporary differences for 5 and non capitalization of 2011 losses for 6 in Brazil, de-recognition of deferred tax assets on previous tax losses in France for 8 and interest expense recapture in Luxembourg Tax Consolidation for 9.

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Other permanent difference in 2013 and 2012 consists of a reduced taxation on the financing activity, transfer pricing adjustment in Brazil, effect of foreign currency translation and equity method benefits, taxation on dividends and adjustments for tax deductible and non deductible items.

Other permanent difference in 2011 consists of a reduced taxation on certain activities, effect of foreign currency translation and equity method benefits, taxation on dividends and adjustments for tax deductible and non deductible items.

Income tax recognized directly in equity

Income tax recognized in equity for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 is as follows:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Deferred tax (expense) benefit			
Recognized in Retained Earnings	—	—	(17)
Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (Loss):			
Recognized actuarial gains (losses)	(4)	10	—
Unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale securities.....	—	(6)	16
Unrealized gains on derivatives financial instruments.....	—	—	5
Foreign currency translation adjustments	28	21	36
Recognized on the Option Premium on Convertible Bonds	(12)	—	—
Total	12	25	40

The net deferred tax benefits recorded directly to equity was 12, 25 and 40 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. There was no current tax booked directly in equity in 2013, 2012 and 2011.

The amount of (12) recognized on the option premium on convertible bonds in 2013 relates to the issuance of convertible bonds described in Note 13. The amount of (17) recognized in retained earnings in 2011 relates primarily to the capital transactions described in Note 15.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities

The origin of deferred tax assets and liabilities is as follows:

	Assets			Liabilities			Net		
	December 31,			December 31,			December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011	2013	2012	2011	2013	2012	2011
Intangible assets	2	16	69	(21)	(17)	(21)	(19)	(1)	48
Property, plant and equipment	7	5	4	(311)	(343)	(377)	(304)	(338)	(373)
Biological assets.....	—	—	—	(41)	(46)	(50)	(41)	(46)	(50)
Inventories	30	28	30	(8)	(7)	(6)	22	21	24
Available-for-sale financial assets.....	6	7	13	—	—	—	6	7	13
Financial instruments	4	4	7	(3)	(5)	(3)	1	(1)	4
Other assets	17	17	16	(7)	(4)	(4)	10	13	12
Provisions	65	68	61	(66)	(62)	(60)	(1)	6	1
Other liabilities	68	40	15	(17)	(5)	(5)	51	35	10
Tax losses carried forward	482	462	380	—	—	—	482	462	380
Tax credits	9	9	8	—	—	—	9	9	8
Deferred tax assets/(liabilities) ..	690	656	603	(474)	(489)	(526)	216	167	77
Deferred tax assets							333	303	249
Deferred tax liabilities							(117)	(136)	(172)

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Deferred tax assets not recognized by the Company as of December 31, 2013 were as follows:

	Gross amount	Total deferred tax assets	Recognized deferred tax assets	Unrecognized deferred tax assets
Tax losses carried forward.....	2,270	728	482	246
Tax credits and other tax benefits	63	21	9	12
Other temporary differences	584	199	199	—
Total.....		948	690	258

Deferred tax assets not recognized by the Company as of December 31, 2012 were as follows:

	Gross amount	Total deferred tax assets	Recognized deferred tax assets	Unrecognized deferred tax assets
Tax losses carried forward.....	1,856	604	462	142
Tax credits and other tax benefits	53	19	9	10
Other temporary differences	545	185	185	—
Total.....		808	656	152

Deferred tax assets not recognized by the Company as of December 31, 2011 were as follows:

	Gross amount	Total deferred tax assets	Recognized deferred tax assets	Unrecognized deferred tax assets
Tax losses carried forward.....	1,230	411	380	31
Tax credits and other tax benefits	51	18	8	10
Other temporary differences	635	215	215	—
Total.....		644	603	41

The Company has unrecognized deferred tax assets relating to tax loss carry forwards, tax credits and other tax benefits amounting to 258, 152 and 41 as of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively. As of December 31, 2013, the deferred tax assets not recognized relate to tax loss carry forwards attributable to subsidiaries located in Luxembourg (193), Brazil (42), France (7), Spain (2) and Italy (2) with different statutory tax rates. Therefore, the amount of the total deferred tax assets is the aggregate amount of the various deferred tax assets recognized and unrecognized at the various subsidiaries and not the result of a computation with a blended rate. Unrecognized tax losses have no expiration date in Brazil, France, Italy and Luxembourg and an expiration date of 18 years in Spain. The utilization of tax loss carry forwards is restricted to the taxable income of the subsidiary.

At December 31, 2013, based upon the level of historical taxable income and projections for future taxable income over the periods in which the deductible temporary differences are anticipated to reverse, management believes it is probable that the Company will realize the benefits of an amount of deferred tax assets recognized for 333. The amount of future taxable income required to be generated by the Company's operating subsidiaries to utilize the total deferred tax assets is approximately 1,008. Historically, the Company has been able to generate taxable income in sufficient amounts to permit it to utilize tax benefits associated with net operating loss carry forwards and other deferred tax assets that have been recognized in its consolidated financial statements. However, the amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable could be adjusted in the future if estimates of taxable income are revised.

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The Company has not recorded any deferred income tax liabilities on the undistributed earnings of its foreign subsidiaries for income tax due if these earnings would be distributed. For investments in subsidiaries, branches, associates and investments, that are not expected to reverse in the foreseeable future, no deferred tax liability has been recognized at December 31, 2013.

Tax loss carry forwards

At December 31, 2013, the Company had total estimated net tax loss carry forwards of 2,270.

Such amount includes net operating losses of 20, 5 and 3 related to Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Iberica S.L. in Spain, Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Czech Republic s.r.o. in Czech Republic and Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Poland z.o.o. in Poland which expire as follows:

<u>Year expiring</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2014	7
2015	—
2016	—
2017	2
2018	—
2019–2031	19
Total	28

The remaining tax loss carry forwards of 2,242 are indefinite and attributable to the Company's operations in Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy and Luxembourg.

Tax loss carry forwards are denominated in the currency of the countries in which the respective subsidiaries are located and operate. Fluctuations in currency exchange rates could reduce the U.S. dollar equivalent value of these tax loss carry forwards in future years.

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NOTE 18: PROVISIONS

The movements by provision were as follows:

	Balance at December 31, 2010 Combined	Additions	Deductions— Payments and other releases	Effects of Foreign Exchange and other movements	Balance at December 31, 2011
Environmental (note 22).....	38	3	(6)	(1)	34
Restructuring.....	1	—	(1)	—	—
Litigation (note 22).....	94	9	(49)	—	54
Voluntary separation plans	12	40	(31)	(1)	20
Other	17	14	(11)	(7)	13
Total	162	66	(98)	(9)	121
Short-term provisions.....	39				41
Long-term provisions	123				80
Total	162				121

	Balance at December 31, 2011	Additions	Deductions— Payments and other releases	Effects of Foreign Exchange and other movements	Balance at December 31, 2012
Environmental (note 22).....	34	4	(12)	1	27
Litigation (note 22).....	54	15	(9)	(3)	57
Voluntary separation plans	20	6	(14)	(1)	11
Other	13	13	(13)	—	13
Total	121	38	(48)	(3)	108
Short-term provisions.....	41				33
Long-term provisions	80				75
Total	121				108

	Balance at December 31, 2012	Additions	Deductions— Payments and other releases	Effects of Foreign Exchange and other movements	Balance at December 31, 2013
Litigation (note 22).....	57	13	(12)	(2)	56
Environmental (note 22).....	27	2	(4)	2	27
Restructuring.....	—	7	—	—	7
Voluntary separation plans	11	1	(7)	(2)	3
Other	13	15	(19)	(1)	8
Total	108	38	(42)	(3)	101
Short-term provisions.....	33				30
Long-term provisions	75				71
Total	108				101

There are uncertainties regarding the timing and amount of the provisions above. Changes in underlying facts and circumstances for each provision could result in differences in the amounts above and the actual outflows. Due to the uncertainties regarding the timing of the provisions or the short period of their expected use, they are presented on a non-discounted basis.

In June 2013, a restructuring provision of 7 has been recorded in relation to Firminy site (Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Precision) upcoming closure.

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As of December 31, 2013, the outstanding provision for voluntary separation plans relates to plans primarily in France which are expected to be settled in a period of one year.

Provisions for litigation related to probable losses that have been incurred due to a present legal or constructive obligation are expected to be settled in a period of one to four years.

Environmental provisions are related to probable environmental assessments and/or remedial efforts and are expected to be used for up to 20 years.

Other includes provisions for technical warranties, guarantees as well as other disputes.

NOTE 19: ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER LIABILITIES

Accrued expenses were comprised of the following as of:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Accrued payroll and employee related expenses.....	143	158	153
Cash collected from sold trade receivables.....	54	32	26
VAT and other amounts due to public authorities.....	39	34	45
Payable from acquisition of intangible & tangible assets.....	14	22	20
Accrued interests.....	14	14	13
Revaluation of derivative instruments	5	8	6
Unearned revenue and accrued payables.....	6	7	4
Other creditors	24	22	42
Total	299	297	309

NOTE 20: COMMITMENTS

The Company's commitments consist of three main categories:

- various purchase and capital expenditure commitments,
- pledges, guarantees and other collateral instruments given to secure financial debt and credit lines,
- non-cancellable operating leases.

Commitments given

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Purchase commitments.....	1,734	1,879	1,686
Guarantees, pledges and other collateral.....	1,104	1,082	879
Operating leases	38	29	24
Other commitments.....	—	—	2
Total	2,876	2,990	2,591

Purchase commitments

Purchase commitments consist of the major agreements for procuring electricity and nickel. The Company also entered into agreements for industrial gas, scrap and mill rolls.

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Guarantees, pledges and other collateral

Guarantees consist of guarantees of financial loans and credit lines first demand and documentary guarantees.

Pledges mainly relate to inventory and trade receivables pledged to secure the borrowing base revolving credit facility (see Notes 3, 4 and 13).

Other collateral include documentary credits, letters of credit and sureties.

Operating leases

Commitments for operating leases primarily related to one contract for land in Belgium. This lease expires in 2064. Future payments required under operating leases that have initial or remaining non-cancellable terms as of December 31, 2013 according to maturity periods are as follows:

Less than 1 year	6
1-3 years	8
4-5 years	6
More than 5 years	18
Total	<u>38</u>

NOTE 21: DEFERRED EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Company's operating subsidiaries have different types of pension plans for its employees. Also, some of the operating subsidiaries offer other post-employment benefits, principally retirement indemnities. Limited health care benefits are also offered to some employees in Belgium. The expense associated with these pension plans and employee benefits, as well as the carrying amount of the related liability/asset on the statements of financial position are based on a number of assumptions and factors such as the discount rate, expected compensation increases, actual return on plan assets and market value of the underlying assets.

Pension Plans

A summary of the significant defined benefit pension plans is as follows:

Brazil

The primary defined benefit plans, financed through trust funds, have been closed to new entrants. Brazilian entities have all established defined contribution plans that are financed by employer and employee contributions.

Europe

Certain European operating subsidiaries maintain primarily unfunded defined benefit pension plans for a certain number of employees. Benefits are based on such employees' length of service and applicable pension table under the terms of individual agreements. Some of these unfunded plans have been closed to new entrants and replaced by defined contribution pension plans for active members financed by employer and employee contributions.

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Plan Assets

The weighted-average asset allocations by asset category in Brazil were as follows:

	December 31		
	2013	2012	2011
Equity Securities.....	7%	6%	6%
<i>Asset classes that have a quoted market price in an active market.....</i>	7%	6%	6%
<i>Asset classes that do not have a quoted market price in an active market.....</i>	—	—	—
Fixed Income (including cash).....	89%	92%	92%
<i>Asset classes that have a quoted market price in an active market.....</i>	89%	92%	92%
<i>Asset classes that do not have a quoted market price in an active market.....</i>	—	—	—
Real Estate.....	1%	1%	1%
<i>Asset classes that have a quoted market price in an active market.....</i>	1%	1%	1%
<i>Asset classes that do not have a quoted market price in an active market.....</i>	—	—	—
Other	3%	—	—
Total.....	100%	100%	100%

The assets related to the funded defined benefit pension plans in Europe represented 1 and 1 as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively, and were invested in guaranteed insurance contracts.

These assets do not include any direct investment in Aperam or in property or other assets occupied or used by Aperam. This does not exclude Aperam shares included in mutual fund investments. The invested assets produced an actual return of 21, 7 and 21 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The Remuneration Committee of the Board of Directors for the respective operating subsidiaries has general supervisory authority over the respective trust funds. This committee has established the following asset allocation targets. These targets are considered benchmarks and are not mandatory.

	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Equity Securities.....	6%	—
Fixed Income (including cash)	88%	—
Real Estate	1%	—
Other	5%	100%
Total	100%	100%

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The following tables detail the reconciliation of defined benefit obligation, plan assets and statement of financial position.

	Year Ended December 31, 2013		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Change in benefit obligation			
Benefit obligation at beginning of the period	246	135	111
Service cost	1	1	—
Interest cost	14	11	3
Actuarial gain	(48)	(47)	(1)
<i>Demographic assumptions</i>	1	1	—
<i>Financial assumptions</i>	(47)	(45)	(2)
<i>Experience adjustments</i>	(2)	(3)	1
Benefits paid	(13)	(7)	(6)
Foreign currency exchange rate differences and other movements.....	(9)	(14)	5
Benefit obligation at end of the period	191	79	112
<i>Actives</i>	19	15	4
<i>Terminated vested</i>	3	—	3
<i>Retirees</i>	169	64	105
Benefit obligation at end of the period	191	79	112
Change in plan assets			
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of the period	166	165	1
Interest income on plan assets	14	14	—
Return on plan assets greater/(less) than discount rate	7	7	—
Employer contribution	(2)	(2)	—
Benefits paid	(7)	(7)	—
Foreign currency exchange rate differences and other movements.....	(23)	(23)	—
Fair value of plan assets at end of the period	155	154	1
Present value of wholly or partly funded obligation	80	79	1
Fair value of plan assets	155	154	1
Net present value of wholly or partly funded obligation	75	75	—
Present value of unfunded obligation	(111)	—	(111)
Prepaid due to unrecoverable surpluses	(75)	(75)	—
Recognized liabilities	(111)	—	(111)
Change in unrecoverable surplus			
Unrecoverable surplus at beginning of the year	(30)	(30)	—
Interest cost on unrecoverable surplus	(3)	(3)	—
Change in unrecoverable surplus in excess of interest	(50)	(50)	—
Exchange rates changes	8	8	—
Unrecoverable surplus at end of the year	(75)	(75)	—

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	Year Ended December 31, 2012		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Change in benefit obligation			
Benefit obligation at beginning of the period	198	116	82
Service cost	—	—	—
Interest cost	14	10	4
Curtailments & settlements	(24)	(24)	—
Actuarial loss	62	34	28
<i>Demographic assumptions</i>	15	2	13
<i>Financial assumptions</i>	52	34	18
<i>Experience adjustments</i>	(5)	(2)	(3)
Benefits paid	(13)	(8)	(5)
Foreign currency exchange rate differences and other movements.....	9	7	2
Benefit obligation at end of the period	246	135	111
<i>Actives</i>	19	16	3
<i>Terminated vested</i>	2	—	2
<i>Retirees</i>	225	119	106
Benefit obligation at end of the period	246	135	111
Change in plan assets			
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of the period	192	191	1
Interest income on plan assets	17	17	—
Return on plan assets greater/(less) than discount rate.....	(10)	(10)	—
Settlements	(28)	(28)	—
Benefits paid	(8)	(8)	—
Foreign currency exchange rate differences and other movements.....	3	3	—
Fair value of plan assets at end of the period	166	165	1
Present value of wholly or partly funded obligation	(136)	(135)	(1)
Fair value of plan assets	166	165	1
Net present value of wholly or partly funded obligation	30	30	—
Present value of unfunded obligation	(110)	—	(110)
Prepaid due to unrecoverable surpluses	(30)	(30)	—
Recognized liabilities	(110)	—	(110)
Change in unrecoverable surplus			
Unrecoverable surplus at beginning of the year	(75)	(75)	—
Interest cost on unrecoverable surplus	(8)	(8)	—
Change in unrecoverable surplus in excess of interest	49	49	—
Exchange rates changes	4	4	—
Unrecoverable surplus at end of the year	(30)	(30)	—

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	Year Ended December 31, 2011		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Change in benefit obligation			
Benefit obligation at beginning of the period	188	103	85
Service cost	1	1	—
Interest cost	17	12	5
Actuarial (gain)/loss	8	6	2
<i>Demographic assumptions</i>	1	1	—
<i>Financial assumptions</i>	(1)	(1)	—
<i>Experience adjustments</i>	8	6	2
Benefits paid	(16)	(10)	(6)
Foreign currency exchange rate differences and other movements.....	—	4	(4)
Benefit obligation at end of the period	198	116	82
<i>Actives</i>	18	15	3
<i>Terminated vested</i>	3	—	3
<i>Retirees</i>	177	101	76
Benefit obligation at end of the period	198	116	82
Change in plan assets			
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of the period	188	187	1
Interest income on plan assets	21	21	—
Benefits paid	(10)	(10)	—
Foreign currency exchange rate differences and other movements.....	(7)	(7)	—
Fair value of plan assets at end of the period	192	191	1
Present value of wholly or partly funded obligation	(117)	(116)	(1)
Fair value of plan assets	192	191	1
Net present value of wholly or partly funded obligation	75	75	—
Present value of unfunded obligation	(81)	—	(81)
Prepaid due to unrecoverable surpluses	(75)	(75)	—
Recognized liabilities	(81)	—	(81)
Change in unrecoverable surplus			
Unrecoverable surplus at beginning of the year	(84)	(84)	—
Interest cost on unrecoverable surplus	(8)	(8)	—
Change in unrecoverable surplus in excess of interest	7	7	—
Exchange rates changes	10	10	—
Unrecoverable surplus at end of the year	(75)	(75)	—

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Asset Ceiling

In accordance with IFRS, assets recognized for a defined benefit plan are limited to the present value of any economic benefit available in the form of refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions to the plan. The amount not recognized in the fair value of plan assets due to the asset ceiling was 75, 30 and 75 at December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The following tables detail the components of net periodic pension cost:

	Year Ended December 31, 2013		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Net periodic pension cost			
Service cost	1	1	—
Net Interest cost/(income) on net liability/(asset)	3	—	3
Administration costs	1	1	—
Total	5	2	3

	Year Ended December 31, 2012		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Net periodic pension cost			
Service cost	—	—	—
Past service cost - Curtailments	4	4	—
Net Interest cost/(income) on net liability/(asset)	5	1	4
Total	9	5	4

	Year Ended December 31, 2011		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Net periodic pension cost			
Service cost	1	1	—
Interest cost	4	—	4
Total	5	1	4

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(millions of U.S. dollars)

Other post-employment benefits

The Company's principal operating subsidiaries provide Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB"), including life insurance benefits, to retirees.

Summary of changes in the other post employment benefit obligation and the change in plan assets:

	<u>Year Ended December 31, 2013</u>		
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>BRAZIL</u>	<u>EUROPE</u>
Change in post-employment benefit obligation			
Benefit obligation at beginning of period.....	71	2	69
Service cost.....	3	—	3
Interest cost.....	2	—	2
Actuarial (gain)/loss.....	(7)	(1)	(6)
<i>Demographic assumptions</i>	(3)	—	(3)
<i>Financial assumptions</i>	(1)	—	(1)
<i>Experience adjustments</i>	(3)	(1)	(2)
Benefits paid	(5)	—	(5)
Plan amendments	5	—	5
Foreign currency exchange rate changes and other movements	3	—	3
Benefits obligation at end of period	72	1	71
<i>Actives</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>71</i>
<i>Terminated vested</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>
<i>Retirees</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>
Benefit obligation at end of the period	<u>72</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>71</u>
Fair value of assets	—	—	—
Present value of funded obligation	—	—	—
Fair value of plan assets.....	—	—	—
Net present value of funded obligation	—	—	—
Present value of unfunded obligation	(72)	(1)	(71)
Recognized liabilities.....	(72)	(1)	(71)

	<u>Year Ended December 31, 2012</u>		
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>BRAZIL</u>	<u>EUROPE</u>
Change in post-employment benefit obligation			
Benefit obligation at beginning of period.....	59	3	56
Service cost.....	2	—	2
Interest cost in DBO.....	3	—	3
Actuarial loss (gain)	10	(1)	11
<i>Demographic assumptions</i>	1	—	1
<i>Financial assumptions</i>	9	—	9
<i>Experience adjustments</i>	—	(1)	1
Benefits paid	(3)	—	(3)
Plan amendments.....	—	—	—
Benefits obligation at end of period	71	2	69
<i>Actives.....</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>69</i>
Benefit obligation at end of the period	<u>71</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>69</u>
Fair value of assets.....	—	—	—
Present value of funded obligation.....	—	—	—
Fair value of plan assets.....	—	—	—
Net present value of funded obligation.....	—	—	—
Present value of unfunded obligation.....	(71)	(2)	(69)
Recognized liabilities	(71)	(2)	(69)

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	Year Ended December 31, 2011		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Change in post-employment benefit obligation			
Benefit obligation at beginning of period	66	4	62
Service cost	2	—	2
Interest cost	3	—	3
Actuarial gain	(5)	—	(5)
<i>Experience adjustments</i>	—	—	(5)
Benefits paid	(4)	(1)	(3)
Plan amendments	1	—	1
Curtailments & settlements	(4)	—	(4)
Benefits obligation at end of period	59	3	56
<i>Actives</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>56</i>
Benefit obligation at end of the period	59	3	56
Fair value of assets	—	—	—
Present value of funded obligation	—	—	—
Fair value of plan assets	—	—	—
Net present value of funded obligation	—	—	—
Present value of unfunded obligation	(59)	(3)	(56)
Recognized liabilities	(59)	(3)	(56)

The following tables detail the components of net periodic other post-employment cost:

	Year Ended December 31, 2013		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Components of net periodic OPEB benefit			
Service cost	3	—	3
Past service cost – Plan amendments	5	—	5
Net Interest cost/(income) on net liability/(asset)	2	—	2
Actuarial (gains)/losses recognized during the year	(1)	(1)	—
Total	9	(1)	10

	Year Ended December 31, 2012		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Components of net periodic OPEB benefit			
Service cost	2	—	2
Net Interest cost/(income) on net liability/(asset)	3	—	3
Actuarial (gains)/losses recognized during the year	1	(1)	2
Total	6	(1)	7

	Year Ended December 31, 2011		
	TOTAL	BRAZIL	EUROPE
Components of net periodic OPEB benefit			
Service cost	2	—	2
Curtailments and settlements	(3)	—	(3)
Net Interest cost/(income) on net liability/(asset)	3	—	3
Actuarial (gains)/losses recognized during the year	—	—	—
Total	2	—	2

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Weighted-average assumptions used to determine benefit obligations:

	Pension Plans			Other Post-employment Benefits		
	December 31,			December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011	2013	2012	2011
Discount rate						
Range	3.15%-12.36%	3.00% - 8.99%	4.75% - 10.46%	3.15%-12.36%	3.00% - 8.99%	4.75% - 10.46%
Weighted average	6.95%	6.28%	8.08%	3.26%	3.16%	5.04%
Rate of compensation increase						
Range	2%-7.91%	2% - 6.95%	2% - 6.55%	3.25%-7.91%	3.25% - 6.95%	3.25% - 6.55%
Weighted average	4.99%	5.14%	5.05%	3.31%	3.35%	3.43%
Average longevity at retirement age for current pensioners (years)						
Males	21.921	N/A	N/A	18.545	N/A	N/A
Females	25.047	N/A	N/A	18.238	N/A	N/A
Average longevity at retirement age for future pensioners (years)						
Males	23.508	N/A	N/A	18.545	N/A	N/A
Females	26.781	N/A	N/A	18.238	N/A	N/A

Cash Contributions and maturity profile of the plans

In 2014, the Company expects its cash contributions to amount to 6 for pension plans, 5 for other post employment benefits plans and 11 for the defined contribution plans. Cash contributions to the defined contribution plans, sponsored by the Company, were 11, 10 and 11 in 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

At December 31, 2013, the weighted average durations of the pension and other post-employment benefits plans were 13 years and 9 years, respectively.

Statement of Financial Position

Together with plans and obligations that do not constitute pension or other post-employment benefits, the total deferred employee benefits are as follows:

	December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Pension plan benefits	111	110	81
Other post-employment benefits	72	71	59
Early retirement benefits	36	29	37
Other long-term employee benefits	1	1	1
Total	220	211	178

Sensitivity analysis

The following information illustrates the sensitivity to a change in certain assumptions related to the Company's operating subsidiaries' pension plans (as of December 31, 2013, the defined benefit obligation ("DBO") for pension plans was 191):

Change in assumption	Effect on 2014 Pre-Tax Pension Expense (sum of service cost and interest cost)*	Effect of December 31, 2013 DBO
100 basis point decrease in discount rate	—	28
100 basis point increase in discount rate	—	(23)
100 basis point decrease in rate of compensation	—	3
100 basis point increase in rate of compensation	—	(3)
1 year increase of the expected life of the beneficiaries	—	6

* Effects of change in assumptions on 2014 Pre-Tax pension expense were below 1 respectively.

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The following table illustrates the sensitivity to a change in the discount rate assumption related to the Company's operating subsidiaries' OPEB plans (as of December 31, 2013 the DBO for post-employment benefit plans was 72):

	Effect on 2014 Pre-Tax OPEB Expense (sum of Service cost and interest cost)	Effect of December 31, 2013 DBO
Change in assumption		
100 basis point decrease in discount rate	—	7
100 basis point increase in discount rate	—	(6)
1 year increase of the expected life of the beneficiaries	—	—

* Effects of change in assumptions on 2014 OPEB expense were below 1 respectively.

The above sensitivities reflect the effect of changing one assumption at a time. Actual economic factors and conditions often affect multiple assumptions simultaneously, and the effects of changes in key assumptions are not necessarily linear.

Risks associated with defined benefit plans

Through its defined benefit pension plans and OPEB plans, Aperam is exposed to a number of risks, the most significant of which are detailed below:

Change in bond yields

A decrease in corporate bond yields will increase plan liabilities, although this will be partially offset by an increase in the value of the plan's bond holdings.

Investment risk

The present value of the defined plan liability is calculated using a discount rate determined by reference to high quality corporate bond yields; if the return on plan asset is below this rate, it will create a plan deficit. For Aperam's funded plans, plan assets hold a significant portion of equities, which are expected to outperform corporate bond in the long-term while providing volatility and risk in the short-term. Due to the long-term nature of the plan liabilities, the Company considers it appropriate that a reasonable portion of the plan assets should be invested in equity securities to leverage the return generated by the plans.

Longevity risk

The present value of the defined benefit plan liability is calculated by reference to the best estimate of the mortality of plan participants both during and after their employment. An increase in the life expectancy of the plan participants will increase the plan's liability.

Salary risk

The present value of the defined benefit plan liability is calculated by reference to the future salaries of plan participants. As such, an increase in the salary of the plan participants will increase the plan's liability.

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NOTE 22: CONTINGENCIES

The Company is involved in litigation, arbitration or other legal proceedings. Provisions related to legal and arbitral proceedings are recorded in accordance with the principles described in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements.

Most of these claims involve highly complex issues, actual damages and other matters. Often these issues are subject to substantial uncertainties and, therefore, the probability of loss and an estimation of damages are difficult to ascertain. Consequently, for certain of these claims, the Company is unable to make a reasonable estimate of the expected financial effect that will result from ultimate resolution of the proceeding. In those cases, the Company has disclosed information with respect to the nature of the contingency. The Company has not accrued a reserve for the potential outcome of these cases.

In the cases in which quantifiable fines and penalties have been assessed, the Company has indicated the amount of such fine or penalty, or the amount of provision accrued, which is the estimate of the probable loss.

In a limited number of ongoing cases, the Company is able to make a reasonable estimate of the expected loss or range of possible loss and has accrued a provision for such loss, but management believes that publication of this information on a case-by-case basis would seriously prejudice its position in the ongoing legal proceedings or in any related settlement discussions. Accordingly, in these cases, the Company has disclosed information with respect to the nature of the contingency, but has not disclosed its estimate of the range of potential loss.

These assessments can involve a series of complex judgments about future events and can rely heavily on estimates and assumptions. The Company's assessments are based on estimates and assumptions that have been deemed reasonable by management. Management believes that the aggregate provisions recorded for these matters are adequate based upon currently available information. However, given the inherent uncertainties related to these cases and in estimating contingent liabilities, the Company could, in the future, incur judgments that have a material adverse effect on its results of operations in any particular period.

In addition, in the normal course of business, the Company and its operating subsidiaries may be subject to audits by the tax authorities in the countries in which they operate. Those audits could result in additional tax liabilities and payments, including penalties for late payment and interest.

Environmental Liabilities

The Company is subject to a broad range of environmental laws and regulations. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had established reserves of 27 for environmental and remedial activities and liabilities.

Belgium

In Belgium, there is an environmental provision of 14, of which the most significant elements are legal obligations linked to soil treatment and removal of slag and fines.

France

In France, there is an environmental provision of 13, which relates to (i) the demolition and clean-up of the Company's Ardoise facility after operations ceased at the site and (ii) the clean-up and restructuring of its Firminy site.

Brazil

In Brazil, violation of an environmental regulation may result in fines, imprisonment, interruption of the Company's activities, cancellation of tax incentives and credit lines with governmental financial entities and dissolution of the corporate entity, in addition to the obligation to repair or to indemnify for damages caused to the environment and third parties.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

Therefore, changes in environmental laws or regulations, or in the interpretation thereof, or in the administrative procedures and policies adopted under current environmental laws and regulations, could require the Company to invest in additional resources in environmental compliance and the renewal of its licenses, and could therefore adversely affect it. Additionally, non-compliance with or violation of any such laws and regulations could result in the revocation of the Company's licenses and suspension of its activities or in its responsibility for environmental remediation costs, which could be substantial. The Company cannot assure that its expenses relating to compliance with applicable environmental regulations will not be significant or that it will be able to renew its licenses in a timely manner, or at all. Moreover, under certain circumstances the Company's corporate shareholder structure could be disregarded in order to enable claimants to recover for environmental claims against it.

Tax Claims

The Company is party to various tax claims, the most significant of which are set out below. As of December 31, 2013, the Company has established reserves in the aggregate of approximately 14 for those of the claims as to which the criteria for provisioning were met.

- On December 20, 2013, Aperam South America received a tax assessment from Federal Revenue in the total amount of 115. This assessment contains 2 parts for the years 2008 and 2009:
 - Madeira Island Tax planning (the tax authorities required that the profits of Acesita Imports & Exports (Madeira Island) be added to Aperam South America's tax basis,
 - The tax authorities disregarded the goodwill generated by the acquisition by Arcelor Aços Especiais do Brasil ("AAEB") of the minority shareholding of Aperam South America at the time of its delisting in 2008.

Aperam South America presented its defense at the first administrative level in January 2014.

- On October 31, 2013, Aperam South America was assessed by the Federal Revenue in connection with the compensation the company made since 2010 on undue payment of PIS and COFINS (social contributions on revenue) charges. The later was judged unconstitutional in 2005 and the Company launched at that time the necessary procedure to get reimbursed. The total amount claimed is 80.
- In March 2012, the Company received two tax assessments regarding PIS and COFINS related to importation of services (freight, logistics and commercial representation services) made by the Company in 2007. The total amount claimed is 9. In June 2012, the Company obtained a partial favorable decision from the first administrative instance. The case is pending at the second administrative instance.
- On December 27, 2011, Aperam South America received a tax assessment from the State of Minas Gerais regarding VAT tax credit ("ICMS") used by the Company related to the purchasing of scraps from a supplier which the State considered as not being authorized to issue invoices with VAT. The total amount claimed is 8. The case is in first administrative instance where the Company presented its defense.
- On December 16, 2011, Aperam Stainless Services and Solutions Brazil has been assessed by the Tax authorities aiming at collecting 34 (including interest on late payments and penalties) related to VAT ("ICMS"). Tax authorities claimed that the Company has not collected to the State of Sao Paulo the ICMS imposed on importation of products performed by a trading company located in the State of Espirito Santo and disregarded the ICMS credit recognized by the Company at the time of acquisition of the goods from the trading company. The company obtained a partial favorable decision at the first administrative level, confirmed by the Superior court in October 2013. The Company will, nevertheless, bring the case at judicial level for the remaining amount.

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- In December 2011, the Federal Revenue issued four tax assessments against Aperam South America for a total amount of 25 considering that the Company did not pay several social contributions due on payments made to employees under the Profit Sharing Program. These cases are at the first administrative instance where the Company presented its defense.
- On March 29, 2011, Aperam South America received a tax assessment related to drawback tax benefit. Federal revenue states that the Company did not respect the conditions to use the benefit and demand to pay taxes related to importation and fees. The total amount claimed is 9. The Company presented its appeal at the first administrative level.
- On December 2, 2010, Aperam South America received a tax assessment in the total amount of 31. The Minas Gerais State Revenue claims that the Company should have paid VAT ("ICMS") related to the distribution of electric power between 2005 and 2009. The Company believes that this charge should not prevail since the distribution of electrical power should not be considered as a good or transportation and therefore it should not be subject to VAT ("ICMS"). On May 5, 2011 the Company received a partial favorable decision. Minas Gerais State Revenue concluded that the Company has to pay ICMS but stated that the amount for late payments and penalties was wrong. In March 2012, the Company has brought the case before the judicial court that confirmed the favorable decision obtained by the administrative court. The Company's position was comforted by the court of Appeal in August 2013 but there are still some pending discussions at second level of judicial court.
- On December 5, 2007, the Federal Revenue Service challenged IPI tax credits (Tax on Industrialized Products similar to Federal VAT) registered by Aperam South America from January 2003 to December 2006 related to the acquisition of certain materials. The claim alleges that the products acquired are either not related to the final product or not integrally consumed during operations. In December 2010, there was a partial favorable decision that has been confirmed in May 2013 to the Company. The amount in dispute is approximately 6.
- In June 2007, the Company was assessed for payment of social contributions on some payments made to employees related to bonus granted by collective work agreement. The total amount asked by the Federal Union is 9. The first administrative instance's decision was favorable to the Company, but it still need to be confirmed by the second administrative instance.
- On December 21, 2005, Aperam South America has been assessed by the Federal Revenue Service in relation to its calculation of social contributions on revenue (PIS and COFINS) due to (i) unconditional discounts given to clients, (ii) the value of tax incentives granted by federal legislation (specifically, credits to be offset with IPI) and (iii) revenues derived from exchange rate variations. The amount in dispute is approximately 23 and the Company obtained a partial favorable decision from the Special Court in the second administrative instance but presented a special motion regarding the pending unfavorable decision.
- On March 15 and March 18, 2005, Aperam South America has been assessed by the INSS (the Brazilian Social Securities Institute) for the non-collection of certain payroll taxes between 1999 and 2004 related to the special retirement of employees exposed to unhealthy working conditions. On December 3, 2013, the Company has received a partial unfavorable decision by the second administrative instance but asked for a special motion to be clarified for which the Federal Revenue authorities presented a specific appeal at the Superior administrative level. The amount in dispute comprising six cases is 26.
- On October 13, 1998, the Federal Revenue Service filed a tax foreclosure action against the Company in relation to the alleged underpayment of payroll taxes in the period of January 1987 to July 1997. After the Company initially prevailed in the Federal Court, the Brazilian Federal Revenue Service filed an appeal with the Federal Court of Appeals. The amount in dispute is approximately 5.
- In November 1995, the Company was assessed for unauthorized compensation of losses and negative basis of social contribution between 1989 and 1994. The total amount claimed is 10.

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After unfavorable decision in the first and second judicial instances, the Company is waiting for the final decision of the superior courts.

Labor and Other Claims

The Company is presently involved in a number of labor disputes, the most significant of which are set out below. As of December 31, 2013, the Company has established reserves in the aggregate of approximately 42 for those of the claims as to which the criteria for provisioning were met.

Brazil

- On April 1, 2004, a sanctioning administrative process with the Central Bank was brought against Aperam South America based on alleged irregular exchange operations utilized by it in the purchase and sale of treasury bills. On March 22, 2007, Aperam South America has been assessed with a fine of 16. The Company brought the case before the judicial court in 2012.

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NOTE 23: SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Aperam reports its operations in three segments: Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions and Alloys & Specialties. Refer to Note 2 for the policy about segment reporting.

- Stainless & Electrical Steel operates upstream and downstream facilities located in France and Belgium as well as an integrated plant in Brazil. Aperam is the only integrated producer of flat stainless and silicon steel in South America;
- Alloys & Specialties is specialized in the design, production and transformation of nickel and cobalt alloys and certain specific stainless steels. Its facilities are mainly located in France with ownership interests in China and central India;
- Services & Solutions represents the trading and distribution arm of Aperam. It also provides value-added and customized steel solutions through further steel processing to meet specific customer requirements including stainless precision strips and welded tubes.

The following table summarizes certain financial data relating to Aperam's operations in its different reportable segments.

	<u>Stainless & Electrical Steel</u>	<u>Services & Solutions</u>	<u>Alloys & Specialties</u>	<u>Others/ Eliminations (*)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Year ended December 31, 2013					
Sales to external customers	2,362	2,117	637	4	5,120
Intersegment sales(**).....	1,635	72	4	(1,711)	—
Operating income (loss)	(29)	(25)	50	(7)	(11)
Depreciation	239	26	7	18	290
Impairment	2	8	3	—	13
Capital expenditures	79	11	12	23	125
Year ended December 31, 2012					
Sales to external customers	2,496	2,103	655	7	5,261
Intersegment sales(**).....	1,684	70	4	(1,758)	—
Operating income (loss)	(147)	(8)	50	2	(103)
Depreciation	241	29	6	17	293
Impairment	27	—	—	—	27
Capital expenditures	91	31	23	16	161
Year ended December 31, 2011					
Sales to external customers	3,126	2,505	712	2	6,345
Intersegment sales(**).....	1,942	98	9	(2,049)	—
Operating income (loss)	(32)	(18)	64	38	52
Depreciation	259	30	6	12	307
Impairment	1	3	—	—	4
Capital expenditures	110	20	12	16	158

(*) Others/Eliminations includes all other operations than mentioned above, together with inter-segment elimination, and/or non-operational items which are not segmented.

(**) Transactions between segments are conducted on the same basis of accounting as transactions with third parties.

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The Company does not regularly provide assets for each reportable segment to the CODM. The table which follows presents the reconciliation of segment assets to total assets as required by IFRS 8.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Assets allocated to segments	4,822	5,160	5,507
Cash and cash equivalents, including restricted cash	292	226	247
Other investments	89	120	98
Deferred tax assets	333	303	249
Other unallocated assets	91	114	100
Total assets	5,627	5,923	6,201

The reconciliation from operating (loss) income to net loss is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Operating (loss) income	(11)	(103)	52
(Loss) income from other investments and associates	(1)	2	2
Interest income	6	3	3
Interest expense and other net financing costs	(137)	(79)	(165)
Loss before taxes	(143)	(177)	(108)
Income tax benefit	44	66	48
Net loss (including non-controlling interests)	(99)	(111)	(60)

Geographical information

Sales (by destination)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Americas			
Brazil	1,171	1,158	1,335
United States	259	294	341
Argentina	96	104	130
Others	73	94	130
Total Americas	1,599	1,650	1,936
Europe			
Germany	1,068	1,108	1,313
Italy	472	493	592
France	402	439	581
Belgium	168	189	209
Poland	145	138	151
United Kingdom	109	114	123
Netherlands	104	134	149
Spain	104	91	131
Others	538	543	660
Total Europe	3,110	3,249	3,909
Asia & Africa			
South Korea	123	101	80
China	113	61	105
Taiwan	28	28	52
India	26	27	43
United Arab Emirates	21	23	25
Thailand	20	27	54
Others	80	95	141
Total Asia & Africa	411	362	500
Total	5,120	5,261	6,345

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Non-current assets() per significant country*

	As of December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Americas			
Brazil	823	1,029	1,199
Others	21	23	28
Total Americas	<u>844</u>	<u>1,052</u>	<u>1,227</u>
Europe			
Belgium	896	925	973
France	571	555	503
Germany	22	22	23
Italy	19	20	23
Czech Republic	17	20	21
Poland	19	20	19
Others	19	19	25
Total Europe	<u>1,563</u>	<u>1,581</u>	<u>1,587</u>
Asia & Africa			
India	4	8	8
China	3	5	6
Others	1	1	2
Total Africa & Asia	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>
Unallocated assets	1,294	1,359	1,326
Total	<u>3,709</u>	<u>4,006</u>	<u>4,156</u>

(*) Non-current assets do not include goodwill (as it is not allocated to the geographic regions), deferred tax assets, other investments or receivables and other non-current financial assets. Such assets are presented under the caption "Unallocated assets".

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NOTE 24: EMPLOYEES AND KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The total annual compensation of Aperam's employees was as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Employee Information			
Wages and salaries	607	608	654
Pension cost	9	4	10
Other staff costs	89	73	90
Total	705	685	754

As of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, Aperam employed approximately 9,533, 9,815 and 10,533 persons, respectively.

The total annual compensation of Aperam's key management personnel, including its Board of Directors, paid in 2013 was as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2013	Year Ended December 31, 2012	Year Ended December 31, 2011
Base salary and/or directors fees.....	3	3	3
Short-term performance-related bonus ⁽¹⁾	—	—	1
Post-employments benefits ⁽¹⁾	—	—	—
Share based compensation ⁽¹⁾	—	—	—

⁽¹⁾ Short-term performance-related bonus for the years ended December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, post-employments benefits and share based compensation for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, were below 1.

As of December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, the Company did not have any outstanding loans or advances to members of Aperam's Board of Directors or key management personnel and had not given any guarantees for the benefit of any member of Aperam's Board of Directors or key management personnel.

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NOTE 25: LIST OF SIGNIFICANT SUBSIDIARIES AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2013

The following table provides an overview of the Company's principal operating subsidiaries, all of which are integrated in full consolidation by the Company, according to the principles defined in Note 1, and meet the following criteria:

- Contribution to the Group total property, plant and equipment in excess of 5; or
- Contribution to the Group revenue in excess of 40.

Name of subsidiary	Country of incorporation	% Interest
Stainless & Electrical Steel		
Aperam Stainless Belgium	Belgium	100%
Aperam South America	Brazil	100%
Aperam Stainless Europe	France	100%
Aperam Stainless France	France	100%
Recyco	France	100%
Alloys & Specialties		
Aperam Alloys Imphy	France	100%
Services & Solutions		
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Argentina	Argentina	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Brazil	Brazil	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Brazil	Brazil	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Czech Republic	Czech Republic	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions France	France	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Precision	France	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Europe	France	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Germany	Germany	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Italy	Italy	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Luxembourg	Luxembourg	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Poland	Poland	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Iberica	Spain	100%
Aperam Paslanmaz Celik	Turkey	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions Tubes Uruguay	Uruguay	100%
Aperam Stainless Services & Solutions USA	USA	100%
Other		
Aperam BioEnergia	Brazil	100%

Aperam

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(millions of U.S. dollars)

NOTE 26: AUDITORS' FEES AND SERVICES

Deloitte Audit S.à.r.l. acted as the principal independent registered public accounting firm for Aperam for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011.

The following table summarizes the aggregate amounts paid to the Company's auditors:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2013	2012	2011
Audit fees	2.6	2.9	3.1
<i>Deloitte</i>	2.1	2.2	2.3
<i>Non Deloitte</i>	0.5	0.7	0.8
Audit-related fees	0.7	0.2	0.3
<i>Deloitte</i>	0.4	0.1	0.1
<i>Non Deloitte</i>	0.3	0.1	0.2
Tax fees	0.6	0.5	0.4
<i>Deloitte</i>	0.1	0.1	0.1
<i>Non Deloitte</i>	0.5	0.4	0.3
Total	<u>3.9</u>	<u>3.6</u>	<u>3.8</u>

Audit fees consist of fees paid for the audits of the financial statements.

Audit-related fees consist principally of issuances of certifications related to the covenant compliance required by lenders of the borrowing base revolving credit facility and the certifications related to the issuance of convertible and/or exchangeable bonds.

Tax fees consist principally of tax planning services and tax compliance services.

NOTE 27: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On February 6, 2014, Aperam announced that it obtained a new in-principle refinancing commitment to extend Tranche B portion of USD 600 million Borrowing Base Facility from March 2015 until March 2016, subject to documentation amendments.