## DEARBORN PARTNERS

## For Current Dearborn Partners Rising Dividend Strategy Investors Only

Another Dearborn Partners Core Rising Dividend SMA Portfolio Increase: Watsco, Inc.

On February 11, 2021, Watsco, Inc. announced a 9.9% increase in its quarterly dividend per share to \$1.95 (\$7.80 annually) from \$1.775 (\$7.10 annually). The increase will be reflected in the Company's next regular dividend payment beginning in April 2021. This is the 47<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual increase in the dividend paid by Watsco, Inc.

From the Press Release: Albert H. Nahmad, Watsco's Chairman & CEO stated: "Our performance in 2020 resulted in record cash flow and debt-reduction. As a result, we are pleased to raise our dividend 10% to \$7.80 per share effective April 2021. Watsco is debt-free and capable of investing in almost any-sized opportunity to grow our network and leadership position in the estimated \$40 billion North American HVAC distribution industry. The Company's philosophy is to share increasing amounts of cash flow through higher dividends while maintaining a conservative balance sheet with continued capacity to build its distribution network. Future changes in dividends are considered in light of investment opportunities, cash flow, general economic conditions and Watsco's overall financial condition."

Watsco is the largest distribution network for heating, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R) products with locations in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico, and on an export basis to Latin America and the Caribbean. Watsco estimates that over 300,000 contractors and technicians visit or call one of its 600 locations each year to get information, obtain technical support and buy products. HVAC/R products provide comfort to homes and businesses regardless of the outdoor climate. Older systems often operate below today's government mandated energy efficiency and environmental standards. Watsco has an opportunity to accelerate the replacement of these systems at a scale greater than its competitors as the movement toward reducing energy consumption and its environmental impact continues. This is especially important since heating and cooling accounts for approximately half of the energy consumed in a typical U.S. home.

Watsco, Inc. is in the Industrials sector of our Dearborn Partners Core Rising Dividend separately managed account (SMA) portfolio. So far this year, 9 of 49 companies in our Core Rising Dividend portfolio have announced 9 dividend increases averaging about 12.9% more than these companies paid a year earlier. No companies in this portfolio have reduced or suspended dividends so far this year.

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

This dividend increase announcement is not a complete description of, nor a recommendation to invest in, any investment strategy (the "Strategy") mentioned herein. It is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell nor a solicitation to buy, is not a recommendation regarding any securities transaction, nor is it an offer to provide advisory or other services by Dearborn Partners, L.L.C. The information contained in this writing should not be construed as financial or investment advice on any subject matter. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. There is no assurance the Strategy will be profitable, achieve its objectives, be suitable for you, or not incur losses. Some of the information herein has been obtained from third party sources. We believe such information is reliable but we have not in each case verified its accuracy or completeness. Any opinions herein are as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice. Dividends are not guaranteed and must be authorized by the

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company's board of directors. 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. Dividend yield is one component of performance and should not be the only consideration for investment. Dearborn Partners L.L.C. is an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. For a complete list of all Dearborn Rising Dividend holdings that in the past year - increased their dividends, had no dividend increases, or had a dividend decrease, please contact the Dearborn Rising Dividend Team at RD@dearbornpartners.com. It should not be assumed that portfolio trades made in the future will be profitable, or will increase their dividends, or will equal the performance of the securities in this announcement.