Mastech Digital, Inc. Form DEF 14A April 13, 2018 Table of Contents

### **UNITED STATES**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

(RULE 14a-101)

# INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

### **SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. )

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 Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Mastech Digital, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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### $(Name\ of\ Person(s)\ Filing\ Proxy\ Statement,\ if\ other\ than\ the\ Registrant)$

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1)	Amount previously paid:				
2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:				
2)	Filing Porty				
3)	Filing Party:				
4)	Date Filed:				

MASTECH DIGITAL, INC.

1305 Cherrington Parkway

**Building 210, Suite 400** 

Moon Township, Pennsylvania 15108

**Telephone:** (412) 787-2100

April 13, 2018

Dear Mastech Digital, Inc. Shareholder:

You are cordially invited to attend our 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the Annual Meeting ) to be held at Mastech Digital, Inc. s headquarters, at 1305 Cherrington Parkway, Building 210, Suite 400, Moon Township, PA on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time.

The following pages contain the formal Notice of the Annual Meeting and the Proxy Statement. At this year s Annual Meeting, you will be asked to (i) vote on the election of Class I directors; (ii) approve an amendment to Mastech Digital, Inc. s Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (the Plan), to increase the number of shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to the Plan, and (iii) to cast an advisory (non-binding) vote to approve named executive officer compensation. Please read the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement carefully. Whether or not you plan to attend, you can ensure that your shares are represented at the Annual Meeting by promptly completing, signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card in the envelope provided.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Vivek Gupta

President and Chief Executive Officer

#### MASTECH DIGITAL, INC.

1305 Cherrington Parkway

**Building 210, Suite 400** 

Moon Township, Pennsylvania 15108

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held on May 16, 2018

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the Annual Meeting ) of Mastech Digital, Inc. (the Company ) will be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time, to consider and act upon the following matters:

- 1. The election of two (2) Class I directors to serve for three-year terms or until their respective successors shall have been selected or qualified;
- 2. Vote to approve amendment to the Company s Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (the Plan), to increase the number of shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to the Plan;
- 3. Advisory (non-binding) vote to approve named executive officer compensation; and.
- 4. The transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The Board of Directors has established the close of business on April 2, 2018, as the record date for the determination of the shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting.

PLEASE VOTE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT YOUR VOTE IS RECORDED PROMPTLY EVEN IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING IN PERSON. YOU HAVE THREE OPTIONS FOR SUBMITTING YOUR VOTE BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING: VIA THE INTERNET, BY PHONE OR BY MAIL. FOR FURTHER DETAILS, SEE VOTING RIGHTS AND SOLICITATION IN THE PROXY STATEMENT. IF YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO RECORD YOUR VOTE ON THE INTERNET. IT IS CONVENIENT, AND IT SAVES YOUR COMPANY SIGNIFICANT PRINTING AND PROCESSING COSTS.

By Order of the Board of Directors

John J. Cronin, Jr.

Chief Financial Officer

and Corporate Secretary

Moon Township, Pennsylvania

April 13, 2018

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#### MASTECH DIGITAL, INC.

1305 Cherrington Parkway

**Building 210, Suite 400** 

Moon Township, Pennsylvania 15108

#### PROXY STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

#### OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held on May 16, 2018

This Proxy Statement is being furnished to the shareholders of Mastech Digital, Inc., a Pennsylvania corporation (Mastech or the Company), in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of the Company (the Board of Directors or the Board) of proxies to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the Annual Meeting) scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time, at the Company s headquarters at 1305 Cherrington Parkway, Building 210, Suite 400 Moon Township, PA, 15108, or at any adjournment or postponement thereof. This Proxy Statement is being mailed to shareholders on or about April 16, 2018.

#### PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The specific proposals to be considered and acted upon at the Annual Meeting are summarized in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The proposals are described in more detail in this Proxy Statement.

#### VOTING RIGHTS AND SOLICITATION

#### **VOTING**

Only holders of record of Mastech common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ( Common Stock ), as of the close of business on April 2, 2018 (the Record Date ) are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof. On April 2, 2018, there were 5,461,712 shares of Common Stock outstanding.

The presence in person or by proxy of the shareholders owning at least a majority of the total number of outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. The holders of Common Stock have one vote for each share held by them as of the Record Date. Shareholders may not cumulate votes.

Your shareholder vote is important. Please vote as soon as possible to ensure that your vote is recorded promptly, even if you plan to attend the annual meeting in person. You have three options for submitting your vote before the annual meeting: via the Internet, by phone or by mail. If you have Internet access, we encourage you to record your vote on the Internet. It is convenient, it saves your company significant printing and processing costs and your vote is recorded immediately. Internet and telephonic voting will be available until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 15, 2018. If you hold your shares in your name as a registered holder and not through a bank or brokerage firm, you may submit your vote in person. The vote you cast in person will supersede any previous votes that you submitted, whether by Internet, phone or mail. If you have any questions about submitting your vote, please call our Investor Relations department at (800) 627-8323.

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#### **PROXIES**

All shares of Common Stock represented by proxies that are properly signed, completed and returned to the Corporate Secretary of the Company at 1305 Cherrington Parkway, Building 210, Suite 400, Moon Township, PA 15108 at or prior to the Annual Meeting will be voted as specified in the proxy. If a proxy is signed and returned but does not provide instructions as to the shareholder s vote, the shares will be voted (a) FOR the election of the Board s nominees to the Board of Directors; (b) FOR the approval of the amendment to the Company s Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (the Plan), to increase the number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to the Plan; (c) FOR approval of the advisory (non-binding) proposal on named executive officer compensation. We are not aware of any business for consideration at the Annual Meeting other than as described in the Proxy Statement; however, if matters are properly brought before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof, then the persons appointed as proxies will have the discretion to vote or act thereon according to their best judgment. A shareholder giving a proxy has the power to revoke it at any time prior to its exercise by delivering to the Corporate Secretary of the Company a written revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date (although no revocation shall be effective until notice thereof has been given to the Corporate Secretary of the Company), or by attendance at the meeting and voting his or her shares in person.

Under Pennsylvania law, proxies marked ABSTAIN are not considered to be cast votes, but they will count for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum and for purposes of determining the voting power and number of shares entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. As a result, such abstentions will have no effect on the approval of any matter to come before the meeting. Broker non-votes will be counted for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum at the Annual Meeting, but will have no effect on the approval of any matter to come before the meeting.

#### SOLICITATION OF PROXIES

All costs of solicitation of proxies will be borne by the Company. In addition to solicitations by mail, the Company s directors, officers and regular employees, without additional remuneration, may solicit proxies by telephone, facsimile and personal interviews. Copies of solicitation material will be timely furnished to brokerage houses, fiduciaries and custodians holding shares in their names that are beneficially owned by others so that they may forward this solicitation material to such beneficial owners and the Company will reimburse them for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in connection with the distribution of proxy solicitation material.

Important Notice Regarding the Internet Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be Held on May 16, 2018.

Complete copies of this proxy statement and our annual report for the year ended December 31, 2017 are available at <a href="http://www.mastechdigital.com/annual-meeting.">http://www.mastechdigital.com/annual-meeting.</a>

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#### PROPOSAL NO. 1

#### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

#### **GENERAL**

The Company s Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation ( Articles ) currently provide that the number of directors constituting the entire Board shall be no less than three (3) and no more than nine (9). The Company s Board of Directors is divided into three (3) classes, with each class to be as nearly equal in number as possible and the classes to be elected for staggered terms of three (3) years as follows: two (2) Class II directors whose terms expire in 2020; and two (2) Class I directors whose terms expire in 2018. Therefore, two (2) directors are being elected to Class I at the Annual Meeting for a three-year term expiring in the year 2021.

The names of the persons nominated for Class I directors are *Sunil Wadhwani* and *Gerhard Watzinger*, both of whom presently serve as Class I directors. The persons appointed as proxies intend to vote the shares represented by them at the Annual Meeting for the election of *Sunil Wadhwani* and *Gerhard Watzinger* as Class I directors. The Board of Directors knows of no reason why *Sunil Wadhwani* and *Gerhard Watzinger* would be unable to serve as Class I directors. If, at the time of the Annual Meeting, either of *Mr. Sunil Wadhwani* or *Mr. Gerhard Watzinger* is unable or unwilling to serve as a Class I director, the persons named as proxies intend to vote for such substitute as may be nominated by the Board of Directors. All nominations were made by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, as further described under the caption Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee below.

The following section captioned Business Experience of Directors sets forth certain information concerning the Board nominees for election to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, as well as information about our other Directors.

#### BUSINESS EXPERIENCE OF DIRECTORS

Director Qualification Standards

We will only consider as candidates for director individuals who possess the highest personal and professional ethics, integrity and values, and who are committed to representing the long-term interests of our shareholders. In evaluating candidates for nomination as a director, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will also consider other criteria, including current or recent experience as a chief executive officer of a public company or as a leader of another major complex organization in the public or private sector; business and financial expertise; geography; experience as a director of a public company; gender and ethnic diversity on the Board; independence; knowledge of the Company s business and industry; and general criteria such as independent thought, practical wisdom and mature judgment. In addition, directors must be willing to devote sufficient time to carrying out their duties and responsibilities effectively and should be committed to serving on the Board for an extended period of time. One or more of our directors must possess the education or experience required to qualify as an audit committee financial expert.

Nominees for Directors in Class I Whose Terms will Expire in 2021

Sunil Wadhwani, age 65, has served as a Director and Co-Chairman since our formation in 2008. Mr. Wadhwani was the Co-Founder of iGATE Corporation ( iGATE ), a provider of integrated technology and operations-based information technology solutions, and Mastech. Mr. Wadhwani served as Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of iGATE from 1986 until April 2008, when he resigned as Chief Executive Officer, but remained a director of iGATE and Co-Chairman of the iGATE Board until July 2015. From 1986 through September 1996, Mr. Wadhwani served as Chairman of iGATE and held several other offices, including President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Wadhwani has a Bachelor s degree from the Indian Institute of

Technology and a Master s degree from Carnegie Mellon University. Mr. Wadhwani also serves as the Managing Partner of SWAT Capital Administrator LLC and as the principal executive officer of the Wadhwani Family Office. Mr. Wadhwani s history and experience with the Company since its inception led to the Board s conclusion that he should continue as a Director of the Company.

Gerhard Watzinger, age 57, has served as a Director since September 2008. Between April 2013 and September 2013, Mr. Watzinger served as the interim Chief Executive Officer of iGATE. Mr. Watzinger was the Executive Vice President for Corporate Strategy and Mergers & Acquisitions of the McAfee business unit of Intel Corporation, a designer and manufacturer of advanced integrated digital technology platforms, until his resignation on March 31, 2012. Mr. Watzinger joined Intel in February 2011 upon Intel s acquisition of McAfee, a security technology company. Mr. Watzinger joined McAfee in November 2007 upon McAfee s acquisition of SafeBoot Corp., a global leader in data protection software, where Mr. Watzinger served as Chief Executive Officer from 2004 to 2007. From 2003 to 2004, Mr. Watzinger was the Chief Executive Officer of Mascot Systems, a subsidiary of iGATE focused on offshore IT operations. From 1998 to 2003, Mr. Watzinger served as Senior Vice President of iGATE s staffing and solutions operations. Prior to joining iGATE, Mr. Watzinger held senior positions at APT, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Cap Gemini. Mr. Watzinger serves as a Director for two IT security companies, Telesign, Inc. and CrowdStrike. Mr. Watzinger has a Bachelor s degree in Computer Science from the University of Munich. Mr. Watzinger s expertise within the IT industry, as well as his experience as a Chief Executive Officer of three IT companies, led to the Board s conclusion that he should continue as a Director of the Company.

Directors in Class II Whose Terms Expire in 2019

Ashok Trivedi, age 68, has served as a Director and Co-Chairman since our formation in 2008. Mr. Trivedi was the Co-Founder of iGATE and Mastech. Mr. Trivedi served as Co-Chairman and President of iGATE from October 1996 until April 2008, when he resigned as President, but remained a director of iGATE and Co-Chairman of the iGATE Board until July, 2015. Mr. Trivedi also served as the Chairman of the Board of iGATE Global Solutions Limited, a subsidiary of iGATE, and held this position from July 2000 until July, 2015. From 1988 through September 1996, Mr. Trivedi served as President of iGATE and held other offices, including Secretary and Treasurer. From 1976 to 1988, he held various marketing and management positions with Unisys Corporation. Mr. Trivedi holds a Master s degree in Business Administration from Ohio University and a Master s degree in Physics from Delhi University. Mr. Trivedi also serves as the Managing Partner of SWAT Capital Administrator LLC and as the principal executive officer of the Trivedi Family Office. Mr. Trivedi s history and experience with the Company since its inception led to the Board s conclusion that he should serve as a Director of the Company.

Vivek Gupta, age 55, has served as our President and Chief Executive Officer and a Director since March 2016. Prior to joining the Company, from October 2015 to February 2016, Mr. Gupta served as the Chief Executive Americas, RPG Group for RPG Enterprises, an Indian business conglomerate investing in portfolio companies in the areas of automotive tires, IT, infrastructure, pharmaceuticals, energy and plantations. Prior to joining RPG Enterprises, Mr. Gupta spent more than 30 years working for Zensar Technologies, Ltd. (Zensar), a global information technology services company, which is also a portfolio company of the RPG Group. From 2011 to 2015, Mr. Gupta served as the Chief Executive of Global Infrastructure Management Services and as the Executive Chairman of Zensar s IT infrastructure management services business. Mr. Gupta received his Bachelor of Technology from the Indian Institute of Technology and has attended executive management programs at the Indian Institute of Management and the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Gupta s service as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and his experience as a senior executive for other IT companies led to the Board s conclusion that he should also serve as a Director of the Company.

Directors in Class III Whose Terms Expire in 2020

*John Ausura*, age 65, has served as a Director since September 2008. Mr. Ausura is the Founder and was the Managing Director of Capital Resolution, LLC, a professional services firm which provides interim management

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and operations improvement assistance to companies in transition, until his retirement on February 12, 2013. Mr. Ausura assumed this role with Capital Resolution in 2003. Prior to Capital Resolution and between 2000 and 2003, Mr. Ausura was a Principal with XRoads Solutions Group, LLC, a national restructuring professional services firm. Prior to 2000, Mr. Ausura was a Senior Vice President with PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. in Pittsburgh, PA, where he was Chief Financial Officer of the Consumer Bank and Chief Executive Officer of PNC s Credit Card Bank. Mr. Ausura completed his MBA at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and his BA from the University of Scranton. Mr. Ausura s experience as a senior executive for three professional services firms led to the Board s conclusion that he should serve as a Director of the Company.

Brenda Galilee, age 65, has served as a Director since September 2008. Ms. Galilee is currently the Chief Consulting Officer for CES-Customer Experience Solutions, a Voice of the Customer consulting company, and has held this position since January 2013. Ms. Galilee was the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of InTouch Corporation, a customer acquisition and retention services company serving the financial industries, until her resignation on January 1, 2013. Ms. Galilee assumed this role in March 2008, upon the completion of a management buyout. In March 1991, Ms. Galilee founded and served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Hall Kinion and Associates (HAKI on NASDAQ), an information technology staffing company, until being acquired by Kforce Corporation in June 2004. From June 2004 until March 2008, Ms. Galilee pursued avocational interests in creative arts. Ms. Galilee completed the OPM program at Harvard University. Ms. Galilee s experience as the Chief Executive Officer of an IT staffing company led to the Board's conclusion that she should serve as a Director of the Company.

#### **VOTES REQUIRED**

The Class I Directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes of shares present and entitled to vote. Accordingly, the nominees who receive the largest number of votes actually cast will be elected.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that the shareholders vote FOR the nominees named herein.

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#### PROPOSAL NO. 2

# APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE MASTECH DIGITAL, INC. STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED (THE PLAN ), TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SHARES OF COMMON STOCK THAT MAY BE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN

#### **GENERAL**

We are asking our shareholders to approve an amendment to the Mastech Digital, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (the Plan), to increase the number of shares of Common Stock of the Company that may be issued pursuant to the Plan by 400,000 shares, to a total of 1,800,000.

No other changes to the Plan are being proposed.

The amendment will not become effective unless and until stockholder approval is obtained. If stockholders do not approve the amendment, the Plan will instead remain in effect in accordance with its pre-existing terms.

The proposed amendment to the Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

#### BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSAL

The grant of stock-based awards under the Plan has been a key component of the Company s compensation program since its original adoption in 2008. The Plan provides a means through which the Company and its subsidiaries may attract and retain talented persons as officers, employees, directors and consultants and provides a means whereby those persons, upon whose judgment, initiative and efforts the Company largely depends for the successful conduct of its business, may acquire a proprietary interest in the Company. The Plan was adopted to serve the following purposes: (i) to advance the interests of the Company by attracting and retaining high-caliber employees and other key individuals, (ii) to align the interests of our stockholders and recipients of awards under the Plan by increasing the proprietary interest of such recipients in the Company s growth and success, and (iii) to motivate award recipients to act in the long-term best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

We are now requesting that our stockholders vote in favor of approving an amendment to the Plan to increase the number of shares of our Common Stock issuable under the Plan, which amendment will allow us to continue providing equity compensation awards to such employees and other key individuals as a competitive compensation practice and to align the interests of our employees and other key individuals with those of our stockholders.

Approval to Increase the Number of Shares Issuable Under the Plan

As discussed above, equity compensation is a key component of our executive compensation program and is the mechanism pursuant to which we provide long-term incentives to our employees. We believe that equity incentives are critical to attracting and retaining the most talented employees and to providing appropriate performance incentives.

The Plan currently authorizes the issuance of up to 1,400,000 shares of Common Stock of the Company. As of March 31, 2018, there were 29,000 shares remaining available for future awards under the Plan. As further explained below, under the terms of the Plan, if any award expires or otherwise terminates for any reason without having been exercised or settled in full, or if shares subject to forfeiture are forfeited, any such shares reacquired or subject to a terminated award will again become available for issuance under the Plan.

Based on historical usage and expected practices, we estimate that the 400,000 additional shares, when aggregated with the shares currently available for issuance under the Plan, would be sufficient for two additional years of awards under the Plan. Approval of the amendment would allow the Company to continue to grant incentive awards and reward opportunities under the Plan.

#### SUMMARY OF STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

The following summary provides a general description of the material features of the Plan and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Plan, attached as <u>Exhibit B</u>, and the proposed amendment to the Plan, attached as <u>Exhibit A</u>.

General. As noted above, the Plan, originally effective as of October 1, 2008, amended and restated effective as of May 14, 2014 and further amended on May 18, 2016, was adopted to serve the following purposes: (i) to advance the interests of the Company by attracting and retaining high caliber employees and other key individuals; (ii) to align the interests of the Company s shareholders and recipients of awards under the Plan by increasing the proprietary interest of such recipients in the Company s growth and success; and (iii) to motivate award recipients to act in the long-term best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

Administration. The Plan is generally administered by our Compensation Committee; provided, that the Plan authorizes the full Board or a subcommittee of our Board to function as the plan administrator, and permits the Compensation Committee to delegate to Co-Chairmen of the Company or to the Chief Executive Officer the plan administrator s duties and authority under the Plan with respect to granting awards to individuals who are not subject to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and who are not expected to be covered employees for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ). As discussed under Compensation Committee , our Compensation Committee members meet the requirements of being non-employee directors within the meaning of Rule 16b-3(a)(3) and outside directors under Section 162(m). The administrator of the Plan is referred to herein as the plan administrator .

The plan administrator is authorized to determine the individuals who will receive awards (the participants ), the types of awards to be granted, the number of shares to be subject to each award, the price of the awards granted, the terms and conditions of such awards, including any performance criteria, any payment terms, payment method and the expiration date applicable to each award. The plan administrator is also authorized to establish, adopt or revise rules relating to the administration of the Plan.

Authorized Shares. Currently, 1,400,000 shares of the Company s Common Stock may be subject to awards under the Plan, which would be increased to a total of 1,800,000 shares of the Company s common stock if this amendment is approved. The shares of the Company s Common Stock so reserved are subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization, reorganization, merger, consolidation, combination, exchange of shares, liquidation, spin-off or other similar event. If any award granted under the Plan expires or otherwise terminates for any reason without having been exercised or settled in full, or if shares subject to forfeiture are forfeited, any such shares reacquired or subject to a terminated award will again become available for issuance under the Plan.

*Eligibility*. All employees and directors, officers and consultants who perform services for the Company or a subsidiary of the Company (as defined in the Plan) will be eligible to receive awards. The plan administrator has the discretion to select participants and determine the form, amount and timing of each award to such persons, the exercise price or base price associated with the award, the time and conditions of exercise or settlement of the award and all other terms and conditions of an award.

Forms of Awards. Awards under the Plan may include one or more of the following types: (i) stock options (both nonqualified and incentive stock options); (ii) stock appreciation rights (SARs); (iii) restricted stock awards; (iv) stock awards; and (v) performance share awards.

Stock options are rights to purchase a specified number of shares of the Company s Common Stock at a price fixed by the plan administrator as of the date of grant. The exercise price of each option may not be less than the fair market value of a share of Common Stock on the date of grant. Options expire no later than ten years after the date of grant. However, any incentive stock option may only be granted to an employee of the Company or a subsidiary (as defined in Section 424 of the Code), and if granted to a person who at the time of grant owns

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stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any parent or subsidiary corporation of the Company ( 10% Shareholder ), must have an exercise price equal to at least 110% of the fair market value of a share of Common Stock on the date of grant and expire no later than five years after the date of grant. All options will become exercisable at such time and in such installments as the plan administrator determines. Payment of the option price (sometimes called the exercise price or strike price) must be made in full at the time of exercise in such form as the plan administrator permits. Payment methods include cash, the exchange of shares already owned, broker-cashless exercise, withholding of shares otherwise deliverable, or a combination of the preceding alternatives. The plan administrator may also authorize—stock retention—options, which provide upon the exercise of an option previously granted, using previously owned shares, for the automatic issuance of a new option under this Plan with an exercise price equal to the fair market value on the date of grant, for up to the number of shares equal to the previously-owned shares delivered in payment of the exercise price of the prior option.

A SAR entitles the holder to receive, upon exercise, an amount equal to the positive difference between the fair market value of one share of Common Stock of the Company on the date the SAR is exercised and the exercise price, multiplied by the number of shares of Common Stock with respect to which the SAR is exercised. The plan administrator has the discretion to determine whether the amount to be paid upon exercise of a SAR may be paid in cash, Common Stock (including restricted stock) or a combination of cash and Common Stock.

Restricted stock awards provide for a specified number of shares of Common Stock subject to a restriction against transfer during a period of time or until other conditions or performance measures are satisfied, as established by the plan administrator. Unless otherwise set forth in the agreement relating to a restricted stock award, the holder of an unvested restricted stock award does not have any of the rights of a shareholder, including voting rights and the right to receive dividends.

Stock awards are shares of the Company s Common Stock which are vested at the time of grant and are not subject to a restriction period or performance measures.

Performance share awards are awards entitling the recipient to acquire shares of our Common Stock upon the attainment of specified performance measures during a performance period set by the plan administrator. Performance measures that may be used include one or more of the following, and may be expressed in either, or a combination of, relative or absolute values:

earnings per share,
earnings per share growth,
net income,
net income growth,
revenue growth,
revenues,
expenses,
return on equity,

# Edgar Filing: Mastech Digital, Inc. - Form DEF 14A

return on total capital,
return on assets,
earnings (including EBITDA and EBIT),
cash flow,
operating cash flow,

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share price,		
economic value added,		
gross margin,		
operating income,		
market share, or		

total shareholder return.

Such criteria and objectives may relate to results obtained by the individual, the Company, a subsidiary, or an affiliate, or any branch, department, business unit or division thereof, or may relate to results obtained relative to a specific industry or a specific index, peer group of companies, prior performance periods or other measure selected or defined by the plan administrator at the time of grant. The plan administrator may also choose other performance objectives as performance criteria at the time of grant, even if such performance share award would not qualify under Section 162(m) of the Code.

Termination of Service. The effect of a participant s termination of service on his or her award depends on the reason for such termination, the provisions of the particular award and, in some cases, the terms of the participant s employment agreement. Generally, unless otherwise provided, unvested restricted stock awards and unvested performance share awards will terminate upon termination from employment for any reason. For stock options and SARs, unless otherwise specified in the agreement, termination of employment due to disability or retirement will result in vested options remaining exercisable for a period of one year from the date employment terminates or, if earlier, the date on which the option or SAR expires; termination of employment (unless due to disability, retirement or for cause) will result in the option or SAR remaining exercisable, to the extent vested on the date employment terminates, for a period of three months thereafter or, if earlier, the date on which the option or SAR expires; termination of employment for cause or commencement of services as an officer, director or consultant of a competing business will result in the immediate termination of the option or SAR. Cessation of service will generally result in options and SARs remaining exercisable for three months, unless cessation was due to disability, in which event the exercise period will generally be extended to one year following termination (provided, that removal for cause or commencement of services as an officer, director or consultant of a competing business will result in the immediate termination of the option or SAR).

Maximum Award. Stock options with regard to no more than 250,000 shares of Common Stock of the Company and stock appreciation rights with regard to no more than 250,000 shares of Common Stock may be granted in any calendar year period. In any one calendar year during any performance period, the maximum amount which may be earned by any one participant under performance share awards shall be limited to 250,000 shares of Common Stock. The limitations on the aggregate number of shares which may be subject to awards granted in any calendar year shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the requirements of Section 162(m) of the Code.

Change in Control. Unless otherwise provided in an award agreement or employment agreement, upon a change in control, each outstanding award under the Plan shall (i) be assumed by the acquiring company; or (ii) accelerate and become exercisable or be released from all restrictions, as applicable, immediately prior to the change in control. The Board may determine, in its discretion, that outstanding awards will be surrendered for payment in cash or stock. The performance period with regard to any performance share awards will be deemed to end on the day prior to the effective date of the change of control.

Adjustments upon Certain Events. In the event of a reorganization, recapitalization, reclassification, stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split or other similar transaction resulting in an increase or decrease in the outstanding shares of our Common Stock, or exchange of our Common Stock for a different number or kind of shares or other securities of the Company, or the distribution of additional shares or new or different securities or

other non-cash assets, the plan administrator will make an appropriate or proportionate adjustment in (i) the number of stock options, stock appreciation rights and performance share awards that can be granted to any one individual participant, (ii) the number and kind of shares or other securities subject to any outstanding awards, (iii) the price for each share subject to outstanding stock options or stock appreciation rights or other purchase rights under the Plan, without changing the aggregate purchase price, and (iv) the number of shares which may be issued under the Plan but are not then subject to awards. If the outstanding shares of Company Common Stock will be changed in value by reason of a spin-off, split-off or split-up, or dividend in partial liquidation, dividend in property other than cash, or extraordinary distribution to stockholders, then (i) the plan administrator will make any adjustment to any outstanding stock option, SAR, restricted stock performance share or other stock award which it determines is equitably required to prevent dilution or enlargement of the rights of participants, and (ii) unless otherwise determined by the plan administrator in its discretion, any stock, securities, cash or other property distributed with respect to any shares of restricted stock held in escrow or for which such shares of restricted stock will be exchanged shall also be held by the Company in escrow and subject to the same restrictions as apply to the restricted stock. No adjustment or substitution will require the Company to issue or sell a fractional share of stock, and total adjustments or substitutions will be limited accordingly.

Awards not Transferable. Generally, awards under the Plan may not be sold, pledged, assigned, transferred or otherwise encumbered or disposed of other than by will or by laws of descent and distribution or, subject to the consent of the plan administrator, pursuant to a domestic relations order. After the death of the participant, the award may be transferred to the Company upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the plan administrator and the personal representative or other person entitled to exercise the award may agree, within the remaining exercise period. Options and SARs are exercisable during the lifetime of the participant only by the participant.

Tax Withholding. As a condition to the issuance or delivery of shares of our Common Stock or payment of other compensation pursuant to the exercise or lapse of restrictions on any award, the Company has the authority to require participants to discharge all applicable withholding tax obligations. Shares held by or to be issued to a participant may also be used to discharge tax withholding obligations, subject to the discretion of the plan administrator to disapprove of such use.

Summary of United States Federal Income Tax Consequences

The following summary is intended only as a general guide to the United States federal income tax consequences of participation in the Plan and does not attempt to describe all possible federal or other tax consequences of such participation or tax consequences based on particular circumstances.

Incentive Stock Options. A participant recognizes no taxable income for regular income tax purposes as a result of the grant or exercise of an incentive stock option qualifying under section 422 of the Code. Participants who neither dispose of their shares within two years following the date the option was granted nor within one year following the exercise of the option will normally recognize a capital gain or loss upon the sale of the shares equal to the difference, if any, between the sale price and the purchase price of the shares. If a participant satisfies such holding periods upon a sale of the shares, we will not be entitled to any deduction for federal income tax purposes. If a participant disposes of shares within two years after the date of grant or within one year after the date of exercise (a disqualifying disposition), the difference between the fair market value of the shares on the option exercise date and the exercise price (not to exceed the gain realized on the sale if the disposition is a transaction with respect to which a loss, if sustained, would be recognized) will be taxed as ordinary income at the time of disposition. Any gain in excess of that amount will be a capital gain. If a loss is recognized, there will be no ordinary income, and such loss will be a capital loss. Any ordinary income recognized by the participant upon the disqualifying disposition of the shares generally should be deductible by us for federal income tax purposes, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

In general, the difference between the option exercise price and the fair market value of the shares on the date of exercise of an incentive stock option is treated as an adjustment in computing the participant s alternative

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minimum taxable income and may be subject to an alternative minimum tax which is paid if such tax exceeds the regular tax for the year. Special rules may apply with respect to certain subsequent sales of the shares in a disqualifying disposition, certain basis adjustments for purposes of computing the alternative minimum taxable income on a subsequent sale of the shares and certain tax credits which may arise with respect to participants subject to the alternative minimum tax.

Nonqualified Stock Options. Options not designated or qualifying as incentive stock options are nonqualified stock options having no special tax status. A participant generally recognizes no taxable income upon receipt of such an option. Upon exercising a nonqualified stock option, the participant normally recognizes ordinary income equal to the difference between the exercise price paid and the fair market value of the shares on the date when the option is exercised. If the participant is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes. Upon the sale of stock acquired by the exercise of a nonqualified stock option, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value of the shares on the exercise date, will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally should be entitled to a tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant as a result of the exercise of a nonqualified stock option, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

Stock Appreciation Rights. A participant recognizes no taxable income upon the receipt of a stock appreciation right. Upon the exercise of a stock appreciation right, the participant generally will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the underlying shares of Common Stock on the exercise date over the exercise price. If the participant is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant in connection with the exercise of the stock appreciation right, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

Restricted Stock. A participant acquiring restricted stock generally will recognize ordinary income equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares on the determination date over the price paid, if any, for such shares. The determination date is the date on which the participant acquires the shares unless the shares are subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture and are not transferable, in which case the determination date is the earlier of (i) the date on which the shares become transferable; or (ii) the date on which the shares are no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture (e.g., when they become vested). If the determination date follows the date on which the participant acquires the shares, the participant may elect, pursuant to section 83(b) of the Code, to designate the date of acquisition as the determination date by filing an election with the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) no later than 30 days after the date on which the shares are acquired. If the participant is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes. Upon the sale of shares acquired pursuant to a restricted stock award, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value of the shares on the determination date, will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant on the determination date, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

Performance Share, Restricted Unit and Other Stock-Based Awards. A participant generally will recognize no income upon the receipt of a performance share, restricted stock unit or other stock-based award. Upon the settlement of such awards, participants normally will recognize ordinary income in the year of settlement in an amount equal to the cash received and the fair market value of any substantially vested shares of stock received. If the participant is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes. If the participant receives shares of restricted stock, the participant generally will be taxed in the same manner as described above under Restricted Stock. Upon the sale of any shares received, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value of the shares on the determination date (as defined above under Restricted Stock), will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally

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should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant on the determination date, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

Section 162(m) Limitation. In general, Section 162(m) of the Code imposes a limit on corporate tax deductions for compensation in excess of \$1 million per year paid by a public company to its Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer or any of the next three most highest paid executive officers as listed in the proxy statement (each a covered executive) or, beginning in 2018, to any person who was a covered executive in 2017 or later. Prior to the enactment of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act on December 22, 2017, an exception to this limitation was provided for performance-based compensation that satisfies certain conditions. In particular, the compensation must be paid solely on account of the attainment of one or more objective, pre-established performance goals, and three other requirements must be met:

the performance goals are determined within a specified time frame by a committee or subcommittee of the corporation s board of directors consisting solely of two or more outside directors (within the meaning of Section 162(m));

the material terms of the remuneration, including the performance goals, are disclosed to the corporation s stockholders and approved by a majority of the vote of such stockholders before such compensation is paid; and

the committee of outside directors certifies the attainment of the performance goals and satisfaction of other terms before such compensation is paid.

Following the enactment of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act on December 22, 2017, the forgoing exemption for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) was eliminated effective as of the beginning of our 2018 fiscal year (unless the compensation is provided pursuant to a written binding contract which was in effect on November 2, 2017, and which was not modified in any material respect on or after November 2, 2017). For further discussion regarding Section 162(m) of the Code, see Tax Deductibility of Compensation in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section on page 20 of this Proxy.

#### Amendment, Suspension or Termination

The Plan will continue in effect until its termination by the Board of Directors, *provided*, that no awards may be granted under the Plan following the tenth anniversary of the Plan s effective date, May 14, 2024. The Board of Directors may amend, suspend or terminate the Plan at any time, provided that no amendment may be made without shareholder approval if either (i) the amendment would increase the number of shares issuable as incentive stock options, or change the class of persons eligible to receive incentive stock options under the Plan, or (ii) shareholder approval at the time of the amendment is required, either by the rules of any stock exchange on which our Common Stock is at the time listed, or for stock options, SARs and performance share awards granted under the Plan to qualify as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code. No amendment, suspension or termination of the Plan may deprive any person of any rights previously granted under the Plan, without that person s consent.

#### New Plan Benefits

It is within the discretion of the plan administrator to determine the recipients of awards, and as of the date of this Proxy Statement, the plan administrator has not determined future awards or who may receive them. Therefore, it is not possible at present to determine the amount or form of any award that will be available for future grant to any individual according to the Plan. For illustrative purposes, please refer to the Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table in this Proxy Statement to review equity awards made to our named executive officers in 2017.

Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2017, with respect to shares of our Common Stock that may be issued under the Plan, which is the Company s only existing equity compensation plan under

which grants can be made. Shareholders previously approved the Plan on May 14, 2014 and the amendment thereto on May 18, 2016.

**Equity Compensation Plan Information**