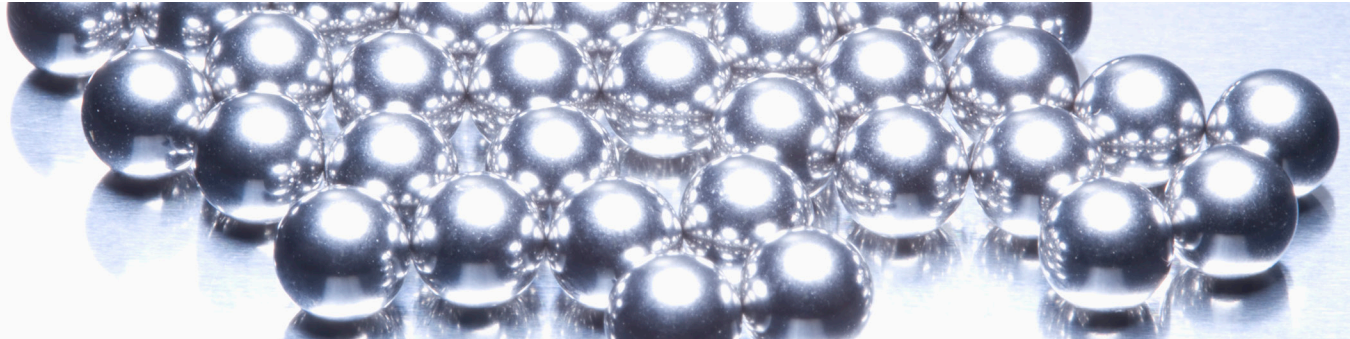


# Chart of the Week



THE CONFERENCE BOARD GOVERNANCE CENTER®

## Sustainability Reporting Proposals

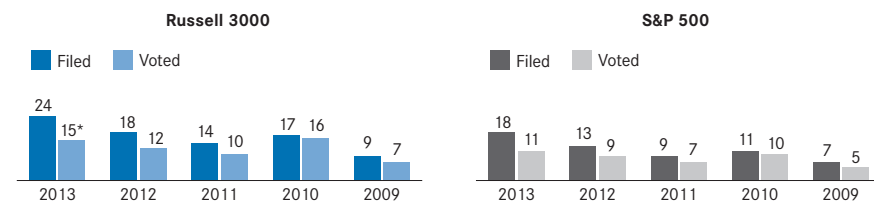
FROM PROXY VOTING ANALYTICS (2009-2013)

The volume of shareholder proposals requesting that boards report annually to shareholders on corporate policies, initiatives, and oversight mechanisms related to social, economic, and environmental sustainability has increased steadily over the last five years.

The volume of and average support for sustainability reporting proposals increased in 2013. Shareholders submitted 24 sustainability reporting proposals at Russell 3000 companies that held meetings during the first half of the year. Average support for the 15 proposals that went to a vote by June 30 was 26.3 percent of votes cast, up from 24.7 for proposals voted during the same period in 2012 and 17.5 percent in 2009. One proposal voted during the 2013 period received majority support.

### Sustainability Reporting—Shareholder Proposal Volume, by Index (2009-2013)

Number of shareholder proposals

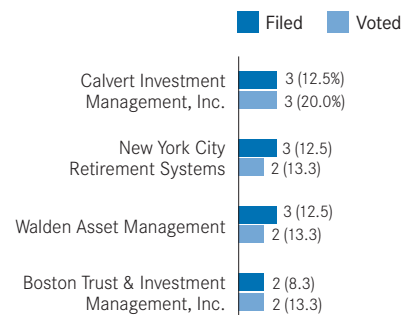


\*Does not include one proposal for which results were not disclosed.

Source: The Conference Board/FactSet, 2013.

### Sustainability Reporting—Most Frequent Sponsors (2013)

Number of shareholder proposals (percentage of total)



Source: The Conference Board/FactSet, 2013.

### Why it matters...

- Investors have shown increasing interest in sustainability reporting: proposals requesting such reports represented 9.2 percent of proposals submitted to Russell 3000 companies during the first half of 2013, up from 7.4 percent during the same period in 2012, and 4.5 percent in 2009.
- The practice of publishing periodic sustainability reports is becoming more prevalent among the largest public companies: 25 percent of S&P 500 companies issue sustainability reports checked by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), according to data released by The Conference Board in collaboration with Bloomberg and GRI.

For more information on this and other historical data on annual general meetings of shareholders, download *Proxy Voting Analytics (2009-2013)* at: [www.conference-board.org/proxyanalytics](http://www.conference-board.org/proxyanalytics) or contact Matteo Tonello at [matteo.tonello@conference-board.org](mailto:matteo.tonello@conference-board.org)