

ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP
Form SC 13D/A
March 13, 2015

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

SCHEDULE 13D

**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No. 2)***

Esterline Technologies Corporation

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, \$0.20 par value

(Title of Class of Securities)

297425100

(CUSIP Number)

Ralph V. Whitworth

Relational Investors, LLC

12400 High Bluff Drive, Suite 600

San Diego, CA 92130

(858) 704-3333

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person
Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

March 11, 2015

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

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If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of §§240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box.

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See §240.13d-7 for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Act) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of Above Persons (Entities Only)
 Relational Investors, LLC

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) x
 (b) o

3. SEC Use Only

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)

OO

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization

Delaware

Number of
 Shares
 Beneficially
 Owned by
 Each
 Reporting
 Person With

7. Sole Voting Power
 2,478,543

8. Shared Voting Power
 -0-

9. Sole Dispositive Power
 2,478,543

10. Shared Dispositive Power
 -0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
 2,478,543

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
 7.97%

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
 IA/HC/OO

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of Above Persons (Entities Only)
 Relational Investors Mid-Cap Fund I, L.P.

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) x
 (b) o

3. SEC Use Only

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
 WC

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
 Delaware

Number of
 Shares
 Beneficially
 Owned by
 Each
 Reporting
 Person With

7. Sole Voting Power
 727,803

8. Shared Voting Power
 -0-

9. Sole Dispositive Power
 727,803

10. Shared Dispositive Power
 -0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
 727,803

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
 2.34%

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
 PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of Above Persons (Entities Only)
 Relational Investors Mid-Cap Fund II, L.P.

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) x
 (b) o

3. SEC Use Only

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)

WC

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization

Delaware

Number of
 Shares
 Beneficially
 Owned by
 Each
 Reporting
 Person With

7. Sole Voting Power
 734,566

8. Shared Voting Power
 -0-

9. Sole Dispositive Power
 734,566

10. Shared Dispositive Power
 -0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
 734,566

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
 2.36%

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
 PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Fund Partners, L.P.
2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)
(a) x
(b) o
3. SEC Use Only
4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC/OO
5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o
6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

7. Sole Voting Power
5,117
8. Shared Voting Power
-0-
9. Sole Dispositive Power
5,117
10. Shared Dispositive Power
-0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
5,117
12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o
13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.02%
14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Coast Partners, L.P.
2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
3. SEC Use Only
4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC/OO
5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------|
| 7. | Sole Voting Power | 48,257 |
| 8. | Shared Voting Power | -0- |
| 9. | Sole Dispositive Power | 48,257 |
| 10. | Shared Dispositive Power | -0- |
11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
48,257
12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.16%
14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Investors IX, L.P.
 2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
 3. SEC Use Only
 4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC
 5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
 6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware
- | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 7. | Sole Voting Power 64,994 |
| 8. | Shared Voting Power -0- |
| 9. | Sole Dispositive Power 64,994 |
| 10. | Shared Dispositive Power -0- |
11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
64,994
 12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
 13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.21%
 14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Investors XV, L.P.
 2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
 3. SEC Use Only
 4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC
 5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
 6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware
- | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------|--------|
| | 7. | Sole Voting Power | 52,082 |
| Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person With | 8. | Shared Voting Power | -0- |
| | 9. | Sole Dispositive Power | 52,082 |
| | 10. | Shared Dispositive Power | -0- |
11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
52,082
 12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
 13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.17%
 14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Investors XVI, L.P.
2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
3. SEC Use Only
4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC
5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------|
| 7. | Sole Voting Power | 27,365 |
| 8. | Shared Voting Power | -0- |
| 9. | Sole Dispositive Power | 27,365 |
| 10. | Shared Dispositive Power | -0- |

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
27,365
12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.09%
14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Investors XX, L.P.
 2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
 3. SEC Use Only
 4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC/OO
 5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
 6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware
- | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 7. | Sole Voting Power 47,661 |
| 8. | Shared Voting Power -0- |
| 9. | Sole Dispositive Power 47,661 |
| 10. | Shared Dispositive Power -0- |
11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
47,661
 12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
 13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.15%
 14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Investors XXIII, L.P.
 2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
 3. SEC Use Only
 4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC/OO
 5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
 6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware
- | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------|--------|
| | 7. | Sole Voting Power | 66,931 |
| Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person With | 8. | Shared Voting Power | -0- |
| | 9. | Sole Dispositive Power | 66,931 |
| | 10. | Shared Dispositive Power | -0- |
11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
66,931
 12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
 13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.22%
 14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
Relational Investors XXIV, L.P.
2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)
(a) x
(b) o
3. SEC Use Only
4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC
5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o
6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

- | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 7. | Sole Voting Power 7,156 |
| 8. | Shared Voting Power -0- |
| 9. | Sole Dispositive Power 7,156 |
| 10. | Shared Dispositive Power -0- |

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
7,156
12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o
13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.02%
14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only)
RH Fund 1, L.P.
 2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
 3. SEC Use Only
 4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)
WC/OO
 5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e)
 6. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware
- | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 7. | Sole Voting Power 45,268 |
| 8. | Shared Voting Power -0- |
| 9. | Sole Dispositive Power 45,268 |
| 10. | Shared Dispositive Power -0- |
11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
45,268
 12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)
 13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
0.15%
 14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
PN

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of Above Persons (Entities Only)

Ralph V. Whitworth

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) x

(b) o

3. SEC Use Only

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)

NA

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization

United States

7. Sole Voting Power
-0-

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

8. Shared Voting Power
2,478,543

9. Sole Dispositive Power
-0-

10. Shared Dispositive Power
2,478,543

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
2,478,543

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)
7.97%

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
IN

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of Above Persons (Entities Only)

David H. Batchelder

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a) x

(b) o

3. SEC Use Only

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions)

NA

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e) o

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization

United States

7. Sole Voting Power

-0-

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

8. Shared Voting Power

2,478,543

9. Sole Dispositive Power

-0-

10. Shared Dispositive Power

2,478,543

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

2,478,543

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)

7.97%

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)

IN

Item 1.

Security and Issuer

This Schedule 13D/A constitutes the second amendment to the Schedule 13D originally filed by the Reporting Persons with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the **SEC**) on May 24, 2012 and amended by Amendment No. 1 filed by the Reporting Persons with the SEC on December 19, 2012 (the **Statement**) with respect to the common stock, \$0.20 par value (the **Shares**), of Esterline Technologies Corporation (the **Issuer** or the **Company**). Except as specifically amended by this Schedule 13D/A, the Statement remains in full force and effect.

Item 2. Identity and Background

Item 2 is hereby amended and restated as follows:

This Statement is being filed by and on behalf of Relational Investors Mid-Cap Fund I, L.P. (**MC I**), Relational Investors Mid-Cap Fund II, L.P. (**MC II**), Relational Fund Partners, L.P. (**RFP**), Relational Coast Partners, L.P. (**RCP**), Relational Investors IX, L.P. (**RI IX**), Relational Investors XV, L.P. (**RI XV**), Relational Investors XVI, L.P. (**RI XVI**), Relational Investors XX, L.P. (**RI XX**), Relational Investors XXIII, L.P. (**RI XXIII**), Relational Investors XXIV, L.P. (**RI XXIV**) and RH Fund 1, L.P. (**RHF 1**), collectively, the **Relational LPs**. Each of the Relational LPs is a Delaware limited partnership. The principal business of each, is investing in securities.

This Statement is also being filed by Relational Investors, LLC (**RILLC**), a Delaware limited liability company. The principal business of RILLC is being the sole general partner or sole managing member of the general partner of certain investment partnerships, including the Relational LPs and the investment adviser of certain client managed accounts, the **Managed Accounts** . The Relational LPs and the Managed Accounts are the beneficial owners of the securities covered by this Statement. Pursuant to the Limited Partnership Agreement of each of the Relational LPs, and the investment management agreement of the Managed Accounts, RILLC has sole investment discretion and voting authority with respect to the securities covered by this Statement.

This Statement is also being filed by Ralph V. Whitworth and David H. Batchelder. Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder are the Principals of RILLC, in which capacity they share voting control and dispositive power over certain securities covered by this Statement. As such, Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder may be deemed to have indirect beneficial ownership of such securities, but, each of Mr. Whitworth and Mr. Batchelder disclaim beneficial ownership of the Shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein. The present principal occupation of each of Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder is serving as Principals of RILLC (Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder, together with Relational LPs and RILLC, hereinafter, the **Reporting Persons**).

During the last five years, none of the Reporting Persons has been (i) convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations and similar misdemeanors) or (ii) a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction, and as a result of such proceeding, was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

The business address of each of the Reporting Persons is 12400 High Bluff Drive, Suite 600, San Diego, CA 92130.

Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder are each citizens of the United States.

Item 3. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Consideration

Item 3 is hereby amended and restated as follows:

RILLC and the Managed Accounts purchased an aggregate of 651,343 Shares for a total consideration (including brokerage commissions) of \$60.6 million derived from capital of RILLC and the Managed Accounts.

The Relational LPs purchased an aggregate of 1,827,200 Shares for total consideration (including brokerage commissions) of \$121.2 million derived from the capital of the Relational LPs.

Item 4. **Purpose of Transaction**

Item 4 is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

On March 11, 2015, Mr. Henry W. (Jay) Winship, a principal of Relational Investors LLC, resigned from the Board of Directors of the Company.

Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

Item 5 is hereby amended and restated as follows:

(a) As of the date of this Statement, the Reporting Persons beneficially own in the aggregate 2,478,543 Shares, constituting approximately 7.97% of the outstanding Shares. The percentage of Shares owned is based upon 31,111,532 Shares reported to be outstanding on March 4, 2015, as set forth in the Issuer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 30, 2015. The Reporting Persons may be deemed to have direct beneficial ownership of the Shares as follows:

| NAME | NUMBER OF SHARES | % OF OUTSTANDING SHARES | VOTING AND DISPOSITIVE POWER |
|----------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| RILLC | 651,343 | 2.09% | Sole |
| MC I | 727,803 | 2.34% | Sole |
| MC II | 734,566 | 2.36% | Sole |
| RFP | 5,117 | 0.02% | Sole |
| RCP | 48,257 | 0.16% | Sole |
| RI IX | 64,994 | 0.21% | Sole |
| RI XV | 52,082 | 0.17% | Sole |
| RI XVI | 27,365 | 0.09% | Sole |
| RI XX | 47,661 | 0.15% | Sole |
| RI XXIII | 66,931 | 0.22% | Sole |
| RI XXIV | 7,156 | 0.02% | Sole |
| RH 1 | 45,268 | 0.15% | Sole |

RILLC, individually and in its capacity as an investment adviser, may be deemed to possess direct beneficial ownership of the 651,343 Shares that are owned by it and the Managed Accounts. Additionally, RILLC, as the sole general partner, of each of Relational LPs may be deemed to beneficially own (as that term is defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) the 1,827,200 Shares beneficially owned by the Relational LPs because the limited partnership agreements of the Relational LPs specify that RILLC has sole investment discretion and voting authority with respect to those Shares.

Each of Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder, as Principals of RILLC, may be deemed to share indirect beneficial ownership of the Shares which RILLC may beneficially own. Each of Messrs. Whitworth and Batchelder disclaims beneficial ownership of such Shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

To the best of the knowledge of each of the Reporting Persons, other than as set forth above, none of the persons named in Item 2 is the beneficial owner of any Shares.

- (b) See item (a) above.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) No other person is known to have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the Shares covered by this Statement, except that dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, the Shares held by accounts managed by RILLC may be delivered to such accounts.
- (e) Not applicable.

Item 7.

Material to be Filed as Exhibits

Item 7 is hereby supplemented as follows:

Exhibit B: Joint Filing Agreement.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: March 13, 2015

RELATIONAL INVESTORS MID-CAP FUND I, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS MID-CAP FUND II, L.P.
RELATIONAL FUND PARTNERS, L.P.
RELATIONAL COAST PARTNERS, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS IX, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS XV, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS XVI, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS XX, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS XXIII, L.P.
RELATIONAL INVESTORS XXIV, L.P.
RH FUND 1, L.P.

By: RELATIONAL INVESTORS, LLC
as general partner to each,

By: */s/ Ralph V. Whitworth*
Ralph V. Whitworth, Principal

RELATIONAL INVESTORS, LLC

By: */s/ Ralph V. Whitworth*
Ralph V. Whitworth, Principal

/s/ Ralph V. Whitworth
Ralph V. Whitworth

/s/ David H. Batchelder
David H. Batchelder