

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC
Form DEFA14A
March 22, 2005

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

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

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - 1. Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
 - 2. Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
 - 3. Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
 - 4. Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
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- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
 - 1. Amount Previously Paid:
 - 2. Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
 - 3. Filing Party:
 - 4. Date Filed:

Filed by Johnson Outdoors Inc.

On March 22, 2005, Johnson Outdoors Inc. (the Company) issued a press release with respect to the Company's proposed merger with JO Acquisition Corp. at the Company's special shareholder meeting on March 22, 2005 (the Press Release). A copy of the Press Release follows as part of this filing under Rule 14a-6 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: CYNTHIA GEORGESON
262-631-6600

POLLS AT JOHNSON OUTDOORS

SPECIAL SHAREHOLDER MEETING UNTIL 12:30 PM CST

Johnson Family Reiterates that \$20.10 Is Best and Final Offer

Racine, Wisconsin, March 22, 2005 **JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.** (Nasdaq: JOUT) today opened the polls at its special meeting of shareholders and announced that they will remain open until 12:30 pm CST to allow shareholders additional time to vote FOR the merger. Johnson Outdoors Board of Directors unanimously recommends that shareholders vote FOR the merger.

Prior to the meeting, in a statement to the special committee, Helen Johnson-Leipold said, "On behalf of the buy-out group, I want to reiterate that the Johnson family will not proceed with the transaction at a price in excess of \$20.10 per share - this is our best and final offer."

Approval of the merger agreement requires, among other required votes, the affirmative vote of 66 2/3% of the votes entitled to be cast at the special meeting by shareholders other than members of the buy-out group and their affiliates or associates. Johnson Outdoors shareholders who have questions or need assistance voting their shares may call Innisfree M&A toll free at (877) 825-8964 or collect at (212) 750-5833.

ABOUT JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.

Johnson Outdoors is a leading global outdoor recreation company that turns ideas into adventure with innovative, top-quality products. The Company designs, manufactures and markets a portfolio of winning, consumer-preferred brands across four categories: Watercraft, Marine Electronics, Diving and Outdoor Equipment. Johnson Outdoors' familiar brands include, among others: Old Town® canoes and kayaks; Ocean Kayak® and Necky® kayaks; Minn Kota® motors; Humminbird® fishfinders; SCUBAPRO® and UWATEC® dive equipment; and Eureka!® tents.

Visit Johnson Outdoors online at <http://www.JohnsonOutdoors.com>.

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