



W.W. Grainger, Inc.  
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[www.grainger.com/investor](http://www.grainger.com/investor)

**ELEVEN DIRECTORS SLATED FOR GRAINGER'S BOARD TO BE VOTED ON  
AT THE COMPANY'S ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 24, 2013**

CHICAGO, February 20, 2013 – The Board of Directors of W.W. Grainger, Inc. (NYSE: GWW) today selected a slate of nominees to serve for the 2013 – 2014 period. The eleven candidates, all current board members, to be voted on at the annual meeting are:

Brian P. Anderson  
V. Ann Hailey  
William K. Hall  
Stuart L. Levenick  
John W. McCarter, Jr.  
Neil S. Novich  
Michael J. Roberts  
Gary L. Rogers  
James T. Ryan  
E. Scott Santi  
James D. Slavik

Wilbur H. Gantz will not stand for re-election. Mr. Gantz has been a board member of Grainger since 1985 and served as a member of the Audit Committee and the Board Affairs and Nominating Committee.

Grainger Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Jim Ryan said, "On behalf of The Board of Directors, I would like to thank Bill Gantz for his dedication, insight and valuable contributions to Grainger over the past 28 years."

W.W. Grainger, Inc. with 2012 sales of \$9 billion is North America's leading broad line supplier of [maintenance, repair and operating products](#), with expanding global operations. For more information about the company, visit [www.grainger.com/investor](http://www.grainger.com/investor).

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