

# D E A R B O R N

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## P A R T N E R S

On April 26, 2017, W.W. Grainger, Inc. (GWW) announced that its Board of Directors approved a 4.9% increase in its quarterly cash dividend per share to \$1.28 (\$5.12 annually) from \$1.22 (\$4.88 annually). The dividend is payable June 1, 2017 to shareholders of record as of May 8, 2017. This is Grainger's 46th consecutive annual dividend increase.

From the press release: "Consistently increasing the dividend demonstrates our commitment to shareholder value. At the same time, we will continue to invest in the business to drive long term results," said Grainger Chairman Jim Ryan.

W.W. Grainger, Inc., with 2016 sales of \$10 billion, is North America's leading broad line supplier of maintenance, repair and operating products, with operations also in Europe, Asia and Latin America.

On April 26, 2017, Exxon Mobil Corp. (XOM) announced that its Board of Directors approved a 2.7% increase in its quarterly cash dividend per share to \$0.77 (\$3.08 annually) from \$0.75 (\$3.00 annually). The dividend is payable June 9, 2017 to shareholders of record as of May 12, 2017. This is Exxon's 35th consecutive annual dividend increase.

From the press release: "Through its dividends, the corporation has shared its success with its shareholders for more than 100 years and has increased its annual dividend payment to shareholders for 35 consecutive years."

ExxonMobil, the largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, uses technology and innovation to help meet the world's growing energy needs. We hold an industry-leading inventory of resources and are one of the world's largest integrated refiners, marketers of petroleum products and chemical manufacturers.

On April 26, 2017, Xilinx Inc. (XLNX) announced that its Board of Directors approved a 6.1% increase in its quarterly cash dividend per share to \$0.35 (\$1.40 annually) from \$0.33 (\$1.32 annually). The dividend is payable June 1, 2017 to shareholders of record as of May 16, 2017. This is Xilinx's 12th consecutive annual dividend increase.

From the press release: "Xilinx recently increased its quarterly dividend by \$0.02 per share to \$0.35 per share, effective in the June quarter of fiscal 2018, marking its 12th consecutive year of dividend increases. During fiscal 2017, Xilinx generated \$934 million in operating cash flow, paid its shareholders a record \$333 million in dividends and repurchased 9.8 million shares for \$522 million."

Xilinx is the leading provider of All Programmable FPGAs, SoCs, MPSoCs, and 3D ICs. Xilinx uniquely enables applications that are both software defined and hardware optimized – powering industry advancements in Cloud Computing, Embedded Vision, Industrial IoT, and 5G Wireless

W.W. Grainger, Inc. is in the Industrials sector, Exxon Mobil Corp. is in the Energy sector and Xilinx Inc. is in the Information Technology sector of our Dearborn Partners Core Rising Dividend separately managed account (SMA) portfolio.

So far this year, 20 of 49 companies in this portfolio have announced 21 dividend increases. The average of these dividend increases is about 6.8% more than these companies paid a year earlier.

Thank you for your interest in our Dearborn Partners Rising Dividend Strategy.

*There is no assurance that any Rising Dividend portfolio company will increase its dividend, or not reduce its dividend, or not have a significant decrease in its stock price. All investing involves risk.*