CORE MOLDING TECHNOLOGIES INC Form DEF 14A April 07, 2017 **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 b Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o Check the appropriate box: oPreliminary Proxy Statement o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) bDefinitive Proxy Statement oDefinitive Additional Materials oSoliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12 Core Molding Technologies, 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): bNo fee required. o Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11. (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies: Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined): (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction: (5) Total fee paid:

oFee paid previously with preliminary materials.
Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for owhich the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing. (1) Amount Previously Paid:
(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
(3) Filing Party:
(4)Date Filed:

CORE MOLDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 800 Manor Park Drive Columbus, Ohio 43228 (614) 870-5000

April 7, 2017

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Core Molding Technologies, Inc. to be held at our corporate headquarters, 800 Manor Park Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43228, on May 12, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time. Further information about the meeting and the matters to be considered is contained in the formal Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement on the following pages.

It is important that your shares be represented at this meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend, we hope that you will sign, date and return your proxy promptly in the enclosed envelope.

Sincerely,

James L. Simonton Chairman of the Board

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS	<u>1</u>
PROXY STATEMENT	<u>2</u>
GENERAL INFORMATION	<u>2</u>
OWNERSHIP OF COMMON STOCK	<u>5</u>
SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE	<u>8</u>
DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF CORE MOLDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	9
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	<u>12</u>
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	<u>17</u>
DIRECTOR COMPENSATION	<u>31</u>
AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT	<u>33</u>
AUDIT FEES	<u>34</u>
AUDIT RELATED FEES	<u>34</u>
ALL OTHER FEES	<u>34</u>
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS	<u>35</u>
LIMITATION ON OWNERSHIP	<u>35</u>
PROPOSAL NO. 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	<u>36</u>
PROPOSAL NO. 2 ADVISORY VOTE ON THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	<u>37</u>
PROPOSAL NO. 3 RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM	<u>37</u>
OTHER MATTERS	<u>38</u>

CORE MOLDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 800 Manor Park Drive Columbus, Ohio 43228 (614) 870-5000

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

May 12, 2017

To Our Stockholders:

Core Molding Technologies, Inc. (the "Company") will hold its 2017 Annual Meeting of Stockholders on May 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, at the Company's corporate headquarters, 800 Manor Park Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43228 for the following purposes:

1. to elect seven (7) directors to comprise the Board of Directors of the Company;

- 2.to hold an advisory vote relating to the compensation of our named executive officers;
- 3. to ratify the appointment of Crowe Horwath LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Company for the year ending December 31, 2017; and
- 4. to consider and act upon other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournments or postponements of the meeting.

The foregoing matters are described in more detail in the Proxy Statement, which is attached to this notice. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on March 24, 2017, the record date, are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the meeting.

We desire to have maximum representation at the meeting and respectfully request that you date, execute and promptly mail the enclosed proxy in the postage-paid envelope provided. You may revoke a proxy by notice in writing to the Secretary of the Company at any time prior to its use.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John P. Zimmer Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer

April 7, 2017

CORE MOLDING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 800 Manor Park Drive Columbus, Ohio 43228 (614) 870-5000

PROXY STATEMENT ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS May 12, 2017

To Our Stockholders:

Core Molding Technologies, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Company") is furnishing this Proxy Statement in connection with the solicitation by its Board of Directors of proxies to be used and voted at its annual meeting of stockholders, and at any adjournment of the annual meeting. The Company will hold its annual meeting on May 12, 2017, at its corporate headquarters, 800 Manor Park Drive, Columbus, Ohio at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time. The Company is holding the annual meeting for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by the Company.

The Company is first sending this Proxy Statement, the accompanying proxy card and the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders on or about April 7, 2017.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Solicitation

The Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board of Directors" or "Board" and individually, a "director" or "directors") is soliciting the enclosed proxy. In addition to the use of the mail, directors and officers of the Company may solicit proxies, personally or by telephone. The Company will not pay its directors and officers any additional compensation for the solicitation.

In addition, Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. will conduct proxy distribution and tabulation on behalf of the Company. The Company will reimburse Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. for reasonable expenses incurred for these services. The Company also will make arrangements with brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for the forwarding of proxy distribution material to beneficial owners of the common stock of the Company. The Company will reimburse those brokerage firms, custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their reasonable expenses.

The Company will pay all expenses of the proxy distribution and tabulation. Except as otherwise provided, the Company will not use specially engaged employees or other paid solicitors to conduct any proxy solicitation.

Voting Rights and Votes Required

Holders of shares of the common stock of the Company at the close of business on March 24, 2017, the record date for the annual meeting, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting. On the record date, the Company had 7,791,759 shares of common stock outstanding.

Each outstanding share of common stock on the record date is entitled to one vote on all matters presented at the annual meeting. The presence, in person or by proxy, of stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be

2

cast will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the annual meeting. No business, other than adjournment, can be conducted at the annual meeting unless a quorum is present in person or by proxy.

Abstentions will count as shares present in determining the presence of a quorum for a particular matter. Abstentions, however, will not count as votes cast in determining the approval of any matter by the stockholders. Broker non-votes are shares held of record by brokers or other nominees that are present in person or by proxy at the meeting, but are not voted because instructions have not been received from the beneficial owner with respect to a particular matter over which the broker or nominee does not have discretionary authority to vote. Broker non-votes are counted toward the establishment of a quorum. If you do not return a proxy card and your shares are held in "street name," your broker may be permitted, under applicable rules of the self regulatory organizations of which it is a member, to vote your shares in its discretion on certain matters that are deemed to be routine, such as ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm. Proposals 1, and 2, as referenced in the Company's Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders are considered to be non-routine, and Proposal 3 is considered to be routine. Accordingly, if you do not provide voting instructions to your brokerage firm or other entity holding your shares, your brokerage firm or other entity holding your shares will not be permitted to vote your shares on Proposals 1, and 2, and will be permitted to vote your shares on Proposal 3, at its discretion. Accordingly, the Company requests that you promptly provide your broker or other nominee with voting instructions if you want your shares voted for non-routine matters and to carefully follow the instructions your broker gives you pertaining to their procedures.

In the election of directors, each of the seven directors will be elected by a plurality of votes cast by stockholders of record on the record date and present at the annual meeting, in person or by proxy. Cumulative voting in the election of directors will not be permitted.

The Company is seeking stockholder ratification of the appointment of its independent registered public accounting firm. While ratification is not required by law, the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by stockholders of record on the record date and present at the annual meeting, in person, or by proxy, would ratify the selection of Crowe Horwath LLP ("Crowe Horwath") as the independent registered public accounting firm for the current year.

Voting of Proxies

Shares of common stock represented by all properly executed proxies received prior to the annual meeting will be voted in accordance with the choices specified in the proxy. Unless contrary instructions are indicated on the proxy, the shares will be voted:

- FOR the election as directors of the nominees named in this Proxy Statement until their successors are elected and qualified;
- •FOR the resolution to approve the advisory vote for 2016 compensation of the named executive officers; and FOR the ratification of the appointment of Crowe Horwath as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Company for the year ending December 31, 2017.

Management of the Company and the Board of Directors of the Company know of no matters to be brought before the annual meeting other than as set forth in this Proxy Statement. If, however, any other matter is properly presented to the stockholders for action, it is the intention of the holders of the proxies to vote at their discretion on all matters on which the shares of common stock represented by proxies are entitled to vote.

Revocability of Proxy

A stockholder who signs and returns a proxy in the accompanying form may revoke it at any time before the authority granted by the proxy is exercised. A stockholder may revoke a proxy by delivering a written statement to the Secretary of the Company that the proxy is revoked.

Annual Report

The Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 of the Company, which includes financial statements and information concerning the operations of the Company, accompanies this Proxy Statement. The Annual Report is not to be regarded as proxy solicitation materials.

Stockholder Proposals

Any stockholder who desires to present a proposal for consideration at the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders must submit the proposal in writing to the Company. If the proposal is received by the Company prior to the close of business on December 8, 2017, and otherwise meets the requirements of applicable state and federal law, the Company will include the proposal in the proxy statement and form of proxy relating to the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders. The Company may confer on the proxies for the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders discretionary authority to vote on any proposal, if the Company does not receive notice of the proposal by February 28, 2018.

Stockholder Director Nominees

Any stockholder who desires to present a nomination for a director must do so pursuant to the deadlines and procedures and in the manner as stated in the Corporate Governance section under the Nominating Committee section of the Board Meetings and Committees subsection thereunder.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 12, 2017

The Proxy Statement, proxy card, and Annual Report to stockholders, which includes the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, are available at http://colsec.coremt.com.

4

OWNERSHIP OF COMMON STOCK

Beneficial Owners

The table below sets forth, to the knowledge of the Company, the only beneficial owners, as of March 24, 2017, of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock of the Company.

Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership Percent of Class (1) GAMCO Asset Management Inc. 927,362⁽²⁾ 11.9%

Gabelli Funds, LLC

GAMCO Asset Management Inc.

Teton Advisors, Inc. Mario J. Gabelli One Corporate Center Rye, NY 20580

FMR LLC 822,759⁽³⁾ 10.6%

245 Summer Street Boston, MA 02210

Dimensional Fund Advisors LP 657,658⁽⁴⁾ 8.4%

Palisades West, Building One

6300 Bee Cave Road Austin, TX 78746

(1) The "Percent of Class" computation is based upon the total number of shares beneficially owned by the named person or group divided by the sum of (i) 7,791,759 shares of common stock outstanding on March 24, 2017.

The information presented is derived from Amendment No. 10 to Schedule 13D, as filed with the SEC on June 4, 2015 by Mario J. Gabelli and certain entities which he directly or indirectly controls or for which he acts as chief investment officer, including GGCP, Inc., GAMCO Investors, Inc., Gabelli Funds, LLC, GAMCO Asset Management, Inc. and Teton Advisors Inc. According to the Schedule 13D filing, of these 927,362 shares of Common Stock, 325,000 shares are beneficially owned by Gabelli Funds, LLC, 323,162 shares are beneficially owned by GAMCO Asset Management, Inc., 274,200 shares by Teton Advisors Inc., and 5,000 shares are

(2) beneficially owned by Mario J. Gabelli. GGCP, Inc., as the parent company of GAMCO Investors, Inc., GAMCO Investors, Inc., as the parent company of the foregoing entities, and Mario Gabelli, as the majority stockholder of GGCP, Inc. may be deemed to have beneficial ownership of the 927,362 shares owned beneficially by Gabelli Funds, LLC, GAMCO Asset Management, Inc. and Teton Advisors Inc. and, except as otherwise provided in the Schedule 13D filing, each entity has the sole power to vote or direct the vote and sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of the shares reported for it, either for its own benefit or for the benefit of its investment clients or its partners, as the case may be.

5

The information presented is derived from Amendment No. 4 to Schedule 13G, as filed with the SEC on February 14, 2017, by FMR LLC. According to the Schedule 13G filing, FMR LLC beneficially owns 822,759 shares of common stock of the Company, has sole voting power over 148,559 of those shares and sole dispositive power over the entire amount beneficially owned. Abigail P. Johnson is a Director, the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer of FMR LLC. Members of the family of Abigail P. Johnson are the predominant owners, directly or through trusts, of Series B voting common shares of FMR LLC. The Johnson family group and all other Series B shareholders have entered into a shareholders' voting agreement under which all Series B voting common shares will be voted in accordance with the majority vote of Series B voting common shares.

(3) Accordingly, through their ownership of voting common shares and the execution of the shareholders' voting agreement, members of the Johnson family may be deemed, under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to form a controlling group with respect to FMR LLC. Neither FMR LLC nor Abigail P. Johnson has the sole power to vote or direct the voting of the shares owned directly by the various investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act ("Fidelity Funds") advised by Fidelity Management & Research Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of FMR LLC, which power resides with the Fidelity Funds' Boards of Trustees. Fidelity Management & Research Company carries out the voting of the shares under written guidelines established by the Fidelity Funds' Boards of Trustees.

The information presented is derived from Amendment No. 2 to Schedule 13G, as filed with the SEC on February 9, 2017, by Dimensional Fund Advisors LP. According to the Schedule 13G filing, Dimensional Fund Advisors LP beneficially owns 657,658 shares of common stock of the Company, has sole voting power over 638,308 of those shares and sole dispositive power over the entire amount beneficially owned. Dimensional Fund Advisors is an investment advisor registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, which furnishes investment advice to four investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, and

(4) serves as investment manager to certain other commingled group trusts and separate accounts (such investment companies, trusts and accounts, collectively referred to as the "Funds"). In certain cases, subsidiaries of Dimensional Fund Advisors LP act as an adviser or sub-adviser to certain Funds. In its role as investment advisor, sub-adviser and/or manager, Dimensional Fund Advisors LP or its subsidiaries (collectively, "Dimensional") possess voting and/or investment power over the securities of the Company that are owned by the Funds, and may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the shares of the Company held by the Funds. However, all securities reported in the Schedule 13G are owned by the Funds. Dimensional