

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC
Form DEFA14A
March 21, 2012

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

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

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS 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)(4) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

SEC 1913 (11-01)

Persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

***** Exercise Your *Right* to Vote *****
Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the
Stockholders Meeting to Be Held on May 4, 2012.

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.

ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.
ATTN: SHAREHOLDER RELATIONS
3600 WEST LAKE AVENUE
GLENVIEW, IL 60026-1215

Meeting Information

Meeting Type: Annual Meeting
For holders as of: March 6, 2012
Date: May 4, 2012 **Time:** 3:00 PM CDT
Location: The Northern Trust Company

6th Floor

50 South Lasalle Street

Chicago, IL 60603

**Directions to the meeting location can be found on the
Company s website at www.itw.com.**

You are receiving this communication because you hold shares in the above named company.

This is not a ballot or a proxy card. You cannot use this notice to vote these shares. This communication presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials that are available to you on the Internet. You may view the proxy materials online at www.proxyvote.com or easily request a paper copy (see reverse side).

We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting.

See the reverse side of this notice to obtain proxy materials and voting instructions.

Before You Vote

How to Access the Proxy Materials

Proxy Materials Available to VIEW or RECEIVE:

1. NOTICE AND PROXY STATEMENT
2. ANNUAL REPORT/FORM 10-K

How to View Online:

Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow (located on the following page) and visit:
www.proxyvote.com.

How to Request and Receive a PAPER or E-MAIL Copy:

If you want to receive a paper or e-mail copy of these documents, you must request one. There is NO charge for requesting a copy. Please choose one of the following methods to make your request:

- 1) *BY INTERNET:* www.proxyvote.com
- 2) *BY TELEPHONE:* 1-800-579-1639
- 3) *BY E-MAIL*:* sendmaterial@proxyvote.com

* If requesting materials by e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow (located on the following page) in the subject line.

Requests, instructions and other inquiries sent to this e-mail address will NOT be forwarded to your investment advisor. Please make the request as instructed above on or before April 20, 2012 to facilitate timely delivery.

How To Vote

Please Choose One of the Following Voting Methods

Vote In Person: Many stockholder meetings have attendance requirements including, but not limited to, the possession of an attendance ticket issued by the entity holding the meeting. Please check the meeting materials for any special requirements for meeting attendance. At the meeting, you will need to request a ballot to vote these shares.

Vote By Internet: To vote now by Internet, go to www.proxyvote.com. Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow available and follow the instructions.

Vote By Mail: You can vote by mail by requesting a paper copy of the materials, which will include a proxy card.

Voting Items

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2 and 3:

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR all nominees:

1. Election of Directors:
2. Ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as ITW's independent registered public accounting firm for 2012.

Nominees:

3. Advisory vote to approve executive compensation.

1a. Daniel J. Brutto

1b. Susan Crown

1c. Don H. Davis, Jr.

1d. James W. Griffith

1e. Robert C. McCormack

1f. Robert S. Morrison

1g. James A. Skinner

1h. David B. Smith, Jr.

1i. David B. Speer

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lj. Pamela B. Strobel

lk. Kevin M. Warren

ll. Anré D. Williams

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Corporate Headquarters
3600 West Lake Avenue
Glenview, IL 60026-1215
Telephone 847.724.7500

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ITW 401(K) PLAN PARTICIPANTS
REGARDING THE
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.
2012 PROXY STATEMENT,
2011 ANNUAL REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS AND FORM 10-K

Dear ITW 401(k) Plan Participant:

Enclosed is an Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice), informing you that our proxy statement, annual report and Form 10-K are now available by Internet. Please refer to the Notice for instructions on how to access the proxy materials online and how to vote your shares in person, by Internet or by mail. You will need to vote using one of these methods. You will need the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow from the Notice to gain Internet access through www.proxyvote.com and to vote your shares in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held May 4, 2012.

The enclosed Notice includes instructions for how to request and receive a paper or e-mail copy of the proxy materials. You may also pick up a paper copy of the proxy statement and annual report/Form 10-K from your Human Resources Department, but you need to follow the instructions on the Notice to cast your vote. If you receive more than one Notice, you should follow the voting instructions using the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow from each Notice to be sure all your shares are voted.

THE NOTICE IS NOT A PROXY CARD AND CANNOT BE USED TO CAST YOUR VOTE.

The deadline for voting shares held through the ITW 401(k) Plan is 10:59 p.m. Central Daylight Time, Tuesday, May 1, 2012. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DEADLINE IS EARLIER THAN THE DATE STATED ON THE PROXY CARD.**

Please follow the instructions on the enclosed Notice to access your proxy materials and vote.