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

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SCHEDULE 14A

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Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant	<input type="checkbox"/>

Check the appropriate box:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Preliminary Proxy Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
<input type="checkbox"/>	Definitive Proxy Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Definitive Additional Materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

**VASO CORPORATION**  
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No fee required
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fee paid previously with preliminary materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fee computed on table in exhibit required by Item 25(b) per Exchange Act Rules 14a6(i)(1) and 0-11

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**Vaso Corporation**  
**137 Commercial Street, Suite 200**  
**Plainview, New York 11803**

Dear Stockholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the special meeting in lieu of the 2023 annual meeting of the stockholders of Vaso Corporation (“Vaso” or the “Company”) to be held at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607 on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 beginning at 10:00 A.M. EST. Stockholders may also attend the meeting by video conference at the corporate offices of Vaso Corporation located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. Vaso is a Delaware corporation that operates in three distinct business segments in the healthcare equipment and information technology industries.

Holders of Vaso common stock will be asked to approve, among other things, the Business Combination Agreement, dated as of December 6, 2023 by and among Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I, a Delaware corporation (“Achari”), Vaso Corporation, a Delaware corporation (“Vaso”), and Achari Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari (the “Merger Sub”) (as amended from time to time, the “Business Combination Agreement”), pursuant to which the Merger Sub will merge (the “Merger”) with and into Vaso, with Vaso surviving the merger (the “transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement”), including, without limitation, the Merger, the “Business Combination”). As a result, Vaso will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari following the Business Combination (“New Vaso”). The former holders of the capital stock of Vaso will be entitled to receive up to an aggregate of 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, of Achari (the “Class A Common Stock”) of New Vaso in exchange for all of the outstanding shares of Vaso capital stock.

An amended and restated certificate of incorporation of Achari, to be filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on the date of the consummation of the Merger (the “Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation”), will authorize two classes of Common Stock of Achari, \$0.0001 par value per share (the “Common Stock”): the Class A Common Stock and the Class B Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (the “Class B Common Stock”).

Pursuant to the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, holders of Class A Common Stock are entitled to one vote per share of the same, while holders of Class B Common Stock are entitled to one hundred votes per share of the same, and all such holders will vote together as a single class except as otherwise required by applicable law. Pursuant to the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, except as required by applicable law, beginning on the date on which there are no longer any Achari Put Shares (as defined in that certain Put Option Agreement, to be entered into simultaneously with the consummation of the Business Combination, by and among Achari, Vaso and Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the sponsor of Achari (the “Sponsor”) (such agreement, the “Put Option Agreement”)) that remain outstanding (the “Put Option Deadline”), each share of Class B Common Stock shall be convertible, at the option of the holder thereof, at any time after the Put Option Deadline, without the payment of additional consideration by the holder thereof, into one fully paid and nonassessable share of Class A Common Stock. Further, pursuant to the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, each share of Class B Common Stock held of record shall automatically, without any further action, convert into one fully paid and nonassessable share of Class A Common Stock on the first calendar day after the fifth anniversary of its issuance. No Class B Common Stock will be outstanding upon completion of the Business Combination.

Pursuant to Achari’s Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the “Achari Certificate of Incorporation”), a holder of issued and outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, of Achari (the “SPAC Shares”) (each such holder, excluding holders of Founder Shares, a “Public Stockholder”) may request that Achari redeem all or a portion of such SPAC Shares for cash if the Business Combination is consummated. The percentage of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination that will be held by our stockholders following the Business Combination will depend on how many of Achari Public Stockholders redeem their respective Achari Shares in connection with the Business Combination. For example, if Achari Public Stockholders redeem none of the redeemable Achari Shares, Vaso’s stockholders will own approximately 93.1% of the issued and outstanding Common Stock of New Vaso immediately

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following the Business Combination whereas if such redemption is 40% of all redeemable Achari shares, then the Vaso stockholders will own approximately 94.2% of the issued and outstanding Common Stock of New Vaso immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination.

Holders of Vaso common stock will be asked to approve the election of Jun Ma and David Lieberman to serve as the two directors in Class III, to hold office until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders, the ratification of the appointment of UHY LLP as our independent registered public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2023 and the adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary or advisable, in the event Vaso does not receive the requisite stockholder vote to approve one or more proposals presented to stockholders for vote.

To vote at the special meeting, a stockholder must be a stockholder as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, the record date for the special meeting (the “Record Date”). Accordingly, if you purchase shares after the Record Date you will not be able to vote your shares at the special meeting unless you either (i) have a written agreement from the seller/transferor of the shares whereby the seller/transferor agrees to vote the shares in accordance with your instructions, or (ii) obtain a proxy from the seller/transferor which authorizes you to vote the shares held in record name of the seller/transferor and must actually vote such shares on the Business Combination Proposal.

Each stockholder’s vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend the Vaso special meeting, please submit your proxy card without delay. Stockholders may revoke proxies at any time before they are voted at the meeting. Voting by proxy will not prevent a stockholder from voting at the special meeting if such stockholder subsequently chooses to attend the Vaso special meeting.

For stockholders whose shares are registered in their own names, as an alternative to voting in person at the special meeting, you may vote by proxy via the Internet, by telephone or, for those stockholders who receive a paper proxy card in the mail, by mailing a completed proxy card. For those stockholders who receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials provides information on how to access your proxy card, which contains instructions on how to vote via the Internet or by telephone. For those stockholders who receive a paper proxy card, instructions for voting via the Internet or by telephone are set forth on the proxy card; alternatively, such stockholders who receive a paper proxy card may vote by mail by signing and returning the mailed proxy card in the prepaid and addressed envelope that is enclosed with the proxy materials. In each case, your shares will be voted at the special meeting in the manner you direct.

If your shares are registered in the name of a bank or brokerage firm (your record holder), you may also submit your voting instructions over the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions provided by your record holder in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. If you received printed copies of the proxy materials, you can submit voting instructions by telephone or mail by following the instructions provided by your record holder on the enclosed voting instructions card. Those who elect to vote by mail should complete and return the voting instructions card in the prepaid and addressed envelope provided.

**We encourage you to read this proxy statement carefully. In particular, you should review the matters discussed under the caption “Risk Factors” beginning on page 44.**

**Vaso’s Board of Directors unanimously recommends that Vaso stockholders vote “FOR” approval of each of the proposals set forth herein. Vaso’s directors and officers may have financial interests in the Business Combination that differ from, or are in addition to, their respective interests, if any, as stockholders of Vaso and the interests of stockholders of Vaso generally. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso’s directors may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what they may believe is best for themselves in determining to recommend that Vaso’s stockholders vote “FOR” the proposals set forth herein. See the section of this proxy statement entitled “Proposal 1 — The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso’s Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination.”**

Very truly yours,

Jun Ma

Chief Executive Officer

Vaso Corporation

**Vaso Corporation**  
**137 Commercial Street, Suite 200**  
**Plainview, New York 11803**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING IN LIEU OF  
THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
TO BE HELD                      , 2024**

**TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF Vaso Corporation:**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of stockholders in lieu of the 2023 annual meeting (the “Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting”) of Vaso Corporation, a Delaware corporation (“Vaso”), will be held at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time, on                      , 2024, at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607 on                      , 2024 beginning at 10:00 A.M. EST. Stockholders may also attend the meeting by video conference at the corporate offices of Vaso Corporation located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. The Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting will be held to approve:

- (1) the Business Combination Agreement, dated as of December 6, 2023, by and among Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I (“Achari”), Vaso, and Achari Merger Sub, Inc. (the “Merger Sub”) (as amended from time to time, the “Business Combination Agreement”, a copy of which is included as *Annex A*), and the transactions contemplated thereby (collectively referred to as the “Business Combination”). This proposal is referred to as the “Business Combination Proposal” or “Proposal 1.”
- (2) the election of Jun Ma and David Lieberman to serve as the two directors in Class III to hold office until the 2026 Annual Meeting of stockholders. This proposal is called the “Director Election Proposal” or “Proposal 2.”
- (3) the ratification of the appointment of UHY LLP as our independent registered public accountants for the year ending December 31, 2022. This proposal is called the “Ratification Proposal” or “Proposal 3.”
- (4) the adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary or advisable, in the event Vaso does not receive the requisite stockholder vote to approve one or more proposals presented to stockholders for vote. This proposal is called the “Adjournment Proposal” or “Proposal 4.”
- (5) any other matters that properly come before the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting.

Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have their respective meanings as set forth in the Business Combination Agreement.

The above matters are more fully described in the accompanying proxy statement. **We urge you to read carefully the accompanying proxy statement/registration statement in its entirety, including the Annexes and accompanying financial statements of Achari and Vaso.**

Proposals 1 through 4 above are sometimes collectively referred to herein as the “Proposals,” which are not conditioned upon one another. For example, the Adjournment Proposal does not require the approval of the Business Combination Proposal and Business Combination to be effective. The closing of the Business Combination is also conditioned, as set out herein, on matters that are outside of our control including the approval of the Business Combination by the Vaso stockholders.

As of December 28, 2023, there were 175,319,296 shares of common stock of Vaso issued and outstanding and entitled to vote. Only Vaso stockholders who hold common stock of record as of the close of business on [                      ], 2024, the record date, are entitled to vote at the special meeting or any adjournment of the special meeting. This proxy statement is first being mailed to stockholders on or about                      , 2024.

Vaso has determined that the special meeting will be a meeting conducted in person at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607 at 10:00 A.M. EST, and by video conference at Vaso’s corporate offices located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on that date may vote at the special meeting or any adjournment thereof. A complete

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list of our stockholders of record entitled to vote at the special meeting will be available for ten days before the special meeting at our principal executive offices for inspection by stockholders during ordinary business hours for any purpose germane to the special meeting.

Approval of the Business Combination Proposal, Ratification Proposal and Adjournment Proposal will each require the affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the special meeting, or any adjournment thereof. An abstention will be counted as a vote against that proposal and broker non-votes are not considered votes cast with respect to Proposals 1-3, and consequently, will have no effect on the votes on that matter. Abstentions will have no effect of the vote count for the Adjournment Proposal.

Election of our directors as described in Proposal 2, the Director Election Proposal, requires the affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon. “Plurality,” with respect to the Director Election Proposal, means that the two director nominees who receive the highest number of “FOR” votes as compared to any other director nominees set forth will be elected as directors, even if those nominees do not receive a majority of the votes cast by the stockholders present at the meeting or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon.

Except as set out below, a stockholder’s failure to vote by proxy or to vote at the special meeting will not be counted towards the number of shares of common stock required to validly establish a quorum. Votes of stockholders of record who participate in the special meeting or by proxy will be counted as present for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists, whether or not such holder abstains from voting on all of the proposals. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker cannot exercise discretionary voting power and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. For the Ratification Proposal, brokers may exercise discretionary voting power, and brokerage firms holding shares of common stock in “street name” may vote, in their discretion, on behalf of their clients if such clients have not furnished voting instructions with respect to the Ratification Proposal. Such voted shares are counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

**Our Board unanimously recommends that you vote “FOR” each of these proposals and “FOR” each of the director nominees. Vaso’s directors and officers may have financial interests in the Business Combination that differ from, or are in addition to, their interests as stockholders of Vaso and the interests of stockholders of Achari generally. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso’s directors may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what they may believe is best for themselves in determining to recommend that stockholders vote for the proposals. See the section of this proxy statement entitled “Proposal 1 — The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso’s Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination.”**

Vaso currently has authorized share capital of 250,000,000 shares of common stock of which 175,319,296 are issued and outstanding as of December 28, 2023, with a par value of \$0.001 per share, and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.01 per share, none of which are issued or outstanding.

Holders of Vaso’s common stock will be entitled to appraisal rights under Delaware law in connection with the Business Combination but not in connection with any other Proposal. A holder of Vaso common stock who has (a) voted in favor of the Business Combination or consented to it in writing, and (b) has not demanded the appraisal of their Vaso common stock in accordance with Section 262 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware will not have the right to receive any consideration pursuant to the Business Combination.

To vote its shares at the special meeting, a stockholder must be a stockholder as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, the Record Date for the special meeting. Accordingly, if you purchase shares after the Record Date you will not be able to vote your shares unless you have either (i) have a written agreement from the seller/transferor of the shares whereby the seller/transferor agrees to vote the shares in accordance with your instructions, or (ii) obtain a proxy from the seller/transferor which authorizes you to vote the shares held in record name of the seller/transferor and actually vote such shares.

Our directors and officers have agreed to vote any shares of the common stock owned by them in favor of the Business Combination. Currently, our directors and our officers beneficially own approximately 44.5% of our issued and outstanding shares of common stock.

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Whether or not you plan to attend the special meeting, please submit your proxy card without delay. Voting by proxy will not prevent you from voting your shares if you subsequently choose to attend the special meeting. If you fail to return your proxy card and do not attend the meeting, the effect will be that your shares will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the special meeting. You may revoke a proxy at any time before it is voted at the special meeting by executing and returning a proxy card dated later than the previous one, by attending the special meeting and casting your vote by ballot or by submitting a written revocation that is received by us before we take the vote at the special meeting to the Secretary, Vaso Corporation, 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803; telephone: (516) 997-4600. If you hold your shares through a bank, broker or other nominee, you should follow the instructions of your bank, broker or other nominee regarding revocation of proxies.

**Vaso's Board of Directors unanimously recommends that Vaso's stockholders vote "FOR" approval of each of the Proposals. Vaso's directors and officers may have financial interests in the Business Combination that differ from, or are in addition to, their respective interests, if any, as stockholders of Vaso and the interests of stockholders of Vaso generally. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso's directors may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what they may believe is best for themselves in determining to recommend that Vaso stockholders vote "FOR" the Proposals. See the section of this proxy statement entitled "Proposal 1 — The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination."**

By Order of the Board of Directors
Jun Ma
Chief Executive Officer

, 2024

**IF YOU RETURN YOUR PROXY CARD SIGNED AND WITHOUT AN INDICATION OF HOW YOU WISH TO VOTE, YOUR SHARES WILL BE VOTED IN FAVOR OF EACH OF THE PROPOSALS.**

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#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You may request copies of this proxy statement and any other publicly available information concerning Vaso, without charge, by written request to Vaso Corporation, 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200 Plainview, New York 11803, or by telephone request at (516) 997-4600 or from the SEC through the SEC website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

In order for a Vaso stockholder to receive timely delivery of the applicable documents in advance of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting to be held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, such stockholder must request the information no later than five business days prior to the date of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, by \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

## FREQUENTLY USED TERMS

### *Definitions*

Unless otherwise stated or unless the context otherwise requires, the terms “we,” “us,” “our,” and “Vaso” refer to Vaso Corporation, which is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware.

In addition to the definitions given to certain capitalized terms here, in this document the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

“**Achari**” means Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware.

“**Achari Board**” means the board of directors of Achari.

“**Achari Certificate of Incorporation**” means Achari’s fifth amended and restated Certificate of Incorporation as of the date hereof.

“**Achari Shares**” means the shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001, of Achari.

“**Achari Stockholders’ Meeting**” means the extraordinary general meeting of Achari’s stockholders to consider and vote upon the Business Combination and related matters as well as any adjournments or postponements thereof.

“**Adjournment Proposal**” means the proposal to be considered at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting to require the chair of the meeting to adjourn the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies.

“**Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation**” means the proposed sixth amended and restated certificate of incorporation of New Vaso to be in effect following the Business Combination, a copy of which is attached to this proxy statement as *Annex B*.

“**Business Combination**” means the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement.

“**Business Combination Agreement**” means the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of December 6, 2023 by and among Achari, Merger Sub and Vaso, as it may be amended and supplemented from time to time. A copy of the Business Combination Agreement is attached to this proxy statement as *Annex A*.

“**Business Combination Proposal**” means the proposal to be considered at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting to approve the Business Combination.

“**Bylaws**” mean the proposed bylaws of New Vaso to be in effect following the Business Combination, a form of which is attached to this proxy statement as *Annex D*.

“**Company Support Agreement**” means the security holder support agreement, dated December 6, 2023, and entered into concurrently with the execution and delivery of the Business Combination Agreement, by and among Achari, Vaso and certain security holders of Vaso.

“**Class A Company Common Stock**” means New Vaso’s Class A Common Stock, upon consummation of the Business Combination.

“**Class B Company Common Stock**” means New Vaso’s Class B Common Stock, upon consummation of the Business Combination.

“**Closing**” means the closing of the Business Combination.

“**Code**” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

“**DGCL**” means the Delaware General Corporation Law, as amended.

“**Director Election Proposal**” means the proposal to be considered at the stockholders’ meeting to elect Jun Ma and David Lieberman to serve as the two directors in Class III, to hold office until the 2026 Annual Meeting of stockholders and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified.

“**DWAC**” means The Depository Trust Company’s deposit/withdrawal at custodian system.

“**Exchange Act**” means the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

“**Founder Shares**” means the 2,500,000 shares of common stock issued by Achari to the Sponsor (including those that have been subsequently transferred) which amount shall be reduced to 750,000 shares of Achari common Stock immediately prior to the Business Combination.

“**GAAP**” means U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

“**Insider Letter**” means Achari’s letter agreement with the Sponsor, dated October 14, 2021.

“**IPO**” or “**Initial Public Offering**” means Achari’s initial public offering of its Units pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-1 declared effective by the SEC on October 14, 2021, (File No. 333-258476).

“**Merger**” means the statutory merger of Merger Sub with and into Vaso pursuant to the terms of the Business Combination Agreement and under the applicable provisions of the DGCL, with Vaso continuing as the surviving entity and becoming a subsidiary of New Vaso.

“**Merger Sub**” means Achari Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari.

“**Nasdaq**” means The Nasdaq Global Market.

“**New Vaso Board**” means the board of directors of New Vaso subsequent to the completion of the Business Combination.

“**New Vaso Common Stock**” means the shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, of New Vaso upon consummation of the Business Combination, which shall consist of Class A Company Common Stock and Class B Company Common Stock.

“**Outside Date**” means May 30, 2024, which date shall be extended automatically for up to thirty (30) days to the extent we and Vaso are continuing to work in good faith toward the Closing.

“**Private Placement**” means the private placement that Achari consummated simultaneously with the IPO in which Achari issued to the Sponsor and Chardan Capital Markets, LLC, the representative of the underwriters in the IPO, the private placement warrants.

“**Private Placement Warrants**” means the 7,133,333 warrants sold by Achari to the Sponsor and to be reduced to 1,000,000 warrants at the time of the Business Combination.

“**Proposals**” means, collectively, (i) the Business Combination Proposal, (ii) the Director Election Proposal (iii) the Ratification Proposal, and (iv) the Adjournment Proposal, if presented.

“**Public Stockholders**” means the holders of Achari’s shares of common stock that were sold in the IPO (whether they were purchased in the IPO or thereafter in the open market).

“**Public Shares**” means Achari’s shares of common stock sold in the IPO (whether they were purchased in the IPO or thereafter in the open market).

“**Public Warrants**” means Achari’s warrants sold in the IPO (whether they were purchased in the IPO or thereafter in the open market).

“**Record Date**” means                      , 2024.

“**Redemption**” means the redemption of Public Shares for the Redemption Price.

“**Redemption Price**” means an amount equal to a pro rata portion of the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account in accordance with the Achari Certificate of Incorporation (as equitably adjusted for stock splits, stock dividends, combinations, recapitalizations and the like after the Closing). The Redemption Price will be calculated two days prior to the completion of the Business Combination in accordance with the Achari Certificate of Incorporation, as currently in effect.

“**Redemption Rights**” means the right of Achari’s Public Stockholders to demand Redemption of their Public Shares into cash in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Achari Certificate of Incorporation.

“**SEC**” means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

“**Securities Act**” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

“**Sponsor**” means Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company.

“**Transactions**” mean the Business Combination and the other transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement.

“**Transfer Agent**” means American Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

“**Trust Account**” means the trust account of Achari, which holds the net proceeds from the IPO and the sale of the Private Placement Warrants, together with interest earned thereon, less amounts released to pay taxes and pay redemptions.

“**Units**” means the units sold in the IPO (including pursuant to the overallotment option) consisting of one share of common stock of Achari and one warrant to purchase three-quarters of a share of common stock.

“**Vaso Certificate of Incorporation**” means Vaso’s Restated Certificate of Incorporation as of the date hereof.

“**Vaso common stock**” means the common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of Vaso.

“**Vaso preferred stock**” means the preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of Vaso.

“**Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting**” means the extraordinary general meeting of Vaso’s stockholders to consider and vote upon the Proposals, any other matters that properly come before such meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

“**Warrant Agreement**” means the Warrant Agreement, dated October 14, 2021, between Achari and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, which governs Achari’s outstanding warrants.

#### *Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages*

Unless otherwise specified (including in the sections entitled “*Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information*” and “*Beneficial Ownership of Securities*”), the share calculations and ownership percentages set forth in this proxy statement with respect to New Vaso’s stockholders following the Business Combination are for illustrative purposes only and assume the following (certain capitalized terms below are defined elsewhere in this proxy statement):

1. No Achari Public Stockholders exercise their respective Redemption Rights in connection with the consummation of the Business Combination, and the balance of the Trust Account as of the Closing is approximately \$6.85 million. Please see the section entitled “*Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting — Redemption Rights*.”
2. No Achari warrant holders exercise any of the Achari warrants (including any of the 10,000,000 Public Warrants and 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants) that will remain outstanding immediately following the Business Combination.
3. The total number of post-Merger shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock issued to the former Vaso stockholders will be 17,600,000.
4. The total number of post-Merger shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock retained by the Achari stockholders will be 1,300,941 shares.
5. The Redemption Price will be approximately \$                      per share as of the consummation of the Business Combination.

## MARKET AND INDUSTRY DATA

Information contained in this proxy statement concerning the market and the industry in which Vaso competes, including its market position, general expectations of market opportunity and market size, is based on information from various third-party sources, on assumptions made by Vaso based on such sources and Vaso's knowledge of the markets for its services and solutions. Any estimates provided herein involve numerous assumptions and limitations, and you are cautioned not to give undue weight to such information. Third-party sources generally state that the information contained in such sources has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but that there can be no assurance as to the accuracy or completeness of such information. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we are liable for the information provided in this proxy statement. The industry in which Vaso operates is subject to a high degree of uncertainty and risk. As a result, the estimates and market and industry information provided in this proxy statement are subject to change based on various factors, including those described in the section entitled "*Risk Factors — Risks Related to Vaso's Business and Industry*" and elsewhere in this proxy statement.

## **TRADEMARKS**

This proxy statement includes a description of the trademarks of Vaso such as “Vaso” which are protected under applicable intellectual property laws and are the property of Vaso or its subsidiaries. This proxy statement also contains trademarks, service marks, trade names and copyrights of other entities, which are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, trademarks and trade names referred to in this proxy statement may appear without the ® or ™ symbols, but such references are not intended to indicate, in any way, that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights or the right of the applicable licensor to these trademarks and trade names. Vaso does not intend its use or display of other companies’ trade names, trademarks or service marks to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of it by, any other companies.

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This proxy statement contains forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements relate to expectations for future financial performance, business strategies or expectations for our business, and the timing and ability for Achari and Vaso to complete the Business Combination. Specifically, forward-looking statements may include statements relating to:

- the benefits of the Business Combination;
- the ability to complete the Business Combination;
- the future financial performance of New Vaso following the Business Combination;
- the timing of, expected benefits from and ability to execute on expansion plans and opportunities; and
- other statements preceded by, followed by or that include the words “may”, “can”, “should”, “will”, “estimate”, “plan”, “project”, “forecast”, “intend”, “expect”, “anticipate”, “believe”, “seek”, “target” or similar expressions.

These forward-looking statements are based on information available as of the date of this proxy statement and Achari’s and Vaso’s managements’ current expectations, forecasts and assumptions, and involve a number of judgments, known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside the control of Achari, Vaso and their respective directors, officers and affiliates. Accordingly, forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing Vaso’s views as of any subsequent date. Vaso does not undertake any obligation to update, add to or otherwise correct any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect events or circumstances after the date they were made, whether as a result of new information, future events, inaccuracies that become apparent after the date hereof or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements in deciding how your vote should be cast or in voting your shares or warrants on the Proposals. As a result of a number of known and unknown risks and uncertainties, our actual results or performance may be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Some factors that could cause actual results to differ include:

- the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could delay the Business Combination or give rise to the termination of the Business Combination Agreement;
- the outcome of any legal proceedings that may be instituted against Vaso or Achari following announcement of the proposed Business Combination and transactions contemplated thereby;
- the inability to complete the Business Combination, including due to the failure to obtain approval of the Achari or Vaso stockholders or the failure to meet other conditions to closing in the Business Combination Agreement;
- the inability to maintain the applicable listing of the securities of New Vaso on Nasdaq following the Business Combination;
- the ability to recognize the anticipated benefits of the Business Combination, which may be affected by, among other things, competition, and the ability of New Vaso to grow and manage growth profitably;
- costs related to the Business Combination;
- changes in the markets that Vaso operates;
- the possibility that Achari or Vaso may be adversely affected by other economic, business, and/or competitive factors;
- the risk that the Business Combination disrupts current plans and operations of Vaso as a result of the announcement and consummation of the Business Combination;
- the inability to execute Vaso’s growth strategies, including identifying and executing acquisitions;
- the inability to develop and maintain effective internal controls;

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- cost of complying with current laws and regulations and any changes in applicable laws or regulations;
- business interruptions resulting from geographical actions, including war and terrorism;
- difficulties managing our anticipated growth, or the possibility that we may not grow at all;
- failure to obtain and maintain the third-party relationships that are necessary to further our business plans;
- failure to obtain necessary funding in order to continue our operations as planned, either at all or on favorable terms;
- failure to attract and retain the current senior management team and Vaso's scientific advisors as well as qualified scientific, technical and business personnel; and
- other risks and uncertainties indicated in this proxy statement, including those set forth under the section entitled "*Risk Factors*."

Forward-looking statements in this document that do not relate to the Business Combination are made under the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Although we believe that forward-looking statements in this proxy statement that relate to the Business Combination fall within the protection of the "bespeaks caution" doctrine, which holds that forward-looking statements are not misleading if they are accompanied by adequate risk disclosure to caution readers about specific risks that may materially impact the forecasts, any court analyzing such forward-looking statements could find that such doctrine is not applicable to the proxy statement or such statements do not qualify for such protection.

## SUMMARY OF THE PROXY STATEMENT

*This summary highlights selected information from this proxy statement but does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. To better understand the Proposals to be considered at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, including the Business Combination Proposal, whether or not you plan to attend such meeting, we urge you to read this proxy statement (including the Annexes) carefully, including the section entitled "Risk Factors" herein. See also the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information."*

### Parties to the Business Combination

#### Achari

Achari was incorporated in Delaware on January 25, 2021. Achari is a blank check company formed for the purpose of effecting a merger, capital stock exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one or more businesses. Although Achari's initial focus was on identifying acquisition opportunities in the cannabis industry, it has decided that pursuing the Business Combination with Vaso, a company involved in the medical device and medical sales industry, is in the best interest of its stockholders.

Achari is an early stage and emerging growth company and, as such, it is subject to all of the risks associated with early stage and emerging growth companies.

#### General

As of the date hereof, Achari had not commenced any operations other than activities related to its formation, its Initial Public Offering, and, subsequent to the Initial Public Offering, the process of identifying a target company for a business combination and the execution of the Business Combination. Achari does not anticipate that it will generate any operating revenues until after the completion of a business combination, at the earliest. The registration statement for Achari's Initial Public Offering was declared effective on October 14, 2021. On October 19, 2021, Achari consummated its Initial Public Offering of 10,000,000 Units. Each such Unit consisted of one share of Common Stock and one redeemable warrant, with each whole warrant entitling the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock for \$11.50 per share, provided however that warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares of Common Stock. The Units were sold at a price of \$10.00 per Unit, generating gross proceeds to Achari of \$100,000,000.

Simultaneously with the closing of the Initial Public Offering, pursuant to the Private Placement, Achari sold the Private Placement Warrants to the Sponsor at a purchase price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant, generating gross proceeds of \$5,350,000. The Private Placement Warrants are identical to the warrants included in the Units sold as part of the Units in the Initial Public Offering, except as otherwise disclosed in Achari's Registration Statement on Form S-1 relating to the Initial Public Offering. No underwriting discounts or commissions were paid with respect to such sale. The issuance of the Private Placement Warrants was made pursuant to the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act.

Following the closing of the Initial Public Offering \$101,500,000 (or approximately \$10.15 per Unit) from the net proceeds of the sale of the Units and the Private Placement Warrants was placed in a U.S.-based trust account (the "Trust Account") maintained by Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, acting as trustee (the "Trustee"). Except with respect to interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account that may be released to Achari to pay its taxes (less up to \$100,000 interest to pay dissolution expenses), the funds held in the Trust Account will not be released from the Trust Account until the earliest of (i) the completion of Achari's initial Business Combination, (ii) the redemption of any of Achari's Public Shares properly submitted in connection with a stockholder vote to amend the Certificate of Incorporation (a) to modify the substance or timing of its obligation to redeem 100% of Achari's Public Shares if it does not complete its initial Business Combination on or prior to July 19, 2024 (or such earlier applicable date if it opts to continue to exercise its remaining Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Options as defined below and further described herein) or (b) with respect to any other provision relating to stockholders' rights or pre-initial Business Combination activity and (iii) the redemption of Achari's Public Shares if it is unable to complete its initial Business Combination on or prior to July 19, 2024 (or such earlier applicable date if Achari opts not to continue to exercise its remaining Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Options), subject to applicable law. Prior to the 24-month anniversary of the registration statement for Achari's IPO, the funds placed in the Trust Account were invested in U.S. government securities, within the meaning set forth in Section 2(a)(16) of the Investment Company

Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), with a maturity of 185 days or less or in any open ended investment company that holds itself out as a money market fund selected by Achari meeting the conditions of paragraphs (d)(2), (d)(3) and (d)(4) of Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act, as determined by Achari, and subsequent to such date, such funds have been held in cash or interest-bearing bank deposit accounts at a national bank.

Achari’s Units began trading on October 15, 2021 on Nasdaq under the symbol “AVHIU”. The Public Shares began trading on Nasdaq on November 17, 2021 under the symbol “AVHI” while the Public Warrants began trading on Nasdaq on November 17, 2021 under the symbol “AVHIW”.

#### **Extension of Date to Consummate an Initial Business Combination**

On December 22, 2022 at a special meeting of Achari’s stockholders (the “Special Meeting”), Achari’s stockholders approved (i) the Charter Amendment Proposals, an amendment to Achari’s second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in Achari’s existing second amended certificate of incorporation, and which had provided Achari the ability to extend the deadline by which Achari must consummate a Business Combination by up to three months, or from January 19, 2023 to April 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a Business Combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023 and (ii) the Trust Amendment Proposal, an amendment to Achari’s Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that Achari may extend the time period to complete a Business Combination up to and until July 19, 2023, on a monthly basis, by, at Achari’s option, depositing into Achari’s Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of Achari’s Common Stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit (the “Third Col Monthly Extension Options”). The Third Col Monthly Extension Options were exercised by Achari in six single-month increments.

At the Special Meeting, holders of 8,980,535 shares of Common Stock of Achari exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate redemption price of \$10.24 per share, resulting in an aggregate payment to such redeeming stockholders of approximately \$92,009,330, which amount was withdrawn from the Trust Account to redeem such shares promptly following the conclusion of the Special Meeting.

On July 12, 2023, Achari’s stockholders approved at a special meeting of Achari’s stockholders (i) an amendment to Achari’s then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in Achari’s then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation that provided Achari the ability to extend the deadline by which Achari must consummate a business combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a business combination by up to an additional six months, or from July 19, 2023 to January 19, 2024, and (ii) an amendment to Achari’s Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that Achari may extend the time period to complete a business combination up to and until the Amended Extended Date on a monthly basis, at Achari’s option, by depositing into Achari’s Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of Achari’s Common Stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit (the “Fourth Col Monthly Extension Options”). The Fourth Col Monthly Extension Options were exercised by Achari in six single-month increments.

On July 17, 2023, Achari’s Sponsor transferred 927,600 shares of Common Stock to certain members of the Sponsor. As a result of such transfers, as of July 17, 2023, 1,572,400 shares of Common Stock were held directly by the Sponsor and 927,600 shares of Common Stock were held directly by members of the Sponsor.

Pursuant to the terms of Achari’s then existing certificate of incorporation and Amended and Restated Investment Management and Trust Agreement, on October 19, 2023, with respect to the exercise of the Fourth Col Monthly Extension Options, Achari deposited \$31,916 into Achari’s Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Fourth Col Monthly Extension Options. Such deposit with respect to the Fourth Col Monthly Extension Options was made using funds held outside of Achari’s Trust Account and available to Achari to fund working capital requirements. As of October 20, 2023 (and, for the avoidance of doubt, inclusive of the deposit of \$31,916 into the Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Fourth Col Monthly Extension Options as described above), the Trust Account held approximately \$6,892,525. Offering costs for the Initial Public Offering amounted to \$6,101,730, consisting of \$2,000,000 of underwriting fees, \$3,500,000 of deferred underwriting fees

payable (which are held in the Trust Account) and \$601,730 of other costs. Following the closing of the Initial Public Offering, \$101,500,000 (\$10.15 per Unit) from the net proceeds of the sale of the Units in the Initial Public Offering and the Private Placement Warrants was placed in the Trust Account.

On December 18, 2023, Achari held a special meeting in lieu of an annual meeting of Achari's stockholders at which Achari's stockholders approved (i) a proposal to amend its Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to revise its then-existing extension option to extend the period by which it must consummate a business combination to July 19, 2024, with such extension option exercisable in six single-month increments (each such monthly extension option, a "Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option"), for an additional six-month aggregate total extension period if each Fifth Monthly Extension Option is exercised; (ii) a proposal to amend its charter to eliminate a limitation in the charter providing that Achari shall not redeem Public Shares (as defined below) to the extent that such redemption would cause Achari's net tangible assets to be less than \$5,000,001 following any such redemptions, in order to allow Achari to redeem Public Shares irrespective of whether the amount of such redemptions would breach the Redemption Limitation if Achari so chooses in its sole discretion and (iii) a proposal to amend its Second Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement, dated July 12, 2023, by and between the Trustee and Achari, to provide that the expiration date provided for in the Trust Agreement may be extended, at Achari's option, and on a monthly basis, pursuant to the exercise of the Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option(s), up to and until July 19, 2024; provided that, in order to exercise a single Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option, Achari must deposit into the Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.04 for each share of Achari's common stock included in the units which were sold in Achari's IPO and which remain outstanding on the date of such deposit. In connection with the stockholders' vote at the December 18, 2023 meeting, Achari was advised that holders of 87,380 shares of Achari common stock exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at a price of \$10.91 per share, for an aggregate payment of \$952,939.89, which was subsequently withdrawn from the Trust Account to redeem such shares. As of January 2, 2024 (and reflecting the withdrawal of funds in connection with the redemption of shares described in the foregoing sentence), the Trust Account had a balance of \$6,050,606.81.

As of the date hereof, Achari had exercised six of the six Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Options available to it, depositing \$31,916.05 into the Trust Account in connection with each such exercise.

#### ***Merger Sub***

Merger Sub is a Delaware corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari formed in December 2023. In the Business Combination, Merger Sub will merge with and into Vaso with Vaso being the surviving entity and becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari.

Merger Sub's principal executive offices are located at c/o Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I, 60 Walnut Avenue, Suite 400, Clark, New Jersey 07066, and its phone number is (732) 340-0700.

#### ***Vaso***

Vaso Corporation was incorporated in Delaware in July 1987. For most of its history, Vaso primarily was a single-product company designing, manufacturing, marketing and servicing its proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation, or EEC<sup>®</sup>, therapy systems, mainly for the treatment of angina. In 2010 it began to diversify its business operations. Vaso changed its name to Vaso Corporation in 2016 to more accurately reflect the diversified nature of its business, and Vaso continues to use the original name VasoMedical for its proprietary medical device subsidiary.

In May 2010, Vaso launched its Professional Sales Service business through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, which was appointed by GE Healthcare Division ("GEHC") as its exclusive representative for the sale of select GEHC diagnostic imaging equipment to specific market segments in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. The original agreement with GEHC ("GEHC Agreement") was for three years ending June 30, 2013; it has been extended several times with the current extension through December 31, 2026, subject to earlier termination under certain conditions.

In June 2014, Vaso began its IT segment business by concluding the Value Added Reseller Agreement ("VAR Agreement") with GEHC to become a national value added reseller of GEHC Digital's software solutions such as Picture Archiving and Communication System ("PACS"), Radiology Information System ("RIS"), and related

services, including implementation, training, management and support. This business focuses primarily on customer segments currently served by VasoHealthcare. A new wholly owned subsidiary, VasoHealthcare IT Corp. (“**VHC IT**”), was formed to conduct the healthcare IT business.

In May 2015, Vaso further expanded its IT business segment by acquiring all of the assets of NetWolves, LLC and its affiliates, including the membership interests in NetWolves Network Services, LLC (collectively, “NetWolves”), pursuant to an asset purchase agreement. NetWolves designs and delivers efficient and cost-effective multi-network and multi-technology solutions as a managed network provider, and also provides a complete single-source solution that includes design, network redundancy, application device management, real-time network monitoring, reporting and support systems as a comprehensive solution.

Vaso’s Equipment business also has been significantly expanded from the original EECP®-only operations. In September 2011, Vaso acquired FGE, a British Virgin Islands company, which owned or controlled two Chinese operating companies — Life Enhancement Technology Ltd. (“**LET**”) and Biox Instruments Co. Ltd. (“**Biox**”) — to expand its technical and manufacturing capabilities and to enhance its distribution network, technology, and product portfolio. Biox was a variable interest entity (“**VIE**”) controlled by FGE through certain contracts and an option to acquire all the shares of Biox by FGE’s wholly owned subsidiary Gentone, and in March 2019 Gentone exercised its option to acquire all of the shares of Biox. In August 2014, Vaso through Gentone acquired all of the outstanding shares of Genwell Instruments Co. Ltd. (“**Genwell**”), which was formed in 2010 to develop the MobiCare® wireless multi-parameter patient monitoring system and holds intellectual property rights for this system. As a result, Vaso has expanded its equipment products portfolio to include Biox™ series ambulatory patient monitoring systems, ARCS® series software for ECG and blood pressure analysis, and the MobiCare® patient monitoring device.

In April 2014, Vaso entered into a cooperation agreement with Chongqing PSK-Health Sci-Tech Development Co., Ltd. (“**PSK**”) of Chongqing, China, the leading manufacturer of external counter pulsation, or ECP, therapy systems in China, to form a joint venture company, VSK Medical Limited (“**VSK**”), a Cayman Islands company, for the global marketing, sale and advancement of ECP therapy technology. Vaso owned 49.9% of VSK, which commenced operations in January 2015. In March 2018, Vaso terminated the cooperation agreement with PSK and sold its shares in VSK to PSK. On May 20, 2020, Vaso closed on the sale of 51% of the capital stock of its wholly-owned subsidiary EECP Global Corporation (“**EECP Global**”) to PSK. EECP Global was formed in September 2019 to hold all the assets and liabilities of its EECP business. Concurrently with the closing of the transaction, Vaso signed a Management Service Agreement with EECP Global to provide management service for the business and operation of EECP Global in the United States. The agreement provided an initial term of three years starting April 1, 2020, the effective date of the sale, which term is automatically renewable for additional one-year terms. The Management Services Agreement was last renewed in April 2023, and Vaso anticipates that the agreement will continue to be renewed on an annual basis for the foreseeable future. Pursuant to the agreement, EECP Global reimburses Vaso for all direct expenses and pays a monthly management fee of \$10,000 per month during the term of the agreement.

Vaso’s principal executive offices are located at 137 Commercial St., Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803, and its phone number is (516) 997-4600.

#### ***Equity Ownership Upon Completion of the Business Combination***

As of the date of this proxy statement, there are issued and outstanding (i) 3,050,941 shares of Achari, comprised of 550,941 shares held by Public Stockholders and 2,500,000 Founder Shares (to be reduced to 750,000 Founder Shares upon the completion of the Business Combination), (ii) 10,000,000 Public Warrants, and (iii) 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants (to be reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination). Each whole Public Warrant and each whole Private Placement Warrant entitles the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Achari for \$11.50 per share and, following the completion of the Business Combination, will entitle the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock; provided, however, that, in each case, the warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares. In connection with the completion of the Business Combination, each then-issued and outstanding share of Achari common stock will be exchanged for a share of Class A Common Stock, on a one-for-one basis. In addition, as of January 2, 2024, there is approximately \$6,050,607 in the Trust Account.

### Issued and Outstanding Ownership upon Closing

The following table summarizes the dilutive effect and the pro forma ownership of Class A Common Stock following the completion of the Business Combination based on the varying levels of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders and the following additional assumptions: (i) the Business Combination is consummated on April 2, 2024, (ii) 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock are issued to stockholders of Vaso in a no Redemption scenario, a 20% Redemption scenario, a 40% Redemption scenario, a 60% Redemption scenario, an 80% Redemption scenario and a 100% Redemption scenario, and (iii) pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, at Closing, all Vaso Restricted Share Awards, to the extent they are outstanding immediately prior to Closing, will automatically vest in full and be converted into the right to receive a number of Class A Common Shares as set forth on the Allocation Schedule.

Based on these assumptions, and assuming that no outstanding shares of Achari are redeemed in connection with the Business Combination, there would be approximately 18,900,941 shares of Class A Common Stock outstanding, or 27,150,941 on a fully-diluted basis, immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination. If the actual facts are different than these assumptions, the ownership percentages in New Vaso will be different.

The scenarios depicted below are for illustrative purposes only, as the actual number of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders is not able to be known prior to prior to \_\_\_\_ p.m., Eastern Time on \_\_\_\_, 2024, deadline for redemptions.

	No Redemptions <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	%	20% Redemptions <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	%	40% Redemptions <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	%	60% Redemptions <sup>(1)(5)</sup>	%	80% Redemptions <sup>(1)(6)</sup>	%	100% Redemptions <sup>(1)(7)</sup>	%
Vaso stockholders	17,600,000	93.1%	17,600,000	93.7%	17,600,000	94.2%	17,600,000	94.8%	17,600,000	95.3%	17,600,000	95.9%
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.9%	440,753	2.3%	330,565	1.8%	220,376	1.2%	110,188	0.6%	—	0.0%
Sponsor Founder Shares <sup>(8)</sup>	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.19%	750,000	4.19%
<b>Total Shares of Common Stock</b>	<b>18,900,941</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,790,753</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,680,565</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,570,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,460,188</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,350,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

- (1) Represents ownership based on assumed actual shares issued and outstanding at the Closing and assumes all 1,000,000 Sponsor Private Placement Warrants are exercised. All percentages will be diluted if any Public Warrants are exercised.

Notwithstanding the number of Redemptions, the deferred underwriting commissions of \$3,500,000 in connection with the IPO will remain constant and be released to the underwriters only upon completion of the Business Combination. Achari anticipates that there will be approximately \$6,194,100 in the Trust Account as of April 2, 2024. Accordingly, assuming that the Business Combination occurs on April 2, 2024, the deferred underwriting commissions will equal 57% of the cash remaining in the Trust Account if there are no Redemptions, 71% if there are 20% Redemptions, 94% if there are 40% Redemptions, 141% if there are 60% Redemptions, 283% if there are 80% Redemptions and an incalculable percentage if there are 100% Redemptions.

- (2) Assumes that no shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(3) Assumes that 110,188 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(4) Assumes that 220,376 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(5) Assumes that 330,565 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(6) Assumes that 440,753 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(7) Assumes that all shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(8) Represents the reduction of Founder Shares from 2,500,000 Founder Shares as of the date hereof to 750,000 Founder Shares as of the completion of the Business Combination and assumes that the Founder Shares are not further reduced pursuant to the Put Option Agreement.  
(9) Represents Founder Shares held by the Sponsor. Mr. Desai is the managing member of the Sponsor. Accordingly, Mr. Desai has voting and dispositive power over the shares of common stock held by the Sponsor and may be deemed to beneficially own such Founder Shares. Other than as set forth herein, no affiliates of the Sponsor own equity of Achari.

For additional information regarding assumptions incorporated into the information presented above, see the sections titled “Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages”, “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” and “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration”. For additional information regarding beneficial ownership, see the section titled “Beneficial Ownership of Securities”.

The voting percentages set forth above were calculated based on the assumptions set forth above and do not take into account (i) Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants that will remain outstanding immediately following the completion of the Business Combination and may be exercised thereafter, and (ii) the issuance of any shares upon completion of the Business Combination under the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan, but do include the Founder Shares, which, upon the completion of the Business Combination, will convert into shares of Class A Common Stock under the terms of the Business Combination. For more information, please see the sections entitled “Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages”, “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” and “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration”.

If the actual facts are different than the assumptions set forth above, the voting percentages set forth above will be different. For example, there are currently outstanding an aggregate of 17,133,333 warrants, each to acquire three quarters of one share of Achari, which are comprised of 10,000,000 Public Warrants and 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants (to be reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination). Following the Closing, each of these warrants will entitle the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Class A Common Stock at an exercise price of \$11.50 per share on the terms and conditions set forth in the applicable warrant agreement; provided, however, that the warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares. If we assume that each outstanding warrant is exercised and three quarters of one share of Class A Common Stock is issued as a result of such exercise, with payment to Achari of the exercise price of \$11.50 per share, in cash, the fully-diluted share capital of Achari would increase by a total of 8,250,000 shares, with approximately \$94,975,000 paid to Achari to exercise the warrants.

### Fully-Diluted Ownership upon Closing

The following table summarizes the dilutive effect and the pro forma ownership of Common Stock of Achari following the completion of the Business Combination based on varying levels of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders and the following additional assumptions: (i) the Business Combination is consummated on April 2, 2024, (ii) 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock are issued to Vaso stockholders in a no Redemption scenario, a 20% Redemption scenario, a 40% Redemption scenario, a 60% Redemption scenario, an 80% Redemption scenario and a 100% Redemption scenario, and (iii) the price of the shares of Class A Common Stock reaches \$11.50. The following table includes the Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants, which will be exercisable for 8,250,000 shares of Class A Common Stock following the consummation of the Business Combination.

	No Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		20% Redemptions <sup>(2)</sup>		40% Redemptions <sup>(3)</sup>		60% Redemptions <sup>(4)</sup>		80% Redemptions <sup>(5)</sup>		100% Redemptions <sup>(6)</sup>	
	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in Shares	Equity %
Vaso Public Stockholders	17,600,000	64.8%	17,600,000	65.1%	17,600,000	65.4%	17,600,000	65.6%	17,600,000	65.9%	17,600,000	66.2%
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.0%	440,753	1.6%	330,565	1.2%	220,376	0.8%	110,188	0.4%	—	0.0%
Sponsor Founder Shares <sup>(7)</sup>	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%
Public Warrants	7,500,000	27.6%	7,500,000	27.7%	7,500,000	27.8%	7,500,000	28.0%	7,500,000	28.1%	7,500,000	28.2%
Private Placement Warrants <sup>(8)</sup>	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%
<b>Total Shares of Common Stock</b>	<b>27,150,941</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,040,753</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,930,565</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,820,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,710,188</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,600,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Sponsor Ownership with converted warrants</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

(1) Assumes that no shares of Achari are redeemed.

(2) Assumes that 110,188 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(3) Assumes that 220,376 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(4) Assumes that 330,565 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(5) Assumes that 440,753 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(6) Assumes that all shares of Achari are redeemed.

(7) Represents the reduction of Founder Shares from 2,500,000 Founder Shares as of the date hereof to 750,000 Founder Shares as of the completion of the Business Combination and assumes that the Founder Shares are not further reduced pursuant to the Put Option Agreement.

(8) Represents 7,133,333 warrants sold to the Sponsor, which number will be reduced to 1,000,000 warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination.

Share ownership presented in the table above is only presented for illustrative purposes and is based on a number of assumptions. Achari cannot predict how many of its Public Stockholders will exercise their respective right to have their respective Public Shares redeemed for cash. Public Stockholders that do not elect to redeem their respective Public Shares will experience dilution as a result of the Business Combination. The Public Stockholders currently own approximately 18% of the outstanding shares of Achari, assuming that no warrants have been exercised and 51% on a fully-diluted basis. As noted in the above table, if no Public Stockholders redeem their respective Public Shares in connection with the Business Combination, the Public Stockholders will go from owning approximately 51% of the shares of Achari on a fully-diluted basis prior to the Business Combination to owning 30% of the total shares of Common Stock on a fully-diluted basis. The Public Stockholders will own approximately 2.9%, 2.3%, 1.8%, 1.2%, 0.6% and 0.0% (assuming no warrants have been exercised) and 29.7%, 29.4%, 29.1%, 28.8%, 28.5%, and 28.2% (on a fully-diluted basis) of the total shares outstanding of Common Stock, in the no Redemptions, 20% Redemptions, 40% Redemptions, 60% Redemptions, 80% Redemptions and 100% Redemptions scenario, respectively. The Sponsor will own approximately 2.8%, 2.8%, 2.8%, 2.8% and 2.8% (assuming no warrants have been exercised) and 5.5%, 5.5%, 5.6%, 5.6%, 5.6% and 5.6% (on a fully-diluted basis) of the total shares outstanding of Common Stock, in the no Redemptions, 20% Redemptions, 40% Redemptions, 60% Redemptions, 80% Redemptions and 100% Redemptions scenario, respectively.

#### **The Proposals to be Submitted at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting**

##### ***The Business Combination Proposal***

Achari and Vaso have agreed to the Business Combination under the terms of the Business Combination Agreement. Pursuant to the terms set forth in the Business Combination Agreement, subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions to the Closing therein, Merger Sub will merge with and into Vaso, with Vaso continuing as the surviving entity and becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of New Vaso Company.

##### ***Business Combination Agreement***

Pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, subject to the terms and conditions set forth therein upon the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement (the “Closing”), Merger Sub will merge with and into Vaso, with Vaso continuing as the surviving corporation in the Business Combination and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari.

At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of any Person, each Vaso share of common stock (excluding any dissenting shares and cancelled treasury stock) issued and outstanding as of immediately prior to the Effective Time will be automatically cancelled and extinguished and converted into shares of Class A Common Stock based on an exchange ratio, as further described in the Business Combination Agreement.

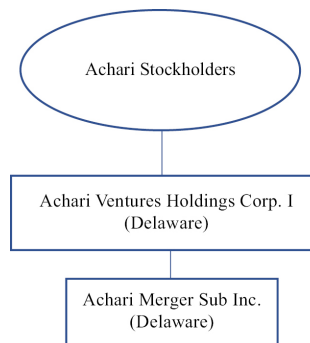
At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger, each Vaso Restricted Share Award outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time shall automatically and without any action on the part of the holder thereof, automatically vest in full and shall be converted into the right to receive a number of shares of Class A Common Stock in accordance with the allocation schedule to be delivered by Vaso to Achari at least three Business Days prior to the Closing Date (the “Allocation Schedule”).

At the Closing, Achari will change its name to “Vaso Holding Corporation”.

## Organizational Structure

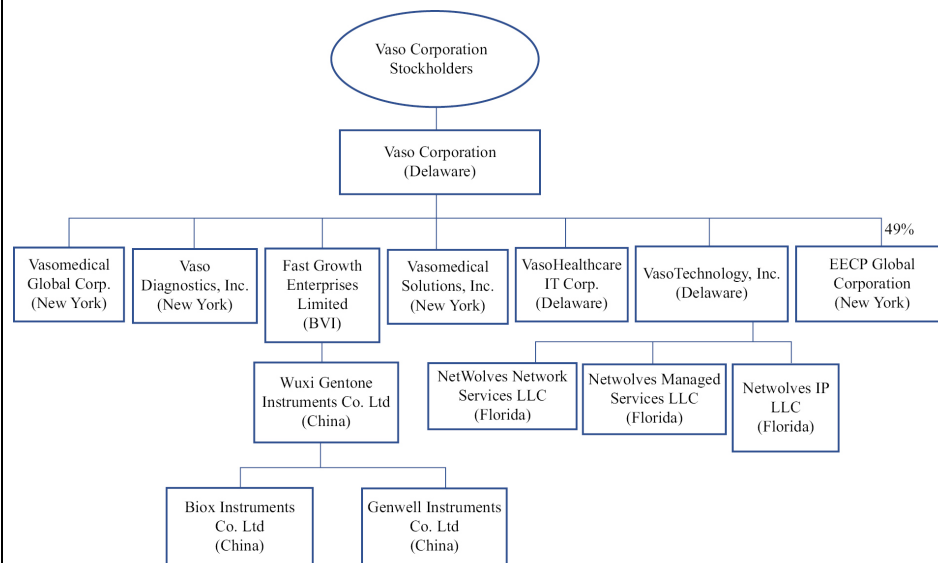
### Organizational Structure of Achari before the Business Combination

The diagram below depicts a simplified version of Achari's current organizational structure:



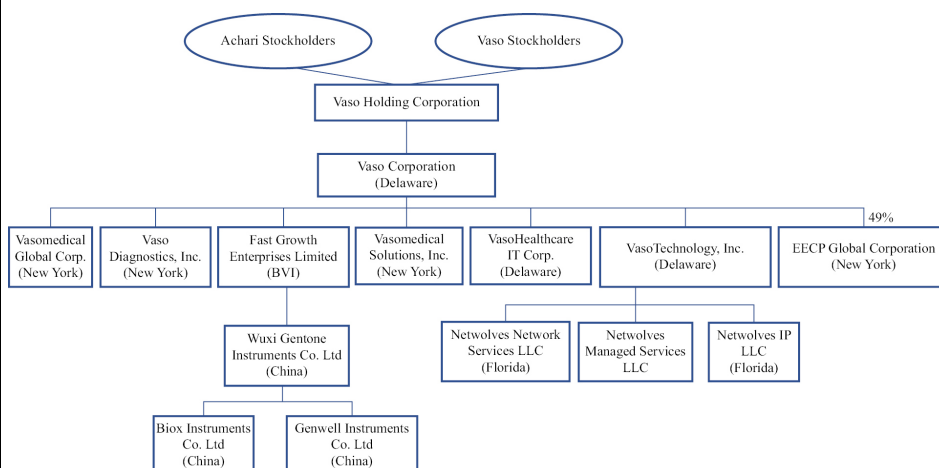
### Organizational Structure of Vaso before the Business Combination

The diagram below depicts a simplified version of Vaso's current organizational structure (all ownership percentages are 100% unless otherwise indicated):



### Organizational Structure of New Vaso after giving effect to the Merger and Business Combination

The diagram below depicts a simplified version of our organizational structure immediately following the completion of the Business Combination (all ownership percentages are 100% unless otherwise indicated).



See the section entitled “*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal*” for a summary of the terms of the Business Combination Agreement and additional information regarding the terms of the Business Combination Proposal.

### **Management of New Vaso Following the Business Combination**

New Vaso directors and executive officers upon completion of the Business Combination will be as follows:

Name	Age	Position
Joshua Markowitz	68	Chairman of the Board and Director
David Lieberman	79	Vice Chairman of the Board and Director
Jun Ma	60	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Jane Moen	44	President Vasohealthcare and Director
Behnam Movaseghi	70	Independent Director
Edgar Rios	71	Independent Director
Leon Dembo	69	Independent Director
Michael J. Beecher	79	Co-Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Jonathan P. Newton	63	Co-Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
Peter C. Castle	55	Chief Operating Officer
[Independent director nominee to be named]	[—]	Independent Director
[Independent director nominee to be named]	[—]	Independent Director

For more information on the directors and executive officers of New Vaso upon completion of the Business Combination, see “*Management of New Vaso Following the Business Combination*”

**Anticipated Accounting Treatment**

The Transactions will be accounted for as a capital reorganization in accordance with GAAP. Accordingly, the Transactions will be treated as the equivalent of Vaso issuing shares for the net assets of Achari as of the Closing Date, accompanied by a recapitalization. The net assets of Achari will be stated at historical cost, with no goodwill or other intangible assets recorded.

**Regulatory Approvals**

The Business Combination and the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement are not subject to any additional regulatory requirement or approval, except for filings with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware necessary to effectuate the merger required and filings with the SEC pursuant to the reporting requirements applicable to Achari and Vaso, and the requirements of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act.

**Redemption Rights**

Public Stockholders of Achari may seek to have their shares redeemed by Achari, regardless of whether they vote for or against the Business Combination or any other Proposals and whether they held Achari shares of common stock as of the Record Date or acquired them after the Record Date. There were approximately \$6,050,606.81 funds in the Trust Account on January 2, 2024. As Achari Public Stockholders are entitled to a portion of the funds in the Trust Account, approximately \$10.98 per share as of January 2, 2024, the more shares Achari Public Stockholders redeem, the less cash will remain in the Trust Account for New Vaso to use. Additionally, the more shares the Achari Public Stockholders redeem, the less their ownership of New Vaso will be immediately following the Business Combination. By way of example, if no Achari Public Stockholders redeem their shares, the current Achari Public Stockholders will own approximately 6.9% of New Vaso where as if 60% of such eligible shares are redeemed, the current Achari stockholders will own approximately 5.2% of New Vaso. See the section entitled “*Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting — Redemption Rights*” for the procedures to be followed if you are to redeem your shares for cash.

**Interests of the Directors and Officers in the Business Combination**

When you consider the recommendation of the Vaso Board to vote in favor of approval of the Proposals, you should keep in mind that Vaso’s directors and officers have interests in the Business Combination that may be different from or in addition to (and which may conflict with) your interests as a stockholder. These interests include, among other things, that:

- the current member of Vaso’s board of directors, Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo and Behnam Movaseghi, are expected to serve as members of the New Vaso board of directors after consummation of the Business Combination and, in their capacity as such, shall become entitled to any cash fees, stock options or stock awards that New Vaso determines to pay its directors;
- that executive officers of Vaso, including Jun Ma as its Chief Executive Officer, are expected to serve in their same capacities with New Vaso; and
- upon consummation of the Business Combination, and subject to approval of the Achari Equity Incentive Plan Proposal, New Vaso’s executive officers after the Business Combination are expected to receive grants of stock options and restricted stock units under the 2024 EIP Plan from time to time.

**Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Business Combination**

For a description of the certain United States federal income tax considerations relevant to an exercise of redemption rights, please see “Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Business Combination.”

***The Director Election Proposal***

Vaso is asking its stockholders to approve the election of Jun Ma and David Lieberman to serve as the two directors in Class III, to hold office until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders. Our Certificate of Incorporation provides for a Board consisting of not less than three nor more than nine directors. Our Board now consists of seven directors. The Board has three classes of directors: Class I, whose term will expire in 2024 currently consisting

of Mr. Markowitz and Mr. Rios; Class II, whose term will expire in 2025 currently consisting of Mr. Movaseghi, Mr. Dembo and Ms. Moen; and Class III, whose term would have expired in 2023, currently consisting of Dr. Ma and Mr. Lieberman. The directors each intend to serve on the Board until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified. The Board has nominated Mr. Ma and Mr. Lieberman for election as Class III directors to serve until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. A summary of the Director Election Proposal is set forth in the section entitled “*Proposal 2: The Director Election Proposal*” of this proxy statement.

#### ***The Ratification Proposal***

Vaso is proposing that its stockholders ratify the appointment of UHY LLP as Vaso’s independent registered public accounting firm to audit its financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023.

#### ***The Adjournment Proposal***

The Adjournment Proposal, if adopted, will allow the chair of the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting to adjourn such meeting to a later date or dates, including, if necessary to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies if it is determined by the chair that more time is necessary or appropriate to approve one or more Proposals at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting. A summary of the Adjournment Proposal is set forth in the section entitled “*Proposal 4: The Adjournment Proposal*” of this proxy statement.

#### **Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting**

##### ***Date, Time and Place of the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting***

The Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting will be held at Eastern Time, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, or at such other date, time and place to which such meeting may be adjourned or postponed to consider and vote upon the Proposals. You will be able to attend the special meeting at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607, or by video conference at the corporate offices of Vaso Corporation located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803.

##### ***Record Date; Outstanding Shares; Stockholders Entitled to Vote***

Vaso has fixed the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 as the Record Date for determining the Vaso stockholders entitled to notice of and to attend and vote at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting. As of the close of business on such date, there were \_\_\_\_\_ shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share is entitled to one vote per share at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting.

Pursuant to the Company Support Agreement, Vaso’s directors and officers have agreed to vote Vaso common stock representing approximately 94% of the outstanding shares of Vaso common stock on December 6, 2023 in favor of the Business Combination.

##### ***Proxy Solicitation***

Proxies with respect to the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting may be solicited by telephone, by facsimile, by mail, on the Internet or in person. If a stockholder grants a proxy, it may still vote its shares at the special meeting if it revokes its proxy before the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting. A stockholder may also change its vote by submitting a later-dated proxy, as described in the section entitled “*Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting — Revoking Your Proxy; Changing Your Vote.*”

##### ***Quorum and Required Vote***

A quorum of Vaso stockholders is necessary to hold the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting. The presence, in person or by proxy, of Vaso stockholders representing at least 50% of the shares of common stock issued and outstanding on the Record Date and entitled to vote on the Proposals to be considered at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting will constitute a quorum for the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting.

Each of Proposals 1, 3 and 4 will require affirmative vote of a majority of the total votes cast by holders entitled to vote on the proposal, assuming a quorum is present at the meeting. An abstention will be counted as a vote against that proposal and broker non-votes are not considered votes cast with respect to that matter, and consequently, will have no effect on the votes on that matter, and the Adjournment Proposal will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Vaso Shares that are present and vote at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

Election of our directors as described in Proposal 2, the Director Election Proposal, requires the affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon. "Plurality," with respect to the Director Election Proposal, means that the two director nominees who receive the highest number of "FOR" votes as compared to any other director nominees set forth will be elected as directors, even if those nominees do not receive a majority of the votes cast by the stockholders present at the meeting or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon.

#### **Appraisal Rights**

If the Business Combination is completed, Vaso stockholders who do not vote in favor of the Business Combination are entitled to appraisal rights under Section 262 of the DGCL ("**Section 262**") provided that they comply with the conditions established by Section 262. For more information about such rights, see the provisions of Section 262 of the DGCL, attached hereto as *Annex E*, and the section entitled "*Vaso Stockholders' Meeting — Appraisal Rights*." The Vaso Stockholders do not have appraisal rights in connection with the other Proposals.

Achari's stockholders do not have appraisal rights under the DGCL or otherwise in connection with the matters to be voted upon at the Achari Stockholders' Meeting.

#### **Recommendation to Stockholders of Vaso**

**The Vaso Board determined unanimously that each of the Proposals is fair to and in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders. The Vaso Board unanimously recommends that Vaso stockholders:**

- **Vote "FOR" the Business Combination Proposal;**
- **Vote "FOR" the election of each of the director nominees pursuant to the Director Election Proposal;**
- **Vote "FOR" the Ratification Proposal; and**
- **Vote "FOR" the Adjournment Proposal, if it is presented at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.**

The existence of any financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso's directors may be argued to result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what he, she or they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what he, she or they may believe is best for himself, herself or themselves in determining to recommend that stockholders vote for the Proposals. See the section entitled "*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination*" in this proxy statement for a further discussion of such interests and potential conflicts of interest.

#### **Comparison of the Rights of Holders of Vaso Stock and Company Stock after the Business Combination**

As a result of the Business Combination, the holders of shares of Vaso common stock and Vaso preferred stock will become holders of New Vaso Common Stock and their rights will be governed by Delaware law (and by New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws (instead of the Vaso amended and restated certificate of incorporation and the Vaso bylaws)). Following the Business Combination, former Vaso stockholders may have different rights as New Vaso stockholders than they had as Vaso stockholders.

Please see the section entitled "*Description of Vaso's, Achari's, and New Vaso's Securities — Comparison of the Rights of Holders of Vaso Stock and Company Stock after the Business Combination*."

## Achari Stockholders' Meeting

Achari intends to hold a meeting of its stockholders (the “**Achari Stockholders' Meeting**”) to authorize and approve:

- (i) (a) the Business Combination Agreement and the ancillary agreements contemplated thereby and the transactions contemplated by such agreements and (b) the issuance of SPAC Shares or SPAC New Shares, including any shares of Class A Common Stock to be issued in connection with the Transactions, as may be required under Nasdaq's listing requirements (the “**Achari Business Combination Proposal**”);
- (ii) amendments to Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, substantially in the form attached to this proxy statement as *Annex B* and the Bylaws, a copy of which is attached to this proxy statement/prospectus as *Annex C*, in connection with the Business Combination in order to, among other matters consider and vote upon an amendment to (1) to change the post-Business Combination corporate name from “Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I” to “Vaso Holding Corporation” and remove various provisions of the Current Charter applicable only to a blank check company, that will no longer be applicable upon consummation of the Business Combination, (2) to consider and vote upon an amendment to reclassify all of the outstanding shares of Achari's common stock, including the creation of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, and (3) to consider and vote upon an amendment to authorize the issuance of 1,000,000 shares of Achari preferred stock (the “**Achari Charter Amendment Proposals**”);
- (iii) the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan, substantially in the form attached to this proxy statement as *Annex D*, including the authorization of the initial share reserve under the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan (the “**Achari 2024 Equity Incentive Plan Proposal**”);
- (iv) the issuance of shares constituting more than 20% of the issued and outstanding common stock of Achari pursuant to the terms of the Business Combination Agreement, as required by Nasdaq Listing Rules 5635(a), (b), and (d) (the “**Achari Nasdaq 20% Proposal**”);
- (v) the election of Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Edgar Rios, Behnam Movaseghi, Leon Dembo and [independent director nominee to be named] and [independent director nominee to be named] to serve as directors on New Vaso's board of directors until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until their successors are elected and qualified (the “**Achari 2024 Director Election Proposal**”); and
- (vi) the adjournment of the special meeting, if necessary or advisable, in the event Achari does not receive the requisite stockholder vote to approve one or more proposals presented to stockholders for vote. (the “**Achari Adjournment Proposal**” and together with the Achari proposals in (i) through (v) above, the “**Achari Proposals**”)

If proposals (i) through (v) above are not approved at the Achari Stockholders' Meeting, the Business Combination cannot occur regardless of the outcome of the vote on the Proposals at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

Approval of the Achari 2024 Equity Incentive Plan Proposal, the Achari Nasdaq 20% Proposal and the Achari Adjournment Proposal will each require the affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Achari's common stock present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Achari Stockholders' Meeting, or any adjournment thereof.

The approval of the Achari Business Combination Proposal and the Achari Charter Amendment Proposals requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a sixty-five percent of all then issued and outstanding shares of Achari common stock entitled to vote thereon at the special meeting.

The Achari Director Election Proposal is decided by a plurality of the votes cast by the stockholders present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote on the election of directors. This means that the director nominees will be elected if they receive more affirmative votes than any other nominee for the same position. Achari Stockholders may not cumulate their votes with respect to the election of directors.

As of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, the Sponsor and certain members of the Sponsor owned of record an aggregate of 2,500,000 Founder Shares, representing 81.9% of the issued and outstanding Achari Shares. Pursuant to the Insider Letter, the Sponsor and certain members of the Sponsor have agreed to vote their shares of common stock (including the Founder Shares) in favor of the proposals (i) through (vi) above.

## **Risk Factors**

In evaluating the Proposals set forth in this proxy statement, you should carefully read this proxy statement, including the annexes, and especially consider the factors discussed in the section entitled “*Risk Factors*” beginning on page 44. A summary of those risks includes:

### **Risks Related to the Business Combination**

*The percentage ownership of New Vaso after the Business Combination by the current Vaso stockholders will not be known until the Redemptions are complete.*

*New Vaso’s ability to be successful following the Business Combination will depend upon the efforts of the members of the New Vaso Board and Vaso’s key personnel and the loss of such persons could negatively impact the operations and profitability of New Vaso’s business following the Business Combination.*

*New Vaso will be a holding company, and its only material asset after completion of the Business Combination will be its interest in Vaso. Accordingly, it depends upon distributions made by its subsidiaries to pay taxes and pay dividends.*

*Vaso’s officers and directors may be argued to have conflicts of interest that may influence or have influenced them to support or approve the Business Combination without regard to your interests or in determining whether the Business Combination is appropriate for Vaso.*

*Achari is, and New Vaso will be, an “emerging growth company,” and New Vaso cannot be certain that the reduced disclosure requirements applicable to “emerging growth companies” will not make its common stock less attractive to investors.*

*As a “smaller reporting company” New Vaso would be permitted to provide less disclosure than larger public companies which may make its common stock less attractive to investors.*

*Vaso depends upon its executive officers and directors and their departure could adversely affect Vaso’s ability to operate and to consummate the initial business combination. Additionally, Vaso’s executive officers and directors also allocate their time to other businesses, thereby causing potential conflicts of interest that could have a negative impact on Vaso’s ability to complete the initial business combination.*

*Achari has been notified by Nasdaq that it is not in compliance with certain standards which Nasdaq requires listed companies meet for their respective securities to continue to be listed and traded on its exchange. If Achari is unable to regain compliance with such continued listing requirements, Nasdaq may choose to delist its securities from its exchange or may subject Achari to additional restrictions, which may adversely affect the liquidity and trading price of its securities.*

*The unaudited pro forma financial information included in the section entitled “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” may not be representative of New Vaso’s results if the Business Combination is completed.*

*If the conditions to the Closing under Business Combination Agreement are not met, the Business Combination may not be consummated.*

*If Vaso fails to approve the Business Combination Proposal at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting, it will owe Achari a termination fee of \$5.28 million.*

*Each of Achari and Vaso may waive one or more of the conditions to the Business Combination.*

*There are risks to Achari stockholders who are not affiliates of the Sponsor becoming stockholders of Vaso through the Business Combination rather than acquiring securities of Vaso directly in an underwritten public offering, including no independent due diligence review by an underwriter and conflicts of interest of the Sponsor.*

*The exercise of each of Vaso's Achari's directors' and executive officers' discretion in agreeing to changes or waivers in the terms of the Business Combination may result in a conflict of interest when determining whether such changes to the terms of the Business Combination or waivers of conditions are appropriate and in the best interest of the stockholders of the respective companies.*

*The consummation of the Business Combination is subject to a number of conditions, and if those conditions are not satisfied or waived, the Business Combination Agreement may be terminated in accordance with its terms and the Business Combination may not be completed.*

*If the Business Combination benefits do not meet the expectation of investors or securities analysts, the market price of New Vaso's securities may decline.*

*The dual class structure of our Common Stock after the Business Combination will have the effect of concentrating voting control with the holders of our Class B Common Stock; this will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters.*

*Delaware law, the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws will contain certain provisions, including anti-takeover provisions that limit the ability of stockholders to take certain actions and could delay or discourage takeover attempts that stockholders may consider favorable.*

*New Vaso's business and operations could be negatively affected if it becomes subject to any securities litigation or stockholder activism, which could cause New Vaso to incur significant expense, hinder execution of business and growth strategy and impact its stock price.*

*If the Business Combination does not qualify as a tax-free reorganization under Section 368(a) of the Code, former holders of Vaso common stock receiving Achari common stock in connection with the Business Combination may incur greater U.S. federal income tax liability as a result of the Business Combination.*

#### **Risks Related to Achari**

*Since the Sponsor will lose its entire investment in Achari if an initial business combination is not completed, it may have a conflict of interest in the approval of the proposals at the special meeting.*

*Delays in the government budget process or a government shutdown may materially adversely affect Achari's ability to complete a Business Combination or the operations of the New Vaso following a Business Combination.*

*Changes in laws or regulations, or a failure to comply with any laws and regulations, may adversely affect Achari's investments or business, including Achari's ability to negotiate and complete a Business Combination.*

*If Achari is deemed to be an investment company for purposes of the Investment Company Act, it would be required to institute burdensome compliance requirements and its activities would be severely restricted and, as a result, it may abandon its efforts to consummate a Business Combination and liquidate the company. To mitigate the risk of that result, Achari has instructed the trustee to liquidate the securities held in the Trust Account prior to the 24-month anniversary of its IPO Registration Statement (as defined below) and instead to hold the funds in its Trust Account in cash or an interest-bearing bank deposit account at a national bank. As a result, it may earn less interest than we otherwise would have if the Trust Account had remained invested in U.S. government securities or money market funds.*

*If third parties bring claims against Achari, the proceeds held in the Trust Account could be reduced and the per-share redemption amount received by stockholders may be less than \$10.15 per share (the amount originally deposited in the Trust Account upon the consummation of our IPO).*

*Achari has not obtained a fairness opinion, and consequently, Achari's stockholders may have no assurance from an independent source that the price we are paying for the Vaso business is fair to Achari from a financial point of view.*

*Past performance by Achari's management team or Achari's advisors may not be indicative of future performance of an investment in New Vaso.*

**Risks Related to Vaso**

*We currently derive a significant amount of our revenue and operating income from our agreement with GEHC.*

*Maintaining profitable operations depends on several factors*

*We compete with companies that have longer operating histories, more established products and greater resources than we do in the face of limited hospital capital budgets and alternative products.*

*We compete with companies that with products that may develop products which outperform our own, rendering our products obsolete or non-competitive.*

*We depend on management and other key personnel.*

*We may not continue to receive necessary clearances or approvals from the US FDA or foreign authorities for our medical devices, which could hinder our ability to market and sell certain products in the relevant markets.*

*After clearance or approval of our products, we are subject to continuing regulation by the FDA, and if we fail to comply with FDA regulations, our business could suffer.*

*If we or our suppliers fail to comply with the FDA's Quality System Regulation, some of our operations could be halted, and our business would suffer.*

*If we are unable to comply with applicable governmental regulations, we may not be able to continue certain of our operations.*

*We have foreign operations and are subject to the associated risks of doing business in foreign countries.*

*Federal regulatory reforms may adversely affect our ability to sell our products profitably.*

*We depend on several suppliers for the supply of certain products.*

*The impact of pandemic, geopolitical and climate risk on our markets and financial condition is difficult to predict and manage.*

*We may not have adequate intellectual property protection.*

*The loss or violation of certain of our patents and trademarks could have a material adverse effect upon our business.*

*The on-going COVID-19 pandemic and other global events (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) and the corresponding impact on businesses and debt and equity markets could have a material adverse effect on our search for a Business Combination and any target business with which we ultimately consummate a Business Combination.*

*Our growth could suffer if the markets into which we sell products decline, do not grow as anticipated or experience cyclicalities.*

*Technological change is difficult to predict and to manage.*

*We are subject to product liability claims and associated legal expenses and product recalls that may not be covered by insurance.*

**Risks Related to New Vaso's Securities**

*The application of the "penny stock" rules could adversely affect the market price of the New Vaso common stock and increase your transaction costs to sell those shares.*

*New Vaso's Class A Common Stock will be subject to price volatility.*

*Substantial future sales of shares of New Vaso's Class A Common Stock, or the perception in the public markets that these sales may occur, may depress our stock price.*

*We do not intend to pay dividends on New Vaso Class A Common Stock in the foreseeable future.*

*The proposed Business Combination may not, if consummated, have the intended benefits.*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

***Q. Why am I receiving this proxy statement?***

- A. You are receiving this proxy statement in connection with the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. Vaso is holding the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting so its stockholders may consider and vote upon the Proposals described below. **Your vote is important. You are encouraged to vote as soon as possible after carefully reviewing this proxy statement.**

Vaso's stockholders are being asked to consider and vote upon the Business Combination Proposal to approve the Business Combination Agreement and the Business Combination contemplated thereby. The Business Combination Agreement provides that, among other things, Achari's wholly-owned subsidiary, Merger Sub, will merge with and into Vaso, with Vaso continuing as the surviving entity and becoming a subsidiary of New Vaso. Stockholder approval of the Business Combination Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby is required by the Business Combination. A copy of the Business Combination Agreement is attached to this proxy statement as *Annex A* and Vaso encourages its stockholders to read it in its entirety. See the section entitled "*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal*."

Vaso's stockholders are also being asked to consider and vote upon the Director Election Proposal to approve the election of Jun Ma and David Lieberman to serve as the two directors in Class III, to hold office until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders. See the section entitled "*Proposal 2: The Director Election Proposal*".

Vaso's stockholders are also being asked to consider and vote upon the Ratification Proposal to approve the appointment of UHY LLP as Vaso's independent registered public accounting firm to audit its financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. See the section entitled "*Proposal 3: The Ratification Proposal*."

Vaso's stockholders are also being asked to consider and vote upon the Adjournment Proposal to adjourn the Stockholders' Meeting to a later date or dates, including, if necessary, including to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies if it is determined by the chair of the meeting that more time is necessary or appropriate to approve one or more Proposals at the Stockholders' Meeting. See the section entitled "*Proposal 4: The Adjournment Proposal*."

The presence, in person or by proxy, of Vaso stockholders representing not less than 50% of the shares of common stock issued and outstanding on the Record Date and entitled to vote on the Proposals to be considered at the Stockholders' Meeting will constitute a quorum for the Stockholders' Meeting. As of the Record Date, \_\_\_\_\_ shares of our common stock would be required to achieve a quorum.

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO VOTE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER CAREFULLY REVIEWING THIS PROXY STATEMENT.**

***Q. What is being voted on at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting?***

- A. At the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, the stockholders of Vaso are being asked to vote on the following Proposals:
- The Business Combination Proposal;
  - The Director Election Proposal;
  - The Ratification Proposal;
  - The Adjournment Proposal, if presented; and
  - Any other matters that properly come before the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q. Are the Proposals conditioned on one another?***

- A. None of the Proposals are conditioned on another Proposal. If the Business Combination Proposal, the Director Election Proposal and the Ratification Proposal are approved, the chair of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting will not proceed with the Adjournment Proposal.

***Q. How will my rights as a stockholder change as a result of the Business Combination?***

- A. If the Business Combination occurs, you will exchange your shares of Vaso common stock for shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock. Simultaneous with the Business Combination, Achari will file the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, which will govern your rights in New Vaso. The Amended and Restated Charter, which will be effective as of the Closing and will provide for the following: (1) to change the post-Business Combination corporate name from "Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I" to "Vaso Holding Corporation" and remove various provisions of the Current Charter applicable only to a blank check company, that will no longer be applicable upon consummation of the Business Combination, (2) the reclassification of the outstanding shares of Achari's common stock, and (3) the authorization of 1,000,000 shares of Achari preferred stock. For a summary of the differences between the Vaso Certification of Incorporation and the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, see the sections entitled "Proposal 2: The Charter Amendment Proposals."

***Q. What are the U.S. federal income tax consequences to me as a result of the Business Combination?***

- A. Subject to the qualifications and assumptions described in this proxy statement, the Business Combination will qualify as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. Accordingly, you will not have a sale, taxable exchange or taxable redemption of such shares, and you will recognize no taxable gain or loss as a result of the consummation of the Business Combination. Please see the section entitled "Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Business Combination."

***Q. Why is Vaso proposing the Business Combination?***

- A. Vaso is proposing the Business Combination a means of uplisting to a national securities exchange. By uplisting to Nasdaq, Vaso believes that it can increase its shareholder base, attract more institutional investors and obtain a more accurate valuation of the company. Additionally, the Business Combination can serve as method, depending on the size of the Redemptions, to effectively raise funds.

***Q. What will happen in the Business Combination?***

- A. In the Business Combination, Merger Sub will merge with and into Vaso with Vaso continuing as the surviving entity and a subsidiary of New Vaso. Upon the completion of the Business Combination, each issued and outstanding share of common stock of Achari will become a share of common stock of New Vaso, and each issued and outstanding warrant to purchase three-quarters of one share of common stock of Achari will become a warrant to purchase an equal number of shares of common stock of New Vaso.

***Q. What is the form of consideration that stockholders of Vaso will receive in return for the acquisition of Vaso by Achari?***

- A. In connection with the completion of the Business Combination, stockholders of Vaso will collectively receive as consideration for their existing shares of Vaso common shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement.

Based on the assumptions set forth under the section entitled "Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages," the total number of post-Merger shares of common stock issuable to the Vaso stockholders will be approximately 17,600,000, entitling such holders collectively to exchange Vaso securities for approximately 93.1% of New Vaso Common Stock in the aggregate (assuming no redemptions).

Each share of New Vaso Common Stock will provide the holder thereof the rights to vote, receive dividends, and share in distributions in connection with a liquidation and other stockholder rights with respect to New Vaso.

**Q. How much consideration will the holders of securities of Vaso receive in connection with the acquisition of Vaso by Achari?**

- A. The Vaso stockholders will receive consideration from Achari at the Closing that will have an aggregate value equal to \$176,000,000 (the “**Merger Consideration**”). The Business Combination Consideration will be payable, solely in new shares of Achari Class A Common Stock, with each share of Achari Class A Common Stock valued at \$10.00 per share.

See the section entitled “*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration.*”

**Q. What equity stake will current Achari stockholders and Vaso stockholders hold in New Vaso immediately after the completion of the Business Combination?**

- A: As of the date of this proxy statement, there are issued and outstanding (i) 3,050,941 shares of Achari, comprised of 550,941 shares held by Public Stockholders and 2,500,000 Founder Shares (to be reduced to 750,000 Founder Shares upon the completion of the Business Combination), (ii) 10,000,000 Public Warrants, and (iii) 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants (to be reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination). Each whole Public Warrant and each whole Private Placement Warrant entitles the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Achari for \$11.50 per share and, following the completion of the Business Combination, will entitle the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock; provided, however, that, in each case, the warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares. In connection with the completion of the Business Combination, each then-issued and outstanding share of Achari common stock will be exchanged for a share of Class A Common Stock, on a one-for-one basis. In addition, as of January 2, 2024, there is approximately \$6,050,607 in the Trust Account.

**Issued and Outstanding Ownership upon Closing**

The following table summarizes the dilutive effect and the pro forma ownership of Class A Common Stock following the completion of the Business Combination based on the varying levels of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders and the following additional assumptions: (i) the Business Combination is consummated on April 2, 2024, (ii) 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock are issued to stockholders of Vaso in a no Redemption scenario, a 20% Redemption scenario, a 40% Redemption scenario, a 60% Redemption scenario, an 80% Redemption scenario and a 100% Redemption scenario, and (iii) pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, at Closing, all Vaso Restricted Share Awards, to the extent they are outstanding immediately prior to Closing, will automatically vest in full and be converted into the right to receive a number of Class A Common Shares as set forth on the Allocation Schedule.

Based on these assumptions, and assuming that no outstanding shares of Achari are redeemed in connection with the Business Combination, there would be approximately 18,900,941 shares of Class A Common Stock outstanding, or 27,150,941 on a fully-diluted basis, immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination. If the actual facts are different than these assumptions, the ownership percentages in New Vaso will be different.

The scenarios depicted below are for illustrative purposes only, as the actual number of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders is not able to be known prior to prior to \_\_\_\_ p.m., Eastern Time on \_\_\_\_, 2024, deadline for redemptions.

	No Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		20% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		40% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		60% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		80% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		100% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>	
	(a)	%	(b)	%	(c)	%	(d)	%	(e)	%	(f)	%
Vaso stockholders	17,600,000	93.1%	17,600,000	93.7%	17,600,000	94.2%	17,600,000	94.8%	17,600,000	95.3%	17,600,000	95.9%
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.9%	440,753	2.3%	330,565	1.8%	220,376	1.2%	110,188	0.6%	—	0.0%
Sponsor Founder Shares <sup>(8)</sup>	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.19%	750,000	4.19%
<b>Total Shares of Common Stock</b>	<b>18,900,941</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,790,753</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,680,565</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,570,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,460,188</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,350,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

- (1) Represents ownership based on assumed actual shares issued and outstanding at the Closing and assumes all 1,000,000 Sponsor Private Placement Warrants are exercised. All percentages will be diluted if any Public Warrants are exercised.

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Notwithstanding the number of Redemptions, the deferred underwriting commissions of \$3,500,000 in connection with the IPO will remain constant and be released to the underwriters only upon completion of the Business Combination. Achari anticipates that there will be approximately \$6,194,100 in the Trust Account as of April 2, 2024. Accordingly, assuming that the Business Combination occurs on April 2, 2024, the deferred underwriting commissions will equal 57% of the cash remaining in the Trust Account if there are no Redemptions, 71% if there are 20% Redemptions, 94% if there are 40% Redemptions, 141% if there are 60% Redemptions, 283% if there are 80% Redemptions and an incalculable percentage if there are 100% Redemptions.

- (2) Assumes that no shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (3) Assumes that 110,188 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (4) Assumes that 220,376 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (5) Assumes that 330,565 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (6) Assumes that 440,753 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (7) Assumes that all shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (8) Represents the reduction of Founder Shares from 2,500,000 Founder Shares as of the date hereof to 750,000 Founder Shares as of the completion of the Business Combination and assumes that the Founder Shares are not further reduced pursuant to the Put Option Agreement.
- (9) Represents Founder Shares held by the Sponsor. Mr. Desai is the managing member of the Sponsor. Accordingly, Mr. Desai has voting and dispositive power over the shares of common stock held by the Sponsor and may be deemed to beneficially own such Founder Shares. Other than as set forth herein, no affiliates of the Sponsor own equity of Achari.

For additional information regarding assumptions incorporated into the information presented above, see the sections titled “Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages”, “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” and “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration”. For additional information regarding beneficial ownership, see the section titled “Beneficial Ownership of Securities”.

The voting percentages set forth above were calculated based on the assumptions set forth above and do not take into account (i) Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants that will remain outstanding immediately following the completion of the Business Combination and may be exercised thereafter, and (ii) the issuance of any shares upon completion of the Business Combination under the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan, but do include the Founder Shares, which, upon the completion of the Business Combination, will convert into shares of Class A Common Stock under the terms of the Business Combination. For more information, please see the sections entitled “Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages”, “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” and “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration”.

If the actual facts are different than the assumptions set forth above, the voting percentages set forth above will be different. For example, there are currently outstanding an aggregate of 17,133,333 warrants, each to acquire three quarters of one share of Achari, which are comprised of 10,000,000 Public Warrants and 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants (to be reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination). Following the Closing, each of these warrants will entitle the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Class A Common Stock at an exercise price of \$11.50 per share on the terms and conditions set forth in the applicable warrant agreement; provided, however, that the warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares. If we assume that each outstanding warrant is exercised and three quarters of one share of Class A Common Stock is issued as a result of such exercise, with payment to Achari of the exercise price of \$11.50 per share, in cash, the fully-diluted share capital of Achari would increase by a total of 8,250,000 shares, with approximately \$94,975,000 paid to Achari to exercise the warrants.

### Fully-Diluted Ownership upon Closing

The following table summarizes the dilutive effect and the pro forma ownership of Common Stock of Achari following the completion of the Business Combination based on varying levels of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders and the following additional assumptions: (i) the Business Combination is consummated on April 2, 2024, (ii) 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock are issued to Vaso stockholders in a no Redemption scenario, a 20% Redemption scenario, a 40% Redemption scenario, a 60% Redemption scenario, an 80% Redemption scenario and a 100% Redemption scenario, and (iii) the price of the shares of Class A Common Stock reaches \$11.50. The following table includes the Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants, which will be exercisable for 8,250,000 shares of Class A Common Stock following the consummation of the Business Combination.

	No Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		20% Redemptions <sup>(2)</sup>		40% Redemptions <sup>(3)</sup>		60% Redemptions <sup>(4)</sup>		80% Redemptions <sup>(5)</sup>		100% Redemptions <sup>(6)</sup>	
	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in Shares	Equity %
Vaso Public Stockholders	17,600,000	64.8%	17,600,000	65.1%	17,600,000	65.4%	17,600,000	65.6%	17,600,000	65.9%	17,600,000	66.2%
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.0%	440,753	1.6%	330,565	1.2%	220,376	0.8%	110,188	0.4%	—	0.0%
Sponsor Founder Shares <sup>(7)</sup>	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%
Public Warrants	7,500,000	27.6%	7,500,000	27.7%	7,500,000	27.8%	7,500,000	28.0%	7,500,000	28.1%	7,500,000	28.2%
Private Placement Warrants <sup>(8)</sup>	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%
<b>Total Shares of Common Stock</b>	<b>27,150,941</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,040,753</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,930,565</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,820,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,710,188</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,600,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Sponsor Ownership with converted warrants</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

(1) Assumes that no shares of Achari are redeemed.

(2) Assumes that 110,188 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(3) Assumes that 220,376 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(4) Assumes that 330,565 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(5) Assumes that 440,753 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.

(6) Assumes that all shares of Achari are redeemed.

(7) Represents the reduction of Founder Shares from 2,500,000 Founder Shares as of the date hereof to 750,000 Founder Shares as of the completion of the Business Combination and assumes that the Founder Shares are not further reduced pursuant to the Put Option Agreement.

(8) Represents 7,133,333 warrants sold to the Sponsor, which number will be reduced to 1,000,000 warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination.

Share ownership presented in the table above is only presented for illustrative purposes and is based on a number of assumptions. Achari cannot predict how many of its Public Stockholders will exercise their respective right to have their respective Public Shares redeemed for cash. Public Stockholders that do not elect to redeem their respective Public Shares will experience dilution as a result of the Business Combination. The Public Stockholders currently own approximately 18% of the outstanding shares of Achari, assuming that no warrants have been exercised and 51% on a fully-diluted basis. As noted in the above table, if no Public Stockholders redeem their respective Public Shares in connection with the Business Combination, the Public Stockholders will go from owning approximately 51% of the shares of Achari on a fully-diluted basis prior to the Business Combination to owning 30% of the total shares of Common Stock on a fully-diluted basis. The Public Stockholders will own approximately 2.9%, 2.3%, 1.8%, 1.2%, 0.6% and 0.0% (assuming no warrants have been exercised) and 29.7%, 29.4%, 29.1%, 28.8%, 28.5%, and 28.2% (on a fully-diluted basis) of the total shares outstanding of Common Stock, in the no Redemptions, 20% Redemptions, 40% Redemptions, 60% Redemptions, 80% Redemptions and 100% Redemptions scenario, respectively. The Sponsor will own approximately 2.8%, 2.8%, 2.8%, 2.8% and 2.8% (assuming no warrants have been exercised) and 5.5%, 5.5%, 5.6%, 5.6% and 5.6% (on a fully-diluted basis) of the total shares outstanding of Common Stock, in the no Redemptions, 20% Redemptions, 40% Redemptions, 60% Redemptions, 80% Redemptions and 100% Redemptions scenario, respectively.

***Q. Will New Vaso have an equity incentive plan in effect following the Business Combination?***

- A. Yes. One of the proposals that the Achari stockholders have been presented with is for the approval of the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan (a copy of which is attached hereto as Annex D). Assuming that the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan is properly approved and adopted by the Achari stockholders, it will be in effect at the time of the Business Combination. The purpose of the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan is to enable New Vaso to offer eligible employees, directors and consultants' cash and stock-based incentive awards in order to attract, retain and reward these individuals and strengthen the mutuality of interests between them and New Vaso's stockholders.

***Q. Was a third-party fairness opinion obtained in determining whether or not to proceed with the Business Combination?***

- A. Yes. The Vaso Board obtained a fairness opinion from River Corporate Advisors LLC, which Fairness Opinion stated that, subject to the various assumptions, qualifications and limitations set forth therein, the "Sponsor Consideration" (as defined therein) to be paid by Vaso pursuant to the terms of the Business Combination Agreement is fair, from a financial point of view, to Vaso. Further, Achari has the right to terminate the Business Combination Agreement if the Fairness Opinion is withdrawn, revoked or modified after the date of the Business Combination Agreement. For a description of the opinion issued by River Corporate Advisors to the Vaso Board, please see "Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — Opinion of River Corporate Advisors."

***Q. What happens to the funds deposited in the Trust Account after completion of the Business Combination?***

- A. After completion of the Business Combination, the funds in the Trust Account will be used to pay holders of the Public Shares who exercise Redemption Rights and, after paying the Redemptions, a portion will be used to pay, as well as to pay transaction expenses incurred in connection with the Business Combination, including deferred IPO underwriting fees to Achari's underwriters and for working capital of New Vaso and its subsidiaries and general corporate purposes of New Vaso and its subsidiaries. Such funds may also be used to reduce the indebtedness and certain other liabilities of New Vaso and its subsidiaries. As of January 2, 2024, there were cash and marketable securities held in the Trust Account of approximately \$6,050,607. These funds will not be released until the earlier of the completion of the Business Combination or the Redemption of the Public Shares if Achari is unable to complete a Business Combination by July 19, 2024, assuming Achari exercises its Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Options (except that interest earned on the amounts held in the Trust Account may be released earlier as necessary to pay for any franchise or income taxes and up to \$100,000 in liquidation expenses). If Achari does not complete a business combination by July 19, 2024 (assuming Achari exercises its Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Options), Achari will be required to dissolve and liquidate itself and return the monies held within its Trust Account to its Public Stockholders unless Achari submits, and its stockholders approve, an extension.

***Q. What conditions must be satisfied to complete the Business Combination?***

- A. Unless waived by the parties to the Business Combination Agreement, and subject to applicable law, the consummation of the Business Combination is subject to a number of conditions set forth in the Business Combination Agreement including, among others, receipt of the requisite stockholder approvals contemplated by this proxy statement. For a summary of the conditions that must be satisfied or waived prior to completion of the Business Combination, see the section entitled "Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Closing Conditions."

***Q. When do you expect the Business Combination to be completed?***

- A. It is currently expected that the Business Combination will be completed in the first half of 2024. This timing depends, among other things, on the approval of the Business Combination Proposal to be presented at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting and the approval of the Achari Proposals to be presented at the Achari Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q. Will Achari enter into any financing arrangements in connection with the Business Combination?***

- A. No, Achari does not currently expect to enter into any financing arrangements in connection with the Business Combination. Achari may, but is not required to, enter into agreements with investors relating to a private investment in Achari.

***Q. Why is Vaso proposing the Director Election Proposal?***

- A. This special meeting is serving as Vaso's annual meeting of stockholders. Under the Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Vaso, the terms of our Class III directors will terminate at the next annual meeting. Vaso's Certificate of Incorporation, the Vaso board has three classes of directors, Class I, whose term will expire in 2024 currently consisting of Mr. Markowitz and Mr. Rios; Class II, whose term will expire in 2025 currently consisting of Mr. Movaseghi and Ms. Moen; and Class III, whose term will expire in 2023, currently consisting of Dr. Ma and Mr. Lieberman. The directors each intend to serve on the Board until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified. As such Vaso is proposing the Director Election Proposal to nominate Dr. Ma and Mr. Lieberman for re-election as Class III directors, to serve until the 2026 annual meeting of shareholders or their earlier dismissal or withdrawal. If the Business Combination is consummated, it is anticipated that most or all of the Board of Directors of Vaso will withdraw as directors as Vaso will then be a wholly-owned subsidiary of New Vaso. If the Business Combination is not consummated, the election of these directors will ensure that Vaso retains three classes of duly appointed directors.

***Q. Why is Vaso proposing the Ratification Proposal?***

- A. Vaso's Audit Committee has recommended the ratification of UHY LLP as Vaso's independent registered public accounting firm to audit Vaso's financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. Stockholder ratification of the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm is a matter of good corporate practice. In the event that this selection is not ratified by the affirmative vote of a majority of voting power of the shares in person or by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the subject matter, the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm will be reconsidered by the Audit Committee. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee in its discretion may direct the appointment of a different accounting firm at any time during the year if the Audit Committee determines that such a change would be in the best interests of Vaso and our stockholders.

***Q. Why is Vaso proposing the Adjournment Proposal?***

- A. Vaso is proposing the Adjournment Proposal to allow the adjournment of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting to a later date or dates, including if necessary to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies if it is determined by the chair of the meeting that more time is necessary or appropriate to approve one or more Proposals at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q. What happens if I sell my shares of Vaso common stock before the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting?***

- A. The Record Date for the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting is \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, and is earlier than the date on which we expect the Business Combination to be completed. If you transfer your shares of Vaso common stock after the Record Date, but before the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, unless the transferee obtains a proxy from you to vote those shares, you will retain your right to vote at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. If you transfer your shares of Vaso common stock before the Record Date, you will have no right to vote those shares at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q. When and where will the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting be held?***

- A. The Vaso Stockholders' Meeting will be held at \_\_\_\_\_ Eastern Time, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024. Only stockholders who held shares of common stock of Vaso at the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, the Record Date, will be entitled to attend and vote at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting and at any adjournments and postponements thereof. You will be able to attend, vote your shares, and submit questions during the meeting which will be held at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607, beginning at 10:00 A.M. EST. Stockholders may also attend the meeting by video conference at the corporate offices of Vaso Corporation located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803.

***Q: Who is entitled to vote at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting?***

- A. Vaso has fixed \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 as the Record Date. If you were a stockholder of Vaso at the close of business on the Record Date, you are entitled to vote on matters that come before the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. However, a stockholder may only vote his, her or its shares if he, she or it is present in person at the meeting or is represented by proxy at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q: How do I attend the meeting?***

- A: The Vaso Stockholders' Meeting will be held at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607 on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 beginning at 10:00 A.M. EST. Stockholders may also attend the meeting by video conference at the corporate offices of Vaso Corporation located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803.

***Q: How do I vote?***

- A. You can vote in several ways:
- by attending the meeting in Florida or New York in person;
  - by completing, signing and returning the enclosed proxy card;
  - by the internet at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com), or;
  - by phone at 1-800-690-6903.

**Voting by Proxy**

For stockholders whose shares are registered in their own names, as an alternative to voting in person at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, you may vote by proxy via the Internet, by telephone or, for those stockholders who receive a paper proxy card in the mail, by mailing a completed proxy card. For those stockholders who receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials provides information on how to access your proxy card, which contains instructions on how to vote via the Internet or by telephone. For those stockholders who receive a paper proxy card, instructions for voting via the Internet or by telephone are set forth on the proxy card; alternatively, such stockholders who receive a paper proxy card may vote by mail by signing and returning the mailed proxy card in the prepaid and addressed envelope that is enclosed with the proxy materials. In each case, your shares will be voted at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting in the manner you direct.

If your shares are registered in the name of a bank or brokerage firm (your record holder), you may also submit your voting instructions over the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions provided by your record holder in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. If you received printed copies of the proxy materials, you can submit voting instructions by telephone or mail by following the instructions provided by your record holder on the enclosed voting instructions card. Those who elect to vote by mail should complete and return the voting instructions card in the prepaid and addressed envelope provided.

**Voting at the Meeting**

If your shares are registered in your own name, you have the right to vote in person at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting by using the ballot provided at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, or if you requested and received printed copies of the proxy materials by mail, you can complete, sign and date the proxy card enclosed with the proxy materials you received and submit it at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. If you hold shares through a bank or brokerage firm and wish to be able to vote in person at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, you must obtain a "legal proxy" from your brokerage firm, bank or other holder of record and present it to the inspector of elections with your ballot at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. Even if you plan to attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, we recommend that you submit your proxy or voting instructions in advance of the meeting as described above so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. Submitting your proxy or voting instructions in advance of the meeting will not affect your right to vote in person should you decide to attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q. What if I do not vote my Vaso Shares or if I abstain from voting?***

- A. For purposes of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, an abstention occurs when a stockholder attends the meeting and does not vote or returns a proxy with an "abstain" vote.

For Vaso stockholders that attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting and fail to vote on any of Proposals, your failure to vote will have no effect on the vote count for all Proposals. For Vaso stockholders that attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting and respond to any of the Proposals with an "abstain" vote, your "abstain" vote will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" the Ratification Proposal but will have no effect on any of the other Proposals.

***Q. How does the Vaso Board recommend that I vote on the Proposals?***

- A. The Vaso Board unanimously recommends that the stockholders of Vaso entitled to vote on the Proposals, vote as follows:

- "FOR" approval of the Business Combination Proposal;
- "FOR" approval of the Director Election Proposal;
- "FOR" approval of the Ratification Proposal; and
- "FOR" approval of the Adjournment Proposal, if presented;

Vaso's directors and officers may have financial interests in the Business Combination that differ from, or are in addition to, their respective interests, if any, as stockholders of Vaso and the interests of stockholders of Vaso generally. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso's directors may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what they may believe is best for themselves in determining to recommend that stockholders vote for the proposals. See the section of this proxy statement entitled "Proposal 1 — The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination."

***Q. How many votes do I have?***

- A. Vaso stockholders have one vote per share of common stock of Vaso held by them on the Record Date for the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

***Q. How will Vaso's officers and directors vote in connection with the Vaso Proposals?***

- A. As of the Record Date, Vaso's officers and directors owned of record an aggregate of 78,045,555 Vaso common stock, representing 44.56% of the issued and outstanding Vaso Shares. Pursuant to the Support Agreement, Vaso's officers and directors have agreed to vote their shares of common stock in favor of the Vaso Proposals. Any subsequent purchases of Vaso shares of common stock prior to the Record Date by Vaso's officers and directors in the aftermarket will make it more likely that the Vaso Proposals will be approved as such shares would be voted in favor of the Vaso Proposals.

***Q. How will the Sponsor and Achari's officers and directors vote in connection with the Achari Proposals?***

- A. As of the Record Date, the Sponsor and certain members of the Sponsor owned of record an aggregate of 2,500,000 Founder Shares, representing 81.9% of the issued and outstanding Achari Shares. Pursuant to the Insider Letter, the Sponsor and certain members of the Sponsor have agreed to vote their shares of common stock (including the Founder Shares) in favor of the Achari Proposals. The Sponsor, members of the Sponsor and Achari's officers and directors, as of the Record Date, had not acquired any Achari shares of common stock during or after its IPO in the open market. However, any subsequent purchases of Achari shares of common stock prior to the Record Date by the Sponsor, certain members of the Sponsor or Achari's officers and directors in the aftermarket will make it more likely that the Achari Proposals will be approved as such shares would be voted in favor of the Achari Proposals.

***Q. What interests do Vaso's officers and directors and its financial advisors have in the Business Combination?***

- A. In considering the recommendation of the Vaso Board to vote in favor of the Business Combination, you should be aware that, aside from their interests as stockholders, Vaso's directors' and officers' interests in the Business Combination that are different from, or in addition to, those of Vaso's other stockholders generally. Vaso's directors were aware of and considered these interests, among other matters, in evaluating the Business Combination, and in recommending to Vaso stockholders that they approve the Business Combination. You should take these interests into account in deciding whether to approve the Business Combination. These interests include, among other things:
- that the current member of Vaso's board of directors, Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo and Behnam Movaseghi, are expected to serve as members of the New Vaso board of directors after consummation of the Business Combination and, in their capacity as such, shall become entitled to any cash fees, stock options or stock awards that New Vaso determines to pay its directors;
  - that executive officers of Vaso, including Jun Ma as its Chief Executive Officer, are expected to serve in their same capacities with New Vaso; and
  - that, upon consummation of the Business Combination, and subject to approval of the Equity Incentive Plan Proposal, New Vaso's executive officers after the Business Combination are expected to receive grants of stock options and restricted stock units under the 2024 EIP Plan from time to time.

***Q. What agreements has the Sponsor entered into with Achari or will enter into with Achari that will affect their rights and obligations as a result of the Business Combination?***

- A. The Sponsor and Achari have entered into (or have agreed to enter into) several agreements that will affect their respective rights and obligations upon the completion of the Business Combination, including a Sponsor Letter Agreement, a Lockup Agreement, a Put Option Agreement and an Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement.

Under the Sponsor Letter Agreement, the Sponsor shall (a) forfeit Achari Shares and private placement warrants so that it holds 750,000 Achari Shares and 1,000,000 private placement warrants immediately following the Business Combination, (b) agree to be bound by certain restrictions on transfer with respect to the Achari Shares it holds for a period of twelve months following the Business Combination, subject to certain specified exceptions, and (c) agree to amend and/or terminate certain provisions included a letter agreement, dated as of October 14, 2021, previously entered into by Sponsor.

Under the Lockup Agreement, the Sponsor shall be bound by certain "lock-up" provisions requiring that it will not transfer any Achari Shares that they will be issued in connection with the Business Combination for a period of twelve (12) months following the Closing, subject to customary exceptions.

Under the Put Option Agreement, the Sponsor has the right to put to New Vaso up to 750,000 shares of Class A Common Stock at a price of \$8.00 per share, as may be adjusted pursuant to the terms of the agreement. Such right starts twelve months from the Business Combination and ends six months thereafter. The number of shares that are subject to the put shall be reduced in the event that Achari's unpaid expenses at the time of the Business Combination exceed \$2.25 million by one share for every \$8.00 in excess of such amount, provided that such expenses shall not exceed \$4.5 million. Among other matters, the Put Option Agreement also provide for New Vaso's ability to call the shares subject to the Put Option Agreement and Sponsor's ability to sell shares subject to the Put Option Agreement outside of the restrictions imposed by the Lock Up Agreement, each subject to certain market conditions.

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Under the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement, Achari has agreed to register with the SEC the resale of Company shares and Company shares underlying private placement warrants that are held by the Sponsor.

Subsequent to the Business Combination, if the Sponsor transfers Achari Shares held by it to certain persons (including the members of the Sponsor), the rights and obligations in the agreements discussed above may also transfer to such persons if they agree to be bound by such agreements.

***Q: What is the Company Support Agreement and how does it affect the approval of the Business Combination?***

A: In connection with the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, the Vaso security holders party to the Company Support Agreement executed and delivered to Achari and Vaso a Company Support Agreement. Under the Company Support Agreement, each such security holder agreed to, among other things, (i) vote at any meeting of the stockholders of Vaso or by written consent all of its Vaso common stock held of record or thereafter acquired in favor of the Business Combination and the adoption of the Business Combination Agreement; (ii) waive their respective appraisal rights with respect to such matters; and (iii) be bound by certain transfer restrictions with respect to Vaso securities, in each case, on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Company Support Agreement. As of December 6, 2023, the ownership interests of the Vaso security holders that are party to the Company Support Agreement collectively represent approximately 44% of the outstanding Vaso Shares.

### SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA OF ACHARI

The selected historical condensed income statement data for the quarter ended September 30, 2023 and the year ended December 31, 2022 and the selected historical condensed balance sheet data as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022 have been derived from Achari's financial statements included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The historical results presented below are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for any future period. You should read carefully the following selected information in conjunction with "*Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of Achari*" and Achari's historical financial statements and accompanying footnotes, included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

#### Statements of Income Statement Data

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022
<b>Income Statement Data:</b>		
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (2,179,935)	\$ 1,623,367
Interest Income	338,798	1,411,854
Change in fair value of warrant liabilities	(71,334)	1,997,334
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share, shares of common stock subject to possible redemption	(0.64)	0.13

#### Statements of Balance Sheet Data:

	As of September 30, 2023	As of December 31, 2022
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>		
Total current assets	\$ 28,195	\$ 777,503
Trust account	6,860,609	44,688,320
Total assets	6,888,804	45,465,823
Total liabilities	7,215,477	39,227,823
Value of shares of common stock subject to redemption	6,860,609	10,489,562
Stockholders' deficit	(7,187,282)	(4,251,562)

### SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA OF VASO

The selected historical consolidated statement of operations data for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 and the year ended December 31, 2022, and the selected historical consolidated balance sheet data of Vaso presented below as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022 have been derived from Vaso's consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The historical results presented below are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for any future period. You should read carefully the following selected information in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of Vaso" and Vaso's historical consolidated financial statements and accompanying footnotes, included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

**Statements of Income Statement Data (in thousands, except per share data):**

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2023	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022
<b>Income Statement Data:</b>			
Revenue	\$ 19,449	\$ 59,107	\$ 79,294
Income from operations	907	3,225	6,454
Interest Expense	(14)	(46)	(44)
Net Income	1,198	3,724	11,294
Weighted average common shares outstanding, basic	174,938	174,246	173,065
Weighted average common shares outstanding, diluted	175,846	175,394	174,656
Income per share, basic	0.01	0.02	0.07
Income per share, diluted	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.06

**Statements of Balance Sheet Data (in thousands):**

	As of September 30, 2023	As of December 31, 2022
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>		
Total current assets	\$ 43,206	\$ 40,990
Total assets	73,038	71,645
Total liabilities	47,429	49,578
Total Stockholders' Equity	25,609	22,067
Total liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	73,038	71,645

## UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial data presents the combination of the financial information of Achari and Vaso adjusted to give effect to the Business Combination and related transactions and is provided to aid you in your analysis of the financial aspects of the Business Combination.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements are based on the Achari historical financial statements and the Vaso historical financial statements as adjusted to give effect to the Transactions. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet gives pro forma effect to the Transactions as if they had been consummated on September 30, 2023 (except for the redemptions which took place in connection with the special meeting, as discussed below). The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and for the year ended December 31, 2022 gives effect to the Transactions as if they had occurred on January 1, 2022, the beginning of the earliest period presented.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements were prepared in accordance with Article 11 of SEC Regulation S-X. The adjustments presented in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements have been identified and presented to provide relevant information necessary for an understanding of the New Vaso reflecting the Transactions.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements are provided for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of what the actual results of operations and financial position would have been had the Transactions taken place on the dates indicated, nor are they indicative of the future consolidated results of operations or financial position of the New Vaso. Achari and Vaso have not had any historical relationship prior to the Business Combination. Accordingly, no pro forma adjustments were required to eliminate activities between these companies.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 has been prepared using, and should be read in conjunction with, the following:

- Achari's unaudited balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement; and
- Vaso's unaudited balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 has been prepared using, and should be read in conjunction with, the following:

- Achari's unaudited statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement; and
- Vaso's unaudited statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 has been prepared using, and should be read in conjunction with, the following:

- Achari's audited statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement; and
- Vaso's audited statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

Such unaudited pro forma financial information has been prepared on a basis consistent with the financial statements of Vaso. This information should be read together with Achari's and Vaso's financial statements and related notes thereto, the sections titled "*Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of Achari*," and "*Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of Vaso*" and other financial information included elsewhere in this proxy statement, including the Business Combination Agreement and the descriptions of certain items thereof set forth in this proxy statement.

### **Description of the Business Combination**

On December 6, 2023, Achari, Merger Sub, and Vaso entered into the Business Combination Agreement, pursuant to which the Merger Sub will merge with and into Vaso, with Vaso surviving as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Achari (the “Merger”). In connection with the Business Combination, Achari will change its name to Vaso Holding Corporation which will continue as the surviving public corporation after the Closing.

#### *Redemption of Shares*

On December 18, 2023, Achari held a special meeting, at which its stockholders voted to extend the date by which Achari must complete a business combination from January 19, 2024 to July 19, 2024. Holders of common shares of Achari had the right to have Achari redeem their respective shares for cash in an amount equal to the pro rata portion of cash and investments in the Trust Account, which had a balance of approximately \$7.0 million as of the date of such special meeting. Stockholders holding 87,380 shares of common stock exercised their respective right to redeem such shares for a pro rata portion of the funds in the Trust Account. As a result, approximately \$1.0 million (approximately \$10.91 per share) will be utilized from the Trust Account to pay such redeeming stockholders.

### **Accounting for the Business Combination**

The Business Combination is expected to be accounted for as a “reverse recapitalization” in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Under this method of accounting, Achari will be treated as the “acquired” company for financial reporting purposes. Accordingly, the Business Combination will be treated as the equivalent of Vaso issuing stock for the net assets of Achari, accompanied by a recapitalization. The net assets of Achari will be stated at historical cost, with no goodwill or other intangible assets recorded. There will be no accounting effect or change in the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities as a result of the recapitalization.

This determination is primarily based on the fact that subsequent to the Business Combination, Vaso’s stockholders are expected to have a majority of the voting power of New Vaso, Vaso will comprise all of the ongoing operations of New Vaso, Vaso directors will be the governing body of New Vaso, and Vaso’s senior management will comprise all of the senior management of New Vaso. Accordingly, for accounting purposes, the Business Combination will be treated as the equivalent of Vaso issuing shares for the net assets of Achari, accompanied by a recapitalization. The net assets of Achari will be stated at historical costs. No goodwill or other intangible assets will be recorded. Operations prior to the Business Combination will be those of Vaso.

### **Basis of Pro Forma Presentation**

The unaudited pro forma combined financial information included in this proxy statement/prospectus has been prepared using the assumptions below with respect to the potential redemption into cash of SPAC Shares:

- **Assuming No Redemptions (Scenario 1):** This presentation assumes that no Public Stockholders exercise their right to redeem their respective Public Shares for their respective pro rata share of the Trust Account, and thus, the full amount held in the Trust Account as of the Closing is available for the Business Combination; and
- **Assuming Maximum Redemptions (Scenario 2):** This presentation assumes that a maximum of 550,941 Public Shares issued and outstanding as of the Closing are redeemed at a redemption price of \$10.75 per share as of September 30, 2023.

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The following table illustrates estimated ownership levels in New Vaso, immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination, based on the two levels of redemptions by the Achari Public Stockholder:

	<b>Pro Forma Combined (Assuming No Redemptions) Ownership in shares</b>	<b>Ownership %</b>	<b>Pro Forma Combined (Assuming Maximum Redemptions) Ownership in shares</b>	<b>Ownership %</b>
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.9%	—	0.0%
Achari Initial Stockholders	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.1%
Vaso Stockholders	17,600,000	93.1%	17,600,000	95.9%
Pro forma New Vaso Common Stock at September 30, 2023	18,900,941	100.0%	18,350,000	100.0%

**UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	September 30, 2023		Scenario 1 Assuming No Redemption			Scenario 2 Assuming Maximum Redemption		
	Achari (Historical)	Vaso (Historical)	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined
<b>ASSETS</b>								
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19	\$ 11,055	5,909	A,I	\$ 10,338	(4,400)	D,F	\$ 4,429
			(4,400)	D,F		(2,245)	E	
			(2,245)	E				
Short-term investments	—	15,838			15,838			15,838
Accounts and other receivables, net of an allowance for credit losses and commission adjustments of \$7,483	—	7,345			7,345			7,345
Receivables due from related parties	—	837			837			837
Inventories, net	—	1,396			1,396			1,396
Deferred commission expense	—	3,614			3,614			3,614
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	9	2,111			2,120			2,120
Total current assets	28	42,196	(736)		41,488	(6,645)		35,579
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$10,233	—	1,223			1,223			1,223
Operating lease right of use assets	—	1,656			1,656			1,656
Goodwill	—	15,551			15,551			15,551
Cash and Marketable Securities held in Trust Account	6,861	—	(6,861)	A,I	—	(6,861)	I	—
Intangibles, net	—	1,355			1,355			1,355
Other assets, net	—	4,252			4,252			4,252
Investment in EECF Global	—	788			788			788
Deferred tax assets, net	—	5,007			5,007			5,007
Total assets	\$ 6,889	\$ 72,028	\$ (7,597)		\$ 71,320	\$ (13,506)		\$ 65,411
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>								
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>								
Accounts payable	\$ —	\$ 2,369			\$ 2,369			\$ 2,369
Accrued commissions	—	1,254			1,254			1,254
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	2,499	6,356	(3,612)	D	9,567	(3,612)	D	9,567
			74	H		74	H	
			750	L		750	L	
			3,500	B		3,500	B	
Finance lease liabilities – current	—	69			69			69
Operating lease liabilities – current	—	831			831			831
Sales tax payable	—	673			673			673
Income taxes payable	9	—	(9)	D	—	(9)	D	—
Franchise tax payable	30	—	(30)	D	—	(30)	D	—
Excise tax liability	382	—	(382)	D	—	(382)	D	—
Deferred revenue – current portion	—	18,535			18,535			18,535
Notes payable – current portion	—	9			9			9
Note payable – related parties	152	—	(152)	F	—	(152)	F	—
Convertible note payable	215	—	(215)	F	—	(215)	F	—
Total current liabilities	3,287	30,096	(76)		33,307	(76)		33,307
<b>LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>								
Notes payable, net of current portion	—	8			8			8

Finance lease liabilities, net of current portion	—	54			54			54
Operating lease liabilities, net of current portion	—	826			826			826
Deferred revenue, net of current portion	—	14,705			14,705			14,705
Derivative warrant liabilities	428	—	(383)	K	45	(383)	K	45
Deferred underwriting fee payable	3,500	—	(3,500)	B	—	(3,500)	B	—
Put option liability	—	—	3,750	J	3,750	3,750	J	3,750
Other long-term liabilities	—	1,538			1,538			1,538
Total long-term liabilities	3,928	17,131	(133)		20,926	(133)		20,926

**UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 — (Continued)**  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	September 30, 2023		Scenario 1 Assuming No Redemption			Scenario 2 Assuming Maximum Redemption		
	Achari (Historical)	Vaso (Historical)	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b>								
<b>REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK</b>								
Common stock subject to possible redemption: 638,321 shares at redemption value of \$10.75	6,861		(6,861)	I	—	(6,861)	I	—
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>								
Preferred stock, \$.0001 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding (Achari)	—				—			—
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding (Vaso)		—			—			—
Common stock – Class A (Vaso Holding Corporation) \$0.0001 par value; 100,000,000 authorized			2	G	2	2	G	2
			0	I		—	I	
			0	C		0	C	
Common stock – Class B (Vaso Holding Corporation) \$0.0001 par value; 10,000,000 authorized			—		—			—
Common stock, \$.0001 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 2,500,000 shares issued and outstanding (excluding 638,321 shares subject to possible redemption) (Achari)	0		(0)	C	—	(0)	C	—
Common stock, \$.001 par value; 250,000,000 shares authorized; 185,627,383 shares issued; 175,319,296 shares outstanding (Vaso)		186	1	H	—	1	H	—
			(187)	G		(187)	G	
Additional paid-in capital	—	63,983	(3,750)	J	57,275	(3,750)	J	51,366
			135	H		135	H	
			5,909	I		—	I	
			185	G		185	G	
			(7,187)	C		(7,187)	C	
			(2,000)	G		(2,000)	G	
Accumulated deficit	(7,188)	(36,921)	(2,245)	E	(39,743)	(2,245)	E	(39,743)
			(210)	H		(210)	H	
			7,188	C		7,188	C	
			383	K		383	K	
			(750)	L		(750)	L	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	—	(447)			(447)			(447)
Treasury stock, at cost, 10,308,087 shares	—	(2,000)	2,000	G	—	2,000	G	—
Total stockholders' equity	(7,187)	24,801	(527)		17,087	(6,436)		11,178

	<u>\$ 6,889</u>	<u>\$ 72,028</u>	<u>\$ (7,597)</u>	<u>\$ 71,320</u>	<u>\$ (13,506)</u>	<u>\$ 65,411</u>
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See accompanying notes to the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements.

**UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	For the nine months ended September 30, 2023		Scenario 1 Assuming No Redemption			Scenario 2 Assuming Maximum Redemption		
	Achari (Historical)	Vaso (Historical)	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined
<b>Revenues</b>								
Managed IT systems and services	\$ —	\$ 30,576			30,576			\$ 30,576
Professional sales services	—	26,401			26,401			26,401
Equipment sales and services	—	2,130			2,130			2,130
Total revenues	—	59,107	—		59,107	—		59,107
<b>Cost of revenues</b>								
Cost of managed IT systems and services	—	17,121			17,121			17,121
Cost of professional sales services	—	4,921			4,921			4,921
Cost of equipment sales and services	—	525			525			525
Total cost of revenues	—	22,567	—		22,567	—		22,567
Gross profit	—	36,540	—		36,540	—		36,540
<b>Operating expenses</b>								
Selling, general and administrative	2,258	32,731			34,989			34,989
Franchise Tax	150				150			150
Research and development	—	584			584			584
Total operating expenses	2,408	33,315	—		35,723	—		35,723
Operating income (loss)	(2,408)	3,225	—		817	—		817
<b>Other (expense) income</b>								
Interest and financing costs	—	(46)			(46)			(46)
Interest and other income, net	—	580			580			580
Interest income on investments held in Trust Account	339	—	(339)	AA	—	(339)	AA	—
Change in fair value of warrants	(71)	—	61	BB	(10)	61	BB	(10)
Total other income, net	267	534	(277)		524	(277)		524
Income before income taxes	(2,140)	3,759	(277)		1,341	(277)		1,341
Income tax expense	(40)	(35)	40	AA	(35)	40	AA	(35)
Net income (loss)	(2,180)	3,724	(238)		1,306	(238)		1,306
<b>Net income (loss) per common share</b>								
– basic	\$ (0.64)	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.07	\$ 0.43		\$ 0.07
– diluted	\$ (0.64)	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.07	\$ 0.43		\$ 0.07
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding (Note 4)</b>								
– basic	3,408	174,246	(158,753)	CC	18,901	(551)	BB	18,350
– diluted	3,408	175,394	(159,901)	CC	18,901	(551)	BB	18,350

See accompanying notes to the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements.

**UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

	For the year ended December 31, 2022		Scenario 1 Assuming No Redemption			Scenario 2 Assuming Maximum Redemption		
	Achari (Historical)	Vaso (Historical)	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined	Transaction Accounting Adjustments	Note	Pro Forma Combined
<b>Revenues</b>								
Managed IT systems and services		\$ 40,100			40,100			\$ 40,100
Professional sales services		36,621			36,621			36,621
Equipment sales and services		2,573			2,573			2,573
Total revenues	—	79,294	—		79,294	—		79,294
<b>Cost of revenues</b>								
Cost of managed IT systems and services		23,871			23,871			23,871
Cost of professional sales services		6,911			6,911			6,911
Cost of equipment sales and services		609			609			609
Total cost of revenues	—	31,391	—		31,391	—		31,391
Gross profit	—	47,902	—		47,902	—		47,902
<b>Operating expenses</b>								
Selling, general and administrative	1,287	40,843	79	DD	45,205	79	DD	45,205
			750	EE		750	EE	
			2,245	FF		2,245	FF	
Franchise Tax	282	—			282			282
Research and development		605	131	DD	736	131	DD	736
Total operating expenses	1,570	41,448	3,205		46,223	3,205		46,223
Operating income (loss)	(1,570)	6,454	(3,205)		1,680	(3,205)		1,680
<b>Other (expense) income</b>								
Interest and financing costs		(44)			(44)			(44)
Interest and other income, net		141			141			141
Interest and dividend income on investments held in Trust Account	1,412	—	(1,412)	AA	—	(1,412)	AA	—
Change in fair value of warrants	1,997	—	(1,717)	BB	280	(1,717)	BB	280
Total other income, net	3,409	97	(3,129)		377	(3,129)		377
Income before income taxes	1,840	6,551	(6,334)		2,057	(6,334)		2,057
Income tax benefit (expense)	(216)	4,743	216	AA	4,743	216	AA	4,743
Net income	1,623	11,294	(6,118)		6,800	(6,118)		6,800
<b>Net Income per common share</b>								
— basic	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.04		\$ 0.36	\$ 11.23		\$ 0.37
— diluted	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.04		\$ 0.36	\$ 11.23		\$ 0.37
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding (Note 4)</b>								
— basic	12,279	173,065	(166,443)	CC	18,901	(551)	CC	18,350
— diluted	12,279	174,656	(168,034)	CC	18,901	(551)	CC	18,350

See accompanying notes to the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements.



## NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Note 1 — Basis of Presentation

The Business Combination is expected to be accounted for as a reverse recapitalization in accordance with GAAP. Under this method of accounting, Achari will be treated as the “acquired” company for financial reporting purposes. Accordingly, for accounting purposes, the Business Combination will be treated as the equivalent of Vaso issuing shares for the net assets of Achari, accompanied by a recapitalization. The net assets of Achari will be stated at historical cost, with no goodwill or other intangible assets recorded. Operations prior to the Business Combination will be those of Vaso.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 gives pro forma effect to the Business Combination as if it had been consummated on September 30, 2023. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and for the year ended December 31, 2022 give pro forma effect to the Business Combination as if it had been consummated on January 1, 2022, the beginning of the earliest period presented in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations. These periods are presented on the basis that Vaso is the acquirer for accounting purposes.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 has been prepared using, and should be read in conjunction with, the following:

- Achari’s unaudited balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement; and
- Vaso’s unaudited balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 has been prepared using, and should be read in conjunction with, the following:

- Achari’s unaudited statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement; and
- Vaso’s unaudited statements of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 has been prepared using, and should be read in conjunction with, the following:

- Achari’s audited statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement; and
- Vaso’s audited statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

Management has made significant estimates and assumptions in its determination of the pro forma adjustments. As the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information has been prepared based on these preliminary estimates, the final amounts recorded may differ materially from the information presented.

The pro forma adjustments reflecting the consummation of the Business Combination are based on information available as of the date of this proxy statement and certain assumptions and methodologies that management believes are reasonable under the circumstances. The unaudited condensed combined pro forma adjustments, which are described in the accompanying notes, may be revised as additional information becomes available and is evaluated. Therefore, the actual adjustments may materially differ from the pro forma adjustments. Management considers this basis of presentation to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information is not necessarily indicative of what the actual results of operations and financial position would have been had the Business Combination taken place on the dates indicated, nor are they indicative of the future consolidated results of operations or financial position of New Vaso. They should be read in conjunction with the historical financial statements and notes thereto of Achari and Vaso included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information included in this proxy statement has been prepared using the assumptions below with respect to the potential redemption into cash of Achari common stock:

- **Assuming No Redemptions (Scenario 1):** This presentation assumes that no Public Stockholders exercise their right to redeem their respective Public Shares for their respective pro rata share of the Trust Account, and thus, the full amount held in the Trust Account as of the Closing is available for the Business Combination; and
- **Assuming Maximum Redemptions (Scenario 2):** This presentation assumes that a maximum of 550,941 Public Shares issued and outstanding as of the Closing are redeemed at a redemption price of \$10.75 per share as of September 30, 2023.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information does not give effect to any anticipated synergies, operating efficiencies, tax savings or cost savings that may be associated with the Business Combination.

The pro forma adjustments reflecting the consummation of the Business Combination are based on certain currently available information and certain assumptions and methodologies that Vaso believes are reasonable under the circumstances. The unaudited condensed pro forma adjustments, which are described in the accompanying notes, may be revised as additional information becomes available and is evaluated. Therefore, it is likely that the actual adjustments will differ from the pro forma adjustments, and it is possible the difference may be material. Management believes that its assumptions and methodologies provide a reasonable basis for presenting all of the significant effects of the Business Combination based on information available to management at this time and that the pro forma adjustments give appropriate effect to those assumptions and are properly applied in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information does not reflect the deferred income tax effects of the pro forma adjustments as any change in the deferred tax balance would be offset by an increase in the valuation allowance. Upon Closing, it is likely that the New Vaso's deferred tax assets, net of valuation allowance, will not change. The pro forma combined provision for income taxes does not necessarily reflect the amounts that would have resulted had the New Vaso filed consolidated income tax returns during the periods presented.

The pro forma basic and diluted income (loss) per share amounts presented in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations are based upon the number of the New Vaso's common shares outstanding, assuming the Business Combination occurred on January 1, 2022.

#### **Note 2 — Accounting Policies**

Upon consummation of the Business Combination, management will perform a comprehensive review of the two entities' accounting policies. As a result of the review, management may identify differences between the accounting policies of the two entities which, when conformed, could have a material impact on the financial statements of the post-combination company. Based on its initial analysis, management did not identify any differences that would have a material impact on the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information. As a result, the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information does not assume any differences in accounting policies.

#### **Note 3 — Adjustments to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information**

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information has been prepared to illustrate the effect of the Business Combination and has been prepared for informational purposes only.

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information has been prepared in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation S-X Vaso has elected not to present management's adjustments and will only be presenting transaction accounting adjustments in the following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information.

***Transaction Accounting Adjustments to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet***

The transaction accounting adjustments included in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of September 30, 2023 are as follows:

- (A) Reflects the reclassification of cash held in the Trust Account that becomes available for general use following the Business Combination;
- (B) Reflects the reclassification of the \$3,500,000 deferred underwriters' discount that becomes due and payable upon the consummation of the Business Combination to Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities;
- (C) Reflects the elimination of the historical accumulated deficit of Achari, the accounting acquiree, into Vaso's additional paid-in capital upon the consummation of the Business Combination, and the conversion of 2,500,000 Founder Shares of Achari's single class common stock into 750,000 shares of Vaso Holding Corporation's Class A Common Stock;
- (D) Reflects the settlement of approximately \$4.0 million of additional Achari unpaid costs related to the Business Combination;
- (E) Reflects the settlement of approximately \$2.2 million of Vaso's total estimated transaction costs related to the Business Combination and charge accumulated deficit as the costs are not attributable to raising equity for the transaction;
- (F) Reflects the repayments of Achari's working capital loans from Achari's Sponsor of approximately \$0.4 million;
- (G) Reflects the recapitalization of Vaso through the issuance of 17,600,000 shares of Achari Class A Common Stock with \$0.0001 par value to Vaso's former stockholders;
- (H) Reflects the stock compensation expenses of approximately \$0.2 million in connection with the immediate vesting of 1,358,333 shares of Vaso common stock granted under Vaso stock plans;
- (I) Reflects redemption of 87,380 Achari shares at the December 18, 2023 special meeting, valued at approximately \$1.0 million, of the 638,321 Achari redeemable shares as of September 30, 2023. In Scenario 1, reflects the reclassification of 550,941 remaining shares of Achari common stock subject to possible redemption to permanent equity at \$0.0001 par value with no redemptions. In Scenario 2, which assumes the same facts as described in Items A through H above, but reflects the assumption that all 550,941 shares of Achari common stock are redeemed for cash by Achari stockholders;
- (J) Recognition of Achari put option applicable to 750,000 Founder Shares at \$8.00 per share. Option is reduced by \$2,250,000 for payment of excess SPAC expenses; and
- (K) Reflects decrease in private placement warrant fair value as of September 30, 2023 due to reduction of warrants from 7,133,333 to 1,000,000 under the terms of the Business Combination.
- (L) Represents accrual of \$0.75 million estimated Achari transaction costs to be incurred subsequent to September 30, 2023.

***Transaction Accounting Adjustments to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statements of Operations***

The transaction accounting adjustments included in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and for the year ended December 31, 2022 are as follows:

- (AA) Represents an adjustment to eliminate interest earned on investments held in Trust Account, net of income tax effect, as if the Business Combination had been consummated on January 1, 2022, the beginning of the earliest period presented;

- (BB) Represents the decrease in fair value of the forfeited private placement warrants. 6,383,333 of the 7,133,333 private placement warrants will be forfeited under the terms of the Business Combination;
- (CC) The calculation of weighted average shares outstanding for basic and diluted net income per share assumes that the Business Combination had been consummated on January 1, 2022. In addition, as the Business Combination is being reflected as if it had occurred on this date, the calculation of weighted average shares outstanding for basic and diluted net income per share assumes that the shares have been outstanding for the entire period presented. In Scenario 2, this calculation is retroactively adjusted to eliminate the 550,941 shares of Achari Common Stock redeemed for cash by Achari stockholders for the entire period;
- (DD) Reflects the stock compensation expenses of approximately \$0.2 million in connection with the issuance of 1,058,333 shares of Vaso common stock to various employees at the time of the consummation of the Business Combination. This adjustment is considered to be a one-time charge and is not expected to recur.
- (EE) Reflects approximately \$0.75 million in Achari transaction costs to be incurred subsequent to September 30, 2023. This is a non-recurring item.
- (FF) Reflects approximately \$2.2 million in Vaso transaction costs to be incurred subsequent to September 30, 2023. This is a non-recurring item.

#### Note 4 — Earnings per Share

Represents the earnings per share calculated using the historical weighted average shares outstanding, and the change in number of shares in connection with the Business Combination, assuming the shares were outstanding since the beginning of the earliest period presented in the unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations. As the Business Combination and related transactions are being reflected as if they had occurred at the beginning of the period presented, the calculation of weighted average shares outstanding for basic and diluted earnings per share assumes that the shares issuable relating to the Business Combination have been outstanding for the entire period presented.

Basic and diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing pro forma net income by the weighted average number of the shares of Vaso Holding Corporation's Class A Common Stock outstanding during the periods.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined earnings per share have been prepared assuming no redemptions and assuming maximum redemptions for the nine months ended September 30, 2023:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023	
	Pro Forma Combined (Assuming No Redemptions)	Pro Forma Combined (Assuming Maximum Redemptions)
Pro forma net income attributable to the stockholders	\$ 1,308,747	\$ 1,308,747
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic and diluted	18,900,941	18,350,000
Pro forma net income per share – basic and diluted	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.07
<b>Weighted average shares calculation, basic and diluted</b>		
<i>Common Stock</i>		
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	—
Achari Initial Stockholders	750,000	750,000
Vaso Stockholders	17,600,000	17,600,000
Total	18,900,941	18,350,000

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The unaudited pro forma condensed combined earnings per share have been prepared assuming no redemptions and assuming maximum redemptions for the year ended December 31, 2022:

	For the Year Ended December 31, 2022	
	Pro Forma Combined (Assuming No Redemptions)	Pro Forma Combined (Assuming Maximum Redemptions)
Pro forma net income attributable to the stockholders	\$ 6,729,776	\$ 6,729,776
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic and diluted	18,900,941	18,350,000
Pro forma net income per share – basic and diluted	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.37
<b>Weighted average shares calculation, basic and diluted</b>		
<i>Common Stock</i>		
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	—
Achari Initial Stockholders	750,000	750,000
Vaso Stockholders	17,600,000	17,600,000
Total	18,900,941	18,350,000

## COMPARATIVE SHARE INFORMATION

The following table sets forth the historical per share information of Achari and Vaso, on a standalone basis, and the unaudited pro forma condensed combined per share information after giving effect to the Business Combination and assuming no redemptions and assuming 100% redemptions. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined net loss per share information for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and for fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 is presented as if the Business Combination had occurred on January 1, 2022. The unaudited pro forma book value per share information is presented as if the Business Combination occurred on September 30, 2023. The pro forma information provided in the table below is unaudited.

This information is only a summary and should be read in conjunction with Achari's and Vaso's unaudited and audited historical financial statements and related notes, the sections entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of Achari" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of Vaso," and other financial information included elsewhere in this proxy statement.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined net loss per share information below does not purport to represent the net loss per share information which would have occurred had Achari and Vaso been combined during the periods presented.

The following scenarios presented in the table below are for illustrative purposes only as the actual number of redemptions by Achari Public Stockholders is unknowable prior to the Achari vote with respect to the Business Combination.

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023				
	Historical		Unaudited Pro Forma Combined	
	Achari	Vaso	Assuming No Redemptions	Assuming Maximum Redemptions
Net income (loss)	\$ (2,179,935)	\$ 3,724,000	\$ 1,306,247	\$ 1,306,247
Net income (loss) per share – basic and diluted	\$ (0.64)	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.07
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic	3,407,774	174,246,000	18,900,941	18,350,000
Weighted average shares outstanding – diluted	3,407,774	175,394,000	18,900,941	18,350,000

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined earnings per share have been prepared assuming no redemptions and assuming maximum redemptions for the year ended December 31, 2022:

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022				
	Historical		Unaudited Pro Forma Combined	
	Achari	Vaso	Assuming No Redemptions	Assuming Maximum Redemptions
Net income	\$ 1,623,367	\$ 11,294,000	\$ 6,729,776	\$ 6,729,776
Net income per share – basic	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.37
Net income per share – diluted	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.37
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic	12,278,562	173,065,000	18,900,941	18,350,000
Weighted average shares outstanding – diluted	12,278,562	174,656,000	18,900,941	18,350,000

## RISK FACTORS

*You should carefully consider all the following risk factors, together with all of the other information in this proxy statement, including the financial information, before deciding how to vote or instruct your vote to be cast to approve the Proposals described in this proxy statement.*

*The value of your investment following the completion of the Business Combination will be subject to significant risks affecting, among other things, Vaso's business, financial condition and results of operations. If any of the events described below occur, New Vaso's post-Business Combination business and financial results could be adversely affected in material respects. This could result in a decline, which may be significant, in the trading price of New Vaso's securities and you therefore may lose all or part of your investment. The risk factors described below are not necessarily exhaustive and you are encouraged to perform your own investigation with respect to the businesses of Achari and Vaso.*

*Throughout this section, references to the "Company" refer to the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries as the context so requires.*

### Risks Related to the Business Combination

***The percentage ownership of New Vaso after the Business Combination by the current Vaso stockholders will not be known until the Redemptions are complete.***

Based on Vaso's and Achari's current capitalization (and the assumptions regarding the Business Combination Consideration paid at Closing described under the section entitled "*Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages*"), Achari anticipates issuing to the Vaso stockholders 17,600,000 shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, and it is currently expected that Achari's current stockholders would hold in the aggregate approximately 6.9% of the outstanding common stock of New Vaso assuming no redemption of any redeemable Achari Shares. If any of the Public Shares are redeemed in connection with the Business Combination, the percentage of the outstanding shares of common stock held by the Achari Public Stockholders will decrease and the percentages of the outstanding common stock held immediately following the Business Combination by the Sponsor and outstanding common stock issuable to Vaso stockholders will increase. Please see the section of this proxy statement entitled "*Questions and Answers — Q. What equity stake will current Achari stockholders and Vaso stockholders hold in New Vaso immediately after the completion of the Business Combination?*" for an illustration.

Furthermore, to the extent that (i) any of the outstanding warrants after the Business Combination (including up to 10,000,000 Public Warrants and 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants) are exercised for New Vaso Class A Common Stock and (ii) the Sponsor elects to convert the working capital loan of up to (which was \$215,000 as of September 30, 2023) into warrants, which are convertible into shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock at \$0.75 per warrant, Achari's existing stockholders may experience additional substantial dilution. As a result, if any of the foregoing instruments are exercised or converted, the ownership interest in the aggregate of Achari Public Stockholders who elect not to redeem their shares in New Vaso in connection with the Business Combination will be substantially reduced. Shares to be issued under the proposed 2024 Equity Incentive Plan could result in further dilution to Achari's stockholders. Such dilution could, among other things, limit the ability of Achari's current stockholders to influence New Vaso's management through the election of directors following the Business Combination.

***New Vaso's ability to be successful following the Business Combination will depend upon the efforts of the members of the New Vaso Board and Vaso's key personnel and the loss of such persons could negatively impact the operations and profitability of New Vaso y's business following the Business Combination.***

New Vaso's ability to be successful following the Business Combination will depend upon the efforts of the New Vaso Board and key personnel. Vaso cannot assure you that, following the Business Combination, the New Vaso Board and key personnel will be effective or successful or remain with New Vaso. In addition to the other challenges they will face, such individuals may be unfamiliar with the requirements of operating a Nasdaq-listed public company, which could cause the New Vaso's management to expend time and resources becoming familiar with such requirements.

***New Vaso will be a holding company, and its only material asset after completion of the Business Combination will be its interest in Vaso. Accordingly, it depends upon distributions made by its subsidiaries to pay taxes and pay dividends.***

Upon completion of the Business Combination, New Vaso will be a holding company with no material assets other than cash in the amount of approximately \$1,210,121 million assuming 80% redemption or approximately \$6,050,607 million if no redemption (prior to giving effect of the costs and expenses in connection with the consummation of the Business Combination), and its ownership of all of the issued and outstanding Vaso common stock. As a result, New Vaso will have no independent means of generating revenue or cash flow. New Vaso's ability to pay taxes and pay dividends will depend on the financial results and cash flows of Vaso and its subsidiaries and the distributions it receives from Vaso. Deterioration in the financial condition, earnings or cash flow of Vaso and its subsidiaries for any reason could limit or impair Vaso's ability to pay such distributions. Additionally, to the extent that New Vaso needs funds and Vaso and/or its subsidiaries are restricted from making such distributions under applicable law or regulation or under the terms of any financing arrangements, or Vaso is otherwise unable to provide such funds, it could materially adversely affect New Vaso's liquidity and financial condition.

Dividends on New Vaso Common Stock, if any, will be paid at the discretion of New Vaso Board, which will consider, among other things, New Vaso's business, operating results, financial condition, current and expected cash needs, plans for expansion and any legal or contractual limitations on its ability to pay such dividends. Financing arrangements may include restrictive covenants that restrict New Vaso's ability to pay dividends or make other distributions to its stockholders. In addition, Vaso is generally prohibited under Delaware law from making a distribution to a stockholder to the extent that, at the time of the distribution, after giving effect to the distribution, liabilities of Vaso (with certain exceptions) exceed the fair value of its assets. Vaso's subsidiaries are generally subject to similar legal limitations on their ability to make distributions to Vaso. If Vaso does not have sufficient funds to make distributions, New Vaso's ability to declare and pay cash dividends may also be restricted or impaired.

***Vaso's officers and directors may be argued to have conflicts of interest that may influence or have influenced them to support or approve the Business Combination without regard to your interests or in determining whether the Business Combination is appropriate for Vaso.***

The personal and financial interests of Vaso's officers and directors may influence or have influenced their completing the Business Combination. When you consider the recommendation of the Vaso Board to vote in favor of approval of the Proposals, you should keep in mind that Vaso's directors and officers have interests in the Business Combination that may be different from or in addition to (and which may conflict with) your interests as a stockholder. These interests include, among other things:

- that the current member of Vaso's board of directors, Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo and Behnam Movaseghi, are expected to serve as members of New Vaso's board of directors after consummation of the Business Combination and, in their capacity as such, shall become entitled to any cash fees, stock options or stock awards that New Vaso determines to pay its directors;
- that executive officers of Vaso, including Jun Ma as its Chief Executive Officer, are expected to serve in their same capacities with New Vaso; and
- that, upon consummation of the Business Combination, and subject to approval of the Equity Incentive Plan Proposal, New Vaso's executive officers after the Business Combination are expected to receive grants of stock options and restricted stock units under the 2024 EIP Plan from time to time.

These interests, among others, may influence or have influenced the officers and directors of Vaso to support or approve the Business Combination. For more information concerning the interests of Vaso's officers and directors, see the section entitled "*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination*" in this proxy statement.

***Achari is, and New Vaso will be, an “emerging growth company,” and New Vaso cannot be certain that the reduced disclosure requirements applicable to “emerging growth companies” will not make its common stock less attractive to investors.***

Achari is, and New Vaso will be, an “emerging growth company,” as defined under the The Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act (“JOBS Act”) and will continue to be after the Business Combination is completed. For so long as it is an emerging growth company, New Vaso may intend to take advantage of certain exemptions from reporting requirements that are applicable to other public companies that are not emerging growth companies, including, but not limited to, compliance with the auditor attestation requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, reduced disclosure obligations regarding executive compensation in Achari’s periodic reports and proxy statements, and exemptions from the requirements of holding a nonbinding advisory vote on executive compensation and stockholder approval of any golden parachute payments not previously approved.

Achari could be an emerging growth company for up to five years from the end of its most recently completed fiscal year, although it may lose such status earlier, depending on the occurrence of certain events, including when Achari has generated total annual gross revenue of at least \$1.235 billion or when it is deemed to be a “large accelerated filer” under the Exchange Act, which means that the market value of Achari’s common stock that is held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the prior year, or when we have issued more than \$1.0 billion in nonconvertible debt securities during the prior three-year period.

We cannot predict if investors will not find Achari common stock less attractive or Achari less comparable to certain other public companies because Achari may rely on these exemptions. If some investors find its common stock less attractive as a result, there may be a less active trading market for our common stock, and the Achari stock price may be more volatile.

Under the JOBS Act, emerging growth companies can delay adopting new or revised accounting standards issued subsequent to the enactment of the JOBS Act until such time as those standards apply to private companies. Achari has irrevocably elected not to avail itself of this exemption from new or revised accounting standards and, therefore, will be subject to the same new or revised accounting standards as other public companies that are not emerging growth companies.

***As a “smaller reporting company” New Vaso would be permitted to provide less disclosure than larger public companies which may make its common stock less attractive to investors.***

If the Business Combination is completed, you will own shares of Class A Common Stock of New Vaso (currently Achari), currently a “smaller reporting company,” as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act and will continue to be one immediately after the Business Combination. As a smaller reporting company, New Vaso will be eligible to take advantage of certain exemptions from various reporting requirements applicable to other public companies. Consequently, it may be more challenging for investors to analyze New Vaso’s results of operations and financial prospects which may result in less investor confidence. Investors may find New Vaso’s common stock less attractive as a result of our smaller reporting company status. If some investors find its common stock less attractive, there may be a less active trading market for its common stock and our stock price may be more volatile.

***Vaso depends upon its executive officers and directors and their departure could adversely affect Vaso’s ability to operate and to consummate the initial business combination. Additionally, Vaso’s executive officers and directors also allocate their time to other businesses, thereby causing potential conflicts of interest that could have a negative impact on Vaso’s ability to complete the initial business combination.***

Vaso’s operations and its ability to consummate the Business Combination depend upon a relatively small group of individuals and, in particular, its executive officers and directors. Vaso believes that its success depends on the continued service of its executive officers and directors, at least until the completion of the Business Combination. Vaso does not have an employment agreement with, or key-man insurance on the life of, any of its directors or executive officers. The unexpected loss of the services of one or more of Vaso’s directors or executive officers could have a detrimental effect on Vaso and the ability to consummate the Business Combination. In addition, Vaso’s executive officers and directors are not required to commit any specified amount of time to its affairs and, accordingly, will have conflicts of interest in allocating management time among various business activities, including monitoring the due diligence and undertaking the other actions required in order to consummate

the Business Combination. Each of Vaso's executive officers is engaged in several other business endeavors for which they may be entitled to substantial compensation and Vaso's directors also serve as officers and board members for other entities. If Vaso's executive officers' and directors' other business affairs require them to devote substantial amounts of time to such affairs in excess of their current commitment levels, it could limit their ability to devote time to Achari's affairs which may have a negative impact on Achari's ability to consummate the Business Combination.

***Achari has been notified by Nasdaq that it is not in compliance with certain standards which Nasdaq requires listed companies meet for their respective securities to continue to be listed and traded on its exchange. If Achari is unable to regain compliance with such continued listing requirements, Nasdaq may choose to delist Achari's securities from its exchange or may subject Achari to additional restrictions, which may adversely affect the liquidity and trading price of its securities.***

Achari's securities are currently listed on Nasdaq and it is anticipated that, following the Business Combination, New Vaso's securities will continue to be listed on Nasdaq. However, there can be no assurance that New Vaso's securities will continue to be listed on Nasdaq upon the closing of the Business Combination or maintain such listing subsequent to the closing of the Business Combination. In connection with the Business Combination, New Vaso will be required to demonstrate compliance with Nasdaq's initial listing requirements, which are more rigorous than Nasdaq's continued listing requirements. Nasdaq's initial listing requirements set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5505(a) require, among other things, that New Vaso's minimum stock price be at least \$4.00 per share and that New Vaso have at least 1,000,000 unrestricted publicly held shares and a minimum of 300 public holders of "round lots" of 100 shares. Furthermore, Nasdaq Rule 5505(b)(2) requires, among other things, that New Vaso have a market value of listed securities of at least \$50 million, stockholders' equity of at least \$4 million and a public float of at least \$15 million. In addition to the listing requirements for New Vaso's shares, Nasdaq imposes listing standards on warrants. There can be no assurance that New Vaso will be able to meet Nasdaq's initial listing requirements, in which case Nasdaq may delist New Vaso's securities from trading on its exchange in connection with the closing of the Business Combination. The foregoing is a brief description of the Nasdaq initial listing requirements applicable to New Vaso's securities, and more detailed information about such requirements is set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5505.

In addition, to maintain the listing of New Vaso's securities on Nasdaq subsequent to the closing of the Business Combination, New Vaso must maintain certain financial, distribution, liquidity and stock price levels to satisfy Nasdaq's continued listing requirements. New Vaso must, among other things, maintain a minimum bid price of \$1.00 per share, a minimum amount of stockholders' equity (generally \$2,500,000) and a minimum number of holders of its securities (generally 300 public holders). The foregoing is a brief description of the Nasdaq continued listing requirements applicable to New Vaso's securities, and more detailed information about such requirements is set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5550.

If subsequent to the closing of the Business Combination, New Vaso is unable to maintain a minimum bid price for its shares of \$1.00 per share, or to satisfy any other continued listing requirement, Nasdaq may delist New Vaso's securities from trading on its exchange. Such a delisting would likely have a negative effect on the price of New Vaso's securities and may impair your ability to sell or purchase New Vaso's securities when you wish to do so.

If Nasdaq delists Achari's shares of common stock from its exchange, Vaso may terminate the Business Combination Agreement. If Vaso were to terminate the Business Combination Agreement, the Business Combination could not occur regardless of how of you vote on the Proposals and Achari would be forced to find a new target for a business combination or liquidate if Achari were unable to do so before the timeline set out in Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation.

If Nasdaq delists New Vaso's securities from trading on its exchange and New Vaso is not able to list its securities on another national securities exchange, New Vaso's securities may be quoted on an over-the-counter market. However, if this were to occur, New Vaso could face significant material adverse consequences, including:

- a limited availability of market quotations for its securities;
- reduced liquidity for its securities;

- a determination that New Vaso's Common Stock is a "penny stock" which will require brokers trading in such common stock to adhere to more stringent rules and possibly result in a reduced level of trading activity in the secondary trading market for New Vaso's securities;
- a limited amount of news and analyst coverage; and
- a decreased ability to issue additional securities or obtain additional financing in the future.

The National Securities Markets Improvement Act of 1996, which is a federal statute, prevents or preempts the states from regulating the sale of certain securities, which are referred to as "covered securities." Because our securities are listed on Nasdaq, our units, Public Shares and warrants are considered covered securities under such statute. Although states are preempted from regulating the sale of our securities, this federal statute does allow the states to investigate companies if there is a suspicion of fraud, and, if there is a finding of fraudulent activity, then the states can regulate or bar the sale of covered securities in a particular case. While Achari is not aware of a state having used these powers to prohibit or restrict the sale of securities issued by blank check companies, other than the State of Idaho, certain state securities regulators view blank check companies unfavorably and might use these powers, or threaten to use these powers, to hinder the sale of securities of blank check companies in their states. Further, if Achari were no longer listed on Nasdaq, its securities would not be covered securities and Achari may be subject to additional regulation in each state in which New Vaso offers its securities, including in connection with a Business Combination.

Additionally, in connection with a business combination, New Vaso will be required to demonstrate compliance with Nasdaq's initial listing requirements, which are more rigorous than Nasdaq's continued listing requirements, in order to continue to maintain the listing of our securities on Nasdaq following consummation of the Business Combination. For instance, New Vaso's stock price would generally be required to be at least \$4.00 per share, its stockholders' equity would generally be required to be at least \$5.0 million and it would be required to have a minimum of 300 round lot holders (with at least 50% of such round lot holders holding securities with a market value of at least \$2,500) of our securities. Achari cannot assure you that we will be able to meet those initial listing requirements at that time.

In connection with Achari's efforts to regain compliance with Nasdaq's continued listing standards as further described herein, it has undertaken certain actions, including for example transferring Founder Shares held by Achari's Sponsor to certain members of Achari's Sponsor on July 17, 2023 in order to regain compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), requiring at least 1,100,000 publicly held shares. On August 7, 2023, Achari received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that it had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), and accordingly, that such matter was closed.

The Sponsor may subsequently undertake certain additional actions, which may include, but may not be limited to, further transfers of Founder Shares held by Achari's Sponsor to individual members of Achari's Sponsor, or certain other actions, in order to attempt to regain compliance with Nasdaq's continued listing standards. For the avoidance of doubt, all shares previously transferred as described in the foregoing sentence and any shares transferred in a similar fashion in the future shall remain subject to the same transfer restrictions and other limitations as the Founder Shares which continue to be held by Achari's Sponsor, including any and all restrictions contained in the letter agreement entered into in connection with Achari's IPO and for the further avoidance of doubt, any such Founder Shares will not be eligible to receive liquidating distributions from the Trust Account under any circumstances, including in the event that Achari fails to complete its business combination, nor shall such transfers (past or present) increase the overall amount of Founder Shares issued or in circulation, or in any way affect Achari's Public Stockholders' existing percentage ownership of our Company. As of the date hereof, 1,572,400 Founder Shares are held directly by Achari's Sponsor and 927,600 Founder Shares are held directly by members of the Sponsor.

***The unaudited pro forma financial information included in the section entitled "Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information" may not be representative of New Vaso's results if the Business Combination is completed.***

Achari and Vaso currently operate as separate companies and have had no prior history as a combined entity, and their respective operations have not previously been managed on a combined basis. The pro forma financial information included in this proxy statement is presented for informational purposes only and is not necessarily

indicative of the financial position or results of operations that would have actually occurred had the Business Combination been completed at or as of the dates indicated, nor is it indicative of the future operating results or financial position of New Vaso. The pro forma statement of operations does not reflect future nonrecurring charges resulting from the Business Combination. The unaudited pro forma financial information does not reflect future events that may occur after the Business Combination and does not consider potential impacts of future market conditions on revenues or expenses. The pro forma financial information included in the section entitled “*Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information*” has been derived from Achari’s and Vaso’s historical financial statements and certain adjustments and assumptions have been made regarding Achari after giving effect to the Business Combination. There may be differences between preliminary estimates in the pro forma financial information and the final acquisition accounting, which could result in material differences from the pro forma information presented in this proxy statement in respect of the estimated financial position and results of operations of New Vaso.

In addition, the assumptions used in preparing the pro forma financial information may not prove to be accurate and other factors may affect Achari’s financial condition or results of operations following the closing. Any potential decline in Achari’s financial condition or results of operations may cause significant variations in the stock price of New Vaso.

***If the conditions to the Closing under Business Combination Agreement are not met, the Business Combination may not occur be consummated.***

Even if the Business Combination Agreement is approved by the stockholders of Achari and Vaso, specified conditions must be satisfied or waived before the parties to the Business Combination Agreement are obligated to complete the Business Combination. For example, one of the closing conditions of the Business Combination Agreement is that Achari’s unpaid expenses at the time of closing (the “Unpaid SPAC Expenses”) do not exceed \$4.5 million. At the time of the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, Achari estimated that its current Unpaid SPAC Expenses totaled approximately \$6.7 million. If that estimate is accurate, unless Achari were to settle or renegotiate such Unpaid SPAC Expenses prior to the consummation of the Business Combination, Vaso could terminate the Business Combination Agreement even if the Business Combination is approved by Achari’s and Vaso’s stockholders.

For a list of the material closing conditions contained in the Business Combination Agreement, see the section entitled “*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Closing Conditions*.” Achari and Vaso may not satisfy all of the closing conditions in the Business Combination Agreement. If the closing conditions are not satisfied or waived, the Business Combination will not occur, or will be delayed pending later satisfaction or waiver, and such delay may cause Achari and Vaso to each lose some or all of the intended benefits of the Business Combination.

***If Vaso fails to approve the Business Combination Proposal at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting, it will owe Achari a termination fee of \$5.28 million.***

Vaso has agreed in the Business Combination Agreement that if holds a duly convened Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting but, after adjournment if necessary, fails to obtain approval for the Business Combination Proposal, it will owe Achari a termination fee. The termination fee would equal 3% of the consideration that the Vaso stockholders are deemed to receive in the Business Combination, which 3% equals \$5.28 million.

***Each of Achari and Vaso may waive one or more of the conditions to the Business Combination.***

Each of Achari and Vaso may agree to waive, in whole or in part, some of the conditions to their respective obligations to complete the Business Combination, to the extent permitted by their respective existing charters and applicable laws. If either Achari or Vaso elects to waive any conditions to their respective obligations to complete the Business Combination, the parties may close the Business Combination without the satisfaction of any such conditions.

***There are risks to Achari stockholders who are not affiliates of the Sponsor becoming stockholders of Vaso through the Business Combination rather than acquiring securities of Vaso directly in an underwritten public offering, including no independent due diligence review by an underwriter and conflicts of interest of the Sponsor.***

Because there is no independent third-party underwriter involved in the Business Combination or the issuance of Achari's securities in connection therewith, investors will not receive the benefit of any outside independent review of Achari's and Vaso's respective finances and operations. Underwritten public offerings of securities conducted by a licensed broker-dealer are subjected to a due diligence review by the underwriter or dealer manager to satisfy statutory duties under the Securities Act, the rules of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) and the national securities exchange on which such securities are listed. Additionally, underwriters or dealer-managers conducting such public offerings are subject to liability for any material misstatements or omissions in a registration statement filed in connection with the public offering. As no such review will be conducted in connection with the Business Combination, Achari's stockholders must rely on the information in this proxy statement and will not have the benefit of an independent review and investigation of the type normally performed by an independent underwriter in a public securities offering.

If Vaso became a public company through an underwritten public offering, the underwriters of such offering would be subject to liability under Section 11 of the Securities Act for material misstatements and omissions in the initial public offering registration statement. In general, an underwriter is able to avoid liability under Section 11 if it can prove that, it "had, after reasonable investigation, reasonable ground to believe and did believe, at the time the registration statement became effective, that the statements therein (other than the audited consolidated financial statements) were true and that there was no omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading." In order to fulfill its duty to conduct a "reasonable investigation," an underwriter will, in addition to conducting a significant amount of due diligence on its own, usually require that an issuer's independent registered public accounting firm provide a comfort letter with respect to certain numbers included in the registration statement and will require the law firm for the issuer to include in its legal opinion to the underwriters a statement that such counsel is not aware of any material misstatements or omissions in the initial public offering registration statement ("**Counsel Negative Assurance Statements**"). Auditor comfort letters and Counsel Negative Assurance Statements are generally not required in connection with a merger with a special purpose acquisition company, such as in the Business Combination, and no auditor comfort letters or Counsel Negative Assurance Statements have been requested or obtained in connection with the Business Combination or the preparation of this proxy statement.

In addition, the amount of due diligence conducted by Achari and its advisors in connection with the Business Combination may not be as high as would have been undertaken by an underwriter in connection with an initial public offering of Vaso. Accordingly, it is possible that defects in Vaso's business or with Vaso's management that would have been discovered if Vaso conducted an underwritten public offering will not be discovered in connection with the Business Combination, which could adversely affect the market price of New Vaso's securities.

Unlike an underwritten initial public offering, the trading of Vaso securities will not benefit from the book building process undertaken by underwriters that helps to inform efficient price discovery with respect to opening trades of newly listed shares and underwriter support to help stabilize, maintain or affect the public price of the new issue immediately after listing. The lack of such a process in connection with the Business Combination could result in diminished investor demand, inefficiencies in pricing and a more volatile public price for New Vaso's securities during the period immediately following the Closing.

Furthermore, the Sponsor and certain of Achari's directors and executive officers have interests in the Business Combination that may be different from, or in addition to, the interests of our stockholders generally. Such interests may have influenced Achari's directors in making their recommendation that you vote in favor of the Business Combination Proposal and the other proposals described in this proxy statement. See "*Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Achari's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination.*"

***The exercise of each of Vaso's Achari's directors' and executive officers' discretion in agreeing to changes or waivers in the terms of the Business Combination may result in a conflict of interest when determining whether such changes to the terms of the Business Combination or waivers of conditions are appropriate and in the best interest of the stockholders of the respective companies.***

In the period leading up to the Closing of the Business Combination, events may occur that, pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, would require each of Vaso and Achari to decide whether to agree to amend the Business Combination Agreement, to consent to certain actions taken by the other party, or to waive or otherwise not exercise certain rights that it may be entitled to under the Business Combination Agreement. Such events could arise because of changes in the course of either party's business, a request by the other party to undertake actions that would otherwise be prohibited by the terms of the Business Combination Agreement, or the occurrence of other events that would have a material adverse effect on their respective business and would entitle the other party to terminate the Business Combination Agreement. In any of such circumstances, it would be at the discretion of the non-defaulting party (subject in certain cases to reasonableness requirements imposed by the Business Combination Agreement) to grant its consent or waive those rights. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of the directors Vaso or Achari described in this proxy statement may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what he or she or they may believe is best for the Company for which person is a director and the stockholders of such company and what he or she or they may believe is best for himself or herself in determining whether or not to take the requested action. Although the directors of Achari and the decisions that they make based on a conflict of interest would not be likely to directly incur liability for Vaso, such actions could create liability for New Vaso and as the holders of Vaso common stock are to receive shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock upon the consummation of the Business Combination, the value of the consideration the Vaso stockholders are to receive in the Business Combination could materially decrease.

***The consummation of the Business Combination is subject to a number of conditions, and if those conditions are not satisfied or waived, the Business Combination Agreement may be terminated in accordance with its terms and the Business Combination may not be completed.***

Even if the Business Combination Agreement is approved by the stockholders of Achari and Vaso, specified conditions must be satisfied or waived before the parties to the Business Combination Agreement are obligated to complete the Business Combination. For a list of the material closing conditions contained in the Business Combination Agreement, see the section titled "Closing Conditions." Achari and Vaso may not satisfy all of the closing conditions in the Business Combination Agreement. If either party caused the closing conditions to not be satisfied in good faith or to use reasonable best efforts to satisfy them, the Business Combination might not occur, or will be delayed pending later satisfaction or waiver, and such delay may cause Achari and Vaso to each lose some or all of the intended benefits of the Business Combination.

***If the Business Combination benefits do not meet the expectation of investors or securities analysts, the market price of New Vaso's securities may decline.***

If the Business Combination does not meet the expectations of investors or securities analysts, the market price of New Vaso's securities prior to the Closing of the Business Combination may decline. The market values of Vaso's securities at the time of the Closing may vary significantly from the market price of New Vaso's securities on the date the Business Combination Agreement was executed, the date of this proxy statement, or the date on which New Vaso's stockholders vote on the Business Combination. Because the number of shares to be issued pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement will not be adjusted to reflect any changes in the market price of New Vaso's shares of common stock, the market value of securities issued in the Business Combination may be higher or lower than the values of these shares on earlier dates. In addition, following the Business Combination, fluctuations in the price of securities of New Vaso could contribute to the loss of all or part of your investment.

***The dual class structure of our Common Stock after the Business Combination will have the effect of concentrating voting control with the holders of our Class B Common Stock; this will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters.***

Following the Business Combination, New Vaso's Class B Common Stock will have one hundred votes per share and our Class A Common Stock will have one vote per share. Although It is not expected that New Vaso will issue Class B common stock for the foreseeable future, New Vaso stockholders who hold shares of Class B Common

Stock will together hold a substantial majority of the voting power of New Vaso's outstanding capital stock. Because of the hundred-to-one voting ratio between New Vaso's Class B Common Stock and Class A Common Stock, the holders of New Vaso's Class B Common Stock will collectively control a majority of the combined voting power of New Vaso's Common Stock and therefore are able to control all matters submitted to New Vaso's stockholders for approval. This concentrated control will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters. Holders of Class B Common Stock may have interests that differ from yours and may vote in a way with which you disagree and which may be adverse to your interests. This concentrated control may have the effect of delaying, preventing or deterring a change in control of New Vaso, could deprive New Vaso's stockholders of an opportunity to receive a premium for their common stock as part of a sale of New Vaso and might ultimately affect the market price of New Vaso's Class A Common Stock.

***Delaware law, the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws will contain certain provisions, including anti-takeover provisions that limit the ability of stockholders to take certain actions and could delay or discourage takeover attempts that stockholders may consider favorable.***

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws that will be in effect upon completion of the Business Combination, contain provisions that could have the effect of rendering more difficult, delaying, or preventing an acquisition deemed undesirable by the New Vaso Board and therefore depress the trading price of New Vaso Common Stock. These provisions could also make it difficult for stockholders to take certain actions, including electing directors who are not nominated by the current members of the New Vaso Board or taking other corporate actions, including effecting changes in management. Among other things, the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws include provisions regarding:

- the ability of the New Vaso Board to issue shares of preferred stock, including "blank check" preferred stock and to determine the price and other terms of those shares, including preferences and voting rights, without stockholder approval, which could be used to significantly dilute the ownership of a hostile acquirer;
- the limitation of the liability of, and the indemnification of, New Vaso's directors and officers;
- the right of the New Vaso Board to elect a director to fill a vacancy created by the expansion of the New Vaso Board or the resignation, death or removal of a director, which prevents stockholders from being able to fill vacancies on the New Vaso Board;
- controlling the procedures for the conduct and scheduling of the New Vaso Board and New Vaso stockholder meetings;
- the requirement for the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the voting power of all of the voting power of the then outstanding shares of New Vaso's voting stock, to amend, alter, change or repeal any provision of New Vaso's Bylaws and certain provisions in the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, respectively, which could preclude stockholders from bringing matters before annual or special meetings of stockholders and delay changes in the New Vaso Board and also may inhibit the ability of an acquirer to effect such amendments to facilitate an unsolicited takeover attempt;
- the ability of the New Vaso Board to amend the Bylaws by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, which may allow the New Vaso Board to take additional actions to prevent an unsolicited takeover and inhibit the ability of an acquirer to amend the Bylaws to facilitate an unsolicited takeover attempt; and
- advance notice procedures with which stockholders must comply to nominate candidates to the New Vaso Board or to propose matters to be acted upon at a stockholders' meeting, which could preclude stockholders from bringing matters before annual or special meetings of stockholders and delay changes in the New Vaso Board and also may discourage or deter a potential acquirer from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect the acquirer's own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control of New Vaso.

These provisions, alone or together, could delay or prevent hostile takeovers and changes in control or changes in the New Vaso Board or management.

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In addition, as a Delaware corporation, New Vaso will generally be subject to provisions of Delaware law, including Section 203 of the DGCL. See the section entitled “*Description of Vaso’s, Achari’s, and New Vaso’s Securities — Capital Stock of New Vaso after the Business Combination — Anti-Takeover Effects of the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws and Certain Provisions of Delaware Law — Business Combinations.*”

Any provision of the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws or Delaware law that has the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control could limit the opportunity for stockholders to receive a premium for their shares of New Vaso’s capital stock and could also affect the price that some investors are willing to pay for the New Vaso Common Stock.

The form of the Sixth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation is attached as *Annex B* to this proxy statement, and we urge you to read it.

***New Vaso’s business and operations could be negatively affected if it becomes subject to any securities litigation or stockholder activism, which could cause New Vaso to incur significant expense, hinder execution of business and growth strategy and impact its stock price.***

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company’s securities, securities class action litigation has often been brought against that company. Stockholder activism, which could take many forms or arise in a variety of situations, has been increasing recently. Volatility in the stock price of the New Vaso Common Stock or other reasons may in the future cause New Vaso to become the target of securities litigation or stockholder activism. Securities litigation and stockholder activism, including potential proxy contests, could result in substantial costs and divert management’s and board of directors’ attention and resources from New Vaso’s business. Additionally, such securities litigation and stockholder activism could give rise to perceived uncertainties as to New Vaso’s future, adversely affect its relationships with service providers and make it more difficult to attract and retain qualified personnel. Also, New Vaso may be required to incur significant legal fees and other expenses related to any securities litigation and activist stockholder matters. Further, its stock price could be subject to significant fluctuation or otherwise be adversely affected by the events, risks and uncertainties of any securities litigation and stockholder activism.

***If the Business Combination does not qualify as a tax-free reorganization under Section 368(a) of the Code, former holders of Vaso common stock receiving Achari common stock in connection with the Business Combination may incur greater U.S. federal income tax liability as a result of the Business Combination.***

Achari and Vaso intend for the Business Combination to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. However, neither Achari nor Vaso has requested, or intends to request, a ruling from the IRS, with respect to the tax considerations of the Business Combination, and there can be no assurance that the companies’ position would be sustained by a court if challenged by the IRS. Accordingly, if the IRS or a court determines that the Business Combination does not qualify as a reorganization under Section 368(a) of the Code and is therefore a taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes, holders of Vaso common stock receiving New Vaso common stock in connection with the Business Combination generally would recognize taxable gain or loss on their receipt of the same in connection with the Business Combination.

### **Risks Related to Achari**

*Throughout this subsection (Risk Factor — Risks Related to Achari), references to the “us”, “we” and “our” refer to Achari and its consolidated subsidiaries as the context so requires.*

***Since the Sponsor will lose its entire investment in Achari if an initial business combination is not completed, it may have a conflict of interest in the approval of the proposals at the special meeting.***

In the event of a liquidation, Achari’s Sponsor will not receive any monies held in the Trust Account as a result of its ownership of the 2,500,000 Founder Shares held directly and indirectly by the Sponsor and certain members of the Sponsor and the 7,133,333 private warrants that were purchased by the Sponsor in a private placement which occurred simultaneously with the completion of the IPO. As a consequence, a liquidating distribution will be made

only with respect to the Public Shares and to Achari Public Stockholders in connection with the proposals being presented at this special, and not to the Sponsor or any members of the Sponsor who do not, as of the date hereof, own any Public Shares, and will not receive any funds from a liquidation of the Trust Account with respect to any Founder Shares or private placement warrants they own directly or indirectly. In addition, certain of our executive officers have beneficial interests in the Sponsor. Such persons have waived their rights to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to these securities, and all of such investments would expire worthless if a Business Combination is not consummated. Additionally, such persons can earn a positive rate of return on their overall investment in the New Vaso after the Business Combination, even if other holders of our common stock experience a negative rate of return, due to Achari's Sponsor having initially purchased the Founder Shares for an aggregate purchase price of \$25,000. The personal and financial interests of Achari's Sponsor, certain member of Achari's Sponsor, directors and officers may influence their motivation in identifying selecting, or approving a target business combination to consummate a potential Business Combination with and therefore may have interests different from your interests as a stockholder in connection with the proposals being presented at this special meeting.

***Delays in the government budget process or a government shutdown may materially adversely affect our ability to complete a Business Combination or conduct the operations of the New Vaso following a Business Combination.***

Each year, the U.S. Congress must pass all spending bills in the federal budget. If any such spending bill is not timely passed, a government shutdown will close many federally run operations, which includes those of the SEC, and halt work for federal employees unless they are considered essential. If a government shutdown was to occur, and the SEC were to remain closed for a prolonged period of time, we may not be able to complete our initial business combination by July 19, 2024, particularly if the SEC is unable to timely review our filings, or those of a target business or other entity, that relate to our Business Combination or to declare such filings effective as may be applicable. Additionally, following consummation of our Business Combination, the New Vaso's operations or its ability to raise additional capital to support its operations could be materially adversely affected by any prolonged government shutdown.

***Changes in laws or regulations, or a failure to comply with any laws and regulations, may adversely affect our investments or business, including our ability to negotiate and complete a Business Combination.***

We are subject to laws and regulations enacted by national, regional and local governments. In particular, we are required to comply with certain SEC and other legal requirements. Compliance with, and monitoring of, applicable laws and regulations may be difficult, time consuming and costly. Those laws and regulations and their interpretation and application may also change from time to time and those changes could have a material adverse effect on our business, investments and results of operations. In addition, a failure to comply with applicable laws or regulations, as interpreted and applied, could have a material adverse effect on our business, including our ability to negotiate and complete a Business Combination.

***If Achari is deemed to be an investment company for purposes of the Investment Company Act, it would be required to institute burdensome compliance requirements and its activities would be severely restricted and, as a result, it may abandon its efforts to consummate a business combination and liquidate the company. To mitigate the risk of that result, Achari instructed the trustee to liquidate the securities held in its Trust Account prior to the 24-month anniversary of its IPO Registration Statement (as defined below) and instead to hold the funds in its Trust Account in cash or an interest-bearing bank deposit account at a national bank. As a result, it may earn less interest than it otherwise would have if the Trust Account had remained invested in U.S. government securities or money market funds.***

There is currently uncertainty concerning the applicability of the Investment Company Act to a SPAC, including with respect to a company like ours, that does not complete its initial business combination within certain time frames. As a result, it is possible that a claim could be made that Achari has been operating as an unregistered investment company. Prior to the 24-month anniversary of its registration statement for the IPO, the funds in the Trust Account were held only in cash, interest-bearing bank deposit accounts, government securities within the meaning set forth in Section 2(a)(16) of the Investment Company Act, with a maturity of 185 days or less, or money market funds meeting certain conditions of Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act, and therefore it is possible that a claim could be made that we had been operating as an unregistered investment company, including under the subjective test of Section 3(a)(1)(A) of the Investment Company Act.

If Achari were deemed to be an investment company and subject to compliance with and regulation under the Investment Company Act, its activities would be severely restricted and we might be forced to abandon its efforts to complete a business combination and instead be required to liquidate Achari. If Achari is required to liquidate itself, its stockholders would not be able to realize the benefits of owning shares in a successor operating business, including the potential appreciation in the value of Achari's shares and warrants following such a transaction, and Achari's warrants would expire worthless. In addition, Achari would be subject to additional burdensome regulatory requirements and expenses for which we have not allotted funds.

To mitigate the risk of being deemed an investment company under the Investment Company Act, we have instructed the trustee to liquidate the securities held in the Trust Account and instead hold all funds in the Trust Account in cash or an interest-bearing bank deposit account, which may earn less interest than we otherwise would have if the Trust Account had remained invested in U.S. government securities or money market funds. This may mean that the amount of funds available for redemption may not increase, or may only minimally increase, thereby reducing the dollar amount our Public Stockholders would receive upon any redemption or liquidation of Achari. Alternatively, if we believe we may be deemed to be an investment company under the Investment Company Act, we may abandon our efforts to consummate a business combination and instead liquidate Achari.

Please note that although we instructed the trustee with respect to the Trust Account to liquidate any U.S. government treasury obligations or money market funds held in the Trust Account prior to the 24-month anniversary of the effective date of the registration statement for the IPO and thereafter to maintain all funds in the Trust Account in an interest-bearing demand deposit account at a national bank, we may still be deemed to be an investment company.

***A 1% U.S. federal excise tax could be imposed on Achari in connection with redemptions by Achari of our shares in connection with Business Combination or otherwise.***

On August 16, 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (the "IRA") was signed into federal law. Effective with respect to repurchases after December 31, 2022, the IRA provides for a U.S. federal 1% excise tax on certain repurchases of stock by "covered corporations" (generally, publicly traded domestic (*i.e.*, U.S.) corporations and certain domestic subsidiaries of publicly traded foreign corporations). The excise tax is imposed on the repurchasing corporation itself, not its stockholders from whom shares are repurchased. The amount of the excise tax is generally 1% of the fair market value of the shares repurchased during the taxable year, net of the fair market value of certain new stock issuances during the same taxable year. In addition, the excise tax does not apply to the extent the applicable redemption is treated as a "dividend" for United States federal income tax purposes. Certain other exceptions apply to the excise tax. The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service recently issued interim guidance addressing certain key aspects of the excise tax, on which taxpayers can rely until issuance of forthcoming proposed regulations, which are anticipated to be generally retroactive to January 1, 2023 when finalized. Significantly, the interim guidance clarifies that a complete liquidation of a covered corporation is not generally subject to the excise tax. In the event that any redemptions are made, such redemptions may subject Achari to excise tax liability under the IRA. Additionally, the IRS recently announced that taxpayers will not be required to report or pay the excise tax before the timeframe specified in the forthcoming regulations and that there will be no additional tax for failing to report and pay the excise tax prior to the timeframe specified in the forthcoming regulations. As such, the due date for any excise tax payable by the Company will not be known until the issuance of the forthcoming regulations.

As previously disclosed, at Achari's special meeting held on December 22, 2022, holders of 8,980,535 shares of common stock of the Achari exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate redemption price of \$10.24 per share, resulting in an aggregate payment to such redeeming stockholders of approximately \$92,009,330. Achari sent notice to the transfer agent of Achari's shares and trustee of the Trust Account on December 22, 2022, instructing them to consummate the redemption resulting from the special meeting, canceling the applicable shares as of December 22, 2022 and initiating withdrawal procedures with regard to payment of the applicable redemptions. Achari was informed by the trustee of the Trust Account that, as of December 31, 2022, a balance of \$34,198,758 of the funds payable to redeeming holders had not yet been distributed. As a result, and in connection with a potential excise tax on share repurchases imposed by the IRA, Achari has recorded a current liability in its financial statements with respect to the possibility of an excise tax liability assessment.

Achari has also recorded an excise tax liability in connection with redemptions which occurred in connection with (i) our special meeting held on July 12, 2023, where holders of 381,144 shares of Achari common stock exercised their right to redeem their respective shares for cash at an approximate price of \$10.50 per share, resulting in an aggregate payment to such redeeming stockholders of approximately \$4,002,722 and (ii) our special meeting held on December 18, 2023, where holders of 87,380 shares of Achari common stock exercised their right to redeem their respective shares for cash at an approximate price of \$10.91 per share, resulting in an aggregate payment to such redeeming stockholders of approximately \$952,940.

Achari expects to record a further excise tax liability in connection with any redemptions which occur in connection with certain of the Proposals being subject to stockholders for approval at Achari's special meeting. Achari has determined that funds in the Trust Account, including any interest thereon, will not be used to pay for any excise tax liabilities which may be imposed as a result of the IRA.

***If third parties bring claims against us, the proceeds held in the Trust Account could be reduced and the per-share redemption amount received by our stockholders may be less than \$10.15 per share (the amount originally deposited in the Trust Account upon the consummation of our IPO).***

Our placing of funds in the Trust Account upon the consummation of our IPO may not protect those funds from third-party claims against us. Although we previously have sought, and will continue to seek to have all vendors, service providers (except for our independent registered public accounting firm and legal counsel), prospective target businesses and other entities with which we do business execute agreements with Achari waiving any right, title, interest or claim of any kind in or to any monies held in the Trust Account for the benefit of Achari Public Stockholders, such parties may not execute such agreements, or even if they execute such agreements, they may not be prevented from bringing claims against the Trust Account, including, but not limited to, fraudulent inducement, breach of fiduciary responsibility or other similar claims, as well as claims challenging the enforceability of the waiver, in each case in order to gain advantage with respect to a claim against our assets, including the funds held in the Trust Account. If any third party refuses to execute an agreement waiving such claims to the monies held in the Trust Account, our management will perform an analysis of the alternatives available to it and will only enter into an agreement with a third party that has not executed a waiver if management believes that such third party's engagement would be significantly more beneficial to Achari than any alternative. Achari's independent registered public accounting firm, Achari's legal counsel Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP and the underwriters of Achari's IPO have not executed agreements with Achari waiving such claims to the monies held in the Trust Account.

Examples of possible instances where we may engage a third party that refuses to execute a waiver include the engagement of a third party consultant whose particular expertise or skills are believed by management to be significantly superior to those of other consultants that would agree to execute a waiver or in cases where management is unable to find a service provider willing to execute a waiver. In addition, there is no guarantee that such entities will agree to waive any claims they may have in the future as a result of, or arising out of, any negotiations, contracts or agreements with Achari and will not seek recourse against the Trust Account for any reason. Upon redemption of our Public Shares, if we are unable to complete a Business Combination within the prescribed timeframe, or upon the exercise of a redemption right in connection with a Business Combination, we will be required to provide for payment of claims of creditors that were not waived that may be brought against Achari within the 10 years following redemption. Accordingly, the per-share redemption amount received by Achari Public Stockholders could be less than the \$10.15 per share initially held in the Trust Account, due to claims of such creditors.

Pursuant to our letter agreement, Achari's Sponsor has agreed that it will be liable to Achari if and to the extent any claims by a third party for services rendered or products sold to us, or a prospective target business with which we have entered into a written letter of intent, confidentiality or similar agreement or business combination agreement, reduce the amount of funds in the Trust Account to below the lesser of (i) \$10.15 per share and (ii) the actual amount per share held in the Trust Account as of the date of the liquidation of the Trust Account, if less than \$10.15 per share due to reductions in the value of the trust assets, less taxes payable, provided that such liability will not apply to any claims by a third party or prospective target business who executed a waiver of any and all rights to the monies held in the Trust Account (whether or not such waiver is enforceable) nor will it apply to any claims under our indemnity of the underwriters of our IPO against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. However, we have not asked Achari's Sponsor to reserve for such indemnification obligations, nor have we independently verified

whether Achari's Sponsor has sufficient funds to satisfy its indemnity obligations, and we believe that Achari's Sponsor's only assets are securities of Achari. Therefore, it is unlikely that Achari's Sponsor would be able to satisfy those obligations. As a result, if any such claims were successfully made against the Trust Account, the funds available for a Business Combination and redemptions could be reduced to less than \$10.15 per share. In such event, we may not be able to complete a Business Combination, and you would receive such lesser amount per share in connection with any redemption of your Public Shares. None of Achari's officers or directors will indemnify Achari for claims by third parties including, without limitation, claims by vendors and prospective target businesses.

***We have not obtained a fairness opinion, and consequently, our stockholders may have no assurance from an independent source that the price we are paying for the business is fair to our company from a financial point of view.***

Achari is not required to obtain, and did not obtain, an opinion from an independent investment banking firm or from another independent entity that commonly renders valuation opinions that the price we are paying is fair to our company from a financial point of view. As no opinion was obtained, our stockholders will be relying on the judgment of our board of directors, who will determine fair market value based on standards generally accepted by the financial community. However, Achari has the right to terminate the Business Combination Agreement if the Fairness Opinion obtained by Vaso from River Corporate is withdrawn, revoked or modified after the date of the Business Combination Agreement.

***Past performance by our management team or our advisors may not be indicative of future performance of an investment in New Vaso.***

Past performance by our management team or our advisors is not a guarantee either (i) of success with respect to the Business Combination we may consummate or (ii) that we will be able to locate a suitable candidate for our initial business combination. Stockholders and potential investors should not rely on the historical record of our management team's or our advisors' respective performance as indicative of our future performance of an investment in New Vaso or the returns New Vaso will, or is likely to, generate going forward. No member of our management team has been an officer or director of a special purpose acquisition corporation in the past. Additionally, in the course of their respective careers, members of our management team and our advisors have been involved in businesses and transactions that were not successful.

#### **Risks Related to Vaso's Business and Industry**

*Following the Business Combination, New Vaso will be a holding company with no direct operations that relies on dividends, distributions, loans and other payments, advances and transfers of funds from Vaso and its subsidiaries to pay dividends, pay expenses and meet its other obligations. Accordingly, New Vaso's stockholders will be subject to all of the risks of Vaso's business following the Business Combination. Throughout this section, unless otherwise noted, "Vaso" "we" and "our" refers to Vaso Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries.*

*As you consider the proposed Business Combination, you should carefully consider the following risk factors, which address the material risks concerning Vaso's business. If any of the risks discussed in this proxy statement occur, New Vaso's business, prospects, liquidity, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected, in which case the value of the New Vaso Common Stock could decline significantly and you could lose all or part of your investment. Some statements in this proxy statement, including statements in the following risk factors, constitute forward-looking statements. The risk factors discussed below cover not only Vaso's current operations and relationships, but also the risks we expect to encounter when and if implement our strategic plans and add new products, candidates and relationships. Please refer to the section entitled "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."*

#### **Risks Related to Our Business**

***We currently derive a significant amount of our revenue and operating income from our agreement with GEHC.***

On May 19, 2010, we signed a sales representation agreement with GEHC. Under the GEHC Agreement, we have been appointed GEHC's exclusive representative for certain GEHC diagnostic imaging products to specific market segments in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. The GEHC Agreement

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had an initial term of three years commencing July 1, 2010 and has subsequently been extended in 2012, 2014, 2017 and 2021, with the current term through December 31, 2026, subject to GEHC's right to terminate earlier without cause under certain conditions.

A significant amount of our revenue and operating income arises from activities under this agreement. In the year ended December 31, 2022 and in the nine months ended September 30, 2023, revenue related to activities under the GEHC Agreement accounted for 47% and 45% of our revenue, respectively, and 148% and 148% of our operating income, respectively. Moreover, our performance and growth in the professional sales service segment depends partially on the territories, customer accounts and product modalities assigned to us by GEHC, as well as factors beyond our control such as product pricing, availability and delivery schedule, and thus relies on our ability to demonstrate our added value as a channel partner, and on maintaining a positive relationship with GEHC. There is no assurance that the agreement will not be terminated prior to its expiration pursuant to its termination provisions or will be extended beyond the current expiration date. Should GEHC terminate the agreement, it would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

***Maintaining profitable operations depends on several factors***

Our ability to sustain profitability depends on many factors, including the sufficient and timely generation of cash, as well as attaining and maintaining profitability in our IT and equipment segments, as well as the success of our other strategic initiatives. We recorded gross profit of \$48.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2022 and gross profits of \$36.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023. Our ability to sustain profitability depends on many factors, including the sufficient and timely generation of cash, our strategic initiatives, customer relationships and other risks set out herein. If we are unable to properly manage these risks and conduct our business pursuant to our plan of operations, our gross profits may decline or cease all together. If that were to occur, we could be forced to curtail our plan of operations or discontinue some or all of such operations.

***We compete with companies that have longer operating histories, more established products and greater resources than we do in the face of limited hospital capital budgets and alternative products.***

The medical products industry is characterized by extensive research and development and intense competition in an increasingly cost-conscious environment. Some of these competitors and potential competitors have well-established reputations, customer relationships and marketing, distribution and service networks. Some of them have substantially longer histories in the 3 products industry, larger product lines and greater financial, technical, manufacturing, research and development and management resources than we do. Many of these competitors and potential competitors have long-term product supply relationships with our potential customers. These competitors and potential competitors might be able to use their resources, reputations and ability to leverage existing customer relationships to give them a competitive advantage over us, including in securing forehead sensor space for their products and dollars from hospital capital equipment budgets to purchase their products. They might also succeed in developing products that are at least as reliable and effective as our products, that make additional measurements, that are less costly than our products or that provide alternatives to our products which would adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***We compete with companies with products, or that may develop products, that may outperform our own, rendering our products obsolete or non-competitive.***

In all segments of our business, we compete with other companies that market technologies, products and services in the global marketplace. We do not know whether these companies, or other potential competitors who may succeed in developing technologies, products or services that are more efficient or effective than those offered by us, and that would render our technology and existing products obsolete or non-competitive. Potential new competitors may also have substantially greater financial, manufacturing and marketing resources than those possessed by us. In addition, other technologies or products may be developed by competitors that have an entirely different approach or means of accomplishing the intended purpose of our services or the products that we offer. Accordingly, the life cycles of our products are difficult to estimate. To compete successfully, we must keep pace with technological advancements, respond to evolving consumer requirements and achieve market acceptance. If we do not keep pace, our business, financial condition and results of operations would be adversely affected.

***We depend on management and other key personnel.***

We depend on a limited number of key management and technical personnel. The loss of one or more of our key employees may harm our business if we are unable to identify other individuals to provide us with similar services. We do not maintain “key person” insurance on any of our employees. In addition, our success depends upon our ability to attract and retain additional highly qualified management, sales, IT, manufacturing and research and development personnel in our various operations. The competition for such personnel is intense, and we may not be successful in retaining the personnel that we have or in attracting new personnel as and when needed.

***We may not continue to receive necessary clearances or approvals from the US FDA or foreign authorities for our medical devices, which could hinder our ability to market and sell certain products in the relevant markets.***

If we modify our medical devices and the modifications significantly affect safety or effectiveness, or if we make a change to the intended use, we will be required to submit a new premarket notification (510(k)) or premarket approval (PMA) application to the FDA. We would not be able to market the modified device in the U.S. until the FDA issues a clearance for the 510(k).

If we offer new products that require 510(k) clearance or a PMA, we will not be able to commercially distribute those products in the United States until we receive such clearance or approval. Regulatory agency approval or clearance for a product may not be received or may entail limitations on the device’s indications for use that could limit the potential market for the product. Delays in receipt of, or failure to obtain or maintain, regulatory clearances and approvals, could delay or prevent our ability to market or distribute our products. Such delays could have a material adverse effect on our equipment business. Moreover, if we do make additional modifications and believe that those changes do not require the submission of a new 510(k) notice it will be possible that the FDA disagrees and requires new clearances or approvals for the modifications. In this case, we may be required to recall and to stop marketing the modified devices, to redesign our products or submit new data or information to the FDA. This could harm our operating results.

There are similar medical device regulations or requirements in China, Europe, and other foreign markets where we sell our products. Failure to comply with these regulations and requirements could have a material adverse effect on our equipment business.

***After clearance or approval of our products, we are subject to continuing regulation by the FDA, and if we fail to comply with FDA regulations, our business could suffer.***

Even after clearance or approval of a product, we are subject to continuing regulation by the FDA, including the requirements that our facility be registered and our devices listed with the agency. We are subject to Medical Device Reporting regulations, which require us to report to the FDA if our products may have caused or contributed to a death or serious injury or malfunction in a way that would likely cause or contribute to a death or serious injury if the malfunction were to recur. We must report corrections and removals to the FDA where the correction or removal was initiated to reduce a risk to health posed by the device or to remedy a violation of the FDCA caused by the device that may present a risk to health and maintain records of other corrections or removals. The FDA closely regulates promotion and advertising, and our promotional and advertising activities could come under scrutiny. If the FDA objects to our promotional and advertising activities or finds that we failed to submit reports under the Medical Device Reporting regulations, for example, the FDA may allege our activities resulted in violations of law.

The FDA and state authorities have broad enforcement powers. Our failure to comply with applicable regulatory requirements could result in enforcement action by the FDA or state agencies, which may include any of the following sanctions:

- untitled letters, warning letters, fines, injunctions, consent decrees and civil penalties;
- repair, replacement, refunds, recall or seizure of our products;
- limitations on exports;
- operating restrictions or partial suspension or total shutdown of production;

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- refusing or delaying our requests for 510(k) clearance or premarket approval of new products or new intended uses;
- withdrawing 510(k) clearance or premarket approvals that have already been granted; and
- criminal prosecution.

If any of these events were to occur, they could harm our business.

***If we or our suppliers fail to comply with the FDA's Quality System Regulation, some of our operations could be halted, and our business would suffer.***

We and certain of our suppliers are currently required to demonstrate and maintain compliance with the FDA's Quality System Regulation, or QSR. The QSR governs the methods and documentation of the design, testing, control, manufacturing, labeling, quality assurance, packaging, storage and shipping of our products. The FDA enforces the QSR through periodic inspections, which may be unannounced. We have been, and anticipate in the future being, subject to such inspections. Our failure to comply with the QSR or to take satisfactory corrective action in response to an adverse QSR inspection could result in enforcement actions, including a public warning letter, a shutdown of or restrictions on our manufacturing operations, delays in approving or clearing a product, refusal to permit the import or export of our products, a recall or seizure of our products, fines, injunctions, civil or criminal penalties, or other sanctions, any of which could cause our business and operating results to suffer.

***If we are unable to comply with applicable governmental regulations, we may not be able to continue certain of our operations.***

As a reseller of telecommunication services and network solutions provider, our products and services are subject to federal, state and local regulations. These regulations govern, in part, our rates and the way we conduct our business, including the requirement to offer telecommunications services pursuant to nondiscriminatory rates, terms, and conditions, the obligation to safeguard the confidentiality of customer proprietary network information, as well as the obligation to maintain specialized records and file reports with the Federal Communications Commission and state regulatory authorities. While we believe we are in compliance with laws and regulations in jurisdictions where we do business, we must continue to monitor and assess our compliance.

Our operations in China are also subject to the laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China with which we must be in compliance in order to conduct these operations.

We are subject to various federal, state and local laws targeting fraud and abuse in the healthcare industry, including anti-kickback and false claims laws.

We cannot predict the nature of any future laws, regulations, interpretations, or applications, nor can we predict what effect additional governmental regulations or administrative orders, either domestically or internationally, when and if promulgated, would have on our business in the future. We may be slow to adapt, or we may never adapt to changes in existing requirements or adoption of new requirements or policies. We may incur significant costs to comply with laws and regulations in the future or compliance with laws or regulations may create an unsustainable burden on our business.

***We have foreign operations and are subject to the associated risks of doing business in foreign countries.***

We continue to have operations in China. These operations represented approximately 2.8% and 2.8% of its revenue for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively, and its China-based assets represented approximately 3.1% and (5.7)% of its operating income for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively. Operating internationally involves additional risks relating to such things as currency exchange rates, different legal and regulatory environments, political and, economic risks relating to the stability or predictability of foreign governments, differences in the manner in which different cultures do business, difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations, differences in financial reporting, operating difficulties, and other factors. The approval procedure varies among countries and can involve additional requirements and testing, and the time required to obtain approval may differ from that required to obtain FDA clearance. The foreign regulatory approval process may include all of the risks associated with obtaining FDA clearance in addition to other risks. Our distributors might not be able to obtain or

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maintain foreign approvals on a timely basis or at all. Clearance by the FDA does not ensure approval by regulatory authorities in other countries, and approval by one foreign regulatory authority does not ensure approval by regulatory authorities in other foreign countries or approval or clearance by the FDA. Failure to obtain or maintain regulatory approval in foreign jurisdictions would prevent us from marketing our products abroad. The occurrence of any of these risks, if severe enough, could have an adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Commercial law is still developing in China and there are limited legal precedents to follow in commercial transactions. There are many tax jurisdictions each of which may have changing tax laws. Applicable taxes include value added taxes (“VAT”), enterprise income tax (“EIT”), and social (payroll) taxes. Regulations are often unclear. Tax declarations (reports) are subject to review and taxing authorities may impose fines, penalties and interest. These facts create risks for our operations in China.

### ***Federal regulatory reforms may adversely affect our ability to sell our products profitably.***

From time to time, legislation is drafted and introduced in Congress that could significantly change the statutory provisions governing clearance or approval, manufacture and marketing of a device. In addition, FDA regulations and guidance are often revised or reinterpreted by the agency in ways that may significantly affect our business and our products. We cannot predict whether legislative changes will be enacted or FDA regulations, guidance or interpretations changed, and what the impact of such changes, if any, may be.

### ***We depend on several suppliers for the supply of certain products.***

As a GEHC channel partner, we could be negatively impacted by interruptions or delays to equipment installations, production and quality issues, and any customer concerns related to GEHC. Delivery of GEHC equipment may be negatively impacted due to the current supply chain issues especially as they impact availability of computer chips. With respect to our proprietary medical products, we now manufacture our own products primarily through our China-based facilities, and we depend on certain independent suppliers for parts, components and certain finished goods.

### ***The impact of pandemic, geopolitical and climate risk on our markets and financial condition is difficult to predict and manage.***

We are subject to pandemic, geopolitical and climate risks that are entirely outside of our control. The current war in Ukraine and the war in the Middle East and other potential conflicts, man-made or natural climate or other environmental disasters and the outbreak of new pandemics or the resurgence of old ones could cause disruption to our supply chains, disturb our operations or require us to expend significant capital to avoid such results. For example, the COVID-19 pandemic adversely affected certain elements of our business, primarily the initial shrinkage, and subsequent recovery, of our customer base in our IT segment as well as the overall effect of China’s prior lockdown practice on its economy. The COVID-19 pandemic caused us to modify our business practices and required us to take actions as required by government authorities, our customers or as determined to be in the best interests of our employees, customers and business partners. Any measures that we may take in response to future wars and conflict, pandemics and environmental disasters may not be sufficient to mitigate the risks posed by such events and our ability to execute our business plans could be impacted. The magnitude and duration of the disruption and resulting decline in business activity are uncertain.

### ***We may not have adequate intellectual property protection.***

Our patents and proprietary technology may not be able to prevent competition by others. The validity and breadth of claims in technology patents involve complex legal and factual questions. Future patent applications may not be issued, the scope of any patent protection may not exclude competitors, and our patents may not provide competitive advantages to us. Our patents may be found to be invalid and other companies may claim rights in or ownership of the patents and other proprietary rights held or licensed by us. Also, our existing patents may not cover products that we develop in the future. Moreover, when our patents expire, the inventions will enter the public domain. There can be no assurance that our patents will not be violated or that any issued patents will

provide protection that has commercial significance. Litigation may be necessary to protect our patent position. Such litigation may be costly and time-consuming, and there can be no assurance that we will be successful in such litigation.

***The loss or violation of certain of our patents and trademarks could have a material adverse effect upon our business.***

Since patent applications in the United States are maintained in secrecy until such patent applications are issued, our current product development may infringe patents that may be issued to others. If our products were found to infringe patents held by competitors, we may have to modify our products to avoid infringement, and it is possible that our modified products would not be commercially successful.

***The on-going COVID-19 pandemic and other global events (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) and the corresponding impact on businesses and debt and equity markets could have a material adverse effect on our search for a Business Combination and any target business with which we ultimately consummate a Business Combination.***

The COVID-19 outbreak and other global events (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) have resulted in, a widespread crisis that has adversely affected, and in the future could further, adversely affect economies and financial markets worldwide, and the business of any potential target business with which the Company consummates a Business Combination could be materially and adversely affected. Furthermore, we may be unable to complete an initial Business Combination if concerns relating to COVID-19 or other matters of global concern (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) continue to restrict travel, limit the ability to have meetings with potential investors, limit the ability to conduct due diligence or limit the ability of a potential partner company's personnel, vendors and services providers to negotiate and consummate a transaction in a timely manner. The extent to which COVID-19 and other matters of global concern (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) impact our search for an initial Business Combination will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted. The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and other matters of global concern (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) on businesses, and the inability to accurately predict the future impact of the pandemic and other global events on businesses, have also made determinations and negotiations of valuation more difficult, which could make it more difficult to consummate a Business Combination transaction. If the disruptions posed by COVID-19 or other matters of global concern (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) continue, our ability to consummate a Business Combination, or the operations of a business with which we ultimately consummate a Business Combination, may be materially adversely affected. In addition, our ability to consummate a transaction may be dependent on the ability to raise equity and debt financing which may be impacted by COVID-19 and other events, including as a result of increased market volatility, decreased market liquidity and third-party financing being unavailable on terms acceptable to us or at all.

Finally, the outbreak of COVID-19 or other infectious diseases and other global events (such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war in the Middle East) may also have the effect of heightening many of the other risks described in this "Risk Factors" section.

**Risks Related to Our Industries**

***Our growth could suffer if the markets into which we sell products decline, do not grow as anticipated or experience cyclicalities.***

Our growth depends in part on the growth of the IT and healthcare markets which we serve. In our professional sales services segment, our quarterly sales and profits depend significantly on the volume and timing of delivery of the underlying equipment of the orders we booked, and the delivery of such products is difficult to forecast since it is largely dependent on GEHC. Product demand is dependent upon the customer's capital spending budget as well as government funding policies and matters of public policy as well as product cycles and economic downturns that can affect the spending decisions of these entities. These factors could adversely affect our growth, financial position, and results of operations.

***Technological change is difficult to predict and to manage.***

We face the challenges that are typically faced by companies in the IT and medical device fields. Our products and services may require substantial development efforts and compliance with governmental clearance or approval requirements. We may encounter unforeseen technological or scientific problems that force abandonment or substantial change in the development of a specific product or process.

***We are subject to product liability claims and associated legal expenses and product recalls that may not be covered by insurance.***

The nature of our manufacturing operations exposes us to risks of product liability claims and product recalls. Medical devices as complex as ours frequently experience errors or failures, especially when first introduced or when new versions are released. We might be sued because of such product liability claims regardless of whether we are ultimately determined to be liable or whether our products are determined to be defective and a contributing factor in such claim. To this end, we might incur significant legal expenses not covered by insurance. In addition, product liability litigation could damage our reputation and impair our ability to market our products, regardless of the outcome. Litigation could also impair our ability to retain product liability insurance or make our insurance more expensive.

We currently maintain product liability insurance at \$6,000,000 per occurrence and in the aggregate. Additionally, we maintain commercial and general liability insurance with limits of \$5,000,000. This insurance is costly and even though it has been obtained, we might not be able to retain it. Even if we are able to retain this insurance, it might not be sufficient to protect us in the event of a major defect in our products. Our product liability insurance may not be adequate and if we are subject to an uninsured or inadequately insured product liability claim based on the performance of our products, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected. In the future, insurance coverage may not be available on commercially reasonable terms, or at all. In addition, product liability claims or product recalls could damage our reputation even if we have adequate insurance coverage.

**Risks Related to New Vaso's Securities**

***The application of the "penny stock" rules could adversely affect the market price of the New Vaso common stock and increase transaction costs.***

As long as the trading price of our common shares is below \$5 per share, the openmarket trading of our common shares will be subject to the "penny stock" rules. The "penny stock" rules impose additional sales practice requirements on broker-dealers who sell securities to persons other than established customers and accredited investors (generally those with assets in excess of \$1,000,000 or annual income exceeding \$200,000 or \$300,000 together with their spouse). For transactions covered by these rules, the broker-dealer must make a special suitability determination for the purchase of securities and have received the purchaser's written consent to the transaction before the purchase. Additionally, for any transaction involving a penny stock, unless exempt, the broker-dealer must deliver, before the transaction, a disclosure schedule prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to the penny stock market. The broker-dealer also must disclose the commissions payable to both the broker-dealer and the registered representative and current quotations for the securities. Finally, monthly statements must be sent disclosing recent price information on the limited market in penny stocks. These additional burdens imposed on broker-dealers restrict the ability and decrease the willingness of broker-dealers to sell our common shares, which we believe results in decreased liquidity for our common shares as well as increased transaction costs for sales and purchases of our common shares as compared to other securities.

***New Vaso's Class A Common Stock will be subject to price volatility.***

The market price of Vaso's common stock historically has been and the New Vaso Class A Common Stock for which it is exchanged may be highly volatile. New Vaso's stock price could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to various factors beyond our control, including, but not limited to:

- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results;
- overall market fluctuations and domestic and worldwide economic conditions;
- announcements of technological innovations, new products or pricing by our competitors;

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- the timing of patent and regulatory approvals;
- the timing and extent of technological advancements;
- the sales of our common stock by affiliates or other stockholders with large holdings; and
- other factors described in the “Risk Factors” and elsewhere herein.

New Vaso’s future operating results may fall below the expectations of securities industry analysts or investors. Any such shortfall could result in a significant decline in the market price of our common stock. In addition, the stock market has experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have affected the market price of the New Vaso stock and that often have been unrelated to the operating performance of such companies. These broad market fluctuations may directly influence the market price of the New Vaso common stock.

***Substantial future sales of shares of New Vaso’s Class A Common Stock, or the perception in the public markets that these sales may occur, may depress our stock price.***

The market price of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock could decline significantly as a result of sales of a large number of shares of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock in the market after the closing of the Business Combination. These sales, or the perception that these sales might occur, could depress the market price of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock. These sales, or the possibility that these sales may occur, also might make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at a time and at a price that we deem appropriate.

All shares of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock issued as merger consideration in the Business Combination will be freely tradable, subject to certain lock-ups, without registration under the Securities Act and without restriction by persons other than Vaso’s “affiliates” (as defined under Rule 144 under the Securities Act, referred to herein as “**Rule 144**”). Upon the expiration or waiver of the lock-ups described in this proxy statement, shares held by certain stockholders will be eligible for resale, subject to, in the case of certain stockholders, New Vaso being current in its Exchange Act reporting as well as volume, manner of sale and other limitations under Rule 144 and/or Rule 145 under the Securities Act.

If the New Vaso stockholders sell substantial amounts of Class A Common Stock in the public market, or if the public perceives that such sales could occur, there could be an adverse impact on the market price of the Company’s Class A Common Stock, even if there is no relationship between such sales and the performance of our business.

New Vaso also intends to enter into the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement with the Sponsor pursuant to which their shares of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock will be eligible for resale. To the extent shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock are registered for resale pursuant to such Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement or otherwise, such shares may be resold by the holders thereof, including our affiliates, without limitation under the Securities Act.

In addition, the shares of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock reserved for future issuance under the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan will become eligible for sale in the public market once those shares are issued, subject to any applicable vesting requirements, lockup agreements and other restrictions imposed by law. Assuming the Condition Precedent Proposals are approved, the proposed 2024 Equity Incentive Plan will initially reserve for issuance an amount of shares of New Vaso’s Class A Common Stock equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the number of shares of New Vaso’s common stock outstanding following the Closing after giving effect to the Business Combination, assuming that no shares of New Vaso’s common stock are redeemed in connection with the Business Combination. The 2024 Equity Incentive Plan will also provide for an “evergreen provision” pursuant to which the number of shares of Class A Common Stock reserved for issuance pursuant to awards under such plan shall be increased on the first day of each calendar year, equal to the lesser of (a) fifteen percent (15%) of the aggregate number of shares of common stock outstanding on the last day of the immediately preceding calendar year and (b) such smaller number of shares as determined by the New Vaso Board, or a duly authorized committee thereof. New Vaso is expected to file one or more registration statements on Form S-8 under the Securities Act to register shares of Class A Common Stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Class A Common Stock issued pursuant to the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan. Any such Form S-8 registration statements will automatically become effective upon filing. Accordingly, shares registered under such registration statements will be available for sale in the open market and shares issued pursuant to the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan will result in dilution to our existing stockholders.

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Also, in the future, New Vaso may issue shares of Class A Common Stock in connection with investments or acquisitions. The number of shares of Class A Common Stock issued in connection with an investment or acquisition could be material.

***We do not intend to pay dividends on New Vaso Class A Common Stock in the foreseeable future.***

We currently do not intend to pay any cash dividends on the New Vaso Class A Common Stock in the foreseeable future. As a result, any return on your investment in the New Vaso Class A Common Stock would depend on an increase in the market value of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock, something which may never occur. You should not invest in the New Vaso Class A Common Stock unless you are able and prepared to lose your entire investment.

***The proposed Business Combination may not, if consummated, have the intended benefits.***

There is no assurance that the Business Combination will be consummated, or that if it is consummated that Vaso and Achari will successfully operate as combined entities following the closing of the Business Combination. Even if the Business Combination is consummated, there is no assurance that we, our stockholders or the stockholders of New Vaso will experience any benefits of the type that we expect to experience.

## VASO STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

### Date, Time and Place of Stockholders' Meeting

The Stockholders' Meeting will be held at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607 on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, beginning at 10:00 A.M. EST. Stockholders may also attend the meeting by video conference at the corporate offices of Vaso Corporation located at 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. If you hold your Vaso stock through a bank or broker, you will need to contact the Transfer Agent to receive a control number. If you plan to vote at the Stockholders' Meeting, you will need to have a legal proxy from your bank or broker, or if you would like to join and not vote, the Transfer Agent can issue you a guest control number with proof of ownership. Either way you must contact the Transfer Agent for specific instructions on how to receive the control number. The Transfer Agent can be contacted at the number or email address above. Please allow up to 72 hours prior to the meeting for processing your control number.

On or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, Vaso commenced mailing this proxy statement and the enclosed form of proxy to its stockholders entitled to vote at the Stockholders' Meeting.

### Purpose of the Stockholders' Meeting

At the Stockholders' Meeting, Vaso is asking holders of its shares of common stock:

- To consider and vote upon the Business Combination Proposal;
- To consider and vote upon the Director Election Proposal;
- To consider and vote upon the Ratification Proposal; and
- To consider and vote upon the Adjournment Proposal, if it is presented at the Stockholders' Meeting.
- To consider and vote upon any other matters that properly come before the Vaso's Stockholders' Meeting

### Recommendation of the Vaso Board with Respect to the Proposals

The Vaso Board determined unanimously that each of the Proposals is fair to and in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders. The Vaso Board unanimously recommends that stockholders:

- Vote "FOR" the Business Combination Proposal;
- Vote "FOR" the Director Election Proposal;
- Vote "FOR" the Ratification Proposal; and
- Vote "FOR" the Adjournment Proposal, if it is presented at the Stockholders' Meeting.

When you consider the recommendation of the Vaso Board to vote in favor of approval of the Proposals, you should keep in mind that Vaso's directors and officers have interests in the Business Combination that may be different from or in addition to (and which may conflict with) your interests as a stockholder. These interests include, among other things:

- that the current member of Vaso's board of directors, Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo and Behnam Movaseghi, are expected to serve as members of New Vaso's board of directors after consummation of the Business Combination and, in their capacity as such, shall become entitled to any cash fees, stock options or stock awards that New Vaso determines to pay its directors;
- that executive officers of Vaso, including Jun Ma as its Chief Executive Officer, are expected to serve in their same capacities with New Vaso; and
- that, upon consummation of the Business Combination, and subject to approval of the Equity Incentive Plan Proposal, New Vaso's executive officers after the Business Combination are expected to receive grants of stock options and restricted stock units under the 2024 EIP Plan from time to time.

***Record Date; Outstanding Shares; Stockholders Entitled to Vote***

Vaso has fixed the close of business on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, as the Record Date for determining the Vaso stockholders entitled to notice of and to attend and vote at the Stockholders' Meeting. As of the close of business on such date, there were \_\_\_\_\_ shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote per share at the Stockholders' Meeting.

Concurrently with the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, Achari, Vaso and certain security holders of Vaso entered into a Company Support Agreement, pursuant to which such security holders agreed to, among other things, (i) vote at any meeting of the stockholders of Vaso or by written consent all of its Vaso common stock held of record or thereafter acquired in favor of the Business Combination and the adoption of the Business Combination Agreement; (ii) waive their appraisal rights with respect to such matters; and (iii) be bound by certain transfer restrictions with respect to Vaso securities. If your shares or warrants are held in "street name" or are in a margin or similar account, you should contact your broker to ensure that votes related to the Public Warrants you beneficially own are properly counted. If you wish to attend the Stockholders' Meeting and vote and your shares are held in "street name," you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or nominee. That is the only way Vaso can be sure that the broker, bank or nominee has not already voted your shares or warrants.

***Quorum and Required Vote***

A quorum of Vaso stockholders is necessary to hold the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. The presence, in person or by proxy, of Vaso stockholders representing not less than 50% of the shares of common stock issued and outstanding on the Record Date and entitled to vote on the Proposals to be considered at the Stockholders' Meeting will constitute a quorum for the Stockholders' Meeting. As of the Record Date, \_\_\_\_\_ shares of our common stock would be required to achieve a quorum.

The Business Combination Proposal must be approved in order for Vaso to complete the Business Combination as contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement.

Each of the Business Combination Proposal, Ratification Proposal and the Adjournment Proposal will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Achari Shares that are present and vote at the Stockholders' Meeting. Election of our directors as described in the Director Election Proposal requires the affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon. "Plurality," with respect to the Director Election Proposal, means that the nine director nominees who receive the highest number of "FOR" votes as compared to any other director nominees set forth will be elected as directors, even if those nominees do not receive a majority of the votes cast by the stockholders present or represented by proxy at the special meeting and entitled to vote thereon.

***Voting Your Shares***

Each Vaso Share that you own in your name entitles you to one vote. If you are a record owner of your shares, there are three ways to vote your Vaso Shares at the Stockholders' Meeting:

If your shares are registered in your own name, you have the right to vote in person at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting by using the ballot provided at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, or if you requested and received printed copies of the proxy materials by mail, you can complete, sign and date the proxy card enclosed with the proxy materials you received and submit it at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. If you hold shares through a bank or brokerage firm and wish to be able to vote in person at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, you must obtain a "legal proxy" from your brokerage firm, bank or other holder of record and present it to the inspector of elections with your ballot at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. Even if you plan to attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, we recommend that you submit your proxy or voting instructions in advance of the meeting as described above so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. Submitting your proxy or voting instructions in advance of the meeting will not affect your right to vote in person should you decide to attend the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. *You Can Vote Electronically.* You may attend, vote and examine the list of stockholders entitled to vote at the Stockholders' Meeting by visiting the website listed on your proxy card or voting instruction form and entering the control number found on your proxy card, voting instruction form or notice included in the proxy materials.

If your shares or warrants are held in “street name” or are in a margin or similar account, you should contact your broker to ensure that votes related to the shares you beneficially own are properly counted. If you wish to attend the Stockholders’ Meeting and vote in person and your shares are held in “street name,” you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or nominee. That is the only way Vaso can be sure that the broker, bank or nominee has not already voted your shares or warrants.

#### **Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes**

Abstentions are considered present for the purposes of establishing a quorum and will have the same effect as a vote “AGAINST” the Ratification Proposal only.

For entities listed on the Nasdaq Global Market, if a stockholder holds their shares in “street” name through a bank, broker or other nominee and the stockholder does not instruct their broker, bank or other nominee how to vote their shares on a proposal, the broker, bank or other nominee has the authority to vote the shares in its discretion on certain “routine” matters. However, banks, brokers and other nominees are not authorized to exercise their voting discretion on any “non-routine” matters. This can result in a “broker non-vote,” which occurs on a proposal when (i) a bank, broker or other nominee has discretionary authority to vote on one or more “routine” proposals to be voted on at a meeting of stockholders, (ii) there are one or more “non-routine” proposals to be voted on at the meeting for which the bank, broker or other nominee does not have authority to vote without instructions from the beneficial owner of the shares and (iii) the beneficial owner fails to provide the bank, broker or other nominee with voting instructions on a “non-routine” matter.

We believe that all of the Proposals to be voted on at the Stockholders’ Meeting will be considered non routine matters. As a result, if you hold your shares in street name, your bank, brokerage firm or other nominee cannot vote your shares on any of the Proposals to be voted on at the Stockholders’ Meeting without your instruction.

Because all of the Proposals except the Ratification Proposal are “non-routine” matters, banks, brokers and other nominees will not have authority to vote on any proposals unless instructed. As a result, there will be broker non-votes at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting.

#### **Ownership of and Voting by Vaso’s Directors and Officers**

Vaso’s directors and officers own an aggregate of 78,045,555 shares of common stock of Vaso’s outstanding shares of common stock, representing approximately 44.5% of such stock, and they have agreed to vote those shares in favor of the Business Combination Proposal at the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting.

#### **Revoking Your Proxy; Changing Your Vote**

If you are a record owner of your shares and you give a proxy, you may change or revoke it at any time before it is exercised by doing any one of the following:

- you may send another proxy card with a later date;
- you may notify Vaso’s secretary in writing before the Stockholders’ Meeting that you have revoked your proxy; or
- You may attend the Stockholders’ Meeting, revoke your proxy and vote in person as described above.

If your shares are held in “street name” or are in a margin or similar account, you should contact your broker for information on how to change or revoke your voting instructions.

#### **Redemption Rights**

Holders of Vaso common stock do not have redemption rights in connection with the Proposals.

In connection with the Business Combination, Achari Public Stockholders may seek to have their respective Public Shares redeemed by Achari, regardless of whether they vote for or against the Business Combination or any other proposals at the Achari Stockholders’ Meeting. Those Achari Public Stockholders that properly redeem their Public Shares are entitled to a portion of the funds in the Trust Account, approximately \$10.98 per share as of January 2, 2024. The more Public Shares that Achari Public Stockholders redeem, the less cash will remain in

the Trust Account for New Vaso to use. Additionally, the more Public Shares that the Achari Public Stockholders redeem, the less their ownership of New Vaso will be immediately following the Business Combination. By way of example, if no Achari Public Stockholders redeem their shares, the current Achari stockholders will own approximately 6.9% of New Vaso where as if 60% of such eligible shares are redeemed, the current Achari stockholders will own approximately 5.2% of New Vaso.

### **Appraisal Rights**

If the Business Combination is completed, Vaso stockholders who do not vote in favor of the Business Combination are entitled to appraisal rights under Section 262 of the DGCL (“**Section 262**”) provided that they comply with the conditions established by Section 262.

This statement constitutes the formal notice to the Vaso stockholders of the availability of appraisal rights in connection with the Business Combination.

The following is intended as a brief summary of the material provisions of the statutory procedures required to be followed properly and in a timely manner by a Vaso stockholder in order to exercise and perfect appraisal rights. This summary, however, is not a complete statement of all applicable requirements and is qualified in its entirety by reference to Section 262, the full text of which is attached hereto as *Annex E*. All references in Section 262 and in this summary to a “stockholder” or “holders of shares” are to the record holder of shares of Vaso capital stock immediately prior to the effective time of the Business Combination as to which appraisal rights are asserted, unless otherwise indicated.

Under Section 262, where a Business Combination Agreement relating to a proposed merger is to be submitted for approval at a meeting of stockholders, as is the case here, Vaso, not less than 20 days prior to the meeting, shall notify each of its stockholders who was such on the record date for such meeting with respect to shares for which appraisal rights are available pursuant under Section 262, that appraisal rights are available for any or all of the Vaso shares, and shall include in such notice a copy of Section 262. Each stockholder electing to demand the appraisal of such stockholder’s shares shall deliver to Vaso, before the taking of the vote on the merger, a written demand for appraisal of such stockholder’s shares. Such demand will be sufficient if it reasonably informs Vaso of the identity of the stockholder and that the stockholder intends thereby to demand the appraisal of such stockholder’s shares. A proxy or vote against the merger shall not constitute such a demand. A stockholder electing to take such action must do so by a separate written demand as herein provided. Within 10 days after the effective date of such merger, the surviving or resulting corporation shall notify each Vaso stockholder who has complied with this subsection and has not voted in favor of or consented to the merger of the date that the merger has become effective.

Pursuant to Section 262, Vaso stockholders who (a) are holders of record of shares of capital stock of Vaso on the date of making a demand for appraisal of their shares, (b) continuously hold the shares through the effective time of the Business Combination, (c) do not vote in favor of the Business Combination nor consent thereto in writing, (d) comply with the other requirements of Section 262 and (e) have not waived their appraisal rights, will be entitled to have their shares of Vaso capital stock appraised by the Delaware Court of Chancery and to receive payment of the “fair value” of such shares, exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the Business Combination, together with interest, if any, as determined by the court.

All written demands for appraisal should be addressed to Vaso at 137 Commercial St., Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. Failure to vote in favor of the Business Combination will not in and of itself constitute a written demand for appraisal satisfying the requirements of Section 262.

If a Vaso stockholder fails to deliver a written demand for appraisal within the time period specified above, such stockholder will be entitled to receive the Merger Consideration for his, her or its shares of Vaso capital stock as provided for in the Business Combination Agreement, but such stockholder will have no appraisal rights with respect to his, her or its shares of Vaso capital stock.

To be effective, a demand for appraisal by a Vaso stockholder must be made by, or in the name of, such Vaso stockholder and must reasonably inform New Vaso of the identity of the stockholder of record and that such stockholder intends thereby to demand appraisal of his, her or its shares. A demand for appraisal should be executed by or on behalf of the holder of record, fully and correctly, as such holder’s name appears in Vaso’s records.

Beneficial owners who do not also hold the shares of Vaso capital stock of record may not directly make appraisal demands to New Vaso. The beneficial holder must, in such cases, have the registered owner, such as a brokerage firm, bank, trust or other nominee, submit the required demand in respect of those shares. If shares of Vaso capital stock are owned of record in a fiduciary capacity, such as by a trustee, guardian or custodian, execution of a demand for appraisal should be made by or for the fiduciary, and if the shares of Vaso capital stock are owned of record by more than one person, as in a joint tenancy or tenancy in common, the demand should be executed by or for all joint owners. An authorized agent, including an authorized agent for two or more joint owners, may execute the demand for appraisal for a stockholder of record, provided that the agent must identify the record owner or owners, and expressly disclose the fact that, in executing the demand, he or she is acting as agent for the record owner.

A record owner, such as a broker, who holds shares of Vaso capital stock as a nominee for others, may exercise his or her right of appraisal with respect to the shares of Vaso capital stock held for one or more beneficial owners, while not exercising this right for other beneficial owners. In that case, the written demand should state the number of shares of Vaso capital stock as to which appraisal is sought. Where no number of shares is expressly stated, the demand will be presumed to cover all shares held in the name of the record owner.

Within 120 days after the effective time of the Business Combination, any Vaso stockholder who has complied with the requirements for exercising appraisal rights will, upon written request to New Vaso, be entitled to receive a written statement setting forth the aggregate number of shares not voted in favor of the adoption of the Business Combination Agreement and with respect to which demands for appraisal have been received, and the aggregate number of holders of such shares. A person who is the beneficial owner of shares of Vaso capital stock held in a voting trust or by a nominee on behalf of such person may, in such person's own name, request from New Vaso the statement described in the previous sentence. Such written statement will be mailed to the requesting Vaso stockholder within 10 days after such written request is received by New Vaso or within 10 days after expiration of the period for delivery of demands for appraisal, whichever is later.

Within 120 days after the effective time of the Business Combination, but not thereafter, either New Vaso or any Vaso stockholder who has complied with the requirements of Section 262, and who is otherwise entitled to appraisal rights, may commence an appraisal proceeding by filing a petition in the Delaware Court of Chancery demanding a determination of the fair value of the shares of Vaso capital stock held by all such stockholders. A person who is the beneficial owner of shares of Vaso capital stock held in a voting trust or by a nominee on behalf of such person may, in such person's own name, file the petition described in the previous sentence. Upon the filing of the petition by a Vaso stockholder, service of a copy of such petition must be made upon New Vaso, as the surviving corporation. If no such petition is filed, appraisal rights will be lost for all stockholders who had previously demanded appraisal of their shares. New Vaso has no obligation to file such a petition if a Vaso stockholder demands appraisal. Accordingly, the failure of a Vaso stockholder to file such a petition within the period specified could nullify the Vaso stockholder's previously written demand for appraisal. There is no present intent on the part of Vaso to file an appraisal petition, and Vaso stockholders seeking to exercise appraisal rights should not assume that Vaso will file such a petition or that Vaso will initiate any negotiations with respect to the fair value of such shares. Accordingly, Vaso stockholders who desire to have their shares appraised should initiate any petitions necessary for the perfection of their appraisal rights within the time periods and in the manner prescribed in Section 262.

If a petition for appraisal is timely filed by a Vaso stockholder and a copy of the petition is delivered to New Vaso, New Vaso will then be obligated, within 20 days after receiving service of a copy of the petition, to file with the Delaware Register in Chancery a duly verified list containing the names and addresses of all Vaso stockholders who have demanded an appraisal of their shares, and with whom agreements as to the value of their shares have not been reached by New Vaso. After notice is made to such Vaso stockholders as required by the Delaware Court of Chancery, the Delaware Court of Chancery is empowered to conduct a hearing upon the petition to determine those Vaso stockholders who have complied with Section 262 and who have become entitled to the appraisal rights thereunder. Under Delaware law, the Delaware Court of Chancery may require stockholders who have demanded appraisal of their shares and who hold stock represented by certificates to submit their stock certificates to the Delaware Register in Chancery for notation thereon of the pendency of the appraisal proceedings, and if any such stockholder who holds stock represented by certificates fails to comply with that direction, the Delaware Court of Chancery may dismiss the proceedings as to that stockholder. Upon application by New Vaso or by any Vaso stockholder entitled to participate in the appraisal proceeding, the Delaware Court of Chancery may, in its discretion, proceed to trial upon the appraisal prior to the final determination of the Vaso stockholder entitled to an

appraisal. Any stockholder whose name appears on the verified list filed by New Vaso and who has submitted such stockholder's certificates of stock to the Register in Chancery, if required, may participate fully in all proceedings until it is finally determined that such stockholder is not entitled to appraisal rights under Section 262. After the Delaware Court of Chancery determines which Vaso stockholders are entitled to appraisal of their shares of Vaso capital stock, the appraisal proceeding will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Delaware Court of Chancery, including any rules specifically governing appraisal proceedings. Through such proceeding, the Delaware Court of Chancery will appraise the shares of Vaso capital stock, determining the fair value of the shares exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the Business Combination, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be the fair value. Stockholders considering seeking appraisal should be aware that the fair value of their shares of Vaso capital stock as determined under Section 262 of the DGCL could be more than, the same as or less than the consideration such stockholders would receive pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement if they did not seek appraisal of their shares of Vaso capital stock.

In *Weinberger v. UOP, Inc.*, the Delaware Supreme Court stated that "proof of value by any techniques or methods which are generally considered acceptable in the financial community and otherwise admissible in court" should be considered in appraisal proceedings and that "[f]air price obviously requires consideration of all relevant factors involving the value of a company." The Delaware Supreme Court has stated that in making this determination of fair value, the court must consider market value, asset value, dividends, earnings prospects, the nature of the enterprise and any other facts which could be ascertained as of the date of the merger which throw any light on future prospects of the merged corporation. Section 262 provides that fair value is to be "exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the merger." In *Cede & Co. v. Technicolor, Inc.*, the Delaware Supreme Court stated that such exclusion is a "narrow exclusion [that] does not encompass known elements of value," but which rather applies only to the speculative elements of value arising from such accomplishment or expectation. In *Weinberger*, the Delaware Supreme Court also stated that "elements of future value, including the nature of the enterprise, which are known or susceptible of proof as of the date of the merger and not the product of speculation, may be considered."

Unless the Delaware Court of Chancery in its discretion determines otherwise for good cause shown, interest from the effective date of the Business Combination through the date of payment of the judgment shall be compounded quarterly and shall accrue at 5% over the Federal Reserve discount rate (including any surcharge) as established from time to time during such period between the effective date of the Business Combination and the date of payment of the judgment; provided, however that at any time before the entry of judgment in the proceedings, New Vaso may pay to each Vaso stockholder entitled to appraisal an amount in cash, in which case interest will accrue thereafter only upon the sum of (1) the difference, if any, between the amount so paid and the fair value of the shares as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery, and (2) interest theretofore accrued, unless paid at that time. New Vaso is under no obligation to make such voluntary cash payment prior to such entry of judgment.

Costs of the appraisal proceeding (which do not include attorneys' fees or the fees and expenses of experts) may be imposed upon New Vaso and Vaso stockholders participating in the appraisal proceeding by the Delaware Court of Chancery as the Court deems equitable in the circumstances. Upon the application of a Vaso stockholder, the Delaware Court of Chancery may order all or a portion of the expenses incurred by any Vaso stockholder in connection with the appraisal proceeding, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and the fees and expenses of experts, to be charged pro rata against the value of all shares entitled to appraisal.

Any Vaso stockholder who had demanded appraisal rights will not, after the effective time of the Business Combination, be entitled to vote shares subject to that demand for any purpose, or to receive payments of dividends or any other distribution with respect to those shares, other than with respect to payment as of a record date prior to the effective time of the Business Combination. If any stockholder who demands appraisal of shares of Vaso capital stock under Section 262 fails to perfect, effectively withdraws or otherwise loses such holder's right to appraisal with respect to such shares, such shares will be deemed to have been converted at the effective time of the Business Combination into the right to receive the consideration provided pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, without interest, upon the terms and conditions set forth therein.

If no petition for appraisal is filed within 120 days after the effective time of the Business Combination, or if a Vaso stockholder votes in favor of the adoption of the Business Combination Agreement or effectively withdraws his, her or its demand for appraisal, then the right of that Vaso stockholder to appraisal will cease and that Vaso stockholder will be entitled to receive the consideration for shares of his, her or its shares of Vaso capital stock

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pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement. A holder, who has not commenced and appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party, may withdraw his or her demand for appraisal by delivering to New Vaso a written withdrawal of his or her demand for appraisal and acceptance of the Business Combination, except that any such attempt to withdraw made more than 60 days after the effective date of the Business Combination will require the written approval of New Vaso. No appraisal proceeding in the Delaware Court of Chancery will be dismissed as to any stockholder without the approval of the Delaware Court of Chancery, and such approval may be conditioned upon such terms as the Delaware Court of Chancery deems just, provided, however, any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party will have the right to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and to accept the terms offered upon the Business Combination within 60 days after the effective date of the Business Combination.

The preceding discussion is not a complete statement of the law pertaining to appraisal rights under Section 262 and is qualified in its entirety by reference to Section 262 of the DGCL, the full text of which is attached hereto as *Annex E*.

ALL VASO STOCKHOLDERS THAT DO NOT WISH TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE ADOPTION OF THE BUSINESS COMBINATION AGREEMENT AND THE APPROVAL OF THE BUSINESS COMBINATION, AND WISH TO EXERCISE APPRAISAL RIGHTS PURSUANT TO THE DGCL OR THAT WISH TO PRESERVE THEIR RIGHT TO DO SO SHOULD CAREFULLY REVIEW ANNEX E, SINCE FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH THEREIN WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF SUCH RIGHTS.

VASO STOCKHOLDERS CONSIDERING SEEKING APPRAISAL SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE FAIR VALUE OF THEIR SHARES AS DETERMINED UNDER SECTION 262 COULD BE MORE THAN, THE SAME AS OR LESS THAN THE MERGER CONSIDERATION THEY WOULD RECEIVE PURSUANT TO THE BUSINESS COMBINATION AGREEMENT IF THEY DID NOT SEEK APPRAISAL OF THEIR SHARES. VASO STOCKHOLDERS WHO PERFECT THEIR APPRAISAL RIGHTS AND WHO DO NOT SUBSEQUENTLY EFFECTIVELY WITHDRAW OR OTHERWISE LOSE THEIR APPRAISAL RIGHTS WILL BE ENTITLED TO NO CONSIDERATION UNDER THE BUSINESS COMBINATION AGREEMENT.

FAILURE TO COMPLY STRICTLY WITH ALL OF THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SECTION 262 WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF A VASO STOCKHOLDER'S STATUTORY APPRAISAL RIGHTS THEREUNDER. CONSEQUENTLY, ANY VASO STOCKHOLDER WISHING TO EXERCISE APPRAISAL RIGHTS IS URGED TO CONSULT LEGAL COUNSEL.

Achari's stockholders do not have appraisal rights under the Companies Act or otherwise in connection with the Business Combination Proposal or the other Proposals.

### **Proxy Solicitation**

Vaso is soliciting proxies on behalf of the Vaso Board. This solicitation is being made by mail but also may be made by telephone or virtually. Vaso and its directors, officers and employees may also solicit proxies virtually, by telephone or by other electronic means. Vaso will bear all of the costs of the solicitation, which Vaso estimates will be approximately \$10,000 in the aggregate plus out-of-pocket expenses.

Vaso will ask banks, brokers and other institutions, nominees and fiduciaries to forward the proxy materials to their principals and to obtain their authority to execute proxies and voting instructions. Vaso will reimburse them for their reasonable expenses.

If a stockholder grants a proxy, it may still vote its shares in person if it revokes its proxy before the Stockholders' Meeting. A stockholder may also change its vote by submitting a later-dated proxy as described in the section entitled "*— Revoking Your Proxy; Changing Your Vote*."

### **Householding**

The SEC has adopted a rule concerning the delivery of annual reports and proxy statements. It permits Vaso, with your permission, to send a single notice of meeting and, to the extent requested, a single copy of this proxy statement to any household at which two or more Vaso stockholders reside if they appear to be members of the same family. This rule is called "householding," and its purpose is to help reduce printing and mailing costs of proxy materials.

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A number of brokerage firms have instituted householding for shares held in “street name.” If you and members of your household have multiple accounts holding shares of common stock of Vaso, you may have received a householding notification from your broker. Please contact your broker directly if you have questions, require additional copies of this proxy statement or wish to revoke your decision to household. These options are available to you at any time.

***No Additional Matters May Be Presented at the Stockholders’ Meeting***

The Stockholders’ Meeting has been called only to consider the approval of the Proposals. Under Vaso’s Current Charter, no other matters may be considered at the Stockholders’ Meeting if they are not included in this proxy statement, which serves as the notice of the Stockholders’ Meeting.

**Who Can Answer Your Questions About Voting Your Shares?**

If you are a holder of Vaso’s shares of common stock and have any questions about how to vote or direct a vote in respect of your securities, you may contact Vaso Corporation in writing (137 Commercial Street, Suite 200 Plainview, New York 11803) or by telephone ((516) 997-4600).

## PROPOSAL 1: THE BUSINESS COMBINATION PROPOSAL

Vaso is asking its stockholders to approve the Business Combination Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Business Combination. Stockholders should carefully read this proxy statement in its entirety for more detailed information concerning the Business Combination Agreement, which is attached as *Annex A* to this proxy statement and is incorporated into this proxy statement by reference. Please see the subsection entitled “*The Business Combination Agreement*” below, for additional information and a summary of certain terms of the Business Combination Agreement. You are urged to read the Business Combination Agreement in its entirety before voting on this proposal.

We may complete the Business Combination Proposal only if it is approved by holders of a majority of the total votes cast by the holders of the outstanding Vaso Shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on the Business Combination Proposal. If the Achari Business Combination Proposal is not approved at the Achari Stockholders’ Meeting or the other closing conditions of the BCA are not met (or waived), the Business Combination will not be completed.

### The Business Combination Agreement

*This section describes the material provisions of the Business Combination Agreement but does not purport to describe all of the terms of the Business Combination Agreement. The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the complete text of the Business Combination Agreement and the related agreements. Achari’s stockholders and other interested parties are urged to read such agreement in its entirety because it is the primary legal document that governs the Business Combination. Unless otherwise defined herein, the capitalized terms used in this section “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement” are defined in the Business Combination Agreement.*

*The Business Combination Agreement contains representations, warranties and covenants that the respective parties made to each other as of the date of the Business Combination Agreement or other specific dates, including, in some cases, as of the Closing of the Business Combination. The assertions embodied in those representations, warranties and covenants were made for purposes of the contract among the respective parties and are subject to important qualifications and limitations agreed to by the parties in connection with negotiating the Business Combination Agreement. The representations, warranties and covenants in the Business Combination Agreement are also modified in important part by the disclosure schedules attached thereto which are not filed publicly and which are subject to a contractual standard of materiality different from that generally applicable to stockholders. The disclosure schedules were used for the purpose of allocating risk among the parties rather than establishing matters as facts. We do not believe that the disclosure schedules contain information that is material to an investment decision.*

### General Description of the Business Combination Agreement and Post-Closing Organizational Structure

On December 6, 2023, Vaso entered into the Business Combination Agreement with Merger Sub and Achari.

In the Business Combination to be undertaken pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, (i) each share of capital stock of Merger Sub issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time shall be automatically cancelled and extinguished and converted into one share of common stock of Vaso; and (ii) each share of common stock of Vaso, excluding any dissenting shares and any Company Shares held immediately prior to the effective time by Vaso as treasury stock, issued and outstanding as of immediately prior to the effective time, shall be automatically cancelled and extinguished and converted into the right to receive a number of shares of Achari’s common stock in accordance with an exchange ratio equal to (i) the quotient of (a) \$176,000,000 divided by (b) the fully diluted shares of Vaso common stock outstanding on the date of the calculation divided by (ii) \$10.00.

The Business Combination Agreement contains representations, warranties and covenants that the respective parties made to each other as of the date of the Business Combination Agreement or other specific dates. The assertions embodied in those representations, warranties and covenants were made for purposes of the contract among the Parties and are subject to important qualifications and limitations agreed to by the parties in connection with negotiating the Business Combination Agreement, including by the underlying disclosure schedules (the “Schedules”), which are not filed publicly and are subject to a contractual standard of materiality different from

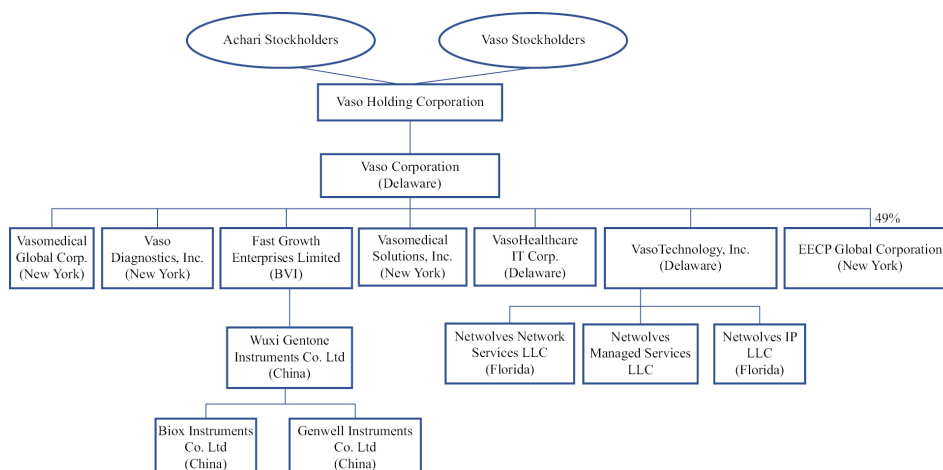
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that generally applicable to stockholders and were used for the purpose of allocating risk among the Parties rather than establishing matters as facts. We do not believe that the Schedules contain information that is material to an investment decision.

Additionally, the representations and warranties of the Parties may or may not have been accurate as of any specific date and do not purport to be accurate as of the date of this proxy statement. Accordingly, no person or entity should rely on the representations and warranties in the Business Combination Agreement or the summaries thereof in this proxy statement as characterizations about the actual state of facts of the parties.

### **Organizational Structure Following the Business Combination**

The diagram below depicts a simplified version of our organizational structure immediately following the completion of the Business Combination (all ownership percentages are 100% unless otherwise indicated).



### **Merger Consideration**

The Business Combination Consideration to be received by Vaso security holders from Achari at the closing will equal \$176,000,000. Such consideration shall be paid entirely in Achari Shares with each Achari Share valued at \$10.00.

### **Representations and Warranties**

The Business Combination Agreement contains a number of representations and warranties by each of Achari and Vaso as of the date of the Business Combination Agreement and as of the date of the Closing. Many of the representations and warranties are qualified by materiality or material adverse effect.

“**Company Material Adverse Effect**” means any change, effect, event, circumstance, occurrence, state of facts or development that, individually or in the aggregate, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect upon (a) the business, results of operations or financial condition of the Group Companies, taken as a whole, or (b) the ability of the Group Companies, taken as a whole, to perform their respective obligations hereunder and to consummate the Transactions; provided, however, that, with respect to the foregoing clause (a), none of the following will constitute a “**Company Material Adverse Effect**”, or will be considered in determining whether a “**Company Material Adverse Effect**” has occurred: (i) changes that are generally applicable to the industries or markets in which the Group Companies operate; (ii) changes in Law or GAAP or the interpretation thereof, in each case, effected after the Execution Date; (iii) any failure of any Group Material Company to achieve any projected periodic revenue or earnings projection, forecast or budget prior to the Closing (it being understood and agreed that the underlying event, circumstance or state of facts giving rise to such failure may be taken into account in determining whether a “**Company Material Adverse Effect**” has occurred, but only

to the extent otherwise permitted to be taken into account); (iv) changes that are the result of economic factors affecting the national, regional or world economy or financial markets; (v) any earthquake, hurricane, tsunami, tornado, flood, mudslide, wildfire or other natural disaster or act of God; (vi) any national or international political conditions in any jurisdiction in which the Group Companies conduct business; (vii) the engagement by the United States in hostilities or the escalation thereof, whether or not pursuant to the declaration of a national emergency or war, or the occurrence or the escalation of any military or terrorist attack upon the United States, or any United States territories, possessions or diplomatic or consular offices, or upon any United States military installation, equipment or personnel; (viii) any consequences arising from any action or inaction by a Party taken or omitted to be taken (1) as expressly required by the terms hereof, or (2) at the express written direction of a SPAC Party; (ix) epidemics, pandemics, disease outbreaks (including COVID-19) or public health emergencies (as declared by the World Health Organization or the Health and Human Services Secretary of the United States) or any Law or guideline issued by a Governmental Entity, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization or industry group providing for business closures, “sheltering-in-place” or other restrictions that relate to, or arise out of, an epidemic, pandemic or disease outbreak (including COVID-19); or (x) the announcement or pendency of the Transactions; provided, however, that any event, circumstance or state of facts resulting from a matter described in any of the foregoing clauses (i), (ii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) and (ix) may be taken into account in determining whether a “**Company Material Adverse Effect**” has occurred to the extent such event, circumstance or state of facts has a disproportionate and adverse effect on the Group Companies, taken as a whole, relative to other comparable entities operating in the industries or markets in which the Group Companies operate.

“**SPAC Material Adverse Effect**” means any change, effect, event, circumstance, occurrence, state of facts or development that, individually or in the aggregate, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect upon (a) the business, prospects, results of operations or financial condition of the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, or (b) the ability of the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, to perform their respective obligations hereunder and to consummate the Transactions; provided, however, that, with respect to the foregoing clause (a), none of the following will constitute a “**SPAC Material Adverse Effect**”, or will be considered in determining whether a “**SPAC Material Adverse Effect**” has occurred: (i) changes that are generally applicable to the industries or markets in which the SPAC Parties operate; (ii) changes in Law or GAAP or the interpretation thereof, in each case, effected after the Execution Date; (iii) any failure of any SPAC Party to achieve any projected periodic revenue or earnings projection, forecast or budget prior to the Closing (it being understood and agreed that the underlying event, circumstance or state of facts giving rise to such failure may be taken into account in determining whether a “**SPAC Material Adverse Effect**” has occurred, but only to the extent otherwise permitted to be taken into account); (iv) changes that are the result of economic factors affecting the national, regional or world economy or financial markets; (v) any earthquake, hurricane, tsunami, tornado, flood, mudslide, wildfire or other natural disaster or act of God, including the COVID-19 pandemic; (vi) any national or international political conditions in any jurisdiction in which the SPAC Parties conduct business; (vii) the engagement by the United States in hostilities or the escalation thereof, whether or not pursuant to the declaration of a national emergency or war, or the occurrence or the escalation of any military or terrorist attack upon the United States, or any United States territories, possessions or diplomatic or consular offices or upon any United States military installation, equipment or personnel; (viii) any consequences arising from any action by a Party that is expressly required by the terms hereof, or (ix) epidemics, pandemics, disease outbreaks (including COVID-19) or public health emergencies (as declared by the World Health Organization or the Health and Human Services Secretary of the United States), or any Law or guideline issued by a Governmental Entity, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization or industry group providing for business closures or “sheltering-in-place” or other restrictions that relate to, or arise out of, an epidemic, pandemic or disease outbreak (including COVID-19); provided, however, that any event, circumstance or state of facts resulting from a matter described in any of the foregoing clauses (i), (ii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) and (ix) may be taken into account in determining whether a “**SPAC Material Adverse Effect**” has occurred to the extent such event, circumstance or state of facts has a disproportionate effect on the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, relative to other comparable entities operating in the industries or markets in which the SPAC Parties operate.

Certain of the representations are subject to specified exceptions and qualifications contained in the Business Combination Agreement or in information provided pursuant to certain disclosure schedules to the Business Combination Agreement. The representations and warranties made by Achari and Vaso are customary for the Business Combination.

### ***Covenants of the Parties***

Each party agreed in the Business Combination Agreement to use its reasonable best efforts to consummate and make effective, in the most expeditious manner practicable, the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement. The Business Combination Agreement also contains certain customary covenants by each of the parties during the period between the signing of the Business Combination Agreement and the earlier of the Closing or the termination of the Business Combination Agreement in accordance with its terms (the “**Pre-Closing Period**”), including, but not limited to, (1) Achari using its reasonable best efforts to ensure the shares of Achari and the Achari warrants continue to be listed on the Stock Exchange, (2) Achari using its reasonable best efforts to (i) take all customary actions necessary to continue to qualify as an “emerging growth company” within the meaning of the JOBS Act; and (ii) not take any action that, in and of itself, would cause Achari to not qualify as an “emerging growth company” within the meaning of the JOBS Act, (3) each of the Vaso and Achari using their collective reasonable best efforts to have filed or furnished (as applicable) all forms, reports, schedules, statements and other documents required to be filed or furnished by each of them with or to the SEC under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, (4) Achari using its reasonable best efforts to cause the SPAC New Shares to be issued in connection with the Transactions to be approved for listing on the Stock Exchange, including by submitting, prior to the Closing, an initial listing application with the Stock Exchange (the “**Stock Exchange Listing Application**”) with respect to such shares, subject to official notice of issuance, (5) the provision to Achari by the Company and its subsidiaries of access to their properties, books and records and personnel, (6) notifications to the other parties to the Business Combination Agreement of certain developments or other matters, (7) each party to the Business Combination Agreement using its reasonable best efforts to promptly file all notices, reports and other documents required to be filed by such Party with any Governmental Entity with respect to the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement, and to submit promptly any additional information requested by any such Governmental Entity, (8) Achari duly calling, giving notice of, convening and holding the Achari Stockholders’ Meeting for the purpose of considering and voting upon the Achari Proposals, (9) termination by Vaso of all liabilities and obligations of each of the Group Companies under any Affiliated Transaction (subject to exceptions), and (10) Vaso duly calling, giving notice of convening and holding the Vaso Stockholders’ Meeting.

The Business Combination Agreement and the consummation of the transactions require the approval of both Achari’s stockholders and Vaso’s stockholders. The parties to the Business Combination Agreement agreed, as promptly as practicable after the date of the Business Combination Agreement, to prepare, with Achari to file with the SEC, a registration statement on Form S-4 (as amended and/or supplemented, the “**Registration Statement**”) in connection with the registration under the Securities Act of the issuance of the shares of Achari common stock to be issued to Vaso’s stockholders, and containing a proxy statement for the purpose of Achari soliciting proxies from the stockholders of Achari to approve the Business Combination Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder (the “**Achari Stockholder Approval**”). The Achari Stockholder Approval contemplates the approval by Achari’s stockholders of (a) the Business Combination Agreement and the Transactions, (b) the issuance of Class A Common Stock to be issued in connection with the Transactions, as may be required under the Stock Exchange’s listing requirements, (c) the amendment and restatement of the Existing SPAC Charter in the form of the SPAC A&R CoI, (d) the 2024 Omnibus Incentive Plan, (e) the election or appointment of the New Vaso Directors to the SPAC Board, (f) any other proposals as the SEC or the Stock Exchange (or any staff member thereof) may indicate are necessary in its comments to the Registration Statement or correspondence related thereto, and (g) a proposal for the adjournment of the Achari Stockholders’ Meeting, if necessary, to permit further solicitation of proxies (i) because a quorum for the Achari Stockholders’ Meeting has not been established, (ii) because there are not sufficient votes to approve and adopt any of the foregoing, or (iii) to seek to limit or reverse any redemptions of shares of Achari. The SPAC A&R CoI will effectuate a change of Achari’s name to “Vaso Holding Corporation”, reflect the removal of the blank check company provisions in Achari’s charter and generally adopt terms that are more reflective of customary public company organizational documents.

### ***Closing of the Business Combination***

In accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of the Business Combination Agreement, the Closing shall take place electronically by exchange of signature pages by email or other electronic transmission at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on (a) the (3<sup>rd</sup>) third business day after the conditions set forth in Article IX of the Business Combination Agreement have been satisfied, or, if permissible, waived by the party entitled to the benefit of the

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same (other than those conditions which, by their respective terms, are required to be satisfied at the Closing, but subject to the satisfaction or waiver of such conditions at the Closing) or (b) such other date and time as parties mutually agree in writing.

***Conditions to the Closing of the Business Combination***

*Conditions to Obligations of Achari, Merger Sub and Vaso*

The respective obligations of Achari, Merger Sub and Vaso to consummate the Business Combination are subject to the satisfaction or written waiver, as of the Closing Date, by all such parties of each of the following conditions:

- absence of laws or orders making the Business Combination illegal, or preventing, enjoining or prohibiting the consummation of the Business Combination;
- conditional approval of Achari's initial listing application with the Stock Exchange in connection with the Business Combination; and
- acceptance by the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware of the certificate of merger relating to the Business Combination.

*Additional Conditions to Obligations of SPAC Parties*

The obligations of the SPAC Parties to consummate the transactions to be performed by them in connection with the Closing are subject to the satisfaction or written waiver by Achari, at or prior to the Closing Date, of each of the following additional conditions:

- the representations and warranties of Vaso set forth in Article III of the Business Combination Agreement (other than Vaso's representations and warranties regarding organization, authority, enforceability, non-contravention, capitalization, brokerage and affiliate transactions (collectively, the "**Company Fundamental Representations**") and the no Company Material Adverse Effect representation and warranty in Section 3.5 of the Business Combination Agreement), in each case, without giving effect to any materiality or Company Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein (other than in respect of the defined terms "Material Contract", "Material Lease" and "Material Supplier") and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the Company SEC Reports made on or after the Execution Date, being true and correct as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties being true and correct as of such date), except, in each case, to the extent such failure of the representations and warranties to be so true and correct, when taken as a whole, would not have a Company Material Adverse Effect;
- the no Company Material Adverse Effect representation and warranty in Section 3.5 of the Business Combination Agreement being true and correct in all respects as of the Closing Date;
- the Company Fundamental Representations (other than the representations and warranties in Section 3.3 of the Business Combination Agreement (capitalization), and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the Company SEC Reports made on or after the Execution Date, being true and correct in all material respects (except for such representations and warranties that are qualified by their respective terms by any limitation as to materiality or Company Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein, which representations and warranties as so qualified must be true and correct in all respects) as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties must be true and correct in all material respects (except for such representations and warranties that are qualified by their respective terms by any limitation as to materiality or Company Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein, which representations and warranties as so qualified must be true and correct in all respects) as of such date), and the representations and warranties set forth in Section 3.3, without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the Company SEC Reports made on or after the Execution Date, being true and correct

in all respects as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties being true and correct in all respects as of such date) other than, in each case, *de minimis* inaccuracies;

- the covenants and agreements of Vaso to be performed or complied with on or before the Closing in accordance with the Business Combination Agreement being performed in all material respects;
- since the date of the Business Combination Agreement, no Company Material Adverse Effect having occurred;
- Vaso having delivered to Achari a duly executed certificate from an authorized officer of Vaso, dated as of the Closing Date, certifying, with respect to Vaso, that the conditions set forth in the bullet points immediately above have been satisfied;
- Vaso having delivered to Achari evidence of having obtained the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval;
- holders of not more than ten percent (10%) of the outstanding shares of Vaso common stock (as determined immediately prior to the Effective Time on a fully-diluted basis) having demanded properly and in writing, appraisal for such shares in accordance with Section 262 of the DGCL;
- Vaso having delivered (or caused to be delivered) to Achari the various certificates, instruments and documents referred to in Section 2.6(b) of the Business Combination Agreement;
- All consents, approvals, authorizations and notices set forth in Section 9.2(h) of the Company Disclosure Schedules having been obtained from and/or provided to the applicable Governmental Entities and/or other Persons, as applicable; and
- all actions having been taken by Vaso that are necessary to permit the Vaso Shares and any other applicable security issued by Vaso or one or more of Vaso's Subsidiaries to cease to be quoted on the OTCQX and be de-registered under the Exchange Act as promptly as practicable following the Effective Time.

*Additional Conditions to Obligations of Vaso*

The obligation of Vaso to consummate the transactions to be performed by Vaso in connection with the Closing is subject to the satisfaction or written waiver by Vaso, at or prior to the Closing Date, of each of the following conditions:

- the representations and warranties of the SPAC Parties set forth in Article IV of the Business Combination Agreement (other than the representations and warranties of the SPAC Parties regarding organization, authority, enforceability, brokerage and capitalization (the “**SPAC Parties Fundamental Representations**”), in each case, without giving effect to any materiality or SPAC Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the SPAC SEC Documents made publicly available on or after the Execution Date, being true and correct as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties being true and correct as of such date), except, in each case, to the extent such failure of the representations and warranties to be so true and correct, when taken as a whole, would have a SPAC Material Adverse Effect;
- the SPAC Parties Fundamental Representations (other than the representations and warranties set forth in Section 4.9 of the Business Combination Agreement (capitalization)), in each case, without giving effect to any materiality or SPAC Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the SPAC SEC Documents made publicly available on or after the Execution Date, being true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties must be true and correct in all material respects as of such date), and the representations and warranties regarding capitalization of the Achari Parties being true and correct in all respects as of the

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Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties must be true and correct in all respects as of such date) other than, in each case, de minimis inaccuracies;

- the covenants and agreements of the SPAC Parties to be performed or complied with on or before the Closing in accordance with the Business Combination Agreement shall have been performed in all material respects;
- Achari having delivered to Vaso a duly executed certificate from a director or officer of Achari, dated as of the Closing Date, certifying that the conditions set forth in the above bullet points have been satisfied;
- Achari having delivered (or caused to be delivered) to Vaso (and, to the extent required in Section 2.6(a) of the Business Combination Agreement, to the trustee) the various certificates, instruments and documents referred to in Section 2.6(a) of the Business Combination Agreement;
- no SPAC Material Adverse Effect having occurred since the date of the Business Combination Agreement;
- the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters having been obtained;
- the Redemption of shares of Achari having been completed in accordance with the terms of the Business Combination Agreement, the applicable SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement; and
- the Unpaid SPAC Expenses not exceeding \$4,500,000 (please note that at the time of the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, Achari estimated that without adjustments to its obligations, it would not meet this closing condition as the Unpaid SPAC Expenses totaled approximately \$6.7 million at such time).

### *Limitations of Failure of a Condition*

A party may not rely on the failure of any closing condition in the Business Combination Agreement to be satisfied if such failure was caused by such party's failure to act in good faith or to use reasonable best efforts to cause the Closing conditions of such party to be satisfied.

### *Additional Covenants of the Parties*

#### *Joint Covenants*

- to keep certain information confidential;
- to refrain from taking any action that could reasonably be expected to prevent, impair or impede the Merger from qualifying for the Intended Tax Treatment, or if it is mutually determined that the Merger will not so qualify, to use commercially reasonable efforts to restructure the transactions contemplated in the Business Combination Agreement to so qualify; and
- to reasonably cooperate in connection with certain tax matters and filings.

#### *Achari Covenants*

Achari made certain other covenants in the Business Combination Agreement, including:

- to operate its business in the ordinary course of business and refrain from taking certain actions without Vaso's written consent (not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed) until the earlier of the Closing and the termination of the Business Combination Agreement in accordance with its terms, including any action to:
  - (i) amend or otherwise modify any of its governing documents or the Trust Agreement (in each case, including by merger, consolidation or otherwise);

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- (ii) withdraw any of the Trust Amount, other than as expressly permitted by the SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement;
- (iii) issue or sell, or authorize to issue or sell, any Equity Interests, or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for, or options, warrants or rights to purchase or subscribe for, or enter into any Contract with respect to the issuance or sale of, any Equity Interests of any SPAC Party;
- (iv) other than in connection with the Redemption of shares of Achari, declare, set aside or pay any dividend or make any other distribution or return of capital (whether in cash or in kind) to any of the equityholders of any SPAC Party;
- (v) adjust, split, combine, consolidate, exchange, redeem (other than through a Redemption of shares of Achari) or reclassify, or purchase or otherwise acquire, any of its Equity Interests, or otherwise change any of Achari's Equity Interests into a different number of such Equity Interests or a different class of Equity Interests;
- (vi) (A) incur, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable or responsible for (whether directly, contingently or otherwise) any Indebtedness for borrowed money, other than (x) drawing down additional Indebtedness under the existing terms of any Working Capital Loans in effect as of the date of the Business Combination Agreement in order to finance working capital needs of Achari in accordance with their respective terms, or (y) entering into new Working Capital Loans, in each case, on substantially similar terms as those in effect as of the date of the Business Combination Agreement, and in order to pay actual, documented, bona fide third party costs incurred by Achari in connection with the operation of Achari, (B) make any loans, advances or capital contributions to, or investments in, any Person, or (C) amend or modify any of its Indebtedness;
- (vii) enter into, renew, modify or revise any Contract or transaction with the Sponsor, or otherwise enter into any transaction or Contract with the Sponsor or any of its Affiliates for the payment of finder's fees, consulting fees, monies in respect of any payment of a loan or other compensation paid by any SPAC Party to the Sponsor, any of any SPAC Party's officers or directors or any Affiliate of the Sponsor, for services rendered prior to, or for any services rendered in connection with, the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement;
- (viii) enter into any new line of business;
- (ix) adopt or effect a plan of complete or partial liquidation, dissolution, restructuring, recapitalization or other reorganization;
- (x) acquire (including by merger, consolidation or acquisition of Equity Interests or assets or any other business combination), or enter into any negotiations to acquire, any corporation, partnership or other business organization or otherwise acquire any Equity Interests or material assets from any third party, (y) enter into any strategic joint venture, partnership or alliance with any other Person, or (z) make any loan or advance or investment in any third party or initiate the start-up of any new business or joint venture or form any non-wholly owned Subsidiary;
- (xi) change its jurisdiction of Tax residence;
- (xii) (x) hire any employee, or (y) adopt or enter into any employee benefit plan (including granting or establishing any form of compensation or benefits to any current or former employee, officer, manager, director or other individual service provider of any SPAC Party (for the avoidance of doubt, other than consultants, advisors, including legal counsel or institutional service providers, engaged by Achari));
- (xiii) except as may be required by applicable Law, GAAP or any Governmental Entity with competent jurisdiction, or upon recommendation from its accountants or auditors, make any material change in its financial or tax accounting methods, principles or practices (or change an annual accounting period thereof);

- (xiv) make, change or revoke any election relating to Taxes, enter into any agreement, settlement or compromise with any Taxing Authority relating to any material amount of Taxes, abandon or fail to diligently conduct any material audit, examination or other Proceeding in respect of a material amount of Taxes, make any request for a private letter ruling, administrative relief, technical advice, change of any method of accounting or other similar request with a Taxing Authority, file any amendment of any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return, fail to timely file (taking into account valid extensions) any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return required to be filed, file any Tax Return in a manner inconsistent with its past practices, fail to pay any material amount of Tax as it becomes due, consent to any extension or waiver of the statutory period of limitations applicable to any material Tax or material Tax Return, enter into any Tax Sharing Agreement (other than an Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement), surrender any right to claim any refund of a material amount of Taxes or take any action, or fail to take any action, which action or failure to act prevents, impairs or impedes, or could reasonably be expected to prevent, impair or impede, the Intended Tax Treatment;
- (xv) commit to making or make or incur any capital commitment or capital expenditure;
- (xvi) waive, release, assign, settle or compromise any pending or threatened Proceeding or any investigations or actions by any Governmental Entity under any federal or state Antitrust Laws;
- (xvii) convert or agree to convert any Indebtedness (including Indebtedness pursuant to which any amount is owed to the Sponsor or any Affiliate thereof) into Achari warrants or other warrants; or
- (xviii) agree to or authorize or commit in writing to do any of the foregoing.

*Vaso Covenants*

Vaso made certain other covenants in the Business Combination Agreement, including:

- to operate and conduct its business, and cause its subsidiaries to operate and conduct their respective business, in the ordinary course of business and use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain intact its and its subsidiaries' respective businesses in all material respects and preserve their respective relationships with material suppliers, distributors and others with whom such Group Company has a material business relationship, except with the prior written consent of Achari (such consent not to be unreasonably conditioned, withheld or delayed), and except as required by applicable Law or as set forth in Section 5.1(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules, and to refrain from taking (or allowing any of its subsidiaries to take) any of the following actions, except with the prior written consent of Achari (such consent not to be unreasonably conditioned, withheld or delayed) or as expressly required by applicable Law or expressly contemplated pursuant to the terms of the Business Combination Agreement or the terms of any Ancillary Agreement, or except as set forth in Section 5.1(b) of the Company Disclosure Schedules:
  - (i) amend or otherwise modify any of its Governing Documents (including by merger, consolidation or otherwise);
  - (ii) except as may be required by Law, GAAP or any Governmental Entity with competent jurisdiction, make any material change in its financial or tax accounting methods, principles or practices (or change an annual accounting period thereof);
  - (iii) make, change or revoke any election relating to Taxes, enter into any agreement, settlement or compromise with any Taxing Authority relating to any material amount of Taxes, abandon or fail to diligently conduct any material audit, examination or other Proceeding in respect of a material amount of Taxes, make any request for a private letter ruling, administrative relief, technical advice, change of any method of accounting or other similar request with a Taxing Authority, file any amendment of any Income tax Return or other material Tax Return, fail to timely file (taking into account valid extensions) any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return required to be filed, file any Tax Return in a manner inconsistent with the past practices of the Group Companies, fail to pay any material amount of Tax as it becomes due, consent to any extension or waiver of the statutory period of limitations applicable to any material Tax or material Tax

Return, enter into any Tax Sharing Agreement (other than an Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement), surrender any right to claim any refund of a material amount of Taxes or take any action, or fail to take any action, which action or failure to act prevents, impairs or impedes, or could reasonably be expected to prevent, impair or impede, the Intended Tax Treatment;

- (iv) (A) issue or sell, or authorize to issue or sell, any membership interests, shares of its capital stock or any other Equity Interests, as applicable, except issuances of Company Shares pursuant to Company Restricted Share Awards listed in Section 3.3(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules in accordance with the terms and conditions of the applicable grant agreement or other documentation evidencing the applicable grant and the applicable Company Equity Plan in effect as of the date of the Business Combination Agreement, or (B) issue or sell, or authorize to issue or sell, any securities convertible into or exchangeable for, or options, warrants or rights to purchase or subscribe for, or enter into any Contract with respect to the issuance or sale of, any shares of its membership interests, capital stock or any other Equity Interests;
- (v) declare, set aside or pay any dividend or make any other distribution other than the payment of cash dividends or cash distributions to any Group Company;
- (vi) split, combine, redeem or reclassify, or purchase or otherwise acquire, any membership interests, shares of its capital stock or any other Equity Interests, as applicable;
- (vii) (x) incur, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable or responsible for (whether directly, contingently or otherwise) any Indebtedness other than Indebtedness incurred in the Ordinary Course of Business; (y) make any loans, advances or capital contributions to, or investments in, any Person except in the Ordinary Course of Business; or (z) amend or modify any of its Indebtedness except in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (viii) cancel or forgive any Indebtedness owed to any Group Company, except in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (ix) make any capital expenditure or incur any Liabilities in connection therewith, except for expenditures made in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (x) make or effect any material amendment or termination (other than an expiration in accordance with the terms thereof) of any Material Contract or enter into any Contract that, if entered into prior to the Execution Date, would be a Material Contract, in each case, other than in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (xi) enter into, renew, modify or revise any Affiliated Transaction, as applicable, other than those that will be terminated at Closing;
- (xii) sell, lease, license, assign, transfer, permit to lapse, abandon or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or tangible assets that are, with respect to Vaso or any other Group Company, material to the businesses of the Group Companies, except in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (xiii) sell, lease, license, sublicense, assign, transfer, permit to lapse, abandon or otherwise dispose of or encumber any rights under or with respect to any Intellectual Property, except for non-exclusive licenses granted in the Ordinary Course of Business, or disclose any Confidential Information or Trade Secret to any Person except pursuant to a written agreement entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business requiring that Person to maintain the confidentiality of, and preserving all rights of the applicable Group Company in, such Confidential Information or Trade Secret;
- (xiv) adopt or effect a plan of complete or partial liquidation, dissolution, restructuring, recapitalization or other reorganization;
- (xv) grant or otherwise create, or consent to the creation of, any Lien (other than a Permitted Lien) on any of its material assets or Leased Real Property;

- (xvi) fail to maintain in full force and effect any Insurance Policies or allow any coverage thereunder to be materially reduced, except as replaced by a substantially similar insurance policy, except in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (xvii) make, increase, decrease, accelerate (with respect to funding, payment or vesting) or grant any base salary, base wages, bonus opportunity, equity or equity-based award or other compensation or employee benefits other than (A) in the Ordinary Course of Business, (B) as required by applicable Law or pursuant to a Company Employee Benefit Plan as in effect on the Execution Date that has been provided to Achari prior to the Execution Date, or (C) entering into any Company Employee Benefit Plan with any employee or other individual service provider hired, engaged or promoted by any of the Group Companies following the Execution Date in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (xviii) except in the Ordinary Course of Business, pay or promise to pay, grant or fund, accelerate (with respect to payment or vesting) or announce the grant or award of any retention, sale, change-in-control or other similar bonus, severance or similar compensation or benefits, in each case, other than as required pursuant to applicable Law or a Company Employee Benefit Plan as in effect on the Execution Date that has been provided to Achari prior to the Execution Date and is set forth in Section 3.15(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules;
- (xix) hire or engage (other than to fill a vacancy), furlough, temporarily lay off or terminate (other than for cause) any individual with total annual compensation in excess of \$250,000;
- (xx) other than as required by applicable Law, as typically carried out in the Ordinary Course of Business or as required for the annual insurance renewal for health and/or welfare benefits, establish, modify, amend, terminate, enter into, commence participation in or adopt any Company Employee Benefit Plan or any benefit or compensation plan, program, policy, agreement or arrangement that would be a Company Employee Benefit Plan if in effect on the Execution Date;
- (xxi) except as required by applicable Law, negotiate, modify, extend, terminate or enter into any CBA or recognize or certify any labor union, labor organization, works council or group of employees as the bargaining representative for any employees of any Group Company;
- (xxii) waive or release any non-competition, non-solicitation, non-disclosure, non-interference, non-disparagement or other restrictive covenant obligation of any current or former employee or independent contractor or enter into any agreement that restricts the ability of the Group Companies, as applicable, to engage or compete in any line of business in any respect material to any business of the Group Companies, as applicable;
- (xxiii) buy, purchase or otherwise acquire (by merger, consolidation, acquisition of stock or assets or otherwise), directly or indirectly, any assets, securities, properties, interests or businesses, other than (A) inventory and supplies in the Ordinary Course of Business, or (B) other assets in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 individually or \$500,000 in the aggregate;
- (xxiv) make any material change to any of its cash management practices, including materially deviating from or materially altering any of its practices, policies or procedures in paying accounts payable or collecting accounts receivable;
- (xxv) amend, extend, renew, terminate or modify, in any material respect (excluding extensions, amendments and renewals effectuated in the Ordinary Course of Business), any Material Lease or enter into any new lease, sublease, license or other agreement for the use or occupancy of any real property (other than, in each case, the entering into, amending, modifying or revising of leases for future locations of one or more Group Companies on terms substantially consistent with market standard terms); or
- (xxvi) implement or announce any employee layoffs, plant closings, reductions in force, furloughs, temporary layoffs, salary or wage reductions, work schedule changes or other such actions that would trigger notice or other obligations under the WARN Act.

## **Termination**

The Business Combination Agreement may be terminated and the transactions contemplated thereby (including the Business Combination) abandoned at any time prior to the Closing by:

- mutual written agreement of Vaso and Achari;
- either Vaso or Achari by written notice to the other if any Governmental Entity has enacted any Law which has become final and non-appealable and has the effect of making the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement illegal, or any final, non-appealable Order is in effect permanently preventing the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement; provided, however, that the right to terminate the Business Combination Agreement pursuant to the foregoing shall not be available to any Party whose breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement therein results in or is the primary cause of such final, non-appealable Law or Order;
- either Vaso or Achari by written notice to the other if the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement shall not have occurred on or before May 30, 2024, which date shall be extended automatically for up to thirty (30) days to the extent the Parties are continuing to work in good faith toward the Closing (as may be extended, the “**Outside Date**”); provided that the right to terminate the Business Combination Agreement pursuant to the foregoing shall not be available to any Party then in material breach of any of its representations, warranties, covenants or agreements under the Business Combination Agreement, and such material breach is the primary cause of or has resulted in the failure of the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement on or before the Outside Date;
- Vaso by written notice to Achari, if any SPAC Party breaches in any material respect any of its representations or warranties contained in the Business Combination Agreement or breaches or fails to perform in any material respect any of its covenants contained in the Business Combination Agreement, which breach or failure to perform (i) would render a condition precedent to Vaso’s obligation to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement set forth in Section 9.3(a) or Section 9.3(b) thereof not capable of being satisfied, and (ii) after the giving of written notice of such breach or failure to perform to Achari by Vaso, cannot be cured or has not been cured by the earlier of (x) the Outside Date, and (y) thirty (30) Business Days after receipt by Achari of such written notice and Vaso has not waived in writing such breach or failure; provided, however, that the right to terminate the Business Combination Agreement pursuant to the foregoing shall not be available to Vaso if any Group Company is then in material breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in the Business Combination Agreement;
- Achari by written notice to Vaso, if any Group Company breaches in any material respect any of its representations or warranties contained in the Business Combination Agreement or any Group Company breaches or fails to perform in any material respect any of its covenants contained in the Business Combination Agreement, which breach or failure to perform (i) would render a condition precedent to the SPAC Parties’ obligations to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement set forth in Section 9.2(a) or Section 9.2(b) thereof not capable of being satisfied, and (ii) after the giving of written notice of such breach or failure to perform to Vaso by Achari, cannot be cured or has not been cured by the later of (x) the Outside Date, and (y) thirty (30) Business Days after the delivery of such written notice (in the case of clause (B), the Outside Date, as applicable, shall automatically be extended until the end of such thirty (30) Business Day period, but in no event on more than one (1) occasion) and Achari has not waived in writing such breach or failure; provided, however, that the right to terminate the Business Combination Agreement pursuant to the foregoing shall not be available to Achari if any SPAC Party is then in breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in the Business Combination Agreement and such breach would give rise to a failure of any condition to Vaso’s obligations to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement set forth in Section 9.3(a) or Section 9.3(b) thereof;

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- Vaso, at any time prior to receipt of the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, in order for Vaso to enter into a definitive agreement with respect to a Company Superior Proposal to the extent permitted by, and subject to applicable terms and conditions of, Section 6.15(d) of the Business Combination Agreement;
- Achari, if (i) the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval shall not have been obtained by Vaso with evidence thereof delivered to Achari by the Requisite Approval Deadline (or the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval is, at any time, no longer valid or is otherwise revoked or rescinded at any time), (ii) the Additional Support List shall not have been obtained by Vaso and delivered to Achari by the Company Support Deadline, or if any Company Support Agreement is, at any time, revoked or rescinded, or (iii) the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting is held and the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval is not obtained at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting;
- Vaso, if (i) the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters shall not have been obtained by Achari with evidence thereof delivered to Vaso by the Requisite Approval Deadline (or the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters is, at any time, no longer valid or is otherwise revoked or rescinded at any time), or (ii) the Achari Stockholders' Meeting is held and the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters is not obtained at such Achari Stockholders' Meeting;
- Vaso, if the shares of Achari are delisted from the Stock Exchange prior to the Closing Date;
- Vaso, if the estimated amount of the Unpaid SPAC Expenses in the statement delivered pursuant to Section 6.19 of the Business Combination Agreement exceeds \$4,500,000; or
- Achari, if the Fairness Opinion has been withdrawn, revoked or modified after the date of the Business Combination Agreement.

### ***No Survival of Representations and Warranties or Pre-Closing Covenants***

None of the representations, warranties, covenants or agreements set forth in the Business Combination Agreement or in any ancillary agreement, certificate or letter of transmittal delivered pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, including any rights arising out of any breach of such representations, warranties, covenants or agreements, will survive the Closing, in each case, except for those covenants and agreements that by their respective terms contemplate performance after the Closing, and then only with respect to the period following the Closing (including any breaches occurring after the Closing), shall survive until 30 days following the date of expiration of the obligation of the applicable Party under such covenant or agreement.

### ***Governing Law***

The Business Combination Agreement is governed by New York law and the parties are subject to exclusive jurisdiction of federal and state courts located in New York County in the State of New York.

### ***Fees and Expenses***

Each Party is responsible for its own fees and expenses in connection with the Business Combination; provided that, if the Closing occurs, then Vaso shall pay, or cause to be paid up to \$2,500,000 of all Unpaid SPAC Expenses if the Closing occurs, the post-Business Combination company will bear and pay all unpaid Vaso expenses and unpaid Achari expenses (including unpaid expenses not directly related to the Business Combination) up to \$2,500,000 (including unpaid expenses not directly related to the Business Combination). If Vaso pays, or causes to be paid, more than \$2,250,000 of Unpaid SPAC Expenses, then up to the next \$250,000, in addition If the Unpaid SPAC expenses exceed \$2,250,000, up to the next \$250,000 of Unpaid SPAC Expenses in addition to any additional SPAC Expenses that accrue (including for the avoidance of doubt any SPAC Expenses that should have been disclosed pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement but were not so disclosed) after the Closing until the end of the Restrictive Periods (as defined in the Put Option Agreement), shall (A) be repaid from the sale of the Achari Put Option Shares, (B) reduce, on a dollar-for-dollar basis the proceeds to be paid to the Sponsor pursuant to the Initial Achari Put Options (as defined in the Put Option Agreement), and (C) reduce,

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on a dollar-for-dollar basis the proceeds to be paid to the Sponsor pursuant to the Second Achari Put Options (as defined in the Put Option Agreement). The Put Option Agreement contains additional provisions regarding Unpaid SPAC Expenses.

The Business Combination Agreement also provides that if the consummation of the transactions contemplated under the Business Combination Agreement have not occurred on or before the Outside Date, then the non-terminating party shall pay to the terminating party an amount equal to \$600,000; provided that such \$600,000 shall only be payable by the non-terminating party to the terminating party if (x) the terminating party has satisfied all of its conditions to Closing as of such termination date (other than those which are to be satisfied on the Closing Date but which are reasonably expected to be able to be satisfied), and (y) the non-terminating party has not satisfied its conditions to Closing as of such termination date (other than those which are to be satisfied on the Closing Date but which are reasonably expected to be able to be satisfied).

Furthermore, Vaso shall pay Achari a termination fee of \$5.28 million if (i) Vaso breaches certain of its covenants as set forth in the Business Combination Agreement and Achari terminates the Business Combination Agreement, (ii) Vaso terminates the Business Combination Agreement in order for it to enter into a definitive agreement with respect to a Company Superior Proposal to the extent permitted by, and subject to the applicable terms and conditions of, Section 6.15(d) of the Business Combination Agreement, or (iii) the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting is held and the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval is not obtained at such meeting and Achari terminates the Business Combination Agreement. Achari shall be required to pay a \$5.28 million termination fee to Vaso if the Achari Stockholders' Meeting is held and the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters is not obtained at such Achari Stockholders' Meeting and Vaso terminates the Business Combination Agreement.

### ***Ownership of New Vaso Immediately Following Completion of the Business Combination***

As of the date of this proxy statement, there are issued and outstanding (i) 3,050,941 shares of Achari, comprised of 550,941 shares held by Public Stockholders and 2,500,000 Founder Shares (to be reduced to 750,000 Founder Shares upon the completion of the Business Combination), (ii) 10,000,000 Public Warrants, and (iii) 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants (to be reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination). Each whole Public Warrant and each whole Private Placement Warrant entitles the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Achari for \$11.50 per share and, following the completion of the Business Combination, will entitle the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock; provided, however, that, in each case, the warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares. In connection with the completion of the Business Combination, each then-issued and outstanding share of Achari common stock will be exchanged for a share of Class A Common Stock, on a one-for-one basis. In addition, as of January 2, 2024, there is approximately \$6,050,607 in the Trust Account.

### ***Issued and Outstanding Ownership upon Closing***

The following table summarizes the dilutive effect and the pro forma ownership of Class A Common Stock following the completion of the Business Combination based on the varying levels of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders and the following additional assumptions: (i) the Business Combination is consummated on April 2, 2024, (ii) 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock are issued to stockholders of Vaso in a no Redemption scenario, a 20% Redemption scenario, a 40% Redemption scenario, a 60% Redemption scenario, an 80% Redemption scenario and a 100% Redemption scenario, and (iii) pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, at Closing, all Vaso Restricted Share Awards, to the extent they are outstanding immediately prior to Closing, will automatically vest in full and be converted into the right to receive a number of Class A Common Shares as set forth on the Allocation Schedule.

Based on these assumptions, and assuming that no outstanding shares of Achari are redeemed in connection with the Business Combination, there would be approximately 18,900,941 shares of Class A Common Stock outstanding, or 27,150,941 on a fully-diluted basis, immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination. If the actual facts are different than these assumptions, the ownership percentages in New Vaso will be different.

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The scenarios depicted below are for illustrative purposes only, as the actual number of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders is not able to be known prior to prior to \_\_\_\_ p.m., Eastern Time on \_\_\_\_, 2024, deadline for redemptions.

	No Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		20% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		40% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		60% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		80% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		100% Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>	
	(2)	%	(3)	%	(4)	%	(5)	%	(6)	%	(7)	%
Vaso stockholders	17,600,000	93.1%	17,600,000	93.7%	17,600,000	94.2%	17,600,000	94.8%	17,600,000	95.3%	17,600,000	95.9%
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.9%	440,753	2.3%	330,565	1.8%	220,376	1.2%	110,188	0.6%	—	0.0%
Sponsor Founder Shares <sup>(8)</sup>	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.0%	750,000	4.19%	750,000	4.19%
<b>Total Shares of Common Stock</b>	<b>18,900,941</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,790,753</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,680,565</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,570,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,460,188</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,350,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

- (1) Represents ownership based on assumed actual shares issued and outstanding at the Closing and assumes all 1,000,000 Sponsor Private Placement Warrants are exercised. All percentages will be diluted if any Public Warrants are exercised.

Notwithstanding the number of Redemptions, the deferred underwriting commissions of \$3,500,000 in connection with the IPO will remain constant and be released to the underwriters only upon completion of the Business Combination. Achari anticipates that there will be approximately \$6,194,100 in the Trust Account as of April 2, 2024. Accordingly, assuming that the Business Combination occurs on April 2, 2024, the deferred underwriting commissions will equal 57% of the cash remaining in the Trust Account if there are no Redemptions, 71% if there are 20% Redemptions, 94% if there are 40% Redemptions, 141% if there are 60% Redemptions, 283% if there are 80% Redemptions and an incalculable percentage if there are 100% Redemptions.

- (2) Assumes that no shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(3) Assumes that 110,188 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(4) Assumes that 220,376 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(5) Assumes that 330,565 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(6) Assumes that 440,753 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(7) Assumes that all shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.  
(8) Represents the reduction of Founder Shares from 2,500,000 Founder Shares as of the date hereof to 750,000 Founder Shares as of the completion of the Business Combination and assumes that the Founder Shares are not further reduced pursuant to the Put Option Agreement.

For additional information regarding assumptions incorporated into the information presented above, see the sections titled “Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages”, “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” and “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration”.

- (9) Represents Founder Shares held by the Sponsor. Mr. Desai is the managing member of the Sponsor. Accordingly, Mr. Desai has voting and dispositive power over the shares of common stock held by the Sponsor and may be deemed to beneficially own such Founder Shares. Other than as set forth herein, no affiliates of the Sponsor own equity of Achari.

For additional information regarding beneficial ownership, see the section titled “Beneficial Ownership of Securities”.

The voting percentages set forth above were calculated based on the assumptions set forth above and do not take into account (i) Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants that will remain outstanding immediately following the completion of the Business Combination and may be exercised thereafter, and (ii) the issuance of any shares upon completion of the Business Combination under the 2024 Equity Incentive Plan, but do include the Founder Shares, which, upon the completion of the Business Combination, will convert into shares of Class A Common Stock under the terms of the Business Combination. For more information, please see the sections entitled “Frequently Used Terms — Share Calculations and Ownership Percentages”, “Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information” and “Proposal 1: The Business Combination Proposal — The Business Combination Agreement — Merger Consideration”.

If the actual facts are different than the assumptions set forth above, the voting percentages set forth above will be different. For example, there are currently outstanding an aggregate of 17,133,333 warrants, each to acquire three quarters of one share of Achari, which are comprised of 10,000,000 Public Warrants and 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants (to be reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination). Following the Closing, each of these warrants will entitle the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Class A Common Stock at an exercise price of \$11.50 per share on the terms and conditions set forth in the applicable warrant agreement; provided, however, that the warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares. If we assume that each outstanding warrant is exercised and three quarters of one

share of Class A Common Stock is issued as a result of such exercise, with payment to Achari of the exercise price of \$11.50 per share, in cash, the fully-diluted share capital of Achari would increase by a total of 8,250,000 shares, with approximately \$94,975,000 paid to Achari to exercise the warrants.

### Fully-Diluted Ownership upon Closing

The following table summarizes the dilutive effect and the pro forma ownership of Common Stock of Achari following the completion of the Business Combination based on varying levels of Redemptions by the Public Stockholders and the following additional assumptions: (i) the Business Combination is consummated on April 2, 2024, (ii) 17,600,000 shares of Class A Common Stock are issued to Vaso stockholders in a no Redemption scenario, a 20% Redemption scenario, a 40% Redemption scenario, a 60% Redemption scenario, an 80% Redemption scenario and a 100% Redemption scenario, and (iii) the price of the shares of Class A Common Stock reaches \$11.50. The following table includes the Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants, which will be exercisable for 8,250,000 shares of Class A Common Stock following the consummation of the Business Combination.

	No Redemptions <sup>(1)</sup>		20% Redemptions <sup>(2)</sup>		40% Redemptions <sup>(3)</sup>		60% Redemptions <sup>(4)</sup>		80% Redemptions <sup>(5)</sup>		100% Redemptions <sup>(6)</sup>	
	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in shares	Equity %	Ownership in Shares	Equity %
Vaso Public Stockholders	17,600,000	64.8%	17,600,000	65.1%	17,600,000	65.4%	17,600,000	65.6%	17,600,000	65.9%	17,600,000	66.2%
Achari Public Stockholders	550,941	2.0%	440,753	1.6%	330,565	1.2%	220,376	0.8%	110,188	0.4%	—	0.0%
Sponsor Founder Shares <sup>(7)</sup>	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%
Public Warrants	7,500,000	27.6%	7,500,000	27.7%	7,500,000	27.8%	7,500,000	28.0%	7,500,000	28.1%	7,500,000	28.2%
Private Placement Warrants <sup>(8)</sup>	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%	750,000	2.8%
<b>Total Shares of Common Stock</b>	<b>27,150,941</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,040,753</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,930,565</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,820,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,710,188</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26,600,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Sponsor Ownership with converted warrants</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

- (1) Assumes that no shares of Achari are redeemed.
- (2) Assumes that 110,188 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (3) Assumes that 220,376 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (4) Assumes that 330,565 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (5) Assumes that 440,753 shares of Achari held by Public Stockholders are redeemed.
- (6) Assumes that all shares of Achari are redeemed.
- (7) Represents the reduction of Founder Shares from 2,500,000 Founder Shares as of the date hereof to 750,000 Founder Shares as of the completion of the Business Combination and assumes that the Founder Shares are not further reduced pursuant to the Put Option Agreement.
- (8) Represents 7,133,333 warrants sold to the Sponsor, which number will be reduced to 1,000,000 warrants at the time of the completion of the Business Combination.

Share ownership presented in the table above is only presented for illustrative purposes and is based on a number of assumptions. Achari cannot predict how many of its Public Stockholders will exercise their respective right to have their respective Public Shares redeemed for cash. Public Stockholders that do not elect to redeem their respective Public Shares will experience dilution as a result of the Business Combination. The Public Stockholders currently own approximately 18% of the outstanding shares of Achari, assuming that no warrants have been exercised and 51% on a fully-diluted basis. As noted in the above table, if no Public Stockholders redeem their respective Public Shares in connection with the Business Combination, the Public Stockholders will go from owning approximately 51% of the shares of Achari on a fully-diluted basis prior to the Business Combination to owning 30% of the total shares of Common Stock on a fully-diluted basis. The Public Stockholders will own approximately 2.9%, 2.3%, 1.8%, 1.2%, 0.6% and 0.0% (assuming no warrants have been exercised) and 29.7%, 29.4%, 29.1%, 28.8%, 28.5%, and 28.2% (on a fully-diluted basis) of the total shares outstanding of Common Stock, in the no Redemptions, 20% Redemptions, 40% Redemptions, 60% Redemptions, 80% Redemptions and 100% Redemptions scenario, respectively. The Sponsor will own approximately 2.8%, 2.8%, 2.8%, 2.8% and 2.8% (assuming no warrants have been exercised) and 5.5%, 5.5%, 5.6%, 5.6%, 5.6% and 5.6% (on a fully-diluted basis) of the total shares outstanding of Common Stock, in the no Redemptions, 20% Redemptions, 40% Redemptions, 60% Redemptions, 80% Redemptions and 100% Redemptions scenario, respectively.

## **Related Agreements**

*This section describes the material provisions of certain additional agreements entered into or to be entered into pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement (the “**Related Agreements**”) but does not purport to describe all of the terms thereof or include any additional agreements to be entered into pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement. The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the complete text of each of the Related Agreements. Achari’s stockholders and other interested parties are urged to read such Related Agreements their entirety.*

### ***Put Option Agreement***

The Put Option Agreement governs the transfer and exercise of put options for certain shares and provides a framework for the transfer and exercise of these put options, outlining specific conditions and procedures for their exercise. The Sponsor will then gain the right to put to the post-Business Combination company up to 750,000 SPAC New Shares at \$8.00 per share. If the Closing occurs, then Vaso shall pay, or cause to be paid up to \$4,500,000 of all Unpaid SPAC Expenses. If Vaso pays, or causes to be paid, more than \$2,250,000 of Unpaid SPAC Expenses, then (i) the number of shares subject to the Achari Put Options shall be reduced by a number of shares equal to the quotient of the excess amount divided by \$8.00 and (ii) the number of shares that the holder of such options is to maintain as a result of the Sponsor Letter Agreement shall be reduced from 750,000 by a number of shares equal to the quotient of the Additional Unpaid SPAC Expenses Amount (as defined in the Put Option Agreement) divided by \$8.00. The holders of such options may exercise them in certain periods: the initial put exercise period, which shall begin 12 months after the consummation of the Business Combination and end three months thereafter, and the second put exercise period, which shall begin three months after the start of the initial put exercise period and end three months thereafter. During these periods, they can sell up to 50% of the put option shares to Achari, with unexercised options expiring at the end of each period. The Sponsor retains sole responsibility for any cash proceeds resulting from exercising these options. If market conditions permit, (i) the holders of Achari put option shares may sell these shares prior to the expiration of the lock-up period described in the Put Option Agreement, and (ii) the post-Business Combination company may require the mandatory sale to Achari of Achari put option shares.

### ***Sponsor Letter Agreement***

The Sponsor Letter Agreement outlines the transfer of Founder Shares and Private Placement Warrants by the Sponsor to Achari, and also provides for guidelines of restrictions and agreements regarding voting, redemption and disposition of these securities. Pursuant to the Sponsor Letter Agreement, the Sponsor is to return 1,750,000 Founder Shares and 6,133,000 Private Placement Warrants to Achari at the time of the Business Combination. The agreement also includes representations and warranties by the parties involved and conditions for termination in compliance with the Business Combination Agreement.

### ***Company Support Agreement***

Concurrently with the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, Achari, Vaso and certain security holders of Vaso entered into a Company Support Agreement, pursuant to which such security holders agreed to, among other things, (i) waive any appraisal rights or dissenter rights in connection with the Business Combination, and (ii) consent to and vote in favor of the Business Combination Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby (including the Business Combination).

### ***Lock Up Agreement***

Achari, Vaso and certain security holders of Achari are entering into a Lock-Up Agreement, pursuant to which such holders will be subject to a proposed 365-day lock-up period, during which such holders irrevocably agree they will not (i) transfer, offer, sell, contract or agree to sell, pledge, assign, hypothecate, grant any option to purchase or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of Achari’s capital stock, enter into a transaction that would have the same effect or enter into any swap, hedge or other arrangement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of any such shares, whether any of these transactions are to be settled by delivery of any such shares, in cash or otherwise, publicly disclose the intention to enter into a transaction

specified or similar to the foregoing, or engage in any Short Sales (as defined therein) with respect to any security of Achari. The Put Option Agreement provides a leak out from the lock-up in limited circumstances based on market conditions.

#### ***Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement***

The Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement will be entered into among the Sponsor, Achari and the Holders (as defined therein). Such agreement serves to register certain shares, such as Founder Shares and common shares underlying the Private Placement Warrants, for resale under the Securities Act. Such agreement details provisions for shelf registrations, including the filing of Registration Statements (Form S-1 Shelf or Form S-3 Shelf), maintaining shelf effectiveness, amendments and subsequent registrations for resale of registrable securities. Additionally, such agreements outlines Achari's obligations to facilitate the disposition of registrable securities, including preparing registration statements, obtaining qualifications under securities laws, ensuring prospectus accuracy, and indemnifying Holders against losses arising from any inaccuracies in the offering documents.

#### **The Vaso Board's Reasons for the Approval of the Business Combination**

The Vaso Board considered a number of factors pertaining to the Business Combination as generally supporting its decision to enter into the Business Combination Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including but not limited to, the following material factors:

- The Merger consideration to be received by Vaso stockholders from Achari at the Closing, having an aggregate value equal to (the "**Merger Consideration**") \$176,000,000 as compared to a market capitalization of \$ , based on the closing price of Vaso common stock on the OTCQB of \$ per share as of December 5, 2023, the day before the entry into the Business Combination Agreement.
- The details included in the fairness opinion from River Corporate Advisors that was delivered to Vaso in connection with the Business Combination.
- The Vaso Board's belief that (i) the proposed Business Combination represents the most attractive opportunity for Vaso stockholders to become stockholders of equity that are listed on a national securities exchange and (ii) being listed on a national securities exchange provides Vaso (via New Vaso) with better access to capital allowing it to potentially expedite pursuit of its growth strategy.
- The financial and other terms of the Business Combination Agreement and the fact that such terms and conditions are reasonable and were the product of arm's length negotiations between Vaso and Achari.

The Vaso Board also considered a variety of uncertainties and risks and other potentially negative factors concerning the Business Combination, including, but not limited to, the following:

- **Macroeconomic Risks.** Macroeconomic uncertainty, including the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the wars in Ukraine and the Middel East, and the effects they could have on New Vaso's revenues.
- **Business Plan May Not Be Achieved.** The risk that New Vaso may not experience the anticipated benefits of a national exchange listing.
- **Regulatory Approval.** The risks that the sale of Vaso's services, products and third-party products that it sells could be delayed or terminated by changes in applicable regulatory rules.
- **Diversion of Management.** The risks and costs to Vaso if the Business Combination is not completed, including the risk of diverting management focus and resources from other businesses opportunities.
- **Redemption Risk.** The potential that a significant number of Achari stockholders elect to redeem their shares prior to the consummation of the Business Combination, which would reduce the amount of capital that Achari would bring to New Vaso at the time of the Business Combination.
- **Stockholder Vote.** The risk that Achari stockholders may fail to provide the votes necessary to approve the proposals at the Achari Stockholders' Meeting that are necessary for the Business Combination.

In connection with the consideration to be paid for the Business Combination, the Vaso Board took into account the consideration to be paid to Vaso. The valuation of Vaso immediately prior to the execution of the Business Combination Agreement was approximately \$50 million based the closing price of its common stock on the trading day immediately preceding the date on which the Business Combination Agreement was signed. The Vaso Board also reviewed the letter of River Corporate Advisors that supported the amount of the consideration to be paid for Achari.

The Vaso Board concluded that the potential benefits that it expected for Vaso and its stockholders to achieve as a result of the Business Combination outweighed the potentially negative factors associated with the Business Combination. Accordingly, the Vaso Board determined that the Business Combination Agreement and the Business Combination, were advisable, fair to, and in the best interests of, Vaso and its stockholders.

#### **Interests of Vaso's Directors and Officers in the Business Combination**

The directors and executive officers of Vaso may have interests in the Business Combination and other proposals that may be different from, or in addition to, those of Vaso stockholders and the Achari generally. These interests include, among other things:

- that the current member of Vaso's board of directors, Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo and Behnam Movaseghi, are expected to serve as members of New Vaso's board of directors after consummation of the Business Combination and, in their capacity as such, shall become entitled to any cash fees, stock options or stock awards that New Vaso determines to pay its directors;
- that executive officers of Vaso, including Jun Ma as its Chief Executive Officer, are expected to serve in their same capacities with New Vaso; and
- that, upon consummation of the Business Combination, and subject to approval of the Equity Incentive Plan Proposal, New Vaso's executive officers after the Business Combination are expected to receive grants of stock options and restricted stock units under the 2024 EIP Plan from time to time.

#### **Interests of Achari's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination**

Achari's Board has approved the Business Combination and recommended that its stockholders approve the Business Combination at the Achari Stockholders' Meeting. To the extent the decisions of Achari's Board affect your decision in connection with the Business Combination Proposal, you should keep in mind that an argument could be made that Achari's directors and officers, have interests in such proposal that are different from, or in addition to, those of Achari stockholders generally. These interests include, among other things, the interests listed below:

- unless Achari consummates an initial business combination, Achari's officers, directors and the Sponsor will not receive reimbursement for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by them to the extent that such expenses exceed the amount of available proceeds not deposited in the Trust Account. As of the date hereof, none of Achari's officers and directors have incurred any out-of-pocket expenses, but such expenses may be incurred prior to consummation of the Business Combination;
- the Sponsor paid an aggregate of \$25,000 for its 2,500,000 Founder Shares and such securities will have a significantly higher value at the time of the Business Combination (such shares had an aggregate market value of \$22,750,000 based on the last sale price of \$10.89 per share on Nasdaq on December 28, 2023, or \$8,167,500 if the Founder Shares are reduced to 750,000 Founder Shares per the terms of the Sponsor Letter Agreement);
- the Sponsor paid an aggregate of \$5,350,000 for 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants at a price of \$0.75 per warrant, which warrants will be worthless if an initial business combination is not consummated. Such Private Placement Warrants had an aggregate market value of approximately \$108,000 based on the last sale price of \$0.0151 per warrant on Nasdaq on December 28, 2023 (or approximately \$15,100 if the Private Placement Warrants are reduced to 1,000,000 Private Placement Warrants per the terms of the Sponsor Letter Agreement);

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- in connection with the extension of the date of Achari's termination date to July 19, 2024, the Sponsor agreed to lend Achari the lesser of \$100,000 or \$0.04 per Public Share that remains outstanding per month to deposit into the Trust Account which amount will only be repaid if a Business Combination is consummated;
- the Sponsor has agreed to lend Achari up to \$1,500,000 as a working capital loan, of which \$367,000 has been loaned to Achari as of September 30, 2023, which loan will only be repaid if a Business Combination is consummated;
- as a condition to the IPO, pursuant to the Insider Letter, 2,500,000 Founder Shares owned by the Sponsor became subject to a lock-up pursuant to which the Founder Shares cannot be publicly sold until a business combination has occurred
- if the Trust Account is liquidated, including in the event Achari is unable to complete an initial business combination within the required time period, the Sponsor has agreed that it will be liable to Achari;
- in connection with the Business Combination Agreement, the Sponsor has entered into a Put Option Agreement pursuant to which the post-Business Combination company has agreed to purchase from the Sponsor or certain of its transferees up to 750,000 shares of Achari common stock at \$8.00 per share;
- the fact that the officers and directors of Achari do not work fulltime at Achari. Each of Achari's directors and officers is engaged in several other business endeavors for which such director or officer may be entitled to substantial compensation, and Achari's directors and officers are not obligated to contribute any specific number of hours per week to Achari's affairs. Achari's independent directors also serve as officers and/or board members for other entities. If Achari's directors' and officers' other business affairs require them to devote substantial amounts of time to such affairs in excess of their current commitment levels, it could limit their ability to devote time to Achari's affairs and may influence their decision to proceed with the Business Combination; and
- the fact that Achari's Current Charter provides that Achari renounces its interest in any corporate opportunity offered to any director or officer of Achari. This waiver allows Achari's directors and officers to allocate opportunities based on a combination of the objectives and fundraising needs of the target, as well as the investment objectives of the entity. The waiver of the corporate opportunities doctrine did not have an impact on Achari's search for an acquisition target.

As of September 30, 2023, the Sponsor and its affiliates had an aggregate of \$5,742,000 at risk that depends on completion of an initial business combination, including \$5,375,000 that was invested in securities, and \$367,000 of unpaid loans (of which \$215,000 is a convertible note payable and \$152,000 is a note payable). As of January 2, 2024, there were no unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Sponsor or its affiliates.

### **Exchange Listing**

Achari's Units (each consisting of one share of common stock and one warrant), shares of common stock and warrants (each to purchase one share of common stock) are currently traded on Nasdaq under the symbols "AVHIU," "AVHI" and "AVHIW," respectively. At the closing of the Business Combination, Achari's Units will separate into their component shares of the Achari Common Stock and warrants so that the Units will no longer trade separately under "AVHIU." Achari has applied for the continued listing of the New Vaso Common Stock and warrants on Nasdaq under the ticker symbols "VASO" and "VASOW," respectively.

### **Background of the Business Combination**

Vaso Corporation was incorporated in Delaware in July 1987. For most of its history, Vaso primarily was a single-product company designing, manufacturing, marketing and servicing its proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation, or EEC<sup>®</sup>, therapy systems, mainly for the treatment of angina. In 2010 it began to diversify its business operations. Vaso changed its name to Vaso Corporation in 2016 to more accurately reflect the diversified nature of its business and continues to use the original name VasoMedical for its proprietary medical device subsidiary.

Achari is a blank check company incorporated on January 25, 2021, as a Delaware corporation and formed for the purpose of effecting a merger, capital stock exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one or more businesses or entities. Prior to conducting a targeted search for a business combination target, neither the Sponsor nor management and affiliates of the Sponsor or Achari had experience with SPACs or de-SPAC transactions.

Although initially limited to evaluating acquisition targets in the cannabis space, Achari later decided it had significantly exhausted the opportunity to find, negotiate and close an initial business combination with a company in the cannabis industry that meets its criteria within the remaining timeframe. Subsequently, it decided to expand its search criteria and consider potential acquisition targets in industries and sectors not tied to the cannabis space, which it may, after evaluation, deem suitable for a business combination.

As part of its initial screening process, Achari's management team identified Vaso as a business that potentially met Achari's criteria for a business combination target. In March 2023, Achari reached out to the Chief Executive Officer of Vaso, Dr. Jun Ma, but was unable to hold discussion with Dr. Ma at such time.

In mid-June 2023, Vaso entered into agreement with Ladenburg Thalmann & Co ("**Ladenburg**") to target merger partners with an eye towards uplisting to a national securities exchange. Thereafter, Ladenburg had discussions with Vaso management regarding Vaso's business, financial information (including projections) and the opportunity to gain the benefits of being listed on a major exchange. Ladenburg also extensively reviewed Vaso's public filings and discussed key drivers of its business (including its relationship with GE Healthcare). Vaso subsequently entered into a non-disclosure agreement with Achari on July 11, 2023, pursuant to which Achari and Vaso agreed to exchange confidential information for purposes of further evaluating the possibility of a potential business combination. Following execution of the non-disclosure agreement, representatives of Vaso provided information to Achari regarding Vaso's business, operations and other diligence related matters to representatives of Achari, and Achari began the process of reviewing Vaso's publicly available materials filed with the SEC, including with respect to Vaso's audited financials and other material diligence matters. Likewise, Vaso began reviewing the due diligence material that Achari had provided it as well as Achari's publicly available materials filed with the SEC.

On July 3, 2023, Ladenburg introduced members of Vaso's management to members of Achari's management. Subsequent to such introductions, Vaso, Achari and Mr. Barry Steiner from Ladenburg had a preliminary conversation regarding a potential business combination involving Achari and Vaso. The discussion covered a variety of topics, including the progress to date of Achari's SPAC vehicle, a high-level business overview of Vaso, Vaso's current financial position, and Vaso's current ownership structure.

On July 25, 2023, Vaso met with Achari and Mr. Barry Steiner via video-conference, and certain representatives of Achari and Vaso's legal teams. Such individuals discussed Vaso's 36-year operating history, including the genesis of Vaso's contract with GE HealthCare Technologies, Inc. ("**GE HealthCare**"), the historical financial performance of Vaso by business unit, Vaso's revenue recognition policies and payment terms related to VasoHealthcare, expected future growth levers for Vaso, and Vaso's key customers.

On July 26, 2023, Vaso management held a videoconference focused on business diligence with Achari management. Achari and Vaso discussed multiple business diligence items across Vaso's three business segments. The discussion primarily focused on each business unit's revenue model and mix, future growth levers, expected future financial performance, competition, customer concentration, unit economics, sales and customer success strategy, supply chain management, and synergies across segments.

On August 3, 2023, representatives of Achari provided representatives of Vaso with a draft, non-binding term sheet with respect to a potential business combination involving Achari and Vaso (the "**August 3 LOI**"). The August 3 LOI, among other things, contemplated a pre-money, fully-diluted equity valuation of Vaso of \$150,000,000, no minimum cash condition, a reduction in the number of Achari's Founder Shares from 2,500,000 to 1,000,000 at the time of the Business Combination, a reduction in Achari's private placement warrants from 5,350,000 to 3,500,000 warrants, and up to \$1,500,000 million in Achari-specific expense reimbursements to be paid by the New Vaso at closing.

On August 16, 2023, per the guidance of representatives of Vaso, representatives from Achari circulated an updated draft of a non-binding term sheet with respect to the potential business combination between Achari and Vaso (the “**August 16 LOI**”). The August 16 LOI contemplated a \$150,000,000 pre-money, fully-diluted enterprise value of Vaso, a reduction to the share consideration to be retained by Achari from 1,000,000 Founder Shares to 750,000 Founder Shares at a \$10.00 per share deal price, a put option mechanism whereby Achari stockholders would be able to exercise a forced sales right requiring Vaso to purchase their retained Founder Shares held by Achari following consummation of the transaction at a minimum \$8.00 per share purchase price at the expiration of the contemplated lock-up period, a reduction in the private placement warrants retained by Achari’s from 7,133,000 to 1,000,000, and a \$1,250,000 expense reimbursement provision provided to Achari with respect to Achari-specific expenses, to be paid by the New Vaso to Achari upon the consummation of the transaction. Multiple methodologies and multiple projection periods based on Vaso’s current and projected financial statements over the following 24-month timeframe were used to arrive at the \$150,000,000 valuation in the August 16 LOI, including a comparable public company analysis.

On August 23, 2023, representatives of Vaso provided representatives of Achari with a draft, non-binding term sheet with respect to the potential business combination (the “**August 23 LOI**”). The August 23 LOI contemplated a \$176,000,000 pre-money, fully-diluted equity valuation of Vaso, with Achari continuing to hold 1,000,000 private placement warrants following the close of the transaction, and an extension of the term of the August 23 LOI from 30 days to 45 days, in order to allow negotiations to continue. In reaching the \$176,000,000 valuation, the same valuation methodologies were used as those for the valuation in the August 16 LOI, but the weighting of time periods and methodologies was refined. Based on the valuation analysis, Vaso appeared to be undervalued on the OTC Markets as a result of the lack of liquidity inherent on such markets partially due to the inability of most institutions to invest in securities that are not on a major exchange and partially due to the lack of visibility of issuers on such markets. The final valuation was also the result of negotiations between Vaso and Achari, with each party aiming to maximize returns for its own shareholders.

The parties arrived at the put option mechanism following extensive negotiation regarding the following three considerations:

- First, to incentivize Vaso for agreeing to a \$176 million valuation, the Achari Founders agreed to (i) materially reduce the number of shares and warrants that they would retain following the consummation of the Business Combination and (ii) be locked up for a substantial period of time following the consummation of the Business Combination.
- Second, given the inherent uncertainty in projections and the subjectivity involved regarding the weighting of certain valuation methodologies, the put option mechanism provided downside protection to the Achari Founders. It was noted that the Achari shareholders may redeem at higher than \$10.00 prior to deal closure; essentially, giving such shareholders a put option more valuable than the Achari Founder Share put option.
- Third, the contingent liability that would result from Vaso offering the put option to all Achari stockholders, would have materially impaired Vaso’s balance sheet resulting in an increased risk of loss to all Vaso and Achari shareholders.

On August 30, 2023, representatives of Achari and Vaso and Mr. Barry Steiner discussed Achari’s expected ongoing expenses until closing, and the amount of cash currently remaining in the Trust Account. The parties also discussed an expected timeline for execution of a letter of intent, as well as responsibilities for drafting the first draft of the business combination agreement. Vaso and Achari agreed that Achari’s counsel, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP (“**Katten**”) would take the lead on the initial draft of such business combination agreement.

On September 7, 2023, representatives of Achari provided representatives of Vaso with a further revised draft term sheet with respect to the potential business combination (the “**September 7 LOI**”). The September 7 LOI removed exclusivity provisions with respect to both Achari and Vaso, increased the amount of Achari expenses to be reimbursed by Vaso after closing of a transaction to \$2,250,000, and provided that any additional expenses incurred by Achari in excess of the aforementioned \$2,250,000 reimbursement provision would be netted from proceeds received by Achari from the exercise of the contemplated put rights described above. The term of the September 7 LOI was also reduced from 45 days to 30 days.

On September 7, 2023, representatives of Vaso provided representatives of Achari a markup of the September 7 LOI (the “**September 7 LOI Markup**”). The September 7 LOI Markup removed certain registration rights and modified the aforementioned expense reimbursement provisions to reflect that Achari’s total reimbursed expenses would not exceed \$2.5 million, with any expenses of Achari over such amount to be paid for by Vaso with a corresponding reduction on a dollar-for-dollar basis from any proceeds to be received by Achari from the exercise of the put option right being granted to Achari in connection with the transaction.

As a result of the substantial progress made with respect to the negotiations regarding the draft letter of intent, Achari and Vaso decided that starting on October 20, 2023, it would be mutually beneficial to initiate weekly telephonic and videoconference all-hands “check-in” calls (which were subsequently scheduled for each Monday, Wednesday and Friday beginning on October 23, 2023) until execution of a Business Combination Agreement so long as negotiations were continuing in good faith, with representatives of the Achari, Vaso, Katten, Ortoli Rosenstadt LLP, legal counsel to Vaso (“**Ortoli**”), and Ladenberg teams attending all such calls to discuss diligence matters, the progress of various documentation, key work streams and other aspects of the potential business combination and, as needed, to further refine the transaction steps, related work plan and all other transaction related matters. Such calls were conducted regularly beginning on October 20, 2023 (with various material calls described in further detail below) until execution of the Business Combination Agreement on December 6, 2023, as further described below. On such calls, representatives of Katten and Ortoli reminded Achari and Vaso officers and directors of their fiduciary duties with respect to a proposed business combination as and when appropriate. In addition, during this same time period, a smaller subset of representatives and advisors including at times, but not limited to, Achari, Vaso, Katten, Ortoli and Ladenberg met for the purposes of, among other things, discussing the contemplated business combination transaction, diligence related matters (including accounting related diligence), key deal work streams, the transaction timeline and related work plans. Lastly during this time, representatives of Achari, Katten and Ortoli continued to conduct business, accounting, operational and financial due diligence with respect to Vaso (including with the assistance of their representatives) and, over the same period of time, Achari’s legal and other advisors continued to conduct reviews of information provided by Vaso in the virtual data room created by Vaso for such purposes, review written responses from representatives of Vaso in certain instances and conduct customary due diligence calls with representatives and advisors of Vaso. As part of the discussions related to diligence matters, Achari’s management discussed with Vaso in detail a wide range of issues that could materially affect Vaso’s business and prospects, including the potential loss of clients in the near future or other events that may materially affect Vaso’s prospects or its financial projections for future performance of its business, such as potential changes to the GEHC Agreement or any potential changes in Vaso’s product, management, staffing, sales, marketing, distribution and product manufacturing.

On September 11, 2023, representatives of Achari provided representatives of Vaso with a further revised draft term sheet with respect to the potential business combination (the “**September 11 LOI**”). The September 11 LOI added language which required the holders of a certain number of shares of Vaso to deliver a written consent committing them to approve the transaction and certain other matters concurrently with the execution of the Business Combination Agreement.

On September 11, 2023, representatives of Vaso provided representatives of Achari a markup of the September 7 LOI (the “**September 11 LOI Markup**”). The September 11 LOI Markup revised language regarding the contemplated stockholder support agreements described above and clarified which vendors would be included in Achari’s total expenses with regards to the aforementioned expense reimbursement provisions.

On September 11, 2023, Vaso, Achari, Katten, had a call to discuss the Business Combination Agreement, certain ancillary documentation and certain diligence matters. Material points discussed on such call included the structure and form of the Vaso stockholder support agreement, the structure of the Vaso expense reimbursement agreement to be included in the Business Combination Agreement, registration rights mechanics, a potential Achari Board observer seat (which request was ultimately abandoned) and continued discussions regarding business, financial, accounting and legal diligence matters.

On September 12, 2023, representatives of Achari provided representatives of Vaso with a revised draft term sheet with respect to the potential business combination (the “**September 12 LOI**”). The September 12 LOI removed language added in the September 11 LOI Markup regarding which vendors would be included when determining Achari’s total accrued pre-closing expenses for reimbursement purposes.

On September 14, 2023, representatives of Achari and Vaso mutually executed the September 12 LOI. The September 12, LOI reflected, among other things: (a) an approximate \$176,000,000 valuation expected to be ascribed to Vaso based on publicly available information and diligence materials provided to Achari date, (b) a “put right” granted to Achari by Vaso whereby the 750,000 Founder Shares which would remain outstanding following the consummation of the transactions would be able to be sold back to Vaso at certain specified prices and terms and (c) a twelve-month post-closing lock-up period applicable to shares held by the Sponsor and certain Vaso management and insiders.

On September 19, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Katten, and Ortoli, held an allhands meeting to discuss the upcoming business combination agreement drafting process and discuss certain diligence matters. The parties also discussed the expected timeline for Vaso’s audited financials and certain other questions, including with respect to potential amendments to Vaso’s contract with GE HealthCare, the concentration of Vaso’s customers and other business, accounting and legal diligence matters.

On September 27, 2023, Katten, on behalf of Achari, provided the working group with an initial draft of the business combination agreement, which set forth the proposed terms and conditions of the Business Combination on substantially the same terms outlined in the September 12 LOI, along with other customary merger agreement provisions for transactions of this type, including for example customary representations and warranties to be provided by the parties, covenants and closing conditions. In conjunction with the ongoing negotiations and revisions of the Business Combination Agreement, Achari and Ortoli exchanged revised drafts of the Sponsor Letter Agreement, Support Agreement, the Lockup Agreement and other ancillary agreements and documentation, for which after review by the parties there were no material disagreements between Achari, on the one hand, and Vaso, on the other hand. For further information related to such related agreements, please see the section entitled “— Related Agreements.”

On October 2, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Katten, and Ortoli held an allhands meeting to discuss Ortoli’s initial comments to the business combination agreement. The parties also discussed Katten’s continued review of documents provided by Vaso via a virtual data room in response to a documentary due diligence request list provided to Vaso by Katten, which included requests for certain customary business, financial, operational, accounting, legal, tax, intellectual property and other due diligence materials with respect to Vaso, and other legal and business diligence matters. The parties also discussed the fairness opinion to be delivered to Vaso’s Board of Directors in connection with the contemplated transaction.

On October 11, 2023, representatives from Vaso informed Achari that they would like to revise certain agreed transaction terms which were documented in the September 12 LOI, which included revisions to the amount of Founder Shares to be held by Achari stockholders following the consummation of the transaction, revisions to the potential proceeds to be received by Achari in connection with the Put Option Agreement, as well as a reduction to the upfront cash payment to be made by Vaso for Achari-specific expenses.

On October 12, 2023, Achari informed Vaso that the proposed revisions to the contemplated transaction terms were unacceptable and Achari would not proceed on the terms that Vaso proposed on October 11, 2023.

On October 15, 2023, following conversations between Katten, Ortoli, Achari and Vaso, representatives from Vaso agreed to proceed with the transaction on the original terms reflected in the September 12 LOI.

On October 18, 2023, a representative of Achari and a representative of Vaso met in Boca Raton, Florida to discuss additional deal protections required by Achari as a result of recent events, including material termination protections and a breakup fee. Such provisions were later reflected in the Business Combination Agreement.

On October 20, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten continued discussions regarding Achari vendor expenses via email correspondence and virtual conference calls.

On October 23, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten discussed termination provisions for both Vaso and Achari, including a potential breakup fee via email correspondence and virtual conference calls. The parties also discussed Achari’s outstanding accounts payable per Achari’s third quarter 2023 quarterly filing with the SEC on Form 10-Q, the potential for a dual class share structure for Achari posttransaction, and the expected timeline for execution of the Business Combination Agreement. Vaso explained the desirability of establishing a dual class structure with varying voting power to allow for flexibility in future equity issuances. Despite having

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no plans to issue any shares of the class with preferred voting power, Vaso noted that once the proposed Business Combination was consummated, the proposed dual class structure could not be established pursuant to Nasdaq's rules as long as the common stock of the post-Business Combination company remains listed on Nasdaq.

On October 24, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten continued discussions regarding revisions to the Business Combination Agreement and Put Option Agreement, as well as certain potential excise tax liabilities attributable to Achari, following which Achari's external accountant provided a letter regarding applicable tax law and potential tax liability attributable to Achari, which Achari then provided such letter to Vaso.

On October 27, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten continued to discuss certain aspects of the lockup that would apply to shares held by Vaso and Achari, certain mechanisms of the Put Option Agreement, including proposed mandatory repurchase rights to be held by Vaso in certain instances and the timeline for delivery and contents of the fairness opinion to be delivered to the Board of Directors of Vaso. Katten and Ortoli also discussed the drafting and content of disclosure schedules and related diligence matters.

On October 30, 2023, Vaso informed Achari that it had engaged River Corporate Advisors, LLC (**River Corp**) to provide a fairness opinion to the Vaso Board of Directors in connection with the proposed transaction. The parties also continued to coordinate on outstanding open business and diligence items.

On November 1, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten respectively provided and reviewed certain diligence materials, such as board and committee minutes and resolutions of the respective companies. Vaso informed Achari of an expected timeline to receive the fairness opinion from River Corp. The parties also discussed Achari's continued listing status with Nasdaq with Achari's consultant, Donohoe Advisory Associates LLC ("**Donohoe**").

On November 2, 2023, Achari held a diligence call with Dr. Jun Ma, Mr. David Lieberman, Mr. Michael Beecher, Mr. Peter Castle, Chief Operating Officer of Vaso and President of VasoTechnology, and Ms. Jane Moen, President of Vaso Healthcare, and representatives of Katten and Ortoli. The parties discussed the genesis of the relationship with GE Healthcare with VasoHealthcare, certain amendments and extensions of the contract between Vaso and GE Healthcare, the sales process, historical financial information and business operations, customer concentration and future growth levers for the VasoHealthcare business unit. The parties also discussed historical financial information and business operations, including with respect to Vaso's acquisition of NetWolves Network Services LLC, which was founded by Mr. Peter Castle, customer concentration issues and future growth levers for VasoTechnology.

On November 3, 2023, Achari and Katten held a diligence discussion with Dr. Jun Ma, Mr. David Lieberman, and Mr. Michael Beecher covering the sales cycle with GE Healthcare, as well as Vaso's internal accounting protocols for revenue recognition and deferred revenue.

On November 3, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten discussed progress on the current draft of the Business Combination Agreement and proposed revisions to certain aspects of the documentation. On behalf of Vaso, Mr. David Lieberman confirmed that all relevant documents requested by Katten for diligence purposes had been provided to Achari and Katten at that time.

On November 7, 2023, representatives of Achari and Vaso met at Vaso. The parties discussed Vaso's future growth plans, reviewed financial materials regarding historical and go-forward performance, discussed potential strategic transactions that would create stockholder value and outstanding process items to be completed prior to a Vaso board meeting to approve the proposed business combination. Achari and Katten also met with multiple members of the Vaso management and corporate team, including representatives from the finance and accounting teams and Vaso's outside auditors, and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding their processes, including regarding internal control matters.

On November 9, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten discussed a series of outstanding open economic topics to be resolved with respect to the Business Combination Agreement and the Put Option Agreement and potential solutions via email correspondence and virtual conference calls.

On November 10, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten continued their discussion on the remaining outstanding open topics to be resolved with respect to the Business Combination Agreement and Put Option Agreement via email correspondence and virtual conference calls.

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On November 13, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten continued to discuss the remaining outstanding open negotiation topics to be resolved with respect to the Business Combination Agreement and Put Option Agreement via email correspondence and virtual conference calls.

On November 16, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten discussed remaining outstanding negotiation topics with respect to the Business Combination Agreement and Put Option Agreement via email correspondence and virtual conference calls, in an effort to resolve all remaining material open items.

On November 21, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten discussed the expected timeline for Vaso to complete its fiscal year 2023 audits via a virtual conference call. The parties also discussed the possibility of including additional termination provisions in the Business Combination Agreement. Vaso informed Achari that the fairness opinion provided by River Corp regarding the transaction would be available to Achari after the opinion was delivered to Vaso's Board of Directors on December 1, 2023.

On November 28, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten discussed all remaining outstanding matters regarding the Business Combination Agreement and ancillary documentation and timing for execution of such documents and the announcement of the transaction via virtual conference call.

On November 28, 2023, representatives of Achari and Vaso held a meeting with Donohoe to discuss Achari's upcoming Nasdaq panel hearing on December 7, 2023 (as discussed below, the "**December 7 Hearing**") regarding Achari's existing continued listing deficiencies. Donohoe reviewed a slide deck with the participants which Donohoe later presented to Nasdaq at the December 7 Hearing, and at which certain members of the Achari, Vaso and Katten terms were present, including Dr. Jun Ma, the Chief Executive Officer of Vaso, as well as Mr. Vikas Desai, the Chief Executive Officer of Achari.

On December 1, 2023, a videoconference meeting of the Vaso Board was held with representatives of Ortoli and River Corp. At the meeting, Vaso's directors were provided with an overview of the proposed business combination between Achari and Vaso (including the potential benefits and the risks related thereto), and the key terms of the Business Combination Agreement and other proposed transaction documents. At the request of the Vaso Board, representatives of River Corp reviewed with the Vaso Board their preliminary financial analysis of the proposed terms of the business combination between Achari and Vaso. Representatives from Ortoli also reviewed with the Vaso directors their fiduciary duties in connection with the proposed business combination between Achari and Vaso.

On December 1, 2023, Achari was provided a copy of the Fairness Opinion and given the opportunity after reviewing the same to ask questions of River Corporate regarding assumptions, methodologies and the conclusions of the report, which, after such discussion, Achari deemed satisfactory.

On December 1, 2023, Vaso held a meeting of its board of directors at which it approved the Business Combination Agreement, Put Option Agreement and related transaction documents in the form presented to them.

On December 3, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten convened an all hands call to discuss remaining items required for execution of documentation, including the Business Combination Agreement and ancillary documentation.

On December 4, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten convened an all hands call to discuss remaining items required for execution of documentation, including the Business Combination Agreement and ancillary documentation.

On December 6, 2023, representatives of Achari, Vaso, Ortoli and Katten agreed to execute the Business Combination Agreement and all related documentation and concurrently released all signatures held in escrow with respect to the Business Combination Agreement as of 11:59 P.M. EST on December 6, 2023.

On December 7, 2023, Achari and Vaso announced the transaction publicly, including Vaso and Achari each filing a current report on Form 8-K, respectively, with the SEC, and issuing press releases, respectively, announcing the transaction.

On December 7, 2023, representatives of Achari, including Mr. Vikas Desai and Mr. Merrick Friedman, Vaso, including Mr. Jun Ma and Mr. David Lieberman, Donohoe and Katten, including Mr. Timothy Kirby, attended the December 7 Hearing with Nasdaq regarding Achari's existing continued listing deficiencies and request for an

extension of time to cure such deficiencies. At the December 7 Hearing, Donohoe and the attending participants from Achari and Vaso reviewed a slide deck with the representatives from Nasdaq, which discussed the respective histories of Achari and Vaso, provided details regarding the proposed Business Combination, and presented a proposed compliance plan with respect to Achari's existing continued listing deficiencies. The meeting concluded with the Nasdaq representatives noting they would consider Achari's request and would issue a decision regarding such request as soon as they were able.

On December 19, 2023, Nasdaq notified Achari that it had granted Achari's request for an extension, until April 2, 2024, to cure the existing continued listing deficiencies which were the subject of the December 7 Hearing.

Throughout the discussions between Vaso and Achari, no discussions or negotiations of any arrangements for (i) any Public Stockholder to waive their redemption rights took place or (ii) for the continued employment or involvement for any persons affiliated with the Achari before the Business Combination (except with respect to the delivery of written resignations of all the directors and officers of Achari to Vaso at or prior to the Closing).

#### ***Opinion of River Corp.***

On December 1, 2023, Vaso received a letter from River Corp. that based upon and subject to various assumptions, qualifications and limitations, it was the opinion of River Corp. that, as of the date hereof, the consideration to be paid by Vaso pursuant to the terms of the Business Combination Agreement is fair, from a financial point of view, to Vaso. For purposes of the letter the consideration to be paid by Vaso consisted of 750,000 shares (with value of \$7.5 million assuming Achari's initial public offering price of \$10) and 5 years warrants to purchase 750,000 shares at \$11.50 per share.

In connection with this opinion, River Corp. reviewed, among other things: (i) a draft of the Business Combination Agreement, dated November 29, 2023; (ii) Achari and Vaso's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, as filed by Achari and Vaso with the SEC; (iii) certain current reports on Form 8-K, as filed by Achari and Vaso with, or furnished to, the SEC; (iv) certain internal information relating to the business, operations, assets, liabilities and prospects of the Company, including certain 3 year financial forecasts, analyses and projections relating to the Vaso prepared by management of Vaso and furnished to us by Vaso for purposes of our analysis and approved for our use by Vaso (the "Forecasts"); (v) stock trading charts of Vaso and Achari; (vi) Company presentations. River Corp. also conducted discussions with members of the senior management of Vaso and their respective advisors and representatives regarding such internal information as well as the past and current business, operations, financial condition and prospects of each of Vaso. River Corp. did not conduct discussions with the management of Achari. River Corp. reviewed (i) comparable reverse mergers and (ii) comparable SPAC mergers. It also conducted such other financial studies and analyses and took into account such other information as it deemed appropriate.

#### ***Tax Treatment of the Business Combination***

Vaso and Achari intend for the Business Combination to qualify as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. Vaso and Achari each will use its reasonable best efforts to cause the Business Combination to qualify, and agree not to, and not to permit or cause any affiliates or any subsidiaries of Vaso or Achari to, take any action that could reasonably be expected to prevent or impede the Business Combination from qualifying, as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code.

#### ***Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Business Combination***

##### ***U.S. Federal Income Tax Characterization of the Merger***

It is more likely than not that the Merger qualifies as a "reorganization" under Section 368(a) of the Code. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, the parties intend for the Merger to be treated as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code (the "Intended Tax Treatment"). Notwithstanding the parties' intent, there are significant factual and legal uncertainties as to whether the Merger will qualify as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code, and the closing of the Merger is not conditioned on the receipt of any tax ruling or tax opinion. Therefore, the tax treatment of the Merger is inherently uncertain. For example, under Section 368(a) of the Code and Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, the acquiring corporation in a

reorganization must continue, either directly or indirectly through certain controlled corporations, either a significant line of the acquired corporation's historic business or use a significant portion of the acquired corporation's historic business assets in a business.

Specifically, under Treasury Regulations Section 1.368-2(j), (1) the stock surrendered must constitute control of the surviving corporation, (2) the controlling corporation must control the surviving corporation immediately after the transaction, and (3) the surviving corporation must hold "substantially all" of its own properties and substantially all of the properties of the merged corporation (other than stock of the controlling corporation distributed in the transaction). In applying this "substantially all" test to the surviving corporation, consideration furnished by the surviving corporation in exchange for its stock is considered property of the surviving corporation which it does not hold after the transaction. There is no guidance directly on point as to how this requirement applies in the case of the Merger, where the amount of Vaso stock redeemed for cash pursuant to the appraisal rights of the Vaso stockholders (see "Solicitation of Consents from Vaso stockholders — Appraisal Rights of Vaso stockholders"), rather than exchanged for the right to receive New Vaso Class A Common Stock pursuant to the Merger, is not known until shortly before, at the time of, or shortly after the Closing. If a significant number of Vaso shares were to be redeemed pursuant to such appraisal rights, the aforementioned "substantially all" requirement may not be satisfied. As a result, despite the parties' intention as stated in the Business Combination Agreement that the Merger qualify as a reorganization, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the Merger is uncertain.

The discussion below describes the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Merger in the event that it is treated as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code, as well as the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Merger in the event it fails to be so treated. Neither Achari nor Vaso has requested, and neither intends to request, a ruling from the IRS as to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Merger, and neither Achari nor Vaso or any of their respective advisors or affiliates, makes any representations or provides any assurances regarding the tax consequences of the Merger, including whether the Merger qualifies as a reorganization under Section 368(a) of the Code. Consequently, no assurance can be given that the IRS will not assert, or that a court would not sustain, a position contrary to any of those set forth below. Accordingly, each U.S. Holder of Vaso common stock is urged to consult its tax advisor with respect to the particular tax consequences of the Merger to such holder.

*U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders of Vaso common stock if the Merger Qualifies for the Intended Tax Treatment*

If the Merger qualifies for the Intended Tax Treatment, the U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders of Vaso common stock will generally be as follows:

- a U.S. Holder will not recognize gain or loss upon the exchange of Vaso common stock for New Vaso Class A Common Stock pursuant to the Merger;
- a U.S. Holder's aggregate tax basis for the shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock received in the Merger will equal the U.S. Holder's aggregate tax basis in the shares of Vaso common stock surrendered in exchange therefor in the Merger; and
- the holding period of the shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock received by a U.S. Holder in the Merger will include the holding period of the shares of Vaso common stock surrendered in exchange therefor.

*U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders of Vaso common stock if the Merger Fails to Qualify for the Intended Tax Treatment*

If the Merger nevertheless fails to qualify for the Intended Tax Treatment, then, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. Holder holding Vaso common stock will generally recognize gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between (i) the fair market value of the New Vaso Class A Common Stock received in exchange for the Vaso common stock surrendered in the Merger and (ii) such U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the Vaso common stock surrendered. Such gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss provided the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Vaso common stock surrendered in the Merger exceeds one year as of the closing date.

Long-term

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capital gain of certain non-corporate holders (including individuals) is currently eligible for U.S. federal income taxation at preferential rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations under the Code. U.S. holders that realize a loss should consult their tax advisors regarding the allowance of such loss.

### *Qualified Small Business Stock*

Your Vaso common stock may meet the criteria of Section 1202 of the Code, with respect to gain from the sale or exchange of “qualified small business stock” (“QSBS”) held more than five years. Were Vaso common stock to so qualify as QSBS, certain holders of Vaso common stock could be eligible for an exemption from federal income tax on capital gains with respect to QSBS held for more than five years. Further, were Vaso common stock so treated as QSBS and the Merger qualifies for the Intended Tax Treatment, shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock received in exchange for Vaso common stock could also qualify as QSBS, subject to certain limitations of the amount of gain exclusion available under Section 1202. We cannot assure that Vaso will meet all or any of such tests during substantially all of a holder’s holding period or that Vaso common stock will qualify as QSBS, and in no event shall Achari, Merger Sub, or Vaso be liable to any party for damages arising from subsequently proven or identified error in any determination with respect to the applicability or interpretation of Section 1202 of the Code. You should consult with your own tax advisors regarding the potential applicability or interpretation of Section 1202 of the Code to your Vaso common stock and/or New Vaso Class A Common Stock.

### *Appraisal Rights*

Pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement, each Dissenting Stockholder (as defined in the Business Combination Agreement) who becomes entitled to payment for his, her or its Dissenting Shares shall receive such payment in accordance with the DGCL. A Dissenting Stockholder who receives a cash payment with respect to his or her Dissenting Shares will generally be deemed to have disposed of his or her shares in a taxable transaction. You should consult with your tax advisors regarding the applicability of the foregoing to you.

### **Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

Dividend payments with respect to the New Vaso Common Stock and proceeds from the sale of Class A Common Stock may be subject to information reporting to the IRS and possibly United States backup withholding. Backup withholding will not apply, however, to a U.S. holder who furnishes a correct taxpayer identification number and makes other required certifications, or who is otherwise exempt from backup withholding and establishes such exempt status.

Amounts treated as dividends that are paid to a Non-U.S. holder are generally subject to reporting on IRS Form 1042-S even if the payments are exempt from withholding. A Non-U.S. holder generally will eliminate any other requirement for information reporting and backup withholding by providing certification of its foreign status, under penalties of perjury, on a duly executed applicable IRS Form W-8 or by otherwise establishing an exemption.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Amounts withheld as backup withholding may be credited against a holder’s United States federal income tax liability, and a holder generally may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules by timely filing the appropriate claim for refund with the IRS and furnishing any required information.

### **FATCA Withholding Taxes**

Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code and the Treasury Regulations and administrative guidance promulgated thereunder (commonly referred to as the “Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act” or “FATCA”) generally impose withholding at a rate of 30% on payments of dividends (including constructive dividends) on shares to “foreign financial institutions” (which is broadly defined for this purpose and in general includes investment vehicles) and certain other Non-U.S. entities unless various U.S. information reporting and due diligence requirements (generally relating to ownership by U.S. persons of interests in or accounts with those entities) have been satisfied, or an exemption applies (typically certified as to by the delivery of a properly completed IRS Form W-8BEN-E). The IRS has issued proposed regulations (on which taxpayers may rely until final regulations are issued) that would generally not apply these withholding requirements to gross proceeds from sales or other disposition proceeds from our shares; however, there can be no assurance that final regulations will provide the same exceptions from FATCA withholding as the proposed regulations. If FATCA withholding is imposed, a beneficial

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owner that is not a foreign financial institution generally will be entitled to a refund of any amounts withheld by filing a U.S. federal income tax return (which may entail significant administrative burden). Foreign financial institutions located in jurisdictions that have an intergovernmental agreement with the United States governing FATCA may be subject to different rules. Holders of shares are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the effects of FATCA on their investment in our securities.

### **Regulatory Matters**

The Business Combination and the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement are not subject to any additional federal or state regulatory requirement or approval, except for filings with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware necessary to effectuate the Business Combination and filings of required solicitation materials pursuant to Rule 14a-12 of the Exchange Act.

Under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (“the “HSR Act”) and the rules that have been promulgated thereunder by the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”), certain transactions may not be consummated unless information has been furnished to the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice (“Antitrust Division”) and the FTC and certain waiting period requirements have been satisfied. A business combination that is subject to these requirements may not be completed until the expiration of a 30-day waiting period following the filing of the required Notification and Report Forms with the Antitrust Division and the FTC. Since Vaso is the “Ultimate Parent Entity” of the “Acquired Person” as defined in the HSR Act and related regulations, including 16 C.F.R. Sections 801.1(a)(3) and 801.2(b), and such “Acquired Person” does not have either total assets or annual net sales of \$222.7 million or more, as determined under the HSR Act and related regulations, including 16 C.F.R. Section 801.11, no filing is required under the HSR Act.

None of the Sponsor, Achari or Vaso is aware of any material regulatory approvals or actions that are required for completion of the Business Combination. It is presently contemplated that if any such additional regulatory approvals or actions are required, those approvals or actions will be sought or completed. There can be no assurance, however, that any additional approvals or actions will be obtained or completed.

### **Resolution to be Voted Upon**

The full text of the resolution to be passed is as follows:

“It is resolved that Vaso’s entry into the Business Combination Agreement, dated as of December 6, 2023 (as amended or supplemented from time to time, the “**Business Combination Agreement**”) by and among Achari, Merger Sub, and Vaso, the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement, including the issuance of the consideration thereunder, and the performance by Vaso of its obligations thereunder thereby be ratified, approved, adopted and confirmed in all respects.”

### **Required Vote with Respect to the Business Combination Proposal**

The approval of the Business Combination Proposal will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the total votes cast by the holders of the outstanding Vaso shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on the Business Combination Proposal.

The Sponsor has agreed to vote any shares of common stock owned by it in favor of the Business Combination pursuant to the Insider Letter. The Sponsor has transferred shares subject to the Insider Letter, but pursuant to the terms of the Insider Letter was only able to do so if such new stockholders agreed to be bound by the terms of the Insider Letter. As of the Record Date, the Sponsor and such new stockholders beneficially owned 2,500,000 shares of common stock, excluding shares issuable upon the exercise of warrants. As of the date hereof, the Sponsor and Achari’s directors and officers have not purchased any additional shares of common stock.

Achari, Vaso and certain security holders of Vaso (representing 44% of the outstanding shares of Vaso) have entered into support agreements committing those security holders to, among other things, (i) waive any appraisal rights or dissenter rights in connection with the Business Combination, and (ii) consent to and vote in favor of the Business Combination Proposal.

**Recommendation of the Vaso Board with Respect to the Business Combination Proposal**

**THE VASO BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE VASO STOCKHOLDERS VOTE  
“FOR” THE APPROVAL OF THE BUSINESS COMBINATION PROPOSAL.**

Vaso’s directors and officers may have financial interests in the Business Combination that differ from, or are in addition to, their interests as stockholders of Vaso and the interests of stockholders of Vaso generally. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso’s directors may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what they may believe is best for themselves in determining to recommend that stockholders vote for the proposals. See the section of this proxy statement entitled “Proposal 1 — The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso’s Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination.”

## **PROPOSAL 2: THE DIRECTOR ELECTION PROPOSAL**

Vaso is asking its stockholders to approve the election of Jun Ma and David Lieberman to serve as the two directors in Class III, to hold office until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders. Our Certificate of Incorporation provides for a Board consisting of not less than three nor more than nine directors. Our Board now consists of seven directors. The Board has three classes of directors: Class I, whose term will expire in 2024 currently consisting of Mr. Markowitz and Mr. Rios; Class II, whose term will expire in 2025 currently consisting of Mr. Movaseghi, Mr. Dembo and Ms. Moen; and Class III, whose term will expire in 2023, currently consisting of Dr. Ma and Mr. Lieberman. The directors each intend to serve on the Board until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified. The Board has nominated Mr. Ma and Mr. Lieberman for election as Class III directors to serve until the 2026 annual meeting of stockholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The Board believes that each of the director nominees is qualified to serve as a director for the reasons set out below:

- Jun Ma has been a director of Vaso and its President and Chief Executive Officer for over 15 years. Coupled with PhD in mechanical engineering and his MS in biomedical engineering, Achari believes that his knowledge of Vaso's operations and his experience in helping Vaso to grow since he joined its board means that he is well positioned to assist Achari in transitioning to Vaso's operations following the Business Combination; and
- David Lieberman has been a director of Vaso and Vice-Chairman of its Board for over a dozen years. Mr. Lieberman has helped manage Vaso's growth since he joined its board. Achari has determined that his knowledge of Vaso's operations and his experience in helping Vaso to grow since he joined its board means that he is well positioned to assist Achari in transitioning to Vaso's operations following the Business Combination.

Assuming a quorum is present, the nominee for a slot with the most votes, or, if there are two or more nominees for a class, the two or more nominees, as the case may be, with the most votes for a particular class, will be elected to fill the available slot(s) for that class. Consequently, any shares not voted at the meeting, whether by abstention or otherwise, will have no effect on the election of directors. Shares represented by executed proxies in the form enclosed will be voted, unless otherwise indicated, for the election as directors of the nominee(s) identified above unless any such nominee shall be unavailable, in which event such shares will be voted for a substitute nominee designated by the Board. The Board has no reason to believe that any of the nominees will be unavailable or, if elected, will decline to serve.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" ELECTION OF THE ABOVE  
NOMINEES AS DIRECTORS.**

### **PROPOSAL 3: THE RATIFICATION PROPOSAL**

The Vaso Board, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, recommends that the stockholders ratify the appointment of UHY LLP as Vaso's independent registered public accounting firm to audit its financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023.

Vaso's Audit Committee has determined that the provision of services by UHY LLP other than for audit related services is compatible with maintaining the independence of UHY LLP as its independent accountants. In accordance with the Audit Committee charter, the Audit Committee approves all audit and non-audit services provided by UHY LLP as Vaso's independent accountants.

Representatives of UHY LLP are not expected to be present at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting and will not have an opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so. Such representatives of UHY LLP are not expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

The proposal will be adopted only if it receives the affirmative vote of a majority of the total votes cast on the proposal by holders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting on this proposal.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" THE RATIFICATION OF THE  
APPOINTMENT OF UHY LLP AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING  
FIRM.**

## **PROPOSAL 4: THE ADJOURNMENT PROPOSAL**

### **Overview**

At the Stockholders' Meeting, Vaso will ask its stockholders to consider and vote upon a proposal to require the chair of the meeting to adjourn the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary, to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies if the chair determines an adjournment to be reasonably necessary or appropriate to approve one or more Proposals at the Stockholders' Meeting for the following reasons: (i) because a quorum for the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting has not been established, or (ii) because there are not sufficient votes to approve and adopt any of the proposals. If the chair of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting determines that an adjournment of the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting is not necessary, for example if all of the other Proposals have already been approved at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting, the Adjournment Proposal will not be put before the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting. In no event will Vaso solicit proxies to adjourn the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting or complete the Business Combination beyond the date by which it may properly do so.

### **Consequences if the Adjournment Proposal is Not Approved**

If the Adjournment Proposal is not approved by Vaso's stockholders, the Vaso Board may not be able to adjourn the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting to a later date if necessary, to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies if it is determined by Vaso that more time is necessary or appropriate to approve one or more of the Proposals at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

### **Resolution to be Voted Upon**

The full text of the resolution to be passed is as follows:

"It is resolved that the proposal to require the chairman to approve the adjournment of the Stockholders' Meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary to permit further solicitation and vote of proxies if it is determined by Achari that more time is necessary or appropriate to approve one or more Proposals at the Stockholders' Meeting be approved and adopted in all respects."

### **Required Vote with Respect to the Adjournment Proposal**

The Adjournment Proposal, if presented, will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Vaso Shares that are present and vote on such proposal at the Vaso Stockholders' Meeting.

The Adjournment Proposal will not be submitted if the Condition Precedent Proposals are approved. The Adjournment Proposal is not conditioned on the approval of any of the other Proposals.

### **Recommendation of the Vaso Board with respect to the Adjournment Proposal**

#### **THE VASO BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT VASO STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE APPROVAL OF THE ADJOURNMENT PROPOSAL.**

Vaso's directors and officers may have financial interests in the Business Combination that differ from, or are in addition to, their interests as stockholders of Vaso and the interests of stockholders of Achari generally. The existence of financial and personal interests of one or more of Vaso's directors may result in a conflict of interest on the part of such director(s) between what they may believe is in the best interests of Vaso and its stockholders and what they may believe is best for themselves in determining to recommend that stockholders vote for the proposals. See the section of this proxy statement entitled "Proposal 1 — The Business Combination Proposal — Interests of Vaso's Directors and Officers and Others in the Business Combination."

**OTHER MATTERS**

As of the date of this proxy statement, we know of no business that will be presented for consideration at the special meeting other than the items referred to above. If any other matter is properly brought before the meeting for action by stockholders, proxies in the enclosed form returned to the Company will be voted in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Directors or, in the absence of such a recommendation, in accordance with the judgment of the proxy holder.

## INFORMATION ABOUT ACHARI

References to the “Company,” “us” or “we” in this section refer to Achari.

### General

We are a blank check company incorporated as a Delaware corporation on January 25, 2021, whose business purpose is to enter into a merger, capital stock exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one or more businesses..

### IPO and Private Placement

On October 19, 2021, Achari consummated its Initial Public Offering of 10,000,000 Units. Each Unit consisted of one share of Common Stock of Achari, par value \$0.0001 per share, and one redeemable warrant of Achari, with each whole warrant entitling the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock for \$11.50 per share, provided however that warrants may be exercised only for a whole number of shares of Common Stock. The Units were sold at a price of \$10.00 per Unit, generating gross proceeds to Achari of \$100,000,000.

Simultaneously with the closing of the Initial Public Offering, pursuant to the Sponsor Private Placement Warrants Purchase Agreement, Achari completed the private sale of an aggregate of 7,133,333 warrants to Sponsor at a purchase price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant, generating gross proceeds to Achari of \$5,350,000.

### Extension of Time to Complete a Business Combination

On December 22, 2022 at a special meeting of Achari’s stockholders (the “Special Meeting”), Achari’s stockholders approved (i) the Charter Amendment Proposal, an amendment to Achari’s second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in Achari’s existing second amended certificate of incorporation, and which had provided Achari the ability to extend the deadline by which Achari must consummate a Business Combination by up to three months, or from January 19, 2023 to April 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a Business Combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023 and (ii) the Trust Amendment Proposal, an amendment to Achari’s Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that Achari may extend the time period to complete a Business Combination up to and until July 19, 2023, on a monthly basis, by, at Achari’s option, depositing into Achari’s Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of Achari’s Common Stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit, known as the Third CoI Monthly Extension Option. The Third CoI Monthly Extension Options were exercised by Achari in six single-month increments.

At the Special Meeting, holders of 8,980,535 shares of Common Stock of Achari exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate redemption price of \$10.24 per share, resulting in an aggregate payment to such redeeming stockholders of approximately \$92,009,330, which amount was withdrawn from the Trust Account to redeem such shares promptly following the conclusion of the Special Meeting. Achari exercised all Monthly Extension Options available to it.

Similarly, on July 12, 2023, at a special meeting of Achari’s stockholders, Achari’s stockholders approved (i) an amendment to Achari’s fourth amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in Achari’s then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation, and which provided Achari the ability to extend the deadline by which Achari must consummate a Business Combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a Business Combination by up to an additional six months, or from July 19, 2023 to January 19, 2024, and (ii) an amendment to Achari’s Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that Achari may extend the time period to complete a Business Combination up to and until January 19, 2024 on a monthly basis, at Achari’s option, by depositing into Achari’s Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of Achari’s Common Stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit, known as the Fourth CoI Monthly Extension Option. Achari exercised all of the Fourth CoI Monthly Extension Options.

On July 17, 2023, Achari's Sponsor transferred 927,600 shares of Common Stock to certain members of the Sponsor. As a result of such transfer, as of July 17, 2023, 1,572,400 shares of Common Stock were held directly by the Sponsor and 927,600 shares of Common Stock were held directly by members of the Sponsor. Pursuant to the terms of the Sponsor Letter Agreement, the Sponsor will reacquire the 927,600 shares held directly by members of the Sponsor prior to the Business Combination.

On December 18, 2023, Achari held a special meeting in lieu of an annual meeting of Achari's stockholders at which its stockholders approved (i) a proposal to amend its Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to revise its existing extension option, which provided that it had the option of extending the period by which it must consummate a business combination from January 19, 2024, to July 19, 2024 with such extension option exercisable in six single-month increments, known as the Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option, for an additional six-month aggregate total extension period if each Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option is exercised; (ii) a proposal to amend Achari's charter to eliminate a limitation in the charter providing that Achari shall not redeem Public Shares to the extent that such redemption would cause Achari's net tangible assets to be less than \$5,000,001 following any such redemptions (the "Redemption Limitation"), in order to allow Achari to redeem Public Shares irrespective of whether the amount of such redemptions would breach the Redemption Limitation if Achari so chooses in its sole discretion and (iii) a proposal to amend Achari's Second Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement, dated July 12, 2023, to provide that the expiration date provided for in the Trust Agreement may be extended, at Achari's option, and on a monthly basis, pursuant to the exercise of Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option(s), up to and until July 19, 2024; provided that, in order to exercise a single Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option, we must deposit into the Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.04 for each share of Achari's common stock included in the units which were sold in Achari's initial public offering and which remain outstanding on the date of such deposit. In connection with the stockholders' vote at the December 18, 2023 meeting, Achari was advised that holders of 87,380 shares of Achari common stock exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at a price of \$10.91 per share, for an aggregate payment of \$952,939.89, which was subsequently withdrawn from the Trust Account to redeem such shares. As of January 2, 2024 (and reflecting the withdrawal of funds in connection with the redemption of shares described in the foregoing sentence), the Trust Account had a balance of \$6,050,606.81.

Achari entered into the Third Amended and Restated Trust Agreement on December 19, 2023 with Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company. The Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation was deemed effective as of December 19, 2023.

## **Effecting a Business Combination**

### ***Stockholder Approval of the Business Combination***

Achari is seeking stockholder approval of the Business Combination at the Special Meeting to which this proxy statement relates and, in connection with such meeting, holders of Public Shares may redeem their shares for cash in accordance with the procedures described in this proxy statement. Such redemption rights will be effected under the Current Charter and the DGCL.

### ***Redemption of Public Shares and Liquidation if No Business Combination***

If Achari has not consummated a Business Combination by July 19, 2024, it will (i) cease all operations except for the purpose of winding up; (ii) as promptly as reasonably possible but not more than ten business days thereafter redeem 100% of the Public Shares, at a per-share price, payable in cash, equal to the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account, including interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account and not previously released to Achari to pay our taxes (less up to \$100,000 of interest to pay dissolution expenses), divided by the number of then outstanding Public Shares, which redemption will completely extinguish Achari Public Stockholders' rights as stockholders (including the right to receive further liquidating distributions, if any), subject to applicable law; and (iii) as promptly as reasonably possible following such redemption, subject to the approval of Achari's remaining stockholders and its Board, dissolve and liquidate, subject in each case to Achari's obligations under Delaware law to provide for claims of creditors and the requirements of other applicable law. Achari will not use funds in trust in connection with the payment of any excise tax liabilities imposed by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

Achari's Sponsor, officers and directors have waived their rights to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to any shares held by them if Achari fails to complete a business combination. As a consequence of such waivers, any liquidating distribution that is made will be only with respect to the Public Shares. There will be no distribution from the Trust Account with respect to Achari's warrants, which will expire worthless in the event Achari winds up. Achari will pay the costs of liquidation from Achari's remaining assets outside of the Trust Account.

In connection with Achari's efforts to regain compliance with Nasdaq's continued listing standards as further described herein, Achari has undertaken certain actions, including for example transferring Founder Shares held by Achari's Sponsor to certain members of Achari's Sponsor. Achari's Sponsor may subsequently undertake certain additional actions, which may include, but may not be limited to, further transfers of Founder Shares held by Achari's Sponsor to individual members of Achari's Sponsor, or certain other actions, in order to attempt to regain compliance with Nasdaq's continued listing standards. For the avoidance of doubt, all shares previously transferred as described in the foregoing sentence and any shares transferred in a similar fashion in the future shall remain subject to the same transfer restrictions and other limitations as the Founder Shares which continue to be held by Achari's Sponsor, including any and all restrictions contained in the letter agreement entered into in connection with Achari's IPO and for the further avoidance of doubt, any such Founder Shares will not be eligible to receive liquidating distributions from the Trust Account under any circumstances, including in the event that Achari fails to complete its Business Combination, nor shall such transfers (past or present) increase the overall amount of Founder Shares issued or in circulation, or in any way affect Achari Public Stockholders' existing percentage ownership of Achari. As of the date hereof, 1,572,400 Founder Shares are held directly by Achari's Sponsor and 927,600 Founder Shares are held directly by members of Achari's Sponsor. Pursuant to the terms of the Sponsor Letter Agreement, all such Founder Shares are to be returned to Achari's Sponsor prior to the Business Combination.

Achari's Sponsor has agreed that they will be liable to Achari if and to the extent any claims by a third party (excluding Achari's independent registered public accounting firm) for services rendered or products sold to us, or a prospective target business with which Achari has entered into a written letter of intent, confidentiality or similar agreement or business combination agreement, reduces the amounts in the Trust Account to below the lesser of (i) \$10.15 per Public Share and (ii) the actual amount per share held in the Trust Account as of the date of the liquidation of the Trust Account if less than \$10.15 per share due to reductions in the value of the trust assets, less taxes payable, provided that such liability will not apply to any claims by a third-party or prospective target business who executed a waiver of any and all rights to the monies held in the Trust Account (whether or not such waiver is enforceable) nor will it apply to any claims under Achari's indemnity of the underwriters of its IPO against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. However, Achari has not asked Achari's Sponsor to reserve for such indemnification obligations, nor has Achari independently verified whether Achari's Sponsor has sufficient funds to satisfy its indemnity obligations and Achari believes that Achari's Sponsor's only assets are securities of Achari. Therefore, Achari cannot assure that Achari's Sponsor would be able to satisfy those obligations. The per-share liquidation price for the Public Shares is anticipated to be approximately \$ (based on the amount expected to be in the Trust Account as of , 2024, including accrued interest and net of estimated taxes). Nevertheless, Achari cannot assure that the per share distribution from the Trust Account, if Achari liquidates, will not be less than \$10.15, plus interest, due to unforeseen claims of potential creditors. Achari will distribute to all of Achari Public Stockholders, in proportion to their respective equity interests, an aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account, including any interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account net of interest that may be used by Achari to pay Achari's franchise and income taxes payable.

In the event that the proceeds in the Trust Account are reduced below \$10.15 per Public Share and Achari's Sponsor asserts that it is unable to satisfy its obligations or that it has no indemnification obligations related to a particular claim, Achari's independent directors would determine whether to take legal action against Achari's Sponsor to enforce such indemnification obligations. While Achari currently expects that Achari's independent directors would take legal action on Achari's behalf against Achari's Sponsor to enforce such indemnification obligations to Achari, it is possible that Achari's independent directors in exercising their business judgment may choose not to do so in any particular instance. If Achari's independent directors choose not to enforce these indemnification obligations, the amount of funds in the Trust Account available for distribution to Achari Public Stockholders may be reduced below \$10.15 per share.

### **Employees**

Achari currently has three executive officers. These individuals are not obligated to devote any specific number of hours to Achari's matters but they devote as much of their time as they deem necessary and intend to continue doing so until an initial business combination has been consummated. The amount of time they devote in any time period will vary based on whether a target business has been selected for an initial business combination and the stage of the business combination process. Achari does not intend to have any full-time employees prior to the consummation of the initial business combination.

### **Properties**

Achari's executive offices are located at 60 Walnut Avenue, Suite 400, Clark, NJ 07066, and Achari's telephone number is (732) 340-0700. Achari's executive offices are provided to it by Achari's Sponsor at no charge. Achari considers its current office space adequate for its current operations.

### **Legal Proceedings**

We may be subject to legal proceedings, investigations and claims incidental to the conduct of Achari's business from time to time. We are not currently a party to any material litigation or other legal proceedings brought against us. We are also not aware of any legal proceeding, investigation or claim, or other legal exposure that has a more than remote possibility of having a material adverse effect on Achari's business, financial condition or results of operations.

## DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE OF ACHARI

References to the “Company,” “us” or “we” in this section refer to Achari.

### Management and Board of Directors

Achari’s current directors and officers are as follows:

Name	Age	Position
Vikas Desai	31	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
Merrick Friedman	34	Chief Investment Officer, Corporate Secretary and Director
Mitchell Hara	58	Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer
Seth Farbman	56	Director
Kevin K. Albert	71	Director
Harry DeMott	56	Director
Mark A. Pelson	61	Director

The experience of Achari’s directors and executive officers is as follows:

**Vikas Desai** has been a member on Achari’s board of directors and the Chief Executive Officer since January 2021. In early 2018, he founded Welcan Capital, a predecessor of Achari Ventures, a venture capital firm focused in the cannabis industry. Achari Ventures invests in high-impact, foundational companies across early-stage plant touching and ancillary businesses and currently has a portfolio of 24 companies within the platform. Mr. Desai has been employed by Welcan Strategic Opportunities Fund, which is part of the Achari Ventures platform, since 2018, and in late 2021, he began employment with Achari Ventures Fund I LP, also part of the Achari Ventures platform. Prior to Welcan, Mr. Desai was a private equity investor at Oaktree Capital Management, a \$100 billion alternative asset manager, from June 2015 to June 2017, where he completed over \$2 billion in transactions. Mr. Desai began his career at Morgan Stanley in the Investment Banking division from July 2013 to June 2015, focusing on real estate mergers and acquisitions and capital markets, where he completed approximately 15 deals representing approximately \$15 billion in transaction value. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Finance & Environmental Studies from the Stern School of Business at New York University.

**Merrick Friedman** has served as Achari’s Chief Investment Officer and Corporate Secretary since February 2021, and as a member of Achari’s board of directors since October 2021. Mr. Friedman joined Welcan Capital (now Achari Ventures) in June 2019. Mr. Friedman has been employed by Welcan Strategic Opportunities Fund, which is part of the Achari Ventures platform, since 2019, and in late 2021, he began employment with Achari Ventures Fund I LP, also part of the Achari Ventures platform. Prior to joining Welcan Capital, Mr. Friedman spent over four years at Long Pond Capital, from January 2015 to early 2019, an approximately \$3 billion long/short equity hedge fund focused on fundamental and value-oriented investing. Before joining Long Pond, from 2013 to 2014 Mr. Friedman was at The Raine Group (“Raine”), a global merchant bank. At Raine, he was responsible for providing mergers and acquisitions advisory services and evaluating growth equity investments in the media, entertainment and telecommunications industries. While at Raine, Mr. Friedman completed over \$30 billion in transaction value. Mr. Friedman began his career in 2012 at Deutsche Bank in the Natural Resources Investment Banking group. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Mitchell Hara** has served as Achari’s Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer since February 2021. Mr. Hara is an accomplished corporate executive, investment banker and investor with over 30 years of experience operating in dynamic and disruptive environments in the cannabis, consumer products and retail industries. Throughout his career, he has originated, structured and negotiated over \$60 billion in mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, restructurings, leveraged buyouts and structured debt and equity financings, and has helped create over \$1.2 billion in stockholder value in executive roles in public and private companies. Since 2018, Mr. Hara has served as an independent consultant to companies in the cannabis industry. From March 2019 to March 2021, Mr. Hara served as Senior Advisor at Hand In Hand Soap (“HIHS”), a high-growth, ESG-centric personal care brand with a dedicated mission of sustainability and give-back, where he also served as Interim Chief Executive Officer from September 2020 to December 2020. From 2019 to 2020, after he had served as a consultant for Clever Leaves International, Inc. (formerly known as Northern Swan Holdings) (NASDAQ: CLVR) for 5 months,

Mr. Hara was Head of Mergers & Acquisitions and Business Development at the same company, believed to be one of the largest licensed cannabis cultivators and extractors, by capacity, on a global scale, where he was responsible for all of Achari's investments, acquisitions and business development efforts. In August 2022, Mr. Hara was named Chief Strategy Officer at Curaleaf Holdings, Inc. (CSE: CURA) (OTCQX: CURLF), a leading international provider of consumer cannabis products. Together with his other consulting endeavors, Mr. Hara has over 4 years of cannabis industry experience. From 2016 to 2018, Mr. Hara was Chief Executive Officer of Beekman 1802, a high-growth, premium branded consumer products company, where he originated and executed the acquisition of its largest licensee, creating immense stockholder value. From 2011 to 2015, Mr. Hara was SVP of Corporate Strategy/Mergers and Acquisitions at HSN, Inc., then a publicly traded company, and now part of Qurate Retail Group (NASDAQ: QRTEA). At HSN, Inc. Mr. Hara launched its VC Incubator, optimized its catalog portfolio via mergers and acquisitions, and initiated and implemented its dividend and share buyback programs, creating substantial stockholder value. Prior to his operating career, Mr. Hara was a Managing Director in the Mergers & Acquisitions and Restructuring Group at Peter J. Solomon Company, from 2007 through 2010, and an Associate Director from 1996 to 1999. From 2004 to 2007, Mr. Hara was Head of Specialty Retail Investment Banking at Citigroup. From 2003 to 2004, he was a Senior Member at Hill Street Capital. From 1999 through 2001, Mr. Hara was a Director in the Retail Investment Banking Group at Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. From 1993 through 1996, he was an Associate in the Consumer M&A Group at Wasserstein Perella & Co., Inc. Mr. Hara began his career as a Financial Analyst at Citicorp Investment Bank in Leveraged Finance and Syndication from 1986 through 1989, and was seconded to Citicorp International, KK, in Tokyo, to build the Private Placement & Loan Syndication desk from 1989 to 1991. He currently serves on the advisory boards at Grand Slam Partners, GreenWave Advisors, Kirsh Helmets and IBP Institute, and is a mentor at HBS Start Up Partners and a member of HBS Alumni Angels of Greater New York. Mr. Hara has an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BS in Finance from Syracuse University.

**Seth Farbman** has served as a member of Achari's board of directors since October 2021. Mr. Farbman is an Executive Fellow at Yale University, primarily within the School of Management. In addition to lecturing, he provides real-world insights on business, marketing and technology to students, faculty and administration. He joined the university in November 2018, before retiring from Spotify in January 2019, where he served as Chief Marketing Officer from March 2015. During his four year tenure, Spotify grew to over 250 million customers in 65 countries, becoming the world's largest music streaming service and one of the 100 most valuable global brands. Mr. Farbman managed Spotify's B2C and B2B marketing teams, as well as public relations, customer support, brand, creative and design, marketing sciences and analytical teams. In 2018, Mr. Farbman helped Spotify accomplish one of the most successful public offerings in years. In June 2018, Mr. Farbman was named World's Most Innovative CMO by Business Insider, and, for the eighth year in a row, ranked on of Forbes' Most Influential CMOs. He was also recognized among the 50 most creative people in the world by Creativity. While at Spotify, Mr. Farbman built a best-in-class marketing and communications team that has been recognized for its unique combination of deep data and world-class creativity, which led to the internal creative team being named Advertising Age's 2018 Agency of the Year. At the Cannes Lions International Festival for Creativity, Spotify was awarded 11 Lions and named the 2018 Brand of the Year. Prior to joining Spotify, Mr. Farbman was the Chief Marketing Officer of Gap, then the world's largest specialty apparel company. In his five years at Gap, he drove a turnaround that returned Gap to growth for the first time in a decade and increased Gap's share price almost three-fold. He helped achieve the results by reshaping the entire global marketing function and shifting the product and marketing development to a new, younger segment of customers. He also oversaw the expansion of the Gap brand into new markets, such as China and South Africa. Before Gap, Mr. Farbman was the co-founder and President of OgilvyEarth, one of the first sustainability-focused marketing consultancies and party of the WPP/Ogilvy agency network. Recognizing the new opportunity in the sustainability movement, Mr. Farbman worked with global companies, such as DuPont, GE, Unilever, IBM, Coca-Cola and Siemens, to help guide their product development roadmaps and marketing strategies to address customer demand for more environmentally and socially responsible products and services. Additionally, at the request of the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, he created the largest-ever pro bono consumer campaign to raise support for the U.N. effort to secure a multilateral environmental agreement between its member countries. Mr. Farbman began his marketing career at two mobile communications startups that merged with carriers Verizon Wireless and AT&T Wireless. He led national marketing and communications teams during the most rapid expansion of the mobile industry. Mr. Farbman is a trained journalist, working primarily for ABC and NBC television stations in the six years immediately after graduate school. Mr. Farbman currently serves as a member of the board of directors of Snagajob and Dashlane, and also served as the interim Chief Executive

Officer from September 2020 to February 2021. He is senior advisor to several high growth companies, including Peloton, Grubhub, Perfect Day Foods, Sunwink, Noom and The New York Times. He has an M.S. in Journalism from the S.I. Newhouse School of Communications at Syracuse University.

**Kevin K. Albert** has served as a member of Achari's board of directors since October 2021. Mr. Albert is a retired investment banker. He is currently managing a portfolio of private investments, the majority of which are in the legal cannabis industry. He serves on the board of directors of Octavius Group Holdings Inc. (doing business as "Flow Kana") since January 2020, a private company in the cannabis industry. Since April 2022, Mr. Albert has served on the board of SLANG Worldwide, Inc. and been a member of its audit committee (CNSX: SLNG). Since June 2022, he has also served on the board of Conception Nurseries, Inc., a private company. Mr. Albert is also an independent director on the board of Neighborhood Holdings, Inc., a private real estate management company which enables renters to build financial equity in their homes and neighborhoods. From 2010 until his retirement in December 2019, Mr. Albert was a Senior Partner of Pantheon Ventures LLC ("Pantheon") and a member of its six-person Partnership Board. For most of his tenure at Pantheon, Mr. Albert was responsible for the firm's global business development, including all product marketing and business development activities. During this time, Pantheon's assets under management increased from approximately \$25 billion to approximately \$50 billion. Prior to joining Pantheon, he was a Managing Director and co-founder of Elevation Partners ("Elevation"), a private equity firm that made investments in market-leading consumer-tech businesses such as Facebook and Yelp. Prior to Elevation, Mr. Albert worked in the investment banking division of Merrill Lynch & Co. for 24 years where, for most of this time, he served as a Managing Director and the Global Head of the Private Placement Group managing the market leading private equity fund placement business. From 2006 until 2017, Mr. Albert served as an independent director on the board of Merrill Lynch Ventures, LLC ("Merrill"), a series of private equity partnerships offered to key Merrill Lynch employees. From 1999 to 2000, he also was responsible for the middle market mergers and acquisitions group at Merrill, advising on sell-side mergers and acquisitions, primarily for clients of the firm's brokerage side. Beginning in 2010, Mr. Albert was an independent director, chairman of the audit committee and a member of the corporate governance and nominating committee of Dover Saddlery, Inc., the leading multichannel equestrian retailer in the United States prior to its purchase and take-private transaction by a private equity firm in 2015. Mr. Albert has a BA and an MBA from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he continues to be involved as the Chair of the Board of Visitors of the Economics Department.

**Harry DeMott** has served as a member of Achari's board of directors since October 2021. Mr. DeMott is a seasoned investor, operator and board director. He is the founder and CEO of Temerity Media Inc. (d/b/a Proper), a cannabis data-business connecting customers, brands and retailers. He is the former CEO of Ticket Evolution, the ticket industry's premier B2B exchange, a portfolio company of Raptor Ventures I LP ("Raptor"), where Mr. DeMott is General Partner. Through Raptor, Mr. DeMott sits on the board of directors of Security Point Media. Outside of Raptor, Mr. DeMott sits on the board of Workhouse Group Inc. (NASDAQ: WKHS), where he previously chaired the compensation committee and remains a member, and serves on the nominating and governance committee. He is involved in a number of investment activities through Harmerle Investments and Chelsea Realty, two family owned and operated vehicles. Recently, Mr. DeMott was CEO of Australis Capital (NASDAQ: AUSA), a spinoff of Aurora Cannabis, focused on U.S. cannabis. Starting out as a board director in April 2019, Mr. DeMott was later appointed to the CEO position until a new board of directors was elected in the 2020 annual general meeting. Through Harmerle Investments, he was an early investor in Columbia Care (NASDAQ: CCHWF) and he is also an investor in Evolv Cannabis, Kinslips and Groundworks, the holding company for the Serra and Electric Lettuce chains of dispensaries in Oregon. Mr. DeMott has long been involved in music and entertainment investments with current investments in Hi.Fi, Violet Crown Cinemas, Urban Airship and Big Room. Prior to co-founding Raptor, Mr. DeMott was an analyst at Knighthead Capital and King Street Capital, two leading distressed debt funds based in New York City. During his tenure there, and his previously co-founded hedge fund, Gothic Capital, Mr. DeMott led investments in a variety of venture capital deals such as Pandora, dMarc Broadcasting and Zing. Mr. DeMott started his career on Wall Street at Credit Lyonnais Global Partners, moving to First Boston (Credit Suisse) where he became an institutional investor ranked analyst in broadcasting. He was singled out by the Wall Street Journal as one of the leading stock pickers in his field, and while there helped raise funds for various companies in the radio, television, outdoor advertising and tower sectors. Mr. DeMott attended Trinity School before attending Princeton University where he graduated with an AB in Economics in 1988. He received an MBA in International Finance from NYU's Stern School of Business in 1991.

**Mark A. Pelson** has served as a member of Achari's board of directors since October 2021. Mr. Pelson is a business manager, entrepreneur and investor with over 30 years of experience. Since 2009, Mr. Pelson has been the General Partner of PCI, LLC, where he leads investments in information services and telecommunications. Prior to forming PCI, LLC, Mr. Pelson was a Managing Director at Providence Equity Partners ("Providence Equity") which he joined in 1996. Providence Equity is a leading private equity firm specializing in growth-oriented investments in media, communications, education, software and services and has over 40 billion in assets under management. Mr. Pelson has served on the boards of over a dozen Providence Equity portfolio companies, including Consolidated Communications (NASDAQ: CNSL), American Cellular Corporation, Wireless One, Madison River Telephone Company, Language Line, Telcordia and Wired Inc. Mr. Pelson was responsible for many of Providence Equity's investments in FCC wireless auctions, local, long haul and undersea fiber optic infrastructure providers, wireless data services, business services and wireless telephony. Prior to joining Providence Equity, Mr. Pelson co-founded TeleCorp, Inc., a wireless telecommunications company in 1994 which bid in early FCC spectrum auctions. He previously served from 1989 to 1994 in various management positions with AT&T, including general manager of strategic planning and mergers and acquisitions. Mr. Pelson received a Juris Doctorate from Boston University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Cornell University.

**Timothy J. Seymour** has served as a member of Achari's board of directors since October 2021. Mr. Seymour is the founder and Chief Investment Officer of Seymour Asset Management, a registered investment advisor for both asset and wealth management. He has served in such capacity since January 2014. He brings 25 years of investment experience as a portfolio manager, allocator, and capital markets professional across multiple asset classes. With a background in emerging market and new asset classes, Mr. Seymour was an early investor and participant in the cannabis sector dating back to 2016. He has established himself as a thought leader and industry insider and has served on multiple advisory boards in the sector. Since July 2019, Mr. Seymour has served as the Portfolio Manager of Amplify Seymour Cannabis ETF (NYSE: CNBS), an actively managed strategy fund that provides thematic exposure in the high growth and evolving cannabis sector, and a Senior Advisor and member of the investment committee at JW Asset Management, a \$1.8 billion firm specializing in cannabis hedge fund products in both public and private equity. Mr. Seymour was the Chief Investment Officer and co-founder of Triogem Asset Management, ("Triogem"), where the firm's flagship fund was a long short global equity strategy, from May 2008 to September 2013. Triogem's investment approach was rooted in running a low volatility portfolio that managed top down risks while employing a rigorous research process to bottom up stock picking. Prior to Triogem, Mr. Seymour was co-founder and Managing Partner at Red Star Asset Management, ("Red Star"), where the firm managed a multi-strategy fund investing across Russia and Eastern Europe, from February 2005 to July 2007. Before launching Red Star, from August 1998 to December 2004, he was a Partner and Managing Director at Troika Dialog, ("Troika"), which was later bought by Sberbank, a Russian state bank. At Troika, Mr. Seymour served various roles, including running the fixed income sales and trading group, launching the firm's US broker/dealer group and overseeing all U.S. capital markets activity. Mr. Seymour started his career in November 1996 at UBS Securities, LLC, ("UBS"), in New York, focusing on international macro, until he left in April 1998. Mr. Seymour received his MBA in International Finance from Fordham University, after which he completed UBS' capital markets trading program, and he received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.

#### **Number and Terms of Office of Officers and Directors**

Achari has six directors and Achari's Board is divided into three classes with only one class of directors being elected in each year and each class (except for those directors appointed prior to Achari's first annual meeting of stockholders) serving a three-year term. In accordance with Nasdaq corporate governance requirements, we are not required to hold an annual meeting until one year after Achari's first fiscal year end following Achari's listing on Nasdaq. The term of office of the first class of directors, consisting of Seth Farbman and Kevin K. Albert, will expire at this special meeting in lieu of Achari's 2023 annual meeting of stockholders (being Achari's first annual meeting of stockholders since the IPO). The term of office of the second class of directors, consisting of Harry DeMott, Mark A. Pelson and Timothy J. Seymour, will expire at the second annual meeting of stockholders. The term of office of the third class of directors, consisting of Vikas Desai and Merrick Friedman, will expire at the third annual meeting of stockholders.

Our officers are appointed by the Achari Board and serve at the discretion of the Achari Board, rather than for specific terms of office. The Achari Board is authorized to appoint persons to the offices set forth in Achari's charter as it deems appropriate. Achari's charter provides that Achari's officers may consist of a Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretaries and such other offices as may be determined by the Achari Board.

Our directors and officers play a key role in identifying, evaluating, and selecting target businesses, and structuring, negotiating and eventually we anticipate consummating an Initial Business Combination. Except as described under "Conflicts of Interest" in Achari's Annual Report on Form 10-K, none of these individuals is currently a principal of or affiliated with a public company or blank check company that executed a business plan similar to Achari's business plan. We believe that the skills and experience of these individuals, their collective access to acquisition opportunities and ideas, their contacts, and their transaction expertise should enable them to identify successfully and effect an acquisition transaction, although we cannot assure you that they will, in fact, be able to do so.

#### **Director Independence**

Nasdaq listing standards require that a majority of the Achari Board be independent. An "independent director" is defined generally as a person other than an officer or employee of the company or its subsidiaries or any other individual having a relationship which in the opinion of the company's board of directors would interfere with the director's exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director. The Achari Board has determined that Seth Farbman, Harry DeMott, Kevin K. Albert, Mark A. Pelson and Timothy J. Seymour are "independent directors" as defined in Nasdaq listing standards and applicable SEC rules. Achari's independent directors have regularly scheduled meetings at which only independent directors are present.

#### **Executive Compensation**

We have not entered into any employment agreements with Achari's executive officers and have not made any agreements to provide benefits upon termination of employment.

#### ***Executive Officers and Director Compensation***

No executive officer has received any cash compensation for services rendered to us. No compensation of any kind, including finders, consulting or other similar fees, will be paid to any of Achari's existing stockholders, including Achari's directors, or any of their respective affiliates, prior to, or for any services they render in order to effectuate, the consummation of a Business Combination. However, such individuals will be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with activities on Achari's behalf such as identifying potential target businesses and performing due diligence on suitable Business Combinations. There is no limit on the amount of these out-of-pocket expenses and there will be no review of the reasonableness of the expenses by anyone other than Achari's board of directors and audit committee, which includes persons who may seek reimbursement, or a court of competent jurisdiction if such reimbursement is challenged.

#### **Committees of the Board of Directors**

The board of directors has standing audit and compensation committees. The independent directors oversee director nominations. Each of the audit committee and compensation committee has a charter, which were filed with the SEC as exhibits to Achari's Registration Statement on Form S-1 on August 5, 2021 filed in connection with Achari's initial public offering.

#### **Audit Committee**

Achari has established an audit committee of the board of directors. Kevin K. Albert, Harry DeMott and Timothy J. Seymour serve as members of Achari's audit committee, and Mr. DeMott chairs the audit committee. Under Nasdaq listing standards and applicable SEC rules, we are required to have at least three members of the audit committee, all of whom must be independent. Each of Mr. Albert, Mr. DeMott and Mr. Seymour meet the independent director standard under Nasdaq listing standards and under Rule 10-A-3(b)(1) of the Exchange Act.

Each member of the audit committee is financially literate, and Achari's board of directors has determined that Harry DeMott qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in applicable SEC rules.

We have adopted an audit committee charter, which details the principal functions of the audit committee, including:

- the appointment, compensation, retention, replacement, and oversight of the work of the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by us;
- pre-approving all audit and permitted non-audit services to be provided by the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by us, and establishing pre-approval policies and procedures;
- setting clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent registered public accounting firm, including but not limited to, as required by applicable laws and regulations;
- setting clear policies for audit partner rotation in compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- obtaining and reviewing a report, at least annually, from the independent registered public accounting firm describing (i) the independent registered public accounting firm's internal quality-control procedures, (ii) any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality-control review, or peer review, of the audit firm, or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities within the preceding five years respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the firm and any steps taken to deal with such issues and (iii) all relationships between the independent registered public accounting firm and Achari to assess the independent registered public accounting firm's independence;
- reviewing and approving any related party transaction required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404 of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC prior to Achari entering into such transaction; and
- reviewing with management, the independent registered public accounting firm, and Achari's legal advisors, as appropriate, any legal, regulatory or compliance matters, including any correspondence with regulators or government agencies and any employee complaints or published reports that raise material issues regarding Achari's financial statements or accounting policies and any significant changes in accounting standards or rules promulgated by the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the SEC or other regulatory authorities.

#### **Compensation Committee**

We have established a compensation committee of the board of directors. Kevin K. Albert and Mark A. Pelson serve as members of Achari's compensation committee. Under Nasdaq listing standards and applicable SEC rules, we are required to have at least two members of the compensation committee, all of whom must be independent. Mr. Albert and Mr. Pelson are independent and Mr. Albert chairs the compensation committee.

We have adopted a compensation committee charter, which details the principal functions of the compensation committee, including:

- reviewing and approving on an annual basis the corporate goals and objectives relevant to Achari's Chief Executive Officer's compensation, if any is paid by us, evaluating Achari's Chief Executive Officer's performance in light of such goals and objectives and determining and approving the remuneration (if any) of Achari's Chief Executive Officer based on such evaluations;
- reviewing and approving on an annual basis the compensation, if any is paid by us, of all of Achari's other officers;
- reviewing on an annual basis Achari's executive compensation policies and plans;
- implementing and administering Achari's incentive compensation equity-based remuneration plans;
- assisting management in complying with Achari's proxy statement and annual report disclosure requirements;

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- approving all special perquisites, special cash payments and other special compensation and benefit arrangements for Achari's officers and employees;
- if required, producing a report on executive compensation to be included in Achari's annual proxy statement; and
- reviewing, evaluating and recommending changes, if appropriate, to the remuneration for directors.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, as indicated above, no compensation of any kind, including finders, consulting or other similar fees, will be paid to any of Achari's existing stockholders, officers, directors or any of their respective affiliates, prior to, or for any services they render in order to effectuate the consummation of an initial Business Combination. Accordingly, it is likely that prior to the consummation of an initial Business Combination, the compensation committee will only be responsible for the review and recommendation of any compensation arrangements to be entered into in connection with such initial Business Combination.

The charter also provides that the compensation committee may, in its sole discretion, retain or obtain the advice of a compensation consultant, legal counsel or other adviser and will be directly responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the work of any such adviser. However, before engaging or receiving advice from a compensation consultant, external legal counsel or any other adviser, the compensation committee will consider the independence of each such adviser, including the factors required by Nasdaq and the SEC.

### **Nominating Committee**

We do not have a standing nominating committee though we intend to form a corporate governance and nominating committee as and when required to do so by law or Nasdaq rules. In accordance with Rule 5605 of the Nasdaq rules, a majority of the independent directors may recommend a director nominee for selection by the board of directors. The board of directors believes that the independent directors can satisfactorily carry out the responsibility of properly selecting or approving director nominees without the formation of a standing nominating committee. The directors who will participate in the consideration and recommendation of director nominees are Seth Farbman, Kevin K. Albert, Mark A. Pelson, Harry DeMott and Timothy J. Seymour. In accordance with Rule 5605 of the Nasdaq rules, all such directors are independent. As there is no standing nominating committee, we do not have a nominating committee charter in place.

The board of directors will also consider director candidates recommended for nomination by Achari's stockholders during such times as they are seeking proposed nominees to stand for election at the next annual meeting of stockholders (or, if applicable, a special meeting of stockholders). Achari's stockholders that wish to nominate a director for election to Achari's board of directors should follow the procedures set forth in Achari's bylaws.

We have not formally established any specific, minimum qualifications that must be met or skills that are necessary for directors to possess. In general, in identifying and evaluating nominees for director, the board of directors considers educational background, diversity of professional experience, knowledge of Achari's business, integrity, professional reputation, independence, wisdom, and the ability to represent the best interests of Achari's stockholders.

### **Director Nominations**

We have not formally established any specific, minimum qualifications that must be met or skills that are necessary for directors to possess. In general, in identifying and evaluating nominees for director, the board of directors considers educational background, diversity of professional experience, knowledge of Achari's business, integrity, professional reputation, independence, wisdom and the ability to represent the best interests of Achari's stockholders. Prior to Achari's initial business combination, Achari Public Stockholders will not have the right to recommend director candidates for nomination to Achari's board of directors.

**Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics and Insider Trading Policy**

We adopted a code of conduct and ethics applicable to Achari's directors, officers and employees in accordance with applicable federal securities laws. The code of ethics codifies the business and ethical principles that govern all aspects of Achari's business. A copy of the code of ethics is incorporated as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Any waivers from, Achari's code of ethics will be posted on Achari's website [www.acharivc.com](http://www.acharivc.com).

As of December 28, 2023, we have not adopted a formal insider trading policy. In connection with a Business Combination, we expect to adopt an insider trading policy which will require insiders to: (i) refrain from purchasing Achari's securities during certain blackout periods when they are in possession of any material non-public information and (ii) clear all trades of company securities with a compliance officer prior to execution.

None of Achari's officers currently serve, and in the past year has not served, as a member of the compensation committee of any entity that has one or more officers serving on the Achari Board.

**Section 16(A) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires Achari's directors, officers and stockholders who beneficially own more than 10% of any class of equity securities of Achari registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, collectively referred to herein as the "Reporting Persons," to file initial statements of beneficial ownership of securities and statements of changes in beneficial ownership of securities with respect to Achari's equity securities with the SEC. All Reporting Persons are required by SEC regulation to furnish Achari with copies of all reports that such Reporting Persons file with the SEC pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.

*Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports*

Based solely on Achari's review of the copies of such reports and upon written representations of the Reporting Persons received by us, we believe that the following transactions were not timely reported:

Name	Late Report	Transactions Covered	Number of Shares
Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC	Form 4	Forfeiture of requisite Founder Shares after expiration of over-allotment exercise period.	375,000
Vikas Desai	Form 4	Forfeiture of requisite Founder Shares after expiration of over-allotment exercise period.	375,000

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS OF ACHARI

*The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this proxy statement. This discussion contains forward-looking statements reflecting Achari's current expectations, estimates and assumptions concerning events and financial trends that may affect Achari's future operating results or financial position. Actual results and the timing of events may differ materially from those contained in these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including those discussed in the sections entitled "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" appearing elsewhere in this proxy statement.*

*References in this section to "we," "our" or "us" refer to Achari. References to Achari's "management" or Achari's "management team" refer to Achari's officers and directors.*

We are a blank check company formed for the purpose of effecting a merger, capital stock exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one or more target businesses. We intend to effectuate Achari's business combination using cash from the proceeds of Achari's IPO and the sale of the placement units that occurred simultaneously with the completion of Achari's IPO, Achari's capital stock, debt or a combination of cash, stock and debt.

We expect to continue to incur significant costs in the pursuit of Achari's acquisition plans. We cannot assure you that Achari's plans to complete a business combination will be successful.

### Results of Operations

We have neither engaged in any operations nor generated any operating revenues to date. Achari's only activities from inception through January 1, 2024 were organizational activities and those necessary to prepare for the IPO, described below, and since the IPO, the search for a prospective target for an initial business combination. We do not expect to generate any operating revenues until after the completion of Achari's initial business combination, at the earliest. We expect to generate non-operating income in the form of interest income from the proceeds of the IPO placed in the Trust Account. We expect that we will continue to incur increased expenses as a result of being a public company (for legal, financial reporting, accounting and auditing compliance), as well as for due diligence expenses in connection with searching for, and completing, a business combination.

#### *For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023*

For the three months ended September 30, 2023, we had a net loss of \$688,427, which primarily consists of operating expenses of \$581,054, accrual of Delaware franchise taxes of \$50,000, change in fair value of warrant liabilities of \$142,667, income tax expense of \$9,383 and offset by interest and dividend income of \$94,677. Operating expenses include legal and professional charges of \$433,716 mainly pertaining to de-SPAC related activity.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2023, we had a net loss of \$2,179,935, which primarily consists of operating expenses of \$2,257,753, accrual of Delaware franchise taxes of \$150,000, change in fair value of warrant liabilities of \$71,334, income tax expense of \$39,646 and offset by interest and dividend income of \$338,798. Operating expenses include legal and professional charges of \$1,836,206 mainly pertaining to de-SPAC related activity.

For the three months ended September 30, 2022, we had a net income of \$736,637, which primarily consists of change in fair value of warrant liabilities of \$642,000, dividend income of \$193,267, unrealized gain on marketable securities of \$272,353 offset by operating expenses of \$249,307, accrual of Delaware franchise taxes of \$50,000 and income tax expense of \$71,676.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2022, we had a net income of \$1,690,424, which primarily consists of change in fair value of warrant liabilities of \$1,997,334, interest and dividend income of \$340,873, unrealized gain on marketable securities held in the Trust Account of \$272,353 offset by operating expenses of \$696,460, accrual of Delaware franchise taxes of \$150,000 and income tax expense of \$73,676.

*For the year ended December 31, 2022*

For the year ended December 31, 2022, we had a net income of \$1,623,367, which primarily consisted of operating expenses of \$1,569,618, accrual of Delaware franchise taxes of \$282,342, interest and dividend income on investments held in Achari's Trust Account of \$1,411,854, change in fair value of warrant liabilities of \$1,997,334 and income tax provision of \$216,203.

For the period from January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021, we had a net income of \$2,738,756, which primarily consisted of a change in fair value of warrant liabilities of \$7,632,666 and over-allotment income of \$95,104 offset by other expense of fair value in excess of sale of private warrants in the amount of \$4,636,666, operating expenses of \$182,920, accrual of Delaware franchise taxes of \$114,262 and transaction costs allocated to warrant issuance of \$57,041.

*Liquidity and Capital Resources*

The registration statement for the IPO was declared effective on October 14, 2021. On October 19, 2021, Achari consummated the IPO, consisting of 10,000,000 Units with respect to the Public Shares at \$10.00 per Unit generating gross proceeds of \$100,000,000. Achari has selected December 31 as its fiscal year end.

Simultaneously with the closing of the IPO, Achari consummated the sale of 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants at a price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant in a private placement to the Sponsor, for gross proceeds of \$5,350,000.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2023, there was \$910,524 of cash used in operating activities, \$38,166,509 of cash provided by investing activities and \$37,834,481 of cash used in financing activities.

At September 30, 2023, we had cash and marketable securities held in the Trust Account equal to \$6,860,609. We intend to use substantially all of the funds held in the Trust Account, including any amounts representing interest earned on the Trust Account (less income taxes payable), to complete Achari's business combination. To the extent that Achari's capital stock or debt is used, in whole or in part, as consideration to complete Achari's business combination, the remaining proceeds held in the Trust Account will be used as working capital to finance the operations of the target business or businesses, make other acquisitions and pursue Achari's growth strategies.

At September 30, 2023, we had cash of \$18,810 outside of the Trust Account. We intend to use the funds held outside the Trust Account primarily to identify and evaluate target businesses, perform business due diligence on prospective target businesses, travel to and from the offices, plants or similar locations of prospective target businesses or their respective representatives or owners, review corporate documents and material agreements of prospective target businesses, and structure, negotiate and complete a business combination.

To finance transaction costs in connection with a business combination, the Sponsor or an affiliate of the Sponsor, or certain of Achari's officers and directors, may, but are not obligated to, loan Achari funds as may be required through working capital loans. If Achari completes a business combination, Achari may repay the working capital loans out of the proceeds of the Trust Account released to Achari. Otherwise, the working capital loans would be repaid only out of funds held outside the Trust Account. In the event that a business combination does not close, Achari may use a portion of proceeds held outside the Trust Account to repay the working capital loans, but no proceeds held in the Trust Account would be used to repay the working capital loans. The working capital loans would either be repaid upon consummation of a business combination, without interest, or, at the lender's discretion, up to \$1.5 million of such working capital loans may be convertible into warrants of the post-business combination entity at a price of \$0.75 per warrant. The warrants would be identical to the Private Placement Warrants. As of September 30, 2023, Achari had received \$367,000 of such working capital loans. Those Persons that made the working capital loans are at risk of not having such loans repaid in cash or warrants of Achari if the Business Combination does not occur.

On July 18, 2023, Achari and the Sponsor entered into a non-interest bearing loan agreement whereby Achari issued a promissory note (the "**Note**") to the Sponsor pursuant to which Achari may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of monthly extension options. The current principal amount of the Note is payable on the earlier of (a) the consummation of a business combination, and (b) the date of the liquidation of Achari. If a business combination is not consummated, the Note will be repaid solely to the extent that Achari has funds available to it outside of the Trust Account and all other

amounts will be forfeited, eliminated or otherwise forgiven. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the amount outstanding under the Note was \$152,000 and \$0 respectively, as reflected on Achari's balance sheet included herein under the caption 'Note Payable-related party'.

On January 18, 2023, Achari and the Sponsor entered into a loan agreement whereby Achari issued a promissory note (the "**Promissory Note**") to the Sponsor pursuant to which Achari may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of monthly extension options, and which may be treated, at the Sponsor's election, as a working capital loan. The working capital loans would either be repaid upon consummation of a business combination, without interest, or, at the lender's discretion, such working capital loans may be convertible into warrants of the post-business combination entity at a price of \$0.75 per warrant. The option to convert the working capital loans into warrants qualifies as an embedded derivative under ASC 815 and is required to be recognized at fair value with subsequent changes in fair value recognized in Achari's statements of operations each reporting period until the loan is repaid or converted. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the fair value of the option to convert the working capital loans was \$0 and the working capital loan is held at cost of \$215,000 and \$0, respectively, as reflected on Achari's balance sheet included herein under the caption 'Convertible Note Payable-related party'.

On December 22, 2022, at a special meeting of Achari's stockholders, Achari's stockholders approved (i) an amendment to Achari's second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended a then-existing option included in Achari's second amended and restated certificate of incorporation, and which had provided Achari the ability to extend the deadline by which Achari must consummate a business combination by up to three months, or from January 19, 2023 to April 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a business combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023, and (ii) an amendment to Achari's Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that Achari may extend the time period to complete a business combination up to and until July 19, 2023, on a monthly basis, by, at Achari's option, depositing into the Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000, and (y) \$0.05 for each share of the Company's Common Stock which remained outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit. The Third CoI Monthly Extension Options were exercised by Achari in six single-month increments.

On July 12, 2023, at a special meeting of Achari's stockholders, Achari's stockholders approved (i) an amendment to Achari's fourth amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in Achari's then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation, and which provided Achari the ability to extend the deadline by which Achari must consummate a business combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a business combination by up to an additional six months, or from July 19, 2023 to January 19, 2024, and (ii) an amendment to Achari's Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that Achari may extend the time period to complete a business combination up to and until January 19, 2024 on a monthly basis, at Achari's option, by depositing into the Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of the Company's Common Stock which remained outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit. The Fourth CoI Monthly Extension Options were exercised by Achari in six single-month increments.

On July 17, 2023, the Sponsor transferred 927,600 shares of Achari Common Stock to certain members of the Sponsor. As a result of such transfers, as of July 17, 2023, 1,572,400 shares of Achari Common Stock were held directly by the Sponsor and 927,600 shares of Achari Common Stock were held directly by members of the Sponsor.

On December 18, 2023, Achari held a special meeting in lieu of an annual meeting of Achari's stockholders at which its stockholders approved (i) a proposal to amend its Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to revise its then-existing extension option, which provided that it had the option of extending the period by which it must consummate a business combination from January 19, 2024 to July 19, 2024, with such extension option exercisable in six single-month increments, known as the Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Options, for an additional six-month aggregate total extension period if each Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option is exercised; (ii) a proposal to amend Achari's charter to eliminate the Redemption Limitation in order to allow Achari to redeem Public Shares irrespective of whether the amount of such redemptions would breach the Redemption Limitation if Achari so chooses in its sole discretion; and (iii) a proposal to amend Achari's Second Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement, dated July 12, 2023, to provide that the expiration date provided for in the Trust Agreement may be extended, at Achari's option, and on a monthly basis, pursuant to the exercise of Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option(s), up to and until July 19, 2024; provided that, in order to exercise a single Fifth

CoI Monthly Extension Option, we must deposit into the Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000, and (y) \$0.04 for each share of Achari Common Stock included in the Units which were sold in Achari's IPO and which remain outstanding on the date of such deposit. In connection with the stockholders' vote at the December 18, 2023 meeting, Achari was advised that holders of 87,380 shares of Achari Common Stock exercised their right to redeem their respective shares for cash at a price of \$10.91 per share, for an aggregate payment of \$952,939.89, which was subsequently withdrawn from the Trust Account to redeem such shares. As of January 2, 2024 (and reflecting the withdrawal of funds in connection with the redemption of shares described in the foregoing sentence), the Trust Account had a balance of \$6,050,606.81.

#### **Nasdaq Continued Listed Requirements**

Achari has previously been notified by Nasdaq that it is not in compliance with certain standards that Nasdaq requires listed companies to meet for their securities to continue to be listed and traded on their exchange. Achari has regained compliance with all such applicable Listing Rules, except for Listing Rules 5450(b)(2)(A) and 5450(a)(2), which it has been granted an extension until April 2, 2024, to cure the existing continued listing deficiencies.

- *Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B)* On January 22, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that Achari was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), requiring at least 1,100,000 "Publicly Held Shares." The letter stated that Achari had 45 calendar days to submit a plan to regain compliance. Achari submitted a plan on March 9, 2023, and after review, on March 30, 2023, Nasdaq granted Achari an extension to regain compliance, until July 21, 2023. On June 22, 2023, Achari received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that Achari was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B). On July 21, 2023, Achari filed a Form 8-K with the SEC disclosing, among other things, certain details regarding Achari's beneficial ownership and outstanding common stock. On August 7, 2023, Achari received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that Achari had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), and accordingly, that such matter was closed. On December 18, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that Achari was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), requiring at least 1,100,000 "Publicly Held Shares." The letter stated that Achari had 45 calendar days to submit a plan to regain compliance. Upon further discussion with Nasdaq all parties agreed Achari was not in violation of Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), and the letter was withdrawn.
- *Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C)* On February 24, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that Achari was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C), requiring a "Market Value" of "Publicly Held Shares" of at least \$15 million. The letter stated that Achari had 180 calendar days to regain compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C), or until August 23, 2023. On August 7, 2023, Achari received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that Achari had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C), and accordingly, that such matter was closed.
- *Listing Rule 5250(c)(1)* On April 24, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that Achari was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), as a result of Achari's delay in filing its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022. On April 25, 2023, Achari filed its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 with the SEC. On April 25, 2023, Achari received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that Achari had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), and accordingly, that such matter was closed. On May 23, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that Achari was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), as a result of Achari's delay in filing its Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2023. On May 26, 2023, Achari filed its Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2023 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. On June 1, 2023, Achari received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that Achari had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), and accordingly, that such matter was closed.
- *Listing Rules 5450(b)(2)(A) and 5450(a)(2)* On March 23, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq notifying Achari that, for the 30 consecutive trading days prior to the date of the letter, Achari's common stock had traded at a value below the minimum \$50,000,000 "Market Value of Listed Securities" ("MVLS") requirement set forth in Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(A). The letter stated that Achari had 180 calendar days, or until September 19, 2023, to regain compliance. On October 3, 2023, Achari had not regained compliance with the MVLS requirement because the Company's MVLS was below the \$50,000,000 minimum MVLS requirement for the proceeding 30 consecutive trading days and received

a delisting determination letter from Nasdaq. On October 9, 2023, Achari received an additional letter from the Staff stating that on September 3, 2023, Achari reported less than the 400 total shareholders required under Nasdaq Listing Rule 5450(a)(2), and this matter served as an additional basis for delisting the securities. On December 7, 2023 Achari presented their plan of compliance to the Nasdaq hearings panel and requested an extension to regain compliance. On December 19, 2023, Nasdaq notified Achari that it had granted an extension until April 2, 2024, to cure the existing continued listing deficiencies.

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We have no obligations, assets or liabilities which would be considered offbalance sheet arrangements as of September 30, 2023. We do not participate in transactions that create relationships with entities or financial partnerships, often referred to as variable interest entities, which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements. We have not entered into any offbalance sheet financing arrangements, established any special purpose entities (other than Merger Sub), guaranteed any debt or commitments of other entities or purchased any non-financial assets.

#### **Contractual Obligations**

We do not have any long-term debt, capital lease obligations, operating lease obligations or long-term liabilities.

The underwriters of Achari's IPO are entitled to deferred underwriting commissions of \$3,500,000 in the aggregate. The deferred fee will become payable to the underwriters of Achari's IPO from the amounts held in the Trust Account solely in the event that Achari completes a business combination, subject to the terms of the underwriting agreement.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and income and expenses during the periods reported. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates.

##### *Common Stock Subject to Possible Redemption*

We account for Achari's common stock subject to possible redemption in accordance with the guidance in Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 480 "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity" ("ASC 480"). Common stock subject to mandatory redemption is classified as a liability instrument and is measured at fair value. Conditionally redeemable common stock (including common stock that features redemption rights that are either within the control of the holder or subject to redemption upon the occurrence of uncertain events not solely within Achari's control) is classified as temporary equity. At all other times, common stock is classified as stockholders' equity. Achari's common stock features certain redemption rights that are considered to be outside of Achari's control and subject to occurrence of uncertain future events. Accordingly, common stock subject to possible redemption is presented as temporary equity, outside of the stockholders' equity section of Achari's balance sheets. Achari recognizes changes in redemption value immediately as they occur and adjusts the carrying value of redeemable common stock to equal the redemption value at the end of each reporting period. Increases or decreases in the carrying amount of redeemable common stock are affected by charges against additional paid in capital and accumulated deficit.

##### *Net Income per Share of Common Stock*

Net income per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of Achari's common stock outstanding during the period, excluding shares of Achari's common stock subject to forfeiture by the Sponsor. At December 31, 2022, Achari did not have any dilutive securities and/or other contracts that could, potentially, be exercised or converted into shares of common stock and then share in the earnings of Achari. As a result, diluted income per share is the same as basic income per share for the period presented.

*Accounting for Warrants*

Achari accounts for warrants as either equity-classified or liability-classified instruments based on an assessment of the instruments' specific terms and applicable authoritative guidance in ASC 480 and ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging ("ASC 815"). The assessment considers whether the instruments are free standing financial instruments pursuant to ASC 480, meet the definition of a liability pursuant to ASC 480 and whether the instruments meet all of the requirements for equity classification under ASC 815, including whether the instruments are indexed to Achari's own common shares and whether the instrument holders could potentially require "net cash settlement" in a circumstance outside of Achari's control, among other conditions for equity classification. This assessment, which requires the use of professional judgment, was conducted at the time of warrant issuance and as of each subsequent period end date while the instruments were outstanding. Management has concluded that Achari's public warrants qualify for equity accounting treatment and the Private Placement Warrants issued pursuant to the warrant agreement qualify for liability accounting treatment.

*Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

In August 2020, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2020-06, Debt — debt with Conversion and Other Options (Subtopic 470-20) and Derivatives and Hedging — Contracts in Entity's Own Equity (Subtopic 815-40): Accounting for Convertible Instruments and Contracts in an Entity's Own Equity ("ASU 2020-06"), which simplifies accounting for convertible instruments by removing major separation models required under current GAAP. The ASU also removes certain settlement conditions that are required for equity-linked contracts to qualify for the derivative scope exception, and it simplifies the diluted earnings per share calculation in certain areas. Achari adopted ASU 2020-06 on January 25, 2021 (inception). Adoption of the ASU did not impact Achari's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Achari has reviewed other recent accounting pronouncements and concluded that they are either not applicable to Achari or no material effect is expected on the financial statement as a result of future adoption.

#### **INDEBTEDNESS OF ACHARI**

On July 18, 2023, Achari and the Sponsor entered into a non-interest bearing loan agreement whereby Achari issued a promissory note to the Sponsor pursuant to which Achari may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of a monthly extension option. The current principal amount of the note is payable on the earlier of the consummation of a business combination and the date of the liquidation of Achari. If a business combination is not consummated, this note will be repaid solely to the extent that Achari has funds available to it outside of the Trust Account and all other amounts will be forfeited, eliminated or otherwise forgiven. As of September 30, 2023, the amount outstanding under the note was \$152,000.

On January 18, 2023, Achari and the Sponsor entered into a loan agreement whereby Achari issued a promissory note to the Sponsor pursuant to which Achari may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of monthly extension options, and which may be treated, at the Sponsor's election, as a working capital loan. The working capital loans would either be repaid upon consummation of a business combination, without interest, or, at the lender's discretion, such working capital loans may be convertible into warrants of the post-business combination entity at a price of \$0.75 per warrant. As of September 30, 2023, the fair value of the working capital loan option was \$0 and the working capital loan is held at cost of \$215,000.

## MARKET PRICE AND DIVIDENDS OF SECURITIES

### Vaso

#### *Market Price of Vaso Securities*

Vaso's common stock is quoted on the OTCQX under the symbol "VASO." Vaso's common stock commenced public quoting over ten years ago.

The closing price of Vaso's common stock on December 6, 2023, the last trading day before announcement of the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, was \$0.21. As of February 29, 2024, the closing price for the common stock of Vaso was \$0.30.

#### *Holders of Vaso Securities*

As of September 30, 2023, there were approximately 6,500 holders of Vaso common stock and no holders of Vaso preferred stock.

#### *Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans*

Vaso's Board of Directors has authorized three option and stock plans for officers, directors and senior employees of Vaso consisting of (a) the Vasomedical, Inc. 2013 Stock Plan, (the "2013 Plan"), (b) the Vasomedical, Inc. 2016 Stock Plan (the "2016 Plan"), and (c) the Vaso Corporation 2019 Stock Plan (the "2019 Plan"). Details of each such plan are as follows:

##### *2013 Stock Option and Stock Issuance Plan*

On October 30, 2013, the board of directors of Vaso approved the 2013 Stock Plan (the "2013 Plan") for officers, directors, employees and consultants of Vaso. The stock issuable under the 2013 Plan include shares of Vaso's authorized but unissued or reacquired common stock. The maximum number of shares of common stock which may be issued under the 2013 Plan is 7,500,000 shares.

The 2013 Plan is comprised of two separate equity programs, the options grant program, under which eligible persons may be granted options to purchase shares of common stock, and the stock issuance program, under which eligible persons may be issued shares of common stock directly, either through the immediate purchase of such shares or as a bonus for services rendered to Vaso. The 2013 Plan provides that the board of directors of Vaso, or a committee of the board of directors of Vaso, will administer it with full authority to determine the identity of the recipients of the options or shares and the number of options or shares.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, 50,000 shares of common stock of Vaso were granted, and 90,000 shares were forfeited, under the 2013 Plan. No shares were withheld for withholding taxes.

##### *2016 Stock Option and Stock Issuance Plan*

On June 15, 2016, the board of directors of Vaso approved the 2016 Stock Plan (the "2016 Plan") for officers, directors, and senior employees of Vaso or any subsidiary of Vaso. The stock issuable under the 2016 Plan includes shares of Vaso's authorized but unissued or reacquired common stock. The maximum number of shares of common stock of Vaso that may be issued under the 2016 Plan is 7,500,000 shares.

The 2016 Plan consists of a stock issuance program, under which eligible persons may, at the discretion of the board of directors of Vaso, be issued shares of common stock directly, as a bonus for services rendered or to be rendered to Vaso or any subsidiary of Vaso.

1,000,000 shares of common stock of Vaso were granted under the 2016 Plan during the year ended December 31, 2022.

*2019 Stock Option and Stock Issuance Plan*

In May 2019, the board of directors of Vaso approved the 2019 Stock Plan (the “2019 Plan”) for officers, directors, and senior employees of Vaso or any subsidiary of Vaso. The stock issuable under the 2019 Plan includes shares of Vaso’s authorized but unissued or reacquired common stock. The maximum number of shares of common stock of Vaso that may be issued under the 2019 Plan is 15,000,000 shares.

The 2019 Plan consists of a stock issuance program, under which eligible persons may, at the discretion of the board of directors of Vaso may be issued shares of common stock of Vaso directly, as a bonus for services rendered or to be rendered to Vaso or any subsidiary of Vaso.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, no shares or options of Vaso were granted under the 2019 Plan.

**Achari**

***Market Price of Achari Units, Shares of common stock and Warrants***

Achari’s Units, shares of common stock and warrants are traded on Nasdaq under the symbols “AVHIU,” “AVHI” and “AVHIW,” respectively. Achari’s Units, shares of common stock and warrants commenced public trading on October 19, 2021.

The closing price of Achari’s shares of common stock on December 5, 2023, the last trading day before announcement of the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, was \$10.71. As of December 28, 2023, the closing price for each Unit, share of common stock and warrant of Achari was \$10.81, \$10.89 and \$0.0151, respectively.

Holders of Achari’s Units, shares of common stock and warrants should obtain current market quotations for their respective securities. The market price of Achari’s securities could vary at any time before the Business Combination.

***Holders of Achari Securities***

As of January 4, 2024, there was 1 holder of record of Achari’s Units, 17 holders of record of Achari’s shares of common stock, and 2 holders of record of Achari’s warrants.

***Dividends of Achari Securities***

Please refer to the section of this proxy statement entitled “*Description of Vaso’s, Achari’s, and New Vaso’s Securities — Description of Achari’s Shares Prior to the Business Combination — Dividends.*”

***2024 Equity Incentive Plan***

Achari does not have any equity incentive plans in place. It is a condition to the closing of the Business Combination that its stockholders approve the Achari 2024 Equity Incentive Proposal at the Achari Stockholders’ Meeting.

***Dividend Policy of New Vaso Following the Business Combination***

Within the past five years, neither Vaso nor Achari has paid dividends on any of its capital stock, and the management of Vaso does not anticipate that the post-Business Combination company will pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future but instead that it will retain future earnings, if any, to finance the expansion of its business. Please refer to the section of this proxy statement entitled “*Description of Vaso’s, Achari’s, and New Vaso’s Securities — Capital Stock of New Vaso after the Business Combination — Authorized and Outstanding Stock — Common Stock — Dividends.*”

## BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

### Vaso

References in this section to “Vaso,” “we” and “our” refer to “Vaso Corporation” and its consolidated subsidiaries.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our common stock beneficially owned on December 28, 2023, for (i) each stockholder known to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our outstanding Common Stock, (ii) each executive officer and director, and (iii) all executive officers and directors as a group. In general, a person is deemed to be a “beneficial owner” of a security if that person has or shares the power to vote or direct the voting of such security, or the power to dispose or to direct the disposition of such security. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities of which the person has the right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days, through the exercise of a warrant or stock option, conversion of a convertible security or otherwise. The table assumes a total of 175,319,296 shares of our common stock outstanding as of December 28, 2023. Unless otherwise noted below the address of each person identified is c/o Vaso Corporation, 137 Commercial Street, Plainview, New York 11803.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Common Stock Beneficially Owned <sup>(1)</sup>	% of Common Stock
Joshua Markowitz <sup>(2)</sup>	56,088,318	32.03%
Jun Ma, PhD	10,298,146	5.88%
Peter Castle	3,125,000	1.78%
Edgar Rios	1,625,000	*
Jane Moen	1,605,087	*
David Lieberman	1,599,200	*
Jonathan Newton	1,275,000	*
Michael J. Beecher	1,240,400	*
Behnam Movaseghi	1,189,404	*
Leon Dembo	0	0
[independent director nominee to be named]	[—]	[—]
[independent director nominee to be named]	[—]	[—]
Directors and executive officers as a group (12 persons)	78,045,555	44.56%

\* Less than 1% of the Company’s common stock

(1) No officer or director owns more than one percent of the issued and outstanding common stock of the Company unless otherwise indicated.

(2) Joshua Markowitz is the record holder of 350,000 shares of our common stock. Additionally, 55,738,318 shares are held in trust funds of which Mr. Markowitz is the sole trustee.

### Achari/New Vaso

The following table sets forth information regarding (i) the beneficial ownership of Achari shares of common stock as of [ ], 2024 and (ii) the expected beneficial ownership of shares of Vaso’s common stock immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination (assuming a “no redemption” scenario and alternatively assuming a “80% redemption” scenario as described herein) by:

- each person who is known to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of Achari shares of common stock and is expected to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of shares of the New Vaso Common Stock post-Business Combination;
- each of Achari’s current executive officers and directors;

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- each person who is expected to become an executive officer or director of New Vaso post-Business Combination; and
- all executive officers and directors of Achari as a group pre-Business Combination, and all executive officers and directors of Vaso post-Business Combination.

Beneficial ownership is determined according to the rules of the SEC, which generally provide that a person has beneficial ownership of a security if he, she or it possesses sole or shared voting or investment power over that security, including options and warrants that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days.

The beneficial ownership of Achari shares of common stock pre-Business Combination is based on 3,050,941 Achari shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of December 28, 2023, which includes an aggregate of 2,500,000 Founder Shares issued and outstanding as of such date.

The expected beneficial ownership of shares of Vaso's common stock post-Business Combination assumes an exchange ratio of 0.0988 in the Business Combination and that the Founder Shares outstanding will all be owned by the Sponsor and will be reduced at the time of the Business Combination from 2,500,000 shares to 750,000 shares as set out in the Sponsor Letter Agreement. It also assumes two scenarios:

- a "No Redemptions" scenario where (i) no Achari Public Stockholders exercise their Redemption Rights in connection with the Business Combination and (ii) Achari issues 17,600,000 shares of its common stock as the Business Combination Consideration pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement; and
- an "80% Redemption" scenario where (i) 440,753 of Achari's outstanding Public Shares are redeemed in connection with the Business Combination and (ii) Achari issues 17,600,000 shares of its common stock as the Business Combination Consideration pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement.

Based on the foregoing assumptions, we estimate that there would be 18,900,941 shares of New Vaso Common Stock issued and outstanding immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination in the "no redemption" scenario, and 18,460,188 shares of New Vaso Common Stock issued and outstanding immediately following the consummation of the Business Combination in the "80% redemption" scenario. If the actual facts are different from the foregoing assumptions, ownership figures in the New Vaso and the columns under Post-Business Combination in the table that follows will be different.

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The following table does not reflect record of beneficial ownership of any shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of public warrants or Private Placement Warrants prior to the Business Combination, as such securities may not be exercisable or convertible prior thereto.

Unless otherwise indicated and subject to applicable community property and similar laws, Achari believes that all persons named in the table below have sole voting and investment power with respect to the voting securities beneficially owned by them.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owners	Prior to the Business Combination		Assuming No Redemptions		Assuming 80% Redemptions	
	Number of Shares	Percentage	Number of Shares	Percentage	Number of Shares	Percentage
<i>Officers and Directors Prior to the Transactions:</i>						
Vikas Desai <sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)(5)</sup>	1,572,400	51.5%	1,500,000	7.6%	1,500,000	7.8%
Merrick Friedman	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mitchell Hara	—	—	—	—	—	—
Seth Farbman	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kevin K. Albert	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harry DeMott	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mark Pelson	—	—	—	—	—	—
Timothy J. Seymour	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Such Directors and Officers as a group (8 Individuals) <sup>(5)</sup>	1,572,400	51.5%	1,500,000	7.67%	1,500,000	7.8%
<i>Greater than 5% Holders Prior to the Transaction:</i>						
Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC <sup>(1)(2)(3)(5)</sup>	1,572,400	51.5%	1,500,000	7.6%	1,500,000	7.8%
<i>Officers and Directors After the Transactions:</i>						
Joshua Markowitz <sup>(6)</sup>	—	—	5,542,875	29.3%	5,542,875	30.0%
Jun Ma	—	—	1,017,705	5.4%	1,017,705	5.5%
Peter C. Castle	—	—	308,825	1.6%	308,825	1.7%
Edgar Rios	—	—	160,589	*	160,589	*
Jane Moen	—	—	158,621	*	158,621	*
David Lieberman	—	—	158,039	*	158,039	*
Michael J. Beecher	—	—	122,581	*	122,581	*
Jonathan P. Newton	—	—	126,001	*	126,001	*
Behnam Movaseghi	—	—	117,542	*	117,542	*
Leon Dembo	—	—	0	*	0	*
[independent director to be named]	—	—	[—]	—	[—]	—
[independent director to be named]	—	—	[—]	—	[—]	—
All Such Directors and Officers as a group (12 individuals)	—	—	7,712,763	40.8%	7,712,763	41.8%
<i>Greater than 5% Holders After the Transaction:</i>						
Living Data Technology Corp <sup>(6)</sup>	—	—	1,760,551	9.3%	1,760,551	9.5%
Kerns Manufacturing Corp. <sup>(6)</sup>	—	—	2,541,190	13.4%	2,541,190	13.8%
Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC <sup>(1)(2)(3)(5)</sup>	1,572,400	51.5%	1,500,000	7.6%	1,500,000	7.8%

\* Less than 1%.

(1) Unless otherwise noted, the business address of each of the entities and individuals listed in the table above is c/o Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I, 60 Walnut Avenue, Suite 400, Clark, NJ 07066.

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- (2) Mr. Desai is the managing member of the Sponsor. Accordingly, Mr. Desai has voting and dispositive power over the shares of Achari's common stock held by the Sponsor and may be deemed to beneficially own such shares of common stock.
- (3) Reflects 927,600 shares of Achari's common stock transferred by the Sponsor to certain members of the Sponsor on July 17, 2023. As a result of such transfers, 1,572,400 shares of Achari's common stock are held directly by the Sponsor and 927,600 shares of Achari's common stock are held directly by members of the Sponsor. Except as disclosed herein, no individual member of the Sponsor beneficially owns more than 5% of Achari's issued and outstanding common stock.
- (4) Achari's Sponsor is the record holder of such shares except as described above in footnote (2). Mr. Desai is the managing member of Achari's Sponsor, and as such has voting and investment discretion with respect to the common stock held of record by Achari's Sponsor and the common stock held of record by the individual members of the Sponsor and may be deemed to have beneficial ownership of such shares. Mr. Desai disclaims any beneficial ownership of the reported shares other than to the extent of any pecuniary interest he may have therein, directly or indirectly.
- (5) The post-Business Combination amount includes 750,000 shares of Achari's common stock underlying Private Placement Warrants.
- (6) Mr. Markowitz's post-Business Combination beneficial ownership consists of 1,760,551 shares to be held by Living Data Technology Corp., over which he has voting and dispositive control, 2,541,190 shares to be held by Kerns Manufacturing Corp., over which he has voting and dispositive control, 1,206,545 shares to be held in trust funds over which he has voting and dispositive control and 34,589 shares that were issued as a grant or purchased from third parties.

## CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### **Achari Related Party Transactions**

#### ***Private Placement Warrants***

Simultaneously with the closing of the Initial Public Offering, Achari completed the private sale of an aggregate of 7,133,333 warrants to the Achari Sponsor at a purchase price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant, generating gross proceeds to Achari of \$5,350,000. The Private Placement Warrants are identical to the Warrants included in the Units sold as part of the Units in the Initial Public Offering, except as otherwise disclosed in the Registration Statement. No underwriting discounts or commissions were paid with respect to such sale. The issuance of the Private Placement Warrants was made pursuant to the exemption from registration contained in Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act. Additionally, the Achari Sponsor agreed not to transfer, assign, or sell any of the Private Warrants or underlying securities (except in limited circumstances, as described in the Private Placement Warrants Subscription Statement) until the date we complete Achari's initial Business Combination. The Sponsor was granted certain demand and piggyback registration rights in connection with the purchase of the Private Placement Warrants.

#### ***Related Party Loans***

On January 25, 2021, Achari issued an unsecured promissory note to the Sponsor, pursuant to which Achari borrowed up to an aggregate principal amount of \$300,000. The unsecured promissory note was non-interest bearing and payable on the earlier of (i) December 31, 2021 or (ii) the consummation of the Initial Public Offering. The unsecured promissory note was repaid as of March 31, 2022.

In addition, in order to finance transaction costs in connection with a business combination, the Sponsor or an affiliate of the Sponsor, or certain of the Achari officers and directors may, but are not obligated to, loan the Achari funds as may be required. If Achari completes a business combination, Achari may repay these working capital loans out of the proceeds of the Trust Account released to Achari. Otherwise, the working capital loans would be repaid only out of funds held outside the Trust Account. In the event that a business combination does not close, Achari may use a portion of proceeds held outside the Trust Account to repay the working capital loans, but no proceeds held in the Trust Account would be used to repay such working capital loans.

On January 18, 2023, Achari and the Sponsor entered into a loan agreement whereby Achari issued a promissory note to the Sponsor pursuant to which Achari may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of monthly extension options, and which may be treated, at the Sponsor's election, as a working capital loan. The working capital loans would either be repaid upon consummation of a business combination, without interest, or, at the lender's discretion, such working capital loans may be convertible into warrants of the post business combination entity at a price of \$0.75 per warrant. The option to convert the working capital loans into warrants qualifies as an embedded derivative under ASC 815 and is required to be recognized at fair value with subsequent changes in fair value recognized in Company's statements of operations each reporting period until the loan is repaid or converted. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the fair value of the option to convert the working capital loans was \$0 and the working capital loan is held at cost of \$215,000 and \$0 respectively.

#### ***Sponsor Letter Agreement***

The Sponsor Letter Agreement outlines the transfer of Founder Shares and Private Placement Warrants by the Sponsor to Achari, as well as provides for guidelines of restrictions and agreements regarding voting, redemption, and disposition of these shares. Pursuant to the Sponsor Letter, the Sponsor is to return 1,750,000 Achari Shares and 6,133,000 private placement warrants to Achari's treasury at the time of the Business Combination. The agreement also includes representations and warranties by the parties involved and conditions for termination in compliance with the Business Combination Agreement.

#### ***Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement***

The Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement will be entered into among Vaso, Achari and Achari stockholders. It serves to register certain shares, such as Founder Shares and common shares underlying the Private Placement Warrants, for resale under the Securities Act. The agreement details provisions for shelf

registrations, including the filing of Registration Statements (Form S-1 Shelf or Form S-3 Shelf), maintaining shelf effectiveness, amendments, and subsequent registrations for resale of registrable securities. Additionally, it outlines Achari's obligations to facilitate the disposition of registrable securities, including preparing registration statements, obtaining qualifications under securities laws, ensuring prospectus accuracy, and indemnifying Holders against losses arising from any inaccuracies in the offering documents.

#### **Vaso Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions**

On May 20, 2020, Vaso closed on the sale of 51% of the capital stock of Vaso's wholly-owned subsidiary EECF Global to Chongqing PSK-Health Sci-Tech Development Co. Ltd, a China-based company, for \$1,150,000. EECF Global was formed in September 2019 to hold all the assets and liabilities of its EECF business. Concurrently with the closing of the transaction, Vaso signed a management service agreement with EECF Global to provide management service for the business and operation of EECF Global in the United States. The agreement provides an initial term of three years starting April 1, 2020, the effective date of the sale, which is automatically renewable for additional one-year terms. The Management Services Agreement was last renewed in April 2023, and Vaso anticipates that the agreement will continue to be renewed on an annual basis for the foreseeable future. Pursuant to the agreement, EECF Global reimburses Vaso for all direct expenses and pays a monthly management fee of \$10,000 per month during the term of the agreement.

Effective April 1, 2020 Vaso deconsolidated the EECF Global operations and recorded a gain on sale of approximately \$110,000, of which approximately \$54,000 resulted from the gain related to the remeasurement of the retained noncontrolling investment in EECF Global to fair value. The gain on sale includes the effect of the reclassification of approximately \$187,000 in accumulated translation losses from accumulated other comprehensive loss for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Vaso uses the equity method to account for its interest in EECF Global, as it has the ability to exercise significant influence over the entity, and reports its share of EECF Global operations in Other Income (Expense) on its consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income.

For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, Vaso's share of EECF Global's (loss) income was approximately \$(73,000) and \$11,000, respectively. At December 31, 2021, Vaso recorded a net Receivable From Related Parties of approximately \$46,000 on its consolidated balance sheet for amounts due from EECF Global for fees and cost reimbursements, net of receivables collected on its behalf due to EECF Global.

For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, Vaso's share of EECF Global's loss was approximately \$154,000 and \$73,000, respectively. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, Vaso recorded Receivables due from related parties, net of approximately \$403,000 and \$46,000, respectively, on its consolidated balance sheets for amounts due from EECF Global for fees and cost reimbursements, net of receivables collected on its behalf due to EECF Global.

#### **Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

The Bylaws will provide that New Vaso will indemnify its directors and officers to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL. In addition, the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of New Vaso will provide that the directors will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty except for liability (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to New Vaso or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the DGCL or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. There is no pending litigation or proceeding naming any of Achari's or Vaso's respective directors or officers to which indemnification is being sought, and neither Achari nor Vaso is aware of any pending or threatened litigation that may result in claims for indemnification by any director or officer.

## INFORMATION ABOUT VASO

*References in this section to “Vaso,” “we” and “our” refer to “Vaso Corporation” and its consolidated subsidiaries.*

### General Overview

Vaso principally operates in three distinct business segments in the healthcare equipment and information technology industries. We manage and evaluate our operations, and report our financial results, through these three business segments.

- IT segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoTechnology, Inc., which primarily focuses on healthcare IT and managed network technology services;
- Professional sales service segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, which primarily focuses on the sale of healthcare capital equipment for GEHC into the health provider middle market; and
- Equipment segment, which primarily focuses on the design, manufacture, sale and service of proprietary medical devices and software, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoMedical, Inc., which in turn operates through Vasomedical Solutions, Inc. for domestic business and Vasomedical Global Corp. for international business, respectively.

#### *VasoTechnology*

Our IT segment is operated by VasoTechnology, Inc. and represented approximately 50.6% and 51.7%, respectively, of our revenue in the year ended December 31, 2022 and the nine months ended September 30, 2023. VasoTechnology, Inc. was formed in May 2015, at the time we acquired all of the assets of NetWolves, LLC and its affiliates, including the membership interests in NetWolves. It currently consists of a managed network and security service division (NetWolves) and a healthcare IT application VAR (value added reseller) division (VasoHealthcare IT). Its current offering includes:

- Managed diagnostic imaging applications (channel partner of select vendors of healthcare IT products);
- Managed network infrastructure (routers, switches and other core equipment);
- Managed network transport (FCC licensed carrier reselling 175+ facility partners); and
- Managed security services.

VasoTechnology uses a combination of proprietary technology, methodology and best-in-class third-party applications to deliver its value proposition.

#### *VasoHealthcare*

Our professional sales service segment is operated by VasoHealthcare and represented approximately 46.2% and 44.7%, respectively, of our revenue in the year ended December 31, 2022 and the nine months ended September 30, 2023. VasoHealthcare commenced operations in 2010, in conjunction with our execution of our exclusive sales representation agreement with GEHC, which at the time was the healthcare business division of the General Electric Company (“GE”), to further the sale of certain medical capital equipment in certain domestic market segments. Its current offering consists of:

- GEHC diagnostic imaging equipment and ultrasound systems;
- GEHC service agreements for the above equipment;
- GEHC training services for use of the above equipment; and
- GEHC and third-party financial services for the above equipment.

Vaso and GEHC entered into the agreement on May 19, 2010, and it is subsequently extended to December 31, 2026. Under the agreement, VasoHealthcare serves as the exclusive representative for the sale of select GEHC diagnostic imaging products to specific market accounts in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. GEHC pays to Vaso a commission on the net sales price received by GEHC for each order covered in the agreement as consideration of services rendered by VasoHealthcare. The agreement may be terminated on short notice for a material breach of the agreement, and it may be terminated by GEHC without cause with notice at least twelve months prior to the term of the agreement.

Specifically, VasoHealthcare is responsible for:

- maintaining an adequate sales promotion organization in order to fulfill the mutually agreed sales and other targets, and objectives agreed to in writing by the parties;
- promoting and assisting GEHC in the sale of products and related servicing and financing to customers;
- maintaining active contacts with customers to produce effective coverage in the Territory; and
- complying with GEHC's instructions regarding the price and terms and conditions for sales of the products and related service and financing to customers and the provision of sales, service and financing contracts and purchase orders to GEHC.

GEHC is responsible for:

- conferring with VasoHealthcare to discuss VasoHealthcare's achievement towards the sales and other targets, and VasoHealthcare's plan to achieve the targets;
- keeping VasoHealthcare reasonably informed of new sales plans and objectives with respect to the sale of products to customers;
- supplying a reasonable amount of printed commercial and/or technical information concerning the covered products contemplated under the agreement;
- providing VasoHealthcare access to relationship managers, product specialists and inside sales support personnel;
- providing VasoHealthcare's with national marketing and national trade show support for the products; and
- paying VasoHealthcare a commission for the sale of equipment, the rate of which commission depends on several factors including the percentage of the annual sales target that has been reached as of such sale.

#### *VasoMedical*

Our equipment segment is operated by VasoMedical and represented approximately 3.2% and 3.6%, respectively, of our revenue in the year ended December 31, 2022 and the nine months ended September 30, 2023. The proprietary medical equipment business under VasoMedical dates back to 1995 when we began the proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation (EECP®) technology in the United States and has since diversified to include other medical hardware and software. Vasomedical Global was formed in 2011 to combine and coordinate the various international operations including design, development, manufacturing, and sales of medical devices and software, while domestic activities are conducted under Vasomedical Solutions. These devices and software primarily consist of cardiovascular diagnostic and therapeutic applications, including:

- Biox™ series Holter monitors and ambulatory blood pressure recorders;
- ARCS® series analysis, reporting and communication software for ECG and blood pressure signals, including cloud-based software suite and algorithm subscription services;
- MobiCare® multi-parameter wireless vital-sign monitoring system; and
- EECP® therapy systems for non-invasive, outpatient treatment of ischemic heart disease.

This segment uses its extensive in-house knowledge for cardiovascular devices and software coupled with its engineering resources to cost effectively create and market its proprietary technology. It sells and services its products to customers directly and sells and/or services its products in the international market mainly through independent distributors.

## Historical Background

Vaso was incorporated in Delaware in July 1987. For most of our history, we primarily were a single product company designing, manufacturing, marketing and servicing its proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation, or EECP®, therapy systems, mainly for the treatment of angina. In 2010, we began to diversify our business operations. We changed our name to Vaso Corporation in 2016 to more accurately reflect the diversified nature of our business, and we continue to use the original name VasoMedical for our proprietary medical device subsidiary.

In May 2010, we launched our Professional Sales Service business through a wholly owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, which was appointed by GEHC as its exclusive representative for the sale of select GEHC diagnostic imaging equipment to specific market segments in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. The original term of the GEHC Agreement was for three years ending June 30, 2013; it has been extended several times with the current extension through December 31, 2026, subject to earlier termination under certain conditions.

In June 2014, we began our IT segment business by concluding the Value Added Reseller Agreement (“**VAR Agreement**”) with GEHC to become a national value added reseller of GEHC Digital’s software solutions such as Picture Archiving and Communication System (“**PACS**”), Radiology Information System (“**RIS**”), and related services, including implementation, training, management and support. This business focuses primarily on customer segments currently served by VasoHealthcare. A new wholly owned subsidiary, VasoHealthcare IT Corp. (“**VHC IT**”), was formed to conduct the healthcare IT business.

In May 2015, we further expanded our IT business segment by acquiring all of the assets of NetWolves, LLC and its affiliates, including the membership interests in NetWolves, pursuant to an asset purchase agreement. NetWolves designs and delivers efficient and cost-effective multi-network and multi-technology solutions as a managed network provider, as well as provides a complete single-source solution that includes design, network redundancy, application device management, real-time network monitoring, reporting and support systems as a comprehensive solution.

Our Equipment business also has been significantly expanded from the original EECP®-only operations. In September 2011, we acquired FGE, a British Virgin Islands company, which owned or controlled two Chinese operating companies — LET and Biox — to expand our technical and manufacturing capabilities and to enhance our distribution network, technology, and product portfolio. Biox was a VIE controlled by FGE through certain contracts and an option to acquire all the shares of Biox by FGE’s wholly owned subsidiary Gentone, and in March 2019 Gentone exercised its option to acquire all of the shares of Biox. In August 2014, we, through Gentone, acquired all of the outstanding shares of Genwell, which was formed in 2010 to develop the MobiCare® wireless multi-parameter patient monitoring system and holds intellectual property rights for this system. As a result, we have expanded our equipment products portfolio to include Biox™ series ambulatory patient monitoring systems, ARCS® series software for ECG and blood pressure analysis, and the MobiCare® patient monitoring device.

In April 2014, we entered into a cooperation agreement with Chongqing PSK-Health Sci-Tech Development Co., Ltd. (“**PSK**”) of Chongqing, China, the leading manufacturer of external counter pulsation, or ECP, therapy systems in China, to form a joint venture company, VSK Medical Limited (“**VSK**”), a Cayman Islands company, for the global marketing, sale and advancement of ECP therapy technology. We owned 49.9% of VSK, which commenced operations in January 2015. In March 2018, we terminated the cooperation agreement with PSK and sold our shares in VSK to PSK. On May 20, 2020, we closed on the sale of 51% of the capital stock of our wholly-owned subsidiary EECP Global Corporation (“**EECP Global**”) to PSK. EECP Global was formed in September 2019 to hold all the assets and liabilities of its EECP business. Concurrently with the closing of the transaction, we signed Management Service Agreement with EECP Global to provide management service for the business and operation of EECP Global in the United States (including administering and supervising all of the operations and finances of EECP Global’s business, supervising the purchase of all materials and supplies and acquiring, leasing, disposing of and repairing equipment and facilities reasonably necessary for EECP Global’s business). The agreement provided an initial term of three years starting April 1, 2020, the effective date of the sale, which term is automatically renewable for additional one-year terms. The Management Service Agreement was last renewed in April 2023, and Vaso anticipates that the agreement will continue to be renewed on an annual basis for the foreseeable future. The agreement can be terminated by either party on reasonable notice. Pursuant to the agreement, EECP Global reimburses Vaso for all direct expenses (including those related to staffing and those related to that part of its facility allocated to the operations of EECP Global) and pays a monthly management fee of \$10,000 during the term of the agreement.

## **Management**

We currently base our headquarters in Plainview, Long Island, NY pursuant to a lease which expires in September 2025. Reporting to the Vaso Board of Directors, our corporate officers include the President and Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”), Co-Chief Financial Officer and Secretary, Chief Operating Officer (“COO”), Co-Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.

The management of our IT segment is led by our COO, who is also the President of VasoTechnology and NetWolves, which is based in Tampa, FL. Our VasoHealthcare IT business is organized as a part of VasoTechnology and is also led by the COO, supported by several software solution sales and implementation specialists, based in Nashville, TN. The business unit works with our VasoHealthcare diagnostic imaging equipment sales team to generate leads and potential clients for the software solutions products and works with NetWolves sales and technical teams for comprehensive IT product and service offerings.

In the professional sales services segment, we sell GEHC diagnostic imaging products to our assigned market through a nationwide team of approximately 65 sales employees led by several regional managers and an executive team who report to the President of VasoHealthcare. The operation is also supported by in-house administrative, analytic and other support staff, as well as applicable GEHC employees.

The equipment segment is under the direct supervision of our CEO. Sales and marketing efforts in the domestic market are led by a Vice President of national sales and service at Vasomedical Solutions, and the managers of our China subsidiaries, based in Wuxi, China, are in charge of the development and production of all our proprietary products and marketing and sales in China and the international markets.

## **Competition**

In the U.S. diagnostic imaging market where we sell GEHC products, our main competitors include Siemens, Philips, Canon, and Hologic. Key competitive factors in the market include price, quality, finance availability, delivery speed, service and support, innovation, distribution network, breadth of product and service offerings and brand name recognition. GEHC is a leading competitor in this market.

In the IT segment, our primary competitors in the healthcare IT VAR business are Agfa Healthcare, McKesson, Philips, Carestream Health and other independent software providers. Key competitive factors are brand recognition, quality, radiology workflow solutions, scalability and service and support capability. In the managed network services business our primary competition includes, but is not limited to, organizations who have a presence in most of the major markets for the following products and services: network services, managed services, security services and healthcare applications. Several of those competitors, many of which are our vendors, are: Verizon, AT&T, CenturyLink, IBM and Cisco Resellers, Siemens, Epic, small regional IT integrators and large company internal IT departments.

In the ambulatory monitoring system business, there are numerous competitors of various sizes and strengths. The Biox™ series is among the few from China with CE Mark certification for Europe, CFDA approval for China, US FDA clearances as well as Brazilian Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária (ANVISA) approval, which are among the most important qualifications to market and sell the products around the world.

## **Regulations on Medical Devices**

As a medical device manufacturer and marketer, we are subject to extensive regulation by numerous government regulatory agencies, including the US FDA and similar foreign agencies. We and our third-party manufacturers are required to comply with applicable laws, regulations and standards governing the development, preclinical and clinical testing, manufacturing, quality testing, labeling, promotion, import, export, and distribution of our medical devices. The third-party manufacturers of the products that we sell, including GEHC’s diagnostic imaging products, are subject to similar regulations on the devices that they produce, and their or our failure to comply with such regulations could lead to the inability to be able to sell such products and generate the revenues associated therewith.

### *Compliance with Regulations in the United States*

We have received appropriate US FDA premarket notification (510(k)) clearance for all our products marketed and sold in the United States, including EEC<sup>®</sup> therapy systems and Biox<sup>™</sup> ambulatory monitoring systems and analysis and report software. We continue to seek US FDA clearance or approval for new products prior to their introduction to the US market.

We are subject to other US FDA regulations that apply prior to and after a product is commercially released. We also are subject to periodic and random inspections by the US FDA for compliance with the current Good Manufacturing Practice, or cGMP, requirements and Quality System Regulation. The US FDA also enforces post-marketing controls that include the requirement to submit medical device reports to the agency when a manufacturer becomes aware of information suggesting that any adverse events are related to its marketed products. The FDA relies on medical device reports to identify product problems and utilizes these reports to determine, among other things, whether it should exercise its enforcement powers. The FDA also may require post-market surveillance studies for specified devices.

We are subject to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act's, or FDCA's, general controls, including establishment registration, device listing, and labeling requirements.

The sales and advertising of our products is subject to regulation by the FTC. The FTC Act prohibits unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce. Violations of the FTC Act, such as failure to have substantiation for product claims, would subject us to a variety of enforcement actions, including compulsory process, cease and desist orders and injunctions, which can require, among other things, limits on advertising, corrective advertising, consumer redress and restitution, as well as substantial fines or other penalties.

As a medical device sales channel partner and product reseller to healthcare facilities, we are subject to various federal, state and local laws targeting fraud and abuse in the healthcare industry, including anti-kickback and false claims laws.

### *Foreign Regulation*

In most countries where we seek to export our medical devices, a local regulatory clearance must be obtained. The regulatory review process varies from country to country and can be complex, costly, uncertain, and time-consuming. Our medical devices are all manufactured in accordance with ISO 13485 (Medical device — Quality management systems — Requirement for regulatory purpose), an internationally agreed standard that sets out the requirements for a quality management system specific to the medical devices industry. All our current medical devices have obtained necessary clearances or approvals prior to their release in the appropriate jurisdictions, including CE marking certification for European Union countries, China FDA (CFDA) approval for mainland China, Korean FDA (KFDA) approval for South Korea, ANVISA approval for Brazil, Taiwan FDA (TFDA) for Taiwan, and the Saudi SFDA (MDMA) for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

We are also subject to audits by organizations authorized by foreign countries to determine compliance with laws, regulations and standards that apply to the commercialization of our products in those markets. Examples include auditing by a European Union Notified Body organization (authorized by a member state's Competent Authority) to determine conformity with the Medical Device Directives (MDD) and by an organization authorized by the Brazilian government to determine conformity with ANVISA requirements.

### *Patient Privacy*

Federal and state laws protect the confidentiality of certain patient health information, including patient records, and restrict the use and disclosure of that protected information. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published patient privacy rules under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA privacy rule) and the regulation was finalized in October 2002. Currently, the HIPAA privacy rule affects us only indirectly in that patient data that we access, collect and analyze may include protected health information. Additionally, we have signed some Business Associate Agreements with Covered Entities that contractually bind us to protect private health information, consistent with the HIPAA privacy rules' requirements. We do not expect the costs and impact of the HIPAA privacy rule to be material to our business.

## **Regulations in the IT Business**

As a reseller of telecommunication services and network solutions provider, our products and services are subject to federal, state and local regulations. These regulations govern, in part, our rates and the way we conduct our business, including the requirement to offer telecommunications services pursuant to nondiscriminatory rates, terms, and conditions, the obligation to safeguard the confidentiality of customer proprietary network information, as well as the obligation to maintain specialized records and file reports with the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) and state regulatory authorities. While we believe we are in compliance with laws and regulations in jurisdictions where we do business, we continue to monitor and assess our compliance.

The FCC exercises jurisdiction over services and regulates interstate and international communications in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S territories. As an independent U.S. government agency overseen by Congress, the FCC is the United States’ primary authority for communications laws, regulation and technological innovation.

We maintain Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity in all 50 states, which enable us to provide services within each state. We are therefore subject to regulation from the Public Utility Commissions in each state.

## **Intellectual Properties**

In addition to other methods of protecting our proprietary technology, know-how and show-how as well as trade secrets, we pursue a policy of seeking patent protection, both in the US and abroad, for our proprietary technologies including those in Biox™ and MobiCare® products. Moreover, trademarks have been registered for the names “Vaso”, “Vasomedical”, “VasoGlobal”, “VasoSolutions”, “VasoHealthcare”, “ARCS”, and “MobiCare”.

Through our China-based subsidiaries, we own thirty-seven invention and utility patents in China that expire at various times through 2041, as well as sixteen software copyright certificates in China related to proprietary technologies in physiological data acquisition, analysis and reporting. We also maintain five registered trademarks in China for our products.

Through our NetWolves subsidiary we hold trademarks “NetWolves”, “SRM”, and “Wolfpac”.

We cannot assure you that our patents will not be violated or that any issued patents will provide protection that has commercial significance. As with any patented technology, litigation could be necessary to protect our patent position. Such litigation can be costly and time-consuming, and there can be no assurance that we will be successful.

## **Employees**

As of September 30, 2023, we employed 283 full-time persons, of which 14 are employed through our facility in Plainview, New York; 85 through VasoHealthcare; 5 through VasoHealthcare IT; 111 through our NetWolves operations; and 68 in our China operations. None of our employees are represented by a labor union. We believe that our employee relations are good.

We also use several part-time employees and consultants from time to time for various purposes.

## **Manufacturing**

We conduct manufacturing activities primarily through our Biox facilities in China, while maintaining certain manufacturing capability in the Plainview, NY location to satisfy certain domestic and international needs for the EECp® systems. The Biox facilities manufacture ambulatory monitoring devices and other medical devices.

All manufacturing operations are conducted under the cGMP requirements, as set forth in the FDA Quality System Regulation, as well as ISO 13485 (Medical device — Quality management systems — Requirement for regulatory purpose), an internationally agreed standard that sets out the requirements for a quality management system specific to the medical devices industry. We are also certified to conform to full quality assurance system requirements of the EU Medical Device Directive (MDD 93/42/EEC Annex II) and can apply CE marking to all of our current product models. Lastly, we are certified to comply with the requirements of the ANVISA. All these regulations and standards subject us to inspections to verify compliance and require us to maintain documentation and controls for our manufacturing and quality activities.

We believe our manufacturing capacity and warehouse facility are adequate to meet the current and immediately foreseeable future demand for the production of our medical devices. We believe our suppliers of the other medical devices we distribute or represent are capable of meeting our demand for the foreseeable future.

#### **Strategic Plan and Objectives**

Our short- and long-term plans to grow Vaso and to increase stockholder value are to:

- continue to effectively control operating costs in the current inflationary environment;
- continue to expand our product and service offerings as well as pursue market penetration in all of our business segments;
- maintain and improve business performance in our professional sales service segment by increasing market penetration of the GEHC product modalities we represent, and possibly building new teams to represent other vendors;
- maintain and grow our equipment business by increasing efficiency and exploring new revenue models;
- continue to seek accretive partnership opportunities; and
- explore options in capital markets for our stock.

#### **Advertising and Marketing**

Vaso markets and sells its services with sales employees and independent sales agents. Due to the industries and clients it serves, Vaso does not engage in significant advertising.

#### **Insurance**

The Company maintains commercial and general liability insurance with limits of \$5,000,000 as well as product liability insurance with a limit of \$6,000,000 in the aggregate. Additionally, we maintain Directors and Officers Liability, Auto, Cyber and EPLI insurance policies.

#### **Legal Proceedings**

We are currently, and have been in the past, a party to various routine legal proceedings, primarily employee related matters, incident to the ordinary course of business. We believe that the outcome of all such pending legal proceedings in the aggregate is unlikely to have a material adverse effect on our business or consolidated financial condition.

In July 2021, Netwolves commenced a civil action against our long-time controller, in the Circuit Court of Florida, for misappropriating over \$1.3 million from us over a six-year period. In November 2021, this former employee filed cross claims against Netwolves and impleaded its president Peter Castle on claims of sexual discrimination and sexual harassment, all of which Netwolves has denied. Simultaneous to the filing of its civil suit against the former employee, Netwolves also filed a criminal complaint against her with the FBI, which led to her recent criminal indictment in the U.S. District Court in the Central District of Florida. Netwolves' civil action has been stayed pending the resolution of the criminal proceeding against Netwolves' former employee.

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS OF VASO

*This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains descriptions of our expectations regarding future trends affecting our business. Please read the section titled "Risk Factors" to review certain conditions, among others, which we believe could cause results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements.*

*For purposes of the following discussion, terms like "we", "our", "us" or the Company refer to Vaso and as appropriately its affiliates.*

### General Overview

#### *Our Business Segments*

Vaso was incorporated in Delaware in July 1987. We principally operate in three distinct business segments in the healthcare and information technology industries. We manage and evaluate our operations, and report our financial results, through these three business segments.

- IT segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoTechnology, Inc., which primarily focuses on healthcare IT and managed network technology services;
- Professional sales service segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, which primarily focuses on the sale of healthcare capital equipment for GEHC into the healthcare provider middle market; and
- Equipment segment, which primarily focuses on the design, manufacture, sale and service of proprietary medical devices and software, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoMedical, Inc., which in turn operates through Vasomedical Solutions, Inc. for domestic business and Vasomedical Global Corp. for international business, respectively.

#### *VasoTechnology*

VasoTechnology, Inc. was formed in May 2015, at the time Vaso acquired all of the assets of NetWolves, LLC and its affiliates, including the membership interests in NetWolves. It currently consists of a managed network and security service division (NetWolves) and a healthcare IT application VAR (value added reseller) division (VasoHealthcare IT). Its current offering includes:

- Managed diagnostic imaging applications (channel partner of select vendors of healthcare IT products).
- Managed network infrastructure (routers, switches and other core equipment).
- Managed network transport (FCC licensed carrier reselling 175+ facility partners).
- Managed security services.

VasoTechnology uses a combination of proprietary technology, methodology and best-in-class third-party applications to deliver its value proposition.

#### *VasoHealthcare*

VasoHealthcare commenced operations in 2010, in conjunction with Vaso's execution of its exclusive sales representation agreement with GEHC, which at the time was the healthcare business division of GE, to further the sale of certain medical capital equipment in certain domestic market segments. Its current offering consists of:

- GEHC diagnostic imaging equipment and ultrasound systems.
- GEHC service agreements for the above equipment.
- GEHC training services for use of the above equipment.
- GEHC and third-party financial services for the above equipment.

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VasoHealthcare has built a team of over 75 highly experienced sales professionals who utilize highly focused sales management and analytic tools to manage the complete sales process and to increase market penetration.

### *VasoMedical*

The proprietary medical equipment business under VasoMedical traces back to 1995 when Vaso began the proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation (EECP®) technology in the United States and has since diversified to include other medical hardware and software. Vasomedical Global was formed in 2011 to combine and coordinate the various international operations including design, development, manufacturing, and sales of medical devices and software, while domestic activities are conducted under Vasomedical Solutions. These devices and software primarily consist of cardiovascular diagnostic and therapeutic applications, including:

- Biox™ series Holter monitors and ambulatory blood pressure recorders.
- ARCS® series analysis, reporting and communication software for ECG and blood pressure signals, including cloud-based software and algorithm subscription services.
- MobiCare® multi-parameter wireless vital-sign monitoring system.
- EECP® therapy systems for non-invasive, outpatient treatment of ischemic heart disease.

This segment uses its extensive in-house knowledge for cardiovascular devices and software coupled with its engineering resources to cost effectively create and market its proprietary technology. It sells and services its products to customers in the U.S. and China directly and sells and/or services its products in the international market mainly through independent distributors.

### **Strategic Plan and Objectives**

Our short- and long-term plans to grow Vaso and to increase stockholder value are to:

- continue to effectively control operating costs in the current inflationary environment;
- continue to expand our product and service offerings as well as pursue market penetration in all of our business segments;
- maintain and improve business performance in our professional sales service segment by increasing market penetration of the GEHC product modalities we represent, and possibly building new teams to represent other vendors;
- maintain and grow our equipment business by increasing efficiency and exploring new revenue models;
- continue to seek accretive partnership opportunities; and
- explore options in capital markets for our stock.

### **Results of Operations — For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2023 and 2022**

#### *Revenues*

Total revenue for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 was \$19,449,000 and \$19,833,000, respectively, representing a decrease of \$384,000, or 2% year-over-year. On a segment basis, revenue in the IT segment increased by \$31,000, while revenue in the professional sales services and equipment segments decreased by \$400,000 and \$15,000, respectively.

Revenue in the IT segment for the three months ended September 30, 2023 was \$9,867,000 compared to \$9,836,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2022, an increase of \$31,000, or less than 1%, of which \$62,000 resulted from higher network services revenue by NetWolves, offset by \$31,000 from lower revenues in the healthcare IT business. Monthly recurring revenue in the IT segment accounted for \$9,302,000 or 94% of the segment revenue in the third quarter of 2023, and \$9,220,000 or 94% of the segment revenue for the same quarter last year (see Note C).

Commission revenues in the professional sales service segment were \$8,837,000 in the third quarter of 2023, a decrease of \$400,000, or 4%, as compared to \$9,237,000 in the same quarter of 2022. The decrease in commission revenues was due primarily to a decrease in the volume of underlying equipment delivered by GEHC during the period, partially offset by a higher blended commission rate applicable to such deliveries. Vaso only recognizes commission revenue when the underlying equipment has been accepted at the customer site in accordance with the specific terms of the sales agreement. Consequently, amounts billable, or billed and received, under the agreement with GEHC prior to customer acceptance of the equipment are recorded as deferred revenue in the condensed consolidated balance sheet. As of September 30, 2023, \$33,232,000 in deferred commission revenue was recorded in the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet, of which \$14,701,000 was long-term. As of September 30, 2022, \$26,886,000 in deferred commission revenue was recorded in Vaso's condensed consolidated balance sheet, of which \$9,366,000 was long-term. The increase in deferred revenue is principally due to an increase in new orders booked.

Revenue in the equipment segment decreased by \$15,000, or 2%, to \$745,000 for the three-month period ended September 30, 2023 from \$760,000 for the same period of the prior year, due to lower deliveries in our China operations, partially offset by revenue increase in our US operations.

#### *Gross Profit*

Gross profit for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 was \$12,043,000, or 62% of revenue, and \$12,374,000, or 62% of revenue, respectively, representing a decrease of \$331,000, or 3% year-over-year. On a segment basis, gross profit in the IT segments increased \$179,000, or 4%, while gross profit in the professional sales service and equipment segments decreased \$506,000, or 7%, and \$4,000, or 1%, respectively.

IT segment gross profit for the three months ended September 30, 2023 was \$4,274,000, or 43% of the segment revenue, compared to \$4,095,000, or 42% of the segment revenue for the three months ended September 30, 2022. The year-over-year increase of \$179,000, or 4%, was primarily a result of a higher margin sales mix in the healthcare IT business.

Professional sales service segment gross profit was \$7,201,000, or 81% of segment revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2023 as compared to \$7,707,000, or 83% of the segment revenue, for the three months ended September 30, 2022, reflecting a decrease of \$506,000, or 7%. The decrease was due to lower commission revenue as a result of lower volume of GEHC equipment delivered during the third quarter of 2023, partially offset by a higher blended commission rate, when compared to the same period last year, as well as by higher commission expenses. Cost of commissions in the professional sales service segment of \$1,636,000 and \$1,530,000, for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, reflected commission expense associated with recognized commission revenues.

Commission expense associated with short-term deferred revenue is recorded as short-term deferred commission expense, or with long-term deferred revenue as part of other assets, on the balance sheet until the related commission revenue is recognized.

Equipment segment gross profit decreased to \$568,000, or 76% of segment revenues, for the third quarter of 2023 compared to \$572,000, or 75% of segment revenues, for the same quarter of 2022. The \$4,000, or 1%, decrease in gross profit was primarily the result of lower sales during the quarter.

#### *Operating Income (Loss)*

Operating income for the three months ended September 30, 2023 was \$907,000 compared to \$2,266,000 for the same quarter in 2022, representing a decrease of \$1,359,000, or 60%, due primarily to both the decrease in gross profit and increase in operating costs (below) in the professional sales service segment. On a segment basis, the IT segment recorded an operating loss of \$187,000 in the third quarter of 2023 as compared to an operating loss of \$474,000 in the same period of 2022; the professional sales service segment recorded operating income of \$1,648,000 in the third quarter of 2023 as opposed to operating income of \$2,981,000 in the same period of 2022; and the equipment segment recorded an operating loss of \$83,000 in the third quarter of 2023 as opposed to operating income of \$24,000 in the same period of 2022.

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Operating loss in the IT segment decreased to \$187,000 for the threemonth period ended September 30, 2023 from an operating loss of \$474,000 in the same period of 2022, due to higher gross profit and lower SG&A and R&D costs. Operating income in the professional sales service segment decreased by \$1,333,000 in the three-month period ended September 30, 2023 as compared to operating income in the same period of 2022, due to both lower gross profit and higher SG&A costs. The equipment segment reported an operating loss of \$83,000 in the third quarter of 2023, compared to operating income of \$24,000 in the third quarter 2022, a decrease of \$107,000, primarily due to lower revenue and gross profit in our China operations.

SG&A costs for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 were \$10,927,000 and \$9,978,000, respectively, representing an increase of \$949,000, or 10% year-over-year. On a segment basis, SG&A costs in the IT segment decreased by \$102,000 in the third quarter of 2023 from the same quarter of the prior year due primarily to lower third party commission costs; SG&A costs in the professional sales service segment increased \$829,000 due mainly to higher personnel costs associated with provision of expanded services; and SG&A costs in the equipment segment increased \$16,000 due primarily to higher personnel costs. Corporate costs not allocated to segments increased \$206,000 due mainly to higher director and accounting fees.

Research and development expenses were \$209,000, or 1% of revenues, for the third quarter of 2023, an increase of \$79,000, or 61%, from \$130,000, or 1% of revenues, for the third quarter of 2022. The increase is primarily attributable to higher product development expenses in the equipment segment.

*Adjusted EBITDA*

We define Adjusted EBITDA (earnings (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization), which is a non-GAAP financial measure, as net income (loss), plus interest expense (income), net; tax expense; depreciation and amortization; and non-cash expenses for share-based compensation. Adjusted EBITDA is a metric that is used by the investment community for comparative and valuation purposes. We disclose this metric in order to support and facilitate the dialogue with research analysts and investors.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of financial performance under U.S. GAAP and should not be considered a substitute for operating income, which we consider to be the most directly comparable U.S. GAAP measure. Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and when assessing our operating performance, you should not consider Adjusted EBITDA in isolation, or as a substitute for net income or other consolidated income statement data prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Other companies may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

A reconciliation of net income to Adjusted EBITDA is set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Three months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>(unaudited)</b>	<b>(unaudited)</b>
Net income	\$ 1,198	\$ 2,336
Interest expense (income), net	(264)	(34)
Income tax expense	16	12
Depreciation and amortization	225	318
Share-based compensation	10	9
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 1,185</u>	<u>\$ 2,641</u>

Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$1,456,000, to \$1,185,000 in the quarter ended September 30, 2023 from \$2,641,000 in the quarter ended September 30, 2022. The decrease was primarily attributable to the decrease in net income and increase in interest income.

*Interest and Other Income (Expense)*

Interest and other income (expense) for the three months ended September 30, 2023 was \$307,000 as compared to \$82,000 for the corresponding period of 2022. The increase in interest and other income (expense) was due primarily to higher interest income resulting from higher money market and short-term investment balances.

*Income Tax Expense*

For the three months ended September 30, 2023, we recorded income tax expense of \$16,000 as compared to \$12,000 for the corresponding period of 2022. The \$4,000 increase is due mainly to higher state tax expense.

*Net Income*

Net income for the three months ended September 30, 2023 was \$1,198,000 as compared to net income of \$2,336,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2022, representing a decrease of \$1,138,000. Income per share of \$0.01 was recorded in both the three-month periods ended September 30, 2023 and 2022. The principal cause of the decrease in net income is the decrease in gross profit and increase in SG&A costs, partially offset by the increase in interest income.

**Results of Operations — For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023 and 2022***Revenues*

Total revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 was \$59,107,000 and \$56,071,000, respectively, representing an increase of \$3,036,000, or 5% year-over-year. On a segment basis, revenue in the IT, professional sales service, and equipment segments increased \$718,000, \$1,977,000 and \$341,000, respectively.

Revenue in the IT segment for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was \$30,576,000 compared to \$29,858,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2022, an increase of \$718,000, or 2%, of which \$127,000 resulted from higher NetWolves revenue and \$591,000 resulted from higher healthcare IT revenue. Our monthly recurring revenue in the IT segment accounted for \$28,180,000 or 92% of the segment revenue in the first nine months of 2023, and \$27,530,000 or 92% of the segment revenue for the same period last year (see Note C).

Commission revenues in the professional sales service segment were \$26,401,000 in the first nine months of 2023, an increase of \$1,977,000, or 8%, as compared to \$24,424,000 in the first nine months of 2022. The increase in commission revenues was due primarily to an increase in the volume of underlying equipment delivered by GEHC during the period, as well as by a higher blended commission rate applicable to the sales agreement. Consequently, amounts billable, or billed and received, under the agreement with GEHC prior to customer acceptance of the equipment are recorded as deferred revenue in the condensed consolidated balance sheet. As of September 30, 2023, \$33,232,000 in deferred commission revenue was recorded in Vaso's condensed consolidated balance sheet, of which \$14,701,000 was long-term. As of September 30, 2022, \$26,886,000 in deferred commission revenue was recorded in Vaso's condensed consolidated balance sheet, of which \$9,366,000 was long-term. The increase in deferred revenue is principally due to an increase in new orders booked.

Revenue in the equipment segment increased by \$341,000, or 19%, to \$2,130,000 for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2023 from \$1,789,000 for the same period of the prior year, principally due to higher cloud-based software-as-a-service ("SaaS") sales in the U.S.

*Gross Profit*

Gross profit for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 was \$36,540,000, or 62% of revenue, and \$33,260,000, or 59% of revenue, respectively, representing an increase of \$3,280,000, or 10% year-over-year. On a segment basis, gross profit in the IT segment increased \$1,549,000, or 13%, and gross profit in the professional sales service and equipment segments increased \$1,506,000, or 8%, and \$225,000, or 16%, respectively.

IT segment gross profit for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was \$13,455,000, or 44% of the segment revenue, compared to \$11,906,000, or 40% of the segment revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2022. The year-over-year increase of \$1,549,000, or 13%, was primarily a result of higher revenue and higher margin product sales mix in both the network service and healthcare IT businesses.

Professional sales service segment gross profit was \$21,480,000, or 81% of segment revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 as compared to \$19,974,000, or 82% of the segment revenue, for the nine months ended September 30, 2022, reflecting an increase of \$1,506,000, or 8%. The increase was primarily due to higher commission revenue as a result of a higher volume of GEHC equipment delivered, as well as by a higher

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blended commission rate during the first nine months of 2023 than in the same period last year. Cost of commissions in the professional sales service segment of \$4,921,000 and \$4,450,000, for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, reflected commission expense associated with recognized commission revenues.

Commission expense associated with short-term deferred revenue is recorded as short-term deferred commission expense, or with long-term deferred revenue as part of other assets, on the balance sheet until the related commission revenue is recognized.

Equipment segment gross profit increased to \$1,605,000, or 75% of segment revenues, for the first nine months of 2023 compared to \$1,380,000, or 77% of segment revenues, for the same period in 2022. The \$225,000, or 16%, increase in gross profit was primarily the result of higher revenue in both our China operations and our U.S. SaaS operations, partially offset by lower gross profit margin.

*Operating Income (Loss)*

Operating income for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 was \$3,225,000 and \$3,254,000, respectively, representing a decrease of \$29,000 as a combined result of gross profit increasing \$3,280,000 and operating costs (below) increasing \$3,309,000, year-over-year. On a segment basis, the IT segment recorded an operating loss of \$133,000 in the first nine months of 2023 as compared to an operating loss of \$1,531,000 in the same period of 2022; operating income in the professional sales service segment decreased by \$968,000, from \$5,752,000 in the first nine months of 2022 to \$4,784,000 in the same period of 2023; and the equipment segment recorded an operating loss of \$214,000 in the first nine months of 2023 as compared to an operating loss of \$132,000 in the same period of 2022.

Operating loss in the IT segment decreased to \$133,000 for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2023 as compared to an operating loss of \$1,531,000 in the same period of 2022, due primarily to higher gross profit, partially offset by higher SG&A costs. Operating income in the professional sales service segment decreased \$968,000 to \$4,784,000 in the nine-month period ended September 30, 2023 as compared to operating income of \$5,752,000 in the same period of 2022, due to higher SG&A costs partially offset by higher gross profit. The equipment segment reported an operating loss of \$214,000 in the first nine months of 2023, compared to an operating loss of \$132,000 in the first nine months of 2022, a decrease of \$82,000, due to higher SG&A and R&D costs, partially offset by higher gross profit.

SG&A costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 were \$32,731,000 and \$29,584,000, respectively, representing an increase of \$3,147,000, or 11% year-over-year. On a segment basis, SG&A costs in the IT segment increased by \$167,000 in the first nine months of 2023 from the same period of the prior year due mainly to higher personnel costs; SG&A costs in the professional sales service segment increased by \$2,475,000 due to higher personnel costs associated with the provision of expanded services, and to higher travel costs; and SG&A costs in the equipment segment increased by \$129,000 due mainly to higher personnel costs. Corporate costs not allocated to segments increased \$376,000 due mainly to higher director and accounting fees.

Research and development (“R&D”) expenses were \$584,000, or 1% of revenues, for the first nine months of 2023, a decrease of \$15,000, or 3%, from \$422,000, or 1% of revenues, for the first nine months of 2022. The increase is primarily attributable to higher product development expenses in the equipment segment.

*Adjusted EBITDA*

We define Adjusted EBITDA (earnings (loss) before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization), which is a non-GAAP financial measure, as net income (loss), plus interest expense (income), net; tax expense; depreciation and amortization; and non-cash expenses for share-based compensation. Adjusted EBITDA is a metric that is used by the investment community for comparative and valuation purposes. We disclose this metric in order to support and facilitate the dialogue with research analysts and investors.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of financial performance under U.S. GAAP and should not be considered a substitute for operating income, which we consider to be the most directly comparable U.S. GAAP measure. Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and when assessing our operating performance, you should not consider Adjusted EBITDA in isolation, or as a substitute for net income or other consolidated income statement data prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Other companies may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

A reconciliation of net income to Adjusted EBITDA is set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>(unaudited)</b>	<b>(unaudited)</b>
Net income	\$ 3,724	\$ 3,268
Interest expense (income), net	(555)	(10)
Income tax expense	35	42
Depreciation and amortization	762	1,576
Share-based compensation	38	22
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 4,004</u>	<u>\$ 4,898</u>

Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$894,000 to \$4,004,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2023 from \$4,848,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 2022. The decrease was primarily attributable to higher interest income and lower depreciation and amortization, partially offset by higher net income.

#### *Interest and Other Income (Expense)*

Interest and other income (expense) for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was \$534,000 as compared to \$56,000 for the corresponding period of 2022. The increase in interest and other income was due primarily to higher money market and short-term investment balances.

#### *Income Tax Expense*

For the nine months ended September 30, 2023, we recorded income tax expense of \$35,000 as compared to income tax expense of \$42,000 for the corresponding period of 2022. The decrease was due mainly to lower tax expense in our China operations.

#### *Net Income*

Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was \$3,724,000 as compared to \$3,268,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2022, representing an increase of \$456,000, or 14%. Income per share of \$0.02 was recorded in both of the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2023 and 2022. The principal cause of the improvement is the increase in interest income.

### **Results of Operations — For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

Total revenues increased by \$4,099,000, or 5.5%, to \$79,294,000 in the year ended December 31, 2022, from \$75,195,000 in the year ended December 31, 2021. We reported net income of \$11,294,000 and \$5,793,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, an improvement of \$5,501,000. The increase in net income was primarily due to higher gross profit and the income tax benefit generated through partial release of the deferred tax asset valuation allowance, partially offset by higher operating costs and forgiveness of the PPP loan in 2021. Our net income was \$0.07 and \$0.06 per basic and diluted common share, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2022 and \$0.04 per basic and diluted common share for the year ended December 31, 2021.

#### *Revenues*

Revenue in the IT segment was \$40,100,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 as compared to \$42,916,000 for the prior year, a decrease of \$2,816,000, or 6.6%, of which \$2,028,000 was attributable to a decline in NetWolves revenues and \$788,000 to a decrease in VHC-IT revenues.

Commission revenues in the professional sales service segment increased by \$7,564,000, or 26.0%, to \$36,621,000 in the year ended December 31, 2022, as compared to \$29,057,000 in the year ended December 31, 2021. The increase was primarily due to higher volume of GEHC equipment delivered in 2022 coupled with a higher blended commission rate for equipment delivered in 2022. As discussed in Note B to the financial statements, Vaso defers recognition of commission revenue until the underlying equipment is delivered. As of December 31, 2022,

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Vaso recorded on its consolidated balance sheet deferred commission revenue of \$30,794,000 for this segment (of which \$15,660,000 is long-term), an increase of \$5,839,000, or 23.3%, compared to \$24,955,000 of deferred commission revenue at December 31, 2021 (of which \$8,465,000 was long-term). The increase in deferred revenue is due principally to higher total orders booked during the year, partially offset by the increase in equipment deliveries over the same period.

Revenue in our equipment segment decreased 20.1% to \$2,573,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 from \$3,222,000 for the year ended December 31, 2021, as a result of lower equipment sales in our China operations as affected by the pandemic lockdowns in the country and the effect of 2022 foreign exchange rate fluctuations, offset by a \$16,000 increase in our US operations due to higher ARCS<sup>®</sup>-cloud software-as-a-service revenues.

### *Gross Profit*

Vaso recorded gross profit of \$47,902,000, or 60.4% of revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2022, compared to \$42,826,000, or 57.0% of revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2021. The increase of \$5,076,000, or 11.9%, was due primarily to a \$6,111,000 increase in the professional sales service segment due to higher revenues, partially offset by decreases of \$589,000 and \$445,000 in the equipment and IT segments, respectively, as a result of lower revenues in both segments and lower gross margin in the equipment segment.

IT segment gross profit decreased to \$16,229,000, or 40% of segment revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2022, as compared to \$16,674,000, or 39% of segment revenues in the prior year, a decrease of \$445,000, of which \$885,000 was attributable to NetWolves due to lower revenues, offset by \$440,000 higher gross profit at VHC-IT, resulting from improved gross margin.

Professional sales service segment gross profit was \$29,710,000, or 81.1% of the segment revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2022, an increase of \$6,111,000, or 25.9%, from segment gross profit of \$23,599,000, or 81.2% of the segment revenue, for the year ended December 31, 2021. The increase in gross profit was due primarily to the increase in the segment revenue as a result of higher equipment delivery volume and a higher blended commission rate in 2022. Cost of commissions increased by \$1,453,000, or 26.6%, to \$6,911,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022, as compared to cost of commissions of \$5,458,000 in 2021. The increase is due primarily to the increase in the segment revenue as gross profit margin remained little changed year over year. Cost of commissions reflects commission expense associated with certain recognized commission revenues. Commission expense associated with deferred revenue is recorded as deferred commission expense until the related commission revenue is earned.

Equipment segment gross profit decreased by \$589,000, or 23.1%, to \$1,964,000, or 76.3% of equipment segment revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2022, compared to \$2,553,000, or 79.2% of equipment segment revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2021, due to lower segment revenue as well as lower gross profit margin in our China operations. Equipment segment gross profits are dependent on a number of factors including the mix of products sold, their respective models and average selling prices, the ongoing costs of training, maintenance and servicing, as well as certain fixed period costs, including facilities, payroll and insurance.

### *Operating Income*

Operating income was \$6,454,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 compared to operating income of \$2,512,000 for the year ended December 31, 2021, an increase of \$3,942,000, or 157%. The improvement was primarily attributable to the increase in operating income in the professional sales service segment to \$9,521,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 from \$5,611,000 for the year ended December 31, 2021, due to higher gross profit, offset by higher operating expenses, and by a \$442,000 improvement in the IT segment, which lowered its operating loss to \$1,620,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 from \$2,062,000 for the year ended December 31, 2021, as a result primarily of lower operating expenses. Offsetting these improvements was a \$212,000 increase in operating loss in the equipment segment to \$180,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 from operating income of \$32,000 in the prior year resulting mainly from lower gross profit, partially offset by lower SG&A expenses, and a \$197,000 increase in corporate expenses to \$1,266,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 from \$1,069,000 in the prior year, mainly due to increases in insurance costs and director fees.

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 were \$40,843,000, or 51.0% of revenues, and \$38,593,000, or 51.1% of revenues, respectively, reflecting an increase of \$2,250,000 or 5.8%. The increase in SG&A expenditures in the year ended December 31, 2022 resulted primarily from a \$2,202,000 increase in the professional sales service segment attributable mainly to higher sales personnel-related and travel costs; a \$302,000 increase in the IT segment due to higher personnel and travel costs; a \$47,000 decrease in the equipment segment due mainly to lower personnel costs in our China operations, and a \$197,000 increase in corporate expenses reflecting higher insurance costs and director fees.

Research and development (R&D) expenses of \$605,000, or 1% of revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2022 decreased by \$1,116,000, or 65%, from \$1,721,000, or 2% of revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2021. The decrease is primarily attributable to a one-time write-off of software development costs in our NetWolves operations in 2021.

#### *Adjusted EBITDA*

We define Adjusted EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization), which is a non-GAAP financial measure, as net (loss) income, plus net interest expense (income), tax expense, depreciation and amortization, and non-cash expenses for share-based compensation. Adjusted EBITDA is a metric that is used by the investment community for comparative and valuation purposes. We disclose this metric in order to support and facilitate the dialogue with research analysts and investors.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered a substitute for operating income, which we consider to be the most directly comparable GAAP measure. Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and when assessing our operating performance, you should not consider Adjusted EBITDA in isolation, or as a substitute for net income or other consolidated income statement data prepared in accordance with GAAP. Other companies may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

A reconciliation of net income to Adjusted EBITDA is set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Net income	\$ 11,294	\$ 5,793
Interest expense (income), net	(85)	301
Income tax (benefit) expense	(4,743)	151
Depreciation and amortization	1,923	3,840
Share-based compensation	35	31
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 8,424</u>	<u>\$ 10,116</u>

Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$1,692,000, to \$8,424,000 in the year ended December 31, 2022, from \$10,116,000 in the year ended December 31, 2021. The decrease was primarily attributable to the lower depreciation and amortization and the change from income tax expense to income tax benefit, partially offset by higher net income and the change from net interest expense to net interest income, as compared to the prior year. Net income increased primarily due to higher revenue, gross profit and income tax benefit in 2022, partially offset by \$3,646,000 gain on forgiveness of PPP loan and interest in 2021.

#### *Other Income (Expense), Net*

Other income (expense), net for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, was \$97,000 and \$3,432,000, respectively, a decrease in net other income of \$3,335,000. The decrease was due primarily to the gain on forgiveness of the PPP loan and interest of \$3,646,000 in 2021, partially offset by \$268,000 lower interest expense in 2022 due to reduced debt and finance lease obligations.

*Income Tax (Expense) Benefit*

During the year ended December 31, 2022, we recorded an income tax benefit of \$4,743,000, as compared to income tax expense of \$151,000 in the year ended December 31, 2021. Vaso utilized \$7,754,000 and \$4,373,000 in net operating loss carryforwards for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The change to income tax benefit in 2022 arose primarily from the partial release of the deferred tax asset valuation allowance in 2022, due to estimated future taxable income. Vaso has net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$31 million at December 31, 2022.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

*Cash and Cash Flow for the nine months ended September 30, 2023*

We have financed our operations from working capital. At September 30, 2023, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$11,055,000 and working capital of \$12,908,000, compared to cash and cash equivalents of \$11,821,000 and working capital of \$9,484,000 at December 31, 2022.

Cash provided by operating activities was \$6,860,000, which consisted of net income after adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash of \$4,710,000 and cash provided by operating assets and liabilities of \$2,150,000, during the nine months ended September 30, 2023, compared to cash provided by operating activities of \$12,676,000 for the same period in 2022. The changes in the account balances primarily reflect a decrease in accounts and other receivables and deferred revenue of \$6,052,000 and \$2,437,000, respectively; partially offset by decreases in accrued commissions and accrued expenses of \$2,006,000 and \$2,559,000, respectively.

Cash used in investing activities during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2023 was \$7,536,000 attributed to \$536,000 used for the purchase of equipment and software and \$20,330,000 used in the purchase of short-term investments, offset by \$13,330,000 in redemption of short-term investments.

Cash used in financing activities during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2023 was \$107,000 resulting primarily from the repayment of notes payable and finance lease obligations.

*Liquidity*

Vaso expects to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to satisfy its obligations for at least the next twelve months.

*Cash and Cash Flow — For the year ended December 31, 2022*

We have financed our operations and investment activities from working capital. At December 31, 2022, we had cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments of \$20,325,000 and working capital of \$9,484,000. \$11,890,000 in negative working capital at December 31, 2022 is attributable to the net balance of deferred commission expense and deferred revenue. These are non-cash expense and revenue items and have no impact on future cash flows. As of March 24, 2023, Vaso's cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments were approximately \$20.4 million.

Cash provided by operating activities was \$14,416,000 during the year ended December 31, 2022, which consisted of net income after non-cash adjustments of \$9,260,000 and changes in operating assets and liabilities of \$5,156,000. The changes in the account balances primarily reflect increases in deferred revenue, accrued expenses, and accrued commissions of \$5,838,000, \$1,392,000, and \$870,000, respectively; partially offsetting these changes was an increase in other assets of \$2,422,000 and a decrease in accounts payable of \$521,000.

Cash used in investing activities during the year ended December 31, 2022 was \$8,417,000, consisting of \$8,000,000 in purchases of short term investments and \$566,000 in purchases of equipment and software, offset by \$149,000 in redemption of short-term investments.

Cash used in financing activities during the year ended December 31, 2022 was \$230,000 in payments of notes and finance leases.

### *Liquidity*

Vaso expects to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to satisfy its obligations at least for the next twelve months.

### **Contractual Obligations**

We are obligated under various contracts as further described below.

We have an exclusive sales representation agreement with GEHC for the sale of GEHC diagnostic imaging equipment, service agreements and equipment financing in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia which expires on December 31, 2026. We have a revolving credit agreement for \$3,000,000 with a bank that expires in August 2024.

We have capital lease and equipment operating leases with terms of three to five years and operating leases for our facilities in New York, Florida and China with terms of two to seven years. We have no other material long term liabilities.

### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not participate in transactions that generate relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities (SPES), which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes. As of December 31, 2022, we are not involved in any unconsolidated SPES or other off-balance sheet arrangements.

### **Effects of Inflation**

We believe that inflation and changing prices over the past two years have not had a significant impact on our revenue or on our results of operations.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Note B of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements includes a summary of our significant accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of our financial statements. In preparing these financial statements, we have made our best estimates and judgments of certain amounts included in the financial statements, giving due consideration to materiality. The application of these accounting policies involves the exercise of judgment and use of assumptions as to future uncertainties and, as a result, actual results could differ from these estimates. Our critical accounting policies and estimates are as follows:

#### *Allowance for Commission Adjustments*

In our professional sale service segment, we bill a portion of commissions on the orders we booked in advance of delivery of the underlying equipment. Such amounts are classified in our consolidated balance sheets in accounts receivable and deferred revenue, net of estimated commission adjustments. Similarly, commissions payable to our sales force related to such billings are recorded as deferred commission expense, net of the impact of the estimated commission adjustments, when the associated deferred revenue is recorded. The commission adjustments are based on estimates of future order cancellations, which is calculated based on historical cancellation rates and applicable credit policies. Such cancellation rates are subject to the uncertainty that future activity cancels at higher or lower rates than the past orders on which the rate was calculated, or that credit policies may change. While such rates have trended up since the start of the GEHC Agreement, they have remained fairly constant in recent years. Application of the rates only affects the aforementioned balance sheet accounts, there is no impact to the statement of operations.

#### *Valuation Allowance for Deferred Tax Assets*

Deferred income taxes are recognized for temporary differences between financial statement and income tax bases of assets and liabilities and loss carry forwards for which income tax benefits are expected to be realized in future years. A valuation allowance is established, when necessary, to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. In estimating future tax consequences, we generally consider all expected future events

other than an enactment of changes in the tax laws or rates. Deferred tax assets are continually evaluated for realizability. To the extent our judgment regarding the realization of the deferred tax assets changes, an adjustment to the allowance is recorded, with an offsetting increase or decrease, as appropriate, in income tax expense. Such adjustments are recorded in the period in which our estimate as to the realizability of the assets changed that it is “more likely than not” that all of the deferred tax assets will be realized. The “more likely than not” standard is subjective and is based upon our estimate of a greater than 50% probability that the deferred tax asset will be realized.

The primary underlying uncertainty in evaluating the realizability of our deferred tax assets, which are primarily net operating losses, is the need to accurately project taxable income. Vaso generated net operating losses in the years ended December 31, 2017, 2018 and 2019. From 2020 to 2022, this trend reversed and Vaso generated increasingly higher taxable income, primarily as a result of the professional sales services segment’s growth in orders, revenue, and operating results. As a result of this trend, which we expect to continue, and the extension, through December 31, 2026, of the GEHC Agreement which underlies the performance of the professional sales segment, Vaso reviewed positive and negative evidence, including improved historical operating results and the likelihood of such results continuing, and also reviewed its expected taxable income for future periods based on the positive trend in operating results and the extension of the GEHC Agreement to the end of 2026, and concluded that it is more likely than not that approximately \$5.4 million of tax benefits related to net operating loss carryforwards will be utilized in the future tax years of 2023 to 2026 and, therefore, reduced its valuation allowance during the year ended December 31, 2022 in accordance with ASC 740. In addition, Vaso expects to provide a valuation allowance on the remaining future tax benefits until it can sustain a level of profitability that demonstrates its ability to utilize the remaining assets, or other significant positive evidence arises that suggests its ability to utilize the remaining assets.

#### *Goodwill and Intangible Assets*

Goodwill represents the excess of cost over the fair value of net assets of businesses acquired. The Company accounts for goodwill under the guidance of the ASC Topic 350, “Intangibles: Goodwill and Other”. Goodwill acquired in a purchase business combination and determined to have an indefinite useful life is not amortized, but instead tested for impairment, at least annually, in accordance with this guidance. The recoverability of goodwill is subject to an annual impairment test or whenever an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not result in an impairment. The impairment test is based on the estimated fair value of the underlying businesses and performed in the fourth quarter of each year. When goodwill is assessed for impairment, we have the option to perform an assessment of qualitative factors of impairment (optional assessment) prior to necessitating a quantitative impairment test. Should the optional assessment be used for any given fiscal year, judgment in the assessment of qualitative factors of impairment considered for a reporting unit include: cost factors; financial performance; legal, regulatory, contractual, political, business, or other factors; entity specific factors; industry and market considerations; macroeconomic conditions; and other relevant events and factors affecting the reporting unit. If we determine in the qualitative assessment that it is more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying value, a quantitative test is then performed. Otherwise, no further testing is required. Vaso performed a qualitative assessment for the year ended December 31, 2022 and did not conclude a goodwill impairment charge was warranted. Our conclusion was based on projection that the trend of operating losses, largely due to impact of COVID-19 pandemic, would improve in future periods and that existing positive operating cash flows would continue.

Intangible assets consist of the value of customer contracts and relationships, patent and technology costs, and software. The cost of significant customer-related intangibles is amortized in proportion to estimated total related revenue; cost of other intangible assets is generally amortized on a straight-line basis over the asset’s estimated economic life, which range from five to ten years. Vaso capitalizes internal use software costs incurred during the application development stage. Costs related to preliminary project activities and post implementation activities are expensed as incurred. We evaluate whether events or circumstances have occurred that warrant a revision to the remaining useful lives of intangible assets. In cases where a revision is deemed appropriate, the remaining carrying amounts of the intangible assets are amortized over the revised remaining useful life.

#### **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

Note B of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements includes a description of Vaso’s evaluation of recently issued accounting pronouncements.

## DESCRIPTION OF VASO'S, ACHARI'S, AND NEW VASO'S SECURITIES

### Description of Vaso's Securities Prior to the Business Combination

#### Common Stock

Pursuant to Vaso's Certificate of Incorporation, Vaso is authorized to issue up to 250,000,000 shares of common stock. Holders of such common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders, including the election of directors. Generally, all matters to be voted on by stockholders must be approved by a majority (or, in the case of election of directors, by a plurality) of the votes entitled to be cast by all shares of Vaso's common stock that are present or represented by proxy. Except as otherwise provided by law, amendments to Vaso's Certificate of Incorporation generally must be approved by a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by all outstanding shares of Vaso's common stock. Vaso's Certificate of Incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors. Holders of Vaso's common stock will be entitled to such cash dividends as may be declared from time to time by the Board from funds available. Holders of Vaso's common stock have no preemptive rights to purchase unissued shares of Vaso's common stock. The issued and outstanding shares of Vaso's common stock are not subject to any redemption provisions and are not convertible into any other shares of Vaso's capital stock. Upon Vaso's liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of Vaso's common stock will be entitled to receive pro rata all assets available for distribution to such holders.

Vaso's common stock currently trades on the OTCQX® Best Market (the "OTCQX") under the symbol "VASO". The closing price of Vaso's shares of common stock and warrants on the OTCQX on December 5, 2023, the last trading day before announcement of the execution of the Business Combination Agreement, was \$0.21. The closing bid price of a share of Vaso common stock on the OTCQX on December 19, 2023 was \$0.28. The market price of Vaso's common stock could vary at any time before the Business Combination.

#### Preferred Stock

Pursuant to Vaso's Certificate of Incorporation, Vaso is authorized to issue up to 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, which may be issued from time to time in one or more series upon authorization by Vaso's board of directors. The board of directors, without further approval of the stockholders, is authorized to fix the dividend rights and terms, conversion rights, voting rights, redemption rights and terms, liquidation preferences, and any other rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions applicable to each series of preferred stock.

#### Dividend Policy

Over the past five years, Vaso has not declared or paid any dividends on its common stock. Vaso currently intends to retain future earnings, if any, to finance the expansion of its business. As a result, Vaso does not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

### Comparison of the Rights of Holders of Achari Stock, Vaso Stock and Company Stock after the Business Combination

The rights of the stockholders of Achari are currently governed by the DGCL and the Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and bylaws of Achari. The rights of the stockholders of Vaso are currently governed by the DGCL and the Certificate of Incorporation and bylaws of Vaso. If the Business Combination is completed, Vaso stockholders will become stockholders of New Vaso, and their rights will be governed by the DGCL, New Vaso's proposed Sixth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and New Vaso's proposed Bylaws.

The table below summarizes the material differences between the current rights of Achari stockholders, Vaso stockholders and the rights of Company stockholders immediately following the Business Combination.

While we believe that the summary tables cover the material differences, these summary tables may not contain all of the information that is important to our stockholders. Our stockholders should carefully read this entire proxy statement and the other documents referred to in this proxy statement for a more complete understanding of the differences between being a stockholder of Achari before the Business Combination, being a stockholder of

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Vaso and being a stockholder of New Vaso after the Business Combination. A copy of New Vaso's proposed Sixth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation is attached as *Annex B* to this proxy statement, and a copy of the Bylaws is attached to this proxy statement as *Annex C*.

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
<b>Authorized Capital Stock</b>	100,000,000 shares of common stock, with a par value of \$0.0001 per share, and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.0001 per share.	Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation authorizes the issuance of up to 250,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation authorizes capital stock of up to 111,000,000 shares, \$0.0001 par value per share, of which (i) 100,000,000 shares are Class A Common Stock, (ii) 10,000,000 shares are Class B common stock, and (iii) 1,000,000 shares are preferred stock.
<b>Designation of Preferred Stock</b>	The board of directors is authorized to provide, out of the authorized, unissued shares of preferred stock, for one or more series of preferred stock and, with respect to each such series, to establish the number of shares to be included in each such series and to fix the designation, vesting powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other rights, if any, of the shares of each such series and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, and to increase (but not above the total number of authorized shares of the class) or decrease the number of shares of any such series (but not below the number of shares of such series then outstanding).	The board of directors is authorized to provide, out of the authorized, unissued shares of preferred stock, for one or more series of preferred stock and, with respect to each such series, to establish the number of shares to be included in each such series and to fix the designation, vesting powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other rights, if any, of the shares of each such series and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, and to increase (but not above the total number of authorized shares of the class) or decrease the number of shares of any such series (but not below the number of shares of such series then outstanding).	The shares of Preferred Stock shall be issuable from time to time in one or more series, with respect to each of which series the Board of Directors shall be authorized, without further approval from stockholders of the Corporation, to fix: (a) the designation of the series; (b) the number of shares of each series, which number the Board of Directors may increase or decrease (but not below the number of shares thereof then outstanding); (c) the annual dividend rate of the series; (d) the dates at which dividends, if declared, shall be payable and the dates from which the dividends shall be cumulative and the redemption rights, if any, for shares of the series; (e) the terms and amount of any sinking fund provided for the purchase or redemption of shares of the series; (f) the amounts payable on shares of the series in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Corporation; (g) whether the shares of the series shall be convertible into Common Stock or other securities, and, if so, the conversion price or prices, any adjustments thereof,

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
			and all other terms and conditions upon which such conversion may be made; (h) restrictions on the issuance of the shares of the same series or of any other class or series; and (i) the voting rights, if any, exercisable by the holders of the shares of such series.
<b>Number of Directors</b>	The number of Achari directors, other than those who may be elected by the holders of one or more series of the Preferred Stock voting separately by class or series, shall be fixed from time to time exclusively by the board of Achari.	Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation provides that the number of directors shall consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of nine members, subject however to the number being from time to time increased or decreased in such manner as shall be provided in the bylaws. The number of directors shall not be reduced to less than three except that there need be only as many directors as there are stockholders in the event that the outstanding shares are held of record by fewer than three stockholders.	New Vaso's proposed bylaws provides that Board shall determine how many directors serve on the Board, provided that the Board consists of a minimum of three directors.
		There are currently seven directors serving on the Vaso board of directors.	The Vaso directors are expected to serve the board of directors of New Vaso.
<b>Stockholder Nominations and Proposals</b>	A majority of Achari's independent directors may recommend a director nominee for selection by the board of directors.  Achari stockholders may also nominate a director for election to the board of directors by following the procedures set forth in the bylaws. Achari's bylaws provide that stockholders seeking to bring business before an annual meeting of stockholders, or to nominate candidates for election as directors at its	Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation provides that director nominations may be made by the board of directors, by a committee of the board of directors, or by any stockholder entitled to vote for the election of directors. However, Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation does not provide for other stockholder proposals.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that nomination for the election of directors may be made by the Board of Directors, by a committee of the Board of Directors or by any stockholder entitled to vote for the election of directors. Unless provided otherwise in the By-Laws, nominations by stockholders of the Corporation shall be made

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
	annual meeting of stockholders, must provide timely notice of their intent in writing. To be timely, a stockholder's notice will need to be received by the company secretary at Achari's principal executive offices not later than the close of business on the 90 <sup>th</sup> day nor earlier than the opening of business on the 120 <sup>th</sup> day prior to the anniversary date of the immediately preceding annual meeting of stockholders.		by notice, in writing, delivered or mailed by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the Secretary of the Corporation not less than 3 months nor more than 5 months prior to any meeting of the stockholders of the Corporation called for the election of directors
<b>Directors' Terms of Office; Removal</b>	<p>Achari's board is divided into three classes with only one class of directors being elected in each year and each class (except for those directors appointed prior to its first annual meeting of stockholders) serving a three-year term.</p> <p>Any or all of the directors may be removed from office at any time, but only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the voting power of all then outstanding shares of Achari capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class; provided that whenever the holders of one or more series of the Preferred Stock shall have the right, voting separately by class or series, to elect one or more directors, the term of office, the filling of vacancies, the removal from office and other features of such directorships shall be governed by the terms of such series of the Preferred Stock.</p>	<p>Vaso's bylaws provide that directors are elected at each annual meeting of stockholders, to hold office until the next annual meeting, and shall hold office until their respective successors are elected and qualified, or until such director's earlier death, resignation or removal. The entire board of directors or any individual director may be removed from office (i) with cause or without cause and (ii) only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a two-thirds of the shares then entitled to vote at an election of directors, or by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the directors then in office.</p>	<p>New Vaso's proposed bylaws provides that shall be elected at the annual meeting of stockholders or, if action by the stockholders without a meeting is permitted by applicable law, the directors may be elected by consent of the holders of that number which would be sufficient to elect the directors at the annual meeting. Any director may be removed, either with or without cause, at any time, by the affirmative vote of the holders of record of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total number of shares of stock of the Corporation issued and outstanding, taken at a special meeting of the stockholders called and held for that purpose, or by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the directors then in office, and the vacancy in the Board caused by any such removal may be filled by the remaining directors or, if removal shall have been effected by a vote of the stockholders, by the stockholders.</p>

<b>Provision</b>	<b>Achari</b>	<b>Vaso</b>	<b>New Vaso</b>
<b>Special Meetings of the Stockholders</b>	Special meetings of stockholders may be called only by Achari's Chief Executive Officer or the Board pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board and may not be called by any other person.	Vaso's bylaws provide that a special meeting of stockholders may be called by the Vaso board of directors or by stockholders owning at least forty percent (40%) of the total number of outstanding shares of any class of capital stock of Vaso.	New Vaso's proposed bylaws provides that a special meeting of stockholders may be called by New Vaso's board of directors or by stockholders owning at least fifty percent (50%) of the total number of outstanding shares of any class of capital stock of New Vaso.
<b>Quorum</b>	The presence, in person or by proxy, at a stockholders meeting of the holders of shares of outstanding Achari capital stock representing a majority of the voting power of all outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote at such meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at such meeting, except that when specified business is to be voted on by a class or series of stock voting as a class, the holders of shares representing a majority of the voting power of the outstanding shares of such class or series shall constitute a quorum of such class or series for the transaction of such business.	Vaso's bylaws provides that, at all meetings of the stockholders, the holders of 50% of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of Vaso (of all classes) entitled to vote and as determined by voting power shall be present in person or by proxy to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.	New Vaso's proposed bylaws provides that, at all meetings of the stockholders, the holders of one-third (1/3) of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation (of all classes) entitled to vote and as determined by voting power shall be present in person or by proxy to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.
<b>Cumulative Voting</b>	There are no cumulative voting rights for the election of directors.	Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation and bylaws do not provide for cumulative voting rights in the election of its directors. Under the DGCL, cumulative voting is permitted only when authorized in the certificate of incorporation.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and bylaws do not provide for cumulative voting rights in the election of its directors. Under the DGCL, cumulative voting is permitted only when authorized in the certificate of incorporation.
<b>Voting</b>	Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by stockholders. Stockholders may vote by proxy.	Holders of shares of Vaso capital stock are entitled to one vote for each such share on all matters voted on by the stockholder and, on any matter presented to the stockholders of Vaso.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that (i) each share of Class A Common Stock is entitled to one vote and (ii) each share of Class B common stock is entitled to 100 votes, for each such share on all matters voted on by the stockholder and, on any matter presented to the stockholders of New Vaso.

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
<b>Vacancies</b>	Newly created directorships resulting from an increase in the number of directors and any vacancies on the Board may be filled solely and exclusively by a majority vote of the remaining directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director (and not by stockholders), and any director so chosen shall hold office for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors to which the new directorship was added or in which the vacancy occurred and until his or her successor has been elected and qualified.	Vaso's bylaws provide that vacancies and newly-created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors may be filled by the stockholders, a majority of the directors then in office, although less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that vacancies and newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors may be filled by a majority of the directors then in office, though less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director, and the directors so chosen shall hold office, unless sooner removed, until the next annual election and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified.
<b>Election of Directors</b>	The election of directors is to occur at a duly called meeting of the stockholders of Achari.	Vaso's bylaws provide that any election of directors by stockholders shall occur at each of the annual meeting of stockholders or, if action by the stockholders without a meeting is permitted by applicable law, the directors may be elected by consent of the holders of that number which would be sufficient to elect the directors at the annual meeting.	New Vaso's proposed bylaws provide that any election of directors by stockholders shall occur at each of the annual meeting of stockholders.
<b>Stockholder Action by Written Consent</b>	Any action required or permitted to be taken by Achari's common stockholders must be effected by a duly called annual or special meeting of such stockholders and may not be effected by written consent of the stockholders other than with respect to the Founder Shares.	Vaso's bylaws provide that any action required by law to be taken at any annual or special meeting of stockholders, or any action permitted to be taken at any annual or special meeting of such stockholders, may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, to the extent permitted by applicable law, with the written consent of the holders of record of that number of outstanding shares of the Corporation which is then required to authorize such action, provided that such written consent shall be filed with the minutes of proceedings of the stockholders, and provided further that written notice of such action shall be given as required by law to all nonconsenting stockholders.	New Vaso's proposed bylaws provide that any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the stockholders (including the annual meeting) may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, be taken without a meeting with the written consent of the holders of record of that number of outstanding shares of the Corporation which is then required to authorize such action, provided that such written consent shall be filed with the minutes of proceedings of the stockholders, and provided further that written notice of such action shall be given as required by law to all nonconsenting stockholders.

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
<b>Notice of Stockholder Meetings</b>	Notice of the date, time and place, if any, of all meetings of stockholders, and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be given in writing not less than 10 nor more than 60 days before the date of the meeting to each stockholder of record entitled to vote at such meeting.	Vaso's bylaws provide that notice of the date, time and place, if any, of all meetings of stockholders, and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be given in writing or electronic transmission not less than 10 nor more than 50 days before the date of the meeting to each stockholder of record entitled to vote at such meeting.	New Vaso's proposed bylaws provide that notice of the place, date and time of each annual and special meeting of stockholders and, in the case of a special meeting, the purposes thereof, shall be given personally or by first-class prepaid mail to each stockholder entitled to vote at such meeting, not less than ten (10) and not more than fifty (50) days before the date of such meeting.
<b>Conversion Rights and Protective Provisions</b>	Holders of Achari capital stock do not have any preemptive, conversion or other protective rights.	Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation does not provide the holders of Vaso capital stock preemptive, conversion or other protective rights.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and restated Certificate of Incorporation does not provide the holders of Vaso capital stock preemptive, conversion or other protective rights.
<b>Forum Selection</b>	Unless Achari consents in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the sole and exclusive forum for (a) any derivative action or proceeding brought on its behalf, (b) any action asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed by any current or former director, officer, employee, agent to it or its stockholders, (c) any action asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the DGCL, the amended and restated certificate of incorporation or bylaws, or (d) any action asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine shall be the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware (or, if the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware lacks jurisdiction over such action or proceeding, then another court of the State of Delaware or, if no court of the State of Delaware has jurisdiction, then the United States District Court for the District of Delaware).	Neither the certificate of incorporation nor bylaws of Vaso include a forum selection provision.	Neither the certificate proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation nor bylaws of New Vaso include a forum selection provision.

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
<b>Indemnification of Officers and Directors</b>	Achari's officers and directors will be indemnified by Achari to the fullest extent authorized by Delaware law, as it now exists or may in the future be amended. In addition, Achari's fifth amended and restated certificate of incorporation provide that its directors will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breaches of their fiduciary duty as directors, unless they violated their duty of loyalty to Achari or its stockholders, acted in bad faith, knowingly or intentionally violated the law, authorized unlawful payments of dividends, unlawful stock purchases or unlawful redemptions, or derived an improper personal benefit from their actions as directors.	Vaso's bylaws provide that, Vaso shall, to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, indemnify and hold harmless each person who was or is made a party to, or is threatened to be made a party to, or is involved in any action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of Vaso or is or was serving at the request of Vaso as a director or officer of another corporation, or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against all expenses, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually incurred by such person in connection therewith, but only to the extent permitted under the laws of Delaware.  No director of Vaso shall be personally liable to Vaso or any stockholder for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for any matter is respect of which such director shall be liable under Section 174 of Title 8 of the DGCL.	New Vaso's proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provide that no director of New Vaso shall be personally liable to New Vaso or any stockholder for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for any matter is respect of which such director shall be liable under Section 174 of Title 8 of the DGCL
<b>Declaration and Payment of Dividends</b>	Achari's board may from time to time declare, and Achari may pay, dividends (payable in cash, property or shares of Achari's capital stock) on its outstanding shares of capital stock,	The board of directors has the right to declare dividends as provided under the DGCL. Vaso's bylaws provide that Vaso shall be entitled to recognize the exclusive right of a person in whose name any share or shares stand on the record of stockholders as the owner of such share or shares, including the right to receive dividends or other distributions.	Neither the proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation nor proposed bylaws of New Vaso include a declaration on payment of dividends.

Provision	Achari	Vaso	New Vaso
<b>Amendments; General Provisions</b>	<p>Amendments to Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation require the affirmative vote of 65% of the holders of its outstanding capital stock if such amendment relates to Article IX thereof relating to business combinations.</p> <p>Achari's board may adopt, amend, alter or repeal Achari's By-laws. The affirmative vote of a majority of the Board shall be required to adopt, amend, alter or repeal the By-laws. The By-laws also may be adopted, amended, altered or repealed by the stockholders, with limited restrictions.</p>	<p>Vaso's amended certificate of incorporation may be amended by resolution of the Board of Directors if no shares have been issued, and if shares have been issued, by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon, or when authorized, when such action is ratified by the written consent of all the stockholders entitled to vote thereon.</p> <p>Except as otherwise provided by law, Vaso's bylaws may be adopted at any annual or special meeting of the stockholders by a majority of the total votes of the stockholders present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on such action.</p>	<p>New Vaso's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation may be amended by the affirmative vote at a meeting of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon called for that purpose (or, unless the Bylaws provide otherwise, by the lowest percentage permitted under Delaware law) or when such action is ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of New Vaso.</p> <p>New Vaso's bylaws may be amended or repealed or new by-laws may be adopted at any annual or special meeting of the stockholders by a majority of the total votes of the stockholders present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on such action; provided, however, that the notice of such meeting shall have been given as provided in these By-Laws.</p>

#### **Description of Achari's Securities Prior to the Business Combination**

The total number of shares of the authorized capital stock, each with a par value of \$0.0001 per share, which the Corporation is authorized to issue, is 101,000,000 shares, consisting of (a) 100,000,000 shares of common stock and (b) 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock. There are currently 3,050,941 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

#### **Units**

Each unit consists of one share of common stock and one redeemable warrant. Each redeemable warrant entitles the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one share of common stock. Each redeemable warrant has an exercise price of \$11.50 per whole share and will expire on the five year anniversary of the effective date of Achari's registration statement. In addition, we will not issue fractional shares. As a result, holders thereof must exercise warrants in multiples of four warrants for three full shares, at a price of \$11.50 per full share, subject to adjustment, to validly exercise their respective warrants.

Holders have the option to continue to hold units or separate their units into the component securities. If a holder desires to separate the units into Public Shares and Public Warrants, a holder needs to have its broker contact our transfer agent.

#### **Shares of common stock**

As of December 28, 2023, 3,050,941 shares of Achari common stock were outstanding, consisting of 550,941 Public Shares underlying the units issued as part of Achari's IPO and 2,500,000 Founder Shares. Pursuant to the terms of the Sponsor Letter Agreement, the number of Founder Shares outstanding shall be reduced to 750,00 at the time of the Business Combination.

Common stockholders of record are entitled to one vote for each share held on all matters to be voted on by stockholders. Holders of the Public Shares and holders of the Founder Shares will vote together on all matters submitted to a vote of Achari's stockholders, except as required by law. Unless specified in Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws, or as required by applicable provisions of the DGCL or applicable stock exchange rules, the affirmative vote of a majority of Achari's shares of common stock that are voted is required to approve any such matter voted on by the Achari stockholders. The Achari board of directors is divided into three classes, each of which will generally serve for a term of three years with only one class of directors being elected in each year. There is no cumulative voting with respect to the election of directors, with the result that the holders of more than 50% of the shares voted for the election of directors can elect all of the directors. Achari stockholders are entitled to receive ratable dividends when, as and if declared by the board of directors out of funds legally available therefor.

In accordance with Nasdaq corporate governance requirements, Achari is not required to hold an annual meeting until no later than one year after Achari's first fiscal year end following Achari's listing on Nasdaq. Under Section 211(b) of the DGCL, Achari is, however, required to hold an annual meeting of stockholders for the purposes of electing directors in accordance with Achari's Bylaws, unless such election is made by written consent in lieu of such a meeting. Achari may not hold an annual meeting of stockholders to elect new directors prior to the consummation of its initial business combination, and thus Achari may not be in compliance with Section 211(b) of the DGCL, which requires an annual meeting. Therefore, if the Achari stockholders want Achari to hold an annual meeting prior to the consummation of its initial business combination, they may attempt to force Achari to hold one by submitting an application to the Delaware Court of Chancery in accordance with Section 211(c) of the DGCL.

Achari will provide its stockholders with the opportunity to redeem all or a portion of their Public Shares upon the completion of the initial business combination at a per-share price, payable in cash, equal to the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account as of two business days prior to the consummation of the initial business combination, including interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account and not previously released to Achari to pay Achari's taxes, divided by the number of then outstanding Public Shares, subject to the limitations described herein. The amount in the Trust Account was initially approximately \$10.15 per Public Share. Achari will distribute the per-share amount to investors who properly redeem their shares which will not be reduced by the deferred underwriting commissions we will pay to the underwriters of Achari's IPO. Achari's sponsor, officers and directors have entered into a letter agreement with Achari, pursuant to which they have agreed to waive their redemption rights with respect to any Founder Shares and any Public Shares held by them in connection with the completion of Achari's initial business combination. Unlike many blank check companies that hold stockholder votes and conduct proxy solicitations in conjunction with their initial business combinations and provide for related redemptions of Public Shares for cash upon completion of such initial business combinations even when a vote is not required by law, if a stockholder vote is not required by law and Achari does not decide to hold a stockholder vote for business or other legal reasons, Achari will, pursuant to its Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, conduct the redemptions pursuant to the tender offer rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and file tender offer documents with the SEC prior to completing Achari's initial business combination. Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation requires these tender offer documents to contain substantially the same financial and other information about the initial business combination and the redemption rights as is required under the SEC's proxy rules. If, however, a stockholder approval of the transaction is required by law, or Achari decides to obtain stockholder approval for business or other legal reasons, Achari will, like many blank check companies, offer to redeem shares in conjunction with a proxy solicitation pursuant to the proxy rules and not pursuant to the tender offer rules. If Achari seeks stockholder approval, Achari will complete Achari's initial business combination only if a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock voted are voted in favor of the initial business combination. A quorum for such meeting will consist of the holders present in person or by proxy of shares of outstanding capital stock of Achari representing a majority of the voting power of all outstanding shares of capital stock of Achari entitled to vote at such meeting.

However, the participation of Achari's sponsor, officers, directors, advisors or their affiliates in privately negotiated transactions, if any, could result in the approval of Achari's initial business combination even if a majority of Achari Public Stockholders vote, or indicate their intention to vote, against such business combination. For purposes of seeking approval of the majority of Achari's outstanding shares of common stock voted, non-votes will have no effect on the approval of Achari's initial business combination once a quorum is obtained. Achari intends to give approximately 30 days (but not less than 10 days nor more than 60 days) prior written notice of any such

meeting, if required, at which a vote shall be taken to approve Achari's initial business combination. These quorum and voting thresholds, and the voting agreements of Achari's initial stockholders, may make it more likely that Achari will consummate its initial business combination.

If Achari seeks stockholder approval for its initial business combination and it does not conduct redemptions in connection with its initial business combination pursuant to the tender offer rules, Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that a Public Stockholder, together with any affiliate of such stockholder or any other person with whom such stockholder is acting in concert or as a "group" (as defined under Section 13 of the Exchange Act), is restricted from redeeming its shares with respect to more than an aggregate of 15% of the shares of common stock sold in Achari's IPO, which we refer to as the Excess Shares, without Achari's prior consent. However, Achari would not be restricting its stockholders' ability to vote all of their shares (including Excess Shares) for or against its initial business combination. Achari's stockholders' inability to redeem the Excess Shares will reduce their influence over Achari's ability to complete its initial business combination, and such Achari stockholders could suffer a material loss in their investment if they sell such Excess Shares on the open market. Additionally, such Achari stockholders will not receive redemption distributions with respect to the Excess Shares if Achari completes the initial business combination. And, as a result, such Achari stockholders will continue to hold that number of shares exceeding 15% and, in order to dispose such shares, would be required to sell their stock in open market transactions, potentially at a loss.

If Achari seeks stockholder approval in connection with its initial business combination, pursuant to the letter agreement, Achari's sponsor, officers and directors have agreed to vote their Founder Shares and any Public Shares purchased during or after Achari's IPO (including in open market and privately negotiated transactions) in favor of its initial business combination. As a result, the Founder Shares alone will be sufficient to vote in favor of an initial business combination in order to have Achari's initial business combination approved. Additionally, each Achari Public Stockholder may elect to redeem its Public Shares irrespective of whether they vote for or against, or abstain from voting for or against, the proposed transaction (subject to the limitation described in the preceding paragraph).

On December 18, 2023, Achari held a special meeting in lieu of an annual meeting of Achari's stockholders at which its stockholders approved (i) a proposal to amend its Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to revise its then-existing extension option, which provided that it had the option of extending the period by which Achari must consummate a business combination from January 19, 2024, to July 19, 2024 with such extension option exercisable in six single-month increments, known as the Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option, for an additional six-month aggregate total extension period if each Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option is exercised; (ii) a proposal to amend Achari charter to eliminate a limitation in the charter providing that Achari shall not redeem Public Shares to the extent that such redemption would cause the Achari's net tangible assets to be less than the Redemption Limitation in order to allow Achari to redeem Public Shares irrespective of whether the amount of such redemptions would breach the Redemption Limitation if Achari so chooses in its sole discretion and (iii) a proposal to amend Achari's Second Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement, dated July 12, 2023, to provide that the expiration date provided for in the Trust Agreement may be extended, at Achari's option, and on a monthly basis, pursuant to the exercise of Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option(s), up to and until July 19, 2024; provided that, in order to exercise a single Fifth CoI Monthly Extension Option, Achari must deposit into the Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.04 for each share of Achari's common stock included in the units which were sold in Achari's IPO and which remain outstanding on the date of such deposit. In connection with the stockholders' vote at the December 18, 2023 meeting, Achari was advised that holders of 87,380 shares of Achari common stock exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at a price of \$10.91 per share, for an aggregate payment of \$952,939.89, which was subsequently withdrawn from the Trust Account to redeem such shares. As of January 2, 2024 (and reflecting the withdrawal of funds in connection with the redemption of shares described in the foregoing sentence), the Trust Account had a balance of \$6,050,606.81.

Achari Public Stockholders will not be entitled to vote or redeem their shares in connection with any such extensions. In the event that Achari's sponsor elects to extend the time to complete a business combination and deposits the applicable amount of money into trust, Achari's sponsor would receive a non-interest bearing, unsecured promissory note equal to the amount of any such deposit that will not be repaid in the event that Achari is unable to close a business combination unless there are funds available outside the Trust Account to do so. Such non-interest bearing, unsecured promissory note may be convertible into warrants, at a price of \$0.75 per warrant at the option of Achari's sponsor. The warrants would be identical to the private placement warrants, including as to exercise price, exercisability and exercise period. In the event that Achari receives notice from its sponsor 5 days prior to

the applicable deadline of its intent to effect an extension, Achari intends to issue a press release announcing such intention at least three days prior to the applicable deadline. In addition, Achari also intends to issue a press release the day after the applicable deadline announcing whether or not the funds had been timely deposited. Achari's sponsor and its affiliates or designees are not obligated to fund the Trust Account to extend the time for Achari to complete its initial business combination. To the extent that some, but not all, of Achari's sponsor's affiliates or designees, decide to extend the period of time to consummate Achari's initial business combination, such affiliates or designees combination, such affiliates or designees may deposit the entire amount required. If Achari is unable to consummate its initial business combination within such time period, Achari will, as promptly as possible but not more than 10 business days thereafter, redeem 100% of its outstanding Public Shares for a pro rata portion of the funds held in the Trust Account, including a pro rata portion of any interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account and not previously released to Achari to pay Achari's taxes (and up to \$100,000 of interest to pay liquidation expenses), and then seek to dissolve and liquidate. However Achari may not be able to distribute such amounts as a result of claims of creditors which may take priority over the claims of Achari Public Stockholders.

Achari's sponsor, officers and directors have entered into a letter agreement with Achari, pursuant to which they have agreed to waive their rights to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to any Founder Shares held by them if Achari fails to complete its initial business combination within the Combination Period. However, if Achari's initial stockholders acquire Public Shares in or after its initial public offering, they will be entitled to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to such Public Shares if Achari fails to complete Achari's initial business combination within the prescribed time period.

Alternatively, Achari may propose an amendment to Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to extend the timing of its obligation to allow redemption in connection with its initial business combination. In such case, Achari's stockholders would be required to approve such amendment and Achari would be obligated to offer to redeem its Public Shares in connection therewith.

In the event of a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of New Vaso after an initial business combination, Achari's stockholders are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining available for distribution to them after payment of liabilities and after provision is made for each class of stock, if any, having preference over the common stock. Achari's stockholders have no preemptive or other subscription rights. There are no sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock, except that Achari will provide its stockholders with the opportunity to redeem their Public Shares for cash equal to their pro rata share of the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account, upon the completion of its initial business combination, subject to the limitations described herein.

#### **Founder Shares**

The Founder Shares are identical to the Public Shares included in the units that were sold in Achari's IPO, and holders of Founder Shares have the same stockholder rights as Achari Public Stockholders, except that (i) the Founder Shares are subject to certain transfer restrictions, as described in more detail below; (ii) Achari's sponsor, officers and directors have entered into a letter agreement with Achari, pursuant to which they have agreed (A) to waive their redemption rights with respect to any Founder Shares and any Public Shares held by them in connection with the completion of Achari's initial business combination, (B) to waive their redemption rights with respect to their Founder Shares and Public Shares in connection with a stockholder vote to approve an amendment to Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (x) to modify the substance or timing of Achari's obligation to offer redemption rights in connection with any proposed initial business combination or certain amendments to Achari's charter prior thereto or to redeem 100% of Achari's Public Shares if Achari does not complete its initial business combination within the Combination Period or (y) with respect to any other provision relating to stockholders' rights or pre-initial business combination activity and (C) to waive their rights to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to any Founder Shares held by them if Achari fails to complete Achari's initial business combination within the Combination Period, although they will be entitled to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to any Public Shares they hold if Achari fails to complete its initial business combination within such time period; and (iii) are entitled to registration rights. If Achari submits its initial business combination to Achari Public Stockholders for a vote, Achari's sponsor, officers and directors have agreed pursuant to the letter agreement to vote any Founder Shares held by them and any Public Shares purchased during or after Achari's IPO (including in open market and privately negotiated transactions) in favor of Achari's initial business combination.

With certain limited exceptions, the Founder Shares are not transferable, assignable or salable (except to Achari's officers and directors and other persons or entities affiliated with Achari's sponsor, each of whom will be subject to the same transfer restrictions) until (1) with respect to 50% of the Founder Shares, the earlier of six months after the date of the consummation of Achari's initial business combination and the date on which the closing price of Achari's common stock exceeds \$12.50 per share (as adjusted for share splits, share capitalizations, reorganizations and recapitalizations) for any 20 trading days within any 30-trading day period commencing after Achari's initial business combination and (2) with respect to the remaining 50% of the Founder Shares, six months after the date of the consummation of Achari's initial business combination, or earlier, in either case, if, subsequent to Achari's initial business combination, Achari consummates a liquidation, merger, share exchange or other similar transaction which results in all of Achari's stockholders having the right to exchange their shares for cash, securities or other property.

### **Preferred Stock**

Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that shares of preferred stock may be issued from time to time in one or more series. Achari's board of directors will be authorized to fix the voting rights, if any, designations, powers, preferences, the relative, participating, optional or other special rights and any qualifications, limitations and restrictions thereof, applicable to the shares of each series. Achari's board of directors will be able to, without stockholder approval, issue preferred stock with voting and other rights that could adversely affect the voting power and other rights of the holders of Achari's common stock and could have anti-takeover effects. The ability of Achari's board of directors to issue preferred stock without stockholder approval could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control of Achari or the removal of existing management. Achari has no preferred stock outstanding at the date hereof. Although Achari does not currently intend to issue any shares of preferred stock, Achari cannot assure that it will not do so in the future.

### **Redeemable Warrants**

#### ***Achari Public Stockholders' Warrants***

As of December 28, 2023, Achari had 10,000,000 Public Warrants outstanding. Each warrant entitles the registered holder to purchase three quarters of one share of common stock at a price of \$11.50 per share, subject to adjustment as described herein, at any time commencing on the later of (a) 30 days after the completion of Achari's initial business combination and (b) one year from the closing of Achari's IPO. Pursuant to the Warrant Agreement, a warrant holder may redeem its warrants only for a whole number of shares. This means that only a number in multiples of four of warrants may be exercised at any given time by a warrant holder. The warrants will expire five years after the completion of Achari's initial business combination, at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, or earlier upon redemption or liquidation.

Achari will not be obligated to deliver any shares pursuant to the exercise of a warrant and will have no obligation to settle such warrant exercise unless a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), with respect to the shares underlying the warrants is then effective and a prospectus relating thereto is current, subject to Achari satisfying its obligations described below with respect to registration. No warrant will be exercisable and Achari will not be obligated to issue shares upon exercise of a warrant unless shares issuable upon such warrant exercise have been registered, qualified or deemed to be exempt under the securities laws of the state of residence of the registered holder of the warrants. In the event that the conditions in the two immediately preceding sentences are not satisfied with respect to a warrant, the holder of such warrant will not be entitled to exercise such warrant and such warrant may have no value and expire worthless. In no event will Achari be required to net cash settle any warrant. In the event that a registration statement is not effective for the exercised warrants, the purchaser of a unit containing such warrant will have paid the full purchase price for the unit solely for the Public Shares underlying such unit.

Achari agrees that as soon as practicable, but in no event later than 15 business days after the closing of its initial business combination, that Achari will use its best efforts to file with the SEC a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants, to cause such registration statement to become effective and to maintain a current prospectus relating to those shares until the warrants expire or are redeemed, as specified in the Warrant Agreement. If a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants is not effective by the 60<sup>th</sup> business day after the closing of Achari's initial business combination, warrant holders

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may, until such time as there is an effective registration statement and during any period when Achari will have failed to maintain an effective registration statement, exercise warrants on a “cashless basis” in accordance with Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act or another exemption. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants is not effective within a specified period following the consummation of Achari’s initial business combination, warrant holders may, until such time as there is an effective registration statement and during any period when Achari shall have failed to maintain an effective registration statement, exercise warrants on a cashless basis pursuant to the exemption provided by Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act, provided that such exemption is available. If that exemption, or another exemption, is not available, holders will not be able to exercise their warrants on a cashless basis.

Once the warrants become exercisable, we may call the warrants for redemption:

- in whole and not in part;
- at a price of \$0.01 per warrant;
- upon not less than 30 days’ prior written notice of redemption to each warrant holder; and
- if, and only if, the reported last sale price of the Public Shares equals or exceeds \$16.50 per share (as adjusted for stock splits, stock dividends, reorganizations, recapitalizations and the like) for any 20 trading days within a 30-trading day period commencing once the warrants become exercisable and ending three business days before Achari sends the notice of redemption to the warrant holders.

If and when the warrants become redeemable by Achari, Achari may not exercise its redemption right if the issuance of shares of common stock upon exercise of the warrants is not exempt from registration or qualification under applicable state blue sky laws or Achari is unable to effect such registration or qualification. Achari will use its best efforts to register or qualify such shares of common stock under the blue sky laws of the state of residence in those states in which the warrants were offered by Achari in its initial public offering.

In the event Achari determines to redeem the warrants, holders of its redeemable warrants would be notified of such redemption as described in Achari’s warrant agreement. Specifically, in the event that Achari elects to redeem all of the redeemable warrants as described above, it will fix a date for the redemption (the “Redemption Date”). Notice of redemption will be mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, by it not less than 30 days prior to the Redemption Date to the registered holders of the redeemable warrants to be redeemed at their last addresses as they appear on the registration books. Any notice mailed in the manner provided in the warrant agreement will be conclusively presumed to have been duly given whether or not the registered holder received such notice. Accordingly, if a holder fails to actually receive the notice or otherwise fails to respond on a timely basis, it could lose the benefit of being a holder of a redeemable warrant.

Achari has established the last of the redemption criteria discussed above to prevent a redemption call unless there is at the time of the call a significant premium to the warrant exercise price. If the foregoing conditions are satisfied and Achari issues a notice of redemption of the warrants, each warrant holder will be entitled to exercise its warrant prior to the scheduled redemption date. However, the price of the Public Shares may fall below the \$16.50 redemption trigger price (as adjusted for stock splits, stock dividends, reorganizations, recapitalizations and the like) as well as the \$11.50 warrant exercise price after the redemption notice is issued.

If Achari calls the warrants for redemption as described above, Achari’s management will have the option to require any holder that wishes to exercise its warrant to do so on a “cashless basis.” In determining whether to require all holders to exercise their warrants on a “cashless basis,” Achari’s management will consider, among other factors, Achari’s cash position, the number of warrants that are outstanding and the dilutive effect on Achari’s stockholders of issuing the maximum number of shares issuable upon the exercise of Achari’s warrants. If Achari’s management takes advantage of this option, all holders of warrants would pay the exercise price by surrendering their warrants for that number of shares equal to the quotient obtained by dividing (x) the product of the number of shares underlying the warrants, multiplied by the difference between the exercise price of the warrants and the “fair market value” (as defined below) by (y) the fair market value. The “fair market value” as used in the preceding sentence shall mean the average reported last sale price of the Public Shares for the 10 trading days ending on the

third trading day prior to the date on which the notice of redemption is sent to the holders of warrants. If Achari's management takes advantage of this option, the notice of redemption will contain the information necessary to calculate the number of shares to be received upon exercise of the warrants, including the "fair market value" in such case. Requiring a cashless exercise in this manner will reduce the number of shares to be issued and thereby lessen the dilutive effect of a warrant redemption. Achari believes this feature is an attractive option if it does not need the cash from the exercise of the warrants after its initial business combination. If Achari calls its warrants for redemption and Achari's management does not take advantage of this option, Achari's sponsor and its permitted transferees would still be entitled to exercise their private placement warrants for cash or on a cashless basis using the same formula described above that other warrant holders would have been required to use had all warrant holders been required to exercise their warrants on a cashless basis, as described in more detail below.

A holder of a warrant may notify Achari in writing in the event it elects to be subject to a requirement that such holder will not have the right to exercise such warrant, to the extent that after giving effect to such exercise, such person (together with such person's affiliates), to the warrant agent's actual knowledge, would beneficially own in excess of 4.9% or 9.8% (or such other amount as a holder may specify) of Achari's shares outstanding immediately after giving effect to such exercise.

If the number of outstanding Public Shares is increased by a stock dividend payable in Public Shares, or by a split-up of Public Shares or other similar event, then, on the effective date of such stock dividend, split-up or similar event, the number of shares issuable on exercise of each warrant will be increased in proportion to such increase in the outstanding Public Shares. A rights offering to holders of Public Shares entitling holders to purchase Public Shares at a price less than the fair market value will be deemed a stock dividend of a number of shares equal to the product of (i) the number of shares actually sold in such rights offering (or issuable under any other equity securities sold in such rights offering that are convertible into or exercisable for shares) and (ii) one (1) minus the quotient of (x) the price per share paid in such rights offering divided by (y) the fair market value. For these purposes (i) if the rights offering is for securities convertible into or exercisable for Public Shares, in determining the price payable for Public Shares, there will be taken into account any consideration received for such rights, as well as any additional amount payable upon exercise or conversion and (ii) fair market value means the volume weighted average price of Public Shares as reported during the ten (10) trading day period ending on the trading day prior to the first date on which the Public Shares trade on the applicable exchange or in the applicable market, regular way, without the right to receive such rights.

In addition, if Achari, at any time while the warrants are outstanding and unexpired, pays a dividend or makes a distribution in cash, securities or other assets to the holders of Public Shares on account of such Public Shares (or other shares of Achari's capital stock into which the warrants are convertible), other than (a) as described above, (b) certain ordinary cash dividends, (c) to satisfy the redemption rights of the holders of Public Shares in connection with a proposed initial business combination, (d) to satisfy the redemption rights of the holders of Public Shares in connection with a stockholder vote to amend Achari's Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (i) to modify the substance or timing of Achari's obligation to offer redemption rights in connection with any proposed initial business combination or certain amendments to Achari's charter prior thereto or to redeem 100% of Achari's Public Shares if Achari does not complete its initial business combination within the Combination Period or (ii) with respect to any other provision relating to stockholders' rights or pre-initial business combination activity, or (e) in connection with the redemption of Achari's Public Shares upon Achari's failure to complete its initial business combination, then the warrant exercise price will be decreased, effective immediately after the effective date of such event, by the amount of cash and/or the fair market value of any securities or other assets paid on each Public Share in respect of such event.

If the number of outstanding Public Shares is decreased by a consolidation, combination, reverse stock split or reclassification of Public Shares or other similar event, then, on the effective date of such consolidation, combination, reverse stock split, reclassification or similar event, the number of shares issuable on exercise of each warrant will be decreased in proportion to such decrease in outstanding Public Shares.

Whenever the number of shares purchasable upon the exercise of the warrants is adjusted, as described above, the warrant exercise price will be adjusted by multiplying the warrant exercise price immediately prior to such adjustment by a fraction (x) the numerator of which will be the number of shares purchasable upon the exercise of the warrants immediately prior to such adjustment, and (y) the denominator of which will be the number of shares so purchasable immediately thereafter.

In case of any reclassification or reorganization of the outstanding Public Shares (other than those described above or that solely affects the par value of such Public Shares), or in the case of any merger of Achari with or into another corporation (other than a consolidation or merger in which Achari is the continuing corporation and that does not result in any reclassification or reorganization of Achari's outstanding Public Shares), or in the case of any sale or conveyance to another corporation or entity of the assets or other property of Achari as an entirety or substantially as an entirety in connection with which Achari is dissolved, the holders of the warrants will thereafter have the right to purchase and receive, upon the basis and upon the terms and conditions specified in the warrants and in lieu of Achari's shares immediately theretofore purchasable and receivable upon the exercise of the rights represented thereby, the kind and amount of shares of stock or other securities or property (including cash) receivable upon such reclassification, reorganization, merger, or upon a dissolution following any such sale or transfer, that the holder of the warrants would have received if such holder had exercised their warrants immediately prior to such event. If less than 70% of the consideration receivable by the holders of Public Shares in such a transaction is payable in the form of shares in the successor entity that is listed for trading on a national securities exchange or is quoted in an established over-the-counter market, or is to be so listed for trading or quoted immediately following such event, and if the registered holder of the warrant properly exercises the warrant within thirty days following public disclosure of such transaction, the warrant exercise price will be reduced as specified in the Warrant Agreement based on the Black-Scholes value (as defined in the Warrant Agreement) of the warrant. The purpose of such exercise price reduction is to provide additional value to holders of the warrants when an extraordinary transaction occurs during the exercise period of the warrants pursuant to which the holders of the warrants otherwise do not receive the full potential value of the warrants in order to determine and realize the option value component of the warrant. This formula is to compensate the warrant holder for the loss of the option value portion of the warrant due to the requirement that the warrant holder exercise the warrant within 30 days of the event. The Black-Scholes model is an accepted pricing model for estimating fair market value where no quoted market price for an instrument is available.

The Warrant Agreement provides that the terms of the warrants may be amended without the consent of any holder to cure any ambiguity or correct any mistake, including to conform the provisions of the Warrant Agreement to the description of the terms of the warrants and the Warrant Agreement set forth in Achari's registration statement, or to correct any defective provision, but requires the approval by the holders of at least a majority of the then outstanding Public Warrants to make any change that adversely affects the interests of the registered holders of Public Warrants.

The warrants may be exercised upon surrender of the warrant certificate on or prior to the expiration date at the offices of the warrant agent, with the exercise form on the reverse side of the warrant certificate completed and executed as indicated, accompanied by full payment of the exercise price (or on a cashless basis, if applicable), by certified or official bank check payable to Achari, for the number of warrants being exercised. The warrant holders do not have the rights or privileges of holders of Achari's Public Shares and any voting rights until they exercise their warrants and receive shares. After the issuance of shares upon exercise of the warrants, each holder will be entitled to one (1) vote for each share held of record on all matters to be voted on by stockholders.

In addition, if (x) Achari issues additional shares or equity-linked securities for capital raising purposes in connection with the closing of its initial business combination at a Newly Issued Price (as defined in the Warrant Agreement) of less than \$9.50 per Public Share (with such issue price or effective issue price to be determined in good faith by Achari's board of directors and, in the case of any such issuance to Achari's sponsor or its affiliates, without taking into account any Founder Shares held by Achari's sponsor or such affiliates, as applicable, prior to such issuance), (y) the aggregate gross proceeds from such issuances represent more than 60% of the total equity proceeds, and interest thereon, available for the funding of Achari's initial business combination on the date of the consummation of Achari's initial business combination (net of redemptions), and (z) the Market Value (as defined in the Warrant Agreement) is below \$9.50 per share, the exercise price of the warrants will be adjusted (to the nearest cent) to be equal to 115% of the higher of the Market Value and the Newly Issued Price, and the \$16.50 per share redemption trigger price described above will be adjusted (to the nearest cent) to be equal to 165% of the higher of the Market Value and the Newly Issued Price. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of the warrants.

No fractional interests in a share will be issued upon exercise of a warrant. If, upon exercise of the warrants, a holder would be entitled to receive a fractional interest in a share, Achari will, upon exercise, round down to the nearest whole number of Public Shares to be issued to the warrant holders.

### ***Dividends***

Achari has not paid any cash dividends on its common stock to date and does not intend to pay cash dividends prior to the completion of an initial business combination. The payment of cash dividends in the future will be dependent upon New Vaso's revenues and earnings, if any, capital requirements and general financial conditions subsequent to completion of an initial business combination. The payment of any cash dividends subsequent to an initial business combination will be within the discretion of New Vaso's board of directors at such time. Further, if New Vaso incurs any indebtedness, its ability to declare dividends may be limited by restrictive covenants which New Vaso may agree to in connection therewith.

### ***Private Placement Warrants***

As of December 28, 2023, Achari has 7,133,333 private placement warrants outstanding, although pursuant to the terms of the Sponsor Letter Agreement such amount shall be reduced to 1,000,000 at the time of the Business Combination. The private placement warrants (including the shares issuable upon exercise of the private placement warrants) will not be transferable, assignable or salable until 30 days after the completion of Achari's initial business combination (except, among other limited exceptions, to Achari's officers and directors and other persons or entities affiliated with Achari's Sponsor) and they will not be redeemable by Achari so long as they are held by Achari's sponsor or its permitted transferees. Achari's sponsor, or its permitted transferees, has the option to exercise the private placement warrants on a cashless basis. Except as described below, the private placement warrants have terms and provisions that are identical to those of the warrants being sold as part of the units in Achari's IPO, including as to exercise price, exercisability and exercise period. If the private placement warrants are held by holders other than the sponsor or its permitted transferees, the private placement warrants will be redeemable by Achari and exercisable by the holders on the same basis as the warrants included in the units being sold in Achari's IPO.

If holders of the private placement warrants elect to exercise them on a cashless basis, they would pay the exercise price by surrendering their warrants for that number of shares equal to the quotient obtained by dividing (x) the product of the number of shares underlying the warrants, multiplied by the difference between the exercise price of the warrants and the "fair market value" (defined below) by (y) the fair market value. For these purposes, the "fair market value" shall mean the average reported last sale price of the Public Shares for the 10 trading days ending on the third trading day prior to the date on which the notice of warrant exercise is sent to the warrant agent. The reason that Achari has agreed that these warrants will be exercisable on a cashless basis so long as they are held by Achari's sponsor or its permitted transferees is because it is not known at this time whether they will be affiliated with Achari following an initial business combination. If they remain affiliated with New Vaso following the initial business combination, their ability to sell New Vaso's securities in the open market will be significantly limited. New Vaso expects to have policies in place that prohibit insiders from selling its securities except during specific periods of time. Even during such periods of time when insiders will be permitted to sell New Vaso securities, an insider cannot trade in New Vaso securities if he or she is in possession of material non-public information. Accordingly, unlike Achari Public Stockholders who could sell the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants freely in the open market, the insiders could be significantly restricted from doing so. As a result, Achari believes that allowing the holders to exercise such warrants on a cashless basis is appropriate.

In order to finance transaction costs in connection with an intended initial business combination, Achari's sponsor or an affiliate of Achari's sponsor or certain of Achari's officers and directors may, but are not obligated to, loan Achari funds as may be required. Up to \$1,500,000 of such loans may be convertible into warrants at a price of \$0.75 per warrant at the option of the lender. The \$1,500,000 conversion limit does not apply to notes issued to Achari's sponsor in connection with an extension of time available for completing an initial business combination. Such warrants would be identical to the Private Placement Warrants, including as to exercise price, exercisability and exercise period.

Achari's sponsor has agreed not to transfer, assign or sell any of the private placement warrants (including the shares issuable upon exercise of any of these warrants) until the date that is 30 days after the date Achari completes its initial business combination, except that, among other limited exceptions as described in Achari's registration statement for transfers made to Achari's officers and directors and other persons or entities affiliated with Achari's Sponsor.

Achari has agreed that, subject to applicable law, any action, proceeding or claim against Achari arising out of or relating in any way to the Warrant Agreement will be brought and enforced in the courts of the State of New York in the Borough of Manhattan or the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and Achari irrevocably submits to such jurisdiction, which jurisdiction will be the exclusive forum for any such action, proceeding or claim. This provision applies to claims under the Securities Act but does not apply to claims under the Exchange Act or any claim for which the federal district courts of the United States of America are the sole and exclusive forum.

***Achari's Transfer Agent and Warrant Agent***

The transfer agent for Achari's shares of common stock and warrant agent for Achari's warrants is Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

**Capital Stock of New Vaso after the Business Combination**

The following summary sets forth the material terms of New Vaso's securities following the completion of the Business Combination. The following summary is not intended to be a complete summary of the rights and preferences of such securities, and is qualified by reference to the proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, a form of which is attached as *Annex B* to this proxy statement, and a copy of the Bylaws is attached to this proxy statement as *Annex C*. We urge you to read the proposed Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws in their entirety for a complete description of the rights and preferences of New Vaso's securities following the Business Combination.

**Authorized and Outstanding Stock**

New Vaso's authorized capital stock will consist of 110,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share, and 1,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, of which:

- 100,000,000 shares shall be Class A Common Stock;
- 10,000,000 shares shall be Class B Common Stock; and
- 1,000,000 shares shall be Preferred Stock.

***Common Stock***

***Voting.*** The holders of Class A Common Stock will be entitled to one vote and the holders of Class B common stock shall be entitled to 100 votes for each share held of record on all matters on which the holders are entitled to vote (or consent pursuant to written consent). Directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote. The holders of Preferred Stock will be entitled to vote to the extent the Board allows.

***Dividends.*** The holders of Class A Common Stock will be entitled to receive, ratably, dividends only if, when and as declared by the New Vaso Board out of funds legally available therefor and after provision is made for each class of capital stock having preference over the common stock. The holders of Class B Common Stock are solely entitled to vote and shall not have any economic interest in New Vaso. The holders of Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive dividends to the extent the Board allows. Within the past five years, neither Vaso nor Achari has paid dividends on any of its capital stock, and the management of Vaso does not anticipate that the post-Business Combination company will pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future but instead that it will retain future earnings, if any, to finance the expansion of its business.

***Liquidation Rights.*** In the event of New Vaso's liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the holders of Class A Common Stock will be entitled to share, ratably, in all assets remaining available for distribution after payment of all liabilities and after provision is made for each class of capital stock having preference over the Common Stock.

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*Conversion Right.* Each share of Class B Common Stock held of record shall automatically, without any further action, convert into one (1) fully paid and nonassessable share of Class A Common Stock at 5:00 p.m. (New York time) on the first calendar day after the five (5) year anniversary of the date on which such share of Class B Common Stock was issued.

*Preemptive and Similar Rights.* The holders of common stock will have no preemptive or similar rights.

*Redemption.* There will be no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock. All of the outstanding shares of common stock will be fully-paid and nonassessable.

*Preferred Stock*

The New Vaso Board will have the authority to issue shares of preferred stock from time to time on terms it may determine, to divide shares of preferred stock into one or more series and to fix the designations, preferences, privileges, and restrictions of preferred stock, including dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preference, sinking fund terms, and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of any series to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL.

*Warrants*

Upon completion of the Business Combination, all of the warrants to purchase Achari common stock will pursuant to their terms be automatically adjusted to represent the right to purchase an equal number of shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock on the same terms and conditions as the original warrants. See the section titled “*Description of Vaso’s, Achari’s, and Achari’s Securities — Description of Achari’s Shares Prior to the Business Combination — Redeemable Warrants*” for terms and conditions of the Achari warrants.

**Anti-Takeover Effects of the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws and Certain Provisions of Delaware Law**

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the DGCL contain provisions, which are summarized in the following paragraphs, which are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of the New Vaso Board and to discourage certain types of transactions that may involve an actual or threatened acquisition of New Vaso. These provisions are intended to avoid costly takeover battles, reduce New Vaso’s vulnerability to a hostile change of control or other unsolicited acquisition proposal, and enhance the ability of the New Vaso Board to maximize stockholder value in connection with any unsolicited offer to acquire New Vaso. However, these provisions may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a merger or acquisition of New Vaso by means of a tender offer, a proxy contest or other takeover attempt that a stockholder might consider in its best interest, including attempts that might result in a premium over the prevailing market price for the shares of common stock. The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation will provide that any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the stockholders (including the annual meeting) may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, be taken without a meeting with the written consent of the holders of record of that number of outstanding shares of the Corporation which is then required to authorize such action, provided that such written consent shall be filed with the minutes of proceedings of the stockholders, and provided further that written notice of such action shall be given as required by law to all nonconsenting stockholders may deposit the entire amount required. See also “*Risk Factors — Risks Related to the Business Combination — Delaware law and the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws will contain certain provisions, including anti-takeover provisions that limit the ability of stockholders to take certain actions and could delay or discourage takeover attempts that stockholders may consider favorable.*”

*Authorized but Unissued Capital Stock*

Delaware law does not require stockholder approval for any issuance of authorized shares. However, the listing requirements of Nasdaq, which would apply if and so long as the common stock remains listed on Nasdaq, require stockholder approval of certain issuances equal to or exceeding 20% of the then outstanding voting power or then outstanding number of shares of common stock. Additional shares that may be issued in the future may be used for a variety of corporate purposes, including future public offerings, to raise additional capital or to facilitate acquisitions.

One of the effects of the existence of unissued and unreserved Common Stock may be to enable the Achari Board to issue shares to Persons friendly to current management, which issuance could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control of Achari by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise and thereby protect the continuity of management and possibly deprive stockholders of opportunities to sell their respective shares of Common Stock at prices higher than prevailing market prices.

#### *Class B Common Stock*

Pursuant to the SPAC A&R CoI, holders of Class A Common Stock are entitled to one vote per share of the same, while holders of Class B Common Stock are entitled to one hundred votes per share of the same, and all such holders will vote together as a single class except as otherwise required by applicable law. If Class B Common Stock were to be issued, it could concentrate voting power with the holders of Class B Common Stock. Were the Achari Board to issue shares of Class B Common Stock to management, such issuance could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control of Achari by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise and thereby protect the continuity of management and possibly deprive stockholders of opportunities to sell their respective shares of Common Stock at prices higher than prevailing market prices.

#### *Election of Directors and Vacancies*

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation will provide that the New Vaso Board will determine the number of directors who will serve on the board, subject to the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock to elect additional directors. The exact number of directors will be fixed solely and exclusively by resolution duly adopted from time to time by the New Vaso Board.

In addition, the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation will provide that any vacancy on the New Vaso Board, including a vacancy that results from an increase in the number of directors or a vacancy that results from the death, resignation, disqualification or removal of a director, may be filled only by a majority of the directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of preferred stock.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, each director will serve until his successor is duly elected and qualified or until his earlier death, resignation or removal. No decrease in the number of directors constituting the New Vaso Board will shorten the term of any incumbent director.

#### *Business Combinations*

New Vaso is subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the DGCL. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a “business combination” with an “interested stockholder” for a period of three years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, unless the business combination is approved in the following prescribed manner:

- prior to the time of the transaction, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon completion of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding (1) shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and (2) shares owned by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; and
- on or subsequent to the time of the transaction, the business combination is approved by the board and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66⅔% of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

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Generally, for purposes of Section 203, a “business combination” includes a merger, asset or stock sale, or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. An “interested stockholder” is a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns or, within three years prior to the determination of interested stockholder status, owned 15% or more of a corporation’s outstanding voting securities.

Such provisions may encourage companies interested in acquiring New Vaso to negotiate in advance with New Vaso Board because the stockholder approval requirement would be avoided if the New Vaso Board approves either the business combination or the transaction that results in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder. However, such provisions also could discourage attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for the shares held by stockholders. These provisions also may make it more difficult to accomplish transactions that stockholders may otherwise deem to be in their best interests.

### *Quorum*

The Bylaws will provide that at any meeting of the New Vaso Board, a majority of the directors then in office constitutes a quorum for all purposes.

### *No Cumulative Voting*

Under Delaware law, the right to vote cumulatively does not exist unless the certificate of incorporation expressly authorizes cumulative voting. The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation does not authorize cumulative voting.

### *General Stockholder Meetings*

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation will provide that special meetings of stockholders may be called only by the New Vaso Board acting pursuant to a resolution approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the New Vaso Board, subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock.

### *Requirements for Advance Notification of Special Stockholder Meetings, Nominations and Proposals*

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws establish advance notice procedures with respect to special meetings. Notice shall be given personally or by first-class prepaid mail to each stockholder entitled to vote at such meeting, not less than ten (10) and not more than fifty (50) days before the date of such meeting. Nominations for the election of directors may be made by the Board of Directors, by a committee of the Board of Directors or by any stockholder entitled to vote for the election of directors. Unless provided otherwise in the By-Laws, nominations by stockholders of the Corporation shall be made by notice, in writing, delivered or mailed by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the Secretary of the Corporation not less than 3 months nor more than 5 months prior to any meeting of the stockholders of the Corporation called for the election of directors.

### *Amendment Provisions*

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws will provide that the New Vaso Board, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the New Vaso Board, is expressly authorized to make, alter, amend, change, add to, rescind or repeal, in whole or in part, the Bylaws without a stockholder vote in any matter not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Delaware. Any amendment, alteration, rescission or repeal of the Bylaws by the New Vaso stockholders requires the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority in voting power of all the then outstanding shares of stock entitled to vote thereon, voting together as a single class.

The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation will provide that it may be amended, altered, changed or repealed in accordance with the DGCL.

### *Limitations on Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors*

The DGCL authorizes corporations to limit or eliminate the personal liability of directors to corporations and their stockholders for monetary damages for breaches of directors’ fiduciary duties, subject to certain exceptions. The Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation includes a provision that eliminates the personal liability

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of directors for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to New Vaso or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the DGCL or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. The effect of these provisions is to eliminate the rights of New Vaso and its stockholders, through stockholders' derivative suits on New Vaso's behalf, to recover monetary damages from a director for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, including breaches resulting from grossly negligent behavior. However, exculpation does not apply to any director if the director has acted in bad faith, knowingly or intentionally violated the law, authorized illegal dividends or redemptions or derived an improper benefit from his or her actions as a director.

The Bylaws provide that New Vaso must indemnify and advance expenses to directors and officers to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL. New Vaso is also expressly authorized to carry directors' and officers' liability insurance providing indemnification for directors, officers and certain employees for some liabilities. New Vaso believes that these indemnification and advancement provisions and insurance are useful to attract and retain qualified directors and executive officers.

The limitation of liability, indemnification and advancement provisions in the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws may discourage stockholders from bringing a lawsuit against directors for breach of their fiduciary duty. These provisions also may have the effect of reducing the likelihood of derivative litigation against directors and officers, even though such an action, if successful, might otherwise benefit New Vaso and its stockholders. In addition, your investment may be adversely affected to the extent New Vaso pays the costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and officers pursuant to these indemnification provisions. New Vaso believes that these provisions, liability insurance and the indemnity agreements are necessary to attract and retain talented and experienced directors and officers.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to New Vaso's directors, officers and controlling persons pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, New Vaso has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

There is currently no pending material litigation or proceeding involving any of the Achari's or Vaso's respective directors, officers or employees for which indemnification is sought.

### ***Transfer Agent and Registrar***

The Transfer Agent and registrar for the shares of New Vaso Class A Common Stock will be Equiniti Trust Company, LLC.

### ***Listing***

New Vaso intends to apply to list its common stock and warrants on Nasdaq under the symbol "VASO" and "VASOW," respectively.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF VASO

References in this section to “Vaso,” “we” and “our” refer to “Vaso Corporation” and its consolidated subsidiaries.

The following table sets forth as of the date of this proxy statement, the names and positions of Vaso’s executive officers and directors.

Name	Age	Position(s)
Joshua Markowitz	68	Chairman of the Board and Director
David Lieberman	79	Vice Chairman of the Board and Director
Jun Ma	60	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Peter C. Castle	55	Chief Operating Officer
Jane Moen	44	President Vasohealthcare and Director
Behnam Movaseghi	70	Independent Director
Edgar Rios	71	Independent Director
Leon Dembo	69	Independent Director
Michael J. Beecher	79	Co-Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Jonathan Newton	63	Co-Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Our Directors serve until the earlier occurrence of the election of his successor at the next meeting of stockholders, death, resignation or removal by the Board of Directors. Officers serve at the discretion of our Board of Directors. There are no family relationships between or among our directors and executive officers.

Certain information regarding the backgrounds of each of our officers and directors is set forth below.

**Joshua Markowitz — Chairman of the Board, and Director:** has been a director of Vaso since June 2015, and was appointed Chairman of the Board of Vaso in August 2016. Mr. Markowitz has been a practicing attorney in the State of New Jersey for in excess of 30 years. He is currently a senior partner in the New Jersey law firm of Markowitz O’Donnell, LLP. Mr. Markowitz was the brother-in-law of Mr. Simon Srybnik (deceased), the former Chairman and director of Vaso.

**David Lieberman — Vice Chairman of the Board, and Director:** has been a director of Vaso and the Vice Chairman of the Board, since February 2011. Mr. Lieberman has been a practicing attorney in the State of New York for more than 45 years, specializing in corporation and securities law. He is currently of counsel to the law firm of Ortoli Rosenstadt, LLP, which performs certain legal services for Vaso and its subsidiaries. Mr. Lieberman is a former Chairman of the Board of Herley Industries, Inc., which was sold in March, 2011.

**Jun Ma, PhD — President, Chief Executive Officer, and Director:** has been a director of Vaso since June 2007 and was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Vaso on October 16, 2008. Dr. Ma has held various positions in academia and business, and prior to becoming President and CEO of Vaso, had provided technology and business consulting services to several domestic and international companies in aerospace, automotive, biomedical, medical device, and other industries, including Kerns Manufacturing Corp. and Living Data Technology Corp., both of which are stockholders of our Company. Dr. Ma received his PhD degree in mechanical engineering from Columbia University, MS degree in biomedical engineering from Shanghai University, and BS degree in precision machinery and instrumentation from University of Science and Technology of China.

**Peter Castle — Chief Operating Officer:** was a director of Vaso from August 2010 to December 2019 and was appointed the Chief Operating Officer of Vaso after the NetWolves acquisition in June 2015. Prior to the acquisition, Mr. Castle was the President and Chief Executive Officer of NetWolves Network Services, LLC, where he has been employed since 1998. At NetWolves, Mr. Castle also held the position of Chief Financial Officer from 2001 until October 2009, Vice President of Finance since January 2000, Controller from August 1998 until December 1999 and Treasurer and Secretary from August 1999.

**Jane Moen — President Vasohealthcare, and Director:** has been a director of Vaso since March 2020 and an executive officer of Vaso since November 2022. Ms. Moen has been President of Vaso’s wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare since June 2018 following a remarkable career track record at VasoHealthcare, starting as an Account Manager at the inception of VasoHealthcare in April 2010 and being

promoted to Regional Manager in January 2012, Director of Product Business Lines in July 2012 and Vice President of Sales in April 2016. Jane Moen has been in the medical sales industry for over 17 years, having had prior experience with Ledford Medical Sales, Vital Signs, Inc., Pfizer Inc. and Ecolab, Inc.

**Behnam Movaseghi, CPA — Director:** has been a director since July 2007. Mr. Movaseghi has been treasurer of Kerns Manufacturing Corporation since 2000, and controller from 1990 to 2000. For approximately ten years prior thereto Mr. Movaseghi was a tax and financial consultant. Mr. Movaseghi is a Certified Public Accountant.

**Edgar G. Rios — Director:** has been a director of Vaso since February 2011. Mr. Rios currently is President of Edgery Consultants, LLC. and was appointed a director in conjunction with Vaso's prior consulting agreement with Edgery Consultants, LLC. Most recently from 2008 thru the end of 2016, Mr. Rios was the Co-founder, CEO and Managing Member of SHD Oil & Gas LLC, an oil and gas exploration and development firm operating on the reservation of the Three Affiliate Tribes in North Dakota. Previously, Mr. Rios was a co-founder, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Director of AmeriChoice Corporation from its inception in 1989 through its acquisition by UnitedHealthcare in 2002 and continued as a senior executive with United Healthcare through 2007. Prior to co-founding AmeriChoice, Mr. Rios was a senior executive with a number of businesses that provided technology services and non-technology products to government purchasers. Over the years, Mr. Rios also has been an investor, providing seed capital to various technology and nontechnology start-ups. Mr. Rios serves on the Board of Advisors of Columbia Law School. Mr. Rios also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Meharry Medical School and the Brookings Institution in Washington; and as a director of the An-Bryce Foundation and Los Padres Foundation in Virginia. Mr. Rios holds a J.D. from Columbia University Law School and an A.B. from Princeton University.

**Leon Dembo — Director:** has been in the private practice of law for the last 43 years and has been the managing partner of Dembo, Brown & Burns LLP (and its predecessor firm, Dembo & Saldutti LLP) since 1991.

**Michael J. Beecher, CPA,** was Chief Financial Officer of Vaso from September 2011 and Co-Chief Financial Officer since December 10, 2019. Prior to joining Vasomedical in 2011, Mr. Beecher was Chief Financial Officer of Direct Insite Corp., a publicly held company, from December 2003 to September 2011. Prior to his position at Direct Insite, Mr. Beecher was Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of FiberCore, Inc., a publicly held company in the fiber-optics industry. From 1989 to 1995 he was Vice-President Administration and Finance at the University of Bridgeport. Mr. Beecher began his career in public accounting with Haskins & Sells, an international public accounting firm. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut, a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

**Jonathan P. Newton** served as Chief Financial Officer of Vaso from September 1, 2010 to September 8, 2011, Vice President of Finance and Treasurer until December 10, 2019, and is currently Co-Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. From June 2006 to August 2010, Mr. Newton was Director of Budgets and Financial Analysis for Curtiss-Wright Flow Control. Prior to his position at Curtiss-Wright Flow Control, Mr. Newton was Vasomedical's Director of Budgets and Analysis from August 2001 to June 2006. Prior positions included Controller of North American Telecommunications Corp., Accounting Manager for Luitpold Pharmaceuticals, positions of increasing responsibility within the internal audit function of the Northrop Grumman Corporation and approximately three and one half years as an accountant for Deloitte Haskins & Sells, during which time Mr. Newton became a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Newton holds a B.S. in Accounting from SUNY at Albany, and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Hofstra University.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION OF VASO

References in this section to “Vaso,” “we” and “our” refer to “Vaso Corporation” and its consolidated subsidiaries.

As of the date of this proxy statement, there are no annuity, pension or retirement benefits proposed to be paid to Vaso’s officers, directors or employees, pursuant to any presently existing plan provided by, or contributed to by, Vaso.

### Compensation Summary

The following table summarizes information concerning the compensation awarded, paid to or earned by our executive officers for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. Current officers and directors who were not officers or directors in those years have not been included in the table below.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Total (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>
Jun Ma, PhD Chief Executive Officer	2023	500,000						191,160	691,160
	2022	500,000	220,000					85,323	805,323
Peter C. Castle Chief Operating Officer	2023	350,000						12,000	362,000
	2022	350,000	20,000					13,368	383,368
Jane Moen President of VasoHealthcare	2023	350,000						49,438	399,438
	2022	293,750	245,000					11,145	549,895
Michael J. Beecher Co-Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	2023	96,000						3,570	99,570
	2022	102,000	20,000					3,362	125,362
Jonathan P. Newton Co-Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2023	220,000						18,780	238,780
	2022	215,000	120,000					11,416	346,416

- (1) Represents fair value on the date of grant. See Note B to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 for a discussion of the relevant assumptions used in calculating grant date fair value.
- (2) Represents tax gross-ups, lodging and vehicle allowances, company-paid life insurance and amounts matched in Vaso’s 401(k) Plan.
- (3) The amount of bonus earned in the year ended December 31, 2023 is not calculable as of the date of this proxy statement and has not been included. Such amounts are expected to be determined prior to March 31, 2024.

### Narrative Disclosure to Compensation Summary Table

Our compensation programs are intended to enable us to attract, motivate, reward and retain the management talent required to achieve corporate objectives, and thereby increase stockholder value. It is our policy to provide incentives to senior management to achieve both short-term and long-term objectives and to reward exceptional performance and contributions to the development of our business. To attain these objectives, our executive compensation program generally includes a competitive base salary, bonuses and stock-based compensation. It is our belief that balancing cash and equity aligns executive compensation with stockholder interests.

Our Chief Executive Officer and the President of VasoHealthcare have employment agreements as follows:

On May 10, 2019, the Company modified its Employment Agreement with its President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jun Ma, to provide for a five-year term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond May 31, 2026. The Employment Agreement provides for annual compensation of \$500,000. Dr. Ma shall be eligible to receive a bonus for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonus, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Dr. Ma shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company’s stock, as determined at the Board of Directors’ discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

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On December 31, 2022, the Company executed an Employment Agreement with the President of its VasoHealthcare subsidiary, Ms. Jane Moen, to provide for a twenty-seven month initial term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond December 31, 2026 or the earlier termination of the GEHC Agreement. The Employment Agreement provides for annual base compensation of \$350,000. Ms. Moen shall be eligible to receive bonuses for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonuses, if any, shall be based on employment status as well as achieving certain operating targets. Ms. Moen shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

**Interest of Directors and Officers in the Business Combination**

In addition to the stock holdings of the directors and officers as described elsewhere herein, David Lieberman, Vice-Chairman of the Board is of counsel with Ortoli Rosenstadt LLP who is acting legal advisor to the Company in connection with the Business Combination.

**Outstanding Option Awards**

The following table provides certain information regarding unexercised options to purchase common stock, stock options that have not vested and equity-incentive plan awards outstanding as of the date of this proxy statement, for each named executive officer.

Name	Option Awards					Stock Awards			
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options – Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options – Unexercisable	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Underlying Unexercised Options	Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Rights That Have Not Vested	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Rights That Have Not Vested
Jane Moen						200,000	60,000	—	—

The future vesting dates of the above stock awards are:

Name	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested	Vesting Date
Jane Moen	200,000	4/1/2024
Hong Chen	200,000	8/12/2024
	200,000	8/12/2025
	200,000	8/12/2026
	200,000	8/12/2027
Marco Saroufim	16,670	4/3/2024
	16,670	4/3/2025
Liang Yang	20,000	4/3/2024
	20,000	4/3/2025
	20,000	4/3/2026
	20,000	4/3/2027
	20,000	4/3/2028
Zhou Li	25,000	4/3/2024
	25,000	4/3/2025
	25,000	4/3/2026
	25,000	4/3/2027
	25,000	4/3/2028

#### Employment Agreements

On May 10, 2019, the Company modified its Employment Agreement with its President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jun Ma, to provide for a five-year term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond May 31, 2026. The Employment Agreement provides for annual compensation of \$500,000. Dr. Ma shall be eligible to receive a bonus for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonus, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Dr. Ma shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

On December 31, 2022, the Company executed an Employment Agreement with the President of its VasoHealthcare subsidiary, Ms. Jane Moen, to provide for a twenty-seven month initial term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond December 31, 2026. The Employment Agreement provides for annual base compensation of \$350,000. Ms. Moen shall be eligible to receive bonuses for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonuses, if any, shall be based on employment status and achieving certain operating targets. Ms. Moen shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

**Potential Payments upon Termination or Change-In-Control**

Our Chief Executive Officer is entitled to certain potential payments upon termination of employment within two years from the date of a change in control as described below.

A lump sum payment, as soon as administratively feasible following such termination, but in any event within ten days thereafter, equal to two and one-half times the sum of (A) his salary (but in no event less than his salary in effect immediately prior to the change in control), plus (B) the average of the annual bonuses paid to him under Section 5 of his Employment Agreement in the three-year period immediately prior to such termination; a pro-rata portion of the annual bonus for the most recently completed fiscal year, to be paid as soon as administratively feasible following such termination, but in any event within ten days thereafter; and continued medical coverage under Vaso's medical and health plans until the earlier of December 31 of the second calendar year following the year of termination of his employment or his commencement of employment with another employer, at the same cost as is paid by similarly situated continuing employees.

**Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Compensation Committee consisted of Joshua Markowitz, committee chair, and Behnam Movaseghi. Neither of these persons were officers or employees of the Company during the time they held positions on the committee, or, except as otherwise disclosed, had any relationship requiring disclosure herein.

## **VASO COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The compensation of our executive officers is generally determined by the Compensation Committee of our Board, subject to applicable employment agreements. Each member of the Compensation Committee is a director who is not our employee. The following report with respect to certain compensation paid or awarded to our executive officers during the year ended December 31, 2022 is furnished by the directors who comprised the Compensation Committee during 2022.

### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### Executive Compensation Objectives

Our compensation programs are intended to enable us to attract, motivate, reward and retain the management talent required to achieve corporate objectives, and thereby increase stockholder value. It is our policy to provide incentives to senior management to achieve both short-term and long-term objectives and to reward exceptional performance and contributions to the development of our business. To attain these objectives, our executive compensation program generally includes a competitive base salary, bonuses and stock-based compensation. It is our belief that balancing cash and equity aligns executive compensation with shareholder interests. Compensation to our CEO for 2022 was pursuant to a prior contractual agreement, as amended.

#### Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees, including the principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller or persons performing similar functions. A copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics will be provided to any person, without charge, upon request to (516) 997-4600 or to Investor Relations, Vaso Corporation 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. The Code is also available on our website [www.vasocorporation.com](http://www.vasocorporation.com). Amendments to the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that apply to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, controller or persons performing similar functions, if any, will be posted on our website. We will disclose any waivers of provisions of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that apply to our directors and principal executive, financial and accounting officers by disclosing such information on a Current Report on Form 8-K.

#### Section 162(m) of the Federal Income Tax Code

Generally, Section 162(m) denies deduction to any publicly held company for certain compensation exceeding \$1,000,000 paid to the chief executive officer and the four other highest paid executive officers, excluding, among other things, certain performance-based compensation. The Compensation Committee and Board intend that the stock and stock options issued qualify for the performance-based exclusion under Section 162(m). The Compensation Committee will continually evaluate to what extent Section 162 will apply to its other compensation programs.

Respectfully submitted,  The Compensation Committee  Joshua Markowitz (Chairman) Behnam Movaseghi
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**VASO AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

This is a report of the Audit Committee of our Board. *This report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and shall not otherwise be deemed to be filed under either such Act.*

On December 31, 2023, our Audit Committee consisted of Edgar Rios (Chairman) and Behnam Movaseghi. The current members of the Audit Committee satisfy the applicable independence requirements. We intend to comply with future audit committee requirements as they become applicable to us. The Audit Committee oversees the Company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board. Management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the systems of internal controls. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with management the audited financial statements included in the Company's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022.

As required by its written charter, which sets forth its responsibilities and duties, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed our audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 with our independent auditors. The Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with UHY LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, who are responsible for expressing an opinion on the conformity of those audited financial statements with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, their judgments as to the quality, and not just the acceptability, of the Company's accounting principles and such other matters required to be discussed by Auditing Standard No. 16, "Communication With Audit Committees," as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. The Audit Committee has also received and reviewed the written disclosures and the letter from our prior auditors, MaloneBailey LLP as required by Independence Standard No. 1, "Independence Discussions with Audit Committees," as amended by the Independence Standards Board.

Based on these reviews and discussions, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the financial statements referred to above be included in the Company's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Audit Committee has also reviewed and discussed the fees paid to UHY LLP during the year ended December 31, 2022 for audit and non-audit services, which are set forth below under "Audit Fees" and has considered whether the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with maintaining UHY LLP's independence and concluded that it is.

	Respectfully submitted,
	The Audit Committee
	Edgar Rios (Chairman)
	Behnam Movaseghi

**Independent auditor**

UHY LLP and MaloneBailey, LLP were our independent registered public accounting firm and performed the audits of our consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The following table sets forth all fees for such periods:

	2022	2021
Audit fees	\$ 235,000	\$ 228,000
Tax fees	—	—
All other fees	—	—
Total	\$ 235,000	\$ 228,000

- (1) The Audit Committee has adopted a policy that requires advance approval of all audit, audit-related, tax services, and other services performed by the Company's independent auditor. Accordingly, the Audit Committee must approve the permitted service before the independent auditor is engaged to perform it. In accordance with such policies, the Audit Committee approved all of the services relative to the above fees.
- (2) Audit fees consist of aggregate fees billed and to be billed for professional services rendered for the audit of our annual financial statements, review of the interim financial statements included in quarterly reports, and consents issued in connection with registration statements or services that are normally provided by the independent auditors in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

## MANAGEMENT OF NEW VASO FOLLOWING THE BUSINESS COMBINATION

The New Vaso Board following the Business Combination is expected to be comprised of the following nine directors: Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Behnam Movaseghi, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo, [independent director to be named] and [independent director to be named].

Each director will hold office until his or her term expires at the next annual meeting of stockholders for such director's class or until his or her death, resignation, removal or the earlier termination of his or her term of office.

The officers of New Vaso and the New Vaso Board following the Business Combination are well qualified as leaders. Certain of the New Vaso directors following the Business Combination also have experience serving on boards of directors and board committees of other public companies and private companies and have an understanding of corporate governance practices and trends, which provides an understanding of different business processes, challenges, and strategies.

Each of Vaso and Achari believes that the above-mentioned attributes, along with the leadership skills and other experiences of the officers and board members described below, will provide New Vaso with a diverse range of perspectives and judgment necessary to facilitate the goals of New Vaso and be good stewards of capital.

For executive compensation information for each of Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Behnam Movaseghi, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo, Peter C. Castle, Michael J. Beecher and Jonathan P. Newton, see the section entitled "*Executive Compensation of Vaso.*"

Officers, Directors and Key Employees	Age	Position
Joshua Markowitz	68	Chairman of the Board and Director
David Lieberman	79	Vice Chairman of the Board and Director
Jun Ma	60	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Jane Moen	44	President Vasohealthcare and Director
Peter Castle	55	Chief Operating Officer
Behnam Movaseghi	70	Independent Director
Edgar Rios	71	Independent Director
Leon Dembo	69	Independent Director
Michael J. Beecher	79	Co-Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Jonathan P. Newton	63	Co-Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

For more information about Joshua Markowitz, David Lieberman, Jun Ma, Jane Moen, Behnam Movaseghi, Edgar Rios, Leon Dembo, Peter C. Castle, Michael J. Beecher and Jonathan P. Newton, see the section entitled "*Executive Officers and Directors of Vaso.*"

[Bio of independent director nominee to be named]

[Bio of independent director nominee to be named]

### Code of Business Conduct

The New Vaso Board will adopt a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of its employees, officers and directors, including its Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other executive and senior financial officers. The full text of the New Vaso Code of Business Conduct and Ethics will be posted on the Corporate Governance portion of the New Vaso website. New Vaso will post amendments to its Code of Business Conduct and Ethics or waivers of its Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for directors and officers on the same website or in a current report on Form 8-K.

### Board Composition

New Vaso's business affairs will be managed under the direction of the New Vaso Board. The New Vaso Board will consist of nine members, five of whom will qualify as independent within the meaning of the independent director guidelines of Nasdaq. Five will not be considered independent.

## **Family Relationships**

There are no family relationships among any of our executive officers or directors.

## **Director Independence**

In connection with the Business Combination, the New Vaso Common Stock will be listed on Nasdaq. Under the rules of Nasdaq, independent directors must comprise a majority of a listed company's board of directors. In addition, the rules of Nasdaq require that, subject to specified exceptions, each member of a listed company's audit, compensation and nominating and corporate governance committees be independent. Under the rules of Nasdaq, a director will only qualify as an "independent director" if, in the opinion of that company's board of directors, that person does not have a relationship that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director. Audit committee members must also satisfy the additional independence criteria set forth in Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act and the rules of Nasdaq. Compensation committee members must also satisfy the additional independence criteria set forth in Rule 10C-1 under the Exchange Act and the rules of Nasdaq.

In order to be considered independent for purposes of Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act and under the rules of Nasdaq, a member of an audit committee of a listed company may not, other than in his or her capacity as a member of the committee, the board of directors, or any other board committee: (1) accept, directly or indirectly, any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the listed company or any of its subsidiaries; or (2) be an affiliated person of the listed company or any of its subsidiaries.

To be considered independent for purposes of Rule 10C-1 under the Exchange Act and under the rules of Nasdaq, the board of directors must affirmatively determine that the member of the compensation committee is independent, including a consideration of all factors specifically relevant to determining whether the director has a relationship to the company which is material to that director's ability to be independent from management in connection with the duties of a compensation committee member, including, but not limited to: (i) the source of compensation of such director, including any consulting, advisory or other compensatory fee paid by the company to such director; and (ii) whether such director is affiliated with the company, a subsidiary of the company or an affiliate of a subsidiary of the company.

The Vaso Board has undertaken a review of the independence of each director and considered whether each director of New Vaso has a material relationship with New Vaso that could compromise his or her ability to exercise independent judgment in carrying out his or her responsibilities. As a result of this review, Achari anticipates that Behnam Movaseghi, Leon Dembo, Edgar Rios, [independent director nominee to be named] and [independent director nominee to be named] will be considered "independent directors" as defined under the listing requirements and rules of Nasdaq and the applicable rules of the Exchange Act.

## **Board Leadership Structure**

Achari believes that the structure of the New Vaso Board and its committees will provide strong overall management of New Vaso. Assuming the approval of the Proposals, following the Business Combination if a Chair of the Board shall be elected, the Chair shall be the chief executive officer of New Vaso. Assuming the approval of the Proposals, New Vaso's Chief Executive Officer after the Business Combination, June Ma, will serve as Chair of New Vaso's board of directors. New Vaso believes that Mr. Ma's familiarity with Vaso and extensive knowledge of the medical device and medical sales industry will qualify him to serve as the Chair of New Vaso's board following the Business Combination and that combining the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the board will enable Mr. Ma to drive strategy and agenda setting at the board level while maintaining responsibility for executing on that strategy by serving as New Vaso's Chief Executive Officer.

## **Committees of the New Vaso Board**

The New Vaso Board will have an audit committee, compensation committee and nominating and corporate governance committee. All of the committees will comply with all applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, Nasdaq and SEC rules and regulations as further described below. The responsibilities of each of the committees of the New Vaso Board are described below. Members will serve on these committees until their resignation or until as otherwise determined by the New Vaso Board.

### ***Audit Committee***

Upon the completion of the Business Combination, the New Vaso Board will have an audit committee. It is expected that the audit committee will initially consist of Behnam Movaseghi and Edgar Rios. Each of the members of New Vaso's audit committee will satisfy the requirements for independence and financial literacy under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and rules of Nasdaq. New Vaso also determines that Edgar Rios qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in the SEC rules and will satisfy the financial sophistication requirements of Nasdaq. New Vaso's audit committee will be responsible for, among other things:

- appointing (and recommending that the New Vaso Board submit for stockholder ratification, if applicable) compensate, retain and oversee the work performed by the independent auditor retained for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit or audit-related services;
- reviewing the performance and independence of the independent auditor;
- pre-approving all audit, review, and non-audit services (including any internal control-related services) to be provided to New Vaso or its subsidiaries by the independent auditor;
- discussing the scope and results of the audit with the independent registered public accounting firm and reviewing, with management and the independent registered public accounting firm, New Vaso's interim and year-end financial statements;
- developing procedures for employees to submit concerns anonymously about questionable accounting or audit matters;
- reviewing New Vaso's policies on and overseeing risk assessment and risk management, including enterprise risk management; and
- reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control policies and procedures and New Vaso's disclosure controls and procedures.

The New Vaso Board will adopt a written charter for the audit committee which will be available on New Vaso's website upon the completion of the Business Combination.

### ***Compensation Committee***

Upon the completion of the Business Combination, the New Vaso Board will have a compensation committee. It is expected that the compensation committee will initially consist of . Each of the members of New Vaso's compensation committee will meet the requirements for independence under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and rules of Nasdaq. New Vaso's compensation committee will be responsible for, among other things:

- developing and reviewing compensation policies and practices applicable to executive officers;
- review and approve, or recommend for approval by the Board, compensation for executive officers, including without limitation salary, bonus, incentive compensation, perquisites and equity compensation;
- reviewing, approving and determining compensation and benefits, including equity awards, to directors for service on the New Vaso Board or any committee thereof;
- supervising, administering and evaluating incentive, equity-based and other compensatory plans of New Vaso in which executive officers and key employees participate; and
- reviewing, approving and making recommendations to New Vaso Board regarding incentive compensation and equity compensation plans.

The New Vaso Board will adopt a written charter for the compensation committee which will be available on its website upon the completion of the Business Combination.

### ***Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee***

Upon the completion of the Business Combination, the New Vaso Board will have a nominating and corporate governance committee. It is expected that the nominating and corporate governance committee will initially consist of the following members . Each of the members of the nominating and corporate governance committee will meet the requirements for independence under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and rules of Nasdaq. The nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for, among other things:

- identify individuals qualified to become Board members, consistent with criteria approved by the Board;
- recommend to the Board the persons to be nominated for election as directors by stockholders and the persons (if any) to be elected by the Board to fill any vacancies on the Board;
- recommend to the Board the directors to be appointed to each committee of the Board;
- develop and recommend to the Board corporate governance guidelines; and
- oversee the evaluation of the Board.

The New Vaso Board will adopt a written charter for the nominating and corporate governance committee which will be available on its website upon the completion of the Business Combination.

### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

None of New Vaso's officers currently serves, and in the past year has not served, (i) as a member of the compensation committee or the board of directors of another entity, one of whose officers served on New Vaso's compensation committee, or (ii) as a member of the compensation committee of another entity, one of whose officers served on the New Vaso Board.

### **Related Person Policy of New Vaso**

New Vaso will adopt a formal written policy that will be effective upon the Business Combination providing that New Vaso's officers, directors, nominees for election as directors, beneficial owners of more than 5% of any class of New Vaso's capital stock, any member of the immediate family of any of the foregoing persons and any firm, corporation or other entity in which any of the foregoing persons is employed or is a general partner or principal or in a similar position or in which such person has a 5% or greater beneficial ownership interest, are not permitted to enter into a related party transaction with New Vaso without the approval of New Vaso's audit committee.

A related person transaction is a transaction, arrangement or relationship, or any series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships, in which New Vaso (including any of its subsidiaries) was, is or will be a participant and the aggregate amount involved will or may be expected to exceed \$150,000 and in which any related person had, has or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

Under the policy, New Vaso will collect information that New Vaso deems reasonably necessary from each director, executive officer and, to the extent feasible, significant stockholder, to enable New Vaso to identify any existing or potential related-person transactions and to effectuate the terms of the policy. In addition, under the Code of Conduct, employees and directors have an affirmative responsibility to disclose any transaction or relationship that reasonably could be expected to give rise to a conflict of interest.

The policy will require that, in determining whether to approve, ratify or reject a related person transaction, New Vaso's audit committee, or other independent body of the New Vaso Board, must consider all of the relevant facts and circumstances available to them, including (if applicable) but not limited to: (a) the benefits to New Vaso; (b) the impact on a director's independence in the event the related person is a director, an immediately family member of a director or an entity in which a director is a partner, stockholder or executive officer; (c) the availability of other sources for comparable products or services; (d) the terms of the transaction; and (e) the terms available to unrelated third parties.

### **Insider Trading Policy**

New Vaso will adopt an insider trading policy that allows insiders to sell securities of New Vaso pursuant to pre-arranged trading plans.

Effective October 23, 2000, the SEC adopted rules related to insider trading. One of these rules, Rule 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, provides an exemption to the insider trading rules in the form of an affirmative defense. Rule 10b5-1 recognizes the creation of formal programs under which executives and other insiders may sell the securities of publicly traded companies on a regular basis pursuant to written plans that are entered into at a time when the plan participants are not aware of material non-public information and that otherwise comply with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1.

#### Director and Officer Indemnification Agreements

Prior to the completion of the Business Combination, New Vaso expects to enter into indemnification agreements with each of its directors and executive officers. These agreements will require New Vaso to indemnify these individuals to the fullest extent permitted under Delaware law against liabilities that may arise by reason of their service to New Vaso and to advance expenses incurred as a result of any proceeding as to which they could be indemnified. New Vaso also expects to enter into indemnification agreements with its future directors and executive officers. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be extended to directors, officers or persons controlling New Vaso pursuant to the foregoing, New Vaso will be informed that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by New Vaso of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered in connection with the Business Combination, New Vaso will, unless in the opinion of New Vaso's counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and New Vaso will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

#### Compensation Recovery Policy

New Vaso will adopt a compensation recovery policy to comply with Section 954 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, as codified by Section 10D of the Exchange Act of 1934, Exchange Act Rule 10D-1 promulgated thereunder, and the Listing Rule 5608 of the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC.

#### Board Diversity

The New Vaso Board does not have a formal policy with respect to Board nominee diversity. In recommending proposed nominees to the Board of Directors, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is charged with building and maintaining a board that has an ideal mix of talent and experience to achieve our business objectives in the current environment. In particular, the Nominating Committee is focused on relevant subject matter expertise, depth of knowledge in key areas that are important to us, and diversity of thought, background, perspective and experience so as to facilitate robust debate and broad thinking on strategies and tactics pursued by us.

The following table provides certain information regarding the diversity of our Board of Directors upon completion of the Business Combination.

Board Diversity Matrix				
Country of Principal Executive Offices:	United States			
Foreign Private Issuer	No			
Disclosure Prohibited Under Home Country Law	N/A			
Total Number of Directors	7			

	Female	Male	Non-Binary	Did Not Disclose Gender
<b>Part I: Gender Identity</b>				
Directors	1	6	0	0
<b>Part II: Demographic Background</b>				
Underrepresented Individual in Home Country Jurisdiction			—	
LGBTQ+			—	

## **SECURITIES ACT RESTRICTIONS ON RESALE OF NEW VASO'S SECURITIES**

Pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act ("**Rule 144**"), a person who has beneficially owned restricted New Vaso Class A Common Stock or Vaso warrants for at least six months would be entitled to sell their securities provided that (i) such person is not deemed to have been an affiliate of New Vaso at the time of, or at any time during the three months preceding, a sale and (ii) New Vaso is subject to the Exchange Act periodic reporting requirements for at least three months before the sale and have filed all required reports under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act during the twelve months (or such shorter period as New Vaso was required to file reports) preceding the sale.

Persons who have beneficially owned restricted New Vaso Class A Common Stock or New Vaso warrants for at least six months but who are affiliates of New Vaso at the time of, or at any time during the three months preceding, a sale, would be subject to additional restrictions, by which such person would be entitled to sell within any three-month period only a number of securities that does not exceed the greater of:

- 1% of the total number of New Vaso Class A Common Stock then outstanding (as of the date of this proxy statement, Vaso has                      shares of common stock outstanding); or
- the average weekly reported trading volume of New Vaso Common Stock during the four calendar weeks preceding the filing of a notice on Form 144 with respect to the sale

Sales by affiliates of New Vaso under Rule 144 are also limited by manner of sale provisions and notice requirements and to the availability of current public information about New Vaso.

### **Restrictions on the Use of Rule 144 by Shell Companies or Former Shell Companies**

Rule 144 is not available for the resale of securities initially issued by shell companies (other than business combination related shell companies) or issuers that have been at any time previously a shell company. However, Rule 144 also includes an important exception to this prohibition if the following conditions are met:

- the issuer of the securities that was formerly a shell company has ceased to be a shell company;
- the issuer of the securities is subject to the reporting requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act;
- the issuer of the securities has filed all Exchange Act reports and material required to be filed, as applicable, during the preceding twelve months preceding the date of the proposed sale in reliance on Rule 144 (or such shorter period that the issuer was required to file such reports and materials), other than Form 8-K reports; and
- at least one year has elapsed from the time that the issuer filed current Form 10 type information with the SEC reflecting its status as an entity that is not a shell company.

As a result, the Sponsor will be able to sell its Founder Shares pursuant to Rule 144 without registration one year after Achari has completed its initial business combination.

Achari anticipates that following the completion of the Business Combination, New Vaso will no longer be a shell company, and so, once the conditions set forth in the exceptions listed above are satisfied, Rule 144 will become available for the resale of the above noted restricted securities.

### **Rule 145 Restrictions on Resales of Securities Issued by Former Shell Companies**

Rule 145 of the Securities Act imposes additional restrictions on resales of securities issued by former shell companies that may result in the seller being deemed to be a presumptive underwriter, potentially requiring registration of the securities under the Securities Act in order to liquidate a sizeable position in the securities.

Rule 145 provides that exchanges of securities in connection with reclassifications of securities, mergers or consolidations, or asset transfers subject to stockholder vote, constitute sales of securities. Under Rule 145, if a party to one of these transactions is a shell company, Rule 145(c) deems any party to that transaction (other than the issuer, or any person who is an affiliate of the issuer when the transaction is submitted for vote or consent) who publicly offers or sells securities of the issuer acquired in connection with the transaction to be engaged in a distribution and therefore to be an “underwriter” who must comply with the restrictions on sales of those securities set forth under Rule 145.

Therefore, Rule 145 creates a “presumptive underwriter status” for certain affiliates of the parties to a de SPAC transaction. As such, Rule 145 securities may only be sold pursuant to a registration statement or in compliance with the Rule 145(d) conditions (which align with the resale restrictions for securities of former shell companies in Rule 144).

## **OTHER STOCKHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS**

Stockholders and interested parties may communicate with the Vaso Board, any committee chairperson or the non-management directors as a group by writing to the Vaso Board or committee chairperson at 137 Commercial St., Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803. Each communication will be forwarded, depending on the subject matter, to the applicable board, the appropriate committee chairperson or all non-management directors.

## **EXPERTS**

The audited financial statements of Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the period from January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021 included in this proxy statement have been audited by WithumSmith+Brown PC, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon, appearing elsewhere in this proxy statement, and are included in reliance on such report given upon such firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The audited consolidated financial statements of Vaso Corporation for each of the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 are included in this proxy statement. UHY LLP and MaloneBailey LLP, as Vaso's respective current and prior independent registered public accounting firm, performed the audits of Vaso's consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, as set forth in their reports thereon and are included in reliance on such report given on the authority of each such firm with regards to their respective report as an expert in auditing and accounting.

## **CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS**

None.

## **DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS TO STOCKHOLDERS**

Pursuant to the rules of the SEC, Vaso and the services that it employs to deliver communications to its stockholders are permitted to deliver to two or more stockholders sharing the same address a single copy of Vaso's proxy statement. Upon written or oral request, Vaso will deliver a separate copy of the proxy statement to any stockholder at a shared address to which a single copy of each document was delivered and who wishes to receive separate copies of such documents. Vaso Stockholders receiving multiple copies of such documents may likewise request that Vaso deliver single copies of such documents in the future. Stockholders may notify Vaso of their requests by calling or writing Vaso Corporation, 137 Commercial St., Suite 200, Plainview, New York.

## **TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR**

The transfer agent for Vaso's securities is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

## **SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

The Vaso Board is aware of no other matter that may be brought before the Stockholders' Meeting. If any matter other than the Proposals or related matters should properly come before such meetings, however, the persons named in the enclosed proxies will vote proxies in accordance with their judgment on those matters.

## **FUTURE STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS**

If the Business Combination is completed, you will be entitled to attend and participate in New Vaso's annual meetings of stockholders. If New Vaso holds a 2024 annual meeting of stockholders, it will provide notice of or otherwise publicly disclose the date on which the 2024 annual meeting will be held. If the 2024 annual meeting of stockholders is held, stockholder proposals will be eligible for consideration by the directors for inclusion in the proxy statement for New Vaso's 2024 annual meeting of stockholders in accordance with Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act. Such proposals should be directed to Vaso Holding Corporation, 137 Commercial St., Suite 200, Plainview, New York, 11803, Attention: Secretary. Any proposal may be included in Vaso Holding Corporation's proxy materials only if such proposal complies with the rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Vaso files reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC as required by the Exchange Act. You may read and copy reports, proxy statements and other information filed by Vaso with the SEC at the SEC web site, which contains reports, proxy statements and other information, at: <http://www.sec.gov>.

This proxy statement is available without charge to stockholders of Vaso upon written or oral request. If you would like additional copies of this proxy statement or if you have questions about the Business Combination or the Proposals to be presented at the Stockholders' Meeting, you should contact Vaso in writing at Vaso Corporation, 137 Commercial Street, Suite 200, Plainview, New York 11803 or by telephone at (516) 997-4600. If you have questions about the Proposals or this proxy statement, would like additional copies of this proxy statement, or need to obtain proxy cards or other information related to the proxy solicitation, please contact Vaso Corporation in writing (137 Commercial Street, Suite 200 Plainview, New York 11803) or by telephone ((516) 997-4600).

To obtain timely delivery of the documents, you must request them no later than five (5) business days before the date of the meeting or no later than , 2024.

Information and statements contained in this proxy statement or any annex to this proxy statement are qualified in all respects by reference to the copy of the relevant contract or other annex filed as an exhibit to this proxy statement.

All information contained in this document relating to Achari has been supplied by Achari and all such information relating to Vaso has been supplied by Vaso. Information provided by Achari or Vaso does not constitute any representation, estimate or projection of any other party.

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**VASO CORPORATION**

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of  
Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I:

**Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I as of December 31, 2021 and 2022, and the related statements of Operations, Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Deficit, and Statement of Cash Flows for the period from January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022, and the related notes. In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I as of December 31, 2021 and 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the period from January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022, in conformity with U.S. GAAP.

**Explanatory Paragraph — Going Concern**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As more fully described in Note 1, the Company's business plan is dependent on the completion of a Business Combination and the Company's cash and working capital as of December 31, 2022 are not sufficient to complete its planned activities. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans in regard to these matters are also described in Note 1. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of these uncertainties.

**Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the entity's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.



We have served as Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I auditor since 2023.

New York, NY

December 22, 2023

PCAOB Number 100

WithumSmith+Brown, PC 1411 Broadway, 9th Floor, New York, New York 10018-3496 T (212) 751 9100 F (212) 750 3262 [withum.com](http://withum.com)

AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF HLB - THE GLOBAL ADVISORY AND ACCOUNTING NETWORK

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**BALANCE SHEETS**

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 597,306	\$ 771,386
Prepaid expenses – current	180,197	228,375
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>777,503</b>	<b>999,761</b>
Prepaid expenses – non current	—	180,197
Cash and marketable securities held in Trust Account	44,688,320	101,501,875
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 45,465,823</b>	<b>\$ 102,681,833</b>
<b>LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK, AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 665,059	\$ 84,608
Income taxes payable	216,203	—
Franchise tax payable	291,137	114,262
Due to affiliates	—	5,000
Common Stock redemption payable	34,198,758	—
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>35,371,157</b>	<b>203,870</b>
Derivative warrant liabilities	356,666	2,354,000
Deferred underwriting fee payable	3,500,000	3,500,000
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>39,227,823</b>	<b>6,057,870</b>
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (NOTE 6) REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK</b>		
Common stock subject to possible redemption: 1,019,465 and 10,000,000 shares at redemption value of \$10.29 and \$10.15 per share respectively December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.	10,489,562	101,500,000
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT</b>		
Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock; \$0.0001 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 2,500,000 shares issued and outstanding (excluding 1,019,465 and 10,000,000 shares subject to possible redemption at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively)	250	250
Accumulated deficit	(4,251,812)	(4,876,287)
<b>Total stockholders' deficit</b>	<b>(4,251,562)</b>	<b>(4,876,037)</b>
<b>LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK, AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$ 45,465,823</b>	<b>\$ 102,681,833</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements*

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

	For the year ended December 31, 2022	For the period January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
General and administrative	\$ 1,287,276	\$ 182,920
Franchise tax	282,342	114,262
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>1,569,618</b>	<b>297,182</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Income on over-allotment	—	95,104
Interest and dividend income on investments held in Trust Account	1,411,854	1,875
Change in fair value of warrants	1,997,334	7,632,666
Fair value in excess of sale of private warrants	—	(4,636,666)
Transaction costs allocated to warrant issuance	—	(57,041)
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>3,409,188</b>	<b>3,035,938</b>
<b>INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES</b>	<b>1,839,570</b>	<b>2,738,756</b>
Income tax provision	(216,203)	—
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 1,623,367</b>	<b>\$ 2,738,756</b>
Weighted average shares outstanding of common stock	<b>12,278,562</b>	<b>4,955,882</b>
Basic and diluted net income per share, common stock	<b>\$ 0.13</b>	<b>\$ 0.55</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements*

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	Common stock		Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated Deficit	Total stockholders' deficit
	Shares	Amount			
Balance, December 31, 2021	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (4,876,287)	\$ (4,876,037)
Remeasurement of redeemable shares to redemption value	—	—	—	(998,892)	(998,892)
Net income	—	—	—	1,623,367	1,623,367
Balance, December 31, 2022	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (4,251,812)	\$ (4,251,562)

**FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 25, 2021 (INCEPTION) THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	Common Stock		Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated deficit	Total stockholders' deficit
	Shares	Amount			
Balance, January 25, 2021	—	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Issuance of Common Stock to Sponsor	2,875,000	288	24,712	—	25,000
Proceeds from Initial Public Offering Costs allocated to Public Warrants (net of offering costs)			11,177,530		11,177,530
Remeasurement for redeemable shares to redemption value	—	—	(11,202,280)	(7,519,939)	(18,722,219)
Forfeiture of shares	(375,000)	(38)	38		—
Income on over-allotment	—	—	—	(95,104)	(95,104)
Net Income	—	—	—	2,738,756	2,738,756
Balance, December 31, 2021	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (4,876,287)	\$ (4,876,037)

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements*

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

	For the year ended December 31, 2022	For the period January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net income	\$ 1,623,367	\$ 2,738,756
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash used in operating activities:		
Income on over-allotment	—	(95,104)
Interest and dividend income on investments held in Trust Account	(1,411,854)	(1,875)
Issuance of private warrants in excess of fair value	—	4,636,666
Change in fair value of warrants	(1,997,334)	(7,632,666)
Transaction costs allocated to warrant issuance	—	57,041
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses and other assets	228,376	(408,572)
Income taxes payable	216,203	—
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	580,451	84,608
Franchise tax payable	176,875	114,262
Due to affiliate	(5,000)	5,000
<b>Net cash flows used in operating activities</b>	<b>(588,916)</b>	<b>(501,884)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash withdrawn from Trust account for taxes	414,836	—
Cash withdrawn from Trust account in connection with Common Stock redemptions	57,810,572	—
Cash deposited to Trust Account	—	(101,500,000)
<b>Net cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>58,225,408</b>	<b>(101,500,000)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Redemption of Common Stock	(57,810,572)	—
Proceeds from initial public offering, net of underwriting fee	—	98,000,000
Gross proceeds from sale of private units	—	5,350,000
Proceeds from issuance of shares to Sponsor	—	25,000
Payment of offering Costs	—	(601,730)
<b>Net cash flows (used in) provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(57,810,572)</b>	<b>102,773,270</b>
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH</b>	<b>(174,080)</b>	<b>771,386</b>
<b>CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR/PERIOD</b>	<b>771,386</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>CASH, END OF YEAR/PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 597,306</b>	<b>\$ 771,386</b>
<b>Supplemental disclosure of non-cash activities:</b>		
Initial classification of warrant liability	\$ —	\$ 2,354,000
Initial value of Class A common stock subject to possible redemption	\$ —	\$ 101,500,000
Deferred underwriting commissions payable charged to additional paid in capital	\$ —	\$ 3,500,000
Common stock redemption payable	\$ 34,198,758	\$ —
Remeasurement of redeemable shares to redemption value	\$ 998,892	\$ —

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements*

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations**

Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I (the “Company”) was incorporated in Delaware on January 25, 2021. The Company is a blank check company formed for the purpose of entering into a merger, share exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, recapitalization, reorganization or other similar business combination with one or more businesses or entities (a “Business Combination”).

The Company is not limited to a particular industry or geographic region for purposes of consummating a Business Combination. The Company is an early stage and emerging growth company and, as such, the Company is subject to all of the risks associated with early stage and emerging growth companies.

As of December 31, 2022, the Company had not commenced any operations. All activity through December 31, 2022 relates to the Company’s formation, its initial public offering (“Initial Public Offering”), and, subsequent to the Initial Public Offering, identifying a target company for a Business Combination. The Company will not generate any operating revenues until after the completion of a Business Combination, at the earliest. The registration statement for the Company’s Initial Public Offering was declared effective on October 14, 2021. On October 19, 2021, the Company consummated the Initial Public Offering of 10,000,000 units (“Units”), each of which consisted of one warrant and one share of Common Stock (the “Public Shares”) at \$10.00 per Unit, generating gross proceeds of \$100,000,000, which is discussed in Note 3. The Company has selected December 31 as its fiscal year end.

Simultaneously with the closing of the Initial Public Offering, the Company consummated the sale of 7,133,333 warrants (“Private Placement Warrants”) at a price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant in a private placement to the Company’s sponsor, Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC (the “Sponsor”), for gross proceeds of \$5,350,000 which is described in Note 4.

Offering costs for the Initial Public Offering amounted to \$6,101,730, consisting of \$2,000,000 of underwriting fees, \$3,500,000 of deferred underwriting fees payable (which are held in the Trust Account (defined below)) and \$601,730 of other costs. As described in Note 6, the \$3,500,000 of deferred underwriting fee payable is contingent upon the consummation of a Business Combination, as further described in the underwriting agreement entered into in connection with the Initial Public Offering.

Following the closing of the Initial Public Offering, \$101,500,000 (\$10.15 per Unit) from the net proceeds of the sale of the Units in the Initial Public Offering and the Private Placement Warrants was placed in a trust account (the “Trust Account”) and, prior to the 24-month anniversary of our IPO Registration Statement, were invested in U.S. government securities, within the meaning set forth in Section 2(a)(16) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), with a maturity of 185 days or less or in any open-ended investment company that holds itself out as a money market fund selected by the Company meeting the conditions of paragraphs (d)(2), (d)(3) and (d)(4) of Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act, as determined by the Company, and subsequent to such date, such funds have been held in cash or interest-bearing bank deposit accounts at a national bank.

The Company’s management has broad discretion with respect to the specific application of the net proceeds of the Initial Public Offering and the sale of the Private Placement Warrants, although substantially all of the net proceeds are intended to be applied generally toward consummating a Business Combination. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to complete a Business Combination successfully. The Company must complete one or more Business Combinations having an aggregate fair market value of at least 80% of the assets held in the Trust Account (excluding the deferred underwriting commissions and taxes payable on income earned on the Trust Account) at the time of the agreement to enter into the Business Combination. However, the Company will only complete a Business Combination if the post-transaction company owns or acquires 50% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the target or otherwise acquires a controlling interest in the target sufficient for it not to be required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act. There is no assurance the Company will be able to successfully effect a Business Combination.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
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**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

The Company will provide the holders of the outstanding Public Shares (the “Public Stockholders”) with the opportunity to redeem all or a portion of their Public Shares upon the completion of a Business Combination either (i) in connection with a stockholder meeting called to approve the Business Combination or (ii) by means of a tender offer. The decision as to whether the Company will seek stockholder approval of a Business Combination or conduct a tender offer will be made by the Company. The Public Stockholders will be entitled to redeem their Public Shares for a pro rata portion of the amount then in the Trust Account (initially anticipated to be \$10.15 per Public Share, plus any pro rata interest then in the Trust Account, net of taxes payable). There will be no redemption rights with respect to the Company’s warrants.

All of the Public Shares contain a redemption feature which allows for the redemption of such Public Shares in connection with the Company’s liquidation, if there is a stockholder vote or tender offer in connection with the Company’s Business Combination and in connection with certain amendments to the Company’s third amended and restated certificate of incorporation (the “Certificate of Incorporation”). In accordance with ASC 480-10-S99, redemption provisions not solely within the control of a company require Common Stock subject to redemption to be classified outside of permanent equity. Given that the Public Shares were issued with other freestanding instruments (i.e., public warrants), the initial carrying value of Common Stock classified as temporary equity was the allocated proceeds determined in accordance with ASC 470-20. The Common Stock is subject to ASC 480-10-S99. If it is probable that the equity instrument will become redeemable, the Company has the option to either (i) accrete changes in the redemption value over the period from the date of issuance (or from the date that it becomes probable that the instrument will become redeemable, if later) to the earliest redemption date of the instrument or (ii) recognize changes in the redemption value immediately as they occur and adjust the carrying amount of the instrument to equal the redemption value at the end of each reporting period. The Company elected to recognize the changes immediately. While redemptions cannot cause the Company’s net tangible assets to fall below \$5,000,001, the Public Shares are redeemable and are classified as such on the balance sheet until such date that a redemption event takes place.

Redemptions of the Company’s Public Shares may be subject to the satisfaction of conditions, including minimum cash conditions, pursuant to an agreement relating to the Company’s Business Combination. If the Company seeks stockholder approval of the Business Combination, the Company will proceed with a Business Combination if a majority of the shares voted are voted in favor of the Business Combination, or such other vote as required by law or stock exchange rule. If a stockholder vote is not required by applicable law or stock exchange listing requirements and the Company does not decide to hold a stockholder vote for business or other reasons, the Company will, pursuant to its Certificate of Incorporation, conduct the redemptions pursuant to the tender offer rules of the SEC and file tender offer documents with the SEC prior to completing a Business Combination. If, however, stockholder approval of the transaction is required by applicable law or stock exchange listing requirements, or the Company decides to obtain stockholder approval for business or other reasons, the Company will offer to redeem shares in conjunction with a proxy solicitation pursuant to the proxy rules and not pursuant to the tender offer rules. If the Company seeks stockholder approval in connection with a Business Combination, the Sponsor has agreed to vote its Founder Shares (as defined in Note 5) and any Public Shares purchased during or after the Initial Public Offering in favor of approving a Business Combination. Additionally, each Public Stockholder may elect to redeem their Public Shares without voting, and if they do vote, irrespective of whether they vote for or against the proposed transaction.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Certificate of Incorporation provides that a Public Stockholder, together with any affiliate of such stockholder or any other person with whom such stockholder is acting in concert or as a “group” (as defined under Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), will be restricted from redeeming its shares with respect to more than an aggregate of 15% or more of the Common Stock sold in the Initial Public Offering, without the prior consent of the Company.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
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**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

The Company's Sponsor, officers and directors (the "Initial Stockholders") agreed not to propose an amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation that would affect the substance or timing of the Company's obligation to redeem 100% of its Public Shares if the Company does not complete a Business Combination, unless the Company provides the Public Stockholders with the opportunity to redeem their shares of Common Stock in conjunction with any such amendment.

If the Company is unable to complete a Business Combination by January 19, 2023, 15 months from the closing of the Initial Public Offering or by July 19, 2023 (the "Combination Period") by effecting up to six (6) one-month extensions, the Company will (i) cease all operations except for the purpose of winding up, (ii) as promptly as reasonably possible but not more than ten business days thereafter, redeem the Public Shares, at a per-share price, payable in cash, equal to the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account including interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account and not previously released to us to pay the Company's franchise and income taxes (less up to \$100,000 of interest to pay dissolution expenses), divided by the number of then outstanding Public Shares, which redemption will completely extinguish Public Stockholders' rights as stockholders (including the right to receive further liquidating distributions, if any), subject to applicable law, and (iii) as promptly as reasonably possible following such redemption, subject to the approval of the Company's remaining stockholders and the Company's board of directors, dissolve and liquidate, subject in each case to the Company's obligations under Delaware law to provide for claims of creditors and the requirements of other applicable law.

On December 22, 2022, the Company reconvened a special meeting of the Company's shareholders (the "*Special Meeting*"), which had initially been adjourned on December 19, 2022. At the reconvened Special Meeting, the Company's shareholders approved (i) an amendment (the "*Charter Amendment Proposal*") to the Company's second amended and restated certificate of incorporation (the "*Amended Certificate of Incorporation*"), which amended an option included in the Company's existing amended certificate of incorporation, and which had provided the Company the ability to extend the deadline by which the Company must consummate a business combination by up to three months, or from January 19, 2023 to April 19, 2023 (the "Amended Extended Date"), to instead provide for an extension to consummate a business combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023 and (ii) an amendment (the "Trust Amendment Proposal") to the Company's Investment Management Trust Agreement (the "Amended Trust Agreement") to provide that the Company may extend the time period to complete a business combination up to and until the Amended Extended Date on a monthly basis, by, at the Company's option, depositing into the Company's trust account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of the Company's common stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit (the "*Monthly Extension Option*"). The Monthly Extension Option is exercisable by the Company in six single-month increments.

On February 13, 2023, the Company notified Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, the trustee of the Company's trust account (the "*Trust Account*"), that it was extending (an "*Extension*") the time available to the Company to consummate its initial business combination, from February 19, 2023 to March 19, 2023 (the "*Second Extension*"), pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Company's Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "*Certificate of Incorporation*") and the Company's Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement (the "*Trust Agreement*"). The Second Extension is the second of up to six (6) one-month Extensions permitted under the Company's Certificate of Incorporation and Trust Agreement. The Initial Stockholders agreed to waive their liquidation rights with respect to the Founder Shares if the Company fails to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period in connection with the consummation of the Initial Public Offering. However, if the Initial Stockholders decide to acquire Public Shares in addition to their Founder Shares, they will be entitled to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to such Public Shares if the Company fails to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period. The underwriters agreed to waive their rights to its deferred underwriting commission (see Note 6) held in the Trust Account in the event the Company does not complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period and, in such

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**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

event, such amounts will be included with the other funds held in the Trust Account that will be available to fund the redemption of the Public Shares. In the event of such distribution, it is possible that the per share value of the residual assets remaining available for distribution (including the Trust Account assets) will be only \$10.15 per shares held in the Trust Account. In order to protect the amounts held in the Trust Account, the Sponsor has agreed to be liable to the Company if and to the extent any claims by a vendor for services rendered or products sold to the Company, or a prospective target business with which the Company has discussed entering into a transaction agreement, reduce the amount of funds in the Trust Account. This liability will not apply with respect to any claims by a third party who executed a waiver of any right, title, interest or claim of any kind in or to any monies held in the Trust Account or to any claims under the Company's indemnity of the underwriters of the Initial Public Offering against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). Moreover, in the event that an executed waiver is deemed to be unenforceable against a third party, the Sponsor will not be responsible to the extent of any liability for such third-party claims. The Company will seek to reduce the possibility that the Sponsor will have to indemnify the Trust Account due to claims of creditors by endeavoring to have all vendors, service providers (except the Company's independent registered public accounting firm), prospective target businesses or other entities with which the Company does business, execute agreements waiving any right, title, interest or claim of any kind in or to monies held in the Trust Account.

At the Company's Shareholder's Special meeting held on December 22, 2022 holders of 8,980,535 shares of common stock of the Company exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate price of \$10.24 per share, for an aggregate payment of approximately \$92,009,330, which will be withdrawn from the Company's trust account to redeem such shares.

*Risks and Uncertainties*

Management is continuing to evaluate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Company has concluded that while it is reasonably possible that COVID-19 could have a negative effect on identifying a target company for a Business Combination, the specific impact is not readily determinable as of the date of the financial statements. Additionally, in February 2022, the Russian Federation and Belarus commenced a military action with the country of Ukraine. As a result of this action, various nations, including the United States, have instituted economic sanctions against the Russian Federation and Belarus. Further, the impact of this action and related sanctions on the world economy are not determinable as of the date of these financial statements and the specific impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows is also not determinable as of the date of these financial statements. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of these uncertainties.

*Liquidity and Capital Resources*

As of December 31, 2022, the Company had cash of \$597,306 in its operating bank account and \$44,688,320 of cash and marketable securities held in the Trust Account to be used for a Business Combination or to repurchase or redeem its Common Stock in connection therewith. As of December 31, 2022, approximately \$1,411,854 of the amount on deposit in the Trust Account represented interest and dividend income from investments, which is available to pay the Company's tax obligations.

The Company has until January 19, 2023 (which is 15 months from the October 19, 2021 closing of the Company's Initial Public Offering) or until May 19, 2023 if the initial time period is extended upon request by the Sponsor and through resolution of our board of directors (which is 18 months from the October 19, 2021 closing of the Company's Initial Public Offering), further on December 22, 2022 in a special meeting of the shareholders, the Company has further extended the period by another 3 months to July 19, 2023 (which is 21 months from the October 19, 2021 closing of our IPO) to consummate its Business Combination. Until the consummation of a Business Combination, the Company is and will continue to use the funds not held in the Trust Account for

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**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

identifying and evaluating prospective acquisition candidates, performing due diligence on prospective target businesses, paying for travel expenditures, selecting the target business to acquire, and structuring, negotiating and consummating the Business Combination. The Company may need to raise additional capital through loans or additional investments from its Sponsor, shareholders, officers, directors, or third parties. The Company's officers, directors and Sponsor may, but are not obligated to, loan the Company funds, from time to time or at any time, in whatever amount they deem reasonable in their sole discretion, to meet the Company's working capital needs. Accordingly, the Company may not be able to obtain additional financing.

Management has determined that the mandatory liquidation and subsequent dissolution described in Note 1 of the financial statements, should the Company be unable to complete a Business Combination, raises substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. As described in Note 6, the \$3,500,000 of deferred underwriting fee payable is contingent upon the consummation of a Business Combination subject to the terms of the underwriting agreement. It is uncertain that the Company will be able to consummate a Business Combination by the specified period.

If the Company is unable to raise additional capital, it may be required to take additional measures to conserve liquidity, which could include, but not necessarily be limited to, curtailing operations, suspending the pursuit of a potential transaction, and reducing overhead expenses. The Company cannot provide any assurance that new financing will be available to it on commercially acceptable terms, if at all. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time, which is considered to be one year from the issuance date of the financial statements. These financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recovery of the recorded assets or the classification of the liabilities that might be necessary should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern.

**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC.

*Emerging Growth Company*

The Company is an emerging growth company as defined in Section 102(b)(1) of the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (the "JOBS Act"), which exempts emerging growth companies from being required to comply with new or revised financial accounting standards until private companies (that is, those that have not had a Securities Act registration statement declared effective or do not have a class of securities registered under the Exchange Act) are required to comply with the new or revised financial accounting standards. The JOBS Act provides that an emerging growth company can elect to opt out of the extended transition period and comply with the requirements that apply to non-emerging growth companies but any such an election to opt out is irrevocable. The Company has elected not to opt out of such extended transition period, which means that when a standard is issued or revised, and it has different application dates for public or private companies, the Company, as an emerging growth company, can adopt the new or revised standard at the time private companies adopt the new or revised standard.

This may make comparison of the Company's financial statements with another public company that is neither an emerging growth company nor an emerging growth company that has opted out of using the extended transition period difficult or impossible because of the potential differences in accounting standards used.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

*Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires the Company's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Making estimates requires management to exercise significant judgment. Such estimates may be subject to change as more current information becomes available and accordingly the actual results could differ significantly from those estimates. It is at least reasonably possible that the estimate of the effect of a condition, situation or set of circumstances that existed at the date of the financial statements, which management considered in formulating its estimate, could change in the near term due to one or more future confirming events. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

The Company considers all short-term investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. The Company did not have any cash equivalents as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.

*Investments Held in the Trust Account*

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, substantially all of the assets held in the Trust Account were held in a mutual fund that invests in U.S. Treasury securities. The Company's investments held in the Trust Account are classified as trading securities. Trading securities are presented on the balance sheet at fair value at the end of each reporting period. Gains and losses resulting from the change in fair value of investments held in the Trust Account are included in income on investments held in the Trust Account in the accompanying statements of operations. The estimated fair values of investments held in the Trust Account are determined using available market information.

*Concentration of Credit Risk*

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist of cash accounts in a financial institution, which, at times, may exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation coverage limit of \$250,000. At December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the Company has not experienced losses on these accounts and management believes the Company is not exposed to significant risks on such account.

*Fair Value of Financial Instruments*

The fair value of the Company's assets and liabilities, which qualify as financial instruments under the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures," approximates the carrying amounts represented in the accompanying balance sheets, primarily due to their short-term nature.

*Income Taxes*

The Company complies with the accounting and reporting requirements of ASC Topic 740, "Income Taxes" ("ASC 740"), which requires an asset and liability approach to financial accounting and reporting for income taxes. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are computed for differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities that will result in future taxable or deductible amounts, based on enacted tax laws and rates applicable to the periods in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. Valuation allowances are established, when necessary, to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
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**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

ASC 740 prescribes a recognition threshold and a measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. There were no unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2022 and 2021. The Company recognizes accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as income tax expense. No amounts were accrued for the payment of interest and penalties for the year ended December 31, 2022 or the period ended December 31, 2021. The Company is currently not aware of any issues under review that could result in significant payments, accruals or material deviation from its position. The Company is subject to income tax examinations by major taxing authorities since inception. (See Note 10)

*Common Stock Subject to Possible Redemption*

The Company accounts for its Common Stock subject to possible redemption in accordance with the guidance in ASC 480 “Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity” (“ASC 480”). Shares of Common Stock subject to mandatory redemption (if any) are classified as a liability instrument and is measured at fair value. Conditionally redeemable Common Stock (including Common Stock that features redemption rights that are either within the control of the holder or subject to redemption upon the occurrence of uncertain events not solely within the Company’s control) is classified as temporary equity. At all other times Common Stock is classified as stockholders’ equity. The Company’s Common Stock features certain redemption rights that are considered to be outside of the Company’s control and subject to occurrence of uncertain future events. Accordingly, on December 31, 2022, 1,019,465 shares of Common Stock subject to possible redemption is presented as temporary equity, outside of the stockholders’ deficit section of the Company’s balance sheet.

The Company recognizes changes in redemption value immediately as they occur and adjusts the carrying value of redeemable Common Stock to equal the redemption value at the end of each reporting period. Increases or decreases in the carrying amount of redeemable Common Stock are affected by charges against additional paid in capital and accumulated deficit.

On December 31, 2022, the Common Stock subject to possible redemption reflected in the balance sheet is reconciled in the following table:

Gross proceeds	\$ 100,000,000
Less:	
Proceeds allocated to Public Warrants	(11,900,000)
Common Stock issuance costs	(5,322,219)
Plus: Remeasurement of carrying value to redemption value	18,722,219
Common Stock subject to possible redemption as of December 31, 2021	\$ 101,500,000
Less:	
Redemption of Common Stock	(57,810,572)
Common Stock redemption payable	(34,198,758)
Plus: Remeasurement of carrying value to redemption value (net)	998,892
Common Stock subject to possible redemption as of December 31, 2022	<u>\$ 10,489,562</u>

*Net Income per Common Stock*

The Company has one class of shares. Public Warrants (see Note 3) and Private Placement Warrants (see Note 4) to purchase 12,850,000 shares of Common Stock at \$11.50 per share were issued on October 19, 2021. On December 31, 2022, no Public Warrants or Private Placement Warrants have been exercised. The 12,850,000 potential shares of Common Stock for outstanding Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants

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**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

to purchase the Common Stock were excluded from diluted earnings per share for the year ending December 31, 2022 because they are contingently exercisable, and the contingencies have not yet been met. As a result, diluted net income per share of Common Stock is the same as basic net income per shares of Common Stock for the period. The table below presents a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator used to compute basic and diluted net income per share for each class of stock.

	For the year ending December 31, 2022	For the period January 25, 2021 (inception) through December 31, 2021
Basic and diluted net income per share:		
Numerator:		
Allocation of net income	\$ 1,623,367	\$ 2,738,756
Denominator:		
Weighted average shares outstanding	12,278,562	4,955,882
Basic and dilution net income per share	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.55

*Accounting for Warrants*

The Company accounts for warrants as either equity-classified or liability-classified instruments based on an assessment of the instruments' specific terms and applicable authoritative guidance in ASC 480 and ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging ("ASC 815"). The assessment considers whether the instruments are free standing financial instruments pursuant to ASC 480, meet the definition of a liability pursuant to ASC 480, and whether the instruments meet all of the requirements for equity classification under ASC 815, including whether the instruments are indexed to the Company's own common shares and whether the instrument holders could potentially require "net cash settlement" in a circumstance outside of the Company's control, among other conditions for equity classification. This assessment, which requires the use of professional judgment, was conducted at the time of warrant issuance and as of each subsequent period end date while the instruments are outstanding. Management has concluded that the Public Warrants qualify for equity accounting treatment and the Private Placement Warrants issued pursuant to the warrant agreement qualify for liability accounting treatment.

*Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

In August 2020, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2020-06, Debt — debt with Conversion and Other Options (Subtopic 470-20) and Derivatives and Hedging — Contracts in Entity's Own Equity (Subtopic 815-40): Accounting for Convertible Instruments and Contracts in an Entity's Own Equity ("ASU 2020-06"), which simplifies accounting for convertible instruments by removing major separation models required under current GAAP. The ASU also removes certain settlement conditions that are required for equity-linked contracts to qualify for the derivative scope exception, and it simplifies the diluted earnings per share calculation in certain areas. The Company adopted ASU 2020-06 on January 25, 2021 (inception). Adoption of the ASU did not impact the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

The Company has reviewed other recent accounting pronouncements and concluded that they are either not applicable to the Company or no material effect is expected on the financial statement as a result of future adoption.

**Note 3 — Initial Public Offering**

Pursuant to the Initial Public Offering, the Company sold 10,000,000 Units at a price of \$10.00 per Unit. Each Unit consists of one Public Share, and one redeemable warrant (each, a "Public Warrant"). Each Public Warrant entitles the holder to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock at a price of \$11.50 per share, subject to adjustment (see Note 7).

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**Note 4 — Private Placement Warrants**

On October 19, 2021, simultaneously with the consummation of the Initial Public Offering, the Company consummated the issuance and sale of 7,133,333 Private Placements Warrants in a private placement transaction at a price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant, generating gross proceeds of \$5,350,000. Each whole Private Placement Warrant will be exercisable to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock at a price of \$11.50 per share. A portion of the proceeds from the Private Placement Warrants will be added to the proceeds from the Initial Public Offering to be held in the Trust Account. If the Company does not complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period, the proceeds from the sale of the Private Placement Warrants will be used to fund the redemption of the Public Shares (subject to the requirements of applicable law), and the Private Placement Warrants and all underlying securities will be worthless.

**Note 5 — Related Party Transactions**

*Founder Shares*

In February 2021, our Sponsor paid an aggregate purchase price of \$25,000, or approximately \$0.009 per share, in consideration of 2,156,250 shares of Common Stock to cover certain expenses of the Company (the “Founder Shares”). In June 2021, we effected a 1.3333-for-1.0 stock split of our Common Stock, resulting in our Sponsor owning an aggregate of 2,875,000 Founder Shares. The Founder Shares included an aggregate of up to 375,000 shares subject to forfeiture to the extent that the underwriters’ over-allotment was not exercised in full or in part, so that the Sponsor would collectively own 20% of the Company’s issued and outstanding shares after the Initial Public Offering (assuming the Sponsor did not purchase any Public Shares in the Initial Public Offering). The over-allotment was not exercised and such shares were forfeited.

The Sponsor agreed that it will not transfer, assign or sell any Founder Shares until (1) with respect to 50% of the shares, the earlier of six months after the date of the consummation of our Business Combination and the date on which the closing price of the Company’s Common Stock exceeds \$12.50 per share (as adjusted for share splits, share capitalizations, reorganizations and recapitalizations) for any 20 trading days within any 30-trading day period commencing after our Business Combination and (2) with respect to the remaining 50% of the shares, six months after the date of the consummation of our Business Combination, or earlier, in either case, if, subsequent to our Business Combination, the Company consummates a liquidation, merger, share exchange or other similar transaction which results in all of the Company’s stockholders having the right to exchange their shares for cash, securities or other property.

*Related Party Loans*

On January 25, 2021, the Company issued an unsecured promissory note to the Sponsor (the “Promissory Note”), pursuant to which the Company borrowed up to an aggregate principal amount of \$300,000. The Promissory Note was non-interest bearing and payable on the earlier of (i) December 31, 2021 or (ii) the consummation of the Initial Public Offering. The Promissory Note was repaid as of March 31, 2022.

In addition, in order to finance transaction costs in connection with a Business Combination, the Sponsor or an affiliate of the Sponsor, or certain of the Company’s officers and directors may, but are not obligated to, loan the Company funds as may be required (“Working Capital Loans”). If the Company completes a Business Combination, the Company may repay the Working Capital Loans out of the proceeds of the Trust Account released to the Company. Otherwise, the Working Capital Loans would be repaid only out of funds held outside the Trust Account. In the event that a Business Combination does not close, the Company may use a portion of proceeds held outside the Trust Account to repay the Working Capital Loans, but no proceeds held in the Trust Account would be used to repay the Working Capital Loans. The Working Capital Loans would either be repaid upon consummation of a Business Combination, without interest, or, at the lender’s discretion, up to \$1.5 million of such Working Capital Loans may

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**Note 5 — Related Party Transactions (cont.)**

be convertible into warrants of the post Business Combination entity at a price of \$0.75 per warrant. The warrants would be identical to the Private Placement Warrants. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, there were no Working Capital Loans outstanding. Except for the foregoing, the terms of such Working Capital Loans, if any, have not been determined and no written agreements exist with respect to such loans.

**Support Services**

During the year, The Company paid the Sponsor \$41,625 towards administrative and shared personnel support services.

**Note 6 — Commitments and Contingencies**

*Registration Rights*

The holders of the Founder Shares, Private Placement Warrants and any warrants issued upon conversion of Working Capital Loans (and any shares issuable upon the exercise of the Private Placement Warrants and warrants that may be issued upon conversion of working capital loans) are entitled to registration rights pursuant to an agreement entered into in connection with the Company's Initial Public Offering requiring the Company to register such securities for resale. The holders of a majority of these securities are entitled to make up to three demands, except short form demands, that the Company register such securities. In addition, the holders have certain "piggy-back" registration rights with respect to registration statements filed subsequent to the consummation of a Business Combination and rights to require the Company to register for resale such securities pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act. The registration rights agreement does not contain liquidated damages or other cash settlement provisions resulting from delays in registering the Company's securities. The Company will bear the expenses incurred in connection with the filing of any such registration statements.

*Underwriting Agreement*

The Company granted the underwriters a 45-day option from the date of the closing of the Company's Initial Public Offering to purchase up to 1,500,000 additional Units to cover over-allotments, if any, at the Initial Public Offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions. The option was not exercised during such 45-day period and expired.

The underwriters were paid a cash underwriting discount of \$0.20 per Unit, or \$2,000,000 in the aggregate at the closing of the Initial Public Offering. In addition, the underwriters are entitled to a deferred underwriting commissions of \$0.35 per Unit, or \$3,500,000 from the closing of the Initial Public Offering. The deferred fee will become payable to the underwriters from the amounts held in the Trust Account solely if the Company completes a Business Combination, subject to the terms of the underwriting agreement.

**Note 7 — Stockholders' Deficit**

**Common Stock** — The Company is authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of Common Stock. On December 31, 2022 and 2021, there were 2,500,000 (excluding 1,019,465 and 10,000,000 shares of Common Stock subject to possible redemption) shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding.

On December 22, 2022, the Company held a special meeting of shareholders at which holders of 8,980,535 shares of Common Stock of the Company exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate redemption price of \$10.24 per share, or an aggregate payment of approximately \$92,009,330. As of December 31, 2022, \$57,810,572 was withdrawn from the Company's trust account in connection with the payments of such redemption amounts, and the balance of \$34,198,758 has been presented as a current liability entitled Common stock redemption payable in the Balance Sheet. With the remainder of such payments being withdrawn promptly thereafter such that the balance of the trust account as of December 31, 2022 was \$10,578,661.

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**Note 7 — Stockholders' Deficit (cont.)**

**Preferred Stock** — The Company is authorized to issue 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.0001 with such designations, voting and other rights and preferences as may be determined from time to time by the Company's board of directors. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, there were no shares of preferred stock issued or outstanding.

**Public Warrants** — Public Warrants may only be exercised for a whole number of shares. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of the Public Warrants. The Public Warrants will become exercisable on the later of (a) 30 days after the completion of a Business Combination or (b) one year from the closing of the Initial Public Offering. The Public Warrants will expire five years after the completion of a Business Combination or earlier upon redemption or liquidation. The Company will not be obligated to deliver any shares pursuant to the exercise of a warrant and will have no obligation to settle such warrant exercise unless a registration statement under the Securities Act with respect to the shares underlying the warrants is then effective and a prospectus relating thereto is current, subject to the Company satisfying its obligations with respect to registration. No warrant will be exercisable and the Company will not be obligated to issue shares upon exercise of a warrant unless shares issuable upon such warrant exercise have been registered, qualified or deemed to be exempt under the securities laws of the state of residence of the registered holder of the warrants. The Company has agreed that as soon as practicable, but in no event later than 15 business days after the closing of a Business Combination, the Company will use its best efforts to file with the SEC a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants, to cause such registration statement to become effective and to maintain a current prospectus relating to those shares until the warrants expire or are redeemed, as specified in the warrant agreement. If a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants is not effective by the 60<sup>th</sup> business day after the closing of a Business Combination, warrant holders may, until such time as there is an effective registration statement and during any period when the Company will have failed to maintain an effective registration statement, exercise warrants on a "cashless basis" in accordance with Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act or another exemption. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants is not effective within a specified period following the consummation of a Business Combination, warrant holders may, until such time as there is an effective registration statement and during any period when we shall have failed to maintain an effective registration statement, exercise warrants on a cashless basis pursuant to the exemption provided by Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act, provided that such exemption is available. If that exemption, or another exemption, is not available, holders will not be able to exercise their warrants on a cashless basis.

Once the warrants become exercisable, the Company may redeem the Public Warrants:

- in whole and not in part;
- at a price of \$0.01 per warrant;
- at any time after the warrants become exercisable;
- upon not less than 30 days' prior written notice of redemption to each warrant holder; and
- if, and only if, the reported last sale price of the Public Shares equals or exceeds \$16.50 per share (as adjusted for stock splits, stock dividends, reorganizations, recapitalizations and the like) for any 20 trading days within a 30-trading day period commencing once the warrants become exercisable and ending three business days before the Company sends the notice of redemption to the warrant holders.

If and when the warrants become redeemable by the Company, the Company may not exercise its redemption right if the issuance of shares of Common Stock upon exercise of the warrants is not exempt from registration or qualification under applicable state blue sky laws or the Company is unable to effect such registration or qualification.

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**Note 7 — Stockholders' Deficit (cont.)**

If the Company calls the Public Warrants for redemption, management will have the option to require all holders that wish to exercise the Public Warrants to do so on a "cashless basis," as described in the warrant agreement. The exercise price and number of shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants may be adjusted in certain circumstances including in the event of a stock dividend, or recapitalization, reorganization, merger or consolidation. However, except as described below, the warrants will not be adjusted for issuance of Common Stock at a price below its exercise price. Additionally, in no event will the Company be required to net cash settle the warrants. If the Company is unable to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period and the Company liquidates the funds held in the Trust Account, holders of warrants will not receive any of such funds with respect to their warrants, nor will they receive any distribution from the Company's assets held outside of the Trust Account with the respect to such warrants. Accordingly, the warrants may expire worthless.

As of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, there were 10,000,000 of Public Warrants outstanding.

**Note 8 — Warrant Liabilities**

**Private Warrants** — The Private Warrants are identical to the Public Warrants underlying the Units sold in the Initial Public Offering, except that the Private Warrants and the shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Private Warrants are not transferable, assignable or salable until after the completion of a Business Combination, subject to certain limited exceptions. Additionally, the Private Warrants are exercisable for cash or on a cashless basis, at the holder's option, and be non-redeemable so long as they are held by the initial purchasers or their permitted transferees. If the Private Warrants are held by someone other than the initial purchasers or their permitted transferees, the Private Warrants will be redeemable by the Company and exercisable by such holders on the same basis as the Public Warrants.

The exercise price and number of shares of Common Stock issuable on exercise of the warrants may be adjusted in certain circumstances including in the event of a share dividend, extraordinary dividend or our recapitalization, reorganization, merger or consolidation. However, the warrants will not be adjusted for issuances of shares of Common Stock at a price below their respective exercise prices. Additionally, in no event will the Company be required to net cash settle the warrants. If the Company is unable to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period and the Company liquidates the funds held in the Trust Account, holders of warrants will not receive any of such funds with respect to their warrants, nor will they receive any distribution from the Company's assets held outside of the Trust Account with the respect to such warrants. Accordingly, the warrants may expire worthless.

In addition, if the Company issues additional shares of Common Stock or equity-linked securities for capital raising purposes in connection with the closing of a Business Combination at an issue price or effective issue price of less than \$9.50 per share of Common Stock (with such issue price or effective issue price to be determined in good faith by the Company's board of directors, and in the case of any such issuance to the initial stockholders or their affiliates, without taking into account any Founder Shares held by them prior to such issuance), (x) the aggregate gross proceeds from such issuances represent more than 60% of the total equity proceeds, and interest thereon, available for the funding of a Business Combination on the date of the consummation of a Business Combination (net of redemptions), and (y) the volume weighted average trading price of the Company's Common Stock during the 20 trading day period starting on the trading day prior to the day on which the Company consummates Business Combination (such price, the "Market Value") is below \$9.50 per share, the exercise price of the warrants will be adjusted (to the nearest cent) to be equal to 115% of the greater of (i) the Market Value or (ii) the price at which the Company issues the additional shares of Common Stock or equity-linked securities.

As of December 31, 2022 there were 7,133,333 of private warrants outstanding.

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**Note 9 — Fair Value Measurements**

The fair value of the Company's financial assets and liabilities reflects management's estimate of amounts that the Company would have received in connection with the sale of the assets or paid in connection with the transfer of the liabilities in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In connection with measuring the fair value of its assets and liabilities, the Company seeks to maximize the use of observable inputs (market data obtained from independent sources) and to minimize the use of unobservable inputs (internal assumptions about how market participants would price assets and liabilities). The following fair value hierarchy is used to classify assets and liabilities based on the observable inputs and unobservable inputs used in order to value the assets and liabilities:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. An active market for an asset or liability is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

Level 2: Observable inputs other than Level 1 inputs. Examples of Level 2 inputs include quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities and quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets that are not active.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs based on our assessment of the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

At December 31, 2022, the assets held in the Trust Account were held in a mutual fund invested in U.S Treasury Securities. All of the Company's investments held in the Trust Account are classified as trading securities.

The following table presents information about the Company's liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2022 and 2021 and indicates the fair value hierarchy of the valuation inputs the Company utilized to determine such fair value.

		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>Level</b>			
<b>Assets:</b>				
Marketable Securities	1	\$ 44,688,320	—	—
Warrant Liability-Private Placement Warrants	3	—	—	\$ 356,666

		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>December 31, 2021</b>	<b>Level</b>			
<b>Assets:</b>				
Marketable Securities	1	\$ 101,501,875	—	—
Warrant Liability-Private Placement Warrants	3	—	—	\$ 2,354,000

The Company utilizes a Monte Carlo simulation model to value the warrants at each reporting period, with changes in fair value recognized in the statement of operations. The estimated fair value of the warrant liability is determined using Level 3 inputs. Inherent in a Monte Carlo pricing model are assumptions related to expected share-price volatility, expected life, risk-free interest rate and dividend yield. The Company estimates the volatility of its Common Stock based on industry historical volatility that matches the expected remaining life of the warrants. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury zero-coupon yield curve on the grant date for a maturity similar to the expected remaining life of the warrants. The expected life of the warrants is assumed to be equivalent to their remaining contractual term. The dividend rate is based on the historical rate, which the Company anticipates to remain at zero.

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**Note 9 — Fair Value Measurements (cont.)**

The following table provides quantitative information regarding Level 3 fair value measurements on at December 31, 2022.

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Stock Price	\$ 10.22	\$ 9.87
Exercise Price	\$ 11.5	\$ 11.5
Term (years)	2.91	6
Volatility	0.2%	8%
Risk Free Rate	4.24%	1.35%
Dividend Yield	0%	0%

The following table presents the changes in the fair value of Level 3 warrant liabilities:

	Private Placement Warrants
Fair value as of October 19, 2021 (IPO)	\$ 9,986,666
Change in fair value	(7,632,666)
Fair value as of December 31, 2021	2,354,000
Change in fair value	(1,997,334)
Fair value as of December 31, 2022	\$ 356,666

**Note 10 — Income Taxes**

The total provision (benefit) for income taxes is comprised of the following:

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
<b>Federal</b>		
Current	\$ 216,203	\$ —
Deferred	(246,333)	(62,014)
<b>State and Local</b>		
Current	—	—
Deferred	—	—
Change in valuation allowance	246,333	62,014
Income tax provision	\$ 216,203	\$ —

Deferred tax assets and liabilities and assets are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities, using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse.

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**Note 10 — Income Taxes (cont.)**

The net deferred tax assets and liabilities in the accompanying balance sheets included the following components:

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Deferred tax assets		
Start-up costs	\$ 308,347	\$ 38,019
Unrealized gain/loss	—	—
Net operating loss	—	23,995
Total deferred tax asset (liability)	308,347	62,014
Valuation allowance	(308,347)	(62,014)
Deferred tax asset (liability) net of allowance	\$ —	\$ —

The Company's federal net operating loss carryforward as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 amounted to \$0 and \$112,387 and will be carried forward indefinitely.

In assessing the realization of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which temporary differences representing net future deductible amounts become deductible. Management considers the scheduled reversal of deferred tax assets, projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. After consideration of all of the information available, Management believes that significant uncertainty exists with respect to future realization of the deferred tax assets and has therefore established a full valuation allowance. At the year ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the change in valuation allowance was \$246,333 and \$62,014 respectively.

A reconciliation of the statutory federal income tax rate (benefit) to the Company's effective tax rate (approximate) is as follows:

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Statutory federal income tax rate	21.00%	21.00%
State taxes, net of federal tax benefit	0.00%	0.00%
Change in fair value of warrants	(22.80)%	(22.00)%
Warrant issuance costs	0.00%	0.20%
Valuation allowance	13.39%	0.80%
Income tax provision expense (benefit)	11.59%	(0.00)%

The tax provision differs from the statutory rate of 21% due to the change in fair value of warrants and the valuation allowance against deferred tax assets.

**Note 11 — Subsequent Events**

The Company evaluated subsequent events and transactions that occurred after the balance sheet date up to the date that the financial statements were available to be issued and has determined that subject to the below, there have been no events that have occurred that would require adjustments to the disclosures of the financial statements.

In order to mitigate the current uncertainty surrounding the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, the Company has decided that in the event that the Proposals are approved and implemented as described in the Definitive Proxy Statement, funds in trust, including any interest thereon, will not be used to pay for any excise tax liabilities with respect to any future redemptions that occur after December 31, 2022, and prior to or in connection with a Business Combination or liquidation of the Company and which result from the implementation of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 11 — Subsequent Events (cont.)**

On January 13, 2023, the Company, notified Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company (the “Trustee”), the trustee of the Company’s trust account (the “Trust Account”), that it was extending (an “Extension”) the time available to the Company to consummate its initial business combination, from January 19, 2023 to February 19, 2023 (the “First Extension”), pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Company’s Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the “Certificate of Incorporation”) and the Company’s Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement (the “Trust Agreement”) the Company deposited \$50,973.25 into the Company’s Trust Account. On March 14, 2023, the Company notified the Trustee of the Trust Account, of an Extension of the time available to the Company to consummate its Business Combination, from March 19, 2023 to April 19, 2023, pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Third Amended Certificate of Incorporation and the Investment Management Trust Agreement the Company deposited \$50,973.25 into the Company’s Trust Account. On April 14, 2023, the Company notified the Trustee of the Trust Account, of an Extension of the time available to the Company to consummate its Business Combination, from April 19, 2023 to May 19, 2023, pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Third Amended Certificate of Incorporation and the Investment Management Trust Agreement the Company deposited \$50,973.25 into the Company’s Trust Account. As of April 18, 2023 (and, for the avoidance of doubt, inclusive of the deposits into the Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Extensions), the Trust Account held approximately \$10,828,307.47.

On January 18, 2023, the Company and Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC (the “Sponsor”) separately entered into a loan agreement whereby the Company issued a promissory note (the “Promissory Note”) to the Sponsor pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of Extensions. The Promissory Note is currently undrawn and no amounts are outstanding under such Promissory Note.

Achari has previously been notified by Nasdaq that it is not in compliance with certain standards that Nasdaq requires listed companies to meet for their securities to continue to be listed and traded on their exchange. Achari has regained compliance with all such applicable Listing Rules, except for Listing Rules 5450(b)(2)(A) and 5450(a)(2), which it has been granted an extension until April 2, 2024, to cure the existing continued listing deficiencies.

- Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B): On January 22, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that the Company was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), requiring at least 1,100,000 “Publicly Held Shares.” The letter stated that the Company had 45 calendar days to submit a plan to regain compliance. The Company submitted a plan on March 9, 2023, and after review, on March 30, 2023, Nasdaq granted the Company an extension to regain compliance, until July 21, 2023. On June 22, 2023, the Company received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that the Company was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B). On July 21, 2023, the Company filed a Form 8-K with the SEC disclosing, among other things, certain details regarding the Company’s beneficial ownership and outstanding common stock. On August 7, 2023, the Company received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that the Company had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), and accordingly, that such matter was closed. On December 18, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that the Company was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), requiring at least 1,100,000 “Publicly Held Shares.” The letter stated that the Company had 45 calendar days to submit a plan to regain compliance. Upon further discussion with Nasdaq all parties agreed the Company was not in violation of Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(B), and the letter was withdrawn.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 11 — Subsequent Events (cont.)**

- Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C): On February 24, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that the Company was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C), requiring a “Market Value” of “Publicly Held Shares” of at least \$15 million. The letter stated that the Company had 180 calendar days to regain compliance with Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C), or until August 23, 2023. On August 7, 2023, the Company received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that the Company had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(C), and accordingly, that such matter was closed.
- Listing Rule 5250(c)(1): On April 24, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that the Company was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), as a result of the Company’s delay in filing its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022. On April 25, 2023, the Company filed its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 with the SEC. On April 25, 2023, the Company received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that the Company had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), and accordingly, that such matter was closed. On May 23, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq indicating that the Company was not in compliance with Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), as a result of the Company’s delay in filing its Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2023. On May 26, 2023, the Company filed its Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2023 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. On June 1, 2023, the Company received a written notification from Nasdaq indicating that the Company had regained compliance under Listing Rule 5250(c)(1), and accordingly, that such matter was closed.
- Listing Rules 5450(b)(2)(A) and 5450(a)(2): On March 23, 2023, we received a letter from Nasdaq notifying the Company that, for the 30 consecutive trading days prior to the date of the letter, the Company’s common stock had traded at a value below the minimum \$50,000,000 “Market Value of Listed Securities” (“MVLS”) requirement set forth in Listing Rule 5450(b)(2)(A). The letter stated that the Company had 180 calendar days, or until September 19, 2023, to regain compliance. On October 3, 2023, the Company had not regained compliance with the MVLS requirement because the Company’s MVLS was below the \$50,000,000 minimum MVLS requirement for the proceeding 30 consecutive trading days and received a delisting determination letter from Nasdaq. On October 9, 2023, the Company received an additional letter from the Staff stating that on September 3, 2023, the Company reported less than the 400 total shareholders required under Nasdaq Listing Rule 5450(a)(2), and this matter served as an additional basis for delisting the securities. On December 7, 2023 the Company presented their plan of compliance to the Nasdaq hearings panel and requested an extension to regain compliance. On December 19, 2023, Nasdaq notified Achari that it had granted an extension until April 2, 2024, to cure the existing continued listing deficiencies.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP I**  
**CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS**

	September 30, 2023 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 18,810	\$ 597,306
Prepaid expenses	9,385	180,197
Total current assets	28,195	777,503
Cash and marketable securities held in Trust Account	6,860,609	44,688,320
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 6,888,804</b>	<b>\$ 45,465,823</b>
<b>LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK, AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,499,079	\$ 665,059
Income taxes payable	9,383	216,203
Franchise tax payable	30,000	291,137
Excise tax liability	382,015	—
Note Payable-related party	152,000	—
Convertible Note Payable-related party	215,000	—
Common stock redemption payable	—	34,198,758
Total current liabilities	3,287,477	35,371,157
Derivative warrant liabilities	428,000	356,666
Deferred underwriting fee payable	3,500,000	3,500,000
Total liabilities	7,215,477	39,227,823
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (NOTE 6)</b>		
<b>REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK</b>		
Common stock subject to possible redemption: 638,321 and 1,019,465 shares at redemption value of \$10.75 and \$10.29 per share at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively	6,860,609	10,489,562
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT</b>		
Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock; \$0.0001 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 2,500,000 shares issued and outstanding (excluding 638,321 and 1,019,465 shares subject to possible redemption)	250	250
Accumulated deficit	(7,187,532)	(4,251,812)
Total stockholders' deficit	(7,187,282)	(4,251,562)
<b>LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE COMMON STOCK, AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$ 6,888,804</b>	<b>\$ 45,465,823</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed financial statements.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP I**  
**CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)**

	For the three months ended September 30,		For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
General and administrative	\$ 581,054	\$ 249,307	\$ 2,257,753	\$ 696,460
Franchise tax	50,000	50,000	150,000	150,000
Total operating expenses	631,054	299,307	2,407,753	846,460
<b>OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)</b>				
Interest income on investments held in Trust Account	94,677	193,267	338,798	340,873
Unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities held in Trust Account	—	272,353	—	272,353
Change in fair value of warrants	(142,667)	642,000	(71,334)	1,997,334
Total other income (expense)	(47,990)	1,107,620	267,464	2,610,560
<b>INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES</b>	(679,044)	808,313	(2,140,289)	1,764,100
Income tax (expense) benefit	(9,383)	(71,676)	(39,646)	(73,676)
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<u>\$ (688,427)</u>	<u>\$ 736,637</u>	<u>\$ (2,179,935)</u>	<u>\$ 1,690,424</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding of common stock (as restated)	<u>3,188,035</u>	<u>12,500,000</u>	<u>3,407,774</u>	<u>12,500,000</u>
Basic and diluted net income(loss) per share, common stock (as restated)	<u>\$ (0.22)</u>	<u>\$ 0.06</u>	<u>\$ (0.64)</u>	<u>\$ 0.14</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed financial statements.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP I**  
**CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT**  
**FOR THE THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

	Common stock (excluding 638,321 shares subject to possible redemption)		Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated deficit	Total Stockholders' deficit
	Shares	Amount			
Balance, December 31, 2022	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (4,251,812)	\$ (4,251,562)
Remeasurement of redeemable shares to redemption value			—	(266,790)	(266,790)
Excise duty in connection with redemption of redeemable shares			—	(341,988)	(341,988)
Net Loss			—	(946,841)	(946,841)
Balance, March 31, 2023	2,500,000	250	—	(5,807,431)	(5,807,181)
Remeasurement of redeemable shares to redemption value			—	(203,171)	(203,171)
Net loss			—	(544,667)	(544,667)
Balance, June 30, 2023	2,500,000	250	—	(6,555,269)	(6,555,019)
Remeasurement of redeemable shares to redemption value			—	96,191	96,191
Excise duty in connection with redemption of redeemable shares			—	(40,027)	(40,027)
Net loss			—	(688,427)	(688,427)
Balance, September 30, 2023	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (7,187,532)	\$ (7,187,282)

**FOR THE THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

	Common stock (excluding 10,000,000 shares subject to possible redemption)		Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated Deficit	Total Stockholders' deficit
	Shares	Amount			
Balance, December 31, 2021	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (4,876,287)	\$ (4,876,037)
Net income			—	555,517	555,517
Balance, March 31, 2022	2,500,000	250	—	(4,320,770)	(4,320,520)
Net income			—	398,270	398,270
Balance, June 30, 2022	2,500,000	250	—	\$ (3,922,500)	\$ (3,922,250)
Net income				736,637	736,637
Balance, September 30, 2022	2,500,000	\$ 250	\$ —	\$ (3,185,863)	\$ (3,185,613)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed financial statements.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP I**  
**CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)**

	For the nine months ended September 30, 2023	For the nine months ended September 30, 2022
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net (loss) income	\$ (2,179,935)	\$ 1,690,424
Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash used in operating activities:		
Interest and dividend income on investments held in Trust Account	(338,798)	(613,226)
Change in fair value of warrants	71,334	(1,997,334)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses and other assets	170,812	155,937
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,834,020	216,291
Income taxes payable	(206,820)	73,676
Franchise tax payable	(261,137)	32,117
Due to affiliate	—	(5,000)
Net cash flows used in operating activities	(910,524)	(447,115)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash deposited in Trust Account	(401,588)	
Cash withdrawn from Trust Account for Common Stock redemptions	38,201,481	107,883
Cash withdrawn from Trust Account for taxes	366,616	—
Net cash flows provided by investing activities	38,166,509	107,883
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Redemption of Common stock	(38,201,481)	—
Convertible Note payable	215,000	—
Notes payable – related party	152,000	—
Net cash flows used in financing activities	(37,834,481)	—
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH</b>	<b>(578,496)</b>	<b>(339,232)</b>
<b>CASH, BEGINNING OF PERIOD</b>	<b>597,306</b>	<b>771,386</b>
<b>CASH, END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 18,810</b>	<b>\$ 432,154</b>
Supplemental disclosure of noncash activities:		
Remeasurement of redeemable shares to redemption value	\$ 373,770	\$ —
Excise tax liability	\$ 382,015	\$ —

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed financial statements.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations**

Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I (the “Company”) was incorporated in Delaware on January 25, 2021. The Company is a blank check company formed for the purpose of entering into a merger, share exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, recapitalization, reorganization or other similar business combination with one or more businesses or entities (a “Business Combination”).

The Company is not limited to a particular industry or geographic region for purposes of consummating a Business Combination. The Company is an early stage and emerging growth company and, as such, the Company is subject to all of the risks associated with early stage and emerging growth companies.

As of September 30, 2023, the Company had not commenced any operations. All activity through September 30, 2023 relates to the Company’s formation, its initial public offering (“Initial Public Offering”), and, subsequent to the Initial Public Offering, identifying a target company for a Business Combination. The Company will not generate any operating revenues until after the completion of a Business Combination, at the earliest. The registration statement for the Company’s Initial Public Offering was declared effective on October 14, 2021. On October 19, 2021, the Company consummated the Initial Public Offering of 10,000,000 units (“Units”), each of which consisted of one warrant and one share of Common Stock (the “Public Shares”) at \$10.00 per Unit, generating gross proceeds of \$100,000,000, which is discussed in Note 3. The Company has selected December 31 as its fiscal year end.

Simultaneously with the closing of the Initial Public Offering, the Company consummated the sale of 7,133,333 warrants (“Private Placement Warrants”) at a price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant in a private placement to the Company’s sponsor, Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC (the “Sponsor”), for gross proceeds of \$5,350,000, which is described in Note 4.

Offering costs for the Initial Public Offering amounted to \$6,101,730, consisting of \$2,000,000 of underwriting fees, \$3,500,000 of deferred underwriting fees payable (which are held in the Trust Account (as defined below)) and \$601,730 of other costs. As described in Note 6, the \$3,500,000 of deferred underwriting fee payable is contingent upon the consummation of a Business Combination, as further described in the underwriting agreement entered into in connection with the Initial Public Offering.

Following the closing of the Initial Public Offering, \$101,500,000 (\$10.15 per Unit) from the net proceeds of the sale of the Units in the Initial Public Offering and the Private Placement Warrants was placed in a trust account (the “Trust Account”) and, prior to the 24-month anniversary of our IPO Registration Statement, were invested in U.S. government securities, within the meaning set forth in Section 2(a)(16) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”), with a maturity of 185 days or less or in any open-ended investment company that holds itself out as a money market fund selected by the Company meeting the conditions of paragraphs (d)(2), (d)(3) and (d)(4) of Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act, as determined by the Company, and subsequent to such date, such funds have been held in cash or interest-bearing bank deposit accounts at a national bank.

The Company’s management has broad discretion with respect to the specific application of the net proceeds of the Initial Public Offering and the sale of the Private Placement Warrants, although substantially all of the net proceeds are intended to be applied generally toward consummating a Business Combination. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to complete a Business Combination successfully. The Company must complete one or more Business Combinations having an aggregate fair market value of at least 80% of the assets held in the Trust Account (excluding the deferred underwriting commissions and taxes payable on income earned on the Trust Account) at the time of the agreement to enter into the Business Combination. However, the Company will only complete a Business Combination if the post-transaction company owns or acquires 50% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the target or otherwise acquires a controlling interest in the target sufficient for it not to be required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act. There is no assurance the Company will be able to successfully effect a Business Combination.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

The Company will provide the holders of the outstanding Public Shares (the “Public Stockholders”) with the opportunity to redeem all or a portion of their Public Shares upon the completion of a Business Combination either (i) in connection with a stockholder meeting called to approve the Business Combination or (ii) by means of a tender offer. The decision as to whether the Company will seek stockholder approval of a Business Combination or conduct a tender offer will be made by the Company. The Public Stockholders will be entitled to redeem their Public Shares for a pro rata portion of the amount then in the Trust Account (initially anticipated to be \$10.15 per Public Share, plus any pro rata interest then in the Trust Account, net of taxes payable). There will be no redemption rights with respect to the Company’s warrants.

All of the Public Shares contain a redemption feature which allows for the redemption of such Public Shares in connection with the Company’s liquidation, if there is a stockholder vote or tender offer in connection with the Company’s Business Combination and in connection with certain amendments to the Company’s Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (as defined below). In accordance with ASC 480-10-S99, redemption provisions not solely within the control of a company require Common Stock subject to redemption to be classified outside of permanent equity. Given that the Public Shares were issued with other freestanding instruments (i.e., public warrants), the initial carrying value of Common Stock classified as temporary equity was the allocated proceeds determined in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 470-20. The Common Stock is subject to ASC 480-10-S99. If it is probable that the equity instrument will become redeemable, the Company has the option to either (i) accrete changes in the redemption value over the period from the date of issuance (or from the date that it becomes probable that the instrument will become redeemable, if later) to the earliest redemption date of the instrument or (ii) recognize changes in the redemption value immediately as they occur and adjust the carrying amount of the instrument to equal the redemption value at the end of each reporting period. The Company elected to recognize the changes immediately. While redemptions cannot cause the Company’s net tangible assets to fall below \$5,000,001, the Public Shares are redeemable and are classified as such on the balance sheet until such date that a redemption event takes place.

Redemptions of the Company’s Public Shares may be subject to the satisfaction of conditions, including minimum cash conditions, pursuant to an agreement relating to the Company’s Business Combination. If the Company seeks stockholder approval of the Business Combination, the Company will proceed with a Business Combination if a majority of the shares voted are voted in favor of the Business Combination, or such other vote as required by law or stock exchange rule. If a stockholder vote is not required by applicable law or stock exchange listing requirements and the Company does not decide to hold a stockholder vote for business or other reasons, the Company will, pursuant to its Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, conduct the redemptions pursuant to the tender offer rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) and file tender offer documents with the SEC prior to completing a Business Combination. If, however, stockholder approval of the transaction is required by applicable law or stock exchange listing requirements, or the Company decides to obtain stockholder approval for business or other reasons, the Company will offer to redeem shares in conjunction with a proxy solicitation pursuant to the proxy rules and not pursuant to the tender offer rules. If the Company seeks stockholder approval in connection with a Business Combination, the Sponsor has agreed to vote its Founder Shares (as defined in Note 5) and any Public Shares purchased during or after the Initial Public Offering in favor of approving a Business Combination. Additionally, each Public Stockholder may elect to redeem their Public Shares without voting, and if they do vote, irrespective of whether they vote for or against the proposed transaction.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that a Public Stockholder, together with any affiliate of such stockholder or any other person with whom such stockholder is acting in concert or as a “group” (as defined under Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), will be restricted from redeeming its shares with respect to more than an aggregate of 15% or more of the Common Stock sold in the Initial Public Offering, without the prior consent of the Company.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

The Company's Sponsor, officers and directors (the "Initial Stockholders") agreed not to propose an amendment to the Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation that would affect the substance or timing of the Company's obligation to redeem 100% of its Public Shares if the Company does not complete a Business Combination, unless the Company provides the Public Stockholders with the opportunity to redeem their shares of Common Stock in conjunction with any such amendment.

If the Company is unable to complete a Business Combination by January 19, 2024 (assuming each of the Monthly Extension Options (as defined below) are exercised, the "Combination Period"), the Company will (i) cease all operations except for the purpose of winding up, (ii) as promptly as reasonably possible but not more than ten business days thereafter, redeem the Public Shares, at a per-share price, payable in cash, equal to the aggregate amount then on deposit in the Trust Account including interest earned on the funds held in the Trust Account and not previously released to us to pay the Company's franchise and income taxes (less up to \$100,000 of interest to pay dissolution expenses), divided by the number of then outstanding Public Shares, which redemption will completely extinguish Public Stockholders' rights as stockholders (including the right to receive further liquidating distributions, if any), subject to applicable law, and (iii) as promptly as reasonably possible following such redemption, subject to the approval of the Company's remaining stockholders and the Company's board of directors, dissolve and liquidate, subject in each case to the Company's obligations under Delaware law to provide for claims of creditors and the requirements of other applicable law.

The Initial Stockholders agreed to waive their liquidation rights with respect to the Founder Shares if the Company fails to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period in connection with the consummation of the Initial Public Offering. However, if the Initial Stockholders decide to acquire Public Shares in addition to their Founder Shares, they will be entitled to liquidating distributions from the Trust Account with respect to such Public Shares if the Company fails to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period. The underwriters agreed to waive their rights to its deferred underwriting commission (see Note 6) held in the Trust Account in the event the Company does not complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period and, in such event, such amounts will be included with the other funds held in the Trust Account that will be available to fund the redemption of the Public Shares. In the event of such distribution, it is possible that the per share value of the residual assets remaining available for distribution (including the Trust Account assets) will be only \$10.15 per shares held in the Trust Account. In order to protect the amounts held in the Trust Account, the Sponsor has agreed to be liable to the Company if and to the extent any claims by a vendor for services rendered or products sold to the Company, or a prospective target business with which the Company has discussed entering into a transaction agreement, reduce the amount of funds in the Trust Account. This liability will not apply with respect to any claims by a third party who executed a waiver of any right, title, interest or claim of any kind in or to any monies held in the Trust Account or to any claims under the Company's indemnity of the underwriters of the Initial Public Offering against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). Moreover, in the event that an executed waiver is deemed to be unenforceable against a third party, the Sponsor will not be responsible to the extent of any liability for such third-party claims. The Company will seek to reduce the possibility that the Sponsor will have to indemnify the Trust Account due to claims of creditors by endeavoring to have all vendors, service providers (except the Company's independent registered public accounting firm), prospective target businesses or other entities with which the Company does business, execute agreements waiving any right, title, interest or claim of any kind in or to monies held in the Trust Account.

On December 22, 2022, the Company reconvened a special meeting of the Company's shareholders (the "Special Meeting"), which had initially been adjourned on December 19, 2022. At the reconvened Special Meeting, the Company's shareholders approved (i) an amendment (the "Charter Amendment Proposal") to the Company's then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in the Company's then-existing amended certificate of incorporation, and which had provided the Company the ability to extend the deadline by which the Company must consummate a Business Combination by up to three months, or from January 19, 2023 to April 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a Business Combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023 (the "Original Amended Extended Date") and

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

(ii) an amendment (the “Trust Amendment Proposal”) to the Company’s Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that the Company may extend the time period to complete a Business Combination up to and until the Original Amended Extended Date on a monthly basis, by, at the Company’s option, depositing into the Company’s Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of the Company’s Common Stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit (the “Original Monthly Extension Option”). The Original Monthly Extension Option was exercisable by the Company in six single-month increments. As of June 15, 2023, the Company had exercised each of the six Original Monthly Extension Options available to it.

On July 12, 2023, the Company’s shareholders approved at a special meeting of the Company’s shareholders (the “July Special Meeting”) (i) an amendment to the Company’s then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which amended an option included in the Company’s then-existing amended and restated certificate of incorporation that provided the Company the ability to extend the deadline by which the Company must consummate a business combination by up to six months, or from January 19, 2023 to July 19, 2023, to instead provide for an extension to consummate a business combination by up to an additional six months, or from July 19, 2023 to January 19, 2024 (the “Amended Extended Date”), and (ii) an amendment to the Company’s Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide that the Company may extend the time period to complete a business combination up to and until the Amended Extended Date on a monthly basis, at the Company’s option, by depositing into the Company’s Trust Account the lesser of (x) \$100,000 and (y) \$0.05 for each share of the Company’s Common Stock which remains outstanding as of the date of such monthly deposit (the “Monthly Extension Option”). The Monthly Extension Option is exercisable by the Company in six single-month increments.

On July 17, 2023, our Sponsor transferred 927,600 shares of Common Stock to certain members of the Sponsor. As a result of such transfer, as of July 17, 2023, 1,572,400 shares of Common Stock were held directly by the Sponsor and 927,600 shares of Common Stock were held directly by members of the Sponsor.

On October 16, 2023, the Company notified the trustee of the Company’s Trust Account that it was exercising a Monthly Extension Option, extending the time available to the Company to consummate a Business Combination, from October 19, 2023 to November 19, 2023 (the “Fourth Extension”), pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Company’s Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the “Certificate of Incorporation” or the “Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation”) and the Company’s Second Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement (the “Trust Agreement”). The Fourth Extension is the fourth of up to six (6) one-month Extensions permitted under the Company’s Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Trust Agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the Company’s Certificate of Incorporation and Trust Agreement, on October 19, 2023, with respect to the exercise of the Fourth Extension, the Company deposited \$31,916 into the Company’s Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Fourth Extension. Such deposit with respect to the Fourth Extension was made using funds held outside of the Company’s Trust Account and available to the Company to fund working capital requirements. As of October 20, 2023 (and, for the avoidance of doubt, inclusive of the deposit of \$31,916 into the Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Fourth Extension as described above), the Trust Account held approximately \$6,892,525.

**Risks and Uncertainties**

In February 2022, the Russian Federation and Belarus commenced a military action with the country of Ukraine. As a result of this action, various nations, including the United States, have instituted economic sanctions against the Russian Federation and Belarus. Further, the impact of this action and related sanctions on the world economy are not determinable as of the date of these financial statements and the specific impact on the Company’s financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows is also not determinable as of the date of these financial statements. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of these uncertainties.

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

**Inflation Reduction Act of 2022**

On August 16, 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (the “IR Act”) was signed into federal law. The IR Act provides for, among other things, a new U.S. federal 1% excise tax on certain repurchases of stock by publicly traded U.S. domestic corporations and certain U.S. domestic subsidiaries of publicly traded foreign corporations occurring on or after January 1, 2023. The excise tax is imposed on the repurchasing corporation itself, not its shareholders from which shares are repurchased. The amount of the excise tax is generally 1% of the fair market value of the shares repurchased at the time of the repurchase. However, for purposes of calculating the excise tax, repurchasing corporations are permitted to net the fair market value of certain new stock issuances against the fair market value of stock repurchases during the same taxable year. In addition, certain exceptions apply to the excise tax. The U.S. Department of the Treasury (the “Treasury”) has been given authority to provide regulations and other guidance to carry out and prevent the abuse or avoidance of the excise tax.

Any redemption or other repurchase that occurs after December 31, 2022, in connection with a Business Combination, extension vote or otherwise, may be subject to the excise tax. Whether and to what extent the Company would be subject to the excise tax in connection with a Business Combination, extension vote or otherwise would depend on a number of factors, including (i) the fair market value of the redemptions and repurchases in connection with the Business Combination, extension or otherwise, (ii) the structure of a Business Combination, (iii) the nature and amount of any “PIPE” or other equity issuances in connection with a Business Combination (or otherwise issued not in connection with a Business Combination but issued within the same taxable year of a Business Combination) and (iv) the content of regulations and other guidance from the Treasury. In addition, because the excise tax would be payable by the Company and not by the redeeming holder, the mechanics of any required payment of the excise tax have not been determined. The foregoing could cause a reduction in the cash available on hand to complete a Business Combination and in the Company’s ability to complete a Business Combination.

The IRS issued Notice 2023-3 (Initial Guidance Regarding the Application of the Excise Tax on Repurchases of Corporate Stock). The notice defines stock redemptions per Internal Revenue Code section 317(b) and also defines transactions considered to be economically similar to a repurchase including certain acquisitive reorganizations, split-offs and certain overlap complete liquidations. Further, the notice defines transaction that are not economically similar transactions including complete liquidations and certain divisive transactions Liquidity and Capital Resources.

As of September 30, 2023, the Company had cash of \$18,810 in its operating bank account and cash and marketable securities of \$6,860,609 held in the Trust Account to be used for a Business Combination or to repurchase or redeem its Common Stock in connection therewith. During the nine-month period ended September 30, 2023, \$338,798 of the amount on deposit in the Trust Account represented interest income from investments, which is available to pay the Company’s tax obligations.

The Company originally had until January 19, 2023 to consummate its Business Combination, with an option to extend such deadline to April 19, 2023 by depositing certain funds into the Trust Account. On December 22, 2022, in a Special Meeting of the Company’s shareholders, the Company adopted the Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide for the Original Monthly Extension Options, which provide the deadline to consummate a Business Combination will be extended until, as further described in Note 1 of the financial statements, July 19, 2023 (which is 21 months from the October 19, 2021 closing of our Initial Public Offering). On July 12, 2023, in a special meeting of the Company’s shareholders, the Company adopted the Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Second Amended and Investment Management Trust Agreement to provide for the Monthly Extension Options, which provide the deadline to consummate a Business Combination will be extended until, as further described in Note 10 of the financial statements, January 19, 2024 (which is 27 months from the October 19, 2021 closing of our Initial Public Offering). Until the consummation of a Business Combination, the Company is and will continue to use the funds not held in the Trust Account for identifying and evaluating prospective acquisition candidates, performing

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 1 — Description of Organization and Business Operations (cont.)**

due diligence on prospective target businesses, paying for travel expenditures, selecting the target business to acquire, and structuring, negotiating and consummating the Business Combination. The Company may need to raise additional capital through loans or additional investments from its Sponsor, shareholders, officers, directors, or third parties. The Company's officers, directors and Sponsor may, but are not obligated to, loan the Company funds, from time to time or at any time, in whatever amount they deem reasonable in their sole discretion, to meet the Company's working capital needs. Accordingly, the Company may not be able to obtain additional financing.

Management has determined that the mandatory liquidation and subsequent dissolution described above, should the Company be unable to complete a Business Combination, raises substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

If the Company is unable to raise additional capital, it may be required to take additional measures to conserve liquidity, which could include, but not necessarily be limited to, curtailing operations, suspending the pursuit of a potential transaction, and reducing overhead expenses. The Company cannot provide any assurance that new financing will be available to it on commercially acceptable terms, if at all. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time, which is considered to be one year from the issuance date of the financial statements. These financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recovery of the recorded assets or the classification of the liabilities that might be necessary should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern.

**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") for interim financial information and in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-K and Article 8 of Regulation S-X of the SEC. Certain information or footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been condensed or omitted, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC for interim financial reporting. Accordingly, they do not include all the information and footnotes necessary for a complete presentation of financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. In the opinion of management, the accompanying financial statements include all adjustments, consisting of a normal recurring nature, which are necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, operating results and cash flows for the periods presented.

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, as filed with the SEC on April 24, 2023. The interim results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the period ending December 31, 2023 or for any future periods.

**Emerging Growth Company**

The Company is an emerging growth company as defined in Section 102(b)(1) of the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (the "JOBS Act"), which exempts emerging growth companies from being required to comply with new or revised financial accounting standards until private companies (that is, those that have not had a Securities Act registration statement declared effective or do not have a class of securities registered under the Exchange Act) are required to comply with the new or revised financial accounting standards. The JOBS Act provides that an emerging growth company can elect to opt out of the extended transition period and comply with the requirements that apply to non-emerging growth companies but any such an election to opt out is irrevocable. The Company has elected not to opt out of such extended transition period, which means that when a standard is issued or revised, and it has different application dates for public or private companies, the Company, as an emerging growth company, can adopt the new or revised standard at the time private companies adopt the new or revised standard.

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**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

This may make comparison of the Company's financial statements with another public company that is neither an emerging growth company nor an emerging growth company that has opted out of using the extended transition period difficult or impossible because of the potential differences in accounting standards used.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires the Company's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Making estimates requires management to exercise significant judgment. Such estimates may be subject to change as more current information becomes available and accordingly the actual results could differ significantly from those estimates. It is at least reasonably possible that the estimate of the effect of a condition, situation or set of circumstances that existed at the date of the financial statements, which management considered in formulating its estimate, could change in the near term due to one or more future confirming events. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Company considers all short-term investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. The Company did not have any cash equivalents as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022.

**Investments Held in the Trust Account**

At September 30, 2023, substantially all of the assets held in the Trust Account were held in a mutual fund that invests in U.S. Treasury securities. The Company's investments held in the Trust Account are classified as trading securities. Trading securities are presented on the balance sheet at fair value at the end of each reporting period. Gains and losses resulting from the change in fair value of investments held in the Trust Account are included in income on investments held in the Trust Account in the accompanying unaudited condensed statements of operations. The estimated fair values of investments held in the Trust Account are determined using available market information.

**Concentration of Credit Risk**

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist of cash accounts in a financial institution, which, at times, may exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation coverage limit of \$250,000. At September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the Company has not experienced losses on these accounts and management believes the Company is not exposed to significant risks on such account.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The fair value of the Company's assets and liabilities, which qualify as financial instruments under the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures," approximates the carrying amounts represented in the accompanying unaudited condensed balance sheets, primarily due to their short-term nature.

**Income Taxes**

The Company complies with the accounting and reporting requirements of ASC Topic 740, "Income Taxes" ("ASC 740"), which requires an asset and liability approach to financial accounting and reporting for income taxes. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are computed for differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities that will result in future taxable or deductible amounts, based on enacted tax laws and rates applicable to the periods in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. Valuation allowances are established, when necessary, to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized.

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**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

ASC 740 prescribes a recognition threshold and a measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. There were no unrecognized tax benefits as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022. The Company recognizes accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as income tax expense. No amounts were accrued for the payment of interest and penalties for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and year ended December 31, 2022. The Company is currently not aware of any issues under review that could result in significant payments, accruals or material deviation from its position. The Company is subject to income tax examinations by major taxing authorities since inception. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the Company's deferred tax asset had a full valuation allowance recorded against it.

The Company's effective tax rate expense (benefit) was (1.38)% and (1.85)% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023. The tax rate differs from the statutory rate of 21% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 due to change in valuation allowance on deferred tax assets and change in fair value of warrant liability.

**Common Stock Subject to Possible Redemption**

The Company accounts for its Common Stock subject to possible redemption in accordance with the guidance in ASC 480 "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity" ("ASC 480"). Shares of Common Stock subject to mandatory redemption (if any) are classified as a liability instrument and is measured at fair value. Conditionally redeemable Common Stock (including Common Stock that features redemption rights that are either within the control of the holder or subject to redemption upon the occurrence of uncertain events not solely within the Company's control) is classified as temporary equity. At all other times Common Stock is classified as stockholders' equity. The Company's Common Stock features certain redemption rights that are considered to be outside of the Company's control and subject to occurrence of uncertain future events. Accordingly, at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, 638,321 and 1,019,465 shares of Common Stock subject to possible redemption is presented as temporary equity, outside of the stockholders' deficit section of the Company's balance sheet.

The Company recognizes changes in redemption value immediately as they occur and adjusts the carrying value of redeemable Common Stock to equal the redemption value at the end of each reporting period. Increases or decreases in the carrying amount of redeemable Common Stock are affected by charges against additional paid in capital and accumulated deficit.

At September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the Common Stock subject to possible redemption reflected in the balance sheet is reconciled in the following table:

Gross proceeds	\$ 100,000,000
Less:	
Proceeds allocated to Public Warrants	(11,900,000)
Common Stock issuance costs	(5,322,219)
Plus: Remeasurement of carrying value to redemption value	18,722,219
Common Stock subject to possible redemption as of December 31, 2021	\$ 101,500,000
Less:	
Redemption of Common Stock	(57,810,572)
Common Stock redemption payable	(34,198,758)
Plus: Remeasurement of carrying value to redemption value	998,892
Common Stock subject to possible redemption as of December 31, 2022	\$ 10,489,562
Redemption of Common Stock	(4,002,723)
Plus: Remeasurement of carrying value to redemption value	373,770
Common Stock subject to possible redemption as of September 30, 2023	\$ 6,860,609

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**Note 2 — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)**

**Net income (loss) per Common Stock**

The Company has one class of shares. Public Warrants (as defined below) (see Note 7) and Private Placement Warrants (see Note 4) to purchase 12,850,000 shares of Common Stock at \$11.50 per share were issued on October 19, 2021. At September 30, 2023, no Public Warrants or Private Placement Warrants have been exercised. The 12,850,000 potential shares of Common Stock for outstanding Public Warrants and Private Placement Warrants to purchase the Common Stock were excluded from diluted earnings per share for the periods ended September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, because they are contingently exercisable and the contingencies have not yet been met. As a result, diluted net income (loss) per share of Common Stock is the same as basic net income per shares of Common Stock for the periods. The table below presents a reconciliation of the numerator and denominator used to compute basic and diluted net income (loss) per share for each class of stock.

	<b>For the three months ended September 30</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Common Stock</b>	
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share:		
Numerator:		
Allocation of net income (loss), including remeasurement of temporary equity	\$ (688,427)	\$ 736,637
Denominator:		
Weighted average shares outstanding (as restated)	3,188,035	12,500,000
Basic and dilution net income (loss) per share (as restated)	\$ (0.22)	\$ 0.06

	<b>For the nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Common Stock</b>	
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share:		
Numerator:		
Allocation of net income (loss), including remeasurement of temporary equity	\$ (2,179,935)	\$ 1,690,424
Denominator:		
Weighted average shares outstanding	3,407,774	12,500,000
Basic and dilution net income (loss) per share	\$ (0.64)	\$ 0.14

**Accounting for Warrants**

The Company accounts for warrants as either equity-classified or liability-classified instruments based on an assessment of the instruments' specific terms and applicable authoritative guidance in ASC 480 and ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging ("ASC 815"). The assessment considers whether the instruments are free-standing financial instruments pursuant to ASC 480, meet the definition of a liability pursuant to ASC 480, and whether the instruments meet all of the requirements for equity classification under ASC 815, including whether the instruments are indexed to the Company's own common shares and whether the instrument holders could potentially require "net cash settlement" in a circumstance outside of the Company's control, among other conditions for equity classification. This assessment, which requires the use of professional judgment, was conducted at the time of warrant issuance and as of each subsequent period end date while the instruments are outstanding. Management has concluded that the Public Warrants qualify for equity accounting treatment and the Private Placement Warrants issued pursuant to the warrant agreement qualify for liability accounting treatment.

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

The Company has reviewed other recent accounting pronouncements and concluded that they are either not applicable to the Company or no material effect is expected on the financial statement as a result of future adoption.

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**Note 3 — Initial Public Offering**

Pursuant to the Initial Public Offering, the Company sold 10,000,000 Units at a price of \$10.00 per Unit. Each Unit consists of one Public Share, and one redeemable warrant (each, a “Public Warrant”). Each Public Warrant entitles the holder to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock at a price of \$11.50 per share, subject to adjustment (see Note 7).

**Note 4 — Private Placement Warrants**

On October 19, 2021, simultaneously with the consummation of the Initial Public Offering, the Company consummated the issuance and sale of 7,133,333 Private Placement Warrants in a private placement transaction at a price of \$0.75 per Private Placement Warrant, generating gross proceeds of \$5,350,000. Each whole Private Placement Warrant will be exercisable to purchase three quarters of one share of Common Stock at a price of \$11.50 per share. A portion of the proceeds from the Private Placement Warrants will be added to the proceeds from the Initial Public Offering to be held in the Trust Account. If the Company does not complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period, the proceeds from the sale of the Private Placement Warrants will be used to fund the redemption of the Public Shares (subject to the requirements of applicable law), and the Private Placement Warrants and all underlying securities will be worthless.

**Note 5 — Related Party Transactions**

**Founder Shares**

In February 2021, our Sponsor paid an aggregate purchase price of \$25,000, or approximately \$0.009 per share, in consideration of 2,156,250 shares of Common Stock to cover certain expenses of the Company (the “Founder Shares”). In June 2021, we effected a 1.3333-for-1.0 stock split of our Common Stock, resulting in our Sponsor owning an aggregate of 2,875,000 Founder Shares. The Founder Shares included an aggregate of up to 375,000 shares subject to forfeiture to the extent that the underwriters’ over-allotment was not exercised in full or in part, so that the Sponsor would collectively own 20% of the Company’s issued and outstanding shares after the Initial Public Offering (assuming the Sponsor did not purchase any Public Shares in the Initial Public Offering). The over-allotment was not exercised and such shares were forfeited.

The Sponsor agreed that it will not transfer, assign or sell any Founder Shares until (1) with respect to 50% of the shares, the earlier of six months after the date of the consummation of our Business Combination and the date on which the closing price of the Company’s Common Stock exceeds \$12.50 per share (as adjusted for share splits, share capitalizations, reorganizations and recapitalizations) for any 20 trading days within any 30-trading day period commencing after our Business Combination and (2) with respect to the remaining 50% of the shares, six months after the date of the consummation of our Business Combination, or earlier, in either case, if, subsequent to our Business Combination, the Company consummates a liquidation, merger, share exchange or other similar transaction which results in all of the Company’s stockholders having the right to exchange their shares for cash, securities or other property.

**Related Party Loans**

On January 25, 2021, the Company issued an unsecured promissory note to the Sponsor (the “Unsecured Promissory Note”), pursuant to which the Company borrowed up to an aggregate principal amount of \$300,000. The Unsecured Promissory Note was non-interest bearing and payable on the earlier of (i) December 31, 2021 or (ii) the consummation of the Initial Public Offering. The Unsecured Promissory Note was repaid as of March 31, 2022.

On July 18, 2023, the Company and the Sponsor entered into a non-interest bearing loan agreement whereby the Company issued a promissory note (the “Note”) to the Sponsor pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of Monthly Extension Options. The current principal amount of the Note is payable on the

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**Note 5 — Related Party Transactions (cont.)**

earlier of (a) the consummation of a Business Combination and (b) the date of the liquidation of the Company. If a Business Combination is not consummated, this Note will be repaid solely to the extent that the Company has funds available to it outside of the Trust Account and all other amounts will be forfeited, eliminated or otherwise forgiven. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the amount outstanding under the Note was \$152,000 and \$0 respectively, as reflected on the Company's balance sheet included herein under the caption 'Note Payable-related party'.

In addition, in order to finance transaction costs in connection with a Business Combination, the Sponsor or an affiliate of the Sponsor, or certain of the Company's officers and directors may, but are not obligated to, loan the Company funds as may be required ("Working Capital Loans"). If the Company completes a Business Combination, the Company may repay the Working Capital Loans out of the proceeds of the Trust Account released to the Company. Otherwise, the Working Capital Loans would be repaid only out of funds held outside the Trust Account. In the event that a Business Combination does not close, the Company may use a portion of proceeds held outside the Trust Account to repay the Working Capital Loans, but no proceeds held in the Trust Account would be used to repay the Working Capital Loans. On January 18, 2023, the Company and the Sponsor entered into a loan agreement whereby the Company issued a promissory note (the "Promissory Note") to the Sponsor pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$1,500,000 in cash from time to time to fund working capital requirements, including with respect to the funding of Monthly Extension Options, and which may be treated, at the Sponsor's election, as a Working Capital Loan. The Working Capital Loans would either be repaid upon consummation of a Business Combination, without interest, or, at the lender's discretion, such Working Capital Loans may be convertible into warrants of the post Business Combination entity at a price of \$0.75 per warrant. The option ("Working Capital Loan Option") to convert the working capital loans into warrants qualifies as an embedded derivative under ASC 815 and is required to be recognized at fair value with subsequent changes in fair value recognized in Company's statements of operations each reporting period until the loan is repaid or converted. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the fair value of the Working Capital Loan Option was \$0 and the Working Capital Loan is held at cost of \$215,000 and \$0 respectively, as reflected on the Company's balance sheet included herein under the caption 'Convertible Note Payable-related party'.

**Note 6 — Commitments and Contingencies**

**Registration Rights**

The holders of the Founder Shares, Private Placement Warrants and any warrants issued upon conversion of Working Capital Loans (and any shares issuable upon the exercise of the Private Placement Warrants and warrants that may be issued upon conversion of Working Capital Loans) are entitled to registration rights pursuant to an agreement entered into in connection with the Company's Initial Public Offering requiring the Company to register such securities for resale. The holders of a majority of these securities are entitled to make up to three demands, except short form demands, that the Company register such securities. In addition, the holders have certain "piggy-back" registration rights with respect to registration statements filed subsequent to the consummation of a Business Combination and rights to require the Company to register for resale such securities pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act. The registration rights agreement does not contain liquidated damages or other cash settlement provisions resulting from delays in registering the Company's securities. The Company will bear the expenses incurred in connection with the filing of any such registration statements.

**Underwriting Agreement**

The Company granted the underwriters a 45-day option from the date of the closing of the Company's Initial Public Offering to purchase up to 1,500,000 additional Units to cover over-allotments, if any, at the Initial Public Offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions. The option was not exercised during such 45-day period and expired.

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**Note 6 — Commitments and Contingencies (cont.)**

The underwriters were paid a cash underwriting discount of \$0.20 per Unit, or \$2,000,000 in the aggregate at the closing of the Initial Public Offering. In addition, the underwriters are entitled to a deferred underwriting commissions of \$0.35 per Unit, or \$3,500,000 from the closing of the Initial Public Offering. The deferred fee will become payable to the underwriters from the amounts held in the Trust Account solely if the Company completes a Business Combination, subject to the terms of the underwriting agreement.

**Excise tax payable:**

The Company held a Special Meeting of shareholders on December 22, 2022, at which holders of 8,980,535 shares of Common Stock of the Company exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate redemption price of \$10.24 per share, resulting in an aggregate payment due to such redeeming holders of approximately \$92,009,330 (the “December 2022 Redemptions”). On December 22, 2022, the Company issued a withdrawal instruction to the trustee of our Trust Account to redeem such aggregate amount in full in connection with the payment to such redeeming holders. However, the Company was informed by the trustee of our Trust Account that as of December 31, 2022, only \$57,810,572 had been withdrawn in connection with such payments, and that the balance of \$34,198,758 had been withdrawn and paid to the balance of the redeeming shareholders in January 2023.

Additionally, at the Special Meeting of shareholders held on July 12, 2023, the Company has been advised that holders of 381,144 shares of Common Stock of the Company exercised their right to redeem their shares for cash at an approximate price of \$10.50 per share, for an aggregate payment of approximately \$4,002,722. The Company has recorded excise tax liability of \$40,027 in connection with such redemption. As a result, and in connection with a potential excise tax on share repurchases imposed by the IR Act, we have recorded a liability entitled “Common stock redemption payable” on our condensed balance sheets as of December 31, 2022 (and a zero balance for such liability as of September 30, 2023 as a result of the completion of the redemption repayments in January 2023), and a current liability entitled “Excise tax liability accrued for common stock with redemptions” of \$382,015 (including \$341,988 pertaining to December 2022 Redemptions) on our condensed statements of cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2023. The referenced current liability does not impact the condensed statements of operations during the referenced period and is offset against additional paid-in capital or accumulated deficit if additional paid-in capital is not available. Additionally, this excise tax liability may be offset by future share issuances within the same fiscal year as the liability was recorded, which will be evaluated and adjusted in the period in which the issuances, if any, occur. Should the Company liquidate prior to December 31, 2023, the excise tax liability will also not be due. As the Company has previously disclosed, the Company will not use funds in trust in connection with the payment of any excise tax liabilities imposed by the IR Act.

**Note 7 — Stockholders’ Deficit**

**Common Stock** — The Company is authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of Common Stock with a par value of \$0.0001 per share. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, there were 2,500,000 (excluding 638,321 and 1,019,465 shares of Common Stock subject to possible redemption) shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding.

**Preferred Stock** — The Company is authorized to issue 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.0001 with such designations, voting and other rights and preferences as may be determined from time to time by the Company’s board of directors. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, there were no shares of preferred stock issued or outstanding.

**Public Warrants** — Public Warrants may only be exercised for a whole number of shares. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of the Public Warrants. The Public Warrants will become exercisable on the later of (a) 30 days after the completion of a Business Combination or (b) one year from the closing of the Initial Public Offering. The Public Warrants will expire five years after the completion of a Business Combination or earlier upon redemption or liquidation. The Company will not be obligated to deliver any shares pursuant to the exercise of a warrant and will have no obligation to settle such warrant exercise unless a registration statement under the

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**Note 7 — Stockholders' Deficit (cont.)**

Securities Act with respect to the shares underlying the warrants is then effective and a prospectus relating thereto is current, subject to the Company satisfying its obligations with respect to registration. No warrant will be exercisable and the Company will not be obligated to issue shares upon exercise of a warrant unless shares issuable upon such warrant exercise have been registered, qualified or deemed to be exempt under the securities laws of the state of residence of the registered holder of the warrants. The Company has agreed that as soon as practicable, but in no event later than 15 business days after the closing of a Business Combination, the Company will use its best efforts to file with the SEC a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants, to cause such registration statement to become effective and to maintain a current prospectus relating to those shares until the warrants expire or are redeemed, as specified in the warrant agreement. If a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants is not effective by the 60<sup>th</sup> business day after the closing of a Business Combination, warrant holders may, until such time as there is an effective registration statement and during any period when the Company will have failed to maintain an effective registration statement, exercise warrants on a "cashless basis" in accordance with Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act or another exemption. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a registration statement covering the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants is not effective within a specified period following the consummation of a Business Combination, warrant holders may, until such time as there is an effective registration statement and during any period when we shall have failed to maintain an effective registration statement, exercise warrants on a cashless basis pursuant to the exemption provided by Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act, provided that such exemption is available. If that exemption, or another exemption, is not available, holders will not be able to exercise their warrants on a cashless basis.

Once the warrants become exercisable, the Company may redeem the Public Warrants:

- in whole and not in part;
- at a price of \$0.01 per warrant;
- at any time after the warrants become exercisable;
- upon not less than 30 days' prior written notice of redemption to each warrant holder; and
- if, and only if, the reported last sale price of the Public Shares equals or exceeds \$16.50 per share (as adjusted for stock splits, stock dividends, reorganizations, recapitalizations and the like) for any 20 trading days within a 30-trading day period commencing once the warrants become exercisable and ending three business days before the Company sends the notice of redemption to the warrant holders.

If and when the warrants become redeemable by the Company, the Company may not exercise its redemption right if the issuance of shares of Common Stock upon exercise of the warrants is not exempt from registration or qualification under applicable state blue sky laws or the Company is unable to effect such registration or qualification.

If the Company calls the Public Warrants for redemption, management will have the option to require all holders that wish to exercise the Public Warrants to do so on a "cashless basis," as described in the warrant agreement. The exercise price and number of shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants may be adjusted in certain circumstances including in the event of a stock dividend, or recapitalization, reorganization, merger or consolidation. However, except as described below, the warrants will not be adjusted for issuance of Common Stock at a price below its exercise price. Additionally, in no event will the Company be required to net cash settle the warrants. If the Company is unable to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period and the Company liquidates the funds held in the Trust Account, holders of warrants will not receive any of such funds with respect to their warrants, nor will they receive any distribution from the Company's assets held outside of the Trust Account with the respect to such warrants. Accordingly, the warrants may expire worthless.

As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, there were 10,000,000 of Public Warrants outstanding.

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**Note 8 — Warrant Liabilities**

Private Placement Warrants — The Private Placement Warrants are identical to the Public Warrants underlying the Units sold in the Initial Public Offering, except that the Private Placement Warrants and the shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Private Placement Warrants are not transferable, assignable or salable until after the completion of a Business Combination, subject to certain limited exceptions. Additionally, the Private Placement Warrants are exercisable for cash or on a cashless basis, at the holder's option, and be non-redeemable so long as they are held by the initial purchasers or their permitted transferees. If the Private Placement Warrants are held by someone other than the initial purchasers or their permitted transferees, the Private Placement Warrants will be redeemable by the Company and exercisable by such holders on the same basis as the Public Warrants.

The exercise price and number of shares of Common Stock issuable on exercise of the warrants may be adjusted in certain circumstances including in the event of a share dividend, extraordinary dividend or our recapitalization, reorganization, merger or consolidation. However, the warrants will not be adjusted for issuances of shares of Common Stock at a price below their respective exercise prices. Additionally, in no event will the Company be required to net cash settle the warrants. If the Company is unable to complete a Business Combination within the Combination Period and the Company liquidates the funds held in the Trust Account, holders of warrants will not receive any of such funds with respect to their warrants, nor will they receive any distribution from the Company's assets held outside of the Trust Account with the respect to such warrants. Accordingly, the warrants may expire worthless.

In addition, if the Company issues additional shares of Common Stock or equity-linked securities for capital raising purposes in connection with the closing of a Business Combination at an issue price or effective issue price of less than \$9.50 per share of Common Stock (with such issue price or effective issue price to be determined in good faith by the Company's board of directors, and in the case of any such issuance to the Initial Stockholders or their affiliates, without taking into account any Founder Shares held by them prior to such issuance), (x) the aggregate gross proceeds from such issuances represent more than 60% of the total equity proceeds, and interest thereon, available for the funding of a Business Combination on the date of the consummation of a Business Combination (net of redemptions), and (y) the volume weighted average trading price of the Company's Common Stock during the 20 trading day period starting on the trading day prior to the day on which the Company consummates Business Combination (such price, the "Market Value") is below \$9.50 per share, the exercise price of the warrants will be adjusted (to the nearest cent) to be equal to 115% of the greater of (i) the Market Value or (ii) the price at which the Company issues the additional shares of Common Stock or equity-linked securities.

As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, there were 7,133,333 of Private Placement Warrants outstanding.

**Note 9 — Fair Value Measurements**

The fair value of the Company's financial assets and liabilities reflects management's estimate of amounts that the Company would have received in connection with the sale of the assets or paid in connection with the transfer of the liabilities in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In connection with measuring the fair value of its assets and liabilities, the Company seeks to maximize the use of observable inputs (market data obtained from independent sources) and to minimize the use of unobservable inputs (internal assumptions about how market participants would price assets and liabilities). The following fair value hierarchy is used to classify assets and liabilities based on the observable inputs and unobservable inputs used in order to value the assets and liabilities:

Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. An active market for an asset or liability is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

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**Note 9 — Fair Value Measurements (cont.)**

Level 2: Observable inputs other than Level 1 inputs. Examples of Level 2 inputs include quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities and quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets that are not active.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs based on our assessment of the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

At September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the assets held in the Trust Account were held in a mutual fund invested in U.S. Treasury Securities. All of the Company's investments held in the Trust Account are classified as trading securities.

The following table presents information about the Company's liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022 and indicates the fair value hierarchy of the valuation inputs the Company utilized to determine such fair value.

		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>September 30, 2023</b>	<b>Level</b>			
Marketable Securities	1	\$ 6,860,609	—	—
Warrant Liability-Private Placement Warrants	3	—	—	\$ 428,000

		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>Level</b>			
Marketable Securities	1	\$ 44,688,320	—	—
Warrant Liability-Private Placement Warrants	3	—	—	\$ 356,666

The Company utilizes a Monte Carlo simulation model to value the warrants at each reporting period, with changes in fair value recognized in the statement of operations. The estimated fair value of the warrant liability is determined using Level 3 inputs. Inherent in a Monte Carlo pricing model are assumptions related to expected share-price volatility, expected life, risk-free interest rate and dividend yield. The Company estimates the volatility of its Common Stock based on industry historical volatility that matches the expected remaining life of the warrants. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury zero-coupon yield curve on the grant date for a maturity similar to the expected remaining life of the warrants. The expected life of the warrants is assumed to be equivalent to their remaining contractual term. The dividend rate is based on the historical rate, which the Company anticipates to remain at zero.

The following table provides quantitative information regarding Level 3 fair value measurements at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022.

	<b>September 30, 2023</b>	<b>December 31, 2022</b>
Stock Price	\$ 10.73	\$ 10.22
Exercise Price	\$ 11.50	\$ 11.50
Term (years)	1.32	2.91
Volatility	1.2%	0.20%
Risk Free Rate	5.32%	4.24%
Dividend Yield	0.00%	0.00%

**ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 (Unaudited)**

**Note 9 — Fair Value Measurements (cont.)**

The following table presents the changes in the fair value of Level 3 warrant liabilities:

	<b>Private Placement Warrants</b>
Fair value as of December 31, 2022	\$ 356,666
Change in fair value	71,334
Fair value as of March 31, 2023	428,000
Change in fair value	(142,667)
Fair value as of June 30, 2023	\$ 285,333
Change in fair value	142,667
Fair value as of September 30, 2023	\$ 428,000

**Note 10 — Subsequent Events**

The Company evaluated subsequent events and transactions that occurred after the balance sheet date up to the date that the financial statements were available to be issued and has determined that there have been no events that have occurred that would require adjustments to the disclosures of the financial statements.

On October 16, 2023, the Company notified the trustee of the Company's Trust Account that it was exercising a Monthly Extension Option, extending the time available to the Company to consummate a Business Combination, from October 19, 2023 to November 19, 2023, pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of the Company's Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the Company's Trust Agreement. The Fourth Extension is the fourth of up to six (6) one-month Extensions permitted under the Company's Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Trust Agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the Company's Certificate of Incorporation and Trust Agreement, on October 19, 2023, with respect to the exercise of the Fourth Extension, the Company deposited \$31,916 into the Company's Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Fourth Extension. Such deposit with respect to the Fourth Extension was made using funds held outside of the Company's Trust Account and available to the Company to fund working capital requirements. As of October 20, 2023 (and, for the avoidance of doubt, inclusive of the deposit of \$31,916 into the Trust Account in connection with the exercise of the Fourth Extension as described above), the Trust Account held approximately \$6,892,525.

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors of  
Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries

**Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2022, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income, stockholders’ equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the financial statements). In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respect, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audit, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

**Critical Audit Matters**

The critical audit matters communicated below are matters arising from the current-period audit of the financial statements that were communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that (1) relates to an account or disclosure that is material to the financial statements and (2) involved especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of the critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matters below, providing a separate opinion on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which they relate.

*Critical Audit Matter — Revenue recognized from sales commission with General Electric Healthcare (GEHC)*

As discussed in Notes A and B to the financial statements, the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary VasoHealthcare (VHC), was appointed the exclusive representative for the sale of GEHC's diagnostics imaging equipment to specific market segments and recognized sales commission revenue when the underlying equipment and services have been delivered or completed by GEHC. VHC has total sales commission revenue of approximately \$37.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2022, which is concentrated solely with GEHC.

We identified the testing of sales commission revenue generated from GEHC as a critical audit matter. Specifically, the sales commission revenue is calculated through complicated formulas including order data from various files obtained from GEHC monthly and is stored in a spreadsheet file based on the master agreement and various subsequent amendments between GEHC and the Company. The audit of the spreadsheet file requires significant efforts from auditors due to the volume of data, size of the file, and complexity of formulas within the spreadsheet file.

*How the Critical Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit*

During the audit, we obtained an understanding of the design and implementation of the internal control over the revenue recognition process. For selected orders based on our judgment, we tested the Company's master file for completeness, traced the data source to the various files that are further directly confirmed with GEHC on sales order and delivery, tested the formulas for its accuracy and reasonableness and agreed the commission rates to the agreements between GEHC and further confirmed with GEHC as to which sales region achieved the target order volume.

*Critical Audit Matter — Valuation of Deferred Tax Assets*

As discussed in Note B to the financial statements, the Company records a valuation allowance to reduce total net deferred tax assets when a judgment is made that is considered more likely than not that a tax benefit will not be realized. At December 31, 2022, the Company recognized net deferred tax assets of approximately \$5 million and an income tax benefit of approximately \$4.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2022 based on a determination that the realization of these deferred tax assets are probable. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences will become deductible.

We identified the realizability of deferred tax assets as a critical audit matter. The principal considerations for our determination that the realizability of deferred tax assets is a critical audit matter are that the forecast of future taxable income is subject to a high level of estimation and the determination of any limitations on the utilization of net operating loss carryforwards involve complex calculations and judgment. There is inherent uncertainty and subjectivity related to management's judgments and assumptions regarding the Company's future taxable income, which are complex in nature and require significant auditor judgment.

*How the Critical Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit*

During the audit, we obtained an understanding of the controls relating to the assessment on recoverability of the deferred tax assets and tested the reasonableness of management's corporate model used to estimate future taxable income by comparing the estimates to historical taxable income, evidence obtained in other areas of the audit and management's history and ability to carry out its plans and involved income tax professionals with specialized skills and knowledge, who assisted in assessing the Company's application of tax laws and evaluating the realizability of deferred tax assets.

/s/ UHY LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2022.

Sterling Heights, Michigan  
March 31, 2023

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors of  
Vaso Corporation

**Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Vaso Corporation and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”) as of December 31, 2021, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income, stockholders’ equity, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2021, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

**Critical Audit Matters**

The critical audit matters communicated below are matters arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that were communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matters below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which they relate.

***Revenue recognized from commission sales with General Electric Healthcare (GEHC)***

Description of the Matter

As discussed in Notes A and B to the consolidated financial statements, the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary VasoHealthcare (VHC), was appointed the exclusive representative for the sale of GEHC diagnostics imaging equipment to specific market segments and recognized commission revenue when the underlying equipment/services have been delivered/completed by GEHC. VHC has a total commission revenue of \$29,441 (in thousands) for the year ended December 31, 2022, and 100% of it is with GEHC.

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We identified the testing of commission revenue generated from GEHC as a critical audit matter. Specifically, the commission revenue is calculated through complicated formula including order data from various files obtained from GEHC monthly and is stored in a excel file and based on the one master agreement and various subsequent amendments between GEHC and the Company. The audit of the excel file requires significant efforts from auditors due to the volume of data, the size of the file, and the complexity of the formulas inside of the file.

How We Addressed the Matter in Our Audit

During the audit, we obtained an understanding of the design and implementation of the internal control over the revenue recognition process including certain general computer controls, applications controls and monitor controls and tested access control of the master excel worksheet. For selected orders based on our judgment, we inspected the Company's master file, traced the data source to the various files that are further directly confirmed with GEHC, tested the formula for its accuracy and reasonableness and agreed the commission rates and incentives to the agreements between GEHC and further confirmed with GEHC on the incentives as to which sales region achieved the incentive target.

/s/ Malone Bailey LLP

*www.malonebailey.com*

We have served as the Company's auditor from 2019 to 2022.

Houston, Texas

March 31, 2022

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
*(in thousands, except share and per share data)*

	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,821	\$ 6,025
Short-term investments	8,504	629
Accounts and other receivables, net of an allowance for doubtful accounts and commission adjustments of \$6,947 at December 31, 2022 and \$5,804 at December 31, 2021	15,524	15,393
Receivables due from related parties	421	66
Inventories, net	1,473	1,147
Deferred commission expense	3,249	3,549
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,008	994
Total current assets	<u>42,000</u>	<u>27,803</u>
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$9,787 at December 31, 2022 and \$10,512 at December 31, 2021	1,340	2,172
Operating lease right of use assets	1,568	915
Goodwill	15,614	15,722
Intangibles, net	1,511	2,041
Other assets, net	4,726	2,446
Investment in EECF Global	889	1,043
Deferred tax assets, net	5,007	219
Total assets	<u>\$ 72,655</u>	<u>\$ 52,361</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,270	\$ 2,797
Accrued commissions	3,720	2,705
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	8,891	7,489
Finance lease liabilities – current	122	222
Operating lease liabilities – current	745	562
Sales tax payable	809	719
Deferred revenue – current portion	15,139	16,495
Notes payable – current portion	9	8
Due to related party	3	3
Total current liabilities	<u>31,708</u>	<u>31,000</u>
<b>LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>		
Notes payable, net of current portion	15	23
Finance lease liabilities, net of current portion	96	218
Operating lease liabilities, net of current portion	823	352
Deferred revenue, net of current portion	15,664	8,470
Other long-term liabilities	1,474	988
Total long-term liabilities	<u>18,072</u>	<u>10,051</u>
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (NOTE R)</b>		
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; nil shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2022 and 2021	—	—
Common stock, \$.001 par value; 250,000,000 shares authorized; 185,435,965 shares issued at December 31, 2022 and 2021; 175,127,878 shares outstanding at December 31, 2022 and 2021	185	185
Additional paid-in capital	63,952	63,917
Accumulated deficit	(39,029)	(50,902)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(233)	110
Treasury stock, at cost, 10,308,087 shares at December 31, 2022 and 2021	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>

Total stockholders' equity	22,875	11,310
	\$ 72,655	\$ 52,361

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
*(in thousands, except per share data)*

	Year ended December 31,	
	2022	2021
<b>Revenues</b>		
Managed IT systems and services	\$ 40,100	\$ 42,916
Professional sales services	37,344	29,441
Equipment sales and services	2,573	3,222
Total revenues	<u>80,017</u>	<u>75,579</u>
<b>Cost of revenues</b>		
Cost of managed IT systems and services	23,871	26,242
Cost of professional sales services	7,056	5,535
Cost of equipment sales and services	609	669
Total cost of revenues	<u>31,536</u>	<u>32,446</u>
Gross profit	<u>48,481</u>	<u>43,133</u>
<b>Operating expenses</b>		
Selling, general and administrative	40,843	38,593
Research and development	605	1,721
Total operating expenses	<u>41,448</u>	<u>40,314</u>
Operating income	<u>7,033</u>	<u>2,819</u>
<b>Other (expense) income</b>		
Interest and financing costs	(44)	(312)
Interest and other income, net	143	98
Gain on forgiveness of PPP loan	—	3,646
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(2)	—
Total other income, net	<u>97</u>	<u>3,432</u>
Income before income taxes	7,130	6,251
Income tax benefit (expense)	4,743	(151)
Net income	<u>11,873</u>	<u>6,100</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		
Foreign currency translation (loss) gain	(343)	94
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 11,530</u>	<u>\$ 6,194</u>
<b>Income per common share</b>		
– basic and diluted	<u>\$ 0.07</u>	<u>\$ 0.04</u>
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding</b>		
– basic	<u>173,065</u>	<u>171,688</u>
– diluted	<u>174,656</u>	<u>173,771</u>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
*(in thousands)*

	Common Stock		Treasury Stock		Additional	Accumulated	Accumulated	Total
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Paid-in- Capital	Deficit	Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Stockholders' Equity
<b>Balance at</b>								
<b>January 1, 2021</b>	<b>185,244</b>	<b>\$ 185</b>	<b>(10,308)</b>	<b>(2,000)</b>	<b>\$ 63,886</b>	<b>\$ (57,002)</b>	<b>\$ 16</b>	<b>\$ 5,085</b>
Share-based compensation	192	—	—	—	31	—	—	31
Foreign currency translation gain	—	—	—	—	—	—	94	94
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	6,100	—	6,100
<b>Balance at</b>								
<b>December 31, 2021</b>	<b>185,436</b>	<b>\$ 185</b>	<b>(10,308)</b>	<b>\$ (2,000)</b>	<b>\$ 63,917</b>	<b>\$ (50,902)</b>	<b>\$ 110</b>	<b>\$ 11,310</b>
<b>Balance at</b>								
<b>January 1, 2022</b>	<b>185,436</b>	<b>\$ 185</b>	<b>(10,308)</b>	<b>(2,000)</b>	<b>\$ 63,917</b>	<b>\$ (50,902)</b>	<b>\$ 110</b>	<b>\$ 11,310</b>
Share-based compensation	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	35
Foreign currency translation loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	(343)	(343)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	11,873	—	11,873
<b>Balance at</b>								
<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>185,436</b>	<b>\$ 185</b>	<b>(10,308)</b>	<b>\$ (2,000)</b>	<b>\$ 63,952</b>	<b>\$ (39,029)</b>	<b>\$ (233)</b>	<b>\$ 22,875</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
*(in thousands)*

	Year ended December 31,	
	2022	2021
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	\$ 11,873	\$ 6,100
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization	1,923	3,840
Deferred income taxes	(4,788)	52
Loss from investment in EECF Global	154	73
Gain on forgiveness of PPP loan	—	(3,646)
Provision for doubtful accounts and commission adjustments	63	448
Write-down of inventory	—	385
Share-based compensation	35	31
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts and other receivables	(243)	(6,052)
Due from related parties	(343)	(46)
Inventories	(416)	299
Deferred commission expense	300	(1,195)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(103)	162
Other assets, net	(2,422)	(212)
Accounts payable	(521)	(3,492)
Accrued commissions	1,094	1,497
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	1,392	2,372
Sales tax payable	108	94
Deferred revenue	5,838	7,260
Due to related party	(14)	(233)
Other long-term liabilities	486	78
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>14,416</u>	<u>7,815</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchases of equipment and software	(566)	(415)
Purchases of short-term investments	(8,000)	—
Redemption of short-term investments	149	155
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(8,417)</u>	<u>(260)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Repayment on revolving lines of credit	—	(5,448)
Repayment of notes payable and finance lease obligations	(230)	(2,881)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(230)</u>	<u>(8,329)</u>
Effect of exchange rate differences on cash and cash equivalents	<u>27</u>	<u>(20)</u>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>5,796</b>	<b>(794)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents – beginning of period	6,025	6,819
Cash and cash equivalents – end of period	<u>\$ 11,821</u>	<u>\$ 6,025</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH INFORMATION</b>		
Interest paid	<u>\$ 44</u>	<u>\$ 347</u>
Income taxes paid	<u>\$ 48</u>	<u>\$ 113</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF NON-CASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Initial recognition of operating lease right of use asset and liability	<u>\$ 1,396</u>	<u>\$ 783</u>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

**NOTE A — DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

Vaso Corporation was incorporated in Delaware in July 1987. For most of its history, the Company was a single-product company designing, manufacturing, marketing and servicing its proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation, or EEC<sup>®</sup>, therapy systems, mainly for the treatment of angina. In 2010 it began to diversify its business operations. The Company changed its name to Vaso Corporation in 2016 to more accurately reflect the diversified nature of its business mixture, and continues to use the original name VasoMedical for its proprietary medical device subsidiary. Unless the context requires otherwise, all references to “we”, “our”, “us”, “Company”, “registrant”, “Vaso” or “management” refer to Vaso Corporation and its subsidiaries.

**Overview**

Vaso Corporation principally operates in three distinct business segments in the healthcare equipment and information technology industries. We manage and evaluate our operations, and report our financial results, through these three business segments.

- IT segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoTechnology, Inc., primarily focuses on healthcare IT and managed network technology services;
- Professional sales service segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, primarily focuses on the sale of healthcare capital equipment for GE HealthCare (“GEHC”) into the health provider middle market; and
- Equipment segment, primarily focuses on the design, manufacture, sale and service of proprietary medical devices and software, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoMedical, Inc., which in turn operates through Vasomedical Solutions, Inc. for domestic business and Vasomedical Global Corp. for international business, respectively.

*VasoTechnology*

VasoTechnology, Inc. was formed in May 2015, at the time the Company acquired all of the assets of NetWolves, LLC and its affiliates, including the membership interests in NetWolves Network Services, LLC (collectively, “NetWolves”). It currently consists of a managed network and security service division, NetWolves, and a healthcare IT application VAR (value added reseller) division, VasoHealthcare IT.

In June 2014, the Company began its IT segment business by executing the Value Added Reseller Agreement (“VAR Agreement”) with GEHC to become a national value added reseller of GEHC Digital’s software solutions such as Picture Archiving and Communication System (“PACS”), Radiology Information System (“RIS”), and related services, including implementation, training, management and support. This business focuses primarily on customer segments currently served by VasoHealthcare on behalf of GEHC. A new wholly owned subsidiary, VasoHealthcare IT Corp. (“VHC IT”), was formed to conduct the healthcare IT business. The VAR Agreement with GEHC was terminated in 2021.

In May 2015, the Company further expanded its IT segment business by acquiring NetWolves. NetWolves designs and delivers multi-network and multi-technology solutions as a managed network provider, and provides a complete single-source solution that includes design, network redundancy, application device management, real-time network monitoring, reporting and support systems as a comprehensive solution.

*VasoHealthcare*

In May 2010, the Company launched its Professional Sales Service business through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, which was appointed by GEHC as its exclusive representative for the sale of select GEHC diagnostic imaging equipment to specific market segments in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. The original agreement (“GEHC Agreement”) has been extended several times and currently expires December 31, 2026, subject to earlier termination under certain conditions.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

**NOTE A — DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS (cont.)**

*VasoMedical*

The proprietary medical equipment business under VasoMedical traces back to 1995 when the Company began the proprietary Enhanced External Counterpulsation (EECP®) technology in the United States and has since diversified to include other medical hardware and software. Vasomedical Global was formed in 2011 to combine and coordinate the various international operations including design, development, manufacturing, and sales of medical devices and software, while domestic activities are conducted under Vasomedical Solutions.

Over the last decade the Company's Equipment business has been significantly expanded from the original EECP®-only operations. In September 2011, the Company acquired Fast Growth Enterprises Limited ("FGE"), a British Virgin Islands company, which owned or controlled two Chinese operating companies — Life Enhancement Technology Ltd. ("LET") and Biox Instruments Co. Ltd. ("Biox") — to expand its technical and manufacturing capabilities and to enhance its distribution network, technology, and product portfolio. Biox was a variable interest entity ("VIE") controlled by FGE through certain contracts and an option to acquire all the shares of Biox by FGE's wholly owned subsidiary Gentone, and in March 2019 Gentone exercised its option to acquire all of the shares of Biox. In August 2014, the Company, through Gentone, acquired all of the outstanding shares of Genwell Instruments Co. Ltd. ("Genwell"), which was formed in China in 2010 to develop the MobiCare® wireless multi-parameter patient monitoring system and holds intellectual property rights for this system. As a result, the Company has expanded its equipment products portfolio to include Biox™ series ambulatory patient monitoring systems, ARCS® series software for ECG and blood pressure analysis, and the MobiCare® patient monitoring device.

In April 2014, the Company entered into a cooperation agreement with Chongqing PSK-Health Sci-Tech Development Co., Ltd. ("PSK") of Chongqing, China, the leading manufacturer of external counter pulsation, or ECP, therapy systems in China, to form a joint venture company, VSK Medical Limited ("VSK"), a Cayman Islands company, for the global marketing, sale and advancement of ECP therapy technology. The Company owned 49.9% of VSK, which commenced operations in January 2015. In March 2018, the Company terminated the cooperation agreement with PSK and sold its shares in VSK to PSK. On May 20, 2020, the Company closed on the sale of 51% of the capital stock of its wholly-owned subsidiary EECP Global Corporation ("EECP Global") to PSK. EECP Global was formed in September 2019 to hold all the assets and liabilities of its EECP business. Concurrently with the closing of the transaction, the Company signed a Management Service Agreement with EECP Global to provide management service for the business and operation of EECP Global in the United States. The agreement provides an initial term of three years starting April 1, 2020, the effective date of the sale, which is automatically renewable for additional one-year terms. Pursuant to the agreement, EECP Global reimburses the Company all direct expenses and pays a monthly management fee during the term of the agreement.

**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are as follows:

*Principles of Consolidation*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Vaso Corporation, its wholly-owned subsidiaries, and the accounts of the companies over which we exercise control. Significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

*Use of Estimates*

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Significant estimates and assumptions relate to estimates of commission adjustments due to order cancellations, collectability

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**(cont.)

of accounts receivable, the realizability of deferred tax assets, stock-based compensation, values and lives assigned to acquired intangible assets, fair value of reporting units in connection with goodwill impairment test, the adequacy of inventory reserves, variable consideration, and allocation of contract transaction price to performance obligations. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*Revenue Recognition*

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). Under the standard, revenue is recognized when a customer obtains control of promised goods or services in an amount that reflects the consideration the entity expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 replaced most existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP. The new standard introduces a five-step process to be followed in determining the amount and timing of revenue recognition. It also provides guidance on accounting for costs incurred to obtain or fulfill contracts with customers, and establishes disclosure requirements which are more extensive than those required under prior U.S. GAAP. Generally, we recognize revenue under Topic 606 for each of our performance obligations either over time (generally, the transfer of a service) or at a point in time (generally, the transfer of a good) as follows:

- **VasoTechnology**

Revenue relating to recurring managed network and voice services provided by NetWolves are recognized as provided on a monthly basis (“over time”). Non-recurring charges related to the provision of such services are recognized in the period provided (“point in time”). In the IT VAR business, software system installations are recognized upon verification of installation and expiration of an acceptance period (“point in time”). Monthly post-implementation customer support provided under such installations as well as software solutions offered under a monthly Software as a Service (“SaaS”) fee basis are recognized monthly over the contract term (“over time”).

- **VasoHealthcare**

Commission revenue is recognized when the underlying equipment has been delivered by GEHC and accepted at the customer site in accordance with the terms of the specific sales agreement (“point in time”).

- **VasoMedical**

In the United States, we recognized revenue from the sale of our medical equipment in the period in which we deliver the product to the customer (“point in time”). Revenue from the sale of our medical equipment to international markets is recognized upon shipment of the product to a common carrier, as are supplies, accessories and spare parts delivered in both domestic and international markets (“point in time”). The Company also recognizes revenue from the maintenance of its medical products either on a time and material as-billed basis (“point in time”) or through the sale of a service contract, where revenue is recognized ratably over the contract term (“over time”).

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

Disaggregation of Revenue

The following tables present revenues disaggregated by our business operations and timing of revenue recognition:

	Year Ended December 31, 2022				Year Ended December 31, 2021			
	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total
Network services	\$ 35,833	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 35,833	\$ 37,861	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 37,861
Software sales and support	4,267	—	—	4,267	5,055	—	—	5,055
Commissions	—	37,344	—	37,344	—	29,441	—	29,441
Medical equipment sales	—	—	2,450	2,450	—	—	3,093	3,093
Medical equipment service	—	—	123	123	—	—	129	129
	<u>\$ 40,100</u>	<u>\$ 37,344</u>	<u>\$ 2,573</u>	<u>\$ 80,017</u>	<u>\$ 42,916</u>	<u>\$ 29,441</u>	<u>\$ 3,222</u>	<u>\$ 75,579</u>

	Year Ended December 31, 2022				Year Ended December 31, 2021			
	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total
Revenue recognized over time	\$ 37,089	\$ —	\$ 325	\$ 37,414	\$ 38,172	\$ —	\$ 199	\$ 38,371
Revenue recognized at a point in time	3,011	37,344	2,248	42,603	4,744	29,441	3,023	37,208
	<u>\$ 40,100</u>	<u>\$ 37,344</u>	<u>\$ 2,573</u>	<u>\$ 80,017</u>	<u>\$ 42,916</u>	<u>\$ 29,441</u>	<u>\$ 3,222</u>	<u>\$ 75,579</u>

Transaction Price Allocated to Remaining Performance Obligations

As of December 31, 2022, the aggregate amount of transaction price allocated to performance obligations that are unsatisfied (or partially unsatisfied) for executed contracts approximates \$91 million, of which we expect to recognize revenue as follows:

	Fiscal years of revenue recognition			
	2023	2024	2025	Thereafter
Unfulfilled performance obligations	\$ 41,882	\$ 14,496	\$ 4,464	\$ 29,697

As of December 31, 2021, the aggregate amount of transaction price allocated to performance obligations that were unsatisfied (or partially unsatisfied) for executed contracts approximated \$86 million.

Contract Balances

Contract receivables include trade receivables, net and long-term receivables (recorded in Other assets in the consolidated balance sheets). Contract liabilities arise in our IT, VasoHealthcare, and VasoMedical businesses. In our VHC IT business, payment arrangements with clients typically include an initial payment due upon contract signing and milestone-based payments based upon product delivery and go-live, as well as post go-live monthly payments for subscription and support fees. Customer payments received, or receivables recorded, in advance of go-live and customer acceptance, where applicable, are deferred as contract liabilities. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$481,000 and \$407,000 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, and are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities in our consolidated balance sheets.

In our VasoHealthcare business, we bill a portion of commissions on the orders we booked in advance of delivery of the underlying equipment. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$30,794,000 and \$24,955,000 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, and are classified in our consolidated balance sheets into current or long-term deferred revenue net of estimated commission adjustments. In addition, we record a contract liability

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

for amounts expected to be credited back to GEHC due to customer order reductions. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$2,577,000 and \$1,518,000 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, and are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities in our consolidated balance sheets.

In our VasoMedical business, we bill amounts for post-delivery services and varying duration service contracts in advance of performance. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$9,000 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, and are classified in our consolidated balance sheets as either current or long-term deferred revenue.

The following table summarizes the Company's contract receivable and contract liability balances:

	2022	2021
Contract receivables – January 1	15,761	10,200
Contract receivables – December 31	16,316	15,761
Increase (decrease)	555	5,561
Contract liabilities – January 1	26,890	19,375
Contract liabilities – December 31	33,861	26,890
Increase (decrease)	6,971	7,515

The increase in contract liabilities is due primarily to order bookings exceeding deliveries in our VasoHealthcare business. During the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, we recognized approximately \$9.1 million and \$5.8 million, respectively, of revenues that were included in our contract liability balance at the beginning of such periods.

**Costs to Obtain or Fulfill a Contract**

Topic 606 requires that incremental costs of obtaining a contract are recognized as an asset and amortized to expense in a pattern that matches the timing of the revenue recognition of the related contract. We have determined the only significant incremental costs incurred to obtain contracts with customers within the scope of Topic 606 are certain sales commissions paid to associates. In addition, the Company elected the practical expedient to recognize the incremental costs of obtaining a contract when incurred for contracts where the amortization period for the asset the Company would otherwise have recognized is one year or less.

Under Topic 606, sales commissions applicable to service contracts exceeding one year have been capitalized and amortized ratably over the term of the contract. In our VHC IT business, commissions allocable to multi-year subscription contracts or multi-year post-contract support performance obligations are amortized to expense ratably over the terms of the multi-year periods. VHC IT commissions allocable to other elements are charged to expense at go-live or customer acceptance. In our professional sales services segment, commissions paid to our sales force are deferred until the underlying equipment is accepted by the customer. We recognized approximately \$2,732,000 and \$1,928,000 of amortization related to these sales commission assets in "Cost of professional sales services" in 2022 and 2021, respectively, and approximately \$79,000 and \$120,000 of amortization in "Selling, general and administrative" expense in 2022 and 2021, respectively, in our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income.

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, our consolidated balance sheets include approximately \$7,113,000 and \$5,567,000, respectively, in capitalized sales commissions — primarily in our professional sales services segment — to be expensed in future periods, of which \$3,249,000 and \$3,549,000, respectively, is recorded in deferred commission expense and \$3,864,000 and \$2,018,000, respectively, representing the long-term portion, is included in other assets.

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

Significant Judgments when Applying Topic 606

Contract transaction price is allocated to performance obligations using estimated stand-alone selling price. Judgment is required in estimating stand-alone selling price for each distinct performance obligation. We determine stand-alone selling price maximizing observable inputs such as stand-alone sales when they exist or substantive renewal price charged to clients. In instances where stand-alone selling price is not observable, we utilize an estimate of stand-alone selling price based on historical pricing and industry practices.

Certain revenue we record in our professional sales service segment contains an estimate for variable consideration. Due to the tiered structure of our commission rate, which increases as annual targets are achieved, under Topic 606 we record revenue and deferred revenue at the rate we expect to be achieved by year end. We base our estimate of variable consideration on historical results of previous years' achievement under the GEHC agreement. Such estimate is reviewed each quarter and adjusted as necessary. In addition, the Company records commissions for arranging financing at an estimated rate which is subject to later revision based on certain factors. The Company recognized (decreases) increases in revenue associated with revisions to variable consideration for previously completed performance obligations of \$(5,000) and \$40,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 respectively.

The Company also records commission adjustments to contract liabilities in its professional sales service segment based on estimates of future order cancellations. Such cancellations also result in adjustments to the related capitalized cost to obtain or fulfill a contract.

*Shipping and Handling Costs*

All shipping and handling expenses are charged to cost of sales. Amounts billed to customers related to shipping and handling costs are included as a component of sales.

*Research and Development*

Research and development costs attributable to development are expensed as incurred.

*Share-Based Compensation*

The Company complies with ASC Topic 718, "Compensation — Stock Compensation" ("ASC 718"), which requires all companies to recognize the cost of services received in exchange for equity instruments to be recognized in the financial statements based on their grant date fair values. The Company applies an estimated forfeiture rate to the grant date fair value to determine the annual compensation cost of share-based payment arrangements with employees. The forfeiture rate is estimated based primarily on job title and prior forfeiture experience. The Company did not grant any awards to non-employees during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company granted 1,050,000 restricted shares of common stock valued at \$115,000 to employees. The shares vest over three and five years from the grant date. The total fair value of shares vested during the year ended December 31, 2022 was \$23,000 for officers and \$4,000 for employees. The weighted average grant date fair value of shares granted during the year ended December 31, 2022 was \$0.11 per share, based on the closing price as of the grant date.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company granted 90,000 restricted shares of common stock valued at \$4,500 to an employee. The shares vest over three years from the grant date. The total fair value of shares vested during the year ended December 31, 2021 was \$23,000 for officers and \$14,000 for employees. The weighted average grant date fair value of shares granted during the year ended December 31, 2021 was \$0.05 per share.

The Company did not grant any stock options during the years ended December 31, 2022 or 2021, nor were any options exercised during such periods. No options were outstanding at December 31, 2022 or 2021.

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

Share-based compensation expense recognized for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 was \$35,000 and \$31,000, respectively, and is recorded in selling, general, and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. Unrecognized expense related to existing share-based compensation and arrangements is approximately \$125,000 at December 31, 2022 and will be recognized over a weighted-average period of approximately 54 months.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents represent cash and short-term, highly liquid investments either in certificates of deposit, treasury bills, money market funds, or investment grade commercial paper issued by major corporations and financial institutions that generally have maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

*Short term investments*

The Company's short-term investments consist of six-month U.S. Treasury bills and bank deposits with yields based on underlying debt and equity securities. The U.S. Treasury bills are classified as held-to-maturity and are carried at amortized cost of approximately \$8,071,000 at December 31, 2022. Their fair value at December 31, 2022 is approximately \$8,064,000 and the unrecognized holding loss is \$7,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022. The bank deposits are carried at fair value of approximately \$433,000 at December 31, 2022 and are classified as available-for-sale. Realized gains or losses on the bank deposits are included in net income. The Company does not expect a credit loss for its short-term investments.

*Financial Instruments*

The Company complies with the provisions of ASC 820 "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures" ("ASC 820"). Under ASC 820, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

In determining fair value, the Company uses various valuation approaches. ASC 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy for inputs used in measuring fair value that maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs reflect the Company's assumptions about the inputs market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. The fair value hierarchy is categorized into three levels based on the inputs as follows:

Level 1

Level 1 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2

Level 2 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets with insufficient volume or infrequent transactions (less active markets); or model-derived valuations in which significant inputs are observable or can be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

Level 3

Level 3 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are unobservable inputs to the valuation methodology that are significant to the measurement of the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

The carrying amount of assets and liabilities including cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, accounts receivable, prepaids, accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities approximated their fair value as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, due to the relative short maturity of these instruments. Property and equipment, intangible assets, capital lease obligations, and goodwill are not required to be re-measured to fair value on a recurring basis. These assets are evaluated for impairment if certain triggering events occur. If such evaluation indicates that impairment exists, the respective asset is written down to its fair value.

The following table presents information about the Company's assets measured at fair value as of December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Balance as of December 31, 2022
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash equivalents invested in money market funds	\$ 7,934	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,934
Bank deposits (included in short term investments)	433			433
	<u>\$ 8,367</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 8,367</u>

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Balance as of December 31, 2021
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash equivalents invested in money market funds	\$ 802	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 802
Bank deposits (included in short term investments)	629			629
	<u>\$ 1,431</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,431</u>

*Accounts Receivable, net*

The Company's accounts receivable are due from customers to whom we sell our products and services, distributors engaged in the distribution of our products and from GEHC. Credit is extended based on evaluation of a customer's financial condition and, generally, collateral is not required. Accounts receivable are generally due 30 to 90 days from shipment and services provided and are stated at amounts due from customers net of allowances for doubtful accounts, returns, term discounts and other allowances. Accounts that are outstanding longer than the contractual payment terms are considered past due. Estimates are used in determining the allowance for doubtful accounts based on the Company's historical collections experience, current trends, credit policy and a percentage of its accounts receivable by aging category. In determining these percentages, the Company reviews historical write-offs of their receivables. The Company also looks at the credit quality of their customer base as well as changes in their credit policies. The Company continuously monitors collections and payments from our customers,

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

and writes off receivables when all efforts at collection have been exhausted. While credit losses have historically been within expectations and the provisions established, the Company cannot guarantee that it will continue to experience the same credit loss rates that they have in the past.

The changes in the Company's allowance for doubtful accounts and commission adjustments are as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Beginning Balance	\$ 5,804	\$ 4,208
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	63	132
Direct write-offs, net of recoveries	(159)	(77)
Commission adjustments	1,239	1,541
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 6,947</u>	<u>\$ 5,804</u>

*Concentrations of Credit Risk*

We market our equipment and IT software solutions principally to hospitals, diagnostic imaging centers and physician private practices. We perform credit evaluations of our customers' financial condition and, as a result, believe that our receivable credit risk exposure is limited. For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, no customer in our equipment or IT segment accounted for 10% or more of revenues or accounts receivable. In our professional sales service segment, 100% of our revenues and accounts receivable are with GEHC; however, we believe this risk is acceptable based on GEHC's financial position and our long history of doing business with GEHC.

The Company maintains cash balances in certain U.S. financial institutions, which, at times, may exceed the Federal Depositary Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") coverage of \$250,000. The Company has not experienced any losses on these accounts and believes it is not subject to any significant credit risk on these accounts. In addition, the FDIC does not insure the Company's foreign bank balances, which aggregated approximately \$1,234,000 and \$903,000 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

*Inventories*

The Company values inventories in the equipment segment at the lower of cost or net realizable value, with cost being determined on a first-in, first-out basis. The Company regularly reviews inventory quantities on hand, particularly raw materials and components, and records a provision for excess and slow moving inventory based primarily on existing and anticipated design and engineering changes to its products as well as forecasts of future product demand.

In our IT Segment, we purchase computer hardware and software for specific customer requirements and value such inventories using the specific identification method.

*Property and Equipment*

Property and equipment, including assets under finance leases, are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Major improvements are capitalized and minor replacements, maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred. Upon retirement or disposal of assets, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the consolidated balance sheets. Depreciation is expensed over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which range from two to eight years, on a straight-line basis. Accelerated methods of depreciation are used for tax purposes. We amortize leasehold improvements over the useful life of the related leasehold improvement or the life of the related lease, whichever is less.

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

*Impairment of Long-lived Assets*

The Company reviews the recoverability of all long-lived assets, including the related useful lives, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a long-lived asset might not be recoverable. If required, the Company compares the estimated fair value determined by either the undiscounted future net cash flows or appraised value to the related asset's carrying value to determine whether there has been an impairment. If an asset is considered impaired, the asset is written down to fair value, which is based either on discounted cash flows or appraised values in the period the impairment becomes known. In December 2021, the Company deemed \$324,000 in long-lived assets to be impaired. The impairment loss is reflected in cost of managed IT systems and services in the Company's consolidated statement of operations. No assets were determined to be impaired as of December 31, 2022.

*Goodwill and Intangible Assets*

Goodwill represents the excess of cost over the fair value of net assets of businesses acquired. The Company accounts for goodwill under the guidance of the ASC Topic 350, "Intangibles: Goodwill and Other". Goodwill acquired in a purchase business combination is not amortized, but instead tested for impairment, at least annually, in accordance with this guidance. The recoverability of goodwill is subject to an annual impairment test or whenever an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not result in an impairment. The Company tests goodwill for impairment at the reporting unit level on an annual basis as of December 31 and between annual tests when an event occurs or circumstances change that could indicate that the asset might be impaired. In any year, the Company may elect to perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is in excess of its carrying value. If the Company cannot determine qualitatively that the fair value is in excess of the carrying value, or the Company decides to bypass the qualitative assessment, the Company proceeds to the quantitative goodwill impairment test, which compares the fair value of each reporting unit to its carrying amount, including goodwill. If the fair value of each reporting unit exceeds its carrying amount, goodwill is not considered to be impaired. If the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, an impairment loss is recognized for an amount equal to that excess, limited to the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. No goodwill was determined to be impaired as of December 31, 2022 and 2021.

Intangible assets consist of the value of customer contracts and relationships, patent and technology costs, and software. The cost of significant customer-related intangibles is amortized in proportion to estimated total related revenue; cost of other intangible assets is generally amortized on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated economic life, which range from five to ten years. The Company capitalizes internal use software development costs incurred during the application development stage. Costs related to preliminary project activities, training, data conversion, and post implementation activities are expensed as incurred. The Company did not capitalize any software development costs for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021. In December 2021, the Company deemed \$1.1 million in capitalized software costs to be impaired. The impairment loss is reflected in R&D expenses in the Company's consolidated statement of operations. No intangible assets were determined to be impaired as of December 31, 2022.

*Deferred Revenue*

Amounts billable under the agreement with GEHC in advance of delivery of the underlying equipment are recorded initially as deferred revenue, and commission revenue is subsequently recognized as customer acceptance of such equipment is reported to us by GEHC. Similarly, commissions payable to our sales force related to such billings are recorded as deferred commission expense when the associated deferred revenue is recorded. Commission expense is recognized when the corresponding commission revenue is recognized.

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

In our equipment segment, we record revenue on extended service contracts ratably over the term of the related service contracts.

*Income Taxes*

Deferred income taxes are recognized for temporary differences between financial statement and income tax bases of assets and liabilities and loss carry-forwards for which income tax benefits are expected to be realized in future years. A valuation allowance is established, when necessary, to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. In estimating future tax consequences, we generally consider all expected future events other than an enactment of changes in the tax laws or rates. Deferred tax assets are continually evaluated for the expected realization. To the extent our judgment regarding the realization of the deferred tax assets changes, an adjustment to the allowance is recorded, with an offsetting increase or decrease, as appropriate, in income tax expense. Such adjustments are recorded in the period in which our estimate as to the realization of the assets changed that it is “more likely than not” that all of the deferred tax assets will be realized. The “realization” standard is subjective and is based upon our estimate of a greater than 50% probability that the deferred tax asset can be realized.

The Company also complies with the provisions of ASC Topic 740, “Income Taxes”, which prescribes a recognition threshold and a measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more-likely-than-not to be sustained upon examination by the relevant taxing authority based on the technical merits. The tax benefit recognized is measured as the largest amount of benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with the relevant taxing authority. Derecognition of a tax benefit previously recognized results in the Company recording a tax liability that reduces ending retained earnings. Based on its analysis, the Company has determined that it has not incurred any liability for unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2022 and 2021. The Company recognizes accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as income tax expense. No amounts were accrued for the payment of interest and penalties at December 31, 2022 and 2021. Generally, the Company is no longer subject to income tax examinations by major domestic taxing authorities for years before 2019. According to the China tax regulatory framework, there is no statute of limitations on examination of tax filings by tax authorities. However, the general practice is going back five years. Management is currently unaware of any issues under review that could result in significant payments, accruals or material deviations from its position.

*Foreign Currency Translation Gain (Loss) and Comprehensive Income*

In the country in which the Company operates, and the functional currency is other than the U.S. dollar, assets and liabilities are translated using published exchange rates in effect at the consolidated balance sheet date. Equity accounts are translated at historical rates except for the changes in accumulated deficit during the year as the result of the income statement translation process. Revenues and expenses and cash flows are translated using a weighted average exchange rate for the period. Resulting translation adjustments are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, other comprehensive income (loss) includes (losses) gains of \$(343,000) and \$94,000, respectively, which were entirely from foreign currency translation.

*Net Income Per Common Share*

Basic income per common share is based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, including vested restricted shares, without consideration of potential common stock. Diluted earnings per common share is based on the weighted average number of common and potential dilutive common shares outstanding.

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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**(cont.)

Diluted earnings per share were computed based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding plus all potentially dilutive common shares. A reconciliation of basic to diluted shares used in the earnings per share calculation is as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	173,065	171,688
Dilutive effect of unvested restricted shares	1,591	2,083
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	174,656	173,771

No common stock equivalents were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

*Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements*

New pronouncements adopted by the Company recently are discussed below:

Credit Losses on Financial Instruments

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments, which provides new guidance regarding the measurement and recognition of credit impairment for certain financial assets. Such guidance will impact how we determine our allowance for estimated uncollectible receivables. In April 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-04, Codification Improvements to Topic 326, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses, Topic 825, Derivatives and Hedging, and Topic 825, Financial Instruments, which provided various amendments to these Topics. In November 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-10, which changed the effective date of ASU 2016-13 and ASU 2019-04 for smaller reporting companies as defined by the SEC from first quarter of 2020 to the first quarter of 2023, with early adoption permitted.

The Company early adopted ASU 2016-13 and ASU 2019-04 effective October 1, 2022. ASU 2016-13 added a current expected credit loss impairment model to U.S. GAAP based on expected losses rather than incurred losses. The adoption of this standard did not result in any material impact to our allowance for doubtful accounts balance as of October 1, 2022. As a result of adoption, the Corporation will utilize current and historical collection data as well as assess current economic conditions in order to determine expected trade credit losses on a prospective basis. ASU 2019-04 provided additional guidance on disclosure of credit losses on accrued interest receivables on held-to-maturity debt securities and additional disclosure requirements for such securities to include fair value and unrecognized gains and losses. Because the Company's sole investments of held-to-maturity debt securities are six-month U.S. Treasury bills, no provision for credit losses on such securities was deemed necessary, and the applicable fair value and unrecognized gains and losses were included in the above Short Term Investment section of Note B.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
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**NOTE B — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)**

*Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements*

The Company continually assesses any new accounting pronouncements to determine their applicability to the Company. Where it is determined that a new accounting pronouncement affects the Company's financial reporting, the Company undertakes a study to determine the consequence of the change to its financial statements and assures that there are proper controls in place to ascertain that the Company's consolidated financial statements properly reflect the change. New pronouncements assessed by the Company recently are discussed below:

In September 2022, the FASB issued ASU No. 2022-04, Liabilities — Supplier Finance Programs (Subtopic 405-50): Disclosure of Supplier Finance Program Obligations. This ASU requires that a buyer in a supplier finance program disclose the key terms of supplier finance programs, the amount of obligations outstanding at the end of the reporting period that the entity has confirmed as valid to the finance provider, where these obligations are recorded in the balance sheet, and a roll forward of the obligations. The new standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2022, on a retrospective basis, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that adopting this standard will have on the consolidated financial statements.

In October 2021, the FASB issued ASU No. 2021-08, Business Combinations (Topic 805): Accounting for Contract Assets and Contract Liabilities from Contracts with Customers. The ASU amends ASC 805 to add contract assets and contract liabilities to the list of exceptions to the recognition and measurement principles that apply to business combinations and to require that an entity (acquirer) recognize and measure contract assets and contract liabilities acquired in a business combination in accordance with Topic 606. While primarily related to contract assets and contract liabilities that were accounted for by the acquiree in accordance with ASC 606, the amendments also apply to contract assets and contract liabilities from other contracts to which the provisions of Topic 606 apply, such as contract liabilities from the sale of nonfinancial assets within the scope of Subtopic 610-20. The ASU should be applied prospectively and is effective for the Company for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that adopting this standard will have on the consolidated financial statements.

**NOTE C — SEGMENT REPORTING**

The Company views its business in three segments — the IT segment, the professional sales service segment, and the equipment segment. The IT segment includes the operations of NetWolves and VasoHealthcare IT Corp. The professional sales service segment operates through the VasoHealthcare subsidiary and is currently engaged solely in the fulfillment of the Company's responsibilities under our agreement with GEHC. The equipment segment is engaged in designing, manufacturing, marketing and supporting of proprietary medical devices and software, as well as managing the domestic business of EEC<sup>®</sup> enhanced external counterpulsation per a management service agreement with EEC<sup>®</sup> Global.

The chief operating decision maker is the Company's Chief Executive Officer, who, in conjunction with upper management, evaluates segment performance based on operating income and Adjusted EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization — defined as net (loss) income, plus net interest expense (income), tax expense, depreciation and amortization, and non-cash expenses for share-based compensation).  
Administrative

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
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**NOTE C — SEGMENT REPORTING** (cont.)

functions such as finance and human resources are centralized and related expenses allocated to each segment. Other costs not directly attributable to operating segments, such as audit, legal, director fees, investor relations, and others, as well as certain assets — primarily cash balances — are reported in the Corporate entity below. There are no intersegment revenues. Summary financial information for the segments is set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Revenues from external customers</b>		
IT	\$ 40,100	\$ 42,916
Professional sales service	37,344	29,441
Equipment	2,573	3,222
Total revenues	<u>\$ 80,017</u>	<u>\$ 75,579</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>		
IT	\$ 16,229	\$ 16,674
Professional sales service	30,288	23,906
Equipment	1,964	2,553
Total gross profit	<u>\$ 48,481</u>	<u>\$ 43,133</u>
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>		
IT	\$ (1,620)	\$ (2,062)
Professional sales service	10,099	5,918
Equipment	(180)	32
Corporate	(1,266)	(1,069)
Total operating income	<u>\$ 7,033</u>	<u>\$ 2,819</u>
<b>Depreciation and amortization</b>		
IT	\$ 1,692	\$ 3,394
Professional sales service	33	153
Equipment	198	293
Corporate	—	—
Total depreciation and amortization	<u>\$ 1,923</u>	<u>\$ 3,840</u>
<b>Capital expenditures</b>		
IT	\$ 406	\$ 334
Professional sales service	125	41
Equipment	34	37
Corporate	1	3
Total cash capital expenditures	<u>\$ 566</u>	<u>\$ 415</u>
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Identifiable Assets</b>		
IT	\$ 22,201	\$ 23,144
Professional sales service	21,684	18,718
Equipment	6,957	7,144
Corporate	21,813	3,355
Total assets	<u>\$ 72,655</u>	<u>\$ 52,361</u>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
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**NOTE C — SEGMENT REPORTING** (cont.)

For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, GEHC accounted for 47% and 39% of revenue, respectively. Also, GEHC accounted for \$12.8 million, or 83%, and \$12.3 million, or 80%, of accounts and other receivables at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

Our revenues were derived from the following geographic areas:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Domestic (United States)	\$ 77,785	\$ 72,681
Non-domestic (foreign)	2,232	2,898
	<u>\$ 80,017</u>	<u>\$ 75,579</u>

**NOTE D — ACCOUNTS AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

The following table presents information regarding the Company's accounts and other receivables as of December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Trade receivables	\$ 22,471	\$ 21,197
Allowance for doubtful accounts and commission adjustments	(6,947)	(5,804)
Accounts and other receivables, net	<u>\$ 15,524</u>	<u>\$ 15,393</u>

Trade receivables include amounts due for shipped products and services rendered. Amounts currently due under the GEHC Agreement are subject to adjustment in subsequent periods should the underlying sales order amount, upon which the receivable is based, change.

Allowance for doubtful accounts and commission adjustments include estimated losses resulting from the inability of our customers to make required payments, and adjustments arising from estimated future changes in sales order amounts that may reduce the amount the Company will ultimately receive under the GEHC Agreement.

**NOTE E — INVENTORIES**

Inventories, net of reserves, consisted of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Raw materials	\$ 751	\$ 744
Work in process	6	4
Finished goods	716	399
	<u>\$ 1,473</u>	<u>\$ 1,147</u>

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company maintained reserves for slow moving inventories of \$163,000 and \$165,000, respectively.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE F — PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Property and equipment is summarized as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Office, laboratory and other equipment	\$ 1,928	\$ 1,940
Equipment furnished for customer or clinical uses	7,981	9,359
Right of use assets – finance leases	1,119	1,286
Furniture and fixtures	99	99
	<u>11,127</u>	<u>12,684</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(9,787)</u>	<u>(10,512)</u>
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 1,340</u>	<u>\$ 2,172</u>

Accumulated amortization of right of use (“ROU”) assets under finance leases aggregated approximately \$858,000 and \$833,000 at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Depreciation expense amounted to approximately \$1,372,000 and \$1,868,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Amortization of ROU assets under finance leases is included in depreciation expense.

**NOTE G — GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLES**

Goodwill of \$14,375,000 is attributable to the NetWolves reporting unit within the IT segment. The remaining \$1,239,000 of goodwill is attributable to the FGE reporting unit within the Equipment segment. The NetWolves and FGE reporting units had negative net asset carrying amounts at December 31, 2022 and 2021. The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill are as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31, 2022</b>	<b>Year ended December 31, 2021</b>
Beginning of period	\$ 15,722	\$ 15,688
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(108)	34
End of period	<u>\$ 15,614</u>	<u>\$ 15,722</u>

The Company’s other intangible assets consist of capitalized customer-related intangibles, patent and technology costs, and software costs, as set forth in the following table:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Customer-related</b>		
Costs	\$ 5,831	\$ 5,831
Accumulated amortization	<u>(4,557)</u>	<u>(4,279)</u>
	<u>1,274</u>	<u>1,552</u>
<b>Patents and Technology</b>		
Costs	1,894	1,894
Accumulated amortization	<u>(1,894)</u>	<u>(1,754)</u>
	<u>—</u>	<u>140</u>
<b>Software</b>		
Costs	2,362	3,459
Accumulated amortization	<u>(2,125)</u>	<u>(3,110)</u>
	<u>237</u>	<u>349</u>
	<u>\$ 1,511</u>	<u>\$ 2,041</u>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE G — GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLES (cont.)**

The Company owns, through our Chinese subsidiaries, thirty-seven invention and utility patents that expire at various times through 2041, as well as sixteen software copyright certificates in China related to proprietary technologies in physiological data acquisition, analysis and reporting. The Company also holds one patent for secure and remote monitoring management through its NetWolves subsidiary. Costs incurred for submitting the applications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office and other foreign authorities for these patents have been capitalized. Patent and technology costs are being amortized using the straight-line method over 10-year and 8-year lives, respectively. The Company begins amortizing patent costs once a filing receipt is received stating the patent serial number and filing date from the Patent Office or other foreign authority. The cost of significant customer-related intangibles is amortized in proportion to estimated total related revenue; cost of other customer-related intangible assets is amortized on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated economic life of seven years. Software costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life of five years. In 2022, the Company disposed of approximately \$1,117,000 in fully amortized software costs.

Amortization expense amounted to approximately \$551,000 and \$1,972,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Amortization of intangibles for the next five years is:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>
Years ending December 31,	
2023	343
2024	274
2025	203
2026	148
2027	543
	<b>\$ 1,511</b>

**NOTE H — OTHER ASSETS**

Other assets consist of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Deferred commission expense – noncurrent	\$ 3,864	\$ 2,018
Trade receivables – noncurrent	792	368
Other, net of allowance for loss on loan receivable of \$412 at December 31, 2022 and 2021	70	60
	<b>\$ 4,726</b>	<b>\$ 2,446</b>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE I — DEFERRED REVENUE**

The changes in the Company's deferred revenues are as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Deferred revenue at beginning of period	\$ 24,965	\$ 17,704
Net additions:		
Deferred extended service contracts	3	(1)
Deferred commission revenues	19,666	17,080
Recognized as revenue:		
Deferred extended service contracts	(4)	(5)
Deferred commission revenues	(13,827)	(9,813)
Deferred revenue at end of period	30,803	24,965
Less: current portion	15,139	16,495
Long-term deferred revenue at end of period	\$ 15,664	\$ 8,470

**NOTE J — ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER LIABILITIES**

Accrued expenses and other liabilities consist of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Accrued compensation	\$ 2,652	\$ 2,397
Accrued expenses – other	2,012	1,799
Order reduction liability	2,577	1,518
Other liabilities	1,650	1,775
	<u>\$ 8,891</u>	<u>\$ 7,489</u>

**NOTE K — RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company recorded interest charges aggregating \$0 and approximately \$131,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, payable to MedTechnology Investments, LLC ("MedTech") pursuant to its promissory notes ("Notes"). The MedTech Notes were used in 2015 to partially fund the purchase of NetWolves. \$2,300,000 of the \$4,800,000 provided by MedTech was provided by directors of the Company, or by family members. The Notes were fully repaid in December 2021.

David Lieberman, a practicing attorney in the State of New York, serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors. Until July 2022, he was a senior partner at the law firm of Beckman Lieberman and Associates, LLP, which performed certain legal services for the Company. Fees of approximately \$95,000 and \$190,000 were billed by the firm for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, at which dates no amounts were outstanding.

**NOTE L — NOTES PAYABLE AND REVOLVING CREDIT AGREEMENT**

Notes payable consist of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Notes payable	24	31
Less: current portion	(9)	(8)
	<u>\$ 15</u>	<u>\$ 23</u>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE L — NOTES PAYABLE AND REVOLVING CREDIT AGREEMENT (cont.)**

Notes payable consists of a vehicle loan. The note is secured by the vehicle, bears interest at 1.9% per annum and matures in August 2025.

On December 30, 2022, the Company executed a \$3.0 million revolving credit agreement with a lending institution. Advances under the agreement bear interest at Wall Street Journal Prime Rate and are secured by substantially all of the assets of the Company. The agreement expires August 31, 2023 and includes certain financial covenants. The Company was in compliance with such covenants at December 31, 2022, at which time no amounts had been drawn.

**NOTE M — LEASES**

The Company enters into finance leases, typically with terms of 3 to 5 years, to acquire equipment for its data center. The Company enters into operating leases for its facilities in New York, Florida, and China, as well as for vehicles and equipment provided to certain employees in the professional sales services segment. The operating lease terms range from 2 to 7 years. The Company excluded the renewal option on its applicable facility leases from the calculation of its right-of-use assets and lease liabilities. The Company made the accounting policy decision not to recognize lease assets and liabilities for leases with a term of 12 months or less.

Finance and operating lease liabilities consist of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Lease liabilities – current</b>		
Finance leases	\$ 122	\$ 222
Operating leases	745	562
	<u>\$ 867</u>	<u>\$ 784</u>
<b>Lease liabilities – net of current portion</b>		
Finance leases	\$ 96	\$ 218
Operating leases	823	352
	<u>\$ 919</u>	<u>\$ 570</u>

A reconciliation of undiscounted cash flows to finance and operating lease liabilities recognized in the consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2022 is set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>		
<b>Years ending December 31,</b>	<b>Finance leases</b>	<b>Operating leases</b>	<b>Total</b>
2023	144	782	926
2024	83	554	637
2025	25	324	349
2026	—	71	71
Undiscounted lease payments	252	1,731	1,983
Amount representing interest	(34)	(163)	(197)
Discounted lease liabilities	<u>218</u>	<u>1,568</u>	<u>1,786</u>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
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**NOTE M — LEASES (cont.)**

Additional disclosures of lease data are set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31, 2022</b>	<b>Year ended December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Lease costs:</b>		
Finance lease costs:		
Amortization of right-of-use assets	\$ 154	\$ 193
Interest on lease liabilities	44	45
	198	238
Operating lease costs	878	792
Short-term lease costs	52	78
Total lease cost	\$ 1,128	\$ 1,108
<b>Other information:</b>		
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:		
Operating cash flows from finance leases	\$ 44	\$ 45
Operating cash flows from operating leases	878	792
Financing cash flows from finance leases	222	199
	\$ 1,144	\$ 1,036

	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Weighted-average remaining lease term – finance leases (months)	23	28
Weighted-average remaining lease term – operating leases (months)	30	25
Weighted-average discount rate – finance leases	14.2%	13.1%
Weighted-average discount rate – operating leases	9.1%	8.8%

The Company used the rate implicit in the lease, where known, or its incremental borrowing rate as the rate used to discount the future lease payments.

**NOTE N — EQUITY IN THE EECP BUSINESS**

On May 20, 2020, the Company closed on the sale of 51% of the capital stock of its whollyowned subsidiary EECP Global Corporation (“EECP Global”) to Chongqing PSK-Health Sci-Tech Development Co. Ltd, a China-based company, for \$1,150,000. EECP Global was formed in September 2019 to hold all the assets and liabilities of its EECP business. Concurrently with the closing of the transaction, the Company signed a Management Service Agreement with EECP Global to provide management service for the business and operation of EECP Global in the United States. The agreement provides an initial term of three years starting April 1, 2020, the effective date of the sale, which is automatically renewable for additional one-year terms. Pursuant to the agreement, EECP Global reimburses the Company all direct expenses and pays a monthly management fee during the term of the agreement.

The Company uses the equity method to account for its interest in EECP Global, as it has the ability to exercise significant influence over the entity, and reports its share of EECP Global operations in Other Income (Expense) on its consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company’s share of EECP Global’s loss was approximately \$154,000 and \$73,000, respectively. At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company recorded Receivables due from related parties, net of approximately \$403,000 and \$46,000, respectively, on its consolidated balance sheets for amounts due from EECP Global for fees and cost reimbursements, net of receivables collected on its behalf due to EECP Global.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
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**NOTE O — STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

*Chinese subsidiaries dividends and statutory reserves*

The payment of dividends by entities organized in China is subject to limitations. In particular, regulations in China currently permit payment of dividends only out of accumulated profits as determined in accordance with People's Republic of China ("PRC") accounting standards and regulations. Based on PRC accounting standards, our Chinese subsidiaries are also required to set aside at least 10% of after-tax profit each year to their general reserves until the accumulative amount of such reserves reaches 50% of the registered capital. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, statutory reserves aggregating approximately \$35,000 were recorded in the Company's consolidated balance sheets. These reserves are not distributable as cash dividends. In addition, they are required to allocate a portion of their after-tax profit to their staff welfare and bonus fund at the discretion of their respective boards of directors. Moreover, if any of our PRC subsidiaries incurs debt on its own behalf in the future, the instruments governing the debt may restrict its ability to pay dividends or make other distributions to us. Distribution of dividends from the Chinese operating companies to foreign shareholders is also subject to a withholding tax.

**NOTE P — OPTION AND STOCK ISSUANCE PLANS**

*2013 Stock Option and Stock Issuance Plan*

On October 30, 2013, the Board of Directors approved the 2013 Stock Plan (the "2013 Plan") for officers, directors, employees and consultants of the Company. The stock issuable under the 2013 Plan shall be shares of the Company's authorized but unissued or reacquired common stock. The maximum number of shares of common stock which may be issued under the 2013 Plan is 7,500,000 shares.

The 2013 Plan is comprised of two separate equity programs, the Options Grant Program, under which eligible persons may be granted options to purchase shares of common stock, and the Stock Issuance Program, under which eligible persons may be issued shares of common stock directly, either through the immediate purchase of such shares or as a bonus for services rendered to the Company. The 2013 Plan provides that the Board of Directors, or a committee of the Board of Directors, will administer it with full authority to determine the identity of the recipients of the options or shares and the number of options or shares.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, 50,000 shares of common stock were granted, and 90,000 shares were forfeited, under the 2013 Plan. No shares were withheld for withholding taxes.

*2016 Stock Option and Stock Issuance Plan*

On June 15, 2016, the Board of Directors ("Board") approved the 2016 Stock Plan (the "2016 Plan") for officers, directors, and senior employees of the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation. The stock issuable under the 2016 Plan shall be shares of the Company's authorized but unissued or reacquired common stock. The maximum number of shares of common stock that may be issued under the 2016 Plan is 7,500,000 shares.

The 2016 Plan consists of a Stock Issuance Program, under which eligible persons may, at the discretion of the Board, be issued shares of common stock directly, as a bonus for services rendered or to be rendered to the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation.

1,000,000 shares of common stock were granted under the 2016 Plan during the year ended December 31, 2022.

*2019 Stock Option and Stock Issuance Plan*

In May 2019, the Board of Directors ("Board") approved the 2019 Stock Plan (the "2019 Plan") for officers, directors, and senior employees of the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation. The stock issuable under the 2019 Plan shall be shares of the Company's authorized but unissued or reacquired common stock. The maximum number of shares of common stock that may be issued under the 2019 Plan is 15,000,000 shares.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
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**NOTE P — OPTION AND STOCK ISSUANCE PLANS (cont.)**

The 2019 Plan consists of a Stock Issuance Program, under which eligible persons may, at the discretion of the Board, be issued shares of common stock directly, as a bonus for services rendered or to be rendered to the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, no shares or options were granted under the 2019 Plan.

The following table summarizes non-vested restricted shares under all plans for the year ended December 31, 2022:

	Shares Available for Future Issuance	Unvested shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Balance at December 31, 2020	11,005,580	4,391,666	\$ 0.02
Authorized	—	—	\$ —
Granted	(90,000)	90,000	\$ 0.05
Vested	—	(1,491,666)	\$ 0.02
Forfeited	—	—	\$ —
Expired	—	—	\$ —
Balance at December 31, 2021	10,915,580	2,990,000	\$ 0.02
Authorized	—	—	\$ —
Granted	(1,050,000)	1,050,000	\$ 0.11
Vested	—	(1,300,000)	\$ 0.02
Forfeited	90,000	(90,000)	\$ 0.05
Expired	—	—	\$ —
Balance at December 31, 2022	9,955,580	2,650,000	\$ 0.06

There were 53,558,455 remaining authorized shares of common stock after reserves for all stock option plans.

**NOTE Q — INCOME TAXES**

The following is a geographical breakdown of income before the provision for income taxes:

	<i>(in thousands)</i> Year ended December 31,	
	2022	2021
Domestic	\$ 6,823	\$ 5,720
Foreign	307	531
Income before provision for income taxes	\$ 7,130	\$ 6,251

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE Q — INCOME TAXES (cont.)**

The provision for income taxes consisted of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Current provision		
Federal	\$ —	\$ —
State	36	47
Foreign	9	52
Total current provision	<u>45</u>	<u>99</u>
Deferred provision (benefit)		
Federal	(3,724)	41
State	(1,064)	11
Foreign	—	—
Total deferred provision (benefit)	<u>(4,788)</u>	<u>52</u>
Total income tax provision (benefit)	<u>\$ (4,743)</u>	<u>\$ 151</u>
Effective income tax rate	66.52%	2.42%

The income tax benefit of \$4,743,000 for the year ended December 31, 2022 was due to the partial release of deferred tax asset valuation allowance, offset by \$36,000 in state income taxes and \$9,000 in foreign taxes. The income tax provision of \$151,000 for the year ended December 31, 2021 was due to \$52,000 in foreign taxes, \$47,000 in state income taxes and a \$52,000 reduction in deferred tax assets.

The following is a reconciliation of the effective income tax rate to the federal statutory rate:

	<b>For the year ended</b>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Federal statutory rate	21.00	21.00
State income taxes	6.13	2.70
Change in valuation allowance relating to operations	(87.30)	(21.32)
Foreign tax rate differential	(0.78)	(0.84)
R&D credit	0.54	(0.08)
PPP Loan forgiveness	—	(11.87)
Nondeductible expenses	0.20	0.06
Other	(6.31)	12.77
	<u>(66.52)</u>	<u>2.42</u>

The effective tax rate decreased mainly due to the impact of the partial release of the deferred tax asset valuation allowance and partially offset by impact of PPP loan forgiveness in 2021.

As of December 31, 2022, the recorded deferred tax assets were \$12,006,000, reflecting a decrease of \$1,099,000 during the year ended December 31, 2022, which was offset by a valuation allowance of \$4,543,000, reflecting a decrease of \$6,226,000.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

**NOTE Q — INCOME TAXES (cont.)**

The components of our deferred tax assets and liabilities are summarized as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Deferred Tax Assets:</b>		
Net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 8,367	\$ 10,015
Amortization	328	343
Stock-based compensation	7	5
Allowance for doubtful accounts	99	125
Reserve for slow moving inventory	46	47
Tax credits	416	454
Expense accruals	908	786
Deferred revenue	1,835	1,330
Total gross deferred taxes	12,006	13,105
Valuation allowance	(4,543)	(10,769)
Net deferred tax assets	7,463	2,336
<b>Deferred Tax Liabilities:</b>		
Deferred commissions	(464)	(325)
Goodwill	(1,962)	(1,703)
Depreciation	(30)	(89)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(2,456)	(2,117)
Total deferred tax assets (liabilities)	5,007	219
<b>Recorded as:</b>		
Non-current deferred tax assets	5,007	219
Non-current deferred tax liabilities	—	—
Total deferred tax assets (liabilities)	\$ 5,007	\$ 219

The activity in the valuation allowance is set forth below:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Valuation allowance, January 1,	\$ 10,769	\$ 12,145
Partial release of allowance	(4,840)	—
Change in valuation allowance	(1,386)	(1,376)
Valuation allowance, December 31,	\$ 4,543	\$ 10,769

At December 31, 2022, the Company had net operating loss carryforwards for federal and state income tax purposes of approximately \$24 million expiring at various dates from 2022 through 2037 and approximately \$7 million with no expiration date.

Under current tax law, the utilization of tax attributes will be restricted if an ownership change, as defined, were to occur. Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code provides, in general, that if an “ownership change” occurs with respect to a corporation with net operating and other loss carryforwards, such carryforwards will be available to offset taxable income in each taxable year after the ownership change only up to the “Section 382 Limitation” for each year (generally, the product of the fair market value of the corporation’s stock at the time of the ownership change, with certain adjustments, and a specified long-term tax-exempt bond rate at such time). The Company’s ability to use its loss carryforwards will be limited in the event of an ownership change.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

**NOTE R — COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

*Sales representation agreement*

In October 2021, the Company concluded an amendment of the GEHC Agreement with GEHC, originally signed on May 19, 2010 and previously extended in 2012, 2015 and 2017. The amendment extended the term of the original agreement, which began on July 1, 2010, through December 31, 2026, subject to early termination by GEHC without cause with certain conditions. Under the agreement, VasoHealthcare is the exclusive representative for the sale of select GEHC diagnostic imaging products to specific market accounts in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. The circumstances under which early termination of the agreement may occur with cause include: not materially achieving certain sales goals, not maintaining a minimum number of sales representatives, and not meeting various legal and GEHC policy requirements. The Company met all the contractual conditions in 2022.

*Employment Agreements*

On May 10, 2019, the Company modified its Employment Agreement with its President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jun Ma, to provide for a five-year term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond May 31, 2026. The Employment Agreement provides for annual compensation of \$500,000. Dr. Ma shall be eligible to receive a bonus for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonus, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Dr. Ma shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

On December 31, 2022, the Company executed an Employment Agreement with the President of its VasoHealthcare subsidiary, Ms. Jane Moen, to provide for a twenty-seven month initial term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond December 31, 2026 or the earlier termination of the GEHC Agreement. The Employment Agreement provides for annual base compensation of \$350,000. Ms. Moen shall be eligible to receive bonuses for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonuses, if any, shall be based on employment status as well as achieving certain operating targets. Ms. Moen shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

*Licensing and Support Service Agreement*

In December 2020, NetWolves extended the licensing and support service agreement of its billing system for an additional three years, to expire December 2023. The agreement provides for monthly recurring charges based on a percentage of billed revenues using these services, which charges aggregated approximately \$339,000 and \$343,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

*Litigation*

The Company is currently, and has been in the past, a party to various routine legal proceedings, primarily employee related matters, incident to the ordinary course of business. The Company believes that the outcome of all such pending legal proceedings in the aggregate is unlikely to have a material adverse effect on the business or consolidated financial condition of the Company.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

**NOTE R — COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (cont.)**

*Foreign operations*

During the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company had and continues to have operations in China. Operating transactions in China are denominated in the Chinese currency called RMB or CNY, which is not freely convertible into foreign currencies. Operating internationally involves additional risks relating to such things as currency exchange rates, different legal and regulatory environments, political, economic risks relating to the stability or predictability of foreign governments, differences in the manner in which different cultures do business, difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations, differences in financial reporting, operating difficulties, and other factors.

Commercial law is still developing in China and there are limited legal precedents to follow in commercial transactions. There are many tax jurisdictions, each of which may have changing tax laws. Applicable taxes include value added taxes (“VAT”), Enterprise Income Tax, and social (payroll) taxes. Regulations are often unclear. Tax declarations (reports) are subject to review and taxing authorities may impose fines, penalties and interest. These facts create risks in China.

**NOTE S — 401(k) PLANS**

The Company maintains a defined contribution plan to provide retirement benefits for its employees — the Vaso Corporation 401(k) Plan adopted in April 1997. As allowed under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code, the plan provides tax-deferred salary deductions for eligible employees. Employees are eligible to participate in the next quarter enrollment period after employment and participants may make voluntary contributions to the plan up to 80% of their compensation, subject to applicable IRS annual limitations. In the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 the Company made discretionary contributions, to match a percentage of employee contributions, of approximately \$112,000 and \$129,000, respectively.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
*(in thousands, except share and per share data)*

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(unaudited)	
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 11,055	\$ 11,821
Short-term investments	15,838	8,504
Accounts and other receivables, net of an allowance for credit losses and commission adjustments of \$7,483 at September 30, 2023 and \$6,947 at December 31, 2022	8,355	14,514
Receivables due from related parties	837	421
Inventories, net	1,396	1,473
Deferred commission expense	3,614	3,249
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,111	1,008
Total current assets	43,206	40,990
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$10,233 at September 30, 2023 and \$9,787 at December 31, 2022		
	1,223	1,340
Operating lease right of use assets	1,656	1,568
Goodwill	15,551	15,614
Intangibles, net	1,355	1,511
Other assets, net	4,252	4,726
Investment in EECF Global	788	889
Deferred tax assets, net	5,007	5,007
Total assets	\$ 73,038	\$ 71,645
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,369	\$ 2,270
Accrued commissions	1,456	3,518
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	6,353	8,891
Finance lease liabilities – current	69	122
Operating lease liabilities – current	831	745
Sales tax payable	673	809
Deferred revenue – current portion	18,535	15,139
Notes payable – current portion	9	9
Due to related party	3	3
Total current liabilities	30,298	31,506
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Notes payable, net of current portion	8	15
Finance lease liabilities, net of current portion	54	96
Operating lease liabilities, net of current portion	826	823
Deferred revenue, net of current portion	14,705	15,664
Other long-term liabilities	1,538	1,474
Total long-term liabilities	17,131	18,072
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (NOTE N)		
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; nil shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022	—	—
Common stock, \$.001 par value; 250,000,000 shares authorized; 185,627,383 and 185,435,965 shares issued at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively; 175,319,296 and 175,127,878 shares outstanding at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively	186	185
Additional paid-in capital	63,983	63,952
Accumulated deficit	(36,113)	(39,837)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(447)	(233)

Treasury stock, at cost, 10,308,087 shares at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022	(2,000)	(2,000)
Total stockholders' equity	25,609	22,067
	<u>\$ 73,038</u>	<u>\$ 71,645</u>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE**  
**INCOME**  
**(unaudited)**  
*(in thousands, except per share data)*

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
<b>Revenues</b>				
Managed IT systems and services	\$ 9,867	\$ 9,836	\$ 30,576	\$ 29,858
Professional sales services	8,837	9,237	26,401	24,424
Equipment sales and services	745	760	2,130	1,789
Total revenues	19,449	19,833	59,107	56,071
<b>Cost of revenues</b>				
Cost of managed IT systems and services	5,593	5,741	17,121	17,952
Cost of professional sales services	1,636	1,530	4,921	4,450
Cost of equipment sales and services	177	188	525	409
Total cost of revenues	7,406	7,459	22,567	22,811
Gross profit	12,043	12,374	36,540	33,260
<b>Operating expenses</b>				
Selling, general and administrative	10,927	9,978	32,731	29,584
Research and development	209	130	584	422
Total operating expenses	11,136	10,108	33,315	30,006
Operating income	907	2,266	3,225	3,254
<b>Other (expense) income</b>				
Interest and financing costs	(14)	(14)	(46)	(38)
Interest and other income, net	322	96	583	96
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(1)	—	(3)	(2)
Total other income, net	307	82	534	56
Income before income taxes	1,214	2,348	3,759	3,310
Income tax expense	(16)	(12)	(35)	(42)
Net income	1,198	2,336	3,724	3,268
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>				
Foreign currency translation loss	(19)	(234)	(213)	(450)
Comprehensive income	\$ 1,179	\$ 2,102	\$ 3,511	\$ 2,818
<b>Income per common share</b>				
– basic and diluted	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding</b>				
– basic	174,938	173,528	174,246	172,909
– diluted	175,846	174,892	175,394	174,513

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
(unaudited)  
*(in thousands)*

	Common Stock		Treasury Stock		Additional Paid- in-Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders'
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				Equity
<b>Balance at January 1, 2022</b>	185,436	\$ 185	(10,308)	(2,000)	\$ 63,917	\$ (51,131)	\$ 110	\$ 11,081
Share-based compensation	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	7
Foreign currency translation loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	(403)	—	(403)
<b>Balance at March 31, 2022</b>	185,436	\$ 185	(10,308)	\$ (2,000)	\$ 63,924	\$ (51,534)	\$ 109	\$ 10,684
Share-based compensation	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	6
Foreign currency translation loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	(215)	(215)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	1,335	—	1,335
<b>Balance at June 30, 2022</b>	185,436	\$ 185	(10,308)	\$ (2,000)	\$ 63,930	\$ (50,199)	\$ (106)	\$ 11,810
Share-based compensation	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	9
Shares not issued for employee tax liability	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign currency translation loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	(234)	(234)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	2,336	—	2,336
<b>Balance at September 30, 2022</b>	185,436	\$ 185	(10,308)	\$ (2,000)	\$ 63,939	\$ (47,863)	\$ (340)	\$ 13,921
<b>Balance at January 1, 2023</b>	185,436	\$ 185	(10,308)	(2,000)	\$ 63,952	\$ (39,837)	\$ (233)	\$ 22,067
Share-based compensation	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	13
Foreign currency translation gain	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	15
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	454	—	454
<b>Balance at March 31, 2023</b>	185,436	\$ 185	(10,308)	\$ (2,000)	\$ 63,965	\$ (39,383)	\$ (218)	\$ 22,549
Share-based compensation	13	—	—	—	15	—	—	15
Shares withheld for employee tax liability	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	(1)
Foreign currency translation loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	(210)	(210)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	2,072	—	2,072
<b>Balance at June 30, 2023</b>	185,449	\$ 185	(10,308)	\$ (2,000)	\$ 63,979	\$ (37,311)	\$ (428)	\$ 24,425
Share-based compensation	178	1	—	—	9	—	—	10
Shares withheld for employee tax liability	—	—	—	—	(5)	—	—	(5)
Foreign currency translation loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	(19)	(19)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	1,198	—	1,198
<b>Balance at September 30, 2023</b>	185,627	\$ 186	(10,308)	\$ (2,000)	\$ 63,983	\$ (36,113)	\$ (447)	\$ 25,609

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.*

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(unaudited)  
(in thousands)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net income	\$ 3,724	\$ 3,268
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization	762	1,576
Loss from investment in EECF Global	101	95
Provision for credit losses and commission adjustments	85	236
Share-based compensation	38	22
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts and other receivables	6,052	6,978
Inventories	12	(697)
Deferred commission expense	(364)	(167)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(1,474)	(239)
Other assets, net	424	(539)
Accounts payable	104	261
Accrued commissions	(2,006)	(655)
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	(2,559)	849
Sales tax payable	(130)	20
Deferred revenue	2,437	1,927
Due to related party	(411)	(343)
Other long-term liabilities	65	84
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>6,860</b>	<b>12,676</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchases of equipment and software	(536)	(447)
Purchases of short-term investments	(20,330)	(5,000)
Redemption of short-term investments	13,330	151
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(7,536)</b>	<b>(5,296)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Payroll taxes paid by withholding shares	(6)	—
Repayment of notes payable and finance lease obligations	(101)	(177)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(107)</b>	<b>(177)</b>
Effect of exchange rate differences on cash and cash equivalents	17	55
<b>NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>(766)</b>	<b>7,258</b>
Cash and cash equivalents – beginning of period	11,821	6,025
Cash and cash equivalents – end of period	<u>\$ 11,055</u>	<u>\$ 13,283</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH INFORMATION</b>		
Interest paid	<u>\$ 14</u>	<u>\$ 37</u>
Income taxes paid	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 60</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF NON-CASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Initial recognition of operating lease right of use asset and liability	<u>\$ 661</u>	<u>\$ 1,332</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE A — ORGANIZATION AND PLAN OF OPERATIONS**

Vaso Corporation was incorporated in Delaware in July 1987. Unless the context requires otherwise, all references to “we”, “our”, “us”, “Company”, “registrant”, “Vaso” or “management” refer to Vaso Corporation and its subsidiaries.

**Overview**

Vaso Corporation principally operates in three distinct business segments in the healthcare and information technology (“IT”) industries. We manage and evaluate our operations, and report our financial results, through these three business segments.

- IT segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoTechnology, Inc., primarily focuses on healthcare IT and managed network technology services;
- Professional sales service segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, primarily focuses on the sale of healthcare capital equipment for GE Healthcare (“GEHC”) into the healthcare provider middle market; and
- Equipment segment, primarily focuses on the design, manufacture, sale and service of proprietary medical devices and software, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoMedical, Inc., which in turn operates through Vasomedical Solutions, Inc. for domestic business and Vasomedical Global Corp. for international business, respectively.

*VasoTechnology*

VasoTechnology, Inc. was formed in May 2015, at the time the Company acquired all of the assets of NetWolves, LLC and its affiliates, including the membership interests in NetWolves Network Services, LLC (collectively, “NetWolves”). It currently consists of a managed network and security service division and a healthcare IT application VAR (value added reseller) division, VasoHealthcare IT. Its current offerings include:

- Managed radiology and imaging applications (channel partner of select vendors of healthcare IT products).
- Managed network infrastructure (routers, switches and other core equipment).
- Managed network transport (FCC licensed carrier reselling over 175 facility partners).
- Managed security services.

VasoTechnology uses a combination of proprietary technology, methodology and third-party applications to deliver its value proposition.

*VasoHealthcare*

VasoHealthcare commenced operations in 2010, in conjunction with the Company’s execution of its exclusive sales representation agreement (“GEHC Agreement”) with GEHC to further the sale of certain healthcare capital equipment in the healthcare provider middle market. Sales of GEHC equipment by the Company have grown significantly since then.

VasoHealthcare’s current offerings consist of:

- GEHC diagnostic imaging capital equipment and ultrasound systems.
- GEHC service agreements for the above equipment.
- GEHC training services for use of the above equipment.
- GEHC and third-party financial services.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE A — ORGANIZATION AND PLAN OF OPERATIONS(cont.)**

*VasoMedical*

VasoMedical is the Company's business division for its proprietary medical device operations, including the design, development, manufacturing, sales and service of various medical devices in the domestic and international markets and includes the Vasomedical Global and Vasomedical Solutions business units. These devices are primarily for cardiovascular monitoring and diagnostic systems. Its current offerings consist of:

- Biox™ series Holter monitors and ambulatory blood pressure recorders.
- ARCS® series analysis, reporting and communication software for ECG and blood pressure signals.
- MobiCare® multi-parameter wireless vital-sign monitoring system.
- EECF® therapy systems for non-invasive, outpatient treatment of ischemic heart disease.

This segment uses its extensive cardiovascular device knowledge coupled with its significant engineering resources to cost-effectively create and market its proprietary technology. It works with a global distribution network of channel partners to sell its products. It also provides engineering and OEM services to other medical device companies.

**NOTE B — INTERIM STATEMENT PRESENTATION**

**Basis of Presentation and Use of Estimates**

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") and pursuant to the accounting and disclosure rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") for interim financial information. Certain information and disclosures normally included in the financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. Accordingly, these condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022, as filed with the SEC on March 31, 2023.

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the companies over which we exercise control. In the opinion of management, the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation of interim results for the Company. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for any other interim period or the full year.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the condensed consolidated financial statements, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes, and the reported amounts of revenues, expenses and cash flows during the periods presented. Actual amounts and results could differ from those estimates. The estimates and assumptions the Company makes are based on historical factors, current circumstances and the experience and judgment of the Company's management. The Company evaluates its estimates and assumptions on an ongoing basis.

**Correction of Prior Period Financial Statements**

We record commission revenue for certain products in our professional sales service segment based on GEHC's reporting and payment of such commissions to us. In late August 2023, GEHC informed the Company that its calculations for such products were partially inaccurate and had remitted excess commissions. The Company has taken immediate steps to implement additional internal control procedures whereby GEHC will provide additional information sufficient to assess the accuracy of such commission payments going forward. We assessed the materiality of this misstatement on prior periods' financial statements in accordance with SEC Staff Accounting

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE B — INTERIM STATEMENT PRESENTATION (cont.)**

Bulletin (“SAB”) Topic 1.M, Materiality, codified in Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) Topic 250, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, (“ASC 250”) and concluded that the misstatements were not material to the prior annual or interim periods.

Accordingly, in accordance with ASC 250 (SAB No. 108, Considering the Effects of Prior Year Misstatements when Quantifying Misstatements in Current Year Financial Statements), we have increased the accumulated deficit at January 1, 2022 by \$229,000 to reflect \$287,000 lower commission revenue and \$58,000 lower commission expense, and corrected the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2022 and the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income, Cash Flows, and Changes in Stockholders’ Equity for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2022 and 2023, and the related notes to revise for those misstatements that impacted such periods.

The following are selected line items from the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements illustrating the effect of these corrections:

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet						
As of December 31, 2022						
(in thousands)	As Reported	Adjustment	As Revised			
Accounts and other receivables	\$ 15,524	\$ (1,010)	\$ 14,514			
Accrued commissions	\$ 3,720	\$ (202)	\$ 3,518			
Accumulated deficit	\$ (39,029)	\$ (808)	\$ (39,837)			

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows						
Nine months ended September 30, 2022						
(in thousands)	As Reported	Adjustment	As Revised			
Net income	\$ 3,649	\$ (381)	\$ 3,268			
Accounts and other receivables	\$ 6,502	\$ 476	\$ 6,978			
Accrued commissions	\$ (560)	\$ (95)	\$ (655)			

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income						
(in thousands, except per share data)	Three months ended September 30, 2022			Nine months ended September 30, 2022		
	As Reported	Adjustment	As Revised	As Reported	Adjustment	As Revised
Revenues						
Professional sales services	\$ 9,439	\$ (202)	\$ 9,237	\$ 24,900	\$ (476)	\$ 24,424
Cost of revenues						
Cost of professional sales services	\$ 1,570	\$ (40)	\$ 1,530	\$ 4,545	\$ (95)	\$ 4,450
Gross Profit – professional sales services segment	\$ 7,869	\$ (162)	\$ 7,707	\$ 20,355	\$ (381)	\$ 19,974
Operating income	\$ 2,428	\$ (162)	\$ 2,266	\$ 3,635	\$ (381)	\$ 3,254
Net income	\$ 2,498	\$ (162)	\$ 2,336	\$ 3,649	\$ (381)	\$ 3,268
Comprehensive income/(loss)	\$ 2,264	\$ (162)	\$ 2,102	\$ 3,199	\$ (381)	\$ 2,818
Income/(loss) per common share						
– basic and diluted	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.00)	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.00)	\$ 0.02

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE B — INTERIM STATEMENT PRESENTATION (cont.)**

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity						
	Accumulated Deficit			Total Stockholders' Equity		
(in thousands)	As Reported	Adjustment	As Revised	As Reported	Adjustment	As Revised
Balance at January 1, 2022	\$ (50,902)	\$ (229)	\$ (51,131)	\$ 11,310	\$ (229)	\$ 11,081
Net loss	\$ (344)	\$ (59)	\$ (403)	\$ (344)	\$ (59)	\$ (403)
Balance at March 31, 2022	\$ (51,246)	\$ (288)	\$ (51,534)	\$ 10,972	\$ (288)	\$ 10,684
Net income	\$ 1,495	\$ (160)	\$ 1,335	\$ 1,495	\$ (160)	\$ 1,335
Balance at June 30, 2022	\$ (49,751)	\$ (448)	\$ (50,199)	\$ 12,258	\$ (448)	\$ 11,810
Net income	\$ 2,498	\$ (162)	\$ 2,336	\$ 2,498	\$ (162)	\$ 2,336
Balance at September 30, 2022	\$ (47,253)	\$ (610)	\$ (47,863)	\$ 14,531	\$ (610)	\$ 13,921
Balance at January 1, 2023	\$ (39,029)	\$ (808)	\$ (39,837)	\$ 22,875	\$ (808)	\$ 22,067

**NOTE C — REVENUE RECOGNITION**

*Disaggregation of Revenue*

The following tables present revenues disaggregated by our business operations and timing of revenue recognition:

(in thousands)								
Three Months Ended September 30, 2023					Three Months Ended September 30, 2022			
	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total
Network services	\$ 8,849	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 8,849	\$ 8,787	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 8,787
Software sales and support	1,018	—	—	1,018	1,049	—	—	1,049
Commissions	—	8,837	—	8,837	—	9,237	—	9,237
Medical equipment sales	—	—	714	714	—	—	728	728
Medical equipment service	—	—	31	31	—	—	32	32
	\$ 9,867	\$ 8,837	\$ 745	\$ 19,449	\$ 9,836	\$ 9,237	\$ 760	\$ 19,833

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023					Nine Months Ended September 30, 2022			
	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total
Network services	\$ 26,833	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 26,833	\$ 26,705	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 26,705
Software sales and support	3,743	—	—	3,743	3,153	—	—	3,153
Commissions	—	26,401	—	26,401	—	24,424	—	24,424
Medical equipment sales	—	—	2,036	2,036	—	—	1,696	1,696
Medical equipment service	—	—	94	94	—	—	93	93
	\$ 30,576	\$ 26,401	\$ 2,130	\$ 59,107	\$ 29,858	\$ 24,424	\$ 1,789	\$ 56,071

Three Months Ended September 30, 2023					Three Months Ended September 30, 2022			
	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total
Revenue recognized over time	\$ 9,302	\$ —	\$ 221	\$ 9,523	\$ 9,220	\$ —	\$ 84	\$ 9,304
Revenue recognized at a point in time	565	8,837	524	9,926	616	9,237	676	10,529
	\$ 9,867	\$ 8,837	\$ 745	\$ 19,449	\$ 9,836	\$ 9,237	\$ 760	\$ 19,833

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE C — REVENUE RECOGNITION (cont.)**

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023				Nine Months Ended September 30, 2022			
	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total	IT segment	Professional sales service segment	Equipment segment	Total
Revenue recognized over time	\$ 28,180	\$ —	\$ 462	\$ 28,642	\$ 27,530	\$ —	\$ 232	\$ 27,762
Revenue recognized at a point in time	2,396	26,401	1,668	30,465	2,328	24,424	1,557	28,309
	\$ 30,576	\$ 26,401	\$ 2,130	\$ 59,107	\$ 29,858	\$ 24,424	\$ 1,789	\$ 56,071

*Transaction Price Allocated to Remaining Performance Obligations*

As of September 30, 2023, the aggregate amount of transaction price allocated to performance obligations that are unsatisfied (or partially unsatisfied) for executed contracts approximates \$98.5 million, of which we expect to recognize revenue as follows:

<i>(in thousands)</i>				
Fiscal years of revenue recognition				
	2023	2024	2025	Thereafter
Unfulfilled performance obligations	\$ 13,525	\$ 42,368	\$ 16,455	\$ 26,118

*Contract Liabilities*

Contract liabilities arise in our healthcare IT, VasoHealthcare, and VasoMedical businesses. In our healthcare IT business, payment arrangements with clients typically include an initial payment due upon contract signing and milestone-based payments based upon product delivery and go-live, as well as post go-live monthly payments for subscription and support fees. Customer payments received, or receivables recorded, in advance of go-live and customer acceptance, where applicable, are deferred as contract liabilities. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$335,000 and \$481,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively, and are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities in our condensed consolidated balance sheets.

In our VasoHealthcare business, we bill amounts for certain milestones in advance of customer acceptance of the underlying equipment. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$33,232,000 and \$30,794,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively, and are classified in our condensed consolidated balance sheets as either current or long-term deferred revenue. In addition, we record a contract liability for amounts expected to be repaid to GEHC due to customer order reductions. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$1,198,000 and \$2,577,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively, and are included in accrued expenses and other liabilities in our condensed consolidated balance sheets.

In our VasoMedical business, we bill amounts for post-delivery services and varying duration service contracts in advance of performance. Such amounts aggregated approximately \$7,000 and \$9,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively, and are classified in our condensed consolidated balance sheets as either current or long-term deferred revenue.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE C — REVENUE RECOGNITION (cont.)**

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, we recognized approximately \$3.1 million and \$7.6 million of revenues, respectively, that were included in our contract liability balance at July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2023, respectively.

The following table summarizes the Company's contract receivable and contract liability balances:

	2023	2022
Contract receivables – January 1	15,306	15,474
Contract receivables – September 30	9,185	8,132
Increase (decrease)	<u>(6,121)</u>	<u>(7,342)</u>
Contract liabilities – January 1	33,861	26,890
Contract liabilities – September 30	34,773	30,908
Increase (decrease)	<u>911</u>	<u>4,018</u>

The decrease in contract receivables in the first nine months of 2023 and 2022 was due primarily to collections exceeding billings. The increase in contract liabilities in the same periods is mainly attributable to orders exceeding deliveries.

**NOTE D — SEGMENT REPORTING AND CONCENTRATIONS**

Vaso Corporation principally operates in three distinct business segments in the healthcare and information technology industries. We manage and evaluate our operations, and report our financial results, through these three reportable segments.

- IT segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoTechnology, Inc., primarily focuses on healthcare IT and managed network technology services;
- Professional sales service segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary Vaso Diagnostics, Inc. d/b/a VasoHealthcare, primarily focuses on the sale of healthcare capital equipment for GEHC into the healthcare provider middle market; and
- Equipment segment, operating through a wholly-owned subsidiary VasoMedical, Inc., primarily focuses on the design, manufacture, sale and service of proprietary medical devices.

The chief operating decision maker is the Company's Chief Executive Officer, who, in conjunction with upper management, evaluates segment performance based on operating income and adjusted EBITDA (net income (loss), plus interest expense (income), net; tax expense; depreciation and amortization; and non-cash stock-based compensation). Administrative functions such as finance, human resources, and information technology are centralized and related expenses allocated to each segment. Other costs not directly attributable to operating

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE D — SEGMENT REPORTING AND CONCENTRATIONS (cont.)**

segments, such as audit, legal, director fees, investor relations, and others, as well as certain assets — primarily cash balances — are reported in the Corporate entity below. There are no intersegment revenues. Summary financial information for the segments is set forth below:

<i>(in thousands)</i>				
	<b>Three months ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Revenues from external customers</b>				
IT	\$ 9,867	\$ 9,836	\$ 30,576	\$ 29,858
Professional sales service	8,837	9,237	26,401	24,424
Equipment	745	760	2,130	1,789
Total revenues	<u>\$ 19,449</u>	<u>\$ 19,833</u>	<u>\$ 59,107</u>	<u>\$ 56,071</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>				
IT	\$ 4,274	\$ 4,095	\$ 13,455	\$ 11,906
Professional sales service	7,201	7,707	21,480	19,974
Equipment	568	572	1,605	1,380
Total gross profit	<u>\$ 12,043</u>	<u>\$ 12,374</u>	<u>\$ 36,540</u>	<u>\$ 33,260</u>
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>				
IT	\$ (187)	\$ (474)	\$ (133)	\$ (1,531)
Professional sales service	1,648	2,981	4,784	5,752
Equipment	(83)	24	(214)	(132)
Corporate	(471)	(265)	(1,212)	(835)
Total operating income	<u>\$ 907</u>	<u>\$ 2,266</u>	<u>\$ 3,225</u>	<u>\$ 3,254</u>
<b>Depreciation and amortization</b>				
IT	\$ 196	\$ 263	\$ 678	\$ 1,367
Professional sales service	21	10	62	32
Equipment	8	45	22	177
Corporate	—	—	—	—
Total depreciation and amortization	<u>\$ 225</u>	<u>\$ 318</u>	<u>\$ 762</u>	<u>\$ 1,576</u>
<b>Capital expenditures</b>				
IT	\$ 71	\$ 86	\$ 293	\$ 383
Professional sales service	23	—	75	40
Equipment	82	2	168	23
Corporate	—	—	—	1
Total cash capital expenditures	<u>\$ 176</u>	<u>\$ 88</u>	<u>\$ 536</u>	<u>\$ 447</u>

<i>(in thousands)</i>			
	September 30, 2023		December 31, 2022
Identifiable Assets			
IT	\$	22,334	\$ 22,201
Professional sales service		15,088	20,674
Equipment		6,725	6,957
Corporate		28,891	21,813
Total assets	\$	73,038	\$ 71,645

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE D — SEGMENT REPORTING AND CONCENTRATIONS (cont.)**

GE Healthcare accounted for 45% and 47% of revenue for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and 45% and 44% of revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. GE Healthcare also accounted for \$6.9 million or 83%, and \$11.8 million or 81%, of accounts and other receivables at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively. No other customer accounted for 10% or more of revenue.

**NOTE E — NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE**

Basic earnings per common share is computed as earnings applicable to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per common share reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue common shares were exercised or converted to common stock.

Diluted earnings per share were computed based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding plus all potentially dilutive common shares. A reconciliation of basic to diluted shares used in the earnings per share calculation is as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
	<b>Three months ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	174,938	173,528	174,246	172,909
Dilutive effect of unvested restricted shares	908	1,364	1,148	1,604
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	175,846	174,892	175,394	174,513

The following table represents common stock equivalents that were excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, because the effect of their inclusion would be anti-dilutive.

	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
	<b>Three months ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Restricted common stock grants	—	—	—	2

**NOTE F — SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Company's short-term investments consist of bank deposits with yields based on underlying debt and equity securities and six-month US Treasury bills. The bank deposits are carried at fair value of approximately \$411,000 and \$433,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively, and are classified as available-for-sale. Realized gains or losses on the bank deposits are included in net income. The US Treasury bills are classified as held-to-maturity and are carried at amortized cost of approximately \$15,427,000 and \$8,071,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively. Their fair value at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022 is approximately \$15,426,000 and \$8,064,000, respectively, and the unrecognized holding gain (loss) is \$3,000 and \$(1,000) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively. The Company does not expect a credit loss for its short-term investments.

Cash and cash equivalents represent cash and short-term, highly liquid investments either in certificates of deposit, treasury bills, money market funds, or investment grade commercial paper issued by major corporations and financial institutions that generally have maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE F — SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)**

The Company complies with the provisions of ASC 820 “Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures” (“ASC 820”). Under ASC 820, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the “exit price”) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

In determining fair value, the Company uses various valuation approaches. ASC 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy for inputs used in measuring fair value that maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs reflect the Company’s assumptions about the inputs market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. The fair value hierarchy is categorized into three levels based on the inputs as follows:

Level 1

Level 1 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2

Level 2 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets with insufficient volume or infrequent transactions (less active markets); or model-derived valuations in which significant inputs are observable or can be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

Level 3

Level 3 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are unobservable inputs to the valuation methodology that are significant to the measurement of the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

The carrying amount of assets and liabilities including cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, accounts receivable, prepaids, accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities approximated their fair value as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, due to the relative short maturity of these instruments. Property and equipment, intangible assets, capital lease obligations, and goodwill are not required to be re-measured to fair value on a recurring basis. These assets are evaluated for impairment if certain triggering events occur. If such evaluation indicates that impairment exists, the respective asset is written down to its fair value.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE F — SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)**

The following table presents information about the Company's assets measured at fair value as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Balance as of September 30, 2023
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash equivalents invested in money market funds	\$ 9,706	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 9,706
Bank deposits (included in short term investments)	411			411
	<u>\$ 10,117</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 10,117</u>

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Balance as of December 31, 2022
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash equivalents invested in money market funds	\$ 7,934	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,934
Bank deposits (included in short term investments)	433			433
	<u>\$ 8,367</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 8,367</u>

**NOTE G — ACCOUNTS AND OTHER RECEIVABLES, NET**

The following table presents information regarding the Company's accounts and other receivables as of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
Trade receivables	\$ 12,788	\$ 21,461
Unbilled receivables	3,050	—
Allowance for credit losses and commission adjustments	(7,483)	(6,947)
Accounts and other receivables, net	<u>\$ 8,355</u>	<u>\$ 14,514</u>

Contract receivables under Topic 606 consist of trade receivables and unbilled receivables. Trade receivables include amounts due for shipped products and services rendered. Unbilled receivables represent variable consideration recognized in accordance with Topic 606 but not yet billable. Amounts recorded — billed and unbilled — under the GEHC Agreement are subject to adjustment in subsequent periods should the underlying sales order amount, upon which the receivable is based, change.

Allowance for doubtful accounts and commission adjustments include estimated losses resulting from the inability of our customers to make required payments, and adjustments arising from subsequent changes in sales order amounts that may reduce the amount the Company will ultimately receive under the GEHC Agreement.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE H — INVENTORIES, NET**

Inventories, net of reserves, consist of the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>September 30, 2023</b>	<b>December 31, 2022</b>
Raw materials	\$ 731	\$ 751
Work in process	35	6
Finished goods	630	716
	<u>\$ 1,396</u>	<u>\$ 1,473</u>

The Company maintained reserves for slow moving inventories of \$164,000 and \$163,000 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively.

**NOTE I — GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLES**

Goodwill of \$14,375,000 is allocated to the IT segment. The remaining \$1,176,000 of goodwill is attributable to the FGE reporting unit within the Equipment segment. The NetWolves and FGE reporting units had negative carrying values at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022. The components of the change in goodwill are as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>Nine months ended September 30, 2023</b>	<b>Year ended December 31, 2022</b>
Beginning of period	\$ 15,614	\$ 15,722
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(63)	(108)
End of period	<u>\$ 15,551</u>	<u>\$ 15,614</u>

The Company's other intangible assets consist of capitalized customer-related intangibles, patent and technology costs, and software costs, as set forth in the following:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>September 30, 2023</b>	<b>December 31, 2022</b>
<b>Customer-related</b>		
Costs	\$ 5,831	\$ 5,831
Accumulated amortization	(4,732)	(4,557)
	<u>1,099</u>	<u>1,274</u>
<b>Patents and Technology</b>		
Costs	1,894	1,894
Accumulated amortization	(1,894)	(1,894)
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Software</b>		
Costs	2,468	2,362
Accumulated amortization	(2,212)	(2,125)
	<u>256</u>	<u>237</u>
	<u>\$ 1,355</u>	<u>\$ 1,511</u>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE I — GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLES (cont.)**

Patents and technology are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of ten and eight years, respectively. The cost of significant customer-related intangibles is amortized in proportion to estimated total related revenue; cost of other customer-related intangible assets is amortized on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated economic life of seven years. Software costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life of five years.

Amortization expense amounted to \$81,000 and \$136,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively and \$261,000 and \$451,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Amortization of intangibles for the next five years is:

<b>Years ending December 31,</b>	<i>(in thousands)</i>
Remainder of 2023	86
2024	295
2025	224
2026	169
2027	581
	<u>\$ 1,355</u>

**NOTE J — OTHER ASSETS, NET**

Other assets, net consist of the following at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>September 30, 2023</b>	<b>December 31, 2022</b>
Deferred commission expense – noncurrent	\$ 3,363	\$ 3,864
Trade receivables – noncurrent	831	792
Other, net of allowance for loss on loan receivable of \$412 at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022	58	70
	<u>\$ 4,252</u>	<u>\$ 4,726</u>

**NOTE K — ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER LIABILITIES**

Accrued expenses and other liabilities consist of the following at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>	
	<b>September 30, 2023</b>	<b>December 31, 2022</b>
Accrued compensation	\$ 1,473	\$ 2,652
Accrued expenses – other	1,791	2,012
Order reduction liability	1,198	2,577
Other liabilities	1,891	1,650
	<u>\$ 6,353</u>	<u>\$ 8,891</u>

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE L — DEFERRED REVENUE**

The changes in the Company's deferred revenues are as follows:

	<i>(in thousands)</i>			
	<b>Three months ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine months ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Deferred revenue at beginning of period	\$ 33,586	\$ 27,096	\$ 30,803	\$ 24,965
Net additions:				
Deferred extended service contracts	—	—	2	—
Deferred commission revenues	2,924	3,474	12,406	11,741
Recognized as revenue:				
Deferred extended service contracts	(1)	(1)	(4)	(4)
Deferred commission revenues	(3,269)	(3,677)	(9,967)	(9,810)
Deferred revenue at end of period	33,240	26,892	33,240	26,892
Less: current portion	18,535	17,525	18,535	17,525
Long-term deferred revenue at end of period	\$ 14,705	\$ 9,367	\$ 14,705	\$ 9,367

**NOTE M — RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company uses the equity method to account for its interest in EECP Global as it has the ability to exercise significant influence over the entity and reports its share of EECP Global operations in Other Income (Expense) on its condensed consolidated statements of operations. For the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, the Company's share of EECP Global's earnings (loss) was approximately \$24,000 and \$(40,000), respectively, and for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, the Company's share of EECP Global's loss was approximately \$101,000 and \$95,000, respectively, and included in Other (Expense) Income in its condensed consolidated statements of operations. At September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, the Company recorded a net receivable from related parties of approximately \$814,000 and \$403,000, respectively, on its condensed consolidated balance sheet for amounts due from EECP Global for fees and cost reimbursements net of amounts due to EECP Global for receivables collected on its behalf.

**NOTE N — COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

**Litigation**

The Company is currently, and has been in the past, a party to various legal proceedings, primarily employee related matters, incident to its business. The Company believes that the outcome of all pending legal proceedings in the aggregate is unlikely to have a material adverse effect on the business or consolidated financial condition of the Company.

**Sales representation agreement**

In October 2021, the Company concluded an amendment of the GEHC Agreement with GEHC, originally signed on May 19, 2010 and previously extended in 2012, 2015 and 2017. The amendment extended the term of the original agreement, which began on July 1, 2010, through December 31, 2026, subject to early termination by GEHC without cause with certain conditions. Under the agreement, VasoHealthcare is the exclusive representative for the sale of select GEHC diagnostic imaging products to specific market accounts in the 48 contiguous states of the United States and the District of Columbia. The circumstances under which early termination of the agreement may occur with cause include: not materially achieving certain sales goals, not maintaining a minimum number of sales representatives, and not meeting various legal and GEHC policy requirements.

**Vaso Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**NOTE N — COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (cont.)**

*Employment Agreements*

On May 10, 2019, the Company modified its Employment Agreement with its President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jun Ma, to provide for a five-year term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond May 31, 2026. The Employment Agreement provides for annual compensation of \$500,000. Dr. Ma shall be eligible to receive a bonus for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonus, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Dr. Ma shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

On December 31, 2022, the Company executed an Employment Agreement with the President of its VasoHealthcare subsidiary, Ms. Jane Moen, to provide for a twenty-seven month initial term with extensions, unless earlier terminated by the Company, but in no event can it extend beyond December 31, 2026 or the earlier termination of the GEHC Agreement. The Employment Agreement provides for annual base compensation of \$350,000. Ms. Moen shall be eligible to receive bonuses for each fiscal year during the employment term. The amount and the occasion for payment of such bonuses, if any, shall be based on employment status as well as achieving certain operating targets. Ms. Moen shall also be eligible for an award under any long-term incentive compensation plan and grants of options and awards of shares of the Company's stock, as determined at the Board of Directors' discretion. The Employment Agreement further provides for reimbursement of certain expenses, and certain severance benefits in the event of termination prior to the expiration date of the Employment Agreement.

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BUSINESS COMBINATION AGREEMENT  
BY AND AMONG  
ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I,  
ACHARI MERGER SUB, INC.  
AND  
VASO CORPORATION DATED AS  
OF DECEMBER 5, 2023

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**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit A	Form of Sponsor Letter Agreement
Exhibit B	Form of Put Option Agreement
Exhibit C	Form of SPAC A&R Col
Exhibit D	Form of SPAC A&R Bylaws
Exhibit E	Form of Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement
Exhibit F	Form of Lockup Agreement
Exhibit G	Post-Closing Officers
Exhibit H	Form of Indemnification Agreement
Exhibit I	Form of Letter of Transmittal
Exhibit J	Form of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Surviving Company
Exhibit K	Form of Company Support Agreement

BUSINESS COMBINATION AGREEMENT

This Business Combination Agreement (this “Agreement”) is made and entered into as of December 5, 2023 (the “Execution Date”) by and among (a) Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I, a Delaware corporation (the “SPAC”), (b) Achari Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the SPAC (“Merger Sub”, and together with the SPAC, the “SPAC Parties”), and (c) Vaso Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the “Company”). The SPAC, Merger Sub and the Company shall each also be referred to herein from time to time as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”. Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the respective meanings as set forth in Section 1.1.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, (a) the SPAC is a blank check company incorporated for the purpose of effecting a merger, capital stock exchange, asset acquisition, stock purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one (1) or more businesses, and (b) Merger Sub is a direct wholly-owned Subsidiary (as hereinafter defined) of the SPAC and was formed for the sole purpose of the Merger (as hereinafter defined);

WHEREAS, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, at the Closing (as hereinafter defined), Merger Sub will merge with and into the Company, with the Company as the surviving entity (the “Merger”), resulting in the Company becoming a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the SPAC, and each Company Share (as hereinafter defined) will be automatically converted as of the Effective Time (as hereinafter defined) into the right to receive a portion of the Transaction Share Consideration (as hereinafter defined), in each case, on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement and in accordance with Section 251 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the “DGCL”);

WHEREAS, it is intended for U.S. federal and applicable state and local income Tax (as hereinafter defined) purposes that the Merger will be treated as qualifying as a “reorganization” within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code (as hereinafter defined) (the “Intended Tax Treatment”), and, by executing this Agreement, the Parties hereby adopt a “plan of reorganization” within the meaning of Sections 354, 361 and 368 of the Code and Treasury Regulations Sections 1.368-2(g) and 1.368-3, and intend to file the statement required by Treasury Regulations Section 1.368-3(a);

WHEREAS, the SPAC Board (as hereinafter defined) has (a) determined that it is fair to and in the best interests of the SPAC and the stockholders of the SPAC, and declared it advisable, to enter into this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements (as hereinafter defined) to which the SPAC is or will be a party and to consummate the Transactions (as hereinafter defined), (b) adopted and approved the execution, delivery and performance or consummation (as applicable) by the SPAC of this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements to which the SPAC is or will be a party and the Transactions, (c) resolved to recommend that the holders of the SPAC Shares (as hereinafter defined) entitled to vote thereon vote in favor of each SPAC Stockholder Voting Matter (as hereinafter defined), and (d) directed that each SPAC Stockholder Voting Matter be submitted to the holders of the SPAC Shares for approval;

WHEREAS, the board of directors of Merger Sub has (a) determined that it is fair to and in the best interests of Merger Sub and the SPAC (as its sole stockholder), and declared it advisable, to enter into this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which Merger Sub is or will be a party and to consummate the Transactions, (b) adopted and approved the execution, delivery and performance or consummation (as applicable) by Merger Sub of this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements to which Merger Sub is or will be a party and the Transactions, (c) resolved to recommend that the SPAC (as Merger Sub’s sole stockholder) adopt this Agreement, and (d) directed that this Agreement be submitted to the SPAC (as Merger Sub’s sole stockholder) for approval;

WHEREAS, the board of directors of the Company (the “Company Board”) has (a) determined that it is fair to and in the best interests of the Company and the Company Stockholders (as hereinafter defined), and declared it advisable, to enter into this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which the Company is or will be a party and to consummate the Transactions, (b) adopted and approved the execution, delivery and performance or consummation (as applicable) by the Company of this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements to which the Company is or will be a party and the Transactions, (c) resolved to recommend that the Company Stockholders entitled to vote thereon adopt this Agreement, and (d) directed that this Agreement be submitted to the Company Stockholders for approval;

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WHEREAS, as of the date of this Agreement, (i) there are 3,138,321 SPAC Shares issued and outstanding, (ii) Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the sponsor of the SPAC (“Sponsor”), directly holds 1,572,400 SPAC Shares, and (iii) certain Members of the Sponsor (as such term is defined in the Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement of the Sponsor) hold, in the aggregate, 927,600 SPAC Shares in their respective individual capacities;

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the Closing, the Sponsor, the SPAC, the Company and certain other parties thereto shall enter into a Sponsor Letter Agreement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A (the “Sponsor Letter Agreement”), pursuant to which (among other things), the Sponsor shall (a) agree to be bound by certain restrictions on transfer with respect to its SPAC Shares, (b) agree to amend and/or terminate certain “lock-up” and transfer restrictions included in that certain letter agreement, dated as of October 14, 2021, and (c) agree to be bound by certain lock-up provisions during the lock-up periods described therein with respect to its SPAC Shares;

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the Closing, the Sponsor, the SPAC and the Company shall enter into a Put Option Agreement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B (the “Put Option Agreement”), pursuant to which (among other things), the Sponsor shall receive certain put rights as further described therein and the Company shall receive the right of first refusal as further described therein;

WHEREAS, as a condition to the consummation of the Transactions, the SPAC shall provide its stockholders with the opportunity to exercise their respective right to participate in the SPAC Share Redemption (as hereinafter defined), on the terms and subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in the applicable SPAC Governing Documents (as hereinafter defined), in conjunction with, inter alia, obtaining the SPAC Required Vote (as hereinafter defined);

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the Closing and by virtue of the Merger, the Existing SPAC Charter (as hereinafter defined) and the bylaws of the SPAC (as in effect on the date hereof, the “SPAC Bylaws”) shall be amended and restated in the forms attached hereto as Exhibit C (the “SPAC A&R Col”) and Exhibit D (the “SPAC A&R Bylaws”), respectively;

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the Closing, the SPAC and certain security holders and/or executive officers and directors of the Company and the SPAC shall enter into an Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit E (the “Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement”), with respect to the registration of the founder shares and private placement warrants held by the Sponsor and/or certain members of the Sponsor;

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the Closing, certain security holders of the Company and the SPAC shall enter into a Lockup Agreement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit F (the “Lockup Agreement”), pursuant to which (among other things), such security holders shall be bound by certain lock-up provisions during the lock-up periods described therein;

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the Closing, each of the individuals designated to be members of the board of directors of the SPAC shall enter into an Indemnification Agreement with the SPAC, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit H, each, an “Indemnification Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, in connection with the Closing, the SPAC shall be renamed “Vaso Holding Corp.” (or an alternative name chosen by the Company and reasonably acceptable to the SPAC) and the SPAC New Shares (as hereinafter defined) and the SPAC Warrants (as hereinafter defined) shall trade publicly on the Stock Exchange (as hereinafter defined) under the ticker symbols “VASO” and “VASOW”, respectively (or alternative ticker symbols chosen by the Company and reasonably acceptable to the SPAC).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the respective representations, warranties, covenants and agreements set forth herein, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, the Parties, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

## ARTICLE I

### CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

Section 1.1 Certain Definitions. For purposes of this Agreement, capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the respective meanings set forth below.

“2024 Omnibus Incentive Plan” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.18.

“ACA” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.15(c).

“Acceptable Confidentiality Agreement” means a confidentiality agreement that contains confidentiality and standstill provisions on terms no less favorable in any substantive respect to any Group Company than those contained in the Confidentiality Agreement (except for such changes specifically necessary in order for a Group Company to be able to comply with its obligations under this Agreement and such non-material changes requested by the applicable counterparty to ensure that such confidentiality agreement is consistent with its organization’s customary policies, procedures and practices with respect to confidentiality agreements).

“Additional Support List” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.17.

“Affiliate” of any particular Person means any other Person controlling, controlled by or under common control with such Person, where

“control” means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of Equity Interests, its capacity as a sole or managing member or otherwise; provided, that no portfolio company of a private equity fund or other investment fund that is an Affiliate of a Group Company shall be deemed an “Affiliate” for purposes of this Agreement.

“Affiliated Group” means a group of Persons that elects to file, is required to file or otherwise files a Tax Return or pays a Tax as an affiliated group, aggregate group, consolidated group, combined group, unitary group or other group recognized by applicable Tax Law.

“Affiliated Transactions” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.20.

“Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Allocation Schedule” has the meaning set forth in Section 2.3(a).

“Alternative Transaction Structure” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.1(e).

“Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Ancillary Agreement” means each agreement, document, instrument or certificate (a) executed contemporaneously with this Agreement and relating to the transactions contemplated hereby, and/or (b) contemplated hereby to be executed in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, including the Lockup Agreement, the Company Support Agreements, the Put Option Agreement, the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement, the Indemnification Agreements, the Sponsor Letter Agreement and the documents entered into in connection therewith, in each case, only as applicable to the relevant party or parties to such agreement, document, instrument or certificate, as indicated by the context in which such term is used.

“Anti-Corruption Laws” means all applicable U.S. and non-U.S. Laws relating to the prevention of corruption and bribery, including, to the extent applicable to the Company and/or any of its Subsidiaries, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, the Canada Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act of 1999, the UK Bribery Act of 2010 and the legislation adopted in furtherance of the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions or any other applicable Law that prohibits bribery, corruption, fraud or other improper payments.

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“Antitrust Laws” means, collectively, the HSR Act, the Sherman Act, the Clayton Act, the Federal Trade Commission Act and any other United States federal or state or foreign statutes, rules, regulations, Orders, decrees, administrative or judicial doctrines or other Laws that are designed to prohibit, restrict or regulate actions having the purpose or effect of monopolization or restraint of trade or constituting anticompetitive conduct.

“Assets” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.19](#).

“Audited Financial Statements” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.4\(a\)\(i\)](#).

“Business Combination” has the meaning ascribed to such term in the Existing SPAC Charter.

“Business Day” means any day except a Saturday, a Sunday or any other day on which commercial banks are required or authorized to close in the State of New York; provided, however, that such commercial banks shall not be deemed to be authorized to be closed for purposes of this definition due to a “shelter in place”, “non-essential employee” or similar closure of physical branch locations.

“CBA” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.9\(a\)\(i\)](#).

“Certificate of Merger” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.1\(b\)](#).

“Certificates” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.1\(h\)](#).

“Change in Recommendation” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.10](#).

“Clayton Act” means the Clayton Antitrust Act of 1914.

“Closing” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.2](#).

“Closing Date” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.2](#).

“Closing Form 8-K” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.9\(g\)](#).

“Closing Press Release” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.9\(g\)](#).

“Code” means the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“Company” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Company Acquisition Proposal” means any proposal or offer from any Person or “group” (as defined in the Exchange Act) (other than the SPAC, Merger Sub or their respective Affiliates) relating to, in a single transaction or a series of related transactions, (a) any direct or indirect acquisition or purchase of assets or businesses that constitute twenty percent (20%) or more of the assets of the Group Companies, taken as a whole (based on the fair market value thereof, as determined by the Company Board in good faith), including through the acquisition of the Equity Interests of one or more Subsidiaries of the Company, or (b) acquisition of beneficial ownership of twenty percent (20%) or more of the total voting power of the Equity Interests of any Group Company, whether by way of merger, asset purchase, equity purchase or otherwise. “Company Board” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Company Bring-Down Certificate” has the meaning set forth in [Section 9.2\(d\)](#).

“Company Change in Recommendation” means the determination by the Company Board or any committee thereof to (i) change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, or publicly propose or resolve to change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, the recommendation of the Company Board that the Company Stockholders vote in favor of the approval of this Agreement and the Transactions, (ii) adopt, authorize, approve, declare advisable, endorse or recommend any Company Acquisition Proposal, or (iii) agree to take any of the foregoing actions.

“Company Charter” means that certain Restated Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of July 6, 1993, as amended by that certain Certificate of Designations of the Class A Preferred Stock, Series A, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of December 8, 1994, as amended by that certain Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of May 4, 1995, as amended by that certain Certificate of Designations of

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Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of June 25, 1997, as amended by that certain Certificate of Ownership and Merger, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of July 8, 1997, as amended by that certain Certificate of Ownership and Merger, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of August 28, 1997, as amended by that certain Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of December 19, 1997, as amended by that certain Certificate of Designation of Series C Convertible Preferred Stock, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of May 1, 1998, as amended by that certain Certificate of Correction Filed to Correct a Certain Error in the Certificate of Designations of Series C Convertible Preferred Stock, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of October 26, 1998, as amended by that certain Certificate of Designations of Preferences and Rights of Series D Convertible Preferred Stock, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of July 19, 2005, as amended by that certain Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of October 2, 2009, as amended by that certain Certificate of Designations of Preferences and Rights of Series E Convertible Preferred Stock, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of June 24, 2010, as amended by that certain Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation, filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as of November 9, 2016, as further amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time.

“Company Counsel” has the meaning set forth in [Section 11.16\(a\)\(i\)](#).

“Company D&O Provisions” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.12\(b\)](#).

“Company Disclosure Schedules” means the Disclosure Schedules delivered by the Company to the SPAC concurrently with the execution and delivery of this Agreement.

“Company Employee Benefit Plan” means each Employee Benefit Plan that is maintained, sponsored or contributed to (or required to be contributed to) by any of the Group Material Companies or under or with respect to which any of the Group Material Companies has any Liability.

“Company Equity Interests” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.3\(a\)](#).

“Company Equity Plan” means any of (a) the Vasomedical, Inc. 2013 Stock Plan, (b) the Vasomedical, Inc. 2016 Stock Plan, (c) the Vaso Corporation 2019 Stock Plan, and (d) each other plan that provides for the award to any current or former director, manager, officer, employee, individual independent contractor or other service provider of any Group Company of rights of any kind to receive Equity Interests of any Group Company or benefits measured in whole or in part by reference to Equity Interests of any Group Company.

“Company Equityholders” means, collectively, the Company Stockholders and the holders of Company Restricted Share Awards, in each case, as of any determination time prior to the Effective Time.

“Company Expenses” means, as of any determination time, the aggregate amount of all fees, expenses, commissions or other amounts incurred by or on behalf of, and that are due and payable or accrued (and not otherwise expressly allocated to any SPAC Party pursuant to the terms of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement) by, any Group Company in connection with the negotiation, preparation or execution of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreements, the performance of its covenants or agreements in this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement or the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement or the consummation by any Group Company of the Transactions, including (a) the fees and expenses of any Group Company’s outside legal counsel, accountants, advisors, experts (including for a fairness opinion), brokers, investment bankers, consultants or other agents or service providers of any Group Company, and (b) any other fees, expenses, commissions or other amounts that are expressly allocated to any Group Company pursuant to this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything to the contrary herein, “Company Expenses” shall not include any SPAC Expenses.

“Company Fundamental Representations” means the representations and warranties set forth in [Section 3.1](#) (Organization; Authority; Enforceability), [Section 3.2\(a\)](#) (Non-contravention), [Section 3.3](#) (Capitalization), [Section 3.13](#) (Brokerage) and [Section 3.20](#) (Affiliate Transactions).

“Company Group” has the meaning set forth in [Section 11.16\(a\)\(i\)](#).

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“Company Indemnified Persons” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.12(b).

“Company Management Team Members” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.17.

“Company Material Adverse Effect” means any change, effect, event, circumstance, occurrence, state of facts or development that, individually or in the aggregate, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect upon (a) the business, results of operations or financial condition of the Group Companies, taken as a whole, or (b) the ability of the Group Companies, taken as a whole, to perform their respective obligations hereunder and to consummate the Transactions; provided, however, that, with respect to the foregoing clause (a), none of the following will constitute a “Company Material Adverse Effect”, or will be considered in determining whether a “Company Material Adverse Effect” has occurred: (i) changes that are generally applicable to the industries or markets in which the Group Companies operate; (ii) changes in Law or GAAP or the interpretation thereof, in each case, effected after the Execution Date; (iii) any failure of any Group Material Company to achieve any projected periodic revenue or earnings projection, forecast or budget prior to the Closing (it being understood and agreed that the underlying event, circumstance or state of facts giving rise to such failure may be taken into account in determining whether a “Company Material Adverse Effect” has occurred, but only to the extent otherwise permitted to be taken into account); (iv) changes that are the result of economic factors affecting the national, regional or world economy or financial markets; (v) any earthquake, hurricane, tsunami, tornado, flood, mudslide, wildfire or other natural disaster or act of God; (vi) any national or international political conditions in any jurisdiction in which the Group Companies conduct business; (vii) the engagement by the United States in hostilities or the escalation thereof, whether or not pursuant to the declaration of a national emergency or war, or the occurrence or the escalation of any military or terrorist attack upon the United States, or any United States territories, possessions or diplomatic or consular offices, or upon any United States military installation, equipment or personnel; (viii) any consequences arising from any action or inaction by a Party taken or omitted to be taken (1) as expressly required by the terms hereof, or (2) at the express written direction of a SPAC Party; (ix) epidemics, pandemics, disease outbreaks (including COVID-19) or public health emergencies (as declared by the World Health Organization or the Health and Human Services Secretary of the United States) or any Law or guideline issued by a Governmental Entity, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization or industry group providing for business closures, “sheltering-in-place” or other restrictions that relate to, or arise out of, an epidemic, pandemic or disease outbreak (including COVID-19); or (x) the announcement or pendency of the Transactions; provided, however, that any event, circumstance or state of facts resulting from a matter described in any of the foregoing clauses (i), (ii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) and (ix) may be taken into account in determining whether a “Company Material Adverse Effect” has occurred to the extent such event, circumstance or state of facts has a disproportionate and adverse effect on the Group Companies, taken as a whole, relative to other comparable entities operating in the industries or markets in which the Group Companies operate.

“Company Material Subsidiary” means, as of the applicable measurement date, any Company Subsidiary that represents (a) more than three percent (3%) of the aggregate revenues of the Company Group, taken as a whole, or (b) more than three percent (3%) of the aggregate assets of the Company Group, taken as a whole.

“Company Post-Closing Representation” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.16(a)(i).

“Company Proxy Statement” means a proxy statement of the Company to be mailed to its stockholders of record on the date set forth therein for the purpose of soliciting proxies from the Company Stockholders to vote at the Company Special Meeting in favor of this Agreement and the Transactions.

“Company Record Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.9(c).

“Company Registered IP” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.10(a).

“Company Restricted Share Award” means any restricted share award granted by the Company pursuant to a Company Equity Plan.

“Company SEC Reports” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.25(a).

“Company Shares” means shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of the Company designated as “Common Stock” pursuant to the Company Charter.

“Company Special Meeting” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.16.

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“Company Stockholders” means all holders of Company Shares.

“Company Subsidiaries” means the Subsidiaries of the Company.

“Company Superior Proposal” means a bona fide, written Company Acquisition Proposal, that did not result from a breach of any of the terms hereof, including [Section 6.15](#), that the Company Board (after consultation with outside legal counsel) reasonably determines, in good faith, would, if consummated, result in a transaction that is more favorable to the Company Stockholders than the Transactions, after taking into account all such factors and matters deemed relevant, in good faith, by the Company Board, including legal, financial (including the financing terms of any such proposal), regulatory, timing or other aspects of such proposal and the Transactions, and after taking into account any changes to the terms of this Agreement irrevocably offered in writing by the SPAC in response to such bona fide, written Company Acquisition Proposal pursuant to, and in accordance with, [Section 6.15](#); provided that, for purposes of this definition of “Company Superior Proposal”, references in the term “Company Acquisition Proposal” to “twenty percent (20%)” shall be deemed to be references to “fifty percent (50%)”.

“Company Superior Proposal Acceptance” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.15\(d\)](#).

“Company Support Agreement” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.17](#).

“Company Support Deadline” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.17](#).

“Company Tail Policy” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.12\(c\)](#).

“Confidential Information” has the meaning set forth in the Confidentiality Agreement.

“Confidentiality Agreement” means that certain Confidentiality Agreement in effect between the Company and the SPAC.

“Contract” means any written or oral contract, agreement, license or Lease (including any amendments thereto).

“COVID-19” means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19 (and all related strains, variants and sequences), including any intensification, resurgence or any evolutions or mutations thereof, and/or related or associated epidemics, pandemics, disease outbreaks or public health emergencies.

“Data Privacy and Security Requirements” means, collectively, all of the following to the extent relating to privacy, security or data breach notification requirements, including with respect to the processing of Personal Information and applicable to the Company or any of its Affiliates: (a) all applicable Laws; (b) each Group Material Company’s external-facing privacy policies; (c) if applicable to the Company or any of its Affiliates, the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) and any other industry or self-regulatory standard to which the Company or any of its Affiliates is bound or holds itself out to the public as being in compliance with; and (d) applicable provisions of Contracts to which the Company or any of its Affiliates is a party or bound.

“Data Room” has the meaning set forth in [Section 11.5](#).

“Databases” means any and all databases, data collections and data repositories of any type and in any form (and all corresponding data and organizational or classification structures or information), together with all rights therein.

“Delivery Date” means each of the date of the SPAC Special Meeting, the date of the Company Special Meeting and the date on which the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC.

“Device Regulatory Agency” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.24\(a\)](#).

“DGCL” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Disclosure Schedules” means the SPAC Disclosure Schedules and the Company Disclosure Schedules.

“Dissenting Shares” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.7](#).

“Dissenting Stockholder” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.7](#).

“DTC” means the Depository Trust Company.

“Effective Time” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.1\(b\)](#).

“Employee Benefit Plan” means an “employee benefit plan” (as such term is defined in Section 3(3) of ERISA, whether or not subject to ERISA) and each equity or equity-based compensation, retirement, pension, savings, profit sharing, bonus, incentive, severance, separation, employment, individual consulting or independent contractor, transaction, change in control, retention, deferred compensation, vacation, sick pay or paid time-off, medical, dental, life or disability, retiree or post-termination health or welfare, salary continuation, fringe or other compensation or benefit plan, program, policy, agreement, arrangement or Contract.

“Enforceable” means, with respect to any Contract stated to be enforceable by or against any Person, that such Contract is a legal, valid and binding obligation enforceable by or against such Person in accordance with its terms, except to the extent that enforcement of the rights and remedies created thereby is subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance, reorganization, moratorium or similar laws of general application affecting the rights and remedies of creditors and general principles of equity (regardless of whether enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law).

“Environmental Laws” means all Laws concerning pollution, human health or safety, Hazardous Materials or protection of the environment or natural resources as applicable to any Group Material Company.

“Equity Interests” means, with respect to any Person, all of the shares, units or quotas of capital stock or equity of (or other ownership or profit interests in) such Person, all of the warrants, trust rights, options or other rights for the purchase or acquisition from such Person of shares or units of capital stock or equity of (or other ownership or profit interests in) such Person, all of the securities convertible into or exchangeable for or measured by reference to shares or units of capital stock or equity of (or other ownership or profit interests in) such Person or warrants, rights or options for the purchase or acquisition from such Person of such shares or units or equity (or such other interests), restricted equity awards, restricted equity units, equity appreciation rights, phantom equity rights, profit participation and all of the other ownership or profit interests of such Person (including partnership, member or trust interests therein).

“Equity Value” means \$176,000,000.

“ERISA” means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

“ERISA Affiliate” means any Person that, together with any Group Company, is (or at a relevant time has been or would be) considered a single employer under Section 414 of the Code.

“Exchange Act” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

“Exchange Agent” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.5\(a\)](#).

“Exchange Agent Agreement” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.5\(a\)](#).

“Exchange Fund” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.5\(c\)](#).

“Exchange Ratio” means the Per Share Equity Value divided by the SPAC Share Value.

“Execution Date” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Existing SPAC Charter” means the SPAC’s Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, dated as of July 12, 2023, as amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time.

“Fairness Opinion” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.27](#).

“Fairness Opinion Provider” means River Corporate Advisors.

“FDA” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.24\(a\)](#).

“Federal Trade Commission Act” means the Federal Trade Commission Act of 1914.

“Financial Statements” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.4\(a\)](#).

“Fraud” means an act or omission by a Party, and requires: (a) a false or incorrect representation or warranty expressly set forth in this Agreement, (b) with actual knowledge (as opposed to constructive, imputed or implied knowledge) by the Party making such representation or warranty that such representation or warranty expressly set forth in this Agreement is false or incorrect, (c) an intention to deceive another Party, to induce him, her or it to enter into this Agreement, (d) another Party, in justifiable or reasonable reliance upon such false or incorrect representation or warranty expressly set forth in this Agreement, to enter into this Agreement, and (e) another Party to suffer damage by reason of such reliance.

“Fully Diluted Shares Outstanding” means the aggregate number of Company Shares outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, determined on a fully-diluted, as if exercised basis, whether or not exercised, exercisable, settled, eligible for settlement, vested or unvested, including, for the avoidance of doubt, pursuant to any Company Restricted Share Awards (in each case, other than Company Shares owned by the Company which are to be canceled and extinguished in accordance with [Section 2.1\(i\)](#)).

“GAAP” means U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as in effect from time to time.

“Governing Documents” means (a) in the case of a corporation, its certificate of incorporation (or analogous document) and bylaws or memorandum and articles of association, in each case, as amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time (as applicable), (b) in the case of a limited liability company, its certificate of formation (or analogous document) and operating agreement or limited liability company agreement, in each case, as amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time (as applicable), or (c) in the case of a Person other than a corporation or limited liability company, the documents by which such Person (other than an individual) establishes its legal existence or which govern its internal affairs.

“Governmental Entity” means any nation or government, any federal, state, provincial, municipal or other political subdivision thereof, any entity exercising executive, legislative, judicial, regulatory or administrative functions of or pertaining to government, including any court, arbitral body, arbitrator or mediator (public or private), or other body or administrative, regulatory or quasi-judicial authority, agency, department, board, commission or instrumentality of any federal, state, local or foreign jurisdiction.

“Group Companies” means, collectively, the Company and the Company Subsidiaries.

“Group Material Companies” means, collectively, the Company and the Company Material Subsidiaries.

“Group Material Company Product Candidates” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.24\(b\)](#).

“Group Material Company Regulatory Permits” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.24\(b\)](#).

“Hazardous Materials” means any substance, material or waste that is regulated, defined or otherwise characterized as “hazardous” or “toxic” or with words of similar import under any applicable Environmental Law, including petroleum products or byproducts, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, radioactive materials, lead and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

“HSR Act” means the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976.

“Illustrative Allocation Schedule” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.3\(b\)](#).

“Improvements” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.7\(c\)](#).

“Income Tax” means any U.S. federal, state, local or non-U.S. Tax based on or measured by reference to net or gross income.

“Income Tax Return” means any Tax Return with respect to Income Taxes.

“Indebtedness” means, without duplication, with respect to any Person, all obligations (including all obligations in respect of principal, accrued and unpaid interest, penalties, breakage costs, fees and premiums and other costs and expenses associated with repayment or acceleration) of such Person (a) for borrowed money, (b) evidenced by notes, bonds, debentures or similar Contracts or security, (c) for the deferred purchase price of assets, property, goods or services or businesses (other than trade payables incurred in the Ordinary Course of Business)

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or with respect to any conditional sale, title retention, consignment or similar arrangement, (d) for a lease classified as a capital or finance Lease in the Financial Statements or any obligation capitalized or required to be capitalized in accordance with GAAP, (e) for any letters of credit, bankers acceptances or other obligation by which such Person assured a creditor against loss, in each case, to the extent drawn upon or currently payable, (f) for earn-out or contingent Liabilities related to acquisitions or investments (assuming the maximum amount earned), including post-closing price true-ups, indemnifications and seller notes, (g) in respect of dividends or distributions declared payable but unpaid, (h) under derivative financial instruments, including hedges, currency and interest rate swaps and other similar Contracts, and (i) in the nature of guarantees of the obligations described in clauses (a) through (h) above. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, “Indebtedness” of any Group Company shall (x) be measured on a consolidated basis and exclude any intercompany Indebtedness among the Group Companies which are wholly-owned, (y) exclude deferred revenue, and (z) exclude any items that constitute Company Expenses.

“Indemnification Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Insurance Policies” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.16.

“Intellectual Property” means rights in and to all of the following in any jurisdiction throughout the world: (a) all inventions (whether patentable or unpatentable and whether or not reduced to practice) and invention disclosures, all improvements thereto and all patents, utility models and industrial designs and all applications for any of the foregoing, together with all reissuances, provisionals, continuations, continuations-in-part, divisions, extensions, renewals and reexaminations thereof, (b) all trademarks, service marks, certification marks, trade dress, logos, slogans, trade names, corporate and business names, Internet domain names, social media identifiers and other indicia of origin, together with all translations, adaptations, derivations and combinations thereof, and including all goodwill associated therewith, and all applications, registrations and renewals in connection therewith, (c) all works of authorship, copyrightable works, copyrights and rights in databases, and applications, registrations and renewals in connection therewith, and all moral rights associated with any of the foregoing, (d) all mask works and all applications, registrations and renewals in connection therewith, (e) all trade secrets and confidential business information (including ideas, research and development, know-how, formulas, compositions, algorithms, source code, data analytics, manufacturing and production processes and techniques, technical data and information, Databases and collections of data, designs, drawings, specifications and supplier lists, pricing and cost information and business and marketing plans and proposals) (collectively, “Trade Secrets”), (f) all Software, and (g) all other similar proprietary rights.

“Intended Tax Treatment” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Interested Party” means each of any Group Company’s directors, managers, officers or Affiliates (other than any Group Material Company).

“Internal Controls” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.4(c).

“IPO” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.9.

“IRS” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.15(a).

“IT Systems” means all computer hardware (including hardware, firmware, middleware, peripherals, communication equipment and links, storage media, networks, networking equipment, power supplies and any other components used in conjunction with the same), servers, data processing systems, data communication lines, routers, hubs, switches, Databases and all other information technology equipment, and related documentation, in each case, owned or controlled by, or otherwise provided under Contract to, the Company or any of its Affiliates and used in the operation of any of their respective businesses.

“JOBS Act” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.3(b).

“Katten” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.16(b)(i)

“Knowledge” (a) as used in the phrase “to the Knowledge of the Company” or phrases of similar import means the actual knowledge of Jun Ma, Jonathan Newton or Michael Beecher, including after reasonable due inquiry of each such person’s direct reports, and (b) as used in the phrase “to the Knowledge of the SPAC” or phrases of similar import means the actual knowledge of Vikas Desai or Merrick Friedman, including after reasonable due inquiry.

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“Latest Balance Sheet Date” means September 30, 2023.

“Laws” means all laws, common law, acts, statutes, constitutions, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, rulings and Orders.

“Leased Real Property” means all leasehold or subleasehold estates and other rights to use or occupy any land, buildings, structures, improvements, fixtures or other interest in real property held by any Group Material Company.

“Leases” means all leases, subleases, licenses, concessions and other Contracts pursuant to which any Group Material Company holds any Leased Real Property (along with all amendments, modifications and supplements thereto), but excluding all Permits.

“Letter of Transmittal” means the letter of transmittal, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit I hereto.

“Liability” or “Liabilities” means any and all debts, liabilities, guarantees, commitments or obligations, whether accrued or fixed, known or unknown, absolute or contingent, matured or unmatured, liquidated or unliquidated, accrued or not accrued, direct or indirect, due or to become due or determined or determinable.

“Liens” means, with respect to any specified asset, any and all liens, mortgages, hypothecations, claims, encumbrances, options, pledges, licenses, rights of priority, easements, covenants, restrictions and security interests thereon.

“Lockup Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“LOI” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.6.

“Lookback Date” means the date which is two (2) years prior to the Execution Date.

“Material Contract” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.9(b).

“Material Leases” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.7(a).

“Material Suppliers” means the top ten (10) suppliers of materials, products or services to the Group Companies, taken as a whole (measured by aggregate amount purchased by the Group Companies), during the twelve (12) months ended December 31, 2022; provided that any such supplier is excluded from such definition if such supplier provides less than five percent (5%) of the materials, products or services to the Group Companies, taken as a whole.

“Maximum Annual Premium” means an annual premium for the applicable insurance policy in excess of two hundred twenty-five percent (225%) of the aggregate annual premium payable by the SPAC or the Company, as applicable, for such insurance policy for the year ended 2023.

“Merger” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Merger Sub” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“New Vaso Directors” shall mean those persons to be elected or appointed as directors of the SPAC as set forth in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement.

“Non-Party Affiliate” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.14.

“OFAC” has the meaning set forth in the definition of “Sanctions”.

“Order” means any order, writ, judgment, injunction, temporary restraining order, stipulation, determination, decree or award entered by or with any Governmental Entity.

“Ordinary Course of Business” means, with respect to any Person, any action taken by such Person in the ordinary course of business of such Person consistent with past practice.

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“Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement” means any written commercial agreement entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business of which the principal subject matter is not Tax, but which contains customary Tax indemnification provisions.

“OTCQX” means the OTCQX® Best Market operated by OTC Markets Group, Inc.

“Outside Date” has the meaning set forth in [Section 10.1\(c\)](#).

“Owned Intellectual Property” means all Intellectual Property owned or purported to be owned by any of the Group Companies.

“Party” and “Parties” have the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“PCAOB” means the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

“Per Share Equity Value” means the quotient of (a) the Equity Value divided by (b) the Fully Diluted Shares Outstanding.

“Permits” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.17\(b\)](#).

“Permitted Liens” means (a) easements, rights of way, restrictions, covenants, encroachments, minor defects or irregularities and other similar Liens of record affecting title to the underlying fee interest in the Leased Real Property or the applicable Group Company’s interests therein which do not materially impair the current use or occupancy of such Leased Real Property in the operation of the business of any of the Group Companies currently conducted thereon, (b) statutory Liens for Taxes, assessments or governmental charges or levies imposed with respect to property which are not yet due and payable or which are being contested in good faith through appropriate proceedings (provided appropriate reserves required pursuant to GAAP have been made in respect thereof), (c) Liens in favor of suppliers of goods for which payment is not yet due or delinquent (provided appropriate reserves required pursuant to GAAP have been made in respect thereof), (d) mechanics’, materialmen’s, workmen’s, repairmen’s, warehousemen’s and carrier’s Liens arising or incurred in the Ordinary Course of Business for amounts which are not due and payable, (e) Liens arising under workers’ compensation Laws or similar legislation, unemployment insurance or similar Laws, (f) zoning, building codes and other land use Laws, in each case, promulgated by any Governmental Entity having jurisdiction over the Leased Real Property, which do not materially impair the applicable Group Company’s current use or occupancy of the Leased Real Property, (g) Securities Liens, or (h) those Liens set forth in [Section 1.1](#) of the Company Disclosure Schedules.

“Person” means any natural person, sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, trust, unincorporated association, corporation, limited liability company, entity or Governmental Entity.

“Personal Information” means both (a) any information that is defined as “personal information”, “personal data” or similar terms under applicable Privacy Laws, and (b) any information that identifies or is reasonably capable of being associated with or could reasonably be linked, directly or indirectly, with a particular individual, household or device, including names, addresses, telephone numbers, personal health information, drivers’ license numbers and government-issued identification numbers.

“Pre-Closing Period” has the meaning set forth in [Section 5.1](#).

“Pre-Closing Tax Period” means any taxable period ending on or before the Closing Date and the portion of any Straddle Period through and including the Closing Date.

“Privacy Laws” means all applicable Laws pertaining to data protection, data privacy, data security and/or cybersecurity.

“Proceeding” means any action, claim, suit, charge, petition, litigation, complaint, investigation, audit, examination, assessment, notice of violation, citation, arbitration, mediation, inquiry or other proceeding at law or in equity (whether civil, criminal or administrative) by or before any Governmental Entity.

“Proprietary Software” means all Software owned or purported to be owned by any Group Company.

“Prospectus” has the meaning set forth in [Section 11.9](#).

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“Put Option Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Registration Statement/Proxy Statement” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.9\(c\)](#).

“Released Claims” has the meaning set forth in [Section 11.9](#).

“Releasing Parties” has the meaning set forth in [Section 11.9](#).

“Representatives” means, with respect to any Person, the officers, directors, managers, employees, representatives or agents (including investment bankers, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, brokers, engineers and other advisors or consultants) of such Person, to the extent that such officer, director, manager, employee, representative or agent of such Person is acting in his or her capacity as an officer, director, manager, employee, representative or agent of such Person.

“Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters” means each of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters other than the matters set forth in clause (g) of the definition thereof.

“Requisite Approval Deadline” means April 15, 2024; provided that, if on such date the Parties continue to work in good faith to obtain from the SEC a declaration of the effectiveness of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, then such date shall automatically extend for a period of thirty (30) days.

“Requisite Company Stockholder Approval” means the requisite consent of the Company Stockholders under the DGCL and the Company Charter and the other Governing Documents of the Company to approve this Agreement and the Transactions, which shall require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Company Shares, voting together as a single class.

“Sanctioned Country” means any country or region that is the subject or target of a comprehensive embargo under Sanctions (including Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Venezuela, Syria and the Crimea region of Ukraine).

“Sanctioned Person” means any Person that is: (a) listed on any U.S. or non-U.S. Sanctions-related restricted party list, including OFAC’s Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List, the EU Consolidated List and HM Treasury’s Consolidated List of Persons Subject to Financial Sanctions, (b) in the aggregate, fifty percent (50%) or greater owned, directly or indirectly, or otherwise controlled, by a Person or Persons described in [clause \(a\)](#), or (c) organized, resident or located in a Sanctioned Country.

“Sanctions” means all Laws and Orders relating to economic or trade sanctions administered or enforced by the United States (including by the U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (“OFAC”), the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Commerce), Canada, the United Kingdom, the United Nations Security Council or the European Union.

“Sarbanes-Oxley Act” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.25\(a\)](#).

“SEC” means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

“Securities Act” means the Securities Act of 1933.

“Securities Liens” means Liens arising out of, under or in connection with (a) applicable federal, state and local securities Laws, and (b) restrictions on transfer, hypothecation or similar actions contained in any applicable Governing Documents.

“Security Breach” means a data security breach or breach of Personal Information under applicable Laws.

“Security Incident” means an actual or suspected likely breach of security, intrusion or denial of service or unauthorized entry, access, collection, use, processing, storage, sharing, distribution, transfer, disclosure or destruction of any IT Systems, Personal Information or any proprietary or confidential information.

“Sherman Act” means the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890. “Signing

Form 8-K” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.9\(b\)](#). “Signing

Press Release” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.9\(b\)](#).

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“Software” means all computer software programs and Databases (and all derivative works, foreign language versions, enhancements, versions, releases, fixes, upgrades and updates thereto), whether in source code, object code or human readable form, and manuals, design notes, programmers’ notes and other documentation related to or associated with any of the foregoing.

“SPAC” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“SPAC A&R Bylaws” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“SPAC A&R Col” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“SPAC Auditor” means Marcum LLP.

“SPAC Auditor Comfort Letter” has the meaning set forth in [Section 2.6\(a\)](#).

“SPAC Balance Sheet” has the meaning set forth in [Section 4.5\(c\)](#).

“SPAC Board” means the board of directors of the SPAC.

“SPAC Bring-Down Certificate” has the meaning set forth in [Section 9.3\(c\)](#).

“SPAC Bylaws” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“SPAC D&O Provisions” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.12\(a\)](#).

“SPAC Disclosure Schedules” means the Disclosure Schedules delivered by the SPAC to the Company concurrently with the execution and delivery of this Agreement.

“SPAC Expenses” means, as of any determination time (unless otherwise provided in this definition), the aggregate amount of all fees, expenses, commissions or other amounts incurred by or on behalf of, and that are due and payable or accrued (and not otherwise expressly allocated to the Company or any Company Stockholder pursuant to the terms of this Agreement (other than [Section 6.11](#)) or any Ancillary Agreement) by a SPAC Party, including (a) (w) income tax payable (measured as of Closing, and not thereafter), (x) excise taxes that (1) become actually due and payable, if any, upon the redemption of the SPAC Shares in conjunction with the Merger and (2) are actually due and payable, in each case as evidenced by (i) a written IRS assessment not solicited by any Party or any Affiliate thereof, (ii) the written agreement of the Sponsor, (iii) an order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or (iv) the Company’s outside independent accountant makes a written good faith determination that such excise taxes are actually due and payable, (y) franchise tax payable (measured as of Closing, and not thereafter) and (z) notes payable, (b) the fees and expenses of outside legal counsel, experts, accountants, advisors, brokers, investment bankers, consultants, transfer agents, proxy solicitors, placement agents or other agents or service providers of any SPAC Party, (c) any other fees, expenses, commissions or other amounts that are expressly allocated to any SPAC Party pursuant to this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, and (d) any Working Capital Loans and/or promissory notes issued by the Sponsor to the SPAC. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything to the contrary herein, “SPAC Expenses” shall not include any Company Expenses.

“SPAC Governing Documents” means the Existing SPAC Charter and the SPAC Bylaws, in each case, as amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time.

“SPAC Indemnified Persons” has the meaning set forth in [Section 6.12\(a\)](#).

“SPAC Material Adverse Effect” means any change, effect, event, circumstance, occurrence, state of facts or development that, individually or in the aggregate, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect upon (a) the business, prospects, results of operations or financial condition of the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, or (b) the ability of the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, to perform their respective obligations hereunder and to consummate the Transactions; provided, however, that, with respect to the foregoing clause (a), none of the following will constitute a “SPAC Material Adverse Effect”, or will be considered in determining whether a “SPAC Material Adverse Effect” has occurred: (i) changes that are generally applicable to the industries or markets in which the SPAC Parties operate; (ii) changes in Law or GAAP or the interpretation thereof, in each case, effected after the Execution Date; (iii) any failure of any SPAC Party to achieve any projected periodic revenue or earnings projection, forecast or budget prior to the Closing (it being understood and agreed that the underlying event, circumstance or state of facts giving rise to such failure may be taken into account in determining whether a

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“SPAC Material Adverse Effect” has occurred, but only to the extent otherwise permitted to be taken into account); (iv) changes that are the result of economic factors affecting the national, regional or world economy or financial markets; (v) any earthquake, hurricane, tsunami, tornado, flood, mudslide, wildfire or other natural disaster or act of God, including the COVID-19 pandemic; (vi) any national or international political conditions in any jurisdiction in which the SPAC Parties conduct business; (vii) the engagement by the United States in hostilities or the escalation thereof, whether or not pursuant to the declaration of a national emergency or war, or the occurrence or the escalation of any military or terrorist attack upon the United States, or any United States territories, possessions or diplomatic or consular offices or upon any United States military installation, equipment or personnel; (viii) any consequences arising from any action by a Party that is expressly required by the terms hereof, or (ix) epidemics, pandemics, disease outbreaks (including COVID-19) or public health emergencies (as declared by the World Health Organization or the Health and Human Services Secretary of the United States), or any Law or guideline issued by a Governmental Entity, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization or industry group providing for business closures or “sheltering-in-place” or other restrictions that relate to, or arise out of, an epidemic, pandemic or disease outbreak (including COVID-19); provided, however, that any event, circumstance or state of facts resulting from a matter described in any of the foregoing clauses (i), (ii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) and (ix) may be taken into account in determining whether a “SPAC Material Adverse Effect” has occurred to the extent such event, circumstance or state of facts has a disproportionate effect on the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, relative to other comparable entities operating in the industries or markets in which the SPAC Parties operate.

“SPAC Material Contracts” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.19.

“SPAC New Shares” means, at all times at or after the Effective Time, shares of the SPAC’s Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, issued and outstanding pursuant to the SPAC’s Governing Documents.

“SPAC Parties” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“SPAC Parties Fundamental Representations” means the representations and warranties set forth in Section 4.1 (Organization; Authority; Enforceability), Section 4.4 (Brokerage) and Section 4.9 (SPAC Capitalization).

“SPAC Post-Closing Representation” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.16(b)(i).

“SPAC Public Securities” means the issued and outstanding SPAC Shares and SPAC Warrants.

“SPAC Record Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.9(c).

“SPAC Required Vote” means the affirmative vote of the holders of the requisite number of SPAC Shares entitled to vote thereon at the SPAC Special Meeting (or any adjournment thereof), in accordance with the SPAC Governing Documents, applicable Law and the requirements of the Stock Exchange.

“SPAC SEC Documents” means all forms, reports, schedules, statements and other documents filed or furnished, or required to be filed or furnished, by the SPAC with the SEC pursuant to the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, as applicable, together with any amendments, restatements, supplements, exhibits and schedules thereto and other information incorporated therein.

“SPAC Share Redemption” means the election of an eligible holder of SPAC Shares (as determined in accordance with the applicable SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement) to redeem all or a portion of such holder’s SPAC Shares, at the per-share price, payable in cash, equal to such holder’s pro rata share of the Trust Account (as determined in accordance with the SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement) in connection with the SPAC Special Meeting.

“SPAC Share Value” means \$10.00.

“SPAC Shares” means, at all times prior to the Effective Time, shares of the SPAC’s common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, issued and outstanding pursuant to the terms of the SPAC Governing Documents.

“SPAC Special Meeting” means an extraordinary general meeting of the holders of SPAC Shares to be held for the purpose of voting on whether to approve the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters.

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“SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters” means, collectively, proposals to approve (a) this Agreement and the Transactions, (b) the issuance of SPAC Shares or SPAC New Shares, including any SPAC Shares or SPAC New Shares to be issued in connection with the Transactions, as may be required under the Stock Exchange’s listing requirements, (c) the amendment and restatement of the Existing SPAC Charter in the form of the SPAC A&R CoI, (d) the 2024 Omnibus Incentive Plan, (e) the election or appointment of the New Vaso Directors to the SPAC Board, (f) any other proposals as the SEC or the Stock Exchange (or any staff member thereof) may indicate are necessary in its comments to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement or correspondence related thereto, and (g) a proposal for the adjournment of the SPAC Special Meeting, if necessary, to permit further solicitation of proxies (i) because a quorum for the SPAC Special Meeting has not been established, (ii) because there are not sufficient votes to approve and adopt any of the foregoing, or (iii) to seek to limit or reverse any redemptions of SPAC Shares.

“SPAC Stockholders” means the holders of SPAC Shares.

“SPAC Tail Policy” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.12(c).

“SPAC Warrants” means, as then issued and outstanding, warrants entitling the holder thereof to purchase three quarters of one (1) SPAC Share at a price of \$11.50 per share (subject to adjustment as described in the Warrant Agreement), issued pursuant to the Warrant Agreement.

“Sponsor” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Sponsor Group” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.16(b)(i).

“Sponsor Letter Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Stock Exchange” means The Nasdaq Global Market LLC (including any of the tiers thereof).

“Stock Exchange Listing Application” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.4.

“Straddle Period” means any taxable period that begins on or before (but does not end on) the Closing Date.

“Subsidiaries” of any Person means any corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture or other business entity of which more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting power or equity is owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one (1) or more of the direct or indirect subsidiaries of such Person or a combination thereof.

“Surviving Company” has the meaning set forth in Section 2.1(a).

“Surviving Company Share” has the meaning set forth in Section 2.1(g).

“Tax” or “Taxes” means (a) all net or gross income, net or gross receipts, net or gross proceeds, payroll, employment, excise, severance, stamp, occupation, windfall or excess profits, profits, customs, capital stock, withholding, social security, unemployment, disability, real property, personal property (tangible and intangible), unclaimed property, escheat, sales, use, transfer, value added, alternative or add-on minimum, capital gains, user, leasing, lease, natural resources, ad valorem, franchise, gaming license, capital, estimated, goods and services, fuel, interest equalization, registration, recording, premium, environmental or other taxes, assessments, duties or similar charges, including all interest, penalties and additions imposed with respect to (or in lieu of) any of the foregoing, imposed by (or otherwise payable to) any Governmental Entity, and, in each case, whether disputed or not, (b) any Liability for, or in respect of the payment of, any amount of a type described in clause (a) of this definition as a result of Treasury Regulations Section 1.1502-6 (or any similar provision of any Law) or being a member of an affiliated, combined, consolidated, unitary, aggregate or other group for Tax purposes, and (c) any Liability for, or in respect of the payment of, any amount described in clause (a) or (b) of this definition as a transferee or successor, by Contract, by operation of Law or otherwise.

“Tax Returns” means returns, declarations, reports, claims for refund, information returns, elections, disclosures, statements or other documents (including any related or supporting schedules, attachments, statements or information, and including any amendments thereof) filed or required to be filed with a Governmental Entity in connection with, or relating to, Taxes.

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“Tax Sharing Agreement” means any agreement or arrangement (including any provision of a Contract) pursuant to which any Group Company is or may be obligated to indemnify any Person for, or otherwise pay, any Tax of or imposed on another Person, or indemnify any other Person for, or pay over to any other Person, any amount determined by reference to actual or deemed Tax benefits, Tax assets or Tax savings.

“Taxing Authority” means any Governmental Entity having jurisdiction over the assessment, determination, collection, administration or imposition of any Tax.

“Termination Fee” has the meaning set forth in Section 10.2.

“Trade Controls” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.21(a).

“Trade Secrets” has the meaning set forth in the definition of Intellectual Property.

“Transaction Share Consideration” means an aggregate number of SPAC New Shares equal to (a) the Equity Value divided by (b) the SPAC Share Value.

“Transactions” means the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements, including the Merger.

“Transfer Taxes” means all transfer, documentary, sales, use, value added, goods and services, stamp, registration, notarial fees and other similar Taxes and fees incurred in connection with the Transactions.

“Treasury Regulations” means the U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated under the Code.

“Trust Account” means the trust account established pursuant to the Trust Agreement.

“Trust Agreement” means that certain Second Amended and Restated Investment Management Trust Agreement, dated of July 12, 2023, by and between the SPAC and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, as amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time.

“Trust Amount” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.11.

“Trustee” means Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, acting as trustee of the Trust Account.

“Unaudited Balance Sheet” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.4(a)(ii).

“Unaudited Financial Statements” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.4(a)(ii).

“Unpaid Company Expenses” means the Company Expenses that are unpaid as of immediately prior to the Closing or as of the termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, as applicable.

“Unpaid SPAC Expenses” means the SPAC Expenses that are unpaid as of immediately prior to the Closing or as of the termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, as applicable.

“Vaso Auditor” means UHY, LLP.

“Vaso Auditor Comfort Letter” has the meaning set forth in Section 2.6(b). “Waiving Parties” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.16(a)(i).

“WARN Act” means the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act of 1988 or any similar or related Law.

“Warrant Agreement” means that certain Warrant Agreement, dated as of October 14, 2021, entered into between the SPAC and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, as warrant agent, as amended, amended and restated, modified or supplemented from time to time.

“Working Capital Loans” means any loan made to the SPAC by any of the Sponsor, an Affiliate of the Sponsor or any of the SPAC’s officers or directors, and evidenced by a promissory note, for the purpose of financing costs incurred in connection with the operation of the SPAC in the Ordinary Course of Business.

ARTICLE II

THE MERGER; CLOSING

Section 2.1 Merger.

(a) On the Closing Date, upon the terms and subject to the conditions of this Agreement, and in accordance with the DGCL, at the Effective Time, Merger Sub shall be merged with and into the Company. As a result of the Merger, the separate corporate existence of Merger Sub shall cease and the Company shall continue as the surviving corporation of the Merger (the “Surviving Company”) and shall become a wholly-owned Subsidiary of the SPAC.

(b) On the Closing Date, upon the terms and subject to the conditions of this Agreement, the Parties shall cause the Merger to be consummated by filing a certificate of merger with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware executed in accordance with, and in such form as is required by, the relevant provisions of the DGCL and mutually agreed by the Parties (the “Certificate of Merger”), and shall make all other filings, recordings or publications required under the DGCL in connection with the Merger. The Merger shall become effective at the time that the properly executed and certified copy of the Certificate of Merger is filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware or, to the extent permitted by applicable Law, at such other time as is agreed to in writing by the Parties prior to the filing of such Certificate of Merger and specified in such Certificate of Merger (the time at which the Merger becomes effective is herein referred to as the “Effective Time”).

(c) The Merger shall have the effects set forth in Section 251 of the DGCL. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and subject thereto, at the Effective Time, all of the assets, properties, rights, privileges, powers and franchises of the Company and Merger Sub shall vest in the Surviving Company and all debts, liabilities, obligations, restrictions, disabilities and duties of each of the Company and Merger Sub shall become the debts, liabilities, obligations, restrictions, disabilities and duties of the Surviving Company, in each case, in accordance with the DGCL.

(d) At the Effective Time, the Company Charter, as in effect immediately prior to the Effective Time, shall be amended and restated to read in its entirety as set forth in Exhibit J attached hereto, and, as so amended, such amended and restated certificate of incorporation shall be the certificate of incorporation of the Surviving Company until thereafter changed or amended as provided therein or by applicable Law.

(e) At the Closing, the SPAC shall (a) subject to obtaining the SPAC Required Vote with respect to the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, amend and restate the Existing SPAC Charter in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C, and (b) amend and restate the SPAC Bylaws in the form attached hereto as Exhibit D.

(f) At the Effective Time, the Parties shall cause the officers of the Company and the SPAC immediately following the Effective Time to be comprised of the individuals set forth as officers on Exhibit G to this Agreement, each to hold office in accordance with the Governing Documents of the Company or the SPAC, as applicable; provided that the Company may, with the prior written consent of the SPAC (such consent, with respect to changes to the Company’s officers, not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), at any time prior to the declaration of the effectiveness of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement by the SEC, and solely to the extent the same does not result in the SPAC not meeting the listing requirements of the Stock Exchange, update Exhibit G to (i) remove and/or replace any officers of the Company and/or the SPAC, and (ii) appoint additional officers of the Company and/or the SPAC.

(g) At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of any Party or any other Person, each share of capital stock of Merger Sub issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time shall be automatically cancelled and extinguished and converted into one share of common stock, par value \$0.01, of the Surviving Company (each such share, a “Surviving Company Share”).

(h) At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of any Party or any other Person, each Company Share (excluding any Dissenting Shares and the Company Shares cancelled and extinguished pursuant to Section 2.1(i)) issued and outstanding as of immediately prior to the Effective Time shall be automatically cancelled and extinguished and converted, based on the Exchange Ratio, into the right to receive

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the number of SPAC New Shares set forth on the Allocation Schedule. From and after the Effective Time, each Company Stockholder's certificates, if any, evidencing ownership of the Company Shares issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (the "Certificates") shall each cease to have any rights with respect to such Company Shares except as otherwise expressly provided for herein or under applicable Law.

(i) At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of any Party or any other Person, each Company Share held immediately prior to the Effective Time by the Company as treasury stock shall be automatically cancelled and extinguished, and no consideration shall be paid with respect thereto.

Section 2.2 Closing. The closing of the Transactions (the "Closing") shall take place electronically by exchange of signature pages by email or other electronic transmission at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time on (a) the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Business Day after the conditions set forth in Article IX have been satisfied, or, if permissible, waived by the Party entitled to the benefit of the same (other than those conditions which, by their respective terms, are required to be satisfied at the Closing, but subject to the satisfaction or waiver of such conditions at the Closing), or (b) such other date and time as the Parties mutually agree in writing (the date upon which the Closing occurs, the "Closing Date").

Section 2.3 Allocation Schedule.

(a) At least three (3) Business Days prior to the Closing Date, the Company shall deliver to the SPAC an allocation schedule (the "Allocation Schedule") setting forth:

(i) (A) the number of Company Shares held by each Company Stockholder, and (B) the number and type of Equity Interests of the Company that are subject to a Company Restricted Share Award (and the holder and whether each such Equity Interest will be vested or unvested as of immediately prior to the Effective Time);

(ii) (A) the Exchange Ratio, and (B) the portion of the Transaction Share Consideration (specifying the number of the SPAC New Shares) allocated to each Company Share pursuant to Section 2.1(h) based on the Exchange Ratio (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the number of the SPAC New Shares that would be allocated to any such Company Shares pursuant to Section 2.1(h) but for such Company Shares being Dissenting Shares), as well as, in the case of each of clauses (A) through (B), reasonably detailed calculations with respect to the components and subcomponents thereof (including any exchange (or similar) ratio on which such calculations are based);

(iii) each Company Stockholder that is a Dissenting Stockholder and the number of Company Shares held by such Company Stockholder that are Dissenting Shares; and

(iv) a certification, duly executed by an authorized officer of the Company, that the information and calculations delivered pursuant to clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) of this Section 2.3(a) are, and will be as of immediately prior to the Effective Time, (A) true and correct in all respects, (B) in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Agreement, the Governing Documents of the Company and applicable Laws, and (C) in the case of the Company Restricted Share Awards, in accordance with the applicable Company Equity Plan and any applicable grant or similar agreement (or other documentation evidencing such grant) with respect thereto.

(b) No later than the date thirty (30) days following the Execution Date, the Company shall deliver to the SPAC an illustrative Allocation Schedule (the "Illustrative Allocation Schedule") prepared by the Company as if the Closing occurred as of the date of this Agreement and, without limiting any other covenants, agreements, representations or warranties of the Company under this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, or of any Company Equityholder under any Ancillary Agreement, or the rights or remedies of any SPAC Party or the Sponsor with respect thereto, the Allocation Schedule will be substantially in the form of the Illustrative Allocation Schedule and will take into account any changes to the Company's capitalization between the date of this Agreement and the date of delivery of the Allocation Schedule to the SPAC pursuant to Section 2.3(a). The Company will review and consider in good faith any comments to the Allocation Schedule provided by the SPAC or any of its Representatives and the Company and the SPAC, acting in good faith, shall mutually agree on the contents of the Allocation Schedule.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything to the contrary herein, (i) all Company Shares held by any Company Equityholder shall be aggregated, and the Exchange Ratio shall be applied to that aggregate number of shares held by such Company Equityholder, and not on a share-by-share basis, (ii) the aggregate number of the SPAC New Shares that each Company Equityholder will have a right to receive or to which his, her or its Company

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Restricted Share Award (if any) will become subject, as applicable, under this Agreement will be rounded up to the nearest whole share, (iii) in no event shall the aggregate number of the SPAC New Shares set forth on the Allocation Schedule that are allocated in respect of the Equity Interests of the Company (or, for the avoidance of doubt, the Company Equityholders), exceed (A) the Transaction Share Consideration, minus (B) the SPAC New Shares that would be allocated to Company Shares pursuant to Section 2.1(h) but for such Company Shares being Dissenting Shares (it being further understood and agreed, for the avoidance of doubt, that in no event shall any SPAC New Shares described in this clause (B) be allocated to any other Company Equityholder and shall instead not be allocated at the Closing or otherwise, except solely in the circumstances described in Section 2.7), (iv) the SPAC Parties and the Exchange Agent will be entitled to rely upon the Allocation Schedule for purposes of allocating the transaction consideration to the Company Equityholders under this Agreement or under the Exchange Agent Agreement, as applicable, and (v) upon delivery, payment and issuance of the Transaction Share Consideration on the Closing Date to the Exchange Agent, the SPAC and its respective Affiliates shall be deemed to have satisfied all obligations with respect to the payment of consideration under this Agreement (including with respect to the Transaction Share Consideration), and none of them shall have (I) any further obligations to the Company, any Company Equityholder or any other Person with respect to the payment of any consideration under this Agreement (including with respect to the Transaction Share Consideration), or (II) any Liability with respect to the allocation of the consideration under this Agreement, and the Company (on behalf of itself and the Company Equityholders) hereby irrevocably waives and releases the SPAC and its Affiliates (and, on and after the Closing, the Company and its Affiliates) from any and all claims arising out of or resulting from or related to such Allocation Schedule and the allocation of the Transaction Share Consideration, as the case may be, among each Company Equityholder as set forth in such Allocation Schedule. For the avoidance of doubt, immediately after the Effective Time, no shares of the SPAC's Class B Common Stock (as defined in the the SPAC A&RCOI) shall be issued or outstanding.

### Section 2.4 Treatment of Company Restricted Share Awards(a).

(a) At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action of any Party or any other Person (but subject to, in the case of the Company, Section 2.4(c)), each Company Restricted Share Award outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time shall automatically and without any action on the part of the holder thereof, automatically vest in full and shall be converted into the right to receive the number of SPAC New Shares in accordance with Section 2.3 corresponding to the applicable portion of such Company Restricted Share Awards that vest pursuant to this Section 2.4(a).

(b) At the Effective Time, no new awards will be granted under any Company Equity Plans, and each of the Company Equity Plans shall be terminated by the Company without any further obligations or Liabilities to the Company or any of its Affiliates (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the SPAC).

(c) Prior to the Closing, the Company shall take, or cause to be taken, all reasonably necessary or appropriate actions (including adopting resolutions by the Company Board or a committee thereof) under the applicable Company Equity Plans, or other applicable instruments under the underlying grant, award, warrant or similar agreement and otherwise, in each case, to give effect to the provisions of this Section 2.4. Prior to such adoption, the Company will provide the SPAC with drafts of, and a reasonable opportunity to comment on, all such resolutions.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, no fractional SPAC New Shares shall be issued in the Merger. In the event any Company Equityholder would otherwise be entitled to receive a fraction of a SPAC New Share (after aggregating all fractional SPAC New Shares issuable to such holder), such fractional share shall be rounded up to the next whole share. The Parties acknowledge and agree that any such adjustment to the nearest whole share was not separately bargained-for consideration but merely represents a mechanical rounding off for purposes of avoiding the expense and inconvenience to the SPAC that would otherwise be caused by the issuance of fractional shares.

### Section 2.5 Exchange Procedures.

(a) At least twenty-five (25) Business Days prior to the anticipated Closing Date, the SPAC shall appoint an exchange agent reasonably acceptable to the Company (the "Exchange Agent") (it being understood and agreed, for the avoidance of doubt, that Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company (or any of its Affiliates) shall be deemed to be acceptable to the Company) and enter into an exchange agent agreement with the Exchange Agent (the "Exchange Agent Agreement") for the purpose of exchanging Certificates, if any, representing the Company Shares and Company Restricted Share Awards and each Company Share or Company Restricted Share

Award, as applicable, held in book-entry form on the stock transfer books of the Company immediately prior to the Effective Time, in either case, for the portion of the Transaction Share Consideration issuable in respect of such Company Shares or Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, pursuant to [Section 2.1\(h\)](#) and on the terms and subject to the other conditions set forth in this Agreement. The Company, including through its transfer agent, shall reasonably cooperate with the SPAC and the Exchange Agent in connection with the appointment of the Exchange Agent, the entry into the Exchange Agent Agreement (including, if necessary or advisable, as determined in good faith by the SPAC, by also entering into the Exchange Agent Agreement in the form agreed to by the SPAC and the Exchange Agent) and the covenants and agreements in this [Section 2.5](#) (including the provision of any information and/or documentation otherwise required by the Exchange Agent Agreement for the Exchange Agent to fulfill its duties as the Exchange Agent in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby). At least twenty-one (21) Business Days prior to the anticipated Closing Date, to the extent required by the Exchange Agent Agreement, the SPAC shall provide its transfer agent with (i) a list of the names, addresses, share amounts and certificate detail of holders of SPAC Shares or SPAC New Shares of record as of the applicable record date, (ii) the Company Equityholder list to the extent provided to the SPAC by the Company or the Company's transfer agent, and (iii) totals of the amounts of SPAC Shares and SPAC New Shares to be outstanding immediately following the Closing. At least ten (10) Business Days prior to the anticipated Closing Date, the Company shall provide the Exchange Agent with (x) a legal opinion of the Company's counsel, in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Exchange Agent, regarding the issuance of the Transaction Share Consideration in exchange for the Company Shares and the Company Restricted Stock Awards, as applicable, and (y) written instructions containing (A) a schedule of the Company Equityholders and the corresponding amount of SPAC New Shares to be received by such Company Equityholders, (B) any restrictions that will apply to such SPAC New Shares, and (C) a summary outline of the Transaction Share Consideration to be received by each Company Equityholder and SPAC Stockholder.

(b) At least twenty (20) Business Days prior to the anticipated Closing Date, the Company shall mail or otherwise deliver or cause to be delivered (including through the Exchange Agent), or shall cause to be mailed or otherwise delivered, to each of the Company Equityholders holding any or all of their Company Shares or Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, in certificated form, a Letter of Transmittal.

(c) At the Effective Time, the SPAC shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Exchange Agent, for the benefit of the Company Equityholders and for exchange in accordance with this [Section 2.5](#) through the Exchange Agent, evidence of SPAC New Shares in book-entry form representing the portion of the Transaction Share Consideration issuable pursuant to [Section 2.1\(h\)](#) in exchange for the Company Shares and Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time. All shares in book-entry form representing the portion of the Transaction Share Consideration issuable pursuant to [Section 2.1\(h\)](#) deposited with the Exchange Agent shall be referred to in this Agreement as the "Exchange Fund".

(d) Each Company Equityholder whose Company Shares or Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, have been converted into the right to receive a portion of the Transaction Share Consideration pursuant to [Section 2.1\(h\)](#) shall be entitled to receive the portion of the Transaction Share Consideration to which he, she or it is entitled on the date provided in [Section 2.5\(e\)](#) upon (i) surrender by such applicable Company Equityholders holding any or all of their Company Shares or Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, in certificated form, a Certificate (or such information and/or documentation as may be required by the Letter of Transmittal or the Exchange Agent in the case of a lost, stolen or destroyed Certificate), together with the delivery of a properly completed and duly executed (and, if applicable, duly endorsed) Letter of Transmittal (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any other documents or agreements required by the Letter of Transmittal or the Exchange Agent), to the Exchange Agent, or (ii) delivery by the Company (including through or by its transfer agent) of instructions regarding the transfer of the Company Shares and Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, held in book-entry form to the Exchange Agent, which delivery of Company Shares or Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, solely held in book-entry form shall be considered a "transfer agent's message."

(e) If a properly completed and duly executed (and, if applicable, duly endorsed) Letter of Transmittal, together with any Certificates (or such information and/or documentation as may be required by the Letter of Transmittal or the Exchange Agent in the case of a lost, stolen or destroyed Certificate) and any other documents or agreements required by the Letter of Transmittal, and a "transfer agent's message", as applicable, is delivered to the Exchange Agent in accordance with [Section 2.5\(d\)](#) and received by the Exchange Agent (i) at least three (3) Business Days prior to the Closing Date, then the SPAC and the Company (including through the Exchange Agent) shall take all actions necessary to cause the applicable portion of the Transaction Share Consideration to be issued

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to the applicable Company Equityholder in book-entry form on the Closing Date, or (ii) two (2) Business Days prior to the Closing Date or later, then the SPAC and the Company (including through the Exchange Agent) shall take all actions necessary to cause the applicable portion of the Transaction Share Consideration to be issued to the applicable Company Equityholder in book-entry form within three (3) Business Days after such delivery.

(f) If any portion of the Transaction Share Consideration is to be issued to a Person other than the Company Equityholder in whose name the surrendered (or lost, stolen or destroyed, as applicable) Certificate or the transferred Company Share or Company Restricted Share Award, as applicable, in book-entry form is registered, it shall be a condition to the issuance of the applicable portion of the Transaction Share Consideration that, in addition to any other requirements of the Exchange Agent and/or the other requirements set forth in the Letter of Transmittal or the Exchange Agent Agreement, (i) either such Certificate shall be properly endorsed or shall otherwise be in proper form for transfer reasonably acceptable to the Exchange Agent or such Company Share or Company Restricted Share Award, as applicable, in book-entry form shall be properly transferred via the Exchange Agent, and (ii) the Person requesting such consideration shall pay to the Exchange Agent any transfer or similar Taxes required as a result of such consideration being issued to a Person other than the registered holder of such Certificate or Company Share or Company Restricted Share Award, as applicable, in book-entry form or establish to the satisfaction of the Exchange Agent that such transfer or similar Taxes have been paid or are not payable.

(g) No interest will be paid or accrued on the Transaction Share Consideration (or any portion thereof). From and after the Effective Time, until surrendered or transferred, as applicable, in accordance with this [Section 2.5](#), each Company Share and each Company Restricted Share Award, as applicable (excluding any Dissenting Shares and the Company Shares cancelled and extinguished pursuant to [Section 2.1\(i\)](#)), shall solely represent the right to receive a portion of the Transaction Share Consideration which such Company Share or Company Restricted Share Award, as applicable, is entitled to receive pursuant to [Section 2.1\(h\)](#).

(h) At the Effective Time, the stock transfer books of the Company shall be closed and there shall be no transfers of Company Shares or Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, that were outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time.

(i) Any portion of the Exchange Fund that remains unclaimed by the Company Equityholders twelve (12) months following the Closing Date shall be delivered to the SPAC or as otherwise instructed by the SPAC, and any Company Equityholder who has not exchanged his, her or its Company Shares and Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, for the applicable portion of the Transaction Share Consideration in accordance with this [Section 2.5](#) prior to that time shall thereafter look only to the SPAC for the issuance of the applicable portion of the Transaction Share Consideration, without any interest thereon. None of the SPAC, the Surviving Company or any of their respective Affiliates shall be liable to any Person in respect of any consideration delivered to a public official pursuant to any applicable abandoned property, unclaimed property, escheat or similar Law. Any portion of the Transaction Share Consideration remaining unclaimed by the Company Equityholders immediately prior to such time when such property would otherwise escheat to or become property of any Governmental Entity shall become, to the extent permitted by applicable Law, the property of the SPAC, free and clear of any claims or interest of any Person previously entitled thereto.

**Section 2.6 Deliveries and Actions at Closing.**

(a) At or prior to the Closing, the SPAC shall deliver, or shall cause to be delivered, the following to the Company:

- (i) the SPAC Bring-Down Certificate;
- (ii) the Certificate of Merger, duly executed by Merger Sub, which shall have been filed in accordance with the terms hereof;
- (iii) the SPAC A&R CoI, duly executed by the SPAC and as filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, and the SPAC A&R Bylaws, which shall have been duly adopted by the SPAC Board;
- (iv) a copy of the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement, duly executed by the SPAC and the stockholders of the SPAC that are party thereto;

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- (v) a copy of the Lockup Agreement, duly executed by the SPAC and the stockholders of the SPAC that are party thereto;
  - (vi) a copy of each Indemnification Agreement, duly executed by the SPAC;
  - (vii) written resignations of all of the directors and officers of the SPAC;
  - (viii) a copy of the Sponsor Letter Agreement, duly executed by the Sponsor, the SPAC and each other party thereto (other than the Company);
  - (ix) a copy of the Put Option Agreement, duly executed by the SPAC and the Sponsor;
  - (x) certificates of the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, dated as of a date not more than five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date, certifying as to the good standing of each of the SPAC and Merger Sub;
  - (xi) a comfort letter, dated as of the date the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC and addressed to the Company, by the SPAC Auditor concerning the financial statements of the SPAC and certain other financial information included in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Company (the "SPAC Auditor Comfort Letter"), and a letter, dated as of the date of the Company Special Meeting, to the effect that the SPAC Auditor reaffirms the statements made in the SPAC Auditor Comfort Letter, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Company;
  - (xii) a legal opinion, dated as of each Delivery Date and addressed to the Company, by Katten, legal counsel for the SPAC, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Company;
  - (xiii) and to the Trustee, the documents, opinions and notices contemplated by the Trust Agreement to be delivered to the Trustee in connection with the consummation of a business combination; and
  - (xiv) evidence that is reasonably satisfactory to the Company (which reasonably satisfactory evidence may include (x) one or more assignment agreements, duly executed by the applicable SPAC creditor, vendor or claimant, the SPAC, as assignor, and the applicable assignee, pursuant to which the Liabilities of the SPAC owed to such creditor, vendor or claimant are assigned to such assignee, and/or (y) other documentation reflecting the settlement or other satisfaction of amounts owed to one or more of the SPAC's creditors, vendors or claimants) that the Unpaid SPAC Expenses do not exceed \$4,500,000 at the Effective Time.
- (b) At or prior to the Closing, the Company shall deliver, or shall cause to be delivered, the following to the SPAC:
- (i) the Company Bring-Down Certificate;
  - (ii) a properly executed certification that the Company Shares are not "U.S. real property interests" in accordance with the Treasury Regulations under Sections 897 and 1445 of the Code, together with a notice to the IRS, and proof reasonably satisfactory to the SPAC that the Company has provided notice of such certification to the IRS in accordance with the provisions of Section 1.897-2(h)(2) of the Treasury Regulations, dated as of the Closing Date, signed by an officer of the Company;
  - (iii) a certificate, dated as of the Closing Date, signed by the Secretary of the Company, certifying as to (A) the Company's and each Company Material Subsidiary's Governing Documents and the incumbency of the Company's officers executing this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which it is or will be a party, and (B) the resolutions of the Company Board authorizing the execution, delivery and performance by the Company of this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which it is or will be a party;
  - (iv) a certificate of the secretary of state (or other applicable office) in which the Company and each of the Company Material Subsidiaries is organized and qualified to do business, dated as of a date not more than five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date, certifying as to the good standing and non-delinquent Tax status of the Company and each such Company Material Subsidiary in such jurisdiction;
  - (v) a copy of the Put Option Agreement, duly executed by the Company;

(vi) a copy of the Lockup Agreement, duly executed by the Company and the stockholders of the Company that are party thereto;

(vii) a comfort letter, dated as of the date the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC and addressed to the SPAC and the Sponsor, by the Vaso Auditor concerning the financial statements of the Company and certain other financial information included in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the SPAC and the Sponsor (the “Vaso Auditor Comfort Letter”), and a letter, dated as of the date of the SPAC Special Meeting, to the effect that the Vaso Auditor reaffirms the statements made in the Vaso Auditor Comfort Letter, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the SPAC and the Sponsor;

(viii) a legal opinion and negative assurance letter(s), dated as of each Delivery Date and addressed to the SPAC, by Company Counsel, legal counsel to the Company, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the SPAC and the Sponsor; (ix) a copy of the Sponsor Letter Agreement, duly executed by the Company; and

(x) a copy of the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement, duly executed by the Company Stockholders party thereto and the directors and/or officers of the Company party thereto.

Section 2.7 Dissenting Stockholders. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, any Company Share for which any Company Stockholder (such Company Stockholder, a “Dissenting Stockholder”) (a) has not voted in favor of the Merger or consented to it in writing, and (b) has demanded the appraisal of such Company Share in accordance with, and has complied in all respects with, Section 262 of the DGCL (collectively, the “Dissenting Shares”) shall not be converted into the right to receive the applicable portion of Transaction Share Consideration pursuant to Section 2.1(h). From and after the Effective Time, (i) the Dissenting Shares shall be cancelled and extinguished and shall cease to exist and (ii) the Dissenting Stockholders shall be entitled only to such rights as may be granted to them under Section 262 of the DGCL and shall not be entitled to exercise any of the voting rights or other rights of a stockholder of the Surviving Company or any of its Affiliates (including the SPAC); provided, however, that if any Dissenting Stockholder effectively withdraws or loses such appraisal rights (through failure to perfect such appraisal rights or otherwise), then the Company Shares held by such Dissenting Stockholder (A) shall no longer be deemed to be Dissenting Shares, and (B) shall be treated as if they had been converted automatically at the Effective Time into the right to receive the applicable portion of the Transaction Share Consideration pursuant to Section 2.1(h). Each Dissenting Stockholder who becomes entitled to payment for his, her or its Dissenting Shares pursuant to the DGCL shall receive such payment from the Company in accordance with the DGCL. The Company shall give the SPAC prompt notice of any written demands for appraisal of any Company Share, attempted withdrawals of such demands and any other documents or instruments served pursuant to the DGCL and received by the Company relating to stockholders’ rights of appraisal in accordance with the provisions of Section 262 of the DGCL, and the SPAC shall have the opportunity to participate in all negotiations and proceedings with respect to all such demands. The Company shall not, except with the prior written consent of the SPAC (prior to the Closing) (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), make any payment or deliver any consideration (including Company Shares or SPAC New Shares) with respect to, settle or offer or agree to settle, any such demands.

Section 2.8 Withholding. The SPAC, the Company, the Exchange Agent and any other applicable withholding agent shall be entitled to deduct and withhold (or cause to be deducted and withheld) from any consideration payable pursuant to this Agreement such amounts as are required to be deducted and withheld under applicable Tax Law; provided that any amounts payable to any service provider of the Company that are compensatory in nature, including in respect of Company Restricted Share Awards, as applicable, shall be subject to payroll tax withholding by the Surviving Company and can be effectuated by net share withholding in proportion to the applicable amount of SPAC New Shares payable to the holder of such Company Restricted Share Awards. To the extent that amounts are so withheld and remitted to the applicable Governmental Entity in accordance with applicable Tax Law, such withheld amounts shall be treated for all purposes of this Agreement as having been paid to the Person in respect of which such deduction and withholding were made. The Parties shall cooperate in good faith to eliminate or reduce any such deduction or withholding (including through the request and provision of any statements, forms or other documents to reduce or eliminate any such deduction or withholding).

Section 2.9 Taking of Necessary Action; Further Action. If, at any time after the Effective Time, any further action is reasonably necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this Agreement and to vest the Surviving Company with full right, title and possession to all assets, property, rights, privileges, powers and franchises of Merger Sub and the Company, respectively, the then-current officers and directors of the Surviving Company and the SPAC are fully authorized in the name of their respective corporations or otherwise to take, and will take, all such action, so long as such action is lawful and necessary and not inconsistent with this Agreement.

### ARTICLE III

#### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES REGARDING THE GROUP COMPANIES

As an inducement to the SPAC Parties to enter into this Agreement and consummate the transactions contemplated hereby, except as set forth in the applicable section of the Company Disclosure Schedules or as disclosed in the Company SEC Reports that were publicly available at least two (2) Business Days (x) prior to the Execution Date, for representations and warranties made on the Execution Date, and (y) prior to the Closing Date, for representations and warranties made on the Closing Date, in each case excluding disclosures referred to in “Forward-Looking Statements” and “Risk Factors” and any other disclosures therein to the extent they are of a predictive or cautionary nature or related to forward-looking statements, the Company represents and warrants to the SPAC Parties as follows as of the Execution Date and as of the Closing Date (except as to any representations and warranties that specifically relate to an earlier date, in which case, such representations and warranties were true and correct as of such earlier date):

##### Section 3.1 Organization; Authority; Enforceability.

(a) The Company is a corporation incorporated and in good standing under the Laws of the State of Delaware. Each other Group Company is a corporation, limited liability company or other business entity, as the case may be, and each other Group Company is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing (or the equivalent thereof, if applicable) under the Laws of its respective jurisdiction of formation or organization (as applicable).

(b) Each Group Company has all the requisite corporate, limited liability company or other applicable power and authority to own, lease and operate its assets and properties and to carry on its businesses as presently conducted in all material respects.

(c) Each Group Company is duly qualified, licensed or registered to do business under the Laws of each jurisdiction in which the conduct of its business or location of its assets and/or properties makes such qualification necessary, except where the failure to be so qualified would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Company Material Adverse Effect.

(d) No Group Company is in violation of any of its Governing Documents. None of the Group Companies is the subject of any bankruptcy, dissolution, liquidation, reorganization (other than internal reorganizations conducted in the Ordinary Course of Business) or similar proceeding. No Subsidiary of the Company that is not a Company Material Subsidiary accounts for a material portion of the Liabilities of the Group Companies, taken as a whole.

(e) Other than the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, the Company has the requisite corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and each Group Company has the requisite corporate, limited liability company or other business entity power and authority, as applicable, to execute and deliver the Ancillary Agreements to which it is or will be a party and to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder, and to consummate the Transactions. Other than the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements and the consummation of the Transactions by the Group Companies have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate, limited liability company or other business entity actions, as applicable. This Agreement has been, and each of the Ancillary Agreements to which any Group Company will be a party will be, duly executed and delivered by each applicable Group Company and are or will be Enforceable against each applicable Group Company, assuming the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval is obtained.

Section 3.2 Non-contravention; Governmental Approvals. Subject to the receipt of the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, and assuming the truth and accuracy of the SPAC Parties' representations and warranties contained in Section 4.1, and except as set forth in Section 3.2 of the Company Disclosure Schedules, neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement nor the consummation of the Transactions, in each case, by a Group Company will (a) conflict with or result in any breach of any provision of the Governing Documents of any Group Company; (b) other than (i) the filing of the Certificate of Merger with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, and (ii) the filing with the SEC of (A) the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and the declaration of the effectiveness thereof by the SEC, (B) the Company Proxy Statement and the clearance of any comments from the SEC thereon and (C) such reports under Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act as may be required in connection with this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements or the Transactions, require any filing of any of the Group Companies with, or the obtaining by any of the Group Companies of any consent or approval of, any Governmental Entity; (c) result in a violation of or a default (or give rise to any right of termination, cancellation or acceleration of rights) under, any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any Material Contract or Material Lease or Company Employee Benefit Plan (in each case, whether with or without the giving of notice, the passage of time or both); (d) result in the creation of any Lien (other than Permitted Liens) upon any of the properties or assets of any Group Material Company; or (e) violate, in any respect, any Law, Order or Lien applicable to any Group Company, excluding from the foregoing clauses (b), (c), (d) and (e), such requirements, violations, Lien creations or defaults which would not reasonably be expected to have a Company Material Adverse Effect.

Section 3.3 Capitalization.

(a) Section 3.3(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth the Equity Interests of the Company (including the number and class or series (as applicable) of Equity Interests) (the Equity Interests required to be set forth in Section 3.3(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules, collectively, the "Company Equity Interests") and the record (and, to the Company's Knowledge, solely with respect to Company Shares, beneficial) ownership thereof (including the percentage interests held by such holders) as of the Execution Date. The Equity Interests set forth in Section 3.3(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules comprise all of the authorized capital stock or other Equity Interests of the Company that are issued and outstanding, in each case, as of the Execution Date and immediately prior to the Effective Time. With respect to the Company Restricted Share Awards granted by the Company and issued and outstanding as of the Execution Date, Section 3.3(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules accurately sets forth (i) the name of the holder thereof, (ii) the number of Company Shares subject thereto, (iii) the grant date thereof, (iv) the expiration date thereof, (v) the vesting commencement date and vesting schedule or vesting requirements (including whether or not it will accelerate and vest as of the Closing and/or any other event) thereof, (vi) the extent to which such award of Company Equity Interests is vested, and (vii) the Company Equity Plan pursuant to which such awards of Company Equity Interests were granted. Since the Lookback Date, the Company has not issued any shares of preferred stock and no shares of preferred stock of the Company are currently issued or outstanding.

(b) Except as set forth in the applicable subsection of Section 3.3(b) of the Company Disclosure Schedules:

(i) there are no authorized or outstanding options, warrants, Contracts, calls, puts, rights to subscribe, conversion rights or other similar rights to which the Company is a party or which are binding upon the Company providing for the offer, issuance, redemption, exchange, conversion, voting, transfer, disposition or acquisition of any of the Company's Equity Interests;

(ii) the Company is not subject to any obligation (contingent or otherwise) to repurchase or otherwise acquire or retire any Equity Interests, either of itself or of another Person; Equity Interests;

(iii) the Company is not a party to any voting trust, proxy or other agreement or understanding with respect to the voting of any of its

(iv) there are no contractual equityholder preemptive or similar rights, rights of first refusal, rights of first offer or registration rights in respect of the Company Equity Interests;

(v) there are no outstanding bonds, debentures, notes or other debtor obligations, the holders of which have the right to vote (or convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for securities having the right to vote) with Company Stockholders on any matter; and

(vi) for the past ten (10) years from that date of this Agreement, the Company has not violated any applicable securities Laws or any preemptive or similar rights created by Law, Governing Document or Contract to which the Company is a party (or by which it is bound) in connection with the offer, sale, issuance or allotment of any of the Company Equity Interests.

(c) All of the Company Equity Interests have been duly authorized and validly issued and were not issued in violation of any preemptive rights, call options, rights of first refusal, subscription rights, transfer restrictions or similar rights of any Person (other than Securities Liens and other than as set forth in the Governing Documents of the Company) or applicable Law.

(d) All Company Restricted Share Awards have been issued in compliance with the applicable Company Equity Plan and all applicable Laws and properly accounted for in accordance with GAAP. The Company has delivered to the SPAC true and complete copies of the forms of Company Restricted Share Award agreements or other documentation evidencing the grants of Company Restricted Share Awards, and all Company Restricted Share Awards are evidenced by such documentation made available to the SPAC as of or prior to the date hereof.

(e) Section 3.3(e) of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth a true and complete list of the Company Subsidiaries, listing for each Company Subsidiary its name, legal entity type and the jurisdiction of its formation or organization (as applicable) and its parent company (if wholly-owned) or its owners (if not-wholly owned). Since the Lookback Date and through September 30, 2023, each Company Subsidiary that is not a Company Material Subsidiary, as reflected in Section 3.3(e) of the Company Disclosure Schedules, represents (i) less than three percent (3%) of the aggregate revenues of the Company Group, taken as a whole, and (ii) less than three percent (3%) of the aggregate assets of the Company Group, taken as a whole. No Company Subsidiary that is not a Company Material Subsidiary has any revenue, assets or Liabilities, in each case, individually or in the aggregate, that would be material to the Group Companies, taken as a whole. All of the outstanding capital stock or other Equity Interests, as applicable, of each Company Subsidiary are duly authorized, validly issued, free of preemptive rights, restrictions on transfer (other than restrictions under applicable federal, state and other securities Laws), and, if applicable, fully paid and non-assessable, and are solely owned (legally and beneficially) by the Company, whether directly or indirectly, free and clear of all Liens (other than Permitted Liens). There are no options, warrants, convertible securities, stock appreciation, phantom stock, stock-based performance unit, profit participation, restricted equity, restricted equity unit, other equity or equity-based compensation award or similar rights with respect to any Company Subsidiary, and no rights, exchangeable securities, securities, “phantom” rights, appreciation rights, performance units, commitments or other agreements obligating the Company or any Company Subsidiary to issue or sell, or cause to be issued or sold, any Equity Interests of, or any other interest in, any Company Subsidiary, including any security convertible or exercisable into Equity Interests of any Company Subsidiary. There are no Contracts to which any Company Subsidiary is a party which require such Company Subsidiary to repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire any Equity Interests or securities convertible into or exchangeable for or measured by reference to such equity securities or to make any investment in any other Person.

**Section 3.4 Financial Statements; No Undisclosed Liabilities.**

(a) True and complete copies of the following financial statements (such financial statements, the “Financial Statements”) are included in the Company SEC Reports:

(i) the audited consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022, and the related audited consolidated statements of comprehensive income, cash flows and equityholders’ equity for the fiscal years ended on such dates, together with all related notes and schedules thereto, accompanied by the reports thereon of the Company’s independent auditors (which reports are unqualified) (collectively, the “Audited Financial Statements”); and

(ii) the unaudited consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the Latest Balance Sheet Date (the “Unaudited Balance Sheet”), and the related unaudited consolidated statements of comprehensive income and cash flows for the nine (9)-month period then ended (collectively, together with the Unaudited Balance Sheet, the “Unaudited Financial Statements”).

(b) The Financial Statements (i) have been prepared from the books and records of the Group Material Companies; (ii) have been prepared in accordance with GAAP applied on a consistent basis throughout the periods indicated, except as may be indicated in the notes thereto and subject, in the case of the Unaudited Financial Statements, to the absence of footnotes and year-end adjustments; (iii) in the case of the Audited Financial Statements, were audited in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB by a PCAOB qualified auditor that was independent under Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X under the Securities Act and contain an unqualified report of the Group Material Companies' auditors and comply with all applicable accounting requirements under the Securities Act and the rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder, including Regulation S-X or Regulation S-K, as applicable; and (iv) fairly present, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the dates thereof and their consolidated results of operations and cash flows for the periods then ended, except, in each of clauses (ii) and (iii): (w) as otherwise noted therein, (x) that the Unaudited Financial Statements do not include footnotes, schedules, statements of equity and statements of cash flow and disclosures required by GAAP, and (y) that the Unaudited Financial Statements do not include all year-end adjustments required by GAAP, in each case of clauses (x) and (y), which are not expected to be material, individually or in the aggregate, in amount or effect. None of the Company Subsidiaries has ever been subject to the reporting requirements of Sections 13(a) and 15(d) of the Exchange Act.

(c) The books of account and other financial records of each Group Material Company have been kept accurately in all material respects in the Ordinary Course of Business, the transactions entered therein represent bona fide transactions, and the revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities of each of the Group Material Companies have been properly recorded therein in all material respects. Each Group Material Company maintains a system of "internal control over financial reporting" (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) sufficient to provide reasonable assurance (i) that transactions thereof are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP, consistently applied, (ii) that transactions thereof are executed only in accordance with the authorization of management thereof and (iii) regarding prevention or timely detection of the unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of its properties or assets (collectively, "Internal Controls").

(d) Since the Lookback Date, none of the Group Material Companies or any of the independent accountants or board of directors (or the audit committees thereof) of any of the Group Material Companies has identified or been made aware of any (i) "significant deficiency" in the Internal Controls of any Group Material Company, (ii) "material weakness" in the Internal Controls of any Group Material Company, (iii) fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees of any Group Material Company who have a significant role in the Internal Controls of any Group Material Company or (iv) complaints, allegations, assertions or claims regarding a violation of accounting procedures, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, including from any employee of any Group Material Company or any of its Subsidiaries regarding questionable accounting, auditing or legal compliance matters.

(e) No Group Material Company has any Liabilities of any nature whatsoever that would be required to be reflected on the Unaudited Financial Statements prepared in accordance with GAAP, except (i) Liabilities expressly set forth in or reserved against in the Financial Statements or identified in the notes thereto; (ii) Liabilities which have arisen after the Latest Balance Sheet Date in the Ordinary Course of Business (none of which results from, arises out of, relates to, is in the nature of or was caused by any breach of Contract or infringement or violation of Law); (iii) Liabilities arising under this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements and/or the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder or thereunder, including those arising in compliance with Section 5.1; or (iv) Liabilities for fees, costs and expenses for advisors and Affiliates of the Group Material Companies, including with respect to legal, accounting or other advisors incurred by the Group Material Companies in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

(f) Since the Lookback Date, no Group Material Company has been a party to, or has had any commitment to become a party to, any joint venture, off-balance sheet partnership or any similar Contract, including any Contract or arrangement relating to any transaction or relationship between or among any of the Group Material Companies, on the one hand, and any unconsolidated affiliate, including any structured finance, special purpose or limited purpose entity or person, on the other hand, or any "off-balance sheet arrangement" (within the meaning of Item 303 of Regulation S-K of the Exchange Act), where the purpose or intended effect of such arrangement is to avoid disclosure of any material transaction involving, or material Liabilities of, any of the Group Material Companies.

Section 3.5 No Company Material Adverse Effect. Since December 31, 2022 through the Execution Date, there has been no Company Material Adverse Effect.

Section 3.6 Absence of Certain Developments. Since the Latest Balance Sheet Date, each Group Material Company has conducted its business in the Ordinary Course of Business in all material respects. From the Latest Balance Sheet Date through the Execution Date, no Group Company has taken or omitted to be taken any action that would, if taken or omitted to be taken after the Execution Date, require the SPAC's consent in accordance with Section 5.1.

Section 3.7 Real Property.

(a) Section 3.7 of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth the address of each Leased Real Property, and a true, correct and complete list of all Leases to which the Company or any Company Material Subsidiary is a party (including all amendments, extensions, renewals, guaranties and other agreements with respect thereto) for such Leased Real Property (such Leases, the "Material Leases"). With respect to each of the Material Leases: (i) such Lease is legal, valid, binding, enforceable and in full force and effect; (ii) no Group Material Company has subleased, licensed or otherwise granted any right to use or occupy the Leased Real Property or any portion thereof to a third party (other than Permitted Liens); (iii) the applicable Group Material Company's possession and quiet enjoyment of the Leased Real Property under such Material Lease has not been disturbed and there are no disputes with respect to such Material Lease; (iv) no Group Material Company is currently in default under, nor has any event occurred or does any circumstance exist that, with notice or lapse of time or both would constitute a material default by a Group Material Company under, any Material Lease; (v) to the Knowledge of the Company, no material default, event or circumstance exists that, with notice or lapse of time or both, would constitute a material default by any counterparty to such Material Lease; (vi) no security deposit or portion thereof deposited with respect such Material Lease has been applied in respect of a breach or default under such Material Lease which has not been redeposited in full; (vii) no Group Material Company owes, or will owe in the future, any brokerage commissions or finder's fees with respect to such Material Lease; (viii) each other party to such Material Lease is not an Affiliate of, and otherwise does not have any economic interest in, any Group Material Company; (ix) no Group Material Company has subleased, licensed or otherwise granted any Person the right to use or occupy such Leased Real Property or any portion thereof; (x) no Group Material Company has collaterally assigned or granted any other security interest in such Material Lease or any interest therein; and (xi) there are no Liens on the estate or interest created by such Material Lease. The Company has made available to the SPAC a true, correct and complete copy of all Material Leases. No Group Material Company owns fee title to any land.

(b) The Leased Real Property identified in Section 3.7 of the Company Disclosure Schedules comprises all of the real property used in the business of the Group Material Companies.

(c) To the Knowledge of the Company, the buildings, material building components and the structural elements of the improvements, roofs, foundations, parking and loading areas and mechanical systems (including all heating, ventilating, air conditioning, plumbing, electrical, elevator, security, utility and fire/life safety systems) (collectively, the "Improvements") included in the Leased Real Property are in good working condition and repair and sufficient for the operation of the business by each Group Material Company as currently conducted. There are no structural deficiencies or latent defects affecting any of the Improvements and, to the Knowledge of the Company, there are no facts or conditions affecting any of the Improvements, in each case, which would, individually or in the aggregate, interfere in any material respect with the use or occupancy of the Improvements or any portion thereof in the operation of any Group Material Company's business. No Group Material Company has received written notice of (i) any condemnation, eminent domain or similar Proceeding affecting any parcel of Leased Real Property; (ii) any special assessment or pending improvement Liens to be made by any Governmental Entity affecting any parcel of Leased Real Property; or (iii) any violation of any building codes, zoning ordinances, governmental regulations or covenants or restrictions affecting any Leased Real Property. Each parcel of Leased Real Property has direct access to a public street adjoining such Leased Real Property, and such access is not dependent on any land or other real property interest which is not included in the Leased Real Property. None of the Improvements or any portion thereof is dependent for its access, use or operation on any land, building, improvement or other real property interest which is not included in the Leased Real Property. To the Knowledge of the Company, there are no recorded or unrecorded agreements, easements or Liens that materially interfere with the continued access to or operation of the business of any of the Group Material Companies as currently conducted on the Leased Real Property. All water, oil, gas, electrical, steam, compressed air, telecommunications, sewer, storm

and wastewater systems and other utility services or systems for the Leased Real Property have been installed and are operational and sufficient for the operation of each of the Group Material Companies as currently conducted thereon, and all hook-up fees or other similar fees or charges have been paid in full. Each such utility service enters the Leased Real Property from an adjoining public street or valid private easement in favor of the supplier of such utility service or appurtenant to such Leased Real Property, and is not dependent for its access, use or operation on any land, building, improvement or other real property interest which is not included in the Leased Real Property.

Section 3.8 Tax Matters.

(a) All Income Tax Returns and other material Tax Returns required to be filed by or with respect to each Group Material Company have been timely filed with the appropriate Governmental Entity pursuant to applicable Laws (taking into account any validly obtained extension of time within which to file). All Income Tax Returns and other material Tax Returns filed by or with respect to each of the Group Material Companies are true, complete and correct in all material respects and have been prepared in material compliance with all applicable Laws. Each Group Material Company has timely paid all Income Taxes and other material amounts of Taxes due and payable by it (whether or not shown as due and payable on any Tax Return) to the appropriate Governmental Entity. Each Group Material Company has timely and properly withheld and paid to the applicable Governmental Entity all Income Taxes and other material amounts of Taxes required to have been withheld and paid by it in connection with any amounts paid or owing to any employee, independent contractor, creditor, equityholder or other third party, and has otherwise complied in all material respects with all applicable Laws relating to such withholding and payment of Taxes. Each Group Material Company has complied in all material respects with all applicable Laws relating to the payment of stamp duties and the reporting and payment of sales, use, ad valorem and value added Taxes.

(b) No written claim has been made by a Taxing Authority in a jurisdiction where a Group Material Company does not file a particular type of Tax Return, or pay a particular type of Tax, that such Group Material Company is or may be subject to taxation of that type by, or required to file that type of Tax Return in, that jurisdiction. The Income Tax Returns of the Group Material Companies made available to the SPAC reflect all of the jurisdictions in which any of the Group Material Companies are required to remit Income Tax.

(c) There is no Proceeding now being conducted, pending or threatened in writing (or, to the Knowledge of the Company, otherwise threatened) with respect to any Taxes or Tax Returns of or with respect to any Group Material Company. No Group Material Company has commenced a voluntary disclosure Proceeding in any jurisdiction that has not been fully resolved or settled. All material deficiencies for Taxes asserted or assessed against any Group Material Company have been fully and timely (taking into account applicable extensions) paid, settled or withdrawn, and no such deficiency has been or is currently threatened or proposed against any Group Material Company.

(d) No Group Material Company has agreed to (or has had agreed to on its behalf) any extension or waiver of the statute of limitations applicable to any Tax or Tax Return, or any extension of time with respect to a period of Tax collection, assessment or deficiency, which period (after giving effect to such extension or waiver) has not yet expired, and no request for any such waiver or extension is currently pending. No Group Material Company is the beneficiary of any extension of time (other than an automatic extension of time not requiring the consent of the applicable Governmental Entity) within which to file any Tax Return not previously filed. No private letter ruling, administrative relief, technical advice, request for a change of any method of accounting or other similar ruling or request has been granted or issued by, or is pending with, any Governmental Entity that relates to the Taxes or Tax Returns of any Group Material Company. No power of attorney granted by any Group Material Company with respect to any Taxes is currently in force.

(e) No Group Material Company has (i) been a party to any “reportable transaction” within the meaning of Section 6707A(c)(1) of the Code and Treasury Regulations Section 1.6011-4(b)(2) (or any similar provision of U.S. state or local or non-U.S. Tax Law), or (ii) taken any reporting position on a Tax Return, which reporting position (A) if not sustained, would be reasonably likely, absent disclosure, to give rise to a penalty for substantial understatement of federal income Tax under Section 6662 of the Code (or any similar provision of state, local or foreign Tax Law), and (B) has not adequately been disclosed on such Tax Return in accordance with Section 6662(d)(2)(B) of the Code (or any similar provision of U.S. state or local or non-U.S. Tax Law).

(f) The Company is (and has been for the last ten (10) years) properly treated as a subchapter C corporation for U.S. federal and all applicable state and local Income Tax purposes. Each Company Subsidiary is (and has been for its entire existence) properly treated for U.S. federal and all applicable state and local Income Tax purposes as the type of entity set forth opposite its name in [Section 3.8\(f\)](#) of the Company Disclosure Schedules. No election has been made (or is pending) to change any of the foregoing.

(g) No Group Material Company will be required to include any material item of income, or exclude any material item of deduction, for any period after the Closing Date (determined with and without regard to the transactions contemplated hereby) as a result of: (i) an installment sale transaction occurring on or before the Closing Date governed by Code Section 453 (or any similar provision of state, local or non-U.S. Law); (ii) a transaction occurring on or before the Closing Date reported as an open transaction for U.S. federal Income Tax purposes (or any similar doctrine under state, local or non-U.S. Law); (iii) a change in method of accounting made under Code Section 481(c) (or any corresponding or similar provision of any applicable state or local Tax Law) with respect to a Pre-Closing Tax Period that occurs or was requested on or prior to the Closing Date (or as a result of an impermissible method used in a Pre-Closing Tax Period); (iv) an agreement entered into with any Governmental Entity (including a "closing agreement" under Code Section 7121) on or prior to the Closing Date; or (v) an intercompany transaction occurring or any excess loss account existing on or prior to the Closing Date, in each case, described in Treasury Regulations under Section 1502 of the Code (or any similar provision of state, local or non-U.S. Law). No Group Material Company uses the cash method of accounting for Income Tax purposes or will be required to make any payment after the Latest Balance Sheet Date as a result of an election under Section 965 of the Code (or any similar provision of state, local or non-U.S. Law). No Group Material Company is party to or bound by any closing agreement or similar agreement with any Taxing Authority, the terms of which would have an effect on any Group Material Company after the Latest Balance Sheet Date.

(h) There is no Lien for Taxes on any of the assets of any Group Material Company, other than Permitted Liens.

(i) Since the Lookback Date, no Group Material Company has been a member of any Affiliated Group (other than an Affiliated Group the common parent of which is a Group Material Company). No Group Material Company has any actual or potential Liability for Taxes of any other Person (other than any Group Material Company) as a result of Treasury Regulations Section 1.1502-6 (or any similar provision of state, local or non-U.S. Law), successor Liability, transferee Liability, joint or several Liability, by Contract, by operation of Law or otherwise (other than pursuant to an Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement). No Group Material Company is party to or bound by any Tax Sharing Agreement, except for any Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement.

(j) The unpaid Taxes of the Group Material Companies (i) did not, as of the Latest Balance Sheet Date, exceed the reserves for Tax Liabilities (excluding any reserve for deferred Taxes established to reflect timing differences between book and Tax income) set forth on the face of the Unaudited Balance Sheet (rather than in any notes thereto), and (ii) do not exceed such reserves as adjusted for the passage of time through the Closing Date in accordance with the past practices of the Group Material Companies in filing their respective Tax Returns.

(k) Other than with respect to other U.S. states and localities, no Group Material Company (i) has or has had an office, permanent establishment, branch, agency or taxable presence outside the jurisdiction of its organization (other than such jurisdictions with respect to which such Group Material Company has filed Income Tax Returns), or (ii) is or has been a resident for Tax purposes in any jurisdiction outside the jurisdiction of its organization (other than such jurisdictions with respect to which such Group Material Company has filed Income Tax Returns).

(l) No Group Material Company has been a party to a transaction reported or intended to qualify as a reorganization under Code Section 368. No Group Material Company has distributed Equity Interests of another Person, or has had its Equity Interests distributed by another Person, in a transaction that was governed, or intended or reported to be governed, in whole or in part by Section 355 or Section 361 of the Code or that could otherwise constitute part of a "plan" or "series of related transactions" (within the meaning of Code Section 355(e)) that includes the transactions contemplated hereby.

(m) No Group Material Company has taken any action to, nor, to the Knowledge of the Company, are there any facts or circumstances that would reasonably be expected to, prevent the Merger from qualifying for the Intended Tax Treatment. No Group Material Company has redeemed, purchased or otherwise acquired, or made any distributions with respect to, any of its Equity Interests prior to and in contemplation of, or as part of a plan involving, the Merger.

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(n) Since the Lookback Date, no Group Material Company has ever been a “United States real property holding corporation” within the meaning of Section 897(c)(2) of the Code.

(o) No Group Material Company is party to any joint venture, partnership, other arrangement or Contract which is or may reasonably be expected to be treated as a partnership for U.S. federal and applicable state and local Income Tax purposes.

(p) Each Group Material Company is in material compliance in all respects with all applicable transfer pricing Laws. All related party transactions between or among the Group Material Companies and any of their respective Affiliates have been adequately documented and have been conducted at arm’s length as required under applicable Law.

(q) No Group Material Company is, and since the Lookback Date, no Group Material Company has been, the beneficiary of any Tax holiday, abatement, incentive or similar grant awarded by any Governmental Entity (other than any such holiday, abatement, incentive or similar grant generally available to taxpayers without application therefor).

(r) No Group Material Company (i) has been a shareholder of a “controlled foreign corporation” as defined in Section 957 of the Code (or any similar provision of state, local or foreign Law); and (ii) has been a shareholder of a “passive foreign investment company” within the meaning of Section 1297 of the Code.

(s) Each Group Material Company is in compliance with all applicable escheat and unclaimed property Laws and has timely paid to the appropriate Governmental Entity all material amounts required to be paid thereunder.

Section 3.9 Contracts.

(a) Except as set forth in the applicable subsection of Section 3.9(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules, no Group Company is a party to, or bound by, and no asset of any Group Company is bound by any:

(i) collective bargaining agreement or other Contract with any labor union, labor organization, works council or other employee representative (each, a “CBA”);

(ii) Contract with any Material Supplier;

(iii) Contract providing for retention, transaction or change of control payments or benefits, accelerated vesting or any other payment or benefit that may or will become due, in whole or in part, in connection with the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby;

(iv) Contract for the employment or engagement of any employee or other individual service provider of any Group Company that provides for total annual compensation in excess of \$300,000 per annum or is not terminable by such Group Company upon prior notice of thirty (30) calendar days or less without further Liability;

(v) Contract under which any Group Company has created, incurred, assumed or borrowed any money or issued any note, indenture or other evidence of Indebtedness or guaranteed Indebtedness of others in excess of \$500,000, individually or in the aggregate;

(vi) Contract resulting in any Lien (other than any Permitted Lien) on any material portion of the assets of any of the Group Material Companies;

(vii) Contract for the development of (x) material Owned Intellectual Property that is embodied in or distributed with any products or services of a Group Company or is otherwise material Owned Intellectual Property (other than Contracts with any employee or contractor on a standard form of agreement entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business under which such employee or contractor presently assigns all right, title and interest in and to any developed Intellectual Property to one (1) of the Group Material Companies), and (y) any Intellectual Property for any Person by any of the Group Material Companies or any of their respective controlled Affiliates under which Contract any of the Group Material Companies or any of their respective applicable controlled Affiliates has any material unperformed obligations, other than Contracts with any employee or contractor on a standard form of agreement entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business under which such employee or

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contractor presently assigns all right, title and interest in and to any developed Intellectual Property to one (1) of the Group Material Companies;

(viii) (x) Contract for the settlement or avoidance of any dispute regarding the ownership, use, validity or enforceability of Intellectual Property (including consent-to-use and similar Contracts) with material ongoing obligations of any Group Company, (y) Contract pursuant to which any Group Company licenses any Owned Intellectual Property, or (z) license or royalty Contract under which any of the Group Material Companies licenses any Intellectual Property from a third party, other than non-exclusive licenses of commercially available software with total annual payments or a replacement cost of \$100,000 or less;

(ix) Contract providing for source code escrow or otherwise relating to the disclosure, license, release or escrow of source code, or otherwise making available source code to any third party;

(x) Contract providing for any Group Company to make any capital contribution to or in any Person;

(xi) Contract evidencing a joint venture, partnership, strategic alliance or similar arrangement;

(xii) Contract evidencing any power of attorney;

(xiii) Contract that limits or restricts, or purports to limit or restrict, any Group Company (or, after the Closing, the SPAC or any Group Company) from (x) engaging or competing in any line of business or business activity in any jurisdiction, or (y) acquiring any product or asset or receiving services from any Person or selling any product or asset or performing services for any Person;

(xiv) Contract that binds any Group Company to any of the following restrictions or terms: (v) a “most favored nation” or similar provision with respect to any Person; (w) a provision providing for the sharing of any revenue or cost-savings with any other Person; (x) a “minimum purchase” requirement; (y) rights of first refusal or first offer (other than those related to real property Leases), or (z) a “take or pay” provision;

(xv) Contract pursuant to which any Group Company has granted any sponsorship rights or exclusive marketing, sales representative relationship, franchising, consignment, distribution or any other similar right to any third party (including in any geographic area or with respect to any product or service of any Group Company);

(xvi) Contract involving the settlement, conciliation or similar agreement (x) of any Proceeding or threatened Proceeding since December 31, 2021, (y) with any Governmental Entity, or (z) with respect to any dispute pursuant to which any Group Company will have any outstanding obligation after the Execution Date;

(xvii) Contract under which any Group Company is lessee of or holds or operates, in each case, any tangible property (other than real property) owned by any other Person;

(xviii) Contract concerning non-solicitation obligations that are on-going (other than non-solicitation agreements with any of the applicable Group Company’s employees set forth in the applicable Group Company’s standard terms and conditions of sale or standard form of employment agreement, copies of which have previously been delivered to the SPAC, or non-disclosure agreements entered into by any of the Group Material Companies with respect to possible business transactions);

(xix) Contract under which any Group Company is lessor of or permits any third party to hold or operate, in each case, any tangible property (other than real property) owned or controlled by any Group Company, except for any Contract under which the aggregate annual rental payments do not exceed \$50,000;

(xx) Contract requiring any capital commitment or capital expenditure (or series of capital commitments or expenditures) by any Group Company in an amount in excess of \$500,000 over the life of such Contract;

(xxi) Contract requiring any Group Company to guarantee the Liabilities of any Person (other than any other Group Company) or pursuant to which any Person (other than a Group Company) has guaranteed the Liabilities of a Group Company;

(xxii) Contract evidencing any agreement relating to any material interest rate, currency or other hedging arrangement;

(xxiii) Contract providing for indemnification by any Group Company, except for any such Contract that is entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business and is not material to the Group Companies, taken as a whole;

(xxiv) Contract that relates to the future disposition or acquisition by any Group Company of (x) any business (whether by merger, consolidation or other business combination, sale of securities, sale of assets or otherwise), or (y) any material assets or properties, except for (i) any agreement related to the transactions contemplated hereby, (ii) any non-disclosure or similar agreement entered into in connection with the potential sale of the Company, or (iii) any agreement for the purchase or sale of inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(xxv) Contract that relates to any completed disposition or acquisition by any Group Company of (x) any business (whether by merger, consolidation or other business combination, sale of securities, sale of assets or otherwise), or (y) any material assets or properties, in each case, entered into or consummated after the Lookback Date, other than sales of inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(xxvi) Contract involving the potential payment of any earn-out or similar contingent Liability on or after the Execution Date, excluding any employment agreements with Group Company employees; or

(xxvii) Contract evidencing any Affiliated Transaction.

(b) Each Contract required to be listed in Section 3.9(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules (each, a “Material Contract”) is in full force and effect and is Enforceable against the applicable Group Company party thereto and, to the Knowledge of the Company, against each other party thereto. The Company has delivered to, or made available for inspection by, the SPAC a complete and accurate copy of each Material Contract (including all exhibits thereto and all amendments, waivers or other changes thereto). With respect to all Material Contracts, none of the Group Material Companies or, to the Knowledge of the Company, any other party to any such Material Contract, is in breach thereof or default thereunder (or is alleged to be in breach or default thereunder), and there does not exist under any Material Contract any event or circumstance which, with the giving of notice or the lapse of time (or both), would constitute such a breach or default thereunder by any Group Company thereunder or, to the Knowledge of the Company, any other party to such Material Contract, in each case, except as would not reasonably be expected, individually or in the aggregate, to be material to the applicable Group Company. During the last twelve (12) months, no Group Company has received any written or, to the Knowledge of the Company, oral claim or notice of material breach of or material default under any Material Contract. To the Knowledge of the Company, no event has occurred, which individually or together with other events, would reasonably be expected to result in a material breach of or a material default under any Material Contract by any Group Company or, to the Knowledge of the Company, any other party thereto (in each case, with or without notice or the lapse of time or both). During the last twelve (12) months, no Group Company has received written notice from any other party to any Material Contract that such party intends to terminate or not renew such Material Contract.

(c) Section 3.9(c) of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth a complete and accurate list of the names of the Material Suppliers and the amount paid thereto by the applicable Group Company during the twelve (12) month period ended December 31, 2022. Since December 31, 2022, (i) no Material Supplier has cancelled, terminated or materially and adversely altered its relationship with any Group Company or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened to cancel, terminate or materially and adversely alter its relationship with any Group Company, and (ii) there have been no material disputes between any Group Company and any Material Supplier.

#### Section 3.10 Intellectual Property.

(a) Section 3.10(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth a complete and accurate list of each patented, issued or registered Intellectual Property and applications for the foregoing, in each case, which is owned by, filed in the name of or exclusively licensed to a Group Material Company (collectively, the “Company Registered IP”). All of the Company Registered IP is subsisting, valid and enforceable. A Group Material Company (i) is the sole and exclusive owner of all right, title and interest in and to all Owned Intellectual Property, and (ii) has sufficient rights pursuant to a valid and enforceable license to, all other Intellectual Property used in, necessary for or developed for the operation of the business of each of the Group Material Companies, and, in each case of clauses (i) and (ii), free and clear of any Liens other than Permitted Liens. Neither the Company Registered IP nor the other Owned Intellectual Property is subject to any outstanding Order restricting the use, enforcement, disclosure or licensing thereof by any Group Material Company.

(b) To the Knowledge of the Company, none of the Group Material Companies nor any of the former or current products, services or operations of the business of any of the Group Material Companies has, in the past six (6) years, infringed, misappropriated or otherwise violated, or is currently infringing, misappropriating or otherwise violating, any Intellectual Property of any Person. No Group Company has, in the past six (6) years, received any written charge, complaint, claim, demand or notice alleging any such infringement, misappropriation or other violation (including any claim that such Group Company should license or refrain from using any Intellectual Property) or challenging the ownership, registration, validity or enforcement of any Company Registered IP or other Owned Intellectual Property. No Group Company has, in the past six (6) years, made, against a third party, any written charge, complaint, claim, demand or notice alleging any infringement, misappropriation or other violation (including any claim that such third party should license or refrain from using any Intellectual Property). To the Knowledge of the Company, no Person is infringing upon, misappropriating or otherwise violating any Company Registered IP or other Owned Intellectual Property. All Company Registered IP has been prosecuted in compliance with all applicable rules, policies and procedures of the applicable Governmental Entities, and all registration, maintenance and renewal fees currently due in connection with such Owned Intellectual Property have been paid, and all documents, recordations and certificates in connection therewith required to be filed have been filed with the relevant patent, copyright, trademark or other authorities in the United States, the European Union or other jurisdictions.

(c) Each Group Material Company has taken commercially reasonable measures to protect the confidentiality of all of its Trade Secrets and all other confidential information owned by such Group Material Company. Except as required by applicable Law, no such Trade Secret or confidential information has been disclosed by any Group Material Company to any Person other than to Persons subject to a legally a recognized duty of confidentiality or pursuant to a written agreement restricting the disclosure and use of such Trade Secret or confidential information by such Person. Each Person who has participated in the authorship, conception, creation, reduction to practice or development of any Intellectual Property for any Group Material Company has assigned (pursuant to a present grant of assignment) all right, title and interest in and to such Intellectual Property to a Group Material Company by a valid written assignment or by operation of law. To the Knowledge of the Company, no Person is in violation of any such confidentiality or Intellectual Property assignment agreement.

(d) No source code constituting Owned Intellectual Property has been disclosed, licensed, released, escrowed or made available to any third party, other than an escrow agent or a contractor, consultant or developer pursuant to a written confidentiality agreement. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated herein comply with, and will not trigger any, requirements applicable to each Group Material Company to disclose or license any Trade Secret or source code. None of the Software included in the Owned Intellectual Property links to or integrates with any code licensed under an “open source”, “copyleft” or analogous license (including any license approved by the Open Source Initiative and listed at <http://www.opensource.org/licenses>, GPL, AGPL or other open source software license) in a manner that has required or would require any public distribution of any Software, or a requirement that any other licensee of such Software be permitted to modify, make derivative works of or reverse-engineer any such Software.

(e) The transactions contemplated by this Agreement shall not impair any right, title or interest of any Group Material Company in or to any Intellectual Property, and immediately subsequent to the Closing, all the Intellectual Property used in, necessary for or developed for the operation of the business of any of the Group Material Companies will be owned by, licensed to or available for use by the Group Material Companies on terms and conditions identical to those under which the applicable Group Material Companies owned, licensed or used the Intellectual Property immediately prior to the Closing, without the payment of any additional amounts or consideration. All Company Registered IP and other Owned Intellectual Property is, and, immediately following the Closing, will be, fully transferable, alienable and licensable by the applicable Group Material Company.

Section 3.11 **Information Supplied.** The information supplied or to be supplied by or on behalf of the Group Companies for inclusion or incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement shall not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein (a) not misleading at the time the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC; (b) not misleading at the time the Company Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC; and (c) not

misleading, in light of the circumstances in which they are made, at the time of the SPAC Special Meeting, the Company Special Meeting or the Closing (subject, in each case, to the qualifications and limitations set forth in the materials provided by or on behalf of the Group Companies or that are included in such filings and/or mailings); provided, that, for the avoidance of doubt, no warranty or representation is made by any of the Group Companies with respect to statements made or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement (or any amendment or supplement thereto) based on information supplied by any of the SPAC Parties or any other party or any of their respective Affiliates for inclusion therein. The Company Proxy Statement shall comply as to form, in all material respects, with, as applicable, the provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Section 3.12 Litigation. Except as set forth in Section 3.12 of the Company Disclosure Schedules, there have not been since the Lookback Date, and there are no, Proceedings or Orders (including those brought or threatened by or before any Governmental Entity) pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened against or otherwise relating to any Group Material Company or any of their respective properties at Law or in equity, or, to the Knowledge of the Company, any director, officer, manager or employee of any Group Material Company in their respective capacities as such or related to the business of any of the Group Material Companies. There are no Proceedings pending, initiated or threatened by any Group Material Company against any other Person, and since the Lookback Date, there have not been any such Proceedings.

Section 3.13 Brokerage. Except for fees (including a good faith estimate of the amounts due and payable assuming the Closing occurs) set forth in Section 3.13 of the Company Disclosure Schedules (which fees shall be the sole responsibility of the Company), no broker, finder, financial advisor, investment banker or other Person is entitled to any brokerage fee, finders' fee or other commission in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement based upon arrangements made by or on behalf of the Company or any of its Affiliates.

Section 3.14 Labor Matters.

(a) To the Knowledge of the Company, all employees of each of the Group Material Companies who are employed in the United States are legally permitted to be employed by the applicable Group Material Company in the United States. Except as would not reasonably be expected to result in material Liabilities to any of the Group Material Companies, no freelancer, consultant or other contracting party treated as self-employed whose services any of the Group Material Companies uses or has used can effectively claim the existence of an employment relationship with one of the Group Material Companies. The Group Companies have delivered to the SPAC a complete list of all directors, managers and officers of each of the Group Companies as of October 31, 2023, and, as applicable, their respective (i) name or employee number, (ii) classification as exempt or non-exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act or analogous state Laws, (iii) job title, (iv) leave status (including type of leave and anticipated return date), (v) employing entity, (vi) full-time or part time status, (vii) job location, and (viii) compensation (i.e., current annual base salary, wage rate or fee (as applicable), and current target bonus and/or commission opportunity, if any).

(b) No Group Material Company is a party to or bound by any CBA, and no employees of any of the Group Material Companies are represented by any labor union, works council, trade union, employee organization or other labor organization with respect to their respective employment with any of the Group Material Companies. In the past three (3) years, no labor union or other labor organization, or group of employees of any Group Material Company, has made a demand for recognition or certification, and there are no representation or certification proceedings presently pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened to be brought or filed with the National Labor Relations Board or any other labor relations tribunal or authority. There are no ongoing or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened union organizing activities with respect to employees of any Group Material Company, and no such activities have occurred or been threatened in the past five (5) years. Since the Lookback Date, there have been no actual or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened unfair labor practice charges, material labor grievances, strikes, walkouts, work stoppages, slowdowns, picketing, hand billing, material labor arbitrations or other material labor disputes arising under a CBA or against or affecting any Group Material Company. None of the Group Material Companies has any notice, information, bargaining, consent or consultation obligations owed to any of its employees or any labor union, labor organization or works council or other employee representative, which is representing any employee of any of the Group Material Companies, in connection with the execution of this Agreement or the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby.

(c) To the Knowledge of the Company, each of the Group Material Companies is and, since the Lookback Date, has been in compliance in all material respects with all applicable Laws relating to labor, employment and employment practices, including provisions thereof relating to terms and conditions of employment, wages and hours, classification (including employee and independent contractor classification and the proper classification of employees as exempt employees and nonexempt employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act and applicable state and local Laws), equal opportunity, employment harassment, discrimination or retaliation, restrictive covenants, pay transparency, disability rights or benefits, parental benefits, accessibility, pay equity, workers' compensation, affirmative action, COVID-19, collective bargaining, workplace health and safety, immigration (including the completion of Forms I-9 for all employees and the proper confirmation of employee visas), whistleblowing, equal opportunity, plant closures and layoffs (including the WARN Act), employee trainings and notices, labor relations, employee leave issues, paid time off, unemployment insurance and the payment of social security, employee provident funds and other Taxes.

(d) There are no material Proceedings pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened against any Group Material Company with respect to or by any current or former employee or individual independent contractor of any of the Group Material Companies, or other worker providing services to any Group Material Company.

(e) Since the Lookback Date, no Group Material Company has been party to, or has had any Liability with respect to, any single employer, joint employer or co-employer claims, Proceedings or Orders by any individual who is or was employed or engaged by a third party and providing services to any Group Material Company, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, each third party providing such individual workers to any Group Material Company is in material compliance with all applicable labor and employment Laws. Each of the Group Material Companies has taken reasonable steps to ensure that it is not a single employer, joint employer or co-employer of any such individual workers with any third party.

(f) Except as would not reasonably be expected to result in material Liabilities to any Group Material Company, since the Lookback Date, (i) each of the Group Material Companies has withheld all amounts required by Law or by agreement to be withheld from the wages, salaries and other payments to their respective employees; (ii) no Group Material Company has been liable for any arrears of wages, compensation, Taxes, penalties or other sums; (iii) each of the Group Material Companies has timely paid in full (or properly accrued) to all of their respective current or former employees and individual independent contractors all wages, salaries, wage premiums, commissions, bonuses, severance and termination payments, fees, expense reimbursements, benefits and other compensation due and payable to or on behalf of such current or former employees or individual independent contractors; and (iv) each individual who has provided or is currently providing services to any Group Material Company, and has been classified and treated as (x) an independent contractor, consultant, leased employee or other non-employee service provider, or (y) an exempt employee, has been properly classified and treated as such for purposes of all applicable Laws, including relating to wage and hour and Tax Laws. None of the Group Material Companies has material Liability for any delinquent payment to any trust or other fund or to any Governmental Entity with respect to unemployment compensation benefits, social security or other benefits or obligations for any Group Material Company personnel (other than routine payments to be made in the Ordinary Course of Business).

(g) No senior executive or key employee with annualized base compensation at or above \$250,000 of any Group Material Company has provided notice of any intention to terminate his or her relationship with any Group Material Company within the first twelve (12) months following the Closing.

(h) To the Knowledge of the Company, no current or former employee, independent contractor or other individual service provider of any Group Material Company is in any material respect in violation of any term of any employment agreement, consulting agreement, confidentiality agreement, invention assignment agreement, nondisclosure agreement, common law nondisclosure obligation, fiduciary duty, noncompetition agreement, restrictive covenant or other obligation owed to (i) any Group Material Company, or (ii) any third party with respect to such Person's right to be employed or engaged by a Group Material Company.

(i) Except as set forth in [Section 3.14\(i\)](#) of the Company Disclosure Schedules, since the Lookback Date, (i) there have not been (A) any allegations or formal or informal complaints made to or filed with any Group Material Company related to sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, other harassment, discrimination, retaliation or other material policy violation, or (B) any other Proceedings initiated, filed or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened against any Group Material Company related to sexual harassment, sexual misconduct,

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other harassment, discrimination, retaliation or any material policy violation by or against any current or former director, officer, manager, employee, contractor, agent or individual service provider of any Group Material Company, and (ii) no Group Material Company has entered into any settlement agreement related to allegations of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, other harassment, discrimination, retaliation or material policy violation, by or against any current or former director, officer, manager, employee, contractor, agent or individual service provider of any Group Material Company. None of the Group Material Companies reasonably expects any material Liabilities with respect to any such allegations or Proceedings and none is aware of any such allegations or Proceedings that, if known to the public, would bring any of the Group Material Companies into material disrepute.

(j) No employee layoff, facility closure or shutdown (whether voluntary or by Order), reduction-in-force, furlough, temporary layoff, material work schedule change or reduction in hours, or reduction in salary or wages, or other workforce changes affecting employees or individual independent contractors of any Group Material Company has occurred since March 1, 2020, or is currently contemplated, planned or announced, including as a result of COVID-19 or any Law, Order, directive, guideline or recommendation by any Governmental Entity in connection with or in response to COVID-19. None of the Group Material Companies has otherwise experienced any material employment-related Liability with respect to COVID-19. No current or former employee of any Group Material Company has filed or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened any claims against any Group Company related to COVID-19.

(k) Since the Lookback Date, none of the Group Material Companies has implemented any plant closing or layoff of employees triggering notice requirements under the WARN Act, nor is there presently any outstanding Liability under the WARN Act, and no such plant closings or employee layoffs are currently planned or announced.

### Section 3.15 Employee Benefit Plans.

(a) Section 3.15(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth a list of each Company Employee Benefit Plan of any Group Material Company. With respect to each Company Employee Benefit Plan, the Company has made available to the SPAC true and complete copies of, as applicable, (i) the current plan document (and all amendments thereto), (ii) the most recent summary plan description (with all summaries of material modifications thereto), (iii) the most recent determination, advisory or opinion letter received from the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”), (iv) the three (3) most recently filed Form 5500 annual reports with all schedules and attachments as filed, (v) the most recent actuarial valuation report, (vi) all related insurance Contracts, trust agreements or other funding arrangements, and (vii) all non-routine correspondence with any Governmental Entity.

(b) (i) No Company Employee Benefit Plan provides, and no Group Material Company has any Liability to provide, retiree, post-ownership or post-termination health or life insurance or any other retiree, post-ownership or post-termination welfare-type benefits to any Person other than as required under Section 4980B of the Code or any similar state Law and for which the covered Person pays the full cost of coverage, (ii) no Company Employee Benefit Plan is, and no Group Material Company sponsors, maintains or contributes to (or is required to contribute to), or has any Liability (including on account of an ERISA Affiliate) under or with respect to, a “defined benefit plan” (as defined in Section 3(35) of ERISA) or a plan that is or was subject to Title IV of ERISA or Section 412 or 430 of the Code, and (iii) no Group Material Company contributes to or has any obligation to contribute to, or has any Liability (including on account of an ERISA Affiliate) under or with respect to, any “multiemployer plan”, as defined in Section 3(37) of ERISA. No Company Employee Benefit Plan is (x) a “multiple employer plan” within the meaning of Section 413(c) of the Code or Section 210 of ERISA, or (y) a “multiple employer welfare arrangement” (as defined in Section 3(40) of ERISA). No Group Material Company has any, or is reasonably expected to have any, Liability under Title IV of ERISA or on account of being considered a single employer under Section 414 of the Code with any other Person.

(c) Each Company Employee Benefit Plan that is (or has been) intended to be qualified within the meaning of Section 401(a) of the Code has timely received, or may rely upon, a current favorable determination or advisory or opinion letter from the IRS, and nothing has occurred that would reasonably be expected to cause the loss of the tax-qualified status or to adversely affect the qualification of such Company Employee Benefit Plan. Each Company Employee Benefit Plan has been established, operated, maintained, funded and administered in accordance, in all material respects, with its respective terms and in compliance, in all material respects, with all applicable Laws, including ERISA and the Code. There have been no “prohibited transactions” within the meaning of Section 4975 of the Code or Sections 406 or 407 of ERISA that are not otherwise exempt under Section 408 of ERISA, and no breaches of fiduciary duty (as determined under ERISA) have occurred with respect to any

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Company Employee Benefit Plan, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, no service provider to any Company Employee Benefit Plan has caused any “prohibited transactions” within the meaning of Section 4975 of the Code or Section 406 or Section 407 of ERISA that are not otherwise exempt under Section 408 of ERISA. There is no claim or Proceeding (other than routine and uncontested claims for benefits) pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened with respect to any Company Employee Benefit Plan or against the assets of any Company Employee Benefit Plan. Each of the Group Material Companies has complied in all material respects with the requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, including the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (collectively, the “ACA”), and none of the Group Material Companies has incurred (whether or not assessed) any penalty or Tax under the ACA (including with respect to the reporting requirements under Sections 6055 and 6056 of the Code, as applicable) or under Section 4980H, 4980B or 4980D of the Code. With respect to each Company Employee Benefit Plan, all contributions, distributions, reimbursements and premium payments that are due have been timely made in accordance with the terms of such Company Employee Benefit Plan and in compliance with the requirements of applicable Law, and all contributions, distributions, reimbursements and premium payments for any period ending on or before the Closing Date that are not yet due have been made or properly accrued.

(d) Neither the execution or delivery of this Agreement nor the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, alone or together with any other event could, directly or indirectly, (i) result in any compensation or benefit becoming due or payable, or being required to be provided, to any current or former officer, employee, manager, director or individual independent contractor of any of the Group Material Companies under a Company Employee Benefit Plan or otherwise, (ii) increase the amount or value of any benefit or compensation otherwise payable or required to be provided to any current or former officer, employee, director, manager, individual independent contractor or other individual service provider of any of the Group Material Companies under a Company Employee Benefit Plan or otherwise, (iii) result in the acceleration of the time of payment, vesting or funding or forfeiture of any such benefit or compensation under a Company Employee Benefit Plan or otherwise, (iv) result in the forgiveness in whole or in part of any outstanding loans made by any of the Group Material Companies to any current or former officer, employee, director, manager, individual independent contractor or other individual service provider of any of the Group Material Companies, or (v) limit or restrict any of the Group Material Companies’ or the SPAC’s ability to merge, amend or terminate any Company Employee Benefit Plan.

(e) Each Company Employee Benefit Plan or other arrangement that is, in any part, a “nonqualified deferred compensation plan” within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code has been documented, operated and maintained in compliance with Section 409A of the Code and applicable guidance thereunder in all material respects. No Person has any current or contingent right against any of the Group Material Companies to be grossed up for, reimbursed for or otherwise indemnified or made whole for any Tax incurred by such Person, including under Sections 409A or 4999 of the Code or otherwise.

(f) Neither the execution or delivery of this Agreement nor the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby could, either alone or in conjunction with any other event, result in the payment or provision of any amount or benefit that could, individually or in combination with any other amount or benefit, constitute a “parachute payment” (as defined in Section 280G(b)(2) of the Code).

(g) Section 3.15(g) of the Company Disclosure Schedules sets forth, as of the date hereof, all of each Group Material Company’s obligations with respect to any unpaid and accrued bonuses, severance and deferred compensation, whether or not accrued or funded (including deferred compensation payable as deferred purchase price).

Section 3.16 Insurance. As of the Execution Date, the Group Material Companies maintain property, casualty, workers’ compensation, professional lines, fidelity and other insurance with insurance carriers against operational risks and risks to the assets, properties and employees of the Group Material Companies with respect to the policy year that includes the Execution Date (collectively, the “Insurance Policies”). Each Insurance Policy is Enforceable against the applicable Group Material Company and no written notice of cancellation or termination has been received by any Group Material Company with respect to any such Insurance Policy. All premiums due under each such policy have been paid in accordance with the terms of each such Insurance Policy. No Group Material Company is in material breach or material default under, nor has any taken any action or failed to take any action which, with notice or the lapse of time or both, would constitute a material breach or material default

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under, or permit a material increase in premium, cancellation, material reduction in coverage, material denial or non-renewal with respect to, any Insurance Policy. During the twelve (12) months prior to the Execution Date, there have been no material claims by or with respect to any of the Group Material Companies under any Insurance Policy as to which coverage has been denied or disputed in any material respect by any of the underwriters of such Insurance Policy.

### Section 3.17 Compliance with Laws; Permits.

(a) (i) Each Group Company is and, since the Lookback Date, has been in compliance in all material respects with all Laws and Orders applicable to the conduct of such Group Company, and (ii) since the Lookback Date, no Group Company has received any written or oral notice from any Person alleging a material violation of or noncompliance with any such Laws or Orders.

(b) To the Knowledge of the Company, each Group Material Company holds all material permits, licenses, registrations, approvals, consents, accreditations, waivers, exemptions, variances, certificates and authorizations of, or granted by, each applicable Governmental Entity required under Law for the ownership and use of its assets and properties or the conduct of its business as currently conducted (collectively, “Permits”), and is in compliance with all terms and conditions of such Permits, except where the failure to have such Permits would not be reasonably expected to be, individually or in the aggregate, material to the business of the Group Companies, taken as a whole. All of the Permits are valid and in full force and effect and none of the Permits will be terminated as a result of, or in connection with, the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby. No Group Material Company is in default under any Permit and no condition exists that, with the giving of notice or lapse of time or both, would be reasonably expected to constitute a default under any Permit, and no Proceeding is pending or threatened in writing, to suspend, revoke, withdraw, modify or limit any Permit in a manner that has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material impact on the ability of the applicable Group Material Company to use such Permit or conduct its business. Each Permit will continue in full force and effect immediately following the Closing.

Section 3.18 Environmental Matters. (a) To the Knowledge of the Company, each Group Material Company is, and since the Lookback Date, has been in compliance in all material respects with all Environmental Laws, which compliance includes and has included obtaining, maintaining and complying with any Permits required by Environmental Law; (b) (i) no Group Material Company has received any notice or Order regarding any material violation of, or material Liabilities under, any Environmental Law, and (ii) there are no pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened Proceedings against any of the Group Material Companies relating to a material violation of, or material Liabilities under, any Environmental Law; (c) no Group Material Company has used, generated, manufactured, distributed, sold, treated, stored, disposed of, arranged for or permitted the disposal of, transported, handled, released, exposed any Person to or owned, leased or operated any property or facility contaminated by, any Hazardous Materials, that has resulted in or would result in material Liability to any of the Group Material Companies under Environmental Law; and (d) no Group Material Company has assumed, undertaken or become subject to any material Liability of any other Person, or provided an indemnity with respect to any material Liability, in each case, under Environmental Law. The Group Material Companies have provided to the SPAC true and correct copies of all environmental and health and safety assessments, reports and audits and all other material environmental and health and safety documents relating to any of the Group Material Companies or their respective current or former properties, facilities or operations, that, in each case, are in any of the Group Material Companies’ possession or control.

Section 3.19 Title to and Sufficiency of Assets. Each Group Material Company has sole and exclusive, good and marketable title to, or, in the case of leased or subleased assets, an Enforceable leasehold interest in, or, in the case of licensed assets, a valid license in, all of its material personal property, assets, properties, rights and interests (whether real or personal), tangible or intangible, free and clear of all Liens other than Permitted Liens (collectively, the “Assets”). The Assets constitute all of the material assets, properties, rights and interests necessary to conduct the business of each of the Group Material Companies after the Closing, in all material respects, as it has been operated for the twelve (12) months prior to the Execution Date.

Section 3.20 Affiliate Transactions. Except for ordinary course employment relationships and compensation and benefits, (x) there are no Contracts (except for the applicable Governing Documents) between any of the Group Material Companies, on the one hand, and any Interested Party or any “immediate family” member (as such term is defined in Rule 16a-1 of the Exchange Act) of an Interested Party, on the other hand, and (y) no Interested Party

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or any “immediate family” member (as such term is defined in Rule 16a-1 of the Exchange Act) of an Interested Party (i) owes any amount to any Group Material Company, (ii) owns any property or right, tangible or intangible, that is used by any Group Material Company, or (iii) owns any direct or indirect interest of any kind in, or controls or is a director, officer, employee, manager, equityholder, partner or member of, or consultant to, or lender to or borrower from, or has the right to participate in the profits of, any Person which is a competitor, supplier or landlord of, any Group Material Company (other than in connection with ownership of less than two percent (2%) of the stock of a publicly traded company) (such transactions or arrangements described in clauses (x) and (y), “Affiliated Transactions”).

### Section 3.21 Trade & Anti-Corruption Compliance.

(a) Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries, nor, to the Knowledge of the Company, any of their respective directors, officers, managers or employees or any agent or third party Representative acting on behalf of the Company of any of its Subsidiaries, is or has been in the last five (5) years, a Sanctioned Person. Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries, nor, to the Knowledge of the Company, any of their respective directors, officers, managers or employees or any agent or third party Representative acting on behalf of the Company of any of its Subsidiaries, is or has been in the last five (5) years: (i) operating in, conducting business with or otherwise engaging in dealings or transactions with or for the benefit of any Sanctioned Person or in any Sanctioned Country, in either case, in violation of applicable Sanctions in connection with the business of any Group Material Company; (ii) engaging in any export, re-export, transfer or provision of any goods, software, technology, data or service without, or exceeding the scope of, any required or applicable licenses or authorizations under applicable Laws; or (iii) otherwise in violation of (A) any applicable Sanctions, or (B) any applicable Law or U.S. anti-boycott requirements (together “Trade Controls”), in any case, in connection with the business of any Group Material Company.

(b) In the last five (5) years, in connection with or relating to the business of any Group Material Company, neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries, nor, to the Knowledge of the Company, any of the directors, officers, managers or employees of any Group Material Company or any agent or third party Representative acting on behalf of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries: (i) has made, authorized, solicited or received any bribe or any unlawful rebate, payoff, influence payment or kickback, (ii) has established or maintained, or is maintaining, any unlawful fund of monies or properties, (iii) has used or is using any funds for any illegal contributions, gifts, entertainment, hospitality, travel or other unlawful expenses, or (iv) has, directly or indirectly, made, offered, authorized, facilitated, received or promised to make or receive, any payment, contribution, gift, entertainment, bribe, rebate, kickback, financial or other advantage or anything else of value, regardless of form or amount, to or from any Governmental Entity or any other Person, in each case, in violation of applicable Anti-Corruption Laws.

(c) As of the Execution Date, there are no, and, since the Lookback Date, there have been no, Proceedings or Orders alleging any such violation of any Trade Controls or Anti-Corruption Laws by or on behalf of any Group Company.

### Section 3.22 Data Protection.

(a) To the Knowledge of the Company, at all times since the Lookback Date, each of the Group Material Companies (i) has been in compliance with all Data Privacy and Security Requirements in all material respects, and (ii) has not been subject to any regulatory audits or investigations by any Governmental Entity relating to Data Privacy and Security Requirements. The Company and each of its Affiliates has taken commercially reasonable steps designed to ensure that all Personal Information in its possession and control is protected against unauthorized loss, access, use, modification, disclosure or other use or misuse, and there has been no alleged, suspected, potentially likely or actual Security Breach or other loss, theft or unauthorized access to or misuse of any Personal Information, and no Group Material Company has provided, or been required to provide, any notice to any data subject or Governmental Entity regarding Personal Information.

(b) To the Knowledge of the Company, each of the Group Material Companies has a valid and legal right (whether contractually, by Law or otherwise) to access or use all material Personal Information and material business data processed by or on behalf of such Group Material Company in connection with the use and/or operation of its products, services and business. Neither the Company nor any of its Affiliates has received any written requests, complaints or objections to its collection or use of Personal Information from any data protection

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authority or any other third party (including data subjects). No individual has been awarded compensation from the Company or any of its Affiliates for a violation of any Data Privacy and Security Requirements, and no written claim for such compensation is outstanding.

(c) Neither the Company nor any of its Affiliates “sells” any Personal Information as such term is defined under applicable Data Privacy and Security Requirements, except in a manner that complies with the applicable Data Privacy and Security Requirements. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated herein comply, and will comply, in all material respects, with all Data Privacy and Security Requirements and other applicable contractual commitments related to the privacy and security of Personal Information to which the Company or any of its Affiliates are bound.

### Section 3.23 Information Technology.

(a) The IT Systems and all Proprietary Software: (i) are in sufficiently good working order and operate and perform in accordance with their respective documentation and functional specifications in all material respects and otherwise as required by the Company or any of its Affiliates and are sufficient for the operation of their respective businesses as currently conducted, including as to capacity, scalability and ability to meet current and anticipated peak volumes in a timely manner, and (ii) are free from any “back door”, “drop dead device”, “time bomb”, “Trojan horse”, “virus”, “ransomware” or “worm” (as such terms are commonly understood in the software industry) or other malicious code.

(b) The Company and each of its Affiliates has implemented with respect to its IT Systems commercially reasonable backup, security and disaster recovery technology consistent with generally accepted industry practices. The Company and each of its Affiliates has taken commercially reasonable steps (i) to protect the confidentiality, integrity, accessibility and security of the IT Systems from any theft, corruption, loss or unauthorized use, access, interruption or modification by any Person, and (ii) to protect the IT Systems from any bugs, viruses, malware or other harmful, disabling or disruptive code, routine or process. The Company and each of its Affiliates has in place commercially reasonable back-up, disaster recovery and business continuity plans, policies and procedures, and such plans, policies and procedures are regularly reviewed, updated and practiced (including, for example, via simulations and training exercises).

(c) Since the Lookback Date, there has been no alleged, suspected, potentially likely or actual Security Incident or Security Breach of or unauthorized access to the IT Systems, and with respect to any of the IT Systems, there has not been any failure, breakdown, continued substandard performance or other adverse event affecting the same that have caused a material disruption or interruption in or to the use thereof or in or to the conduct of the business of the Company or any of its Affiliates that has not been remedied or replaced in all material respects.

### Section 3.24 Regulatory Compliance.

(a) There are no Proceedings pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened with respect to an alleged violation by any Group Material Company of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the Public Health Service Act, the Laws of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”), the Controlled Substances Act or any other similar Law promulgated by the FDA or other comparable Governmental Entity responsible for regulation of the development, testing, manufacturing, processing, storage, labeling, sale, marketing, advertising, distribution and importation or exportation of drug or medical device products (each, a “Device Regulatory Agency”).

(b) Each Group Material Company holds all required Permits issuable by any Device Regulatory Agency necessary for the conduct of the business of such Group Material Company as currently conducted, and the development, testing, manufacturing, processing, storage, labeling, sale, marketing, advertising, distribution and importation or exportation, as currently conducted, of any of its products or product candidates (collectively, the “Group Material Company Product Candidates”) (such Permits, collectively, the “Group Material Company Regulatory Permits”), and no such Group Material Company Regulatory Permit has been (i) revoked, withdrawn, suspended, cancelled or terminated, or (ii) modified in any adverse manner. Section 3.24 of the Company Disclosure Schedules identifies and lists each (A) Group Material Company Regulatory Permit, and (B) Group Material Company Product Candidate. Each applicable Group Material Company has timely maintained and is in compliance in all material respects with the Group Material Company Regulatory Permits thereof and has not, since the Lookback Date, received any written notice or correspondence or, to the Knowledge of the Company,

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other communication from any Device Regulatory Agency regarding (w) any material violation of or failure to comply materially with any term or requirement of any Group Material Company Regulatory Permit, or (x) any revocation, withdrawal, suspension, cancellation, termination or material modification of any Group Material Company Regulatory Permit. The Company has provided to the SPAC, either directly or through the Company SEC Reports, all information requested by the SPAC in any Group Material Company's possession or control relating to Group Material Company Product Candidates and the development, testing, manufacturing, processing, storage, labeling, sale, marketing, advertising, distribution and/or importation or exportation of Group Material Company Product Candidates, including complete copies of the following (to the extent there are any): (y) adverse event reports; pre-clinical, clinical and other study reports and material study data; inspection reports, notices of adverse findings, untitled letters, warning letters, filings and letters and other written correspondence to and from any Device Regulatory Agency and meeting minutes with any Device Regulatory Agency, and (z) similar reports, material study data, notices, letters, filings, correspondence and meeting minutes with any other Governmental Entity. All such information is accurate and complete.

(c) To the extent applicable, all clinical, pre-clinical and other studies and tests conducted by or on behalf of, or sponsored by, any Group Material Company, or in which any Group Material Company or any of its current products or product candidates, including the Group Material Company Product Candidates, have participated, were conducted, since the Lookback Date, and, if still pending, are being conducted, in accordance in all material respects with standard medical and scientific research procedures, in accordance in all material respects with the applicable protocols and in compliance in all material respects with the applicable regulations of the Device Regulatory Agencies and other applicable Laws, including 21 C.F.R. Parts 11, 50, 54, 56, 58, 312 and 812. Since the Lookback Date, no Group Material Company has received any written notices, correspondence or other communications from any Device Regulatory Agency, other Governmental Entity, institutional review board, ethics committee or safety monitoring committee requiring or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatening to initiate any Proceeding to place a clinical hold order on, or otherwise terminate, delay or suspend, any clinical studies conducted by or on behalf of, or sponsored by, any Group Material Company, or in which any Group Material Company or any of its current products or product candidates, including the Group Material Company Product Candidates, have participated. Further, no clinical investigator, researcher or clinical staff participating in any clinical study conducted by or, to the Knowledge of the Company, on behalf of any Group Material Company has been disqualified from participating in studies involving any of the Group Material Company Product Candidates, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, no such administrative action to disqualify such clinical investigators, researchers or clinical staff has been threatened.

(d) No Group Material Company is, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, no contract manufacturer with respect to any Group Material Company Product Candidate is, the subject of any pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened Proceeding in respect of its business or products, including any Group Material Company Product Candidates, by the FDA pursuant to its "Fraud, Untrue Statements of Material Facts, Bribery, and Illegal Gratuities" Final Policy set forth in 56 Fed. Reg. 46191 (September 10, 1991) (as amended) or by any other Device Regulatory Agency under a comparable policy. No Group Material Company has, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, no contract manufacturer, nor any of their respective officers, employees or agents has, with respect to any Group Material Company Product Candidate, committed any act, made any statement or failed to make any statement, in each case, in respect of its business or products that would violate the FDA's "Fraud, Untrue Statements of Material Facts, Bribery, and Illegal Gratuities" Final Policy (as amended), or a comparable policy of any other Device Regulatory Agency. None of any Group Material Company, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, any contract manufacturer with respect to any Group Material Company Product Candidate, or any of their respective officers, employees or agents is currently or has been debarred or convicted of any crime or is engaging or has engaged in any conduct that could result in a debarment or exclusion under (i) 21 U.S.C. Section 335a, or (ii) any similar applicable Law. No debarment or exclusionary claims, actions, proceedings or investigations in respect of the business or products of any Group Material Company are pending or, to the Company's Knowledge, threatened, nor is any such Proceeding pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened with respect to any contract manufacturer with respect to any Group Material Company Product Candidate, or any of their respective officers, employees or agents.

(e) All manufacturing operations conducted by or, to the Knowledge of the Company, for the benefit of any Group Material Company in connection with any Group Material Company Product Candidate, since the Lookback Date, have been and are being conducted in compliance in all material respects with applicable

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Laws, including the FDA's standards for current good manufacturing practices, including applicable requirements contained in 21 C.F.R. Parts 210, 211 and 600-610 and the respective counterparts thereof promulgated by Governmental Entities in countries outside the United States.

(f) Neither any Group Material Company nor, to the Knowledge of the Company, any manufacturing site of a contract manufacturer or laboratory, with respect to any Group Material Company Product Candidate, (i) is subject to a Device Regulatory Agency shutdown or import or export prohibition, or (ii) has received any Form FDA 483, notice of violation, warning letter, untitled letter, reviews (including data integrity reviews) or similar correspondence or notice from the FDA or other Device Regulatory Agency alleging or asserting noncompliance with any applicable Law, in each case, that have not been complied with or closed to the satisfaction of the relevant Device Regulatory Agency, and, to the Knowledge of the Company, neither the FDA nor any other Device Regulatory Agency is considering such action.

(g) The Company is the "Ultimate Parent Entity" of the "Acquired Person", in each case, as such term is defined in the HSR Act and related regulations, including 16 C.F.R. Sections 801.1(a)(3) and 801.2(b), and such "Acquired Person" does not have either total assets or annual net sales of \$222.7 million or more, as determined under the HSR Act and related regulations, including 16 C.F.R. Section 801.11.

### Section 3.25 SEC Filings; Sarbanes-Oxley.

(a) Since the Lookback Date, the Company and each other applicable Group Company has filed all forms, reports, schedules, registration statements, prospectuses, statements and other documents, including any exhibits thereto, required to be filed by it with the SEC or the OTCQX, together with any amendments, restatements or supplements thereto (collectively, the "Company SEC Reports"), and each of them will file all such Company SEC Reports required to be filed by the SEC and/or the OTCQX subsequent to the date of this Agreement. The Company has heretofore furnished to the SPAC true and correct copies of all amendments and modifications that have not been filed by or on behalf of the applicable Group Company with the SEC, which amendments and modifications were not material, to all agreements, documents and other instruments that previously had been filed by or on behalf of the applicable Group Company with the SEC and are currently in effect. As of their respective filing dates, or, if amended, as of the date of such amendment, the Company SEC Reports (i) complied in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Securities Act, the Exchange Act and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act"), and (ii) did not, at the time they were filed, or, if amended, as of the date of such amendment, contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements made therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

(b) As of the date hereof, there are no outstanding comments from the SEC with respect to any of the Company SEC Reports. To the Knowledge of the Company, none of the Company SEC Reports filed on or prior to the date hereof is subject to ongoing SEC review or investigation as of the date hereof. None of (i) the Company SEC Reports contained, when filed or, if amended prior to the Execution Date, as of the date of such amendment with respect to those disclosures that were amended, any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, or (ii) any other Company SEC Reports, filed after the Execution Date and prior to the Closing, will contain, when filed or, if amended prior to the Closing, as of the date of such amendment with respect to those disclosures that are amended, any untrue statement of a material fact or will omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. All Company SEC Reports filed after the Execution Date and prior to the Closing, when filed, or if amended prior to the Closing, as of the date of such amendment with respect to those disclosures that are amended, will comply in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, as the case may be, and the rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder applicable to each such Company SEC Report (including, as applicable, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder).

(c) The Company and each other applicable Group Company are in compliance in all material respects with the applicable listing and corporate governance rules and regulations of the OTCQX, including with respect to the Company Shares.

(d) As of the Execution Date, (i) the Company Shares are quoted on the OTCQX, (ii) the Company has not received any written deficiency notice from the OTCQX or any operator thereof relating to the continued listing requirements of the Company Shares, (iii) there are no Proceedings pending or threatened in writing against any Group Company by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority with respect to any intention by any such entity to suspend, prohibit or terminate the quoting of any Company Shares on the OTCQX, and (iv) the Company Shares are not subject to any DTC “chill” designation or similar restriction on the clearing of the Company Shares through DTC.

(e) The operations of the Group Companies are and have been conducted at all times in compliance with any applicable anti-money laundering Laws, and no Proceeding involving any Group Company with respect to anti-money laundering Laws is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Company, threatened.

Section 3.26 Inspections; Non-Reliance. The Company is an informed and sophisticated Person, and has engaged advisors experienced in transactions such as the Transactions. The Company has undertaken such investigation and has been provided with and has evaluated such documents and information as it has deemed necessary to enable it to make an informed and intelligent decision with respect to the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement (as applicable). The Company agrees to engage in the transactions contemplated by this Agreement based upon, and has relied on, its own inspection and examination of the SPAC Parties’ business and on the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the SPAC Parties set forth in (a) Article IV, (b) any Ancillary Agreement to which any SPAC Party is a party, or (c) any certificate delivered by or on behalf of any SPAC Party pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement, and disclaims reliance upon any express or implied representations or warranties of any nature made by any SPAC Party or their respective Affiliates or Representatives, except for those set forth in (i) Article IV, (ii) any Ancillary Agreement to which any SPAC Party is a party, or (iii) any certificate delivered by or on behalf of any SPAC Party pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything else in this Agreement, claims or allegations arising from or relating to Fraud on the part of any SPAC Party shall not be subject to this Section 3.26.

Section 3.27 Opinion of Financial Advisor. The Company Board has received the opinion of the Fairness Opinion Provider, which was addressed to the Company Board with the SPAC Board on copy, to the effect that, as of the date of such opinion, and based upon and subject to the procedures followed, assumptions made, qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken and other matters considered in connection with the preparation thereof as set forth therein, the Transaction Share Consideration to be received by the Company Stockholders in the Merger is fair from a financial point of view to the Company Stockholders (the “Fairness Opinion”).

Section 3.28 No Other Representations and Warranties. Except as expressly set forth in this Article III (including the related portions of the Company Disclosure Schedules), the Ancillary Agreements to which any Group Company is a party and any certificates delivered by any Group Company pursuant to the terms hereof or thereof, neither the Company nor any Affiliate thereof has made or makes any representation or warranty, express or implied, at law or in equity, in respect of any of the Group Companies or their respective businesses, including with respect to (a) merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose, (b) accuracy and completeness of any information provided or made available to any SPAC Party or any of its representatives or affiliates (including, for this purpose, any information, documents or material provided or made available to any SPAC Party or any of its representatives or affiliates in any data room, management presentation or the like), and (c) any estimates, projections or other forecasts and plans, and any such other representations and warranties are hereby expressly disclaimed to the extent any such representation or warranty is not expressly set forth in this Article III (including the related portions of the Company Disclosure Schedules), the Ancillary Agreements to which any Group Company is a party or any certificates delivered by any Group Company pursuant to the terms hereof or thereof. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, nothing in this Section 3.28 shall limit any claim or cause of action (or recovery in connection therewith) with respect to fraud.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF THE SPAC PARTIES

As an inducement to the Company to enter into this Agreement and consummate the transactions contemplated hereby, except as set forth in the applicable section of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules or as disclosed in the SPAC SEC Documents and publicly available (x) prior to the Execution Date, for representations and warranties made on the Execution Date, and (y) prior to the Closing Date, for representations and warranties made

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on the Closing Date, in each case excluding disclosures referred to in “Forward-Looking Statements” and “Risk Factors” and any other disclosures therein to the extent they are of a predictive or cautionary nature or related to forward-looking statements, each of the SPAC Parties hereby represents and warrants to the Company as follows as of the Execution Date and as of the Closing Date (except as to any representations and warranties that specifically relate to an earlier date, in which case, such representations and warranties were true and correct as of such earlier date):

### Section 4.1 Organization; Authority; Enforceability.

(a) Each of the SPAC and Merger Sub is a corporation and is duly incorporated, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of the State of Delaware.

(b) The SPAC Parties have all the requisite corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate their respective assets and properties and to carry on their respective businesses as presently conducted in all material respects.

(c) Each SPAC Party is duly qualified, licensed or registered to do business under the Laws of each jurisdiction in which the conduct of its business or location of its assets and/or properties makes such qualification necessary, except where the failure to be so qualified would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to be material to the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole.

(d) No SPAC Party is in violation of its Governing Documents, except as would not be material, nor is it the subject of any bankruptcy, dissolution, liquidation, reorganization or similar proceeding.

(e) Each SPAC Party has the requisite corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is or will be a party and to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder, and, subject to the receipt of the SPAC Required Vote approving the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, to consummate the Transactions. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which a SPAC Party is or will be a party, and, subject to the receipt of the SPAC Required Vote approving the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, the consummation of the Transactions, have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate actions, as applicable, including by the SPAC Board and the board of directors of Merger Sub. This Agreement has been (and each of the Ancillary Agreements to which any SPAC Party is or will be a party is or will be) duly executed and delivered by such SPAC Party and are or will be Enforceable against such SPAC Party. No other corporate actions on the part of the SPAC, except for the SPAC Required Vote approving the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, are necessary to approve and authorize the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which the SPAC is or will be a party or the consummation of the Transactions.

(f) A correct and complete copy of the Existing SPAC Charter, as in effect on the Execution Date, is filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Form 10-Q filed by the SPAC with the SEC on August 29, 2023. A correct and complete copy of the SPAC Bylaws, as in effect on the Execution Date, is filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Form 10-K filed by the SPAC with the SEC on April 25, 2023.

Section 4.2 Non-contravention. Subject to the receipt of the SPAC Required Vote approving the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, and assuming the truth and accuracy of the Company’s representations and warranties contained in [Section 3.1\(a\)](#), neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to which a SPAC Party is a party nor the consummation of the Transactions by any SPAC Party will (a) conflict with or result in any material breach of any provision of the Governing Documents of any SPAC Party; (b) other than (i) the filing of the Certificate of Merger with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, and (ii) the filing with the SEC of (A) the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and the declaration of the effectiveness thereof by the SEC and the Company Proxy Statement and the clearance of any comments from the SEC thereon, (B) any registration statements as may be required under the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement or any other Ancillary Agreement, and (C) such reports under Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act as may be required in connection with this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements or the Transactions, require any material filing with, or the obtaining of any material consent or approval of, any Governmental Entity or other Person; (c) result in a material violation of or a material default (or give rise to any right of termination, cancellation or acceleration) under, any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any note, mortgage, other evidence of indebtedness, guarantee, license agreement, lease or other Contract to which any SPAC Party is a party or by

which any SPAC Party or any of its assets may be bound; (d) result in the creation of any Lien (other than Permitted Liens) upon any of the properties or assets of any SPAC Party; or (e) except for violations which would not prevent or delay the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, violate in any material respect any Law, Order or Lien applicable to any SPAC Party, excluding from the foregoing clauses (b), (c), (d) and (e) such requirements, violations, defaults or Liens which would not reasonably be expected to be material to the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole, or materially affect any SPAC Party's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is or will be a party to or consummate the Transactions.

Section 4.3 Litigation. Except as set forth in Section 4.3 of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, there have not been since the Lookback Date, and there are no, Proceedings or Orders (including those brought or threatened by or before any Governmental Entity) pending or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, threatened against any SPAC Party or any of their respective properties at Law or in equity that, if decided or resolved in an adverse manner, would be material to the SPAC Parties, taken as a whole.

Section 4.4 Brokerage. Except for fees (including a good faith estimate of the amounts due and payable assuming the Closing occurs) set forth in Section 4.4 of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules (which fees shall, subject to Section 6.11, be the sole responsibility of the SPAC), no broker, finder, financial advisor, investment banker or other Person is entitled to any brokerage fee, finders' fee or other commission in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement based upon arrangements made by or on behalf of the SPAC or any of its Affiliates for which any SPAC Party has any obligation.

Section 4.5 Business Activities.

(a) Since its incorporation, no SPAC Party has conducted any material business activities other than activities directed toward the accomplishment of the SPAC's initial public offering and a Business Combination. Except as set forth in the SPAC Governing Documents, there is no Contract, commitment or Order binding upon any SPAC Party or to which any SPAC Party is a party which has or would reasonably be expected to have the effect of prohibiting or impairing any business practice of the SPAC Parties or any acquisition of property by the SPAC Parties or the conduct of business by the SPAC Parties after the Closing, other than such effects, individually or in the aggregate, which are not, and would not reasonably be expected to be, material to the SPAC Parties.

(b) Except for this Agreement and the Transactions, no SPAC Party has any interests, rights, obligations or Liabilities with respect to, and the SPAC is not party to or bound by, nor are its assets or property subject to, in each case, whether directly or indirectly, any Contract or transaction which is, or could reasonably be interpreted as constituting, a Business Combination. Other than as set forth in this Agreement, the SPAC Parties have not, directly or indirectly (whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise), acquired, purchased, leased or licensed (or agreed to acquire, purchase, lease or license) any business, corporation, partnership, association or other business organization or division or part thereof.

(c) The SPAC Parties have no Liabilities that are required to be disclosed on a balance sheet in accordance with GAAP, other than (i) Liabilities expressly set forth in or reserved against in the balance sheet of the SPAC as of September 30, 2023, which is included in the SPAC SEC Documents (the "SPAC Balance Sheet"); (ii) Liabilities arising under this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements or the performance by any of the SPAC Parties of their respective obligations hereunder or thereunder; (iii) Liabilities which have arisen after the date of the SPAC Balance Sheet in the Ordinary Course of Business (none of which results from, arises out of or was caused by any breach of warranty or Contract, infringement or violation of Law); and (iv) Liabilities for fees, costs and expenses for advisors, vendors and Affiliates of any of the SPAC Parties or the Sponsor, including with respect to legal, accounting or other advisors incurred by any of the SPAC Parties or the Sponsor in connection with the Transactions or similar transactions pursued by the SPAC prior to the date hereof.

Section 4.6 Compliance with Laws. The SPAC Parties are, and have been since their incorporation date, in compliance in all material respects with all Laws and Orders applicable to the conduct of the SPAC Parties, and the SPAC Parties have not received any written notices from any Governmental Entity or any other Person alleging a material violation of or noncompliance with any such Laws or Orders.

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Section 4.7 Organization of Merger Sub. Merger Sub was formed solely for the purpose of engaging in the Transactions and, other than as a result of the entry into this Agreement, has not conducted any business activities, and has no assets or Liabilities, other than those incidental to its formation.

Section 4.8 Tax Matters.

(a) Each of the SPAC Parties has filed all Income Tax Returns and other material Tax Returns required to be filed thereby with the appropriate Governmental Entity pursuant to applicable Laws (taking into account any validly obtained extension of time within which to file). All Income Tax Returns and other material Tax Returns filed by each of the SPAC Parties are true, correct and complete in all material respects and have been prepared in material compliance with all applicable Laws. All material amounts of Taxes due and payable by any of the SPAC Parties (taking into account applicable extensions) and for which the applicable statute of limitations remains open have been paid (whether or not shown as due and payable on any Tax Return) to the appropriate Governmental Entity.

(b) Except as set forth in Section 4.8(b) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, each of the SPAC Parties has properly withheld or collected and paid to the applicable Governmental Entity all material amounts of Taxes required to have been withheld and paid by it in connection with any amounts paid or owing to any employee, individual independent contractor, creditor, equityholder or other third party, and has otherwise complied in all material respects with all applicable Laws relating to such withholding, collection and payment of Taxes.

(c) None of the SPAC Parties has received any written claim made by a Governmental Entity in a jurisdiction where a SPAC Party does not file a particular type of Tax Return, or pay a particular type of Tax, that any SPAC Party is or may be subject to taxation of that type by, or required to file that type of Tax Return in, that jurisdiction that has not been settled or resolved.

(d) None of the SPAC Parties is currently, nor has any been within the last five (5) years, the subject of any Proceeding with respect to any Taxes or Tax Returns of or with respect to such entity, no such Proceeding is pending, and, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, no such Proceeding has been threatened, in each case, that has not been settled or resolved.

(e) Except for extensions resulting from the extension of the time to file any applicable Tax Return, there are no outstanding agreements extending or waiving the statute of limitations applicable to any Tax or Tax Return with respect to any of the SPAC Parties or extending a period of Tax collection, assessment or deficiency, which period (after giving effect to such extension or waiver) has not yet expired, and no written request for any such waiver or extension is currently pending. None of the SPAC Parties is the beneficiary of any extension of time (other than a validly obtained extension of time not requiring the consent of the applicable Governmental Entity or other extension of time obtained in the Ordinary Course of Business) within which to file any Tax Return not previously filed. No private letter ruling, administrative relief, technical advice or other similar ruling or request has been granted or issued by, or is pending with, any Governmental Entity that relates to the Taxes or Tax Returns of any SPAC Party.

(f) There is no Lien for Taxes on any of the assets of the SPAC Parties, other than Permitted Liens.

(g) The unpaid Taxes of each of the SPAC Parties have been properly accrued in accordance with the terms of the Trust Agreement.

(h) Since the date of its incorporation, the SPAC has at all times been classified for all U.S. federal and applicable state and local tax purposes as a subchapter C corporation.

(i) None of the SPAC Parties has taken any action to, nor, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, are there any facts or circumstances that would reasonably be expected to, prevent the Merger from qualifying for the Intended Tax Treatment.

Section 4.9 SPAC Capitalization.

(a) Section 4.9(a) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules sets forth the authorized and outstanding Equity Interests of each of the SPAC and Merger Sub (including the number and class or series (as applicable) of such Equity Interests) as of the Execution Date. The Equity Interests set forth in Section 4.9(a) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules comprise all of the authorized capital stock or other Equity Interests of each of the SPAC and Merger Sub that are issued and outstanding, in each case, as of the Execution Date.

(b) As of the date of this Agreement, except as set forth in Section 4.9(a) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, there are no outstanding options, warrants, Contracts, calls, puts, rights to subscribe, convertible securities, distribution interest, phantom equity, equity-based performance interest, profit participation, restricted Equity Interest, other equity-based compensation award, equity appreciation rights, conversion rights or other similar rights to which any SPAC Party is a party or which are binding upon any SPAC Party, or any agreement, arrangement or commitment of any character, whether or not contingent, of any SPAC Party, providing for the offer, issuance or sale, repurchase, acquisition, redemption, exchange, conversion, voting, transfer, disposition or acquisition of any of its Equity Interests (other than this Agreement), or any right to make an investment in any other Person (other than this Agreement).

(c) Except for the Equity Interests that the SPAC holds in Merger Sub, which constitute one hundred percent (100%) of Merger Sub's issued and outstanding Equity Interests, the SPAC does not hold any direct or indirect Equity Interests, participation or voting rights or other investment (whether debt, equity or otherwise) in any Person (including any Contract in the nature of a voting trust or similar agreement or understanding).

(d) No SPAC Party is subject to any obligation (contingent or otherwise) to repurchase or otherwise acquire or retire any Equity Interests, either of itself or of another Person (other than the SPAC Share Redemption and pursuant to the Put Option Agreement).

(e) No SPAC Party is a party to any voting trust, proxy or other agreement or understanding with respect to the voting of any of its Equity Interests.

(f) There are no contractual equityholder preemptive or similar rights, rights of first refusal, rights of first offer or registration rights in respect of the Equity Interests of any SPAC Party.

(g) There are no outstanding bonds, debentures, notes or other debtor obligations, the holders of which have the right to vote (or convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for securities having the right to vote) with holders of Equity Interests of any SPAC Party on any matter. The SPAC has no obligations with respect to or under any indebtedness for borrowed money.

(h) No SPAC Party has violated any applicable securities Laws or any preemptive or similar rights created by Law, Governing Document or Contract to which any SPAC Party is a party (or by which it is bound) in connection with the offer, sale, issuance or allotment of any of its Equity Interests.

(i) All of the Equity Interests of each SPAC Party (i) were issued in compliance with all applicable Laws, (ii) have been duly authorized and validly issued, and (iii) were not issued in breach or violation of any Contract, preemptive rights, call options, rights of first refusal, rights of first offer, subscription rights, transfer restrictions or similar rights of any Person (other than Securities Liens) or applicable Law.

(j) The SPAC New Shares (and any other Equity Interests of the SPAC) to be issued to the holders of the Company's Equity Interests pursuant to this Agreement will, upon issuance and delivery of the same at the Closing, (i) be duly authorized and validly issued, and fully paid and nonassessable, (ii) be issued in compliance with applicable Law, (iii) not be issued in breach or violation of any preemptive rights (or similar rights) created by Law, Governing Documents or Contract, and (iv) be issued to holders of the Company's Equity Interests such that such holders hold such SPAC New Shares (and any other such Equity Interests of the SPAC) with good and valid title, free and clear of any Liens other than (I) Securities Liens, and (II) any restrictions set forth in the Governing Documents of the SPAC, in any Ancillary Agreement, or as otherwise agreed in writing by any such holder.

Section 4.10 Information Supplied: Registration Statement/Proxy Statement. The information supplied or to be supplied by or on behalf of the SPAC Parties for inclusion or incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and the Company Proxy Statement shall not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein (a) not misleading at the time the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC, (b) not misleading at the time the Company Proxy Statement is declared effective by the SEC, and (c) not misleading, in light of the circumstances in which they are made, at the time of the SPAC Special Meeting, the Company Special Meeting or the Closing (subject, in each case, to the qualifications and limitations set forth in the materials provided by or on behalf of any of the SPAC Parties or that are included in such filings and/or mailings); provided, that, for the avoidance of doubt, no warranty or representation is made by any of the SPAC Parties with respect to statements made or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement (or any amendment or supplement thereto) based

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on information supplied by any of the Group Companies or any other party or any of their respective Affiliates for inclusion therein. Assuming the truth and accuracy of the information (x) provided by or on behalf of the Group Companies for inclusion therein, and (y) in the Company Proxy Statement, the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement will, at the time it is mailed to the SPAC Stockholders, comply in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder applicable to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement.

Section 4.11 Trust Account. As of the close of business on the day prior to the Execution Date, the SPAC has at least \$6,850,000 (the “Trust Amount”) in the Trust Account, with such funds invested in United States government securities, in money market funds meeting certain conditions under Rule 2a-7 promulgated under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or in cash, and held in trust by the Trustee pursuant to the Trust Agreement. The Trust Agreement is in full force and effect and is Enforceable against the SPAC. Except as set forth in Section 4.11 of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, the Trust Agreement has not been terminated, repudiated, rescinded, amended, supplemented or modified, in any respect, by the SPAC or the Trustee, and no such termination, repudiation, rescission, amendment, supplement or modification is contemplated by the SPAC. The SPAC has sufficient funds in the Trust Account to comply with all of its obligations under the SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement. The SPAC is not a party to or bound by any side letters with respect to the Trust Agreement or (except for the Trust Agreement) any Contracts, arrangements or understandings, whether written or oral, with the Trustee or any other Person that would (a) cause the description of the Trust Agreement in the SPAC SEC Documents to be inaccurate in any material respect, or (b) entitle any Person (other than (i) the SPAC Stockholders who shall have exercised their respective rights to participate in the SPAC Share Redemption, (ii) the underwriters of the SPAC’s initial public offering who are entitled to a deferred underwriting discount, and (iii) the SPAC, with respect to income earned on the proceeds in the Trust Account to cover any of its Tax obligations and up to \$100,000 of interest on such proceeds to pay dissolution expenses), to any portion of the proceeds in the Trust Account. There are no proceedings (or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, investigations) pending or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, threatened with respect to the Trust Account.

### Section 4.12 SPAC SEC Documents; Financial Statements; Controls.

(a) The SPAC has timely filed or furnished all SPAC SEC Documents required to be filed or furnished by it with the SEC pursuant to the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, as applicable, since the consummation of the initial public offering of the SPAC’s securities. As of their respective dates, each of the SPAC SEC Documents (including all financial statements included therein and documents incorporated by reference therein, other than exhibits) complied in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, as the case may be, and the rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder applicable to such SPAC SEC Documents (including, as applicable, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder). None of (i) the SPAC SEC Documents contained, when filed or, if amended prior to the Execution Date, as of the date of such amendment with respect to those disclosures that were amended, any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, or (ii) any other SPAC SEC Documents, filed after the Execution Date and prior to the Closing, will contain, when filed or, if amended prior to the Closing, as of the date of such amendment with respect to those disclosures that are amended, any untrue statement of a material fact or will omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. All SPAC SEC Documents filed after the Execution Date and prior to the Closing, when filed, or if amended prior to the Closing, as of the date of such amendment with respect to those disclosures that are amended, will comply in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, as the case may be, and the rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder applicable to each such SPAC SEC Document (including, as applicable, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder). There are no outstanding or unresolved comments in comment letters received from the SEC with respect to the SPAC SEC Documents. To the Knowledge of the SPAC, as of the Execution Date, neither the SEC nor other Governmental Entity is conducting any investigation or review of any SPAC SEC Document. Since the consummation of the initial public offering of the SPAC, all comment letters received by the SPAC from the SEC or the staff thereof, and all responses to such comment letters filed by or on behalf of the SPAC, are publicly available on the SEC’s EDGAR website.

(b) The SPAC SEC Documents contain true and complete copies of the SPAC's financial statements. Each of the financial statements of the SPAC included in the SPAC SEC Documents, including all notes and schedules thereto, complied in all material respects, when filed or, if amended prior to the Execution Date, as of the date of such amendment, with the rules and regulations of the SEC, the Exchange Act and the Securities Act in effect as of the respective dates thereof (including Regulation S-X or Regulation S-K, as applicable), were prepared in accordance with GAAP applied on a consistent basis during the periods involved (except as may be indicated in the notes thereto or, in the case of unaudited statements, as permitted by Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X of the Exchange Act), in the case of audited financials, were audited in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB and fairly present in all material respects in accordance with applicable requirements of GAAP (subject, in the case of unaudited statements, to normal year-end audit adjustments) the financial position of the SPAC, as of their respective dates and the results of operations and the cash flows of the SPAC for the periods presented therein.

(c) The books of account and other financial records of the SPAC have been kept accurately in all material respects in the Ordinary Course of Business, the transactions entered therein represent bona fide transactions and the revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities of the SPAC have been properly recorded therein in all material respects. The SPAC maintains a system of Internal Controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurance (i) that its transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP, consistently applied, (ii) that transactions thereof are executed only in accordance with the authorization of management thereof, and (iii) regarding prevention or timely detection of the unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of its properties or assets.

(d) Except as set forth in [Section 4.12\(d\)](#) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, none of the SPAC, its independent accountant or board of directors (or the audit committee thereof) has identified or been made aware of any (i) "significant deficiency" in the Internal Controls of any SPAC Party, (ii) "material weakness" in the Internal Controls of any SPAC Party, (iii) fraud, whether or not material, that involves any SPAC Party's management or other employees who have a significant role in the Internal Controls of any SPAC Party or (iv) complaints regarding a violation of accounting procedures, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, including from employees of any SPAC Party regarding questionable accounting, auditing or legal compliance matters. The Company acknowledges and agrees that any restatement, revision or other modification of the SPAC SEC Documents or the SPAC's financial statements which result solely from any agreements, orders, comments or other guidance from the staff of the SEC regarding the accounting policies of the SPAC that are generally applicable to special purpose acquisition companies or entities similar to the SPAC shall not be considered a violation of, or contradictory to, this representation, for the purposes of this Agreement.

(e) Since the consummation of the initial public offering of the SPAC's securities, the SPAC has timely filed all certifications and statements required by (i) Rule 13a-14 or Rule 15d-14 under the Exchange Act, or (ii) 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 (Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002) with respect to any SPAC SEC Document. Each such certification is correct and complete. The SPAC maintains disclosure controls and procedures required by Rule 13a-15 or Rule 15d-15 under the Exchange Act, and such controls and procedures are reasonably designed to ensure that all material information concerning the SPAC is made known on a timely basis to the individuals responsible for the preparation of the SPAC's SEC filings. As used in this [Section 4.12](#), the term "file" shall be broadly construed to include any manner in which a document or information is furnished, supplied or otherwise made available to the SEC.

(f) The SPAC has not taken any action prohibited by Section 402 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

[Section 4.13 Listing](#). Except as set forth in [Section 4.13](#) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, (a) since its initial public offering, the SPAC has complied, and is currently in compliance, in all material respects with all applicable listing and corporate governance rules and regulations of the Stock Exchange, (b) the classes of securities representing issued and outstanding SPAC Shares and SPAC Warrants are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and are listed for trading on the Stock Exchange. (c) there is no Proceeding pending or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, threatened against the SPAC by the Stock Exchange or the SEC with respect to any intention by such entity to deregister the SPAC Public Securities or prohibit or terminate the listing of the SPAC Public Securities on the Stock Exchange, (d) the SPAC has taken no action (that has not been fully resolved) that would reasonably be likely to result in the termination of the registration of the SPAC Public

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Securities under the Exchange Act (other than in connection with the Transactions), and (c) the SPAC has not received any written or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, oral deficiency notice from the Stock Exchange relating to non-compliance with the continued listing requirements of the SPAC Public Securities.

Section 4.14 Investment Company; Emerging Growth Company. The SPAC is not an “investment company” within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940. The SPAC constitutes an “emerging growth company” within the meaning of the JOBS Act and a “smaller reporting company” under the Exchange Act.

Section 4.15 Inspections; Non-Reliance. The SPAC is an informed and sophisticated purchaser, and has engaged advisors, experienced in the evaluation and investment in businesses such as the Group Companies’ business. The SPAC has undertaken such investigation and has been provided with and has evaluated such documents and information as it has deemed necessary to enable it to make an informed and intelligent decision with respect to the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement (as applicable). The SPAC agrees to engage in the transactions contemplated by this Agreement based upon, and has relied on, its own inspection and examination of the Group Companies’ business and on the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company set forth in (a) Article III, (b) any Ancillary Agreement to which any Group Company is a party, or (c) any certificate delivered by or on behalf of any Group Company pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement, and disclaims reliance upon any express or implied representations or warranties of any nature made by the Group Companies or their respective Affiliates or representatives, except for those set forth in (i) Article III, (ii) any Ancillary Agreement to which any Group Company is a party, or (iii) any certificate delivered by or on behalf of any Group Company pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything else in this Agreement, claims or allegations arising from or relating to Fraud on the part of the Company shall not be subject to this Section 4.15.

Section 4.16 Related Person Transactions. Other than the private placement of Equity Interests in connection with the SPAC’s initial public offering, there are no transactions or Contracts, or series of related transactions or Contracts, between the Sponsor or any of its Affiliates, on the one hand, and any SPAC Party, any officer, director, manager or Affiliate of any SPAC Party, or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, any of their respective “associates” or “immediate family” members (as such terms are defined in Rule 12b-2 and Rule 16a-1 of the Exchange Act), on the other hand, required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404 of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC that has not been disclosed by the SPAC in the SPAC SEC Documents.

Section 4.17 Employees. Each of the SPAC and Merger Sub has no (and has not at any point had any) employees on its payroll, and has not retained any individual independent contractors, other than consultants, agents and advisors in the Ordinary Course of Business. Other than reimbursement of any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the SPAC’s officers and directors in connection with activities on the SPAC’s behalf, no SPAC Party has any unsatisfied liability with respect to any such officer or director. Each of the SPAC and Merger Sub has not, at any time, maintained, sponsored or contributed to any employee benefit plan. Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement nor the consummation of the Transactions (either alone or upon the occurrence of any additional or subsequent events or the passage of time) will (a) cause any compensatory payment or benefit, including any retention, bonus, fee, distribution, remuneration or other compensation payable to any Person who is or has been an employee of or independent contractor to any SPAC Party (other than fees paid to consultants, advisors, placement agents or underwriters engaged by the SPAC in connection with its initial public offering or this Agreement and the Transactions), to increase or become due to any such Person, or (b) result in forgiveness of any Indebtedness. To the Knowledge of the SPAC, the consummation of the Transactions will not cause any amount to be paid or payable by the SPAC or Merger Sub to any employee, officer, director or individual consultant or advisor of the SPAC and/or Merger Sub being characterized as an “excess parachute payment” under Section 280G of the Code.

Section 4.18 Insurance. Except for directors’ and officers’ liability insurance maintained by the SPAC, no SPAC Party maintains any insurance policies. With respect to the SPAC’s directors’ and officers’ liability insurance, the policy relating thereto is Enforceable against the SPAC and no written notice of cancellation or termination has been received by any SPAC Party with respect to such policy. All premiums due under such policy have been paid in accordance with the terms of such policy. The SPAC is not in material breach or material default under, nor has it taken any action or failed to take any action which, with notice or the lapse of time or both, would constitute a material breach or material default under, or permit a material increase in premium, cancellation, material reduction in coverage, material denial or non-renewal with respect to such policy. During the twelve (12) months prior to

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the Execution Date, there have been no material claims by or with respect to any SPAC Party under any insurance policy as to which coverage has been denied or disputed in any material respect by any of the underwriters of such insurance policy.

Section 4.19 Agreements, Contracts and Commitments. Each “material contract” (as such term is defined in Regulation S-K of the SEC) to which the SPAC or Merger Sub is party (collectively, the “SPAC Material Contracts”) is in full force and effect and is Enforceable against the applicable SPAC Party that is party thereto and, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, against each other party thereto. With respect to all SPAC Material Contracts, none of the SPAC Parties or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, any other party to any such SPAC Material Contract, is in breach thereof or default thereunder (or is alleged to be in breach or default thereunder) and there does not exist under any SPAC Material Contract any event or circumstance which, with the giving of notice or the lapse of time (or both), would constitute such a breach or default thereunder by any SPAC Party or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, any other party to such SPAC Material Contract, in each case, except as would not reasonably be expected, individually or in the aggregate, to be material to the SPAC Parties. During the last twelve (12) months, no SPAC Party has received any written or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, oral claim or notice of material breach of or material default under any SPAC Material Contract. To the Knowledge of the SPAC, no event has occurred, which individually or together with other events, would reasonably be expected to result in a material breach of or a material default under any such SPAC Material Contract by any SPAC Party or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, any other party thereto (in each case, with or without notice or lapse of time or both). During the last twelve (12) months, no SPAC Party has received written notice from any other party to any SPAC Material Contract that such party intends to terminate or not renew such SPAC Material Contract.

Section 4.20 Anti-Money Laundering Laws. The operations of the SPAC are and have been conducted at all times in compliance with any applicable anti-money laundering Laws, and no Proceeding involving the SPAC with respect to anti-money laundering Laws is pending or, to the Knowledge of the SPAC, threatened.

Section 4.21 No SPAC Material Adverse Effect. Since December 31, 2022 through the Execution Date, there has been no SPAC Material Adverse Effect.

Section 4.22 Absence of Certain Developments. Since the Latest Balance Sheet Date, each SPAC Party has conducted its business in the Ordinary Course of Business in all material respects. From the Latest Balance Sheet Date through the Execution Date, no SPAC Party has taken or omitted to be taken any action that would, if taken or omitted to be taken after the Execution Date, require the Company’s consent in accordance with Section 5.2.

Section 4.23 Unpaid SPAC Expenses. To the Knowledge of the SPAC, the material Unpaid SPAC Expenses as of the Execution Date are set forth in Section 4.23 of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules.

Section 4.24 No Other Representations and Warranties. Except as expressly set forth in this Article IV (including the related portions of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules), the Ancillary Agreements to which any SPAC Party is a party and any certificates delivered by any SPAC Party pursuant to the terms hereof or thereof, neither any SPAC Party nor any Affiliate thereof has made or makes any representation or warranty, express or implied, at Law or in equity, in respect of any of the SPAC Parties or their respective businesses, including with respect to (A) merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose, (B) accuracy and completements of any information provided or made available to any Group Company or any of its representatives or Affiliates (including, for this purpose, any information, documents or material provided or made available to any Group Company or any of its representatives or Affiliates in any data room, management presentation or the like), and (C) any estimates, projections or other forecasts and plans, and any such other representations and warranties are hereby expressly disclaimed to the extent any such representation or warranty is not expressly set forth in this Article IV (including the related portions of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules), the Ancillary Agreements to which any SPAC Party is a party or any certificates delivered by any SPAC Party pursuant to the terms hereof or thereof. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, nothing in this Section shall limit any claim or cause of action (or recovery in connection therewith) with respect to Fraud.

ARTICLE V

COVENANTS RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF THE GROUP COMPANIES AND THE SPAC PARTIES

Section 5.1 Interim Operating Covenants of the Group Companies. From and after the Execution Date until the earlier of the date this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Article X and the Effective Time (such period, the “Pre-Closing Period”):

(a) the Company shall, and the Company shall cause the other Group Companies to, (i) conduct and operate their respective business in the Ordinary Course of Business (including by keeping current and timely filing all of its required public filings with the SEC and otherwise complying in all material respects with applicable securities Laws and using its commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that the Company remains listed as a public company on, and the Company Shares remain listed on, the OTCQX), and (ii) use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain intact their respective businesses in all material respects and preserve their respective relationships with material suppliers, distributors and others with whom such Group Company has a material business relationship, except, in each case, (x) with the prior written consent of the SPAC (which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed); (y) as expressly required by applicable Law or expressly contemplated pursuant to the terms hereof or the terms of any Ancillary Agreement, or (z) as set forth in Section 5.1(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules; and

(b) without limiting Section 5.1(a), except (i) with the prior written consent of the SPAC (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed); (ii) as expressly required by applicable Law or expressly contemplated pursuant to the terms hereof or the terms of any Ancillary Agreement; or (iii) as set forth in Section 5.1(b) of the Company Disclosure Schedules, the Company shall not and shall cause the Company Subsidiaries not to:

(i) amend or otherwise modify any of its Governing Documents (including by merger, consolidation or otherwise);

(ii) except as may be required by Law, GAAP or any Governmental Entity with competent jurisdiction, make any material change in its financial or tax accounting methods, principles or practices (or change an annual accounting period thereof);

(iii) make, change or revoke any election relating to Taxes, enter into any agreement, settlement or compromise with any Taxing Authority relating to any material amount of Taxes, abandon or fail to diligently conduct any material audit, examination or other Proceeding in respect of a material amount of Taxes, make any request for a private letter ruling, administrative relief, technical advice, change of any method of accounting or other similar request with a Taxing Authority, file any amendment of any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return, fail to timely file (taking into account valid extensions) any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return required to be filed, file any Tax Return in a manner inconsistent with the past practices of the Group Companies, fail to pay any material amount of Tax as it becomes due, consent to any extension or waiver of the statutory period of limitations applicable to any material Tax or material Tax Return, enter into any Tax Sharing Agreement (other than an Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement), surrender any right to claim any refund of a material amount of Taxes or take any action, or fail to take any action, which action or failure to act prevents, impairs or impedes, or could reasonably be expected to prevent, impair or impede, the Intended Tax Treatment;

(iv) (A) issue or sell, or authorize to issue or sell, any membership interests, shares of its capital stock or any other Equity Interests, as applicable, except issuances of Company Shares pursuant to Company Restricted Share Awards listed in Section 3.3(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules in accordance with the terms and conditions of the applicable grant agreement or other documentation evidencing the applicable grant and the applicable Company Equity Plan in effect as of the date hereof, or (B) issue or sell, or authorize to issue or sell, any securities convertible into or exchangeable for, or options, warrants or rights to purchase or subscribe for, or enter into any Contract with respect to the issuance or sale of, any shares of its membership interests, capital stock or any other Equity Interests;

(v) declare, set aside or pay any dividend or make any other distribution other than the payment of cash dividends or cash distributions to another Group Company;

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(vi) split, combine, redeem or reclassify, or purchase or otherwise acquire, any membership interests, shares of its capital stock or any other Equity Interests, as applicable;

(vii) (x) incur, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable or responsible for (whether directly, contingently or otherwise) any Indebtedness other than Indebtedness incurred in the Ordinary Course of Business; (y) make any loans, advances or capital contributions to, or investments in, any Person except in the Ordinary Course of Business; or (z) amend or modify any of its Indebtedness except in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(viii) cancel or forgive any Indebtedness owed to any Group Company, except in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(ix) make any capital expenditure or incur any Liabilities in connection therewith, except for expenditures made in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(x) make or effect any material amendment or termination (other than an expiration in accordance with the terms thereof) of any Material Contract or enter into any Contract that, if entered into prior to the Execution Date, would be a Material Contract, in each case, other than in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(xi) enter into, renew, modify or revise any Affiliated Transaction, as applicable, other than those that will be terminated at Closing;

(xii) sell, lease, license, assign, transfer, permit to lapse, abandon or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or tangible assets that are, with respect to the Company or any other Group Company, material to the businesses of the Group Companies, except in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(xiii) sell, lease, license, sublicense, assign, transfer, permit to lapse, abandon or otherwise dispose of or encumber any rights under or with respect to any Intellectual Property, except for non-exclusive licenses granted in the Ordinary Course of Business, or disclose any Confidential Information or Trade Secret to any Person except pursuant to a written agreement entered into in the Ordinary Course of Business requiring that Person to maintain the confidentiality of, and preserving all rights of the applicable Group Company in, such Confidential Information or Trade Secret;

(xiv) adopt or effect a plan of complete or partial liquidation, dissolution, restructuring, recapitalization or other reorganization; (xv) grant or otherwise create, or consent to the creation of, any Lien (other than a Permitted Lien) on any of its material assets or Leased Real Property;

(xvi) fail to maintain in full force and effect any Insurance Policies or allow any coverage thereunder to be materially reduced, except as replaced by a substantially similar insurance policy, except in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(xvii) make, increase, decrease, accelerate (with respect to funding, payment or vesting) or grant any base salary, base wages, bonus opportunity, equity or equity-based award or other compensation or employee benefits other than (A) in the Ordinary Course of Business, (B) as required by applicable Law or pursuant to a Company Employee Benefit Plan as in effect on the Execution Date that has been provided to the SPAC prior to the Execution Date, or (C) entering into any Company Employee Benefit Plan with any employee or other individual service provider hired, engaged or promoted by any of the Group Companies following the Execution Date in the Ordinary Course of Business;

(xviii) except in the Ordinary Course of Business, pay or promise to pay, grant or fund, accelerate (with respect to payment or vesting) or announce the grant or award of any retention, sale, change-in-control or other similar bonus, severance or similar compensation or benefits, in each case, other than as required pursuant to applicable Law or a Company Employee Benefit Plan as in effect on the Execution Date that has been provided to the SPAC prior to the Execution Date and is set forth in Section 3.15(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedules;

(xix) hire or engage (other than to fill a vacancy), furlough, temporarily lay off or terminate (other than for cause) any individual with total annual compensation in excess of \$250,000;

(xx) other than as required by applicable Law, as typically carried out in the Ordinary Course of Business or as required for the annual insurance renewal for health and/or welfare benefits, establish, modify, amend, terminate, enter into, commence participation in or adopt any Company Employee Benefit Plan or any benefit or compensation plan, program, policy, agreement or arrangement that would be a Company Employee Benefit Plan if in effect on the Execution Date;

(xxi) except as required by applicable Law, negotiate, modify, extend, terminate or enter into any CBA or recognize or certify any labor union, labor organization, works council or group of employees as the bargaining representative for any employees of any Group Company;

(xxii) waive or release any non-competition, non-solicitation, non-disclosure, non-interference, non-disparagement or other restrictive covenant obligation of any current or former employee or independent contractor or enter into any agreement that restricts the ability of the Group Companies, as applicable, to engage or compete in any line of business in any respect material to any business of the Group Companies, as applicable;

(xxiii) buy, purchase or otherwise acquire (by merger, consolidation, acquisition of stock or assets or otherwise), directly or indirectly, any assets, securities, properties, interests or businesses, other than (A) inventory and supplies in the Ordinary Course of Business, or (B) other assets in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 individually or \$500,000 in the aggregate;

(xxiv) make any material change to any of its cash management practices, including materially deviating from or materially altering any of its practices, policies or procedures in paying accounts payable or collecting accounts receivable;

(xxv) amend, extend, renew, terminate or modify, in any material respect (excluding extensions, amendments and renewals effectuated in the Ordinary Course of Business), any Material Lease or enter into any new lease, sublease, license or other agreement for the use or occupancy of any real property (other than, in each case, the entering into, amending, modifying or revising of leases for future locations of one or more Group Companies on terms substantially consistent with market standard terms); or

(xxvi) implement or announce any employee layoffs, plant closings, reductions in force, furloughs, temporary layoffs, salary or wage reductions, work schedule changes or other such actions that would trigger notice or other obligations under the WARN Act.

(c) Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to give any of the SPAC Parties, directly or indirectly, the right to control or direct any Group Company or any operations of any Group Company prior to the Closing. Prior to the Closing, the Group Companies shall exercise, consistent with the terms and conditions hereof, control and authority over their respective businesses and operations.

#### Section 5.2 Interim Operating Covenants of the SPAC.

(a) During the Pre-Closing Period, the SPAC shall, and the SPAC shall cause Merger Sub to, (i) conduct and operate their respective business in the Ordinary Course of Business (including by using commercially reasonable efforts to keep current and timely file all of its required public filings with the SEC and otherwise comply in all material respects with applicable securities Laws and use its commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that the SPAC remains listed as a public company on, and the SPAC Shares and the SPAC Warrants remain listed on, the Stock Exchange), and (ii) use commercially reasonable efforts to extend the time available to the SPAC to consummate its initial business combination pursuant to the Existing SPAC Charter (including, if applicable, by holding a special meeting of the SPAC Stockholders to amend the Existing SPAC Charter, as needed, to further extend the time available to the SPAC to consummate its initial business combination) in each case, except as required by applicable Law.

(b) During the Pre-Closing Period, except (i) with the prior written consent of the Company (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), (ii) as expressly required by this Agreement or by any Ancillary Agreement, or (iii) as set forth in Section 5.2(b)(1) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, each SPAC Party shall conduct and operate its business in the Ordinary Course of Business and, without limiting the foregoing, except (x) with the prior written consent of the Company (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed); (y) as expressly required hereby or by any Ancillary Agreement; or (z) as set forth in Section 5.2(b)(2) of the SPAC Disclosure Schedules, no SPAC Party shall:

(i) amend or otherwise modify any of its Governing Documents or the Trust Agreement (in each case, including by merger, consolidation or otherwise);

(ii) withdraw any of the Trust Amount, other than as expressly permitted by the SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement;

(iii) issue or sell, or authorize to issue or sell, any Equity Interests, or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for, or options, warrants or rights to purchase or subscribe for, or enter into any Contract with respect to the issuance or sale of, any Equity Interests of any SPAC Party;

(iv) other than in connection with the SPAC Share Redemption, declare, set aside or pay any dividend or make any other distribution or return of capital (whether in cash or in kind) to any of the equityholders of any SPAC Party;

(v) adjust, split, combine, consolidate, exchange, redeem (other than through a SPAC Share Redemption) or reclassify, or purchase or otherwise acquire, any of its Equity Interests, or otherwise change any of the SPAC's Equity Interests into a different number of such Equity Interests or a different class of Equity Interests;

(vi) (A) incur, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable or responsible for (whether directly, contingently or otherwise) any Indebtedness for borrowed money, other than (x) drawing down additional Indebtedness under the existing terms of any Working Capital Loans in effect as of the date hereof in order to finance working capital needs of the SPAC in accordance with their respective terms, or (y) entering into new Working Capital Loans, in each case, on substantially similar terms as those in effect as of the date hereof, and in order to pay actual, documented, bona fide third party costs incurred by the SPAC in connection with the operation of the SPAC, (B) make any loans, advances or capital contributions to, or investments in, any Person, or (C) amend or modify any of its Indebtedness;

(vii) enter into, renew, modify or revise any Contract or transaction with the Sponsor, or otherwise enter into any transaction or Contract with the Sponsor or any of its Affiliates for the payment of finder's fees, consulting fees, monies in respect of any payment of a loan or other compensation paid by any SPAC Party to the Sponsor, any of any SPAC Party's officers or directors or any Affiliate of the Sponsor, for services rendered prior to, or for any services rendered in connection with, the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby;

(viii) enter into any new line of business;

(ix) adopt or effect a plan of complete or partial liquidation, dissolution, restructuring, recapitalization or other reorganization;

(x) (x) acquire (including by merger, consolidation or acquisition of Equity Interests or assets or any other business combination), or enter into any negotiations to acquire, any corporation, partnership or other business organization or otherwise acquire any Equity Interests or material assets from any third party, (y) enter into any strategic joint venture, partnership or alliance with any other Person, or (z) make any loan or advance or investment in any third party or initiate the start-up of any new business or joint venture or form any non-wholly owned Subsidiary;

(xi) change its jurisdiction of Tax residence;

(xii) (x) hire any employee, or (y) adopt or enter into any employee benefit plan (including granting or establishing any form of compensation or benefits to any current or former employee, officer, manager, director or other individual service provider of any SPAC Party (for the avoidance of doubt, other than consultants, advisors, including legal counsel or institutional service providers, engaged by the SPAC));

(xiii) except as may be required by applicable Law, GAAP or any Governmental Entity with competent jurisdiction, or upon recommendation from its accountants or auditors, make any material change in its financial or tax accounting methods, principles or practices (or change an annual accounting period thereof);

(xiv) make, change or revoke any election relating to Taxes, enter into any agreement, settlement or compromise with any Taxing Authority relating to any material amount of Taxes, abandon or fail to diligently conduct any material audit, examination or other Proceeding in respect of a material amount of Taxes, make any request for a private letter ruling, administrative relief, technical advice, change of any method of accounting or other similar request with a Taxing Authority, file any amendment of any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return, fail to timely file (taking into account valid extensions) any Income Tax Return or other material Tax Return required to be filed, file any Tax Return in a manner inconsistent with its past practices, fail to pay any

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material amount of Tax as it becomes due, consent to any extension or waiver of the statutory period of limitations applicable to any material Tax or material Tax Return, enter into any Tax Sharing Agreement (other than an Ordinary Course Tax Sharing Agreement), surrender any right to claim any refund of a material amount of Taxes or take any action, or fail to take any action, which action or failure to act prevents, impairs or impedes, or could reasonably be expected to prevent, impair or impede, the Intended Tax Treatment;

(xv) commit to making or make or incur any capital commitment or capital expenditure;

(xvi) waive, release, assign, settle or compromise any pending or threatened Proceeding or any investigations or actions by any Governmental Entity under any federal or state Antitrust Laws;

(xvii) convert or agree to convert any Indebtedness (including Indebtedness pursuant to which any amount is owed to the Sponsor or any Affiliate thereof) into SPAC Warrants or other warrants; or

(xviii) agree to or authorize or commit in writing to do any of the foregoing.

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to give any Group Company, directly or indirectly, the right to control or direct any SPAC Party prior to the Closing. Prior to the Closing, the SPAC Parties shall exercise, consistent with the terms and conditions hereof, control over their respective business. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, nothing contained herein shall prohibit or restrict the SPAC from extending, in accordance with its Governing Documents and the Prospectus, the deadline by which it must complete its business combination, and no consent of or notice to any Person shall be required in connection therewith.

## ARTICLE VI

### PRE-CLOSING AGREEMENTS

Section 6.1 Reasonable Best Efforts; Further Assurances. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, and to applicable Laws, during the Pre-Closing Period, the Parties shall cooperate and use their respective reasonable best efforts to take, or cause to be taken, all appropriate action (including executing and delivering any documents, certificates, instruments and other papers that are necessary for the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby), and do, or cause to be done, and assist and cooperate with the other Parties in doing, all things necessary, proper or advisable to consummate and make effective, in the most expeditious manner practicable, the transactions contemplated hereby, and the Group Companies shall use reasonable best efforts, and the SPAC shall cooperate in all reasonable respects with the Group Companies, to solicit and obtain any consents of any Persons that may be required in connection with the Transactions prior to the Closing; provided, however, that no Party or any of its Affiliates shall be required to pay or commit to pay any amount to (or incur any obligation in favor of) any Person from whom any such consent may be required (unless such payment is required in accordance with the terms of the relevant Contract requiring such consent). Subject to the terms set forth herein, each Party shall take such further actions (including the execution and delivery of such further instruments and documents) as reasonably requested by any other Party to effect, consummate, confirm or evidence the transactions contemplated hereby and carry out the purposes of this Agreement.

Section 6.2 Trust & Closing Funding. Subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions set forth in Article IX (other than those conditions that by their respective nature are to be satisfied at Closing, but subject to the satisfaction or waiver of those conditions) and provision of notice thereof to the Trustee (which notice the SPAC shall provide to the Trustee), in accordance with the Trust Agreement and the SPAC Governing Documents, at the Closing, the SPAC shall (a) cause the documents, opinions and notices required to be delivered to the Trustee pursuant to the Trust Agreement to be so delivered, and (b) use its reasonable best efforts to cause the Trustee to pay as and when due all amounts payable to the SPAC Stockholders who shall have validly elected to redeem their respective SPAC Shares, and the SPAC shall use its reasonable best efforts to cause the Trustee to pay as and when due the amounts due pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement.

#### Section 6.3 Status Preservation.

(a) Listing. During the Pre-Closing Period, the SPAC shall use its reasonable best efforts to ensure the SPAC Shares and SPAC Warrants continue to be listed on the Stock Exchange.

(b) Qualification as an Emerging Growth Company. The SPAC shall, at all times during the Pre-Closing Period, use its reasonable best efforts to (i) take all customary actions necessary to continue to qualify as an “emerging growth company” within the meaning of the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (the “JOBS Act”); and (ii) not take any action that, in and of itself, would cause the SPAC to not qualify as an “emerging growth company” within the meaning of the JOBS Act.

(c) Public Filings. During the Pre-Closing Period, each of the Company and the SPAC will use their collective reasonable best efforts to have timely filed or furnished (as applicable) all forms, reports, schedules, statements and other documents required to be filed or furnished by each of them with or to the SEC under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act and will otherwise comply in all material respects with each of their respective reporting obligations under applicable Laws.

Section 6.4 Stock Exchange Listing. Prior to the Closing, the SPAC shall use its reasonable best efforts to cause the SPAC New Shares to be issued in connection with the Transactions to be approved for listing on the Stock Exchange, including by submitting, prior to the Closing, an initial listing application with the Stock Exchange (the “Stock Exchange Listing Application”) with respect to such shares, subject to official notice of issuance. The Company shall promptly furnish all information concerning itself and its Affiliates as may be reasonably requested by the SPAC with respect to, and shall otherwise reasonably assist and cooperate with the SPAC in connection with, the preparation and filing of the Stock Exchange Listing Application.

Section 6.5 Confidential Information. During the Pre-Closing Period, each Party acknowledges and agrees that it shall be bound by and comply with the provisions set forth in the Confidentiality Agreement as if such provisions were set forth herein. Each Party acknowledges and agrees that it is aware, and each of its Affiliates and Representatives is aware (or upon receipt of any material nonpublic information of another Party, will be advised) of the restrictions imposed by the United States federal securities Laws and other applicable foreign and domestic Laws on Persons possessing material nonpublic information about a public company. Each Party hereby agrees that, during the Pre-Closing Period, except in connection with or support of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or at the request of the SPAC or any of its Affiliates or its or their representatives, while any of them is in possession of such material nonpublic information, it shall not, directly or indirectly (through any of its Affiliates or otherwise), acquire, offer or propose to acquire, agree to acquire, sell or transfer or offer or propose to sell or transfer any securities of the SPAC, communicate such information to any other Person or cause or encourage any Person to do any of the foregoing.

Section 6.6 Access to Information. During the Pre-Closing Period, upon reasonable prior notice to the Company, the Company shall, and the Company shall cause the Company Subsidiaries to, afford the Representatives of the SPAC and the SPAC reasonable access, during normal business hours, to the properties, employees, books and records of the Group Companies, as applicable, and furnish to the Representatives of the SPAC and the SPAC such additional financial and operating data and other information regarding the business of any of the Group Companies as the SPAC or its Representatives may from time to time reasonably request for purposes of consummating the transactions contemplated hereby and preparing to operate the business of the Group Companies following the Closing; provided that nothing herein shall require any Group Company to provide access to, or to disclose any information to, the SPAC Parties or any of their respective representatives if such access or disclosure, in the good faith reasonable belief of the Company, (a) would waive any legal privilege, or (b) would be in violation of applicable Contracts, Laws or regulations of any Governmental Entity.

Section 6.7 Notification of Certain Matters. During the Pre-Closing Period, each Party shall disclose to the other Parties in writing any development, fact or circumstance of which such Party has Knowledge, arising before or after the Execution Date, that would cause or would reasonably be expected to result in the failure of the conditions set forth in [Section 9.1](#), [Section 9.2](#) or [Section 9.3](#) to be satisfied. During the Pre-Closing Period, the Company shall notify the SPAC within two (2) Business Days of receiving notice that the Fairness Opinion Provider has withdrawn, revoked or modified the Fairness Opinion.

Section 6.8 Regulatory Approvals; Efforts.

(a) Each Party shall use its reasonable best efforts to promptly file all notices, reports and other documents required to be filed by such Party with any Governmental Entity with respect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and to submit promptly any additional information requested by any such Governmental Entity. The Parties shall use their respective reasonable best efforts to promptly obtain, and to

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cooperate with each other to promptly obtain, all authorizations, approvals, clearances, consents, actions or non-actions of any Governmental Entity in connection with any such filings or submissions. Each Party, through its legal counsel, shall promptly inform the other Parties of any material communication between itself (including any of its Representatives) and any Governmental Entity regarding any of the transactions contemplated hereby. All filing fees required by applicable Law to be paid to any Governmental Entity in order to obtain any such approvals, consents or Orders shall be paid by the Company.

(b) The Parties shall keep each other apprised of the status of the matters relating to the completion of the transactions contemplated hereby and, to the extent permissible, promptly furnish each other with copies of notices or other communications between any Party (including any of their respective Affiliates and Representatives), as the case may be, and any third party and/or Governmental Entity with respect to such transactions. To the extent certain competitively sensitive information cannot be shared between any Parties, such information may be shared by their respective legal counsel on an "Outside Counsel Only" basis. Each Party shall give each other Party and its legal counsel a reasonable opportunity to review in advance and consider in good faith the views and input of such other Party in connection with any proposed material written communication to any Governmental Entity relating to the transactions contemplated hereby, and, to the extent reasonably practicable, give each other Party the opportunity to attend and participate in any substantive meeting, conference or discussion, either in person or by telephone, with any Governmental Entity in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby.

(c) Each Party shall use its reasonable best efforts to resolve objections, if any, as may be asserted by any Governmental Entity with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby.

### Section 6.9 Communications; Press Release; SEC Filings.

(a) Prior to the Closing, none of the Parties shall, and each Party shall cause its Affiliates not to, make or issue any public release or public announcement concerning this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby without the prior written consent of each of the Parties, which consent, in each case, shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed; provided, however, that (i) each Party may make any such public announcement which it in good faith believes is necessary or advisable in connection with any applicable Law or which is required by the requirements of any national securities exchange applicable to such Party, and (ii) each Company Stockholder or Affiliate of a Party that is a private equity, venture capital or investment fund may make customary disclosures to its existing or potential financing sources, including direct or indirect limited partners and members (whether current or prospective) solely to the extent that such disclosures do not constitute material nonpublic information regarding any Party, any of their respective Affiliates or any of their respective Equity Interests and are subject to customary obligations of confidentiality (it being understood and agreed that, to the extent practicable, the Party making such public announcement shall provide such announcement to the other Parties prior to release and consider in good faith any comments from such other Parties); provided, further, that each Party may make announcements regarding this Agreement and the transactions contemplated by this Agreement consisting solely of information contained in and otherwise consistent with any such mutually agreed press release or public announcement (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and the Signing Form 8-K) to its directors, officers, managers, employees, service providers, other material business relationships and other interested parties without the consent of the other Parties.

(b) As promptly as practicable following the Execution Date, each of the Company and the SPAC shall prepare and file (with the substantial assistance of the Company) a Current Report on Form 8-K pursuant to the Exchange Act to report the execution of this Agreement (the "Signing Form 8-K"), and the SPAC and the Company shall issue a mutually agreeable press release announcing the execution of this Agreement (the "Signing Press Release").

(c) As promptly as reasonably practicable after the date of this Agreement, the Parties shall prepare and the SPAC shall file with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 relating to the Transactions and containing a prospectus and proxy statement of the SPAC (collectively, as amended or supplemented, the "Registration Statement/Proxy Statement"), which shall comply as to form, in all material respects, with, as applicable, the provisions of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, for the purpose of (x) soliciting proxies from the SPAC Stockholders to vote at the SPAC Special Meeting in favor of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, and (y) the registration under the Securities Act of the offer and issuance of the SPAC New Shares that constitute the Transaction Share Consideration. Each of the SPAC and the Company shall

use its reasonable best efforts to (i) cause the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement to be declared effective as promptly as reasonably practicable, and (ii) keep the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement effective through the Closing in order to permit the consummation of the Transactions. As promptly as practicable following the time at which the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective under the Securities Act, (I) the SPAC shall cause the same to be mailed to its stockholders of record, as of the record date (the "SPAC Record Date") to be established by the SPAC Board prior to or as promptly as practicable after, but in any event no more than five (5) Business Days following, the date the SEC confirms that it has satisfactorily completed its review of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, and (II) the Company shall cause the same to be mailed to its stockholders of record, as of the record date (the "Company Record Date") to be established by the Company Board prior to or as promptly as practicable after, but in any event no more than five (5) Business Days following, the date the SEC confirms that it has satisfactorily completed its review of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement.

(d) Prior to filing with the SEC, the SPAC will make available to the Company drafts of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and any other documents to be filed with the SEC, both preliminary and final or definitive, and drafts of any amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement or such other document, including responses to any SEC comment letters, and will provide the Company with a reasonable opportunity to comment on such drafts and shall consider such comments in good faith. The SPAC will advise the Company, promptly after it receives notice thereof, of (i) the time when the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement has been filed; (ii) receipt of oral or written notification of the completion of the review by the SEC of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement; (iii) the filing of any supplement or amendment to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement; (iv) any request by the SEC for amendment of, or supplements to, the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement; (v) any comments, written or oral, from the SEC relating to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and responses thereto; (vi) requests by the SEC for additional information in connection with the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement; and separately the Company will advise the SPAC of any comments or communications, written or oral, received by any Group Company from the SEC relating to the Transactions or otherwise and any responses thereto, and each Party shall consult with each other Party regarding, and supply each other Party with copies of, all material correspondence between such Party and any of its Representatives, on the one hand, and the SEC or the staff of the SEC, on the other hand, with respect to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, the Transactions and generally. In consultation with the Company, the SPAC shall promptly respond to any comments of the SEC on the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, and the Parties shall use their respective reasonable best efforts to (x) reasonably assist and cooperate with each other in preparation of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, and (y) respond as promptly as reasonably practicable to and resolve any comments made by the SEC with respect to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement.

(e) If, at any time prior to the SPAC Special Meeting, any Party discovers or becomes aware of any information that should be set forth in an amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement so that the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement would not include any misstatement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, such Party shall inform the other Parties and the SPAC shall promptly file (and the SPAC and the Company shall cooperate in preparing, to the extent necessary) an appropriate amendment or supplement describing such information with the SEC and, to the extent required by applicable Law, the SPAC shall transmit to the SPAC Stockholders, and the Company shall transmit to the Company Stockholders, such amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement containing such information.

(f) The Parties acknowledge that a substantial portion of the SPAC SEC Documents filed or furnished in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby shall include disclosure regarding the Group Companies and the business of the Group Companies and the management, operations and financial condition of the Group Companies. Accordingly, the Company agrees to, and the Company agrees to cause the other Group Companies to, as promptly as reasonably practicable, provide the SPAC with all information (including draft disclosure, as applicable) concerning the Company Stockholders, the Company and the other Group Companies, and their respective business, management, operations and financial condition, in each case, that is reasonably required to be filed in any SPAC SEC Document. The Company shall, and the Company shall cause the other Group Companies to, make their respective directors, officers, managers and employees, in each case, during normal business hours and upon reasonable advanced notice, available to the SPAC and its legal counsel, auditors and other Representatives in connection with the drafting of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and any other SPAC SEC Document as reasonably requested by the applicable party, and respond in a timely manner to comments thereto from the SEC. The SPAC shall use its reasonable best efforts to make all necessary filings with respect to

the transactions contemplated hereby under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act and applicable blue sky Laws and the rules and regulations thereunder, shall provide the Company with a reasonable opportunity to comment on drafts of any such filings and shall consider such comments in good faith, and the Company shall reasonably cooperate in connection therewith. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the SPAC shall be responsible, and the Company shall reasonably cooperate with the SPAC, in connection with (i) preparation for inclusion in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and the Closing Form 8-K of pro forma financial statements that comply with the requirements of Regulation S-X under the rules and regulations of the SEC (as interpreted by the staff of the SEC) to the extent such pro forma financial statements are required by the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement or the Closing Form 8-K, and (ii) obtaining the consents of their respective auditors as required in connection with the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, the Closing Form 8-K, the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or applicable Law. The Company shall have a reasonable opportunity to review the pro forma financial statements described in the foregoing sentence and to comment on such drafts and the SPAC shall consider such comments in good faith. The Company acknowledges and agrees that any restatement, revision or other modification of the SPAC SEC Documents or the SPAC's financial statements solely as a result of any agreements, orders, comments or other guidance from the staff of the SEC regarding the accounting policies of the SPAC that are generally applicable to special purpose acquisition companies shall not be deemed material for the purposes of this Agreement.

(g) At least five (5) days prior to Closing, the SPAC shall begin preparing a draft Current Report on Form 8-K in connection with and announcing the Closing, together with, or incorporating by reference, such information that is or may be required to be disclosed with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby pursuant to Form 8-K (the "Closing Form 8-K"). Prior to the Closing, the Parties shall prepare a mutually agreeable press release announcing the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby (the "Closing Press Release"). The SPAC shall provide the Company with a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on the Closing Form 8-K prior to its filing and shall consider such comments in good faith. Concurrently with the Closing, the SPAC shall distribute the Closing Press Release, and as soon as practicable thereafter, file the Closing Form 8-K with the SEC.

(h) The Company shall provide to the SPAC as promptly as practicable after the Execution Date (i) all audited and unaudited financial statements of the Company and its Subsidiaries and any company or business units acquired by any of the Group Companies, as applicable, required under the applicable rules and regulations and guidance of the SEC to be included in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and/or the Closing Form 8-K (including pro forma financial information); (ii) all selected financial data of the Company and its Subsidiaries required by Item 301 of Regulation S-K, as necessary for inclusion in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and/or the Closing Form 8-K (including pro forma financial information); and (iii) management discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations prepared in accordance with Item 303 of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act (as if the Company were subject thereto), as necessary for inclusion in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement and/or the Closing Form 8-K (including pro forma financial information).

(i) Prior to the declaration of the effectiveness of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement by the SEC, the Company shall designate, and shall provide the SPAC a written list of, each of the individuals who will serve as directors of the Surviving Company and the SPAC, with such designations to be effective immediately upon the Closing.

(j) If, based on any comments, orders, guidance, requests, responses or other communications (written or oral) from the SEC and/or the Stock Exchange (or any staff member of any of the foregoing), the SPAC determines, in its reasonable and good faith discretion, that the SPAC A&R CoI must be amended in order to achieve the timely clearance of all the SEC's comments to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, then the Parties shall use their respective reasonable best efforts to negotiate, in good faith, and effectuate, suitable amendments to the SPAC A&R CoI in order to achieve such timely clearance.

**Section 6.10 SPAC Special Meeting.** As promptly as practicable following the time at which the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective under the Securities Act, the SPAC, acting through the SPAC Board, shall take all actions in accordance with applicable Law, and the SPAC Governing Documents, and the rules of the Stock Exchange, to duly call, give notice of, convene and promptly hold the SPAC Special Meeting for the purpose of considering and voting upon the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, which meeting shall be held not more than thirty-five (35) days after the date of the completion of the mailing of the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement to the SPAC Stockholders pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. The SPAC Board shall recommend adoption

of this Agreement and approval of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters and include such recommendation in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, and, unless this Agreement has been duly terminated in accordance with the terms herein, neither the SPAC Board nor any committee thereof shall (a) change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, or publicly propose or resolve to change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, the recommendation of the SPAC Board that the SPAC Stockholders vote in favor of the approval of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, or (b) agree to take any of the foregoing actions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the SPAC Board may change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, or publicly propose to or resolve to change, withdraw withhold, qualify or modify, the recommendation of the SPAC Board that the SPAC Stockholders vote in favor of the approval of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters (any such action, a “Change in Recommendation”) if the SPAC Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its legal counsel, that failure to make a Change in Recommendation would constitute a breach by the SPAC Board of its fiduciary duties to the SPAC Stockholders under applicable Law. The SPAC agrees that its obligation to establish the SPAC Record Date and duly call, give notice of, convene and hold the SPAC Special Meeting for the purpose of seeking approval of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters shall not be affected by any Change in Recommendation, and the SPAC agrees to establish the SPAC Record Date, duly call, give notice of, convene and hold the SPAC Special Meeting and submit for the approval of the SPAC Stockholders the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters, in each case, as contemplated by this [Section 6.10](#), regardless of whether there shall have occurred any Change in Recommendation or other circumstance. Unless this Agreement has been duly terminated in accordance with the terms herein, the SPAC shall take all reasonable lawful action to solicit from the SPAC Stockholders proxies in favor of the proposal to adopt this Agreement and approve the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters and shall take all other action reasonably necessary or advisable to secure the approval of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, the SPAC may (and, in the case of the following clauses (ii) and (iv), at the request of the Company, shall) adjourn or otherwise postpone the SPAC Special Meeting for a period of no longer than fifteen (15) calendar days: (i) after consultation with the Company, to the extent necessary to ensure that any supplement or amendment to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement that the SPAC Board has determined in good faith is required by applicable Law be provided to the SPAC Stockholders; (ii), in each case, for one (1) or more periods, (x) if as of the time for which the SPAC Special Meeting is originally scheduled (as set forth in the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement), there are insufficient voting Equity Interests of the SPAC represented (either in person or by proxy) to constitute a quorum necessary to conduct the business of the SPAC Special Meeting, or (y) in order to solicit additional proxies from the SPAC Stockholders for purposes of obtaining approval of the SPAC Required Vote with respect to the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters; (iii) to seek withdrawals of redemption requests from the SPAC Stockholders, or (iv) in order to solicit additional proxies from SPAC Stockholders for purposes of obtaining approval of the SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters; p\_rvided, that, in the event of any such postponement or adjournment, the SPAC Special Meeting shall be reconvened as promptly as practicable following such time as the matters described in such clauses have been resolved.

[Section 6.11 Expenses](#). Except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement (including in [Section 6.15](#) and [Section 10.2](#)), all fees and expenses incurred in connection with this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements and the Transactions, including the fees and disbursements of counsel, financial advisors and accountants, shall be paid by the Party incurring such fees or expenses; p\_rvided, that, for the avoidance of doubt, (a) if this Agreement is terminated in accordance with its terms, the Company shall pay, or cause to be paid, all Unpaid Company Expenses and the SPAC shall pay, or cause to be paid, all Unpaid SPAC Expenses, and (b) if the Closing occurs, then the Company shall pay, or cause to be paid, (1) all Unpaid Company Expenses, and (2) up to \$2,500,000 of all Unpaid SPAC Expenses. If the Company pays, or causes to be paid, more than \$2,250,000 of Unpaid SPAC Expenses, then up to the next \$250,000 of Unpaid SPAC Expenses in addition to any additional SPAC Expenses that accrue (including for the avoidance of doubt any SPAC Expenses that should have been disclosed pursuant to this Agreement but were not so disclosed) after the Closing until the end of the Restrictive Periods (as defined in the Put Option Agreement) shall (A) be repaid from the sale of the Achari Put Option Shares, (B) reduce, on a dollar-for-dollar basis the proceeds to be paid to the Sponsor pursuant to the Initial Achari Put Options (as defined in the Put Option Agreement), and (C) reduce, on a dollar-for-dollar basis the proceeds to be paid to the Sponsor pursuant to the Second Achari Put Options (as defined in the Put Option Agreement). For the avoidance of doubt, if any amounts remain in the Trust Account after the completion of the SPAC Share Redemption, then up to \$500,000 of such amounts shall be used to reduce the Unpaid SPAC Expenses in excess of \$2,250,000 on a dollar for dollar basis.

Section 6.12 Directors and Officers.

(a) The SPAC A&R CoI and the SPAC A&R Bylaws shall, from and after the Effective Time, contain provisions no less favorable with respect to indemnification, exculpation, advancement and expense reimbursement than are set forth in the SPAC Governing Documents as of the date hereof, which provisions shall not be amended, repealed or otherwise modified for a period of six (6) years from the Effective Time in any manner that would affect adversely the rights thereunder of any individual who, at or prior to the Effective Time, served as a director, manager or officer of the SPAC (collectively, with each such Person's heirs, executors and/or administrators, the "SPAC Indemnified Persons"), unless such modification shall be required by applicable Law. From and after the Effective Time, the SPAC shall indemnify and hold harmless the SPAC Indemnified Persons (and advance expenses of the SPAC Indemnified Persons in connection with the defense of any Proceeding) from and against any penalties, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, losses, claims, damages or liabilities incurred in connection with any Proceeding arising out of or pertaining to circumstances, facts or events that occurred on or before the Effective Time (excluding those arising from gross negligence, fraud or intentional misconduct), to the fullest extent permitted under applicable Law, the SPAC Governing Documents in effect as of the Execution Date and any indemnification agreement between the SPAC and any SPAC Indemnified Person in effect as of the Execution Date (collectively, the "SPAC D&O Provisions"), and each Party acknowledges and agrees that the SPAC D&O Provisions are rights of Contract. Without limiting the foregoing, the SPAC shall maintain, for a period of six (6) years following the Closing Date, provisions in its Governing Documents concerning the indemnification, advancement of expenses and exculpation of officers and directors/managers that are no less favorable to the SPAC Indemnified Persons than the SPAC D&O Provisions in effect as of the Execution Date, and not amend, repeal or otherwise modify any such provision in any respect that would affect in any manner any of the SPAC Indemnified Persons' rights, or the SPAC's obligations, thereunder.

(b) The Governing Documents of the Company shall, from and after the Effective Time, contain provisions no less favorable with respect to indemnification, exculpation, advancement and expense reimbursement than are set forth in the Governing Documents of the Company as of the date hereof, which provisions shall not be amended, repealed or otherwise modified for a period of six (6) years from the Effective Time in any manner that would affect adversely the rights thereunder of any individual who, at or prior to the Effective Time, served as a director, manager or officer of any Group Material Company or who, at the request of any Group Material Company, served as a director, manager or officer of another Person (collectively, with each such Person's heirs, executors and/or administrators, the "Company Indemnified Persons"), unless such modification shall be required by applicable Law. From and after the Effective Time, the SPAC shall indemnify and hold harmless the Company Indemnified Persons (and advance expenses of the Company Indemnified Persons in connection with the defense of any Proceeding) from and against any penalties, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, losses, claims, damages or liabilities incurred in connection with any Proceeding arising out of or pertaining to circumstances, facts or events that occurred on or before the Effective Time (excluding those arising from gross negligence, fraud or intentional misconduct), to the fullest extent permitted under applicable Law, the Company's Governing Documents in effect as of the Execution Date and any indemnification agreement between any Group Material Company and any Company Indemnified Person in effect as of the Execution Date (collectively, the "Company D&O Provisions"), and each Party acknowledges and agrees that the Company D&O Provisions are rights of Contract. Without limiting the foregoing, the SPAC shall cause each of the Group Material Companies to maintain, for a period of six (6) years following the Closing Date, provisions in their respective Governing Documents concerning the indemnification, advancement of expenses and exculpation of officers and directors/managers that are no less favorable to the Company Indemnified Persons than the Company D&O Provisions in effect as of the Execution Date, and not amend, repeal or otherwise modify any such provision in any respect that would affect in any manner any of the Company Indemnified Persons' rights, or any Group Material Company's obligations, thereunder.

(c) At or prior to the Closing Date, the SPAC and/or the Company may purchase, and, if purchased, shall maintain, for a period of six (6) years from and after the Closing Date, "run-off" coverage as provided by the SPAC's directors' and officers' liability insurance policies, in each case, covering those Persons who are covered on the Execution Date by such directors' and officers' liability insurance policies and with terms, conditions, retentions and limits of liability that are no less advantageous than the coverage currently provided by the current directors' and officers' liability insurance policies of the SPAC (the "SPAC Tail Policy"), except that, if the Company and/or the SPAC, as applicable, elects to purchase the SPAC Tail Policy, but is unable to obtain the same for an amount less than or equal to the Maximum Annual Premium, the Company and/or the SPAC, as applicable, will instead obtain

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as much comparable insurance as possible for an annual premium equal to the Maximum Annual Premium. At or prior to the Closing Date, the SPAC and/or the Company may purchase (and, in such event, the SPAC and/or the Company shall maintain in effect for a period of six (6) years thereafter) “run-off” coverage as provided by any Group Material Company’s directors’ and officers’ liability insurance policies, in each case, covering those Persons who are covered on the Execution Date by such directors’ and officers’ liability insurance policies and with terms, conditions, retentions and limits of liability that are no less advantageous than the coverage currently provided by the current directors’ and officers’ liability insurance policies of the Group Material Companies (the “Company Tail Policy”), except that, if the SPAC and/or the Company is unable to obtain or maintain the Company Tail Policy for an amount less than or equal to the Maximum Annual Premium, the SPAC and/or the Company will instead obtain as much comparable insurance as possible for an annual premium equal to the Maximum Annual Premium.

(d) No claims made under or in respect of the Company Tail Policy (or any directors’ and officers’ liability insurance policy) related to any fiduciary or employee of any Group Company shall be settled without the prior written consent of the SPAC. The SPAC Indemnified Persons and the Company Indemnified Persons are intended third party beneficiaries of this Section 6.12 and the obligations under this Section 6.12 shall not be terminated or modified in any manner that is adverse to any SPAC Indemnified Person or Company Indemnified Person (or any of their respective successors or assigns).

Section 6.13 Affiliate Obligations. On or before the Closing Date, except as provided for in this Agreement and any Ancillary Agreements, the Company shall take all actions reasonably necessary to cause all Liabilities and obligations of each of the Group Companies under any Affiliated Transaction to be terminated in full without any further force and effect and without any cost to or other Liability to or obligations of any Group Company or any SPAC Party.

Section 6.14 No SPAC Share Transactions. During the Pre-Closing Period, except as otherwise explicitly contemplated by this Agreement, neither the Company nor any of its Affiliates, directly or indirectly, shall engage in any transactions involving the Equity Interests of the SPAC without the prior written consent of the SPAC.

### Section 6.15 Company Solicitation; Company Change in Recommendation.

(a) From and after the date hereof and until the Effective Time or, if earlier, the valid termination of this Agreement in accordance with the terms hereof, the Company shall not, and shall cause its Representatives and the other Group Companies not to, except as otherwise explicitly permitted by this Section 6.15, (i) initiate, solicit, facilitate or encourage (including by way of furnishing non-public information), whether publicly or otherwise, any inquiries with respect to, or the making of, any Company Acquisition Proposal, (ii) engage in any negotiations or discussions concerning, or provide access to its properties, books and records or any Confidential Information or data to any Person relating to, a Company Acquisition Proposal, (iii) enter into, engage in and/or maintain discussions or negotiations with respect to any Company Acquisition Proposal (or inquiries, proposals or offers or other efforts that would reasonably be expected to lead to a Company Acquisition Proposal) or otherwise cooperate with or assist or participate in, facilitate or encourage any such inquiries, proposals, offers, efforts, discussions or negotiations, (iv) amend or grant any waiver or release under any standstill or similar agreement with respect to any class of Equity Interests of any Group Company, (v) approve, endorse, recommend, execute or enter into any agreement in principle, letter of intent, memorandum of understanding, term sheet, acquisition agreement, merger agreement, option agreement, joint venture agreement, partnership agreement or other Contract relating to any Company Acquisition Proposal, or any proposal or offer that would reasonably be expected to lead to a Company Acquisition Proposal, or (vi) resolve or agree to do any of the foregoing or otherwise authorize or permit any of its Representatives to take any such action. The Company shall, and shall cause its Representatives and the other Group Companies to, immediately cease any solicitations, discussions or negotiations with any Person (other than the SPAC Parties and their respective Representatives) in connection with a Company Acquisition Proposal, and the Company acknowledges and agrees that any action taken by it or any of its Representatives or any other Group Company inconsistent with the restrictions set forth in this Section 6.15(a), whether or not any such Representative or other Group Company is purporting to act on the Company’s behalf, shall be deemed to constitute a breach of this Section 6.15(a) by the Company. The Company also agrees that it will promptly request that each Person (other than the SPAC Parties and their respective Representatives) that has, prior to the date hereof, executed a confidentiality agreement in connection with its consideration of acquiring any Group Company to return or destroy all confidential information furnished to such Person by or on behalf of any Group Company prior to the date hereof.

(b) Notwithstanding [Section 6.15\(a\)](#), prior to the receipt of the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, the Company Board, directly or indirectly through any Representative thereof, may, subject to [Section 6.15\(c\)](#), (i) participate in negotiations or discussions with any Person that has made (and not withdrawn) a bona fide Company Acquisition Proposal in writing that did not result from a breach of this [Section 6.15](#) and that the Company Board reasonably determines in good faith, after consultation with outside legal counsel, constitutes or would reasonably be expected to result in a Company Superior Proposal, and (ii) thereafter, furnish to such third party, or provide access to such third party to, non-public information relating to the Company pursuant to an executed Acceptable Confidentiality Agreement (a copy of which shall be promptly (in all events within twenty-four (24) hours) provided to the SPAC); provided, that the Company shall promptly provide to the SPAC any material non-public information that is provided to any such Person which has not previously been provided to the SPAC.

(c) The Company shall notify the SPAC promptly (but in no event later than twenty-four (24) hours) after receipt by the Company or any of its Affiliates or Representatives of (i) any Company Acquisition Proposal, (ii) any inquiry that would reasonably be expected to lead to a Company Acquisition Proposal, or (iii) any request for non-public information relating to any Group Company or for access to the business, properties, assets, personnel, books or records of any Group Company by any third party that would reasonably be expected to lead to a Company Acquisition Proposal. In such notice, the Company shall identify the Person making any such Company Acquisition Proposal, indication or request and provide the details of the material terms and conditions of such Company Acquisition Proposal, indication or request. The Company shall keep the SPAC reasonably informed, on a current and prompt basis, of the status and material terms of any such Company Acquisition Proposal, indication or request, including the material terms and conditions thereof and any material amendments or proposed amendments thereto. The Company shall promptly provide the SPAC copies of any nonpublic information concerning each Group Company's business, present or future performance, financial condition or results of operations provided to any Person to the extent such information has not been previously provided to the SPAC. Notwithstanding anything in this [Section 6.15](#) to the contrary, the Company may inform any Person making any Company Acquisition Proposal, any inquiry that would reasonably be expected to lead to a Company Acquisition Proposal or any request for non-public information relating to any Group Company or inquiry for access to the business, properties, assets, personnel, books or records of any Group Company, of the terms of this [Section 6.15\(c\)](#).

(d) If, at any time prior to the receipt of the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, the Company Board receives a bona fide written Company Acquisition Proposal that the Company Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside financial advisors and outside legal counsel, constitutes a Company Superior Proposal that was not initiated, sought, solicited, knowingly facilitated, knowingly encouraged, knowingly induced or otherwise procured in violation of this Agreement, the Company Board may make a Company Change in Recommendation solely to cause the Company to terminate this Agreement pursuant to [Section 10.1\(f\)](#) in order to enter into a definitive agreement providing for the consummation of such Company Superior Proposal (such actions, collectively, a "Company Superior Proposal Acceptance") if (A) the Company Board determines in good faith, after consultation with its outside financial advisors and outside legal counsel, that the failure to take such action would be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties under applicable Law, (B) the Company has notified the SPAC in writing that the Company Board intends to effect a Company Superior Proposal Acceptance pursuant to this [Section 6.15\(d\)](#), (C) the Company has provided the SPAC a copy of the proposed definitive agreements and other proposed transaction documentation between the Company and the Person making such Company Superior Proposal, if any, (D) for a period of five (5) Business Days following the notice delivered pursuant to clause (B) of this [Section 6.15\(d\)](#), the Company shall have discussed and negotiated in good faith, and made the Company's Representatives available to discuss and negotiate in good faith (in each case, to the extent the SPAC takes action to or does negotiate), with the SPAC's Representatives any proposed modifications to the terms and conditions of this Agreement or the Transactions so that the failure to take such action would no longer be inconsistent with the Company Board's fiduciary duties under applicable Law (it being understood and agreed that any amendment to any material term or condition of any Company Superior Proposal shall require a new notice and a new negotiation period that shall expire on the later to occur of (I) two (2) Business Days following delivery of such new notice from the Company to the SPAC, and (II) the expiration of the original five (5) Business Day period described in clause (D) above), and (E) no earlier than the end of such negotiation period, the Company Board shall have determined in good faith, after consultation with its outside financial advisors and outside legal counsel, and after considering the terms of any proposed amendment or modification to this Agreement, that (x) the Company Acquisition Proposal that is the subject of the notice described in clause (B) above still constitutes a Company Superior Proposal, and (y) the failure to take such action would still be inconsistent with its fiduciary duties under

applicable Law; provided that any purported termination of this Agreement pursuant to this Section 6.15(d) shall be void and of no force and effect unless the Company shall have paid the SPAC the Termination Fee (as defined below) in accordance with Section 10.2 prior to or concurrently with such termination. The Company agrees that its obligation to establish the Company Record Date and duly call, give notice of, convene and hold the Company Special Meeting for the purpose of seeking approval of the Transactions and the adoption of this Agreement shall not be affected by any Company Change in Recommendation permitted pursuant to the terms hereof, and the Company agrees to establish the Company Record Date, duly call, give notice of, convene and hold the Company Special Meeting and submit for the approval of the Company Stockholders the approval of the Transactions and the adoption of this Agreement, in each case, as contemplated by this Section 6.15, regardless of whether there shall have occurred any permitted Company Change in Recommendation or other circumstance.

Section 6.16 Company Special Meeting. As promptly as practicable following the time at which the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement is declared effective under the Securities Act, the Company, acting through the Company Board, shall take all actions in accordance with applicable Law, and the Governing Documents of the Company, and the rules of any applicable stock exchange, to duly call, give notice of, convene and promptly hold an extraordinary general meeting of the holders of Company Shares for the purpose of determining whether to grant the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval (the “Company Special Meeting”), which meeting shall be held not more than forty-five (45) days after the date of the completion of the mailing of the Company Proxy Statement to the Company Stockholders pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. The Company Board shall recommend adoption of this Agreement and approval of the Transactions, and, unless this Agreement has been duly terminated in accordance with the terms herein, neither the Company Board nor any committee thereof shall (a) change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, or publicly propose or resolve to change, withdraw, withhold, qualify or modify, the recommendation of the Company Board that the Company Stockholders vote in favor of the adoption of this Agreement and the approval of the Transactions, or (b) agree to take any of the foregoing actions. Unless this Agreement has been duly terminated in accordance with the terms herein, the Company shall take all reasonable lawful action to solicit from the Company Stockholders proxies in favor of the proposal to adopt this Agreement and approve the Transactions and shall take all other action reasonably necessary or advisable to secure the approval of the Transactions. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, the Company may (and, in the case of the following clauses (ii) and (iii), at the request of the SPAC, shall) adjourn or postpone the Company Special Meeting for a period of no longer than fifteen (15) calendar days: (i) after consultation with the SPAC, to the extent necessary to ensure that any supplement or amendment to the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement that the Company Board has determined in good faith is required by applicable Law be provided to the Company Stockholders; (ii) for one (1) or more periods, if as of the time for which the Company Special Meeting is originally scheduled, there are insufficient voting Equity Interests of the Company represented (either in person or by proxy) to constitute a quorum necessary to conduct the business of the Company Special Meeting; or (iii) in order to solicit additional proxies from Company Stockholders for purposes of obtaining the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval; provided, that, in the event of any such postponement or adjournment, the Company Special Meeting shall be reconvened as promptly as practicable following such time as the matters described in such clauses have been resolved.

Section 6.17 Company Support. On the Execution Date and effective upon the execution of this Agreement, the Company is delivering to the SPAC Support Agreements, each substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit K (the “Company Support Agreement”), and each duly executed by directors and executive officers of the Company that collectively hold, as of the Execution Date, forty-four percent (44%) of the Equity Interests of the Company (the “Company Management Team Members”), pursuant to which, among other things, the Company Management Team Members shall agree to vote their respective Equity Interests of the Company in favor of approving this Agreement and the Transactions. As promptly as practicable after the Execution Date (but in any event, within ten (10) Business Days of the Execution Date (the “Company Support Deadline”)), the Company shall deliver to the SPAC an anonymized list of additional holders of Equity Interests of the Company who, together with the Company Management Team Members, hold at least a majority of the Equity Interests of the Company and who have confirmed that they will vote their respective Equity Interests of the Company in favor of approving this Agreement and the Transactions (the “Additional Support List”).

Section 6.18 2024 Omnibus Incentive Plan. In accordance with Section 6.10 (and subject to approval by the SPAC Stockholders as contemplated thereunder), the SPAC Board shall approve and adopt an equity incentive plan in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Company and the SPAC (the “2024 Omnibus Incentive Plan”), in the manner prescribed under applicable Laws, reserving a number of SPAC New Shares for grants thereunder

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equal to fifteen percent (15%) (inclusive of the unvested Company Restricted Share Awards outstanding as of the Closing) of the number of SPAC New Shares outstanding following the Closing (as of the Closing Date) after giving effect to the transactions contemplated hereby determined assuming that no SPAC Stockholders will exercise their respective rights to participate in the SPAC Share Redemption.

Section 6.19 Unpaid SPAC Expenses. No less than twenty (20) days prior to the anticipated Closing Date, the SPAC shall deliver to the Company (a) a statement containing a list of the Unpaid SPAC Expenses that the SPAC reasonably believes will be outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, and (b) to the extent applicable, assignment agreements or other documents referenced in Section 2.6(a)(xiv).

ARTICLE VII ADDITIONAL

AGREEMENTS

Section 7.1 Access to Books and Records. The SPAC shall (at the Company's sole expense) cause each Group Company to maintain and preserve all such books, records and other documents in the possession of the Group Companies as of the Closing Date for the greater of (a) six (6) years after the Closing Date, and (b) any applicable statutory or regulatory retention period, as the same may be extended. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the SPAC shall not be required to provide any access or information to any Person which the SPAC reasonably believes constitutes information protected by attorney-client privilege or which could violate any obligation owed to a third party under Contract or Law. This Section 7.1 shall not apply to Taxes or Tax matters, which are the subject of Section 8.1.

ARTICLE VIII

TAX MATTERS

Section 8.1 Certain Tax Matters.

(a) Each Party shall reasonably cooperate (and cause its Affiliates to reasonably cooperate), as and to the extent reasonably requested by another Party, in connection with the preparation and filing of Tax Returns and any examination or other Proceeding with respect to Taxes or Tax Returns of any Group Company or SPAC Party. Such cooperation shall include the provision of records and information that are reasonably relevant to any such audit or other Proceeding and making employees available on a mutually convenient basis to provide additional information and explanation of any material provided hereunder. Following the Closing, the Group Companies and the SPAC Parties shall retain all books and records with respect to Tax matters pertinent to the Group Companies and the SPAC Parties relating to any taxable period beginning before the Closing Date until the expiration of the statute of limitations (taking into account any extensions thereof) of the respective taxable periods, and abide by all record retention agreements entered into thereby with any Taxing Authority. The Group Companies and the SPAC Parties shall provide any information reasonably requested to allow any SPAC Party or any Group Company, as applicable, to comply with any information reporting or withholding requirements contained in the Code or other applicable Laws or to compute the amount of payroll or other employment Taxes due with respect to any payment made in connection with this Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, this Section 8.1(a) shall not apply to any dispute or threatened dispute among or between any of the Parties.

(b) After the Effective Time, the SPAC shall cause the applicable Group Company to prepare and file, or cause to be prepared and filed, all necessary Tax Returns and other documentation with respect to all Transfer Taxes, and, if required by applicable Law, the Group Companies and the SPAC Parties will, and will cause their respective controlled Affiliates to, reasonably cooperate and join in the execution of any such Tax Returns and other documentation. The Parties shall reasonably cooperate to establish any available exemption from (or reduction in) any Transfer Tax.

(c) The SPAC and the Company intend that, for United States federal Income Tax purposes, the Merger will qualify for the Intended Tax Treatment. The Parties shall, and shall cause each of their respective applicable Affiliates to, prepare and file all Tax Returns consistent with the Intended Tax Treatment unless otherwise required by a "determination" within the meaning of Section 1313(a) of the Code.

(d) Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to the contrary, the Company, the SPAC and their respective Affiliates, representatives and advisors shall not be required to provide a tax opinion regarding the Intended Tax Treatment. For the avoidance of doubt, in the event there is any tax opinion required by the SEC (or its staff) to be provided in connection with the Registration Statement/Proxy Statement, and if such opinion is being provided by a tax counsel, such opinion shall be provided by Company tax counsel and, to the extent requested by such Company tax counsel, the Parties shall take commercially reasonable efforts to execute and deliver customary tax representation letters to such Company tax counsel in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to such counsel for purposes of delivering such opinion.

(e) This Agreement is intended to constitute, and the Parties hereby adopt this Agreement as, a “plan of reorganization” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Sections 1.368-2(g) and 1.368-3(a). Each of the SPAC Parties and the Group Companies shall not (and shall not permit or cause any of their respective controlled Affiliates, Subsidiaries or Representatives to) take any action which, to the Knowledge of the SPAC or to the Knowledge of the Company, as applicable, could reasonably be expected to prevent, impair or impede the Merger from qualifying for the Intended Tax Treatment. To the extent any Company Shares will be repurchased or otherwise settled in cash in connection with the Transactions (or immediately prior to the consummation of the Transactions), the SPAC Parties and the Group Companies agree that the cash consideration for such settlement shall be furnished by solely the Company (and not by any SPAC Party), and the Company and the SPAC will cooperate to document such arrangement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, if, after the date hereof, the Company and the SPAC mutually determine in writing (acting reasonably and in good faith) that the Merger is not expected to qualify as a “reorganization” within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code, the Parties shall use commercially reasonable efforts to restructure the transactions contemplated hereby (such restructured transactions, the “Alternative Transaction Structure”) in a manner that is reasonably expected to cause the Alternative Transaction Structure to so qualify; provided, however, that failure of the Parties to agree to an Alternative Transaction Structure shall not cause any condition to Closing set forth herein not to be satisfied or otherwise cause any breach of this Agreement; and provided, further, that any actions taken pursuant to this Section 8.1(e), (i) shall not (A) without the consent of each of the Parties, alter or change the amount, nature or mix of the consideration payable hereunder, or (B) impose any economic or other costs on any Party that are more than immaterial, and (ii) shall be capable of consummation without delay in relation to the structure contemplated herein.

## ARTICLE IX

### CONDITIONS TO OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES

Section 9.1 Conditions to the Obligations of Each Party. The obligation of each Party to consummate the transactions to be performed by it in connection with the Closing is subject to the satisfaction or written waiver, as of the Closing Date, of each of the following conditions:

(a) No Prohibition. There shall not be in force any Order or Law enjoining or prohibiting the consummation of the Transactions.

(b) No Orders or Illegality. There shall not be any applicable Law in effect that makes the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby illegal or any Order in effect preventing the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby.

(c) Listing. The SPAC’s initial listing application with the Stock Exchange in connection with the Transactions shall have been conditionally approved and, immediately following the Effective Time, the SPAC shall satisfy any applicable initial and continuing listing requirements of the Stock Exchange, and the SPAC New Shares issued in connection with the Transactions shall have been approved for listing on the Stock Exchange.

(d) Certificate of Merger. The Certificate of Merger shall have been accepted for filing by the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware.

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Section 9.2 Conditions to the Obligations of the SPAC Parties. The obligations of the SPAC Parties to consummate the transactions to be performed by each applicable SPAC Party in connection with the Closing is subject to the satisfaction or written waiver, at or prior to the Closing Date, of each of the following conditions:

(a) Representations and Warranties.

(i) the representations and warranties of the Company set forth in Article III (other than the Company Fundamental Representations and the representations and warranties in Section 3.5), in each case, without giving effect to any materiality or Company Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein (other than in respect of the defined terms “Material Contract”, “Material Lease” and “Material Supplier”) and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the Company SEC Reports made on or after the Execution Date, shall be true and correct as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties shall be true and correct as of such date), except, in each case, to the extent such failure of the representations and warranties to be so true and correct, when taken as a whole, would not have a Company Material Adverse Effect;

(ii) the representation and warranty set forth in Section 3.5 will be true and correct in all respects as of the Closing Date; and

(iii) the Company Fundamental Representations (other than the representations and warranties in Section 3.3), and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the Company SEC Reports made on or after the Execution Date, shall be true and correct in all material respects (except for such representations and warranties that are qualified by their respective terms by any limitation as to materiality or Company Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein, which representations and warranties as so qualified shall be true and correct in all respects) as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties shall be true and correct in all material respects (except for such representations and warranties that are qualified by their respective terms by any limitation as to materiality or Company Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein, which representations and warranties as so qualified shall be true and correct in all respects) as of such date), and the representations and warranties set forth in Section 3.3, without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the Company SEC Reports made on or after the Execution Date, shall be true and correct in all respects as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties shall be true and correct in all respects as of such date) other than, in each case, de minimis inaccuracies.

(b) Performance and Obligations of the Company. The covenants and agreements of the Company to be performed or complied with on or before the Closing in accordance with this Agreement shall have been performed in all material respects.

(c) No Company Material Adverse Effect. Since the date of this Agreement, there shall not have occurred any Company Material Adverse Effect.

(d) Officer's Certificate. The Company shall have delivered to the SPAC a duly executed certificate from an authorized officer of the Company (the “Company Bring-Down Certificate”), dated as of the Closing Date, certifying, with respect to the Company, that the conditions set forth in Section 9.2(a), Section 9.2(b) and Section 9.2(c) have been satisfied.

(e) Requisite Company Stockholder Approval. The Company shall have delivered to the SPAC evidence of having obtained the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval.

(f) Appraisal Rights. Holders of not more than ten percent (10%) of the outstanding Company Shares (as determined immediately prior to the Effective Time on a fully-diluted basis) shall have demanded, properly and in writing, appraisal for Company Shares held by such Company Stockholders in accordance with Section 262 of the DGCL.

(g) Company Deliverables. The Company shall have delivered (or caused to be delivered) to the SPAC the various certificates, instruments and documents referred to in Section 2.6(b).

(h) Consents and Notices. All consents, approvals, authorizations and notices set forth in [Section 9.2\(h\)](#) of the Company Disclosure Schedules shall have been obtained from and/or provided to all applicable Governmental Entities and/or other Persons, as applicable.

(i) De-Quotation and De-Registration. The Company shall have taken all actions necessary to permit the Company Shares and any other applicable security issued by the Company or one or more of the Company Subsidiaries to cease to be quoted on the OTCQX and be de-registered under the Exchange Act as promptly as practicable following the Effective Time.

Section 9.3 Conditions to the Obligations of the Company. The obligation of the Company to consummate the transactions to be performed by the Company in connection with the Closing is subject to the satisfaction or written waiver by the Company, at or prior to the Closing Date, of each of the following conditions:

(a) Representations and Warranties.

(i) The representations and warranties of the SPAC Parties set forth in [Article IV](#) (other than the SPAC Parties Fundamental Representations), in each case, without giving effect to any materiality or SPAC Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the SPAC SEC Documents made publicly available on or after the Execution Date, shall be true and correct as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties shall be true and correct as of such date), except, in each case, to the extent such failure of the representations and warranties to be so true and correct when taken as a whole, would have a SPAC Material Adverse Effect.

(ii) The SPAC Parties Fundamental Representations (other than the representations and warranties set forth in [Section 4.9](#)), in each case, without giving effect to any materiality or SPAC Material Adverse Effect qualifiers contained therein and without giving effect to any carve-outs for disclosures in the SPAC SEC Documents made publicly available on or after the Execution Date, shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties shall be true and correct in all material respects as of such date), and the representations and warranties set forth in [Section 4.9](#) shall be true and correct in all respects as of the Closing Date as though then made (or if such representations and warranties relate to a specific date, such representations and warranties shall be true and correct in all respects as of such date) other than, in each case, de minimis inaccuracies.

(b) Performance and Obligations of the SPAC Parties. The covenants and agreements of the SPAC Parties to be performed or complied with on or before the Closing in accordance with this Agreement shall have been performed in all material respects.

(c) Officer's Certificate. The SPAC shall have delivered to the Company a duly executed certificate from a director or officer of the SPAC (the "SPAC Bring-Down Certificate"), dated as of the Closing Date, certifying that the conditions set forth in [Section 9.3\(a\)](#) and [Section 9.3\(b\)](#) have been satisfied.

(d) SPAC Deliverables. The SPAC shall have delivered (or caused to be delivered) to the Company (or the Trustee, as applicable) the various certificates, instruments and documents referred to in [Section 2.6\(a\)](#).

(e) No SPAC Material Adverse Effect. Since the date of this Agreement, there shall not have occurred any SPAC Material Adverse Effect.

(f) SPAC Required Vote. The SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters shall have been obtained.

(g) SPAC Share Redemption. The SPAC Share Redemption shall have been completed in accordance with the terms hereof, the applicable SPAC Governing Documents and the Trust Agreement.

(h) Unpaid SPAC Expenses. The Unpaid SPAC Expenses shall not exceed \$4,500,000.

Section 9.4 Frustration of Closing Conditions. None of the Company or the SPAC may rely on the failure of any condition set forth in this [Article IX](#) to be satisfied if such failure was caused by such Party's failure to act in good faith or to use reasonable best efforts to cause the Closing conditions of such Person to be satisfied.

Section 9.5 Waiver of Closing Conditions. Upon the occurrence of the Closing, any condition set forth in this Article IX that was not satisfied as of the Closing shall be deemed to have been waived as of and from the Closing.

## ARTICLE X

### TERMINATION

Section 10.1 Termination. This Agreement may be terminated and the transactions contemplated hereby abandoned at any time prior to the Closing only as follows:

- (a) by the mutual written consent of the Company and the SPAC;
- (b) by either the Company or the SPAC by written notice to the other if any Governmental Entity has enacted any Law which has become final and non-appealable and has the effect of making the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby illegal, or any final, non-appealable Order is in effect permanently preventing the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby; provided, however, that the right to terminate this Agreement pursuant to this Section 10.1(b) shall not be available to any Party whose breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement herein results in or is the primary cause of such final, non-appealable Law or Order;
- (c) by either the Company or the SPAC by written notice to the other if the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby shall not have occurred on or before May 30, 2024, which date shall be extended automatically for up to thirty (30) days to the extent the Parties are continuing to work in good faith toward the Closing (as may be extended, the “Outside Date”); provided that the right to terminate this Agreement under this Section 10.1(c) shall not be available to any Party then in material breach of any of its representations, warranties, covenants or agreements under this Agreement, and such material breach is the primary cause of or has resulted in the failure of the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby on or before the Outside Date;
- (d) by the Company by written notice to the SPAC, if any SPAC Party breaches in any material respect any of its representations or warranties contained herein or breaches or fails to perform in any material respect any of its covenants contained herein, which breach or failure to perform (i) would render a condition precedent to the Company’s obligation to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby set forth in Section 9.3(a) or Section 9.3(b) hereof not capable of being satisfied, and (ii) after the giving of written notice of such breach or failure to perform to the SPAC by the Company, cannot be cured or has not been cured by the earlier of (x) the Outside Date, and (y) thirty (30) Business Days after receipt by the SPAC of such written notice and the Company has not waived in writing such breach or failure; provided, however, that the right to terminate this Agreement under this Section 10.1(d) shall not be available to the Company if any Group Company is then in material breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained herein;
- (e) by the SPAC by written notice to the Company, if any Group Company breaches in any material respect any of its representations or warranties contained herein or any Group Company breaches or fails to perform in any material respect any of its covenants contained herein, which breach or failure to perform (i) would render a condition precedent to the SPAC Parties’ obligations to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby set forth in Section 9.2(a) or Section 9.2(b) not capable of being satisfied, and (ii) after the giving of written notice of such breach or failure to perform to the Company by the SPAC, cannot be cured or has not been cured by the later of (x) the Outside Date, and (y) thirty (30) Business Days after the delivery of such written notice (in the case of clause (B), the Outside Date, as applicable, shall automatically be extended until the end of such thirty (30) Business Day period, but in no event on more than one (1) occasion) and the SPAC has not waived in writing such breach or failure; provided, however, that the right to terminate this Agreement under this Section 10.1(e) shall not be available to the SPAC if any SPAC Party is then in breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained herein and such breach would give rise to a failure of any condition to the Company’s obligations to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby set forth in Section 9.3(a) or Section 9.3(b);

(f) by the Company, at any time prior to receipt of the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, in order for the Company to enter into a definitive agreement with respect to a Company Superior Proposal to the extent permitted by, and subject to the applicable terms and conditions of, [Section 6.15\(d\)](#);

(g) by the SPAC if (i) the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval shall not have been obtained by the Company with evidence thereof delivered to the SPAC by the Requisite Approval Deadline (or the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval is, at any time, no longer valid or is otherwise revoked or rescinded at any time), (ii) the Additional Support List shall not have been obtained by the Company and delivered to the SPAC by the Company Support Deadline, or if any Company Support Agreement is, at any time, revoked or rescinded, or (iii) the Company Special Meeting is held and the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval is not obtained at such Company Special Meeting;

(h) by the Company if (i) the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters shall not have been obtained by the SPAC with evidence thereof delivered to the Company by the Requisite Approval Deadline (or the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters is, at any time, no longer valid or is otherwise revoked or rescinded at any time), or (ii) the SPAC Special Meeting is held and the SPAC Required Vote approving each of the Required SPAC Stockholder Voting Matters is not obtained at such SPAC Special Meeting;

(i) by the Company if the SPAC Shares are de-listed from the Stock Exchange prior to the Closing Date;

(j) by the Company if the estimated amount of the Unpaid SPAC Expenses in the statement delivered pursuant to [Section 6.19](#) exceeds \$4,500,000; or

(k) by the SPAC if the Fairness Opinion has been withdrawn, revoked or modified after the date thereof.

**Section 10.2 Effect of Termination.** In the event of the termination of this Agreement pursuant to [Section 10.1](#), this Agreement shall immediately become null and void, without any Liability on the part of any Party or any other Person, and all rights and obligations of each Party shall cease; provided that (a) the Confidentiality Agreement and the agreements contained in [Section 6.9\(a\)](#), [Section 6.11](#), this [Section 10.2](#) and [Article XI](#) hereof shall survive any termination of this Agreement and remain in full force and effect, and (b) no such termination shall relieve any Party from any Liability arising out of or incurred as a result of its Fraud or its willful and material breach of this Agreement prior to such termination. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, (i) if this Agreement is terminated pursuant to [Section 10.1\(e\)](#), [Section 10.1\(f\)](#) or [Section 10.1\(g\)\(iii\)](#), then the Company shall pay to the SPAC the Termination Fee (provided that if this Agreement is terminated pursuant to [Section 10.1\(e\)](#), the Company shall only pay to the SPAC the Termination Fee if such termination is based on any Group Company's breach of, or failure to perform any of its covenants contained in (1) [Section 5.1\(b\)\(i\)](#) (but only to the extent such amendment or modification results in the Company not being permitted to list its Equity Interests on the Stock Exchange), (2) [Section 5.1\(b\)\(v\)](#), (3) [Section 5.1\(b\)\(vi\)](#) (but only to the extent such split, combination, redemption, reclassification, purchase or acquisition is effectuated without an equitable adjustment to the number and type of Equity Interests of the SPAC subject to the Initial Achari Put Options or the Second Achari Put Options (in each case, as defined in the Put Option Agreement) such that the Initial Achari Put Options and the Second Achari Put Options cover the same number and class of Equity Securities of the SPAC to which the holders of the Initial Achari Put Options and the Second Achari Put Options would have been entitled pursuant to the terms of such split, combination, redemption, reclassification, purchase or acquisition if, immediately prior to the consummation of such transaction, such holders had been the record holders of the Equity Interests of the SPAC then covered by the Initial Achari Put Options and the Second Achari Put Options) or (4) [Section 5.1\(b\)\(xiv\)](#) (but only to the extent such adoption or effectuation results in the Company not being permitted to list its Equity Interests on the Stock Exchange), (ii) if this Agreement is terminated pursuant to [Section 10.1\(h\)\(ii\)](#), then the SPAC shall pay to the Company the Termination Fee, and (iii) if this Agreement is terminated pursuant to [Section 10.1\(c\)](#), then the non-terminating party shall pay to the terminating party an amount equal to \$600,000; provided that such \$600,000 shall only be payable by the non-terminating party to the terminating party if (x) the terminating party has satisfied all of its conditions to Closing as set forth herein as of such termination date (other than those which are to be satisfied on the Closing Date but which are reasonably expected to be able to be satisfied), and (y) the non-terminating party has not satisfied its conditions to Closing as set forth herein as of such termination date (other than those which are to be satisfied on the Closing Date but which are reasonably expected to be able to be satisfied). The "Termination Fee" shall be an amount in cash equal to three percent (3%) of the Equity Value. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in no event shall any Affiliate, director, officer, equityholder, agent or representative of either the Company or the SPAC be liable for any amounts payable by either the Company or the SPAC pursuant to this [Section 10.2](#).

ARTICLE XI

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 11.1 Amendment and Waiver. No amendment of any provision hereof shall be valid unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the SPAC and the Company (subject, to the extent required after the Requisite Company Stockholder Approval, to the applicable approvals of the Company Stockholders). No waiver of any provision or condition hereof shall be valid unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the Party against which such waiver is to be enforced. No waiver by any Party of any default, breach of representation or warranty or breach of covenant hereunder, whether intentional or not, shall be deemed to extend to any other, prior or subsequent default or breach or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any other, prior or subsequent such occurrence.

Section 11.2 Notices. All notices, demands, requests, instructions, claims, consents, waivers and other communications to be given or delivered under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given (a) when personally delivered (or, if delivery is refused, upon presentment), (b) when received by e-mail (with confirmation of transmission requested or received) prior to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on a Business Day, and, if otherwise, on the next Business Day, (c) one (1) Business Day following sending by reputable overnight express courier (charges prepaid), or (d) three (3) days following mailing by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid and return receipt requested. Unless another address is specified in writing pursuant to the provisions of this Section 11.2, notices, demands and communications to the Company or a SPAC Party shall be sent to their respective addresses indicated below (or to such other address or addresses as the Parties may from time to time designate in writing to one another):

Notices to either of the SPAC Parties, to:

Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I  
60 Walnut Avenue, Suite 400  
Clark, New Jersey 07066  
Attention: Vikas Desai  
Email: vikas@acharivc.com

with copies (which shall not constitute notice) to:

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP  
50 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10020  
Attention: Timothy J. Kirby; Joshua A. Feiger  
Email: tim.kirby@katten.com; josh.feiger@katten.com

Notices to the Company (prior to the Closing), to:

Vaso Corporation  
137 Commercial Street  
Plainview, New York 11803  
Attention: Jun Ma and Michael Beecher  
Email: jma@vasocorporation.com and mbeecher@vasocorporation.com

with copies (which shall not constitute notice) to:

Ortoli Rosenstadt LLP  
366 Madison Ave, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
Attention: William Rosenstadt  
Email: wsr@orllp.legal

Section 11.3 Assignment. This Agreement and all of the provisions hereof shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns; provided that neither this Agreement nor any of the rights, interests or obligations hereunder may be assigned or delegated by any Party (including by

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operation of Law, including in connection with a merger or consolidation or conversion of the SPAC) without the prior written consent of the other Parties. Any purported assignment or delegation not permitted under this [Section 11.3](#) shall be null and void.

**Section 11.4 Severability.** Whenever possible, each provision hereof (or part thereof) shall be interpreted in such manner as to be effective and valid under applicable Law, but if any provision hereof (or part thereof) or the application of any such provision (or part thereof) to any Person or circumstance shall be held to be prohibited by or invalid, illegal or unenforceable under applicable Law in any respect by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision (or part thereof) shall be ineffective only to the extent of such prohibition or invalidity, illegality or unenforceability, without invalidating the remainder of such provision or the remaining provisions hereof. Furthermore, in lieu of such illegal, invalid or unenforceable provision (or part thereof), there shall be added automatically as a part hereof a legal, valid and enforceable provision as similar in terms to such illegal, invalid or unenforceable provision (or part thereof) as may be possible.

**Section 11.5 Interpretation.** The headings and captions used herein and the table of contents to this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. Any capitalized terms used in any Schedule or Exhibit attached hereto and not otherwise defined therein shall have the respective meanings set forth herein. The use of the word “including” herein (and words of similar import) shall mean “including without limitation”. The words “hereof”, “herein” and “hereunder” and words of similar import, when used herein, shall refer to this Agreement as a whole and not to any particular provision hereof. References herein to a specific Section, Subsection, Recital, Schedule or Exhibit shall refer, respectively, to Sections, Subsections, Recitals, Schedules or Exhibits hereof. Terms defined herein in the singular shall have a comparable meaning when used in the plural, and vice versa. References herein to any gender shall include each other gender. The word “or” shall not be exclusive unless the context clearly requires the selection of one (1) (but not more than one (1)) of a number of items. References to “written” or “in writing” include the electronic form. References herein to any Person shall include such Person’s heirs, executors, personal representatives, administrators, successors and permitted assigns; provided, however, that nothing contained in this [Section 11.5](#) is intended to authorize any assignment or transfer not otherwise permitted by this Agreement. References herein to a Person in a particular capacity or capacities shall exclude such Person in any other capacity. Any reference to “days” shall mean calendar days unless Business Days are specified; provided that if any action is required to be done or taken on a day that is not a Business Day, then such action shall be required to be done or taken not on such day but on the first succeeding Business Day thereafter. References herein to any Contract (including this Agreement) mean such Contract as amended, restated, supplemented or modified from time to time in accordance with the terms thereof; provided that, with respect to any Contract listed (or required to be listed) on the Disclosure Schedules, all material amendments thereto must also be listed on the appropriate section of the applicable schedule and disclosed. For purposes hereof, with respect to the determination of any period of time, the word “from” means “from and including” and the words “to” and “until” each means “to but excluding”. References herein to any Law shall be deemed also to refer to such Law, as amended, and all rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. The word “extent” in the phrase “to the extent” (or similar phrases) shall mean the degree to which a subject or other thing extends, and such phrase shall not mean simply “if”. An accounting term not otherwise defined herein has the meaning assigned to it in accordance with GAAP. Except where otherwise provided, all amounts herein are stated and shall be paid in U.S. dollars. The Parties and their respective legal counsel have reviewed and negotiated this Agreement as the joint agreement and understanding of the Parties, and the language used herein shall be deemed to be the language chosen by the Parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of strict construction shall be applied against any Person. Any information or materials shall be deemed provided, made available or delivered to the SPAC if such information or materials have been uploaded to the electronic data room maintained by the Company on the online data site hosted by Dropbox for purposes of the transactions contemplated hereby (the “Data Room”), with respect to the representations and warranties contained in [Article III](#) and [Article IV](#), at least one (1) Business Day prior to the Execution Date or the Closing Date, as applicable.

**Section 11.6 Entire Agreement.** This Agreement (together with the Disclosure Schedules and Exhibits to this Agreement), the Ancillary Agreements and the Confidentiality Agreement contain the entire agreement and understanding among the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and thereof and supersede all prior and contemporaneous agreements, understandings and discussions (including the letter of intent, dated as of September 12, 2023, by and between the SPAC and the Company (the “LOI”)), whether written or oral, relating to such subject matter in any way. The Parties have voluntarily agreed to define their respective rights and Liabilities with respect to the Transactions exclusively pursuant to the express terms and provisions of this Agreement and

the Ancillary Agreements, and the Parties disclaim that they are owed any duties or are entitled to any remedies not set forth in this Agreement and/or the Ancillary Agreements. Furthermore, this Agreement embodies the justifiable expectations of sophisticated parties derived from arm's-length negotiations and no Person has any special relationship with another Person that would justify any expectation beyond that of an ordinary buyer and an ordinary seller in an arm's-length transaction. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this [Section 11.6](#), in the event the Closing is not consummated pursuant to this Agreement, nothing set forth in this Agreement shall in any way amend, alter, terminate, supersede or otherwise affect the Parties' or their respective Affiliates' Equity Interests or any Contract to which the Parties or their respective Affiliates are party or are bound (other than (x) this Agreement, and (y) the Confidentiality Agreement), including the certificates of incorporation or formation or limited partnership, bylaws, limited liability company or operating agreements, limited partnership agreements and/or other similar Governing Documents of any of the Parties or their respective Subsidiaries.

**Section 11.7 Governing Law; Waiver of Jury Trial; Jurisdiction.** The Laws of the State of New York shall govern (a) all claims or matters related to or arising from this Agreement (including any tort or non-contractual claims), and (b) any questions concerning the construction, interpretation, validity and enforceability hereof, and the performance of the obligations imposed by this Agreement, in each case, without giving effect to any choice-of-laws or conflict-of-laws rules or provisions (whether of the State of New York or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the Laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of New York. EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ALL RIGHTS TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY PROCEEDING BROUGHT TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN OR AMONG ANY OF SUCH PARTIES (WHETHER ARISING IN CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE) ARISING OUT OF, CONNECTED WITH OR RELATED OR INCIDENTAL TO THIS AGREEMENT, THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY AND/OR THE RELATIONSHIPS ESTABLISHED AMONG THE PARTIES UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. THE PARTIES HERETO FURTHER WARRANT AND REPRESENT THAT EACH HAS REVIEWED THIS WAIVER WITH ITS LEGAL COUNSEL, AND THAT EACH KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY WAIVES ITS JURY TRIAL RIGHTS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH SUCH LEGAL COUNSEL. Each of the Parties submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of first, any federal court in New York County in the State of New York, or, in the event, but only in the event, that such a court does not have subject matter jurisdiction, any state court in New York County in the State of New York, in any Proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement, and agrees that all claims in respect of any such Proceeding shall be heard and determined in any such court and agrees not to bring any Proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement in any other court. Nothing in this [Section 11.7](#), however, shall affect the right of any Party to serve legal process in any other manner permitted by applicable Law. Each Party agrees that a final judgment in any Proceeding so brought shall be conclusive and may be enforced by suit on the judgment or in any other manner provided by applicable Law.

**Section 11.8 Non-Survival.** The Parties, intending to modify any applicable statute of limitations, agree that none of the representations, warranties, covenants or agreements set forth in this Agreement or in any Ancillary Agreement or any certificate or Letter of Transmittal delivered hereunder, including any rights arising out of any breach of such representations, warranties, covenants or agreements, shall survive the Closing (and there shall be no Liability after the Closing in respect thereof), in each case, except for those covenants and agreements that by their respective terms contemplate performance, in each case, in whole or in part after the Closing, and then only with respect to the period following the Closing (including any breaches occurring after the Closing), which shall survive until thirty (30) days following the date of the expiration, by its terms, of the obligation of the applicable Party under such covenant or agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, none of the provisions set forth herein shall be deemed a waiver by any Party of any right or remedy which such Party may have at Law or in equity in the case of Fraud.

**Section 11.9 Trust Account Waiver.** Reference is made to the SPAC's final prospectus, filed with the SEC on October 18, 2021 (the "Prospectus"). The Company understands that the SPAC has established the Trust Account containing the proceeds of its initial public offering (the "IPO") and from certain private placements occurring simultaneously with the IPO (including interest accrued from time to time thereon) for the benefit of the SPAC's public stockholders and certain other parties (including the underwriters of the IPO) and that the SPAC may only disburse monies from the Trust Account as described in the Prospectus. For and in consideration of the SPAC's entry into this Agreement, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company hereby agrees (on its own behalf and on behalf of its Subsidiaries, Affiliates and each of their respective employees, directors, officers, managers, agents, Representatives, Affiliates, equity holders and any other person or entity acting on its behalf) that it does not have nor shall it have any time

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hereafter (except to the extent explicitly set forth in this Agreement), any right, title, interest or claim of any kind in or to any monies in the Trust Account or distributions therefrom, or to make any claim against the Trust Account (including any distributions therefrom) arising as a result of, in connection with or relating in any way to this Agreement or a potential business combination, and regardless of whether such claim arises based on contract, tort, equity or any other theory of legal liability (collectively, the “Released Claims”). The Company, on behalf of itself and its controlled Affiliates, the Company Subsidiaries and their respective controlled Affiliates (collectively, the “Releasing Parties”), hereby irrevocably waives any Released Claims that any of the Releasing Parties may have against the Trust Account (including any distributions therefrom) now or in the future as a result of, or arising out of, this Agreement, and will not seek recourse against the Trust Account (including any distributions therefrom) for any reason whatsoever as a result of, or arising out of, this Agreement (including for an alleged breach of this Agreement). The Company (on behalf of the Releasing Parties) agrees and acknowledges that such irrevocable waiver is material to this Agreement and specifically relied upon by each SPAC Party to induce the same to enter into this Agreement. To the extent a Releasing Party commences any Proceeding based upon, in connection with, relating to or arising out of this Agreement, which Proceeding seeks, in whole or in part, monetary relief against any SPAC Party, the Company hereby acknowledges and agrees that its sole remedy shall be against funds held outside of the Trust Account and that such Proceeding shall not permit any Releasing Party to have any claim against the Trust Account (including any distributions therefrom) or any amounts contained therein.

Section 11.10 Counterparts; Electronic Delivery. This Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements and the other agreements, certificates, instruments and documents delivered pursuant to this Agreement may be executed and delivered in one (1) or more counterparts and by email or other electronic transmission, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which shall be considered one and the same instrument. No Party shall raise the use of email to deliver a signature or the fact that any signature or agreement or instrument was transmitted or communicated through the use of email as a defense to the formation or enforceability of a Contract and each Party forever waives any such defense.

Section 11.11 Specific Performance. Each Party acknowledges and agrees that the rights of each Party to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby are unique and recognizes and affirms that, in the event any of the provisions hereof are not performed in accordance with their respective specific terms or otherwise are breached, money damages would be inadequate (and, therefore, the non-breaching Party would have no adequate remedy at Law) and the non-breaching Party would be irreparably damaged. Accordingly, each Party agrees that each other Party shall be entitled to specific performance, an injunction or other equitable relief (without the posting of a bond or other security or needing to prove irreparable harm) to prevent breaches of the provisions hereof and to enforce specifically this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to the extent expressly contemplated herein or therein in any Proceeding, in addition to any other remedy to which such Person may be entitled. Each Party agrees that it will not oppose the granting of specific performance or other equitable relief on the basis that any of the Parties has an adequate remedy at Law or that an award of specific performance is not an appropriate remedy for any reason at Law or equity. The Parties acknowledge and agree that any Party seeking an injunction to prevent breaches of this Agreement and to enforce specifically the terms and provisions hereof in accordance with this Section 11.11 shall not be required to prove economic harm or provide any bond or other security in connection with any such injunction.

Section 11.12 No Third-Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and their respective permitted assigns and nothing herein expressed or implied shall give or be construed to give any Person, other than the Parties and such permitted assigns, any legal or equitable rights hereunder (other than (x) Non-Party Affiliates, each of whom is an express third-party beneficiary hereunder to the provisions of Section 11.14, and (y) the SPAC Indemnified Persons and the Company Indemnified Persons, each of whom is an express third-party beneficiary hereunder to the provisions of Section 6.12).

Section 11.13 Schedules and Exhibits. All Schedules and Exhibits attached hereto or referred to herein are (a) each hereby incorporated in and made a part of this Agreement as if set forth in full herein, and (b) qualified in their respective entirety by reference to specific provisions of this Agreement. Any fact or item disclosed in any Section of the Schedules shall be deemed disclosed in each other Section of the applicable Schedule to which such fact or item may apply so long as (i) such other Section is referenced by applicable cross-reference, or (ii) it is reasonably apparent on the face of such disclosure that such disclosure is applicable to such other Section or portion of the Schedule. The headings contained in the Schedules are for convenience of reference only and shall not be deemed to modify or influence the interpretation of the information contained in the Schedules. The Schedules are

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not intended to constitute, and shall not be construed as, an admission or indication to any third party that any fact or item is required to be disclosed. The Schedules shall not be deemed to expand in any way the scope or effect of any representations, warranties or covenants described herein. Any fact or item, including the specification of any dollar amount, disclosed in the Schedules shall not, by reason only of such inclusion, be deemed to be material, to establish any standard of materiality or to define further the meaning of such terms for purposes hereof. Moreover, in disclosing the information in the Schedules, the Parties, to the fullest extent permitted by Law, expressly do not waive any attorney-client privilege associated with such information or any protection afforded by the attorney work-product doctrine with respect to any of the matters disclosed or discussed therein. The information contained in the Schedules shall be kept strictly confidential in accordance with Section 6.5 by the Parties and no third party may rely on any information disclosed or set forth therein.

Section 11.14 No Recourse. Notwithstanding anything that may be expressed or implied herein or any document, agreement or instrument delivered contemporaneously herewith, each Party, by its acceptance of the benefits of this Agreement, covenants, agrees and acknowledges that no Persons other than the Parties shall have any obligation hereunder and that it has no rights of recovery hereunder against, and no recourse hereunder or under any documents, agreements or instruments delivered contemporaneously herewith, or in respect of any oral representations made or alleged to be made in connection herewith or therewith, against any former, current or future director, officer, agent, Affiliate, manager, assignee, incorporator, controlling Person, fiduciary, Representative or employee of any Party (or any of their respective successors or permitted assigns), against any former, current or future general or limited partner, manager, shareholder or member of any Party (or any of their respective successors or permitted assigns) or any Affiliate thereof or against any former, current or future director, officer, agent, employee, Affiliate, manager, assignee, incorporator, controlling Person, fiduciary, Representative, general or limited partner, shareholder, manager or member of any of the foregoing, but, in each case, not including the Parties (each, but excluding for the avoidance of doubt, the Parties, a “Non-Party Affiliate”), whether by or through attempted piercing of the corporate veil, by or through a claim (whether in tort, Contract or otherwise) by or on behalf of such Party against a Non-Party Affiliate, by the enforcement of any assessment or by any Proceeding, or by virtue of any statute, regulation or other applicable Law or otherwise, it being agreed and acknowledged that no personal Liability whatsoever shall attach to, be imposed on or otherwise be incurred by any Non-Party Affiliate, as such, for any obligations of the applicable Party under this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby, or under any documents or instruments delivered contemporaneously herewith, at or prior to Closing, in respect of any oral representations made or alleged to be made in connection herewith or therewith or for any claim (whether in tort, Contract or otherwise) based on, in respect of or by reason of such obligations or their respective creation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Non-Party Affiliate may have obligations under any documents, agreements or instruments delivered contemporaneously herewith or otherwise contemplated hereby if such Non-Party Affiliate is party to or bound by such document, agreement or instrument. Except to the extent otherwise set forth herein, and subject in all cases to the terms and conditions and limitations herein, this Agreement may only be enforced against, and any claim or cause of action of any kind based upon, arising out of or related to this Agreement, or the negotiation, execution or performance hereof, may only be brought against, the entities that are named as Parties, and then only with respect to the specific obligations set forth herein with respect to any such Party. Each Non-Party Affiliate is intended as a third-party beneficiary of this Section 11.14.

Section 11.15 Equitable Adjustments. If, during the Pre-Closing Period, the SPAC Shares shall have been changed into a different number of units or shares or a different class, with the prior written consent of the Company to the extent required by this Agreement, by reason of any stock dividend, subdivision, reclassification, recapitalization, split, combination, consolidation or exchange of shares, or any similar event shall have occurred, then any number or amount contained herein which is based upon the number of SPAC Shares will be appropriately adjusted to provide to the Company Stockholders and the SPAC Stockholders the same economic effect as contemplated hereby prior to such event.

### Section 11.16 Legal Representation and Privilege.

#### (a) The Company.

(i) Each Party hereby agrees, on behalf of itself, its Affiliates and its and their respective directors, managers, officers, owners and employees, and each of their respective successors and assigns (all such parties, collectively, the “Waiving Parties”), that Ortoli Rosenstadt LLP (or any successor thereto) (“Company Counsel”) may represent the Company or any of the Company Equityholders and/or any of their respective

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directors, managers, officers, owners, employees, Subsidiaries, Affiliates or Representatives (collectively, the “Company Group”), in connection with any dispute, claim, Proceeding or Liability arising out of or relating to this Agreement, any Ancillary Agreement or the Transactions (any such representation, the “Company Post-Closing Representation”), notwithstanding its representation (or any continued representation) of any Group Company in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and each Party, on behalf of itself and the Waiving Parties, hereby consents thereto and irrevocably waives (and will not assert) any conflict of interest or any objection arising therefrom or relating thereto, even though the interests of the Company Post-Closing Representation may be directly adverse to any of the Waiving Parties. Each of the Parties acknowledges and agrees that the foregoing provision applies whether or not Company Counsel provides legal services to any Group Company after the Closing Date.

(ii) Each of the Parties, for itself and the Waiving Parties, hereby irrevocably acknowledges and agrees that all communications among Company Counsel (or any other legal counsel that represented any Group Company), the Group Companies and/or any member of the Company Group made in connection with the negotiation, preparation, execution, delivery and performance under, or any dispute, claim, Proceeding or Liability arising out of or relating to, this Agreement, any Ancillary Agreement or the Transactions or any matter relating to any of the foregoing are privileged communications, and shall remain privileged after the Closing, and the attorney-client privilege and the expectation of client confidence and work product and other immunities belong solely to the applicable Group Company (but, in all cases, for the avoidance of doubt, excluding any other Subsidiary of the SPAC) and are exclusively controlled by the applicable Group Company, and shall not pass to or be claimed by the SPAC, any other Subsidiary of the SPAC or any other Party or Waiving Party, other than the Company. From and after the Closing, each Party (other than the Company) shall not, and shall cause its Waiving Parties not to, access the same or seek to obtain the same by any process. From and after the Closing, each of the Parties (other than the Company), on behalf of itself and the Waiving Parties, irrevocably waives and will not assert any attorney-client privilege or work product or other immunities with respect to any communication among Company Counsel (or any other legal counsel that represented any of the Group Companies), any Group Company and/or any member of the Company Group prior to the Closing in connection with any Company Post-Closing Representation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that a dispute arises between any Party or any of its Waiving Parties, on the one hand, and a third party, on the other hand, such Party or its Waiving Party, as applicable, may assert the attorney-client privilege or work product or other immunities to prevent disclosure of confidential communications to such third party; provided, however, that no Party (or its Waiving Party) may waive such privilege or other immunity without the prior written consent of the Company.

### (b) SPAC.

(i) Each Party hereby agrees, on behalf of itself and the Waiving Parties, that Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP (“Katten”) (or any successor thereto) may represent the Sponsor, the SPAC, the other equityholders of the SPAC prior to the Closing or the equityholders of the Sponsor and/or any of their respective directors, managers, officers, owners, employees, Affiliates or Representatives (collectively, the “Sponsor Group”) (it being understood and agreed that no Group Company shall be deemed an Affiliate for purposes of this definition) in connection with any dispute, claim, Proceeding or Liability arising out of or relating to this Agreement, any Ancillary Agreement or the Transactions (any such representation, the “SPAC Post-Closing Representation”), notwithstanding its representation (or any continued representation) of any of the SPAC Parties in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and each Party, on behalf of itself and the Waiving Parties, hereby consents thereto and irrevocably waives (and will not assert) any conflict of interest or any objection arising therefrom or relating thereto, even though the interests of the SPAC Post-Closing Representation may be directly adverse to any of the Waiving Parties. Each of the Parties acknowledges and agrees that the foregoing provision applies whether or not Katten provides legal services to any of the SPAC Parties after the Closing Date.

(ii) Each of the Parties, for itself and the Waiving Parties, hereby irrevocably acknowledges and agrees that all communications among Katten (or any other legal counsel that represented any of the SPAC Parties), the SPAC and/or any member of the Sponsor Group made in connection with the negotiation, preparation, execution, delivery and performance under, or any dispute, claim, Proceeding or Liability arising out of or relating to, this Agreement, any Ancillary Agreement or the Transactions or any matter relating to any of the foregoing are privileged communications, and shall remain privileged after the Closing, and the attorney-client privilege and the expectation of client confidence and work product and other immunities belong solely to the SPAC and are exclusively controlled by the SPAC, and shall not pass to or be claimed by any other Party or Waiving Party, other

than the SPAC. From and after the Closing, each Party (other than the SPAC) shall not, and shall cause its Waiving Parties not to, access the same or seek to obtain the same by any process. From and after the Closing, each of the Parties (other than the SPAC), on behalf of itself and the Waiving Parties, irrevocably waives and will not assert any attorney-client privilege or work product or other immunities with respect to any communication among Katten (or any other legal counsel that represented the SPAC), the SPAC and/or any member of the Sponsor Group occurring prior to the Closing in connection with any SPAC Post-Closing Representation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that a dispute arises between any Party or any of its Waiving Parties, on the one hand, and a third party, on the other hand, such Party or its Waiving Party, as applicable, may assert the attorney-client privilege or work product or other immunities to prevent disclosure of confidential communications to such third party; provided, however, that no Party (or its Waiving Party) may waive such privilege or other immunity without the prior written consent of the SPAC.

Section 11.17 Acknowledgements.

(a) The Company. The Company specifically acknowledges and agrees to the SPAC's disclaimers of any representations or warranties other than those set forth in (i) Article IV, any Ancillary Agreement to which any of the SPAC Parties is a party, or (ii) any certificate delivered by any of the SPAC Parties pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement, whether made by one (1) of the SPAC Parties or any of their respective Affiliates or Representatives, and of all Liability and responsibility for any representation, warranty, projection, forecast, statement or information made, communicated or furnished (orally or in writing) to the Company, any of its Affiliates or any of its Representatives (including any opinion, information, projection or advice that may have been or may be provided to the Company, any of its Affiliates or any of its Representatives by either of the SPAC Parties or any of their respective Affiliates or Representatives), other than those set forth in (x) Article IV, (y) any Ancillary Agreement to which any of the SPAC Parties is a party, or (z) any certificate delivered by any of the SPAC Parties pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement. The Company (I) specifically acknowledges and agrees that, except for the representations and warranties set forth in (A) Article IV, (B) any Ancillary Agreement to which any of the SPAC Parties is a party, or (C) any certificate delivered by any of the SPAC Parties pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement, neither any of the SPAC Parties nor any of their respective Affiliates or Representatives has made any other express or implied representation or warranty with respect to any of the SPAC Parties, any of their respective assets or Liabilities, any of their respective businesses or the Transactions, and (II) with respect to the SPAC Parties, irrevocably and unconditionally waives and relinquishes any and all rights, Proceedings or causes of action (in each case, whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise, known or unknown, or due or to become due, express or implied, in law or in equity, or based on contract, tort or otherwise) based on or relating to any such other representation or warranty.

(b) SPAC. Each SPAC Party specifically acknowledges and agrees to the Company's disclaimer of any representations or warranties other than those set forth in (i) Article III, (ii) any Ancillary Agreement to which any Group Company is party, or (iii) any certificate delivered by any Group Company pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement, whether made by the Company or any of its Affiliates or Representatives, and of all Liability and responsibility for any representation, warranty, projection, forecast, statement or information made, communicated or furnished (orally or in writing) to any of the SPAC Parties or any of their respective Affiliates or Representatives (including any opinion, information, projection or advice that may have been or may be provided to any of the SPAC Parties or any of their respective Affiliates or Representatives by the Company or any of its Affiliates or Representatives), other than those set forth in (x) Article III, (y) any Ancillary Agreement to which any Group Company is party, or (z) any certificate delivered by any Group Company pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement. Each SPAC Party (I) specifically acknowledges and agrees that, except for the representations and warranties set forth in (A) Article III, (B) any Ancillary Agreement to which any Group Company is party, or (C) any certificate delivered by any Group Company pursuant to this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement, neither the Company nor any of its Affiliates or Representatives has made any other express or implied representation or warranty with respect to any Group Company, any of their respective assets or Liabilities or business or the Transactions, and (II) with respect to the Group Companies, irrevocably and unconditionally waives and relinquishes any and all rights or Proceedings (in each case, whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise, known or unknown, or due or to become due, express or implied, in law or in equity, or based on contract, tort or otherwise) based on or relating to any such other representation or warranty.

\* \* \* \* \*

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Each of the undersigned has caused this Business Combination Agreement to be duly executed as of the date first above written.

	SPAC Parties:
	Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I
	By: /s/ Vikas Desai
	Name: Vikas Desai
	Titles: CEO
	Achari Merger Sub, Inc.
	By: /s/ Vikas Desai
	Name: Vikas Desai
	Titles: President
	COMPANY:
	Vaso Corporation
	By: /s/ Jun Ma
	Name: Jun Ma
	Titles: President and CEO

Signature Page to Business Combination Agreement

SIXTH AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

\_\_\_\_\_, 2024

Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (the "Corporation"), DOES HEREBY CERTIFY AS FOLLOWS:

1. The name of the Corporation is "Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I". The original certificate of incorporation of the Corporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on January 25, 2021. The First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on February 8, 2021. The Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on October 14, 2021. A Certificate of Correction of the Corporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on October 19, 2021. The Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on December 22, 2022. The Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on July 12, 2023. The Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation (the "Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate") was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on December 19, 2023. This Sixth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation (this "Certificate") was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on the date first set forth above.
2. This Certificate amends and restates the Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate. This Certificate was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Corporation and the stockholders of the Corporation in accordance with Sections 228, 242 and 245 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, as amended from time to time.
3. This Certificate shall become effective on the date of filing with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware.
4. The text of the Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate is hereby restated and amended in its entirety to read as follows:

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of the corporation is Vaso Holding Corporation.

ARTICLE II REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The address of the Corporation's registered office in the State of Delaware is 1013 Centre Road, Suite 403-B Wilmington, DE 19805, New Castle

County, and the name of the Corporation's registered agent at such address is VCorp Services, LLC.

ARTICLE III

PURPOSES

The purpose of the Corporation is to have all of the powers conferred upon corporations organized under the Delaware General Corporation Law subject to any limitation thereof contained herein or in the laws of the State of Delaware.

ARTICLE IV

CAPITAL STOCK

Section 1. Classes and Shares Authorized. The authorized capital stock of the Corporation shall consist of 110,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (hereinafter referred to as either the "Common Shares" or "Common Stock") of which (i) 100,000,000 shares shall be Class A Common Stock (the "Class A

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Common Stock”) and (ii) 10,000,000 shares shall be Class B Common Stock (the “Class B Common Stock”), and 1,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (hereinafter referred to as either the “Preferred Shares” or “Preferred Stock”).

Section 2. Common Stock

(a) Voting.

(i) Except as otherwise required by law or this Certificate (including any Preferred Stock Designation), the holders of the Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock shall exclusively possess all voting power with respect to the Corporation.

(ii) Except as otherwise required by law or this Certificate, the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock shall be entitled to one vote, and the holders of shares of Class B Common Stock shall be entitled to one hundred votes, for each such share on each matter properly submitted to the stockholders on which the holders of the Common Stock are entitled to vote.

(iii) Except as otherwise required by law or this Certificate, at any annual or special meeting of the stockholders of the Corporation, holders of the Class A Common Stock and holders of the Class B Common Stock, voting together as a single class, shall have the right to vote for the election of directors of the Corporation and on all other matters properly submitted to a vote of the stockholders. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Certificate to the contrary, so long as shares of Class A Common Stock are outstanding and shares of Class B Common Stock are outstanding, the Corporation shall not amend, alter or repeal any provision of this Certificate so as to adversely affect the relative rights, preferences, qualifications, limitations or restrictions of either such class of Common Stock as compared to those of the other class of Common Stock without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of the outstanding shares of each class of Common Stock whose relative rights, preferences, qualifications, limitations or restrictions are so affected.

(b) Dividends. Subject to applicable law, the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock shall be entitled to receive such dividends and other distributions (payable in cash, property or capital stock of the Corporation) when, as and if declared thereon by the Board of Directors from time to time out of any assets or funds of the Corporation legally available therefor and shall share equally on a per share basis in such dividends and distributions.

(c) Liquidation, Dissolution or Winding Up of the Corporation. Subject to applicable law, in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Corporation after payment or provision for payment of the debts and other liabilities of the Corporation, the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock shall be entitled to receive all the remaining assets of the Corporation available for distribution to its stockholders, ratably in proportion to the number of shares of Class A Common Stock held by such holders.

(d) Class B Common Stock.

(i) No Economic Interest. The Class B Common Stock is solely entitled to vote and shall not have any economic interest in the (ii) Right to Convert. Except as otherwise required by law or this Certificate, beginning on the date on which there are no longer any Achari Put Shares (as defined in that certain Put Option Agreement, dated as of the date first set forth above, by and among the Corporation, Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC and Vaso Corporation (the “Put Option Deadline”)) that remain outstanding, each share of Class B Common Stock shall be convertible, at the option of the holder thereof, at any time after the Put Option Deadline, at the office of the Corporation or any transfer agent for such stock, and without the payment of additional consideration by the holder thereof, into one fully paid and nonassessable share of Class A Common Stock.

(iii) Mandatory Conversion. Each share of Class B Common Stock held of record shall automatically, without any further action, convert into one (1) fully paid and nonassessable share of Class A Common Stock at 5:00 p.m. (New York time) on the first calendar day after the five (5) year anniversary of the date on which such share of Class B Common Stock was issued.

(iv) Reservation of Stock Issuable Upon Conversion. The Corporation shall at all times reserve and keep available out of its authorized but unissued shares of Class A Common Stock, solely for the purpose of effecting the conversion of the shares of the Class B Common Stock, such number of its shares of Class A Common

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Stock as shall from time to time be sufficient to effect the conversion of all outstanding shares of such Class B Common Stock; and if at any time the number of authorized but unissued shares of Class A Common Stock shall not be sufficient to effect the conversion of all then outstanding shares of such Class B Common Stock, in addition to such other remedies as shall be available to the holder of such Class B Common Stock, the Corporation will take such corporate action as may, in the opinion of its counsel, be necessary to increase its authorized but unissued shares of Class A Common Stock to such number of shares as shall be sufficient for such purposes, including, without limitation, engaging in best efforts to obtain the requisite stockholder approval of any necessary amendment to this Certificate.

Section 3. Preferred Stock. The shares of Preferred Stock shall be issuable from time to time in one or more series, with respect to each of which series the Board of Directors shall be authorized, without further approval from stockholders of the Corporation, to fix:

- (a) the designation of the series;
- (b) the number of shares of each series, which number the Board of Directors may increase or decrease (but not below the number of shares thereof then outstanding);
- (c) the annual dividend rate of the series;
- (d) the dates at which dividends, if declared, shall be payable and the dates from which the dividends shall be cumulative and the redemption rights, if any, for shares of the series;
- (e) the terms and amount of any sinking fund provided for the purchase or redemption of shares of the series;
- (f) the amounts payable on shares of the series in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Corporation;
- (g) whether the shares of the series shall be convertible into Common Stock or other securities, and, if so, the conversion price or prices, any adjustments thereof, and all other terms and conditions upon which such conversion may be made;
- (h) restrictions on the issuance of the shares of the same series or of any other class or series; and
- (i) the voting rights, if any, exercisable by the holders of the shares of such series.

## ARTICLE V

### PREEMPTIVE RIGHTS

Stockholders of the Corporation shall not have pre-emptive rights to acquire unissued or treasury shares of the Corporation or securities convertible into such shares carrying a right to subscribe or to acquire such shares.

## ARTICLE VI

### PLACE OF BUSINESS

Part or all of the business of the Corporation may be conducted in the City of Wilmington, County of Newcastle, or any other place in the State of Delaware or outside of the State of Delaware, in other states or territories of the United States and in foreign countries.

## ARTICLE VII

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Board of Directors: The governing board of the Corporation shall be known as the Board of Directors, shall consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of nine members, subject, however, to the number being from time to time increased or decreased in such manner as shall be provided in the By-Laws of the Corporation, provided that the number of directors of the Corporation shall not be reduced to less than three.

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Section 2. Classification of Directors. The Board of Directors may but need not be divided into three classes, Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3, each class to be as nearly equal in number as possible. In the event the Corporation elects to adopt a staggered Board of Directors, the term of office of Class 1 directors shall expire at the first annual meeting of stockholders of the Corporation after their election, that of Class 2 directors shall expire at the second annual meeting of stockholders of the Corporation after their election, and that of Class 3 directors shall expire at the third annual meeting of stockholders of the Corporation after their election. At each annual meeting after such classification, the number of directors equal to the number of the class whose term expires at the time of such meeting shall be elected to hold office until the third succeeding annual meeting. No classification of directors shall be effective prior to the first annual meeting of stockholders of the Corporation or at any time when the Board of Directors consists of less than six members. Notwithstanding the foregoing, and except as otherwise required by law, whenever the holders of any one or more series of Preferred Stock shall have the right, voting separately as a class, to elect one or more directors of the Corporation, the terms of the director or directors elected by such holders shall expire at the next succeeding annual meeting of stockholders of the Corporation.

## Section 3. Nomination of Directors

(a) Nominations for the election of directors may be made by the Board of Directors, by a committee of the Board of Directors or by any stockholder entitled to vote for the election of directors. Unless provided otherwise in the By-Laws, nominations by stockholders of the Corporation shall be made by notice, in writing, delivered or mailed by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the Secretary of the Corporation not less than 3 months nor more than 5 months prior to any meeting of the stockholders of the Corporation called for the election of directors.

(b) Each notice under subsection (a) shall set forth: (i) the name, age, business address, and, if known, residence address of each nominee proposed in such notice; (ii) the principal occupation or employment of each such nominee, and (iii) the number of shares of stock of the Corporation which are beneficially owned by each such nominee.

(c) The chair of the stockholders' meeting may, if the facts warrant, determine and declare to the meeting that a nomination was not made in accordance with the foregoing procedure, and if he or she should so determine, he or she shall so declare to the meeting and the defective nomination shall be disregarded.

Section 4. Certain Powers of the Board of Directors. In furtherance and not in limitation of the powers conferred by statute, and subject to the rights of the holders of the Corporation's Preferred Stock, the Board of Directors is expressly authorized:

(a) to manage and govern the Corporation by majority vote of members present at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum shall be present, to make, alter, or amend the By-laws of the Corporation at any regular or special meeting, to fix the amount to be reserved as working capital over and above its capital stock paid in, to authorize and cause to be executed mortgages and liens upon the real and personal property of this Corporation, and to designate one or more of committees, each committee to consist of two or more of the directors of the Corporation, which, to the extent provided in the resolution or in the By-laws of the Corporation, shall have and may exercise the powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the business and affairs of the Corporation (such committee or committees shall have such name or names as may be stated in the By-Laws of the Corporation or as may be determined from time to time by resolution adopted by the Board of Directors);

(b) to sell, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of all of or substantially all of the property and assets of the Corporation in the ordinary course of its business upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may determine without vote or consent of the stockholders;

(c) to sell, pledge, lease, exchange, liquidate or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the property or assets of the Corporation, including its goodwill, if not in the ordinary course of its business, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may determine; provided, however, that such transaction is authorized or ratified by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon at a stockholders' meeting duly called for such purpose, or is authorized or ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation; and, provided further, that any such transaction with any substantial stockholder or affiliate of the Corporation shall be authorized or ratified by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of shares entitled to vote thereon at a stockholders' meeting duly called for that purpose, unless such transaction is with any

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subsidiary of the Corporation or is approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the continuing directors of the Corporation, or is authorized or ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation;

(d) to merge, consolidate or exchange all of the issued and outstanding shares of one or more classes of the Corporation upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may authorize; provided, however, that such merger, consolidation or exchange is approved or ratified by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon at a stockholders' meeting duly called for that purpose, or is authorized or ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation; and provided, further, that any such merger, consolidation or exchange with any substantial stockholder or affiliate of the Corporation shall be authorized or ratified by the vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the shares entitled to vote thereon at a stockholders' meeting duly called for that purpose, unless such merger, consolidation or exchange is with any subsidiary of the Corporation or is approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the continuing directors of the Corporation, or is authorized or ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation; and

(e) to distribute to the stockholders of the Corporation, without the approval of the stockholders, in partial liquidation, out of stated capital or capital surplus of the Corporation, a portion of its assets, in cash or in property, so long as the partial liquidation is in compliance with the Delaware General Corporation Law.

As used in this Section 4, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

(i) an "affiliate" shall mean any person or entity which is an affiliate within the meaning of Rule 125-2 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended;

(ii) a "continuing director" shall mean a director who was elected before the substantial stockholder or affiliate of the Corporation which is to be a party to a proposed transaction within the scope of subsections (c) and (d) of this Section 4 became such a substantial stockholder or affiliate of the Corporation, as the case may be, or is designated at or prior to his or her first election or appointment to the Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors who are continuing directors;

(iii) a "subsidiary" shall mean any corporation in which the Corporation owns the majority of each class of equity security; and

(iv) a "subsidiary stockholder" shall mean any person or entity which is the beneficial owner, within the meaning of Rule 13d3 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, of one or more of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation.

## ARTICLE VIII

### CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Section 1. Related Party Transactions. No contract or other transaction of the Corporation with any other person, firm or corporation, or in which the Corporation is interested, shall be affected or invalidated by (a) the fact that any one or more of the directors or officers of the Corporation is interested in or is a director or officer of such other firm or corporation; or (b) the fact that any director or officer of the Corporation, individually or jointly with others, may be a party to or may be interested in any such contract or transaction, so long as the contract or transaction is authorized, approved or ratified at a meeting of the Board of Directors by sufficient vote thereon by directors not interested therein, to which such fact of relationship or interest has been disclosed, or the contract or transaction has been approved or ratified by vote or written consent of the stockholders entitled to vote, to whom such fact of relationship or interest has been disclosed, or so long as the contract or transaction is fair and reasonable to the Corporation. Each person who may become a director or officer of the Corporation is hereby relieved from any liability that might otherwise arise by reason of his or her contracting with the Corporation for the benefit of himself or herself or any firm or corporation in which he or she may be in any way interested.

Section 2. Corporate Opportunities. The officers, directors and other members of management of the Corporation shall be subject to the doctrine of corporate opportunities only insofar as it applies to business opportunities in which the Corporation has expressed an interest as determined from time to time by resolution of the Board of Directors. When such areas of interest are delineated, all such business opportunities within such areas of interest which come to the attention of the officers, directors and other members of management of the Corporation shall be disclosed

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promptly to the Corporation and made available to it. The Board of Directors may reject any business opportunity so that any officer, director or other member of management may avail himself or herself of such opportunity. Until such time as the Corporation, through the Board of Directors, has designated an area of interest, the officers, directors and other members of management of the Corporation shall be free to engage in such areas of interest on their own, and the provisions hereof shall not limit the rights of any officer, director or other member of management of the Corporation to continue a business existing prior to the time that such area of interest is designated by the Corporation. This provision shall not be construed to release any employee of the Corporation (other than an officer, director or member of management) from any duties which such employee may have to the Corporation.

### ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1. Liability of Directors. No director of the Corporation shall be personally liable to the Corporation or any stockholder of the Corporation for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for any matter in respect of which such director shall be liable under Section 174 of Title 8 of the Delaware Code (relating to the Delaware General Corporation Law) or any amendment thereto or successor provision thereto as shall be liable for reason that, in addition to any and all other requirements for such liability, he or she: (i) shall have breached his or her duty of loyalty to the Corporation or its stockholders; (ii) shall not have acted in good faith, or in failing to act, shall not have acted in good faith; (iii) shall have acted in a manner involving intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law or, in failing to act, shall have acted in a manner involving intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law; or (iv) shall have derived an improper personal benefit. Neither the amendment nor repeal of this Article IX, nor the adoption of any provision of the Certificate inconsistent with this Article IX, shall eliminate or reduce the effect of this Article IX in respect of any matter occurring or any cause of action, suit or claim that, but for this Article IX would accrue or arise, prior to such amendment, repeal or adoption of an inconsistent provision.

Section 2. Insurance. The Board of Directors may exercise the Corporation's power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or agent of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such,

whether or not the Corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under this Article IX.

Section 3. Miscellaneous. The indemnification provided by this Article IX shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under this Certificate, the By-laws, agreements, vote of the stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs and personal representatives of such person.

### ARTICLE X STOCKHOLDERS' MEETINGS

Stockholders' meetings may be held at such time and place as may be stated or fixed in accordance with the By-laws. Except as may be otherwise set out in the By-Laws, at all stockholders' meetings, one-third of all shares entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.

### ARTICLE XI AMENDMENT

This Certificate may be amended by the affirmative vote at a meeting of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon called for that purpose (or, unless the By-Laws provide otherwise, by the lowest percentage permitted under Delaware law) or when such action is ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation.

ARTICLE XII

STOCKHOLDER VOTE

Section 1. Lowering Discretionary Approval Requirements. Whenever the laws of the State of Delaware require the vote or concurrence of the holders of two-thirds of the outstanding shares entitled to vote thereon absent a statement in the applicable certificate of incorporation to the contrary, with respect to any action to be taken by the stockholders of the Corporation, such action may be taken by the vote or concurrence of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon.

Section 2. Written Consent. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any annual or special meeting of the stockholders of the Corporation may be taken without a meeting if a consent or consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, are signed by the holders of outstanding stock having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take such action at a meeting at which all shares entitled to vote thereon were present and voted.

ARTICLE XIII

DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Procedure. The Corporation shall be dissolved upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote thereon at a meeting duly called for that purpose or when authorized or ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation.

Section 2. Revocation. The Corporation shall revoke voluntary dissolution proceedings upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote at a meeting duly called for that purpose or when authorized or ratified by the written consent of the stockholders of the Corporation.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I has caused this Certificate to be duly executed and acknowledged in its name and on its behalf by an authorized officer as of the date first set forth above.

Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I By:

Name:

Title:

SIGNATURE PAGE TO SIXTH AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

Annex B-8

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AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS OF  
VASO HOLDING CORP.  
(formerly: ACHARI VENTURES HOLDINGS CORP. I)

ARTICLE I

STOCKHOLDERS MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the stockholders of Vaso Holding Corp. (f/k/a Achari Ventures Holdings Corp. I), a Delaware corporation (the “**Corporation**”), shall be held at 10:00 o’clock A.M. on the first Tuesday in June of each year, if not a legal holiday, and if a legal holiday, then on the next succeeding day that is not a legal holiday, or at any other time that the board of directors of the Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the “**Board**”) may determine. At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Corporation (the “**Stockholders**”), the Stockholders entitled to vote shall elect the directors to serve on the Board (or, if the directorships are staggered, those directors whose appointment is being voted upon) and transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Stockholders may be called for any purpose at any time by the Board or at the request in writing of Stockholders owning at least forty percent (40%) of the total number of outstanding shares of any class of capital stock of the Corporation as determined by voting power.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings. Notice of the place, date and time of each annual and special meeting of Stockholders and, in the case of a special meeting, the purposes thereof, shall be given personally or by first-class prepaid mail to each Stockholder entitled to vote at such meeting, not less than ten (10) and not more than fifty (50) days before the date of such meeting. If mailed, such notice shall be directed to each Stockholder at the address of such person or entity (either, a “**Person**”) as it appears on the stock records of the Corporation, unless such Person shall have filed with the Secretary of the Corporation a written request that notices thereto be mailed to some other address, in which case, it shall be directed thereto at such other address. Notice of any meeting of Stockholders need not be given to any Stockholder who shall attend such meeting in person or by proxy and shall not, at the beginning of such meeting, object to the transaction of any business before such meeting because such meeting is not lawfully called or convened, or who shall, either before or after such meeting, submit a signed waiver of notice, in person or by proxy. Unless the Board shall fix after an adjournment a new record date for an adjourned meeting, notice of such adjourned meeting need not be given if the time and place to which such meeting shall be adjourned is announced at the meeting at which the adjournment is taken. At the adjourned meeting, the Corporation may transact any business which might have been transacted at the original meeting. If the adjournment is for more than thirty (30) days, or if, after the adjournment, a new record date is fixed for the adjourned meeting, a notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given to each Stockholder of record entitled to vote at the meeting.

Section 4. Place of Meetings. Meetings of the Stockholders may be held at such place, within or without the state of Delaware, as the Board or the officer or other authority calling the same shall specify in the notice of such meeting or in a duly executed waiver of notice thereof.

Section 5. Quorum. At all meetings of the Stockholders, the holders of one-third (1/3) of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation (of all classes) entitled to vote and as determined by voting power shall be present in person or by proxy to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. In the absence of a quorum, the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote, or, if no Stockholder entitled to vote is present, then the President or in his or her absence any other officer of the Corporation, may adjourn the meeting from time to time. At any such adjourned meeting at which a quorum may be present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called.

Section 6. Organization. At each meeting of the Stockholders, the chair of the meeting, or in the chair’s absence or inability to act, the President, or in the absence of both of them, any person chosen by a majority of those Stockholders present, shall act as chair of the meeting. The Secretary, or in his or her absence or inability to act, or any person appointed by the chair of the meeting shall act as secretary of the meeting and keep the minutes thereof.

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Section 7. Order of Business. The order of business at all meetings of the Stockholders shall be determined by the chair of the meeting.

Section 8. Voting. Except as otherwise provided by statute or the Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation (as in effect from time to time, the “**Charter**”), each holder of record of shares of stock of the Corporation having voting power shall be entitled at each meeting of the Stockholders to one vote for every share or stock standing in such Person’s name on the record of stockholders of the Corporation on the date fixed for the determination of the Stockholders who shall be entitled to notice of and to vote at such meeting. Each Stockholder entitled to vote at any meeting may authorize another Person to act for the same by a proxy signed by such Stockholder or such Person’s attorney in fact and delivered to the secretary of the meeting at or prior to the time designated in the order of business for so delivering such proxies. No proxy shall be valid after the expiration of three (3) months from the date thereof, unless otherwise provided in the proxy. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the Stockholder executing it, except in those cases in which it is designated as irrevocable and an irrevocable proxy is permitted by law. Except as otherwise provided by statute, these Amended and Restated By-Laws (these “**By-Laws**”) or the Charter, any corporate action to be taken by a vote of the Stockholders shall be authorized by a majority of the total votes cast by the holders of shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on such action. Unless required by statute or determined by the chair of the meeting to be advisable, the vote on any question required need not be by written ballot. On a vote by written ballot, each ballot shall be signed by the Stockholder voting or by such Person’s proxy and shall state the number of shares voted.

Section 9. List of Stockholders. The officer who has charge of the stock ledger of the Corporation shall prepare and make, at least ten days before every meeting of Stockholders, a complete list of Stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting, arranged in alphabetical order, and showing the address of each Stockholder and the number of shares registered in such Person’s name. The list shall be produced and kept at the meeting to resolve any questions relating to the voting rights of any Stockholder.

Section 10. Inspectors. The Board may, in advance of any meeting of Stockholders, appoint one or more inspectors to act at such meeting or any adjournment thereof. If the inspectors shall not be so appointed or if any of them fails to appear or act, the chair of the meeting may, and on request of any Stockholder entitled to vote thereat shall, appoint inspectors. Each inspector, before entering upon the discharge of his or her duties, shall take and sign an oath faithfully to execute the duties of inspector at such meeting with strict impartiality and according to the best of his or her ability. The inspectors shall determine the number of shares outstanding and the voting power of each, the number of shares represented at the meeting, the existence of a quorum and the validity and effect of proxies, and shall receive votes, ballots or consents, determine the result, and do such acts as are proper to conduct the election or vote with fairness to all Stockholders. On request of the chair of the meeting or any Stockholder entitled to vote thereat, the inspectors shall make a report in writing of any challenge, request or matter determined by them and shall execute a certificate of any fact found by them. No director or candidate for the office of director shall serve as inspector of an election of directors. Inspectors need not be Stockholders.

Section 11. Action Without Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Stockholders (including the annual meeting) may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, be taken without a meeting with the written consent of the holders of record of that number of outstanding shares of the Corporation which is then required to authorize such action, provided that such written consent shall be filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Stockholders, and provided further that written notice of such action shall be given as required by law to all nonconsenting Stockholders.

## ARTICLE II

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. General Powers. The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board. The Board may exercise all such authority and powers of the Corporation and conduct all such lawful acts and things as are not by statute or the Charter required to be exercised or done by the Stockholders.

Section 2. Number, Qualifications, Election and Term of Office. The Board shall determine how many directors serve on the Board, provided that the Board consists of a minimum of three directors. Thereafter, the number of directors shall be determined by a majority vote of the entire Board (or its Nominating Committee, if one exists, duly empowered for this purpose) or by amendment of these By-Laws. All directors shall be of legal age.  
Directors

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need not be Stockholders. The directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of Stockholders or, if action by the Stockholders without a meeting is permitted by applicable law, the directors may be elected by consent of the holders of that number which would be sufficient to elect the directors at the annual meeting. Each director shall hold office until the next annual meeting of Stockholders and until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and qualified or until his or her death, resignation or removal.

Section 3. Place of Meetings. Meetings of the Board may be held at such place, within or without the State of Delaware, as the Board may from time to time determine or as shall be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting. Any or all directors may participate in any meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other, and participation in a meeting by such means shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

Section 4. First Meeting. The Board shall meet for the purpose of organization, the election of officers and the transaction of other business, as soon as practicable after each annual meeting of Stockholders, on the same day and at the same place where such annual meeting shall be held. Notice of such meeting need not be given.

Section 5. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at such time and place as the Board may from time to time determine. If any day fixed for a regular meeting shall be a legal holiday at the place where the meeting is to be held, then the meeting which would otherwise be held on that day shall be held at the same hour on the next succeeding business day. Notice of regular meetings of the Board need not be given except as otherwise required by statute or these By-Laws.

Section 6. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair of the Board, the President or a majority of the directors.

Section 7. Notice of Meetings. Notice of each special meeting (and of each regular meeting for which notice shall be required) shall be given by the Secretary as hereinafter provided in this Section 7, in which notice shall be stated the time and the place (within or without the State of Delaware) of the meeting. Notice of each meeting shall be delivered to each director either personally or by telephone or email at least twenty-four (24) hours before the time at which such meeting is to be held or by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to each director at such director's residence, or usual place of business, at least three days before the day on which such meeting is to be held. Notice of any such meeting need not be given to any director who shall, either before or after the meeting, submit a signed waiver of notice or who shall attend such meeting without protesting, prior to or at its commencement, the lack of notice to him or her. Except as otherwise specifically required by statute or the Charter or these By-Laws, a notice or waiver of notice of any regular or special meeting need not state the purposes of such meeting.

Section 8. Quorum and Manner of Acting. A majority of the entire Board shall be present in person at any meeting of the Board in order to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at such meeting and, except as otherwise expressly required by statute, the Charter or these By-Laws, the act of a majority of the directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board. In the absence of a quorum at any meeting of the Board, a majority of the directors present thereat, or if no director be present, the Secretary, may adjourn such meeting to another time and place, or such meeting, unless it be the first meeting of the Board, need not be held. At any adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called. Except as provided in Article III of these By-Laws, the directors shall act only as a Board and the individual directors shall have no power as such.

Section 9. Organization. At each meeting of the Board, the Chair of the Board or, in the Chair's absence or inability to act, the President or in the absence of both of them, any director chosen by a majority of the directors present shall act as chair of the meeting and preside thereat. The Secretary or, in his or her absence or inability to act, any person appointed by the chair of the meeting shall act as secretary of the meeting and keep the minutes thereof.

Section 10. Resignations. Any director of the Corporation may resign at any time by giving written notice of such director's resignation to the Chair of the Board or the Secretary. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if the time when it shall become effective shall not be specified therein, immediately upon its receipt, and, unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

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Section 11. Vacancies. Vacancies and newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors may be filled by a majority of the directors then in office, though less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director, and the directors so chosen shall hold office, unless sooner removed, until the next annual election and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. If there are no directors in office, then an election of directors may be held in the manner provided in these By-Laws. When one or more directors shall resign from the Board, effective at a future date, a majority of directors then in office, including those who have so resigned, shall have the power to fill such vacancy or vacancies, the vote thereon to take effect when such resignation or resignations shall become effective, and each director so chosen shall hold office as provided in this section in the filling of other vacancies.

Section 12. Removal of Directors. Except as otherwise provided in the Charter or in these By-Laws, any director may be removed, either with or without cause, at any time, by the affirmative vote of the holders of record of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total number of shares of stock of the Corporation issued and outstanding, taken at a special meeting of the Stockholders called and held for that purpose, or by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the directors then in office, and the vacancy in the Board caused by any such removal may be filled by the remaining directors or, if removal shall have been effected by a vote of the Stockholders, by the Stockholders.

Section 13. Compensation. The Board (or its duly appointed committee) shall have authority to fix the compensation, including fees and reimbursement of expenses, of directors for services to the Corporation in any capacity, provided no such payment shall preclude any director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefor.

Section 14. Action Without Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board consent thereto in writing. Such writing or writings shall be filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Board.

## ARTICLE III

### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMITTEES

Section 1. Executive and Other Committees. The Board may, by resolution passed by a majority of the Board, designate one or more committees, each committee to consist of one or more of the directors of the Corporation. The Board may designate one or more directors as alternate members of any committee, who may replace any absent or disqualified member at any meeting of the committee; provided, however, that in the absence or disqualification of any member of such committee or committees, the member or members thereof present at any meeting and not disqualified from voting, whether or not he, she or they constitute a quorum, may unanimously appoint another member of the Board to act at the meeting in the place of any such absent or disqualified member. Any member of any committee, or any alternate or substitute member of any committee, may participate in any meeting of such committee by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other, and participation in a meeting by such means shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. Any such committee, to the extent provided in the resolutions creating the same, shall have and may exercise the powers of the Board in the management of the business and affairs of the Corporation and may authorize the seal of the Corporation to be affixed to all papers which may require it, but no such committee shall have the power or authority to amend the Charter, adopt an agreement of merger or consolidation, recommend to the Stockholders the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the Corporation's property and assets, recommend to the Stockholders a dissolution of the Corporation or a revocation of a dissolution or amend the By-Laws, and, unless the resolution creating the same so provides, no such committee shall have the power or authority to declare a dividend or to authorize the issuance of stock. Each committee shall keep written minutes of its proceedings and shall report such minutes to the Board when required. All such proceedings shall be subject to alteration or revision by the Board; provided, however, that third parties shall not be prejudiced by such revision or alteration.

Section 2. General. A majority of the members of any committee may determine its action and fix the time and place of its meetings and the manner of giving notice, if any, of regular meetings thereof unless the Board shall otherwise provide. Notice of each special meeting of any committee shall be given to each member of the committee in the manner provided for in [Article II, Section 7](#). Unless the Board shall otherwise provide, any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of any committee may be taken without a meeting if all of the members of any such committee consent thereto in writing, such writing or writings to be filed with the minutes of proceedings

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of such committee. The Board shall have the power at any time to fill vacancies in, to change the membership of or to dissolve any such committee. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent the Board from appointing one or more committees consisting in whole or in part of persons who are not directors of the Corporation provided, however, that no such committee shall have or may exercise any authority of the Board.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. Number and Qualifications. The officers of the Corporation may include the Chair of the Board, if a Chair shall be elected, and shall include the President, one or more Vice Presidents (one of whom may be designated Executive Vice President), the Treasurer and the Secretary, any two or more offices may be held by the same person, but the same person shall not be both President and Secretary. Such officers shall be elected from time to time by the Board, each to hold office until the meeting of the Board following the next annual meeting of the Stockholders, or until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified, or until his or her death, or until he or she shall have resigned, or shall have been removed, as herein provided in these By-Laws, but no such election shall of itself create contract rights in any such officer. The Board may, from time to time, elect, or the President may appoint, such other officers (including one or more Assistant Vice Presidents, Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers) and such agents, as may be necessary or desirable for the business of the Corporation. Such other officers and agents shall have such duties and shall hold their respective offices for such terms as may be prescribed by the electing or appointing authority.

Section 2. Resignations. Any officer of the Corporation may resign at any time by giving written notice of his or her resignation to the Board, the President or the Secretary. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if the time when it shall become effective shall not be specified therein, immediately upon its receipt, and, unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 3. Removal. Any officer or agent of the Corporation may be removed, either with or without cause, at any time, by the vote of the majority of the entire Board at any meeting of the Board or, except in the case of an officer or agent elected or appointed by the Board, by the Chair of the Board or the President. Such removal shall be without prejudice to the contractual rights, if any, of the person so removed.

Section 4. Vacancies. A vacancy in any office, whether arising from death, resignation, removal or any other cause, may be filled for the unexpired portion of the term of the office, which shall be vacant in the manner prescribed in these By-Laws for the regular election to such office.

Section 5. The Chair. If a Chair shall be elected, the Chair shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall have supervision and direction over the President and all other officers, agents and employees of the Corporation. The Chair shall preside, if present, at each meeting of the Board and Stockholders and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Board. The Chair shall perform all duties incident to the office of Chair and chief executive officer and pursue other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board or these By-Laws. If no Chair shall be elected, the President shall have the privileges and responsibilities set forth in this Section 5.

Section 6. The President. The President shall be the chief operating and administrative officer of the Corporation and shall have general and active management of the day-to-day business of the Corporation and general and active supervision and direction over the other officers, agents and employees of the Corporation and shall see that their respective duties are properly performed, subject, however, to the control of the Chair. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Board and shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and chief operating and administrative officer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board or the Chair or by these By-Laws.

Section 7. Vice Presidents. Each Vice President shall have such powers and perform all such duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board or the President.

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Section 8. Treasurer. The Treasurer (or Chief Financial Officer) shall:

- (a) have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all the funds and securities of the Corporation;
- (b) keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Corporation and have control of all books of account of the Corporation;
- (c) cause all moneys and other valuables to be deposited to the credit of the Corporation in such depositories as may be designated by the Board;
- (d) receive, and give receipts for, moneys due and payable to the Corporation from any source whatsoever;
- (e) disburse the funds of the Corporation and supervise the investment of its funds as ordered or authorized by the Board;
- (f) render to the President (and the Board whenever the Board may require) an account of the financial condition of the Corporation; and
- (g) in general, perform all of the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board or the President.

Section 9. Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- (a) keep or cause to be kept, in one or more books provided for this purpose, the minutes of all meetings of the Board, the committees of the Board and the Stockholders;
- (b) see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws and as required by law;
- (c) be custodian of the records and the seal of the Corporation and affix and attest the seal to all stock certificates of the Corporation, if any (unless the seal of the Corporation on such certificates shall be a facsimile, as hereinafter provided), and affix and attest the seal to all other documents to be executed on behalf of the Corporation under its seal;
- (d) see that the books, reports, statements, certificates and other documents and records required by law to be kept and filed are properly kept and filed; and
- (e) in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board or the President.

Section 10. Compensation. The compensation of the officers of the Corporation for their respective services as such officers shall be fixed from time to time by the Board (or its duly appointed committee); provided, however, that the Board may delegate to the President the power to fix the compensation of officers and agents appointed by the President. An officer of the Corporation shall not be prevented from receiving compensation by reason of the fact that he or she is also a director of the Corporation.

## ARTICLE V

### INDEMNIFICATION

In the discretion of the Board, the Corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (including any action by or in the right of the Corporation) by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprises, against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually incurred by him or her in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, but only to the extent permitted under the laws of Delaware. Except as otherwise provided by the laws of Delaware (and then only to the extent so provided), the Corporation shall not be required to indemnify any person.

## ARTICLE VI

### CONTRACTS, CHECKS, BANK ACCOUNTS, ETC.

Section 1. Execution of Contracts. Except as otherwise required by statute, the Charter or these By-Laws, any contract or other instrument may be executed and delivered in the name and on behalf of the Corporation by such officer or officers (including any assistant officer) of the Corporation as the Board may from time to time direct, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances as the Board may determine.

Section 2. Loans. No officer shall effect loans or advances for the Corporation from any bank, trust company or other institution, or from any firm, corporation or individual, or on account of such loans make, execute or deliver any promissory note, bond or other evidence of indebtedness of the Corporation, or mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or transfer, other than in the ordinary course of business of the Corporation, any securities or other property of the Corporation, except when authorized by the Board.

Section 3. Checks, Drafts, etc. All checks, drafts, bills of exchange and other orders for the payment of money out of the funds of the Corporation, and all notes or other evidence of indebtedness of the Corporation, shall be signed in the name and on behalf of the Corporation by such persons as shall from time to time be authorized by the Board.

Section 4. Deposits. All funds of the Corporation not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board may from time to time designate or as may be designated by any officer or officers of the Corporation to whom such power of designation may from time to time be delegated by the Board. For the purpose of deposit and for the purpose of collection for the account of the Corporation, checks, drafts and other orders for the payment of money which are payable to the order of the Corporation may be endorsed, assigned and delivered by any officer or agent of the Corporation, or in such other manner as the Board may determine by resolution.

Section 5. General and Special Financial Accounts. The Board may from time to time authorize the opening and keeping of general and special accounts with such banks, trust companies or other depositories, and with such brokerage firms and other financial institutions, as the Board may designate or as may be designated by any officer or officers of the Corporation to whom such power of designation may from time to time be delegated by the Board. The Board may make such special rules and regulations with respect to such accounts, not inconsistent with the provisions of these By-Laws, as it may deem expedient.

Section 6. Proxies. The President, or any agent that the President may from time to time appoint, may, in the name and on behalf of the Corporation, cast the votes which the Corporation may be entitled to cast at meetings of the holders of the stock or other securities of other corporations or entities, or consent in writing, in the name of the Corporation as such holder, to any action by other corporations or entities, and, in the case of an agent appointed by the President, may instruct the agent so appointed as to the manner of casting such votes or giving such consent, and may execute or cause to be executed, in the name and on behalf of the Corporation and under its corporate seal or otherwise, all such written waivers, proxies or other instruments as may be deemed necessary or proper in the premises.

## ARTICLE VII

### SHARES, ETC.

Section 1. Stock Certificates. Each holder of stock of the Corporation shall be entitled (but not required) to have a certificate, in such form as shall be approved by the Board, certifying the number of shares of stock of the Corporation owned by such Person. The certificates representing shares of stock of the Corporation shall be signed in the name of the Corporation by the President and by the Secretary and sealed with the seal of the Corporation (which seal may be a facsimile, engraved or printed). Where any such certificate is countersigned by a transfer agent other than the Corporation or one of its employees or is registered by a registrar other than the Corporation or one of its employees, the signature of the officers of the Corporation upon such certificates may be facsimiles, engraved or printed. In case any officer, transfer agent or registrar who shall have signed or whose facsimile signature shall have been placed upon such certificates shall have ceased to be such officer, transfer agent or registrar before such certificates shall be issued, they may nevertheless be issued by the Corporation with the same effect as if such officer, transfer agent or registrar were still in office at the date of their respective issue.

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Notwithstanding anything herein contained to the contrary, the Corporation may issue shares of its stock in uncertificated or book-entry form. In such event, the Corporation's transfer agent and registrar shall keep appropriate records indicating (a) the person to whom such uncertificated shares of stock were issued, (b) the number, class and designation of series, if any, of shares of stock held by such person and (c) other information deemed relevant to the Corporation.

Section 2. Books of Account and Record of Stockholders. The books and records of the Corporation may be kept at such places within or without the State of Delaware as the Board may from time to time determine and the stock record books and the blank stock certificate books shall be kept by the Secretary or by any other officer or agent designated by the Board.

Section 3. Regulations. The Board may make such additional rules and regulations, not inconsistent with these By-laws, as it may deem expedient concerning the issue, transfer and registration of certificates for shares of stock of the Corporation. It may appoint, or authorize any officer or officers to appoint, one or more transfer agents, transfer clerks or registrars, and may require all certificates for shares of stock to bear the signature or signatures of any of them.

Section 4. Lost, Destroyed or Mutilated Certificates. The holder of any certificate representing shares of stock of the Corporation shall immediately notify the Corporation of any loss, destruction or mutilation of such certificate, and the Corporation may issue a new certificate in the place of any certificate theretofore issued by it which the owner thereof shall allege to have been lost, stolen or destroyed or which shall have been mutilated, and the Board may, in its discretion, require such owner or such Person's legal representatives to give to the Corporation a bond in such sum, limited or unlimited, and in such form and with such surety or sureties as the Board in its absolute discretion shall determine, to indemnify the Corporation against any claim that may be made against it on account of the alleged loss, theft or destruction of any such certificate, or the issuance of a new certificate. Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the Board, in its absolute discretion, may refuse to issue any such new certificate except pursuant to legal proceedings under the laws of the State of Delaware.

Section 5. Fixing of Record Date. In order that the Corporation may determine the Stockholders entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of Stockholders or any adjournment thereof, or to express consent to corporate action in writing without a meeting, or entitled to receive payment of any dividend or other distribution or allotment of any rights, or entitled to exercise any rights in respect of any change, conversion or exchange of stock or for the purpose of any other lawful action, the Board may fix, in advance, a record date, which shall not be more than sixty (60) nor less than ten (10) days before the date of such meeting, nor more than sixty (60) days prior to any other action. If no record date is fixed: (1) the record date for determining Stockholders entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of Stockholders shall be the close of business on the date next preceding the day on which notice is given, or, if notice is waived, at the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which the meeting is held, (2) the record date for determining Stockholders entitled to express consent to corporate action in writing without a meeting, when no prior action by the Board is necessary, shall be the day on which the first written consent is executed, and (3) the record date for determining Stockholders for any other purpose shall be the close of business on the day on which the Board adopts the resolution relating thereto. A determination of Stockholders of record entitled to notice of or to vote at a meeting of Stockholders shall apply to any adjournment of the meeting; provided, however, that the Board may fix a new record date for the adjourned meeting.

## ARTICLE VIII

### OFFICES

The Corporation may also have an office or offices other than its registered office at such place or places, either within or without the State of Delaware, as the Board shall from time to time determine or the business of the Corporation may require.

ARTICLE IX

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be determined by the Board.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended or repealed or new by-laws may be adopted at any annual or special meeting of the Stockholders by a majority of the total votes of the Stockholders present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on such action; provided, however, that the notice of such meeting shall have been given as provided in these By-Laws. These By-Laws may also be amended or repealed or new by-laws may be adopted by the Board at any meeting thereof; provided, however, that notice of such meeting shall have been given as provided in these By-Laws; and provided further, however, that the by-laws adopted by the Board may be amended or repealed by the Stockholders as hereinabove provided.

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**VASO HOLDING CORPORATION  
(F/K/A ACHARI VENTURES HOLDING CORP. I)  
2024 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN**

1. *Purpose.* The purpose of the Vaso Holding Corporation, 2024 Equity Incentive Plan is to provide a means through which Vaso Holding Corporation, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (the “Company”) and its Affiliates (as defined herein) may attract and retain key personnel and to provide a means whereby directors, officers, managers, employees, consultants, and advisors (and prospective directors, officers, managers, employees, consultants, and advisors) of the Company and its Affiliates can acquire and maintain an equity interest in the Company, or be paid incentive compensation, which may (but need not) be measured by reference to the value of the Common Stock (as defined herein), thereby strengthening their commitment to the welfare of the Company and its Affiliates and aligning their interests with those of the Company’s stockholders.

2. *Definitions.* The following definitions shall be applicable throughout this Plan:

(a) “Affiliate” means (i) any person or entity that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the Company and/or (ii) to the extent provided by the Committee, any person or entity in which the Company has a significant interest as determined by the Committee in its discretion. The term “control” (including, with correlative meaning, the terms “controlled by” and “under common control with”), as applied to any person or entity, means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of such person or entity, whether through the ownership of voting or other securities, by contract or otherwise.

(b) “Award” means, individually or collectively, any Incentive Stock Option, Nonqualified Stock Option, Stock Appreciation Right, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Unit, Stock Bonus Award and Performance Compensation Award granted under this Plan.

(c) “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Company.

(d) “Business Combination” has the meaning given such term in the definition of “Change in Control.”

(e) “Business Day” means any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in New York, New York are authorized or obligated by federal law or executive order to be closed.

(f) “Cause” means, in the case of a particular Award, unless the applicable Award agreement states otherwise, (i) the Company or an Affiliate having “cause” to terminate a Participant’s employment or service, as defined in any employment or consulting agreement or similar document or policy between the Participant and the Company or an Affiliate in effect at the time of such termination or (ii) in the absence of any such employment or consulting agreement, document or policy (or the absence of any definition of “Cause” contained therein), (A) a continuing material breach or material default (including, without limitation, any material dereliction of duty) by Participant of any agreement between the Participant and the Company, except for any such breach or default which is caused by the physical disability of the Participant (as determined by a neutral physician), or a continuing failure by the Participant to follow the direction of a duly authorized representative of the Company; (B) gross negligence, willful misfeasance or breach of fiduciary duty by the Participant; (C) the commission by the Participant of an act of fraud, embezzlement, misappropriation of the Company or its Affiliate’s assets or any felony or other crime of dishonesty in connection with the Participant’s duties; (D) conviction of the Participant of a felony or any other crime that would materially and adversely affect: (i) the business reputation of the Company or (ii) the performance of the Participant’s duties to the Company, or (E) failure by a Participant to follow the lawful directions of a superior officer or the Board. Any determination of whether Cause exists shall be made by the Committee in its sole discretion.

(g) “Change in Control” shall, in the case of a particular Award, unless the applicable Award agreement states otherwise or contains a different definition of “Change in Control,” be deemed to occur upon:

(i) An acquisition (whether directly from the Company or otherwise) of any voting securities of the Company (the “Voting Securities”) by any “Person” (as the term person is used for purposes of Section 13(d) or 14(d) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”)), immediately after which such Person has ownership of more than two thirds (2/3) of the combined voting power of the Company’s then outstanding Voting Securities.

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(ii) The individuals who constitute the members of the Board cease, by reason of a financing, merger, combination, acquisition, takeover or other non-ordinary course transaction affecting the Company, to constitute at least forty percent (40%) of the members of the Board; or

(iii) The consummation of any of the following events:

(A) A merger, consolidation or reorganization involving the Company, where either or both of the events described in clauses (i) or (ii) above would be the result;

(B) A liquidation or dissolution of or appointment of a receiver, rehabilitator, conservator or similar person for, or the filing by a third party of an involuntary bankruptcy against, the Company; provided, however, that to the extent necessary to comply with Section 409A of the Code, the occurrence of an event described in this subsection (B) shall not permit the settlement of Restricted Stock Units granted under this Plan; or

(C) An agreement for the sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company to any Person (other than a transfer to a subsidiary of the Company).

(h) “Closing Price” means (A) during such time as the Common Shares are registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, the closing price of the Common Shares as reported by an established stock exchange or automated quotation system on the day for which such value is to be determined, or, if no sale of the Common Shares shall have been made on any such stock exchange or automated quotation system that day, on the next preceding day on which there was a sale of such Common Shares, or (B) during any such time as the Common Shares are not listed upon an established stock exchange or automated quotation system, the mean between dealer “bid” and “ask” prices of the Common Shares in the over-the-counter market on the day for which such value is to be determined, as reported by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., or (C) during any such time as the Common Shares cannot be valued pursuant to (A) or (B) above, the fair market value shall be as determined by the Committee considering all relevant information including, by example and not by limitation, the services of an independent appraiser.

(i) “Code” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any successor thereto. References in this Plan to any section of the Code shall be deemed to include any regulations or other interpretative guidance under such section, and any amendments or successor provisions to such section, regulations or guidance.

(j) “Committee” means a committee of at least two people as the Board may appoint to administer this Plan or, if no such committee has been appointed by the Board, the Board. Unless altered by an action of the Board of the Company, the Committee shall be the fard.

(k) “Common Shares” means the Class A common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, of the Company (and any stock or other securities into which such common shares may be converted or into which they may be exchanged).

(l) “Company” means Vaso Holding Corporation (formerly Achari Ventures Holding Corp. I), a Delaware corporation, together with its successors and assigns.

(m) “Date of Grant” means the date on which the granting of an Award is authorized, or such other date as may be specified in such authorization.

(n) “Disability” means a “permanent and total” disability incurred by a Participant while in the employ of the Company or an Affiliate. For this purpose, a permanent and total disability shall mean that the Participant is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve (12) months.

(o) “Effective Date” means the date when the Plan is adopted by the Board.

(p) “Eligible Director” means a person who is (i) a “non-employee director” within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act, and (ii) an “outside director” within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code.

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(q) “Eligible Person” means any (i) individual employed by the Company or an Affiliate; *provided, however*, that no such employee covered by a collective bargaining agreement shall be an Eligible Person unless and to the extent that such eligibility is set forth in such collective bargaining agreement or in an agreement or instrument relating thereto; (ii) director of the Company or an Affiliate; (iii) consultant or advisor to the Company or an Affiliate, provided that if the Securities Act applies such persons must be eligible to be offered securities registrable on Form S-8 under the Securities Act; or (iv) prospective employees, directors, officers, consultants or advisors who have accepted offers of employment or consultancy from the Company or its Affiliates (and would satisfy the provisions of clauses (i) through (iii) above once he or she begins employment with or begins providing services to the Company or its Affiliates).

(r) “Exchange Act” has the meaning given such term in the definition of “Change in Control,” and any reference in this Plan to any section of (or rule promulgated under) the Exchange Act shall be deemed to include any rules, regulations or other interpretative guidance under such section or rule, and any amendments or successor provisions to such section, rules, regulations or guidance.

(s) “Exercise Price” has the meaning given such term in Section 7(b) of this Plan.

(t) “Fair Market Value”, unless otherwise provided by the Committee in accordance with all applicable laws, rules regulations and standards, means, on a given date, (i) if the Common Shares (A) are listed on a national securities exchange or (B) are not listed on a national securities exchange, but is quoted by the OTC Markets Group, Inc. (www.otcm Markets.com) or any successor or alternative recognized over-the-counter market or another inter-dealer quotation system, on a last sale basis, the average selling price of the Common Shares reported on such national securities exchange or other inter-dealer quotation system, determined as the arithmetic mean of such selling prices over the thirty (30)-Business Day period preceding the Date of Grant, weighted based on the volume of trading of such Common Shares on each trading day during such period; or (ii) if the Common Shares are not listed on a national securities exchange or quoted in an inter-dealer quotation system on a last sale basis, the amount determined by the Committee in good faith to be the fair market value of the Common Shares.

(u) “Immediate Family Members” shall have the meaning set forth in Section 15(b) of this Plan.

(v) “Incentive Stock Option” means an Option that is designated by the Committee as an incentive stock option as described in Section 422 of the Code and otherwise meets the requirements set forth in this Plan.

(w) “Indemnifiable Person” shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4(e) of this Plan.

(x) “Intellectual Property Products” shall have the meaning set forth in Section 15(c) of this Plan.

(y) “Mature Shares” means Common Shares owned by a Participant that are not subject to any pledge or security interest and that have been either previously acquired by the Participant on the open market or meet such other requirements, if any, as the Committee may determine are necessary in order to avoid an accounting earnings charge on account of the use of such shares to pay the Exercise Price or satisfy a withholding obligation of the Participant.

(z) “Negative Discretion” shall mean the discretion authorized by this Plan to be applied by the Committee to eliminate or reduce the size of a Performance Compensation Award consistent with Section 162(m) of the Code.

(aa) “Nonqualified Stock Option” means an Option that is not designated by the Committee as an Incentive Stock Option.

(bb) “Option” means an Award granted under Section 7 of this Plan.

(cc) “Option Period” has the meaning given such term in Section 7(c) of this Plan.

(dd) “Outstanding Company Common Shares” has the meaning given such term in the definition of “Change in Control.”

(ee) “Outstanding Company Voting Securities” has the meaning given such term in the definition of “Change in Control.”

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(ff) “Participant” means an Eligible Person who has been selected by the Committee to participate in this Plan and to receive an Award pursuant to Section 6 of this Plan.

(gg) “Performance Compensation Award” shall mean any Award designated by the Committee as a Performance Compensation Award pursuant to Section 11 of this Plan.

(hh) “Performance Criteria” shall mean the criterion or criteria that the Committee shall select for purposes of establishing the Performance Goal(s) for a Performance Period with respect to any Performance Compensation Award under this Plan.

(ii) “Performance Formula” shall mean, for a Performance Period, the one or more objective formulae applied against the relevant Performance Goal to determine, with regard to the Performance Compensation Award of a particular Participant, whether all, some portion but less than all, or none of the Performance Compensation Award has been earned for the Performance Period.

(jj) “Performance Goals” shall mean, for a Performance Period, the one or more goals established by the Committee for the Performance Period based upon the Performance Criteria.

(kk) “Performance Period” shall mean the one or more periods of time, as the Committee may select, over which the attainment of one or more Performance Goals will be measured for the purpose of determining a Participant’s right to, and the payment of, a Performance Compensation Award.

(ll) “Permitted Transferee” shall have the meaning set forth in Section 15(b) of this Plan.

(mm) “Person” has the meaning given such term in the definition of “Change in Control.”

(nn) “Plan” means this Vaso Holding Corporation, 2024 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended from time to time.

(oo) “Retirement” means the fulfillment of each of the following conditions: (i) the Participant is good standing with the Company as determined by the Committee; (ii) the voluntary termination by a Participant of such Participant’s employment or service to the Company and (B) that at the time of such voluntary termination, the sum of: (1) the Participant’s age (calculated to the nearest month, with any resulting fraction of a year being calculated as the number of months in the year divided by 12) and (2) the Participant’s years of employment or service with the Company (calculated to the nearest month, with any resulting fraction of a year being calculated as the number of months in the year divided by 12) equals at least 62 (provided that, in any case, the foregoing shall only be applicable if, at the time of Retirement, the Participant shall be at least 55 years of age and shall have been employed by or served with the Company for no less than 5 years).

(pp) “Restricted Period” means the period of time determined by the Committee during which an Award is subject to restrictions or, as applicable, the period of time within which performance is measured for purposes of determining whether an Award has been earned.

(qq) “Restricted Stock Unit” means an unfunded and unsecured promise to deliver Common Shares, cash, other securities or other property, subject to certain restrictions (including, without limitation, a requirement that the Participant remain continuously employed or provide continuous services for a specified period of time), granted under Section 9 of this Plan.

(rr) “Restricted Stock” means Common Shares, subject to certain specified restrictions (including, without limitation, a requirement that the Participant remain continuously employed or provide continuous services for a specified period of time), granted under Section 9 of this Plan.

(ss) “SAR Period” has the meaning given such term in Section 8(c) of this Plan.

(tt) “Securities Act” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and any successor thereto. Reference in this Plan to any section of the Securities Act shall be deemed to include any rules, regulations or other official interpretative guidance under such section, and any amendments or successor provisions to such section, rules, regulations or guidance.

(uu) “Stock Appreciation Right” or “SAR” means an Award granted under Section 8 of this Plan which meets all of the requirements of Section 1.409A-1(b)(5)(i)(B) of the Treasury Regulations.

(vv) “Stock Bonus Award” means an Award granted under Section 10 of this Plan.

(ww) “Strike Price” means, except as otherwise provided by the Committee in the case of Substitute Awards, (i) in the case of a SAR granted in tandem with an Option, the Exercise Price of the related Option, or (ii) in the case of a SAR granted independent of an Option, the fair market value on the Date of Grant.

(xx) “Subsidiary” means, with respect to any specified Person:

(i) any corporation, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of shares of Outstanding Company Voting Securities (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency and after giving effect to any voting agreement or stockholders’ agreement that effectively transfers voting power) is at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by that Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person (or a combination thereof); and

(ii) any partnership or limited liability company (or any comparable foreign entity) (a) the sole general partner or managing member (or functional equivalent thereof) or the managing general partner of which is such Person or Subsidiary of such Person or (b) the only general partners or managing members (or functional equivalents thereof) of which are that Person or one or more Subsidiaries of that Person (or any combination thereof).

(yy) “Substitute Award” has the meaning given such term in Section 5(e).

(zz) “Treasury Regulations” means any regulations, whether proposed, temporary or final, promulgated by the U.S. Department of Treasury under the Code, and any successor provisions.

3. *Effective Date; Duration.* The Plan shall be effective as of the Effective Date, but no Award shall be exercised or paid (or, in the case of a stock Award, shall be granted unless contingent on stockholder approval) unless and until this Plan has been approved by the stockholders of the Company, which approval shall be within twelve (12) months after the Effective Date. The expiration date of this Plan, on and after which date no Awards may be granted hereunder, shall be the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date; provided, however, that such expiration shall not affect Awards then outstanding, and the terms and conditions of this Plan shall continue to apply to such Awards.

#### 4. *Administration.*

(a) The Committee shall administer this Plan. To the extent required to comply with the provisions of Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act (if the Board is not acting as the Committee under this Plan) or necessary to obtain the exception for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code, as applicable, it is intended that each member of the Committee shall, at the time he takes any action with respect to an Award under this Plan, be an Eligible Director. However, the fact that a Committee member shall fail to qualify as an Eligible Director shall not invalidate any Award granted by the Committee that is otherwise validly granted under this Plan. The acts of a majority of the members present at any meeting at which a quorum is present or acts approved in writing by a majority of the Committee shall be deemed the acts of the Committee. Whether a quorum is present shall be determined based on the Committee’s charter as approved by the Board.

(b) Subject to the provisions of this Plan and applicable law, the Committee shall have the sole and plenary authority, in addition to other express powers and authorizations conferred on the Committee by this Plan and its charter, to: (i) designate Participants; (ii) determine the type or types of Awards to be granted to a Participant; (iii) determine the number of Common Shares to be covered by, or with respect to which payments, rights, or other matters are to be calculated in connection with, Awards; (iv) determine the terms and conditions of any Award; (v) determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances Awards may be settled or exercised in cash, Common Shares, other securities, other Awards or other property, or canceled, forfeited, or suspended and the method or methods by which Awards may be settled, exercised, canceled, forfeited, or suspended; (vi) determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances the delivery of cash, Common Shares, other securities, other Awards or other property and other amounts payable with respect to an Award; (vii) interpret, administer, reconcile any inconsistency in, settle any controversy regarding, correct any defect in and/or complete any omission in this Plan and any instrument or agreement relating to, or Award granted under, this Plan; (viii) establish, amend, suspend, or waive any rules, conditions and regulations and appoint such agents as the Committee shall deem appropriate for the proper administration of this Plan; (ix) accelerate the vesting or exercisability of, payment for or lapse of restrictions on, Awards; and (x) make any other determination and take any other action that the Committee deems necessary or desirable for the administration of this Plan.

(c) The Committee may delegate to one or more officers of the Company or any Affiliate the authority to act on behalf of the Committee with respect to any matter, right, obligation, or election that is the responsibility of or that is allocated to the Committee herein, and that may be so delegated as a matter of law, except for grants of Awards to persons (i) subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act or (ii) who are, or who are reasonably expected to be, “covered employees” for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Code.

(d) Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Plan, all designations, determinations, interpretations, and other decisions under or with respect to this Plan or any Award or any documents evidencing Awards granted pursuant to this Plan shall be within the sole discretion of the Committee, may be made at any time and shall be final, conclusive and binding upon all persons or entities, including, without limitation, the Company, any Affiliate, any Participant, any holder or beneficiary of any Award, and any stockholder of the Company.

(e) No member of the Board, the Committee, delegate of the Committee or any employee, advisor or agent of the Company or the Board or the Committee (each such person, an “*Indemnifiable Person*”) shall be liable for any action taken or omitted to be taken or any determination made in good faith with respect to this Plan or any Award hereunder. Each Indemnifiable Person shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Company against and from (and the Company shall pay or reimburse on demand for) any loss, cost, liability, or expense (including attorneys’ fees) that may be imposed upon or incurred by such Indemnifiable Person in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding to which such Indemnifiable Person may be a party or in which such Indemnifiable Person may be involved by reason of any action taken or omitted to be taken under this Plan or any Award agreement and against and from any and all amounts paid by such Indemnifiable Person with the Company’s approval, in settlement thereof, or paid by such Indemnifiable Person in satisfaction of any judgment in any such action, suit or proceeding against such Indemnifiable Person, provided, that the Company shall have the right, at its own expense, to assume and defend any such action, suit or proceeding and once the Company gives notice of its intent to assume the defense, the Company shall have sole control over such defense with counsel of the Company’s choice. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be available to an Indemnifiable Person to the extent that a final judgment or other final adjudication (in either case not subject to further appeal) binding upon such Indemnifiable Person determines that the acts or omissions of such Indemnifiable Person giving rise to the indemnification claim resulted from such Indemnifiable Person’s bad faith, fraud or willful criminal act or omission or that such right of indemnification is otherwise prohibited by law or by the Company’s Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights of indemnification to which such Indemnifiable Persons may be entitled under the Company’s Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws, as a matter of law, or otherwise, or any other power that the Company may have to indemnify such Indemnifiable Persons or hold them harmless.

(f) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Plan, the Board may, in its sole discretion, at any time and from time to time, grant Awards and administer this Plan with respect to such Awards. In any such case, the Board shall have all the authority granted to the Committee under this Plan.

#### *5. Grant of Awards; Shares Subject to this Plan; Limitations*

(a) The Committee may, from time to time, grant Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, Stock Bonus Awards and/or Performance Compensation Awards to one or more Eligible Persons.

(b) Subject to Section 3, Section 11 and Section 12 of this Plan, (i) the Committee is authorized to deliver under this Plan an aggregate of [•] (#)<sup>1</sup> Common Shares. Each Common Share subject to an Option or a Stock Appreciation Right will reduce the number of Common Shares available for issuance by one share, and each Common Share underlying an Award of Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, Stock Bonus Awards and Performance Compensation Awards will reduce the number of Common Shares available for issuance by one share, and (ii) the number of Common Shares available for issuance under the Plan will be increased on the first day of each calendar year beginning January 1, 2025 and ending on and including January 1, 2033 in an amount equal to the least of (i) fifteen percent (15%) of the aggregate number of outstanding Common Shares on the last day of the immediately preceding the fiscal year or (ii) such smaller number of Common Shares determined by the Board; provided, that such determination under clause will be made no later than the last day of the immediately preceding fiscal year.

<sup>1</sup> An amount to equal 15% of the number of the shares of Class A common stock outstanding following the closing of the business combination after giving effect to the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement and assuming that no Company shareholders will exercise their respective rights to redeem their shares.

(c) Common Shares underlying Awards under this Plan that are forfeited, cancelled, expire unexercised, or are settled in cash shall be available again for Awards under this Plan at the same ratio at which they were previously granted. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following Common Shares shall not be available again for Awards under the Plan: (i) shares tendered or held back upon the exercise of an Option or settlement of an Award to cover the Exercise Price of an Award; (ii) shares that are used or withheld to satisfy tax obligations of the Participant; and (iii) shares subject to a Stock Appreciation Right that are not issued in connection with the stock settlement of the SAR upon exercise thereof.

(d) Common Shares delivered by the Company in settlement of Awards may be authorized and unissued shares, shares held in the treasury of the Company, shares purchased on the open market or by private purchase, or a combination of the foregoing.

(e) Subject to compliance with Section 1.409A-3(f) of the Treasury Regulations, Awards may, in the sole discretion of the Committee, be granted under this Plan in assumption of, or in substitution for, outstanding awards previously granted by an entity acquired by the Company or with which the Company combines ("Substitute Awards"). The number of Common Shares underlying any Substitute Awards shall be counted against the aggregate number of Common Shares available for Awards under this Plan.

6. *Eligibility.* Participation shall be limited to Eligible Persons who have entered into an Award agreement or who have received written notification from the Committee, or from a person designated by the Committee, that they have been selected to participate in this Plan.

7. *Options.*

(a) *Generally.* Each Option granted under this Plan shall be evidenced by an Award agreement (whether in paper or electronic medium (including email or the posting on a web site maintained by the Company or a third party under contract with the Company)). Each Option so granted shall be subject to the conditions set forth in this Section 7, and to such other conditions not inconsistent with this Plan as may be reflected in the applicable Award agreement. All Options granted under this Plan shall be Nonqualified Stock Options unless the applicable Award agreement expressly states that the Option is intended to be an Incentive Stock Option. Notwithstanding any designation of an Option, to the extent that the aggregate fair market value of Common Shares with respect to which Options designated as Incentive Stock Options are exercisable for the first time by any Participant during any calendar year (under all plans of the Company or any Subsidiary) exceeds \$100,000, such excess Options shall be treated as Nonqualified Stock Options. Incentive Stock Options shall be granted only to Eligible Persons who are employees of the Company and its Affiliates, and no Incentive Stock Option shall be granted to any Eligible Person who is ineligible to receive an Incentive Stock Option under the Code. No Option shall be treated as an Incentive Stock Option unless this Plan has been approved by the stockholders of the Company in a manner intended to comply with the stockholder approval requirements of Section 422(b)(1) of the Code, provided that any Option intended to be an Incentive Stock Option shall not fail to be effective solely on account of a failure to obtain such approval, but rather such Option shall be treated as a Nonqualified Stock Option unless and until such approval is obtained. In the case of an Incentive Stock Option, the terms and conditions of such grant shall be subject to and comply with such rules as may be prescribed by Section 422 of the Code. If for any reason an Option intended to be an Incentive Stock Option (or any portion thereof) shall not qualify as an Incentive Stock Option, then, to the extent of such nonqualification, such Option or portion thereof shall be regarded as a Nonqualified Stock Option appropriately granted under this Plan.

(b) *Exercise Price.* The exercise price ("Exercise Price") per Common Share for each Option shall not be less than 100% of the fair market value of such share determined as of the Date of Grant; *provided, however*, that in the case of an Incentive Stock Option granted to an employee who, at the time of the grant of such Option, owns shares representing more than 10% of the voting power of all classes of shares of the Company or any Affiliate, the Exercise Price per share shall not be less than 110% of the fair market value per share on the Date of Grant; *and, provided further*, that notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, the Exercise Price shall not be less than the par value per Common Share.

(c) *Vesting and Expiration*. Options shall vest and become exercisable in such manner and on such date or dates determined by the Committee and as set forth in the applicable Award agreement, and shall expire after such period, not to exceed ten (10) years from the Date of Grant, as may be determined by the Committee (the “*Option Period*”); *provided, however*, that the Option Period shall not exceed five (5) years from the Date of Grant in the case of an Incentive Stock Option granted to a Participant who on the Date of Grant owns shares representing more than 10% of the voting power of all classes of shares of the Company or any Affiliate; *and, provided, further*, that notwithstanding any vesting dates set by the Committee, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, accelerate the exercisability of any Option, which acceleration shall not affect the terms and conditions of such Option other than with respect to exercisability. Unless otherwise provided by the Committee in an Award agreement:

(i) an Option may or may not be subject to vesting. Vesting shall occur, in full or in installments, upon satisfaction of the conditions specified in the Award agreement. An Award agreement may provide for accelerated vesting of the Option in the event of the Participant’s death, Disability, retirement, or other events. The Committee may determine, at the time of granting an Award agreement of such Option or thereafter, that all or part of Common Shares subject to such Option shall become vested in the event that a Change in Control occurs;

(ii) any unvested portion of an Option shall expire upon termination of employment or service of the Participant granted the Option, and the vested portion of such Option shall remain exercisable for:

(A) one year following termination of employment or service by reason of such Participant’s death or Disability (with the determination of Disability to be made by the Committee on a case by case basis), but not later than the expiration of the Option Period unless the Participant’s death precedes a Change in Control whereby the unvested portion of an Option shall expire automatically on the date of that Participant’s death;

(B) for directors, officers and employees of the Company only, for the remainder of the Option Period following termination of employment or service by reason of such Participant’s Retirement (it being understood that any Incentive Stock Option held by the Participant shall be treated as a Nonqualified Stock Option if exercise is not undertaken within 90 days of the date of Retirement);

(C) 90 calendar days following termination of employment or service for any reason other than such Participant’s death, Disability or Retirement, and other than such Participant’s termination of employment or service for Cause, but not later than the expiration of the Option Period; and

(iii) both the unvested and the vested portion of an Option shall immediately expire upon the termination of the Participant’s employment or service by the Company for Cause.

(d) *Method of Exercise and Form of Payment*. No Common Shares shall be delivered pursuant to any exercise of an Option until payment in full of the Exercise Price therefor is received by the Company and the Participant has paid to the Company an amount equal to any federal, state, local and non-U.S. income and employment taxes required to be withheld. Options that have become exercisable may be exercised by delivery of written or electronic notice of exercise to the Company in accordance with the terms of the Award agreement accompanied by payment of the Exercise Price. The Exercise Price shall be payable (i) in cash, check (subject to collection), cash equivalent and/or vested Common Shares valued at the Closing Price at the time the Option is exercised (including, pursuant to procedures approved by the Committee, by means of attestation of ownership of a sufficient number of Common Shares in lieu of actual delivery of such shares to the Company); *provided, however*, that such Common Shares are not subject to any pledge or other security interest and are Mature Shares and; (ii) by such other method as the Committee may permit in accordance with applicable law, in its sole discretion, including without limitation: (A) in other property having a fair market value (as determined by the Committee in its discretion) on the date of exercise equal to the Exercise Price or (B) if there is a public market for the Common Shares at such time, by means of a broker-assisted “cashless exercise” pursuant to which the Company is delivered a copy of irrevocable instructions to a stockbroker to sell the Common Shares otherwise deliverable upon the exercise of the Option and to deliver promptly to the Company an amount equal to the Exercise Price or (C) by a “net exercise” method whereby the Company withholds from the delivery of the Common Shares for which the Option was exercised that number of Common Shares having a Closing Price equal to the aggregate Exercise Price for the Common Shares for which the Option was exercised. Any fractional Common Shares shall be settled in cash.

(e) Notification upon Disqualifying Disposition of an Incentive Stock Option. Each Participant awarded an Incentive Stock Option under this Plan shall notify the Company in writing immediately after the date he makes a disqualifying disposition of any Common Shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of such Incentive Stock Option. A disqualifying disposition is any disposition (including, without limitation, any sale) of such Common Shares before the later of (A) two years after the Date of Grant of the Incentive Stock Option or (B) one year after the date of exercise of the Incentive Stock Option. The Company may, if determined by the Committee and in accordance with procedures established by the Committee, retain possession of any Common Shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of an Incentive Stock Option as agent for the applicable Participant until the end of the period described in the preceding sentence.

(f) Compliance With Laws, etc. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall a Participant be permitted to exercise an Option in a manner that the Committee determines would violate the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, if applicable, or any other applicable law or the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission or the applicable rules and regulations of any securities exchange or inter-dealer quotation system on which the securities of the Company are listed or traded.

#### 8. Stock Appreciation Rights.

(a) Generally. Each SAR granted under this Plan shall be evidenced by an Award agreement (whether in paper or electronic medium (including email or the posting on a website maintained by the Company or a third party under contract with the Company)). Each SAR so granted shall be subject to the conditions set forth in this Section 8, and to such other conditions not inconsistent with this Plan as may be reflected in the applicable Award agreement. Any Option granted under this Plan may include tandem SARs. The Committee also may award SARs to Eligible Persons independent of any Option.

(b) Vesting and Expiration. A SAR granted in connection with an Option shall become exercisable and shall expire according to the same vesting schedule and expiration provisions as the corresponding Option. A SAR granted independent of an Option shall vest and become exercisable and shall expire in such manner and on such date or dates determined by the Committee and shall expire after such period, not to exceed ten years, as may be determined by the Committee (the "*SAR Period*"); *provided, however*, that notwithstanding any vesting dates set by the Committee, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, accelerate the exercisability of any SAR, which acceleration shall not affect the terms and conditions of such SAR other than with respect to exercisability. Unless otherwise provided by the Committee in an Award agreement:

(i) a SAR shall vest and become exercisable with respect to 100% of the Common Shares subject to such SAR Award agreement;

(ii) the unvested portion of a SAR shall expire upon termination of employment or service of the Participant granted the SAR, and the vested portion of such SAR shall remain exercisable for:

(A) one year following the termination of employment or service by reason of such Participant's death or Disability (with the determination of Disability to be made by the Committee on a case by case basis), but not later than the expiration of the SAR Period unless the Participant's death precedes a Change in Control whereby the unvested portion of a SAR shall expire automatically on the date of that Participant's death;

(B) for directors, officers and employees of the Company only, for the remainder of the SAR Period following termination of employment or service by reason of such Participant's Retirement;

(C) 90 calendar days following termination of employment or service for any reason other than such Participant's death, Disability or Retirement, and other than such Participant's termination of employment or service for Cause, but not later than the expiration of the SAR Period; and

(iii) both the unvested and the vested portion of a SAR shall expire immediately upon the termination of the Participant's employment or service by the Company for Cause.

(c) Method of Exercise. SARs that have become exercisable may be exercised by delivery of written or electronic notice of exercise to the Company in accordance with the terms of the Award, specifying the number of SARs to be exercised and the date on which such SARs were awarded. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if on the last day of the Option Period (or in the case of a SAR independent of an option, the SAR Period), the Closing Price

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exceeds the Strike Price, the Participant has not exercised the SAR or the corresponding Option (if applicable), and neither the SAR nor the corresponding Option (if applicable) has expired, such SAR shall be deemed to have been exercised by the Participant on such last day and the Company shall make the appropriate payment therefor.

(d) *Payment.* Upon the exercise of a SAR, the Company shall pay to the Participant an amount equal to the number of shares subject to the SAR that are being exercised multiplied by the excess, if any, of the Closing Price of one Common Share on the exercise date over the Strike Price, less an amount equal to any federal, state, local and non-U.S. income and employment taxes required to be withheld. The Company shall pay such amount in cash, in Common Shares valued at fair market value, or any combination thereof, as determined by the Committee. Any fractional Common Share shall be settled in cash.

### *9. Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units.*

(a) *Generally.* Each grant of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units shall be evidenced by an Award agreement (whether in paper or electronic medium (including email or the posting on a website maintained by the Company or a third party under contract with the Company)). Each such grant shall be subject to the conditions set forth in this Section 9, and to such other conditions not inconsistent with this Plan as may be reflected in the applicable Award agreement.

(b) *Restricted Accounts; Escrow or Similar Arrangement.* Upon the grant of Restricted Stock, a book entry in a restricted account shall be established in the Participant's name at the Company's transfer agent and, if the Committee determines that the Restricted Stock shall be held by the Company or in escrow rather than held in such restricted account pending the release of the applicable restrictions, the Committee may require the Participant to additionally execute and deliver to the Company (i) an escrow agreement satisfactory to the Committee, if applicable, and (ii) the appropriate share power (endorsed in blank) with respect to the Restricted Stock covered by such agreement. If a Participant shall fail to execute an agreement evidencing an Award of Restricted Stock and, if applicable, an escrow agreement and blank share power within the amount of time specified by the Committee, the Award shall be null and void *ab initio*. Subject to the restrictions set forth in this Section 9 and the applicable Award agreement, the Participant generally shall have the rights and privileges of a stockholder as to such Restricted Stock, including without limitation the right to vote such Restricted Stock and the right to receive dividends, if applicable. To the extent shares of Restricted Stock are forfeited, any share certificates issued to the Participant evidencing such shares shall be returned to the Company, and all rights of the Participant to such shares and as a stockholder with respect thereto shall terminate without further obligation on the part of the Company.

(c) *Vesting; Acceleration of Lapse of Restrictions.* Unless otherwise provided by the Committee in an Award agreement: (i) the Restricted Period shall lapse with respect to 100% of the Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) anniversary of the Date of Grant; and (ii) the unvested portion of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units shall terminate and be forfeited upon termination of employment or service of the Participant granted the applicable Award.

(d) *Delivery of Restricted Stock and Settlement of Restricted Stock Units.* (i) Upon the expiration of the Restricted Period with respect to any shares of Restricted Stock, the restrictions set forth in the applicable certificate shall be of no further force or effect with respect to such shares, except as set forth in the applicable Award agreement. If an escrow arrangement is used, upon such expiration, the Company shall deliver to the Participant, or his beneficiary, without charge, the share certificate evidencing the shares of Restricted Stock that have not then been forfeited and with respect to which the Restricted Period has expired (rounded down to the nearest full share). Dividends, if any, that may have been withheld by the Committee and attributable to any particular share of Restricted Stock shall be distributed to the Participant in cash or, at the sole discretion of the Committee, in Common Shares having a Closing Price equal to the amount of such dividends, upon the release of restrictions on such share and, if such share is forfeited, the Participant shall have no right to such dividends (except as otherwise set forth by the Committee in the applicable Award agreement).

(ii) Unless otherwise provided by the Committee in an Award agreement, upon the expiration of the Restricted Period with respect to any outstanding Restricted Stock Units, the Company shall deliver to the Participant, or his beneficiary, without charge, one Common Share for each such outstanding Restricted Stock Unit; *provided, however,* that the Committee may, in its sole discretion and subject to the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, elect to (i) pay cash or part cash and part Common Share in lieu of delivering only Common Shares in respect of such Restricted Stock Units or (ii) defer the delivery of Common Shares (or cash or part

Common Shares and part cash, as the case may be) beyond the expiration of the Restricted Period if such delivery would result in a violation of applicable law until such time as is no longer the case. If a cash payment is made in lieu of delivering Common Shares, the amount of such payment shall be equal to the Closing Price of the Common Shares as of the date on which the Restricted Period lapsed with respect to such Restricted Stock Units, less an amount equal to any federal, state, local and non-U.S. income and employment taxes required to be withheld.

10. *Stock Bonus Awards.* The Committee may issue unrestricted Common Shares, or other Awards denominated in Common Shares, under this Plan to Eligible Persons, either alone or in tandem with other awards, in such amounts as the Committee shall from time to time in its sole discretion determine. Each Stock Bonus Award granted under this Plan shall be evidenced by an Award agreement (whether in paper or electronic medium (including email or the posting on a web site maintained by the Company or a third party under contract with the Company)). Each Stock Bonus Award so granted shall be subject to such conditions not inconsistent with this Plan as may be reflected in the applicable Award agreement.

11. *Performance Compensation Awards.*

(a) *Generally.* The Committee shall have the authority, at the time of grant of any Award described in Sections 7 through 10 of this Plan, to designate such Award as a Performance Compensation Award intended to qualify as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m) of the Code. The Committee shall have the authority to make an award of a cash bonus to any Participant and designate such Award as a Performance Compensation Award intended to qualify as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m) of the Code.

(b) *Discretion of Committee with Respect to Performance Compensation Awards.* With regard to a particular Performance Period, the Committee shall have sole discretion to select the length of such Performance Period, the type(s) of Performance Compensation Awards to be issued, the Performance Criteria that will be used to establish the Performance Goal(s), the kind(s) and/or level(s) of the Performance Goals(s) that is (are) to apply and the Performance Formula. Within the first 90 calendar days of a Performance Period (or, if longer or shorter, within the maximum period allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code, if applicable), the Committee shall, with regard to the Performance Compensation Awards to be issued for such Performance Period, exercise its discretion with respect to each of the matters enumerated in the immediately preceding sentence and record the same in writing.

(c) *Performance Criteria.* The Performance Criteria that will be used to establish the Performance Goal(s) shall be based on the attainment of specific levels of performance of the Company and/or one or more Affiliates, divisions or operational units, or any combination of the foregoing, as determined by the Committee. Any one or more of the Performance Criteria adopted by the Committee may be used on an absolute or relative basis to measure the performance of the Company and/or one or more Affiliates as a whole or any business unit(s) of the Company and/or one or more Affiliates or any combination thereof, as the Committee may deem appropriate, or any of the above Performance Criteria may be compared to the performance of a selected group of comparison companies, or a published or special index that the Committee, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate, or as compared to various stock market indices. The Committee also has the authority to provide for accelerated vesting of any Award based on the achievement of Performance Goals pursuant to the Performance Criteria specified in this paragraph. To the extent required under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee shall, within the first 90 calendar days of a Performance Period (or, if longer or shorter, within the maximum period allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code), define in an objective fashion the manner of calculating the Performance Criteria it selects to use for such Performance Period and thereafter promptly communicate such Performance Criteria to the Participant.

(d) *Modification of Performance Goal(s).* In the event that applicable tax and/or securities laws change to permit Committee discretion to alter the governing Performance Criteria without obtaining stockholder approval of such alterations, the Committee shall have sole discretion to make such alterations without obtaining stockholder approval. The Committee is authorized at any time during the first 90 calendar days of a Performance Period (or, if longer or shorter, within the maximum period allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code, if applicable), or at any time thereafter to the extent the exercise of such authority at such time would not cause the Performance Compensation Awards granted to any Participant for such Performance Period to fail to qualify as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m) of the Code, in its sole discretion, to adjust or modify the calculation of a Performance Goal for such Performance Period, based on and in order to appropriately reflect the following events: (i) asset write-downs; (ii) litigation or claim judgments or settlements; (iii) the effect of changes in tax laws, accounting principles, or other laws or regulatory rules affecting reported results; (iv) any reorganization and restructuring programs; (v) extraordinary nonrecurring items as described in Accounting Principles Board Opinion

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No. 30 (or any successor pronouncement thereto) and/or in management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations appearing in the Company's annual report to stockholders for the applicable year; (vi) acquisitions or divestitures; (vii) any other specific unusual or nonrecurring events, or objectively determinable category thereof; (viii) foreign exchange gains and losses; and (ix) a change in the Company's fiscal year.

### (e) Payment of Performance Compensation Awards.

(i) Condition to Receipt of Payment. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable Award agreement, a Participant must be employed by the Company on the last day of a Performance Period to be eligible for payment in respect of a Performance Compensation Award for such Performance Period.

(ii) Limitation. A Participant shall be eligible to receive payment in respect of a Performance Compensation Award only to the extent that: (A) the Performance Goals for such period are achieved; and (B) all or some of the portion of such Participant's Performance Compensation Award has been earned for the Performance Period based on the application of the Performance Formula to such achieved Performance Goals.

(iii) Certification. Following the completion of a Performance Period, the Committee shall review and certify in writing whether, and to what extent, the Performance Goals for the Performance Period have been achieved and, if so, calculate and certify in writing that amount of the Performance Compensation Awards earned for the period based upon the Performance Formula. The Committee shall then determine the amount of each Participant's Performance Compensation Award actually payable for the Performance Period and, in so doing, may apply Negative Discretion.

(iv) Use of Negative Discretion. In determining the actual amount of an individual Participant's Performance Compensation Award for a Performance Period, the Committee may reduce or eliminate the amount of the Performance Compensation Award earned under the Performance Formula in the Performance Period through the use of Negative Discretion if, in its sole judgment, such reduction or elimination is appropriate. The Committee shall not have the discretion, except as is otherwise provided in this Plan, to (A) grant or provide payment in respect of Performance Compensation Awards for a Performance Period if the Performance Goals for such Performance Period have not been attained; or (B) increase a Performance Compensation Award above the applicable limitations set forth in Section 5 of this Plan.

(f) Timing of Award Payments. Performance Compensation Awards granted for a Performance Period shall be paid to Participants as soon as administratively practicable following completion of the certifications required by this Section 11, but in no event later than two-and-one-half months following the end of the fiscal year during which the Performance Period is completed in order to comply with the short-term deferral rules under Section 1.409A-1(b)(4) of the Treasury Regulations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, payment of a Performance Compensation Award may be delayed, as permitted by Section 1.409A-2(b)(7)(i) of the Treasury Regulations, to the extent that the Company reasonably anticipates that if such payment were made as scheduled, the Company's tax deduction with respect to such payment would not be permitted due to the application of Section 162(m) of the Code.

12. Changes in Capital Structure and Similar Events. In the event of (a) any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash, Common Shares, other securities or other property), recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, reorganization, merger, amalgamation, consolidation, split-up, split-off, combination, repurchase or exchange of Common Shares or other securities of the Company, issuance of warrants or other rights to acquire Common Shares or other securities of the Company, or other similar corporate transaction or event (including, without limitation, a Change in Control) that affects the Common Shares, or (b) unusual or nonrecurring events (including, without limitation, a Change in Control) affecting the Company, any Affiliate, or the financial statements of the Company or any Affiliate, or changes in applicable rules, rulings, regulations or other requirements of any governmental body or securities exchange or inter-dealer quotation system, accounting principles or law, such that in either case an adjustment is determined by the Committee in its sole discretion to be necessary or appropriate, then the Committee shall make any such adjustments that are equitable, including without limitation any or all of the following:

(i) adjusting any or all of (A) the number of Common Shares or other securities of the Company (or number and kind of other securities or other property) that may be delivered in respect of Awards or with respect to which Awards may be granted under this Plan (including, without limitation, adjusting any or all of the limitations

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under Section 5 of this Plan) and (B) the terms of any outstanding Award, including, without limitation, (1) the number of Common Shares or other securities of the Company (or number and kind of other securities or other property) subject to outstanding Awards or to which outstanding Awards relate, (2) the Exercise Price or Strike Price with respect to any Award or (3) any applicable performance measures (including, without limitation, Performance Criteria and Performance Goals);

(ii) providing for a substitution or assumption of Awards, accelerating the exercisability of, lapse of restrictions on, or termination of, Awards or providing for a period of time for exercise prior to the occurrence of such event; and

(iii) subject to the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, canceling any one or more outstanding Awards and causing to be paid to the holders thereof, in cash, Common Shares, other securities or other property, or any combination thereof, the value of such Awards, if any, as determined by the Committee (which if applicable may be based upon the price per Common Share received or to be received by other stockholders of the Company in such event), including without limitation, in the case of an outstanding Option or SAR, a cash payment in an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the fair market value (as of a date specified by the Committee) of the Common Shares subject to such Option or SAR over the aggregate Exercise Price or Strike Price of such Option or SAR, respectively (it being understood that, in such event, any Option or SAR having a per share Exercise Price or Strike Price equal to, or in excess of, the fair market value of a Common Share subject thereto may be canceled and terminated without any payment or consideration therefor);

provided, however, that in the case of any “equity restructuring” (within the meaning of the Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004) or ASC Topic 718, or any successor thereto), the Committee shall make an equitable or proportionate adjustment to outstanding Awards to reflect such equity restructuring. Any adjustment in Incentive Stock Options under this Section 12 (other than any cancellation of Incentive Stock Options) shall be made only to the extent not constituting a “modification” within the meaning of Section 424(h)(3) of the Code, and any adjustments under this Section 12 shall be made in a manner that does not adversely affect the exemption provided pursuant to Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act. The Company shall give each Participant notice of an adjustment hereunder and, upon notice, such adjustment shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes.

13. *Effect of Change in Control* Except to the extent otherwise provided in an Award agreement or as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion, in the event of a Change in Control, notwithstanding any provision of this Plan to the contrary, with respect to all or any portion of a particular outstanding Award or Awards:

(a) all of the then outstanding Options and SARs may immediately vest and may become immediately exercisable as of a time prior to the Change in Control except for the then outstanding Options and SARs of a Participant whose death immediately precedes the Change in Control;

(b) the Restricted Period may expire as of a time prior to the Change in Control (including without limitation a waiver of any applicable Performance Goals);

(c) Performance Periods in effect on the date the Change in Control occurs may end on such date, and the Committee (i) shall determine the extent to which Performance Goals with respect to each such Performance Period have been met based upon such audited or unaudited financial information or other information then available as it deems relevant and (ii) may cause the Participant to receive partial or full payment of Awards for each such Performance Period based upon the Committee’s determination of the degree of attainment of the Performance Goals, or assuming that the applicable “target” levels of performance have been attained or on such other basis determined by the Committee.

To the extent practicable, any actions taken by the Committee under the immediately preceding clauses (a) through (c) shall occur in a manner and at a time which allows affected Participants the ability to participate in the Change in Control transactions with respect to the Common Shares subject to their Awards. In the event no action is taken by the Committee to allow for the changes set forth in immediately preceding clauses (a) through (c), then no changes to the Award shall be effected.

14. *Amendments and Termination.*

(a) *Amendment and Termination of this Plan.* The Board may amend, alter, suspend, discontinue, or terminate this Plan or any portion thereof at any time; provided, that (i) no amendment to the definition of Eligible Employee in Section 2, Section 5(i), Section 11(c) or Section 14(b) (to the extent required by the proviso in such Section 14(b)) shall be made without stockholder approval and (ii) no such amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuation or termination shall be made without stockholder approval if such approval is necessary to comply with any tax or regulatory requirement applicable to this Plan (including, without limitation, as necessary to comply with any rules or requirements of any securities exchange or inter-dealer quotation system on which the Common Shares may be listed or quoted or to prevent the Company from being denied a tax deduction under Section 162(m) of the Code); and, provided, further, that any such amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuance or termination that would materially and adversely affect the rights of any Participant or any holder or beneficiary of any Award theretofore granted shall not to that extent be effective without the prior written consent of the affected Participant, holder or beneficiary.

(b) *Amendment of Award Agreements.* The Committee may, to the extent consistent with the terms of any applicable Award agreement, waive any conditions or rights under, amend any terms of, or alter, suspend, discontinue, cancel or terminate, any Award theretofore granted or the associated Award agreement, prospectively or retroactively; provided, however that any such waiver, amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuance, cancellation or termination that would materially and adversely affect the rights of any Participant with respect to any Award theretofore granted shall not to that extent be effective without the consent of the affected Participant; and, provided, further, that without stockholder approval, except as otherwise permitted under Section 12 of this Plan, (i) no amendment or modification may reduce the Exercise Price of any Option or the Strike Price of any SAR, (ii) the Committee may not cancel any outstanding Option or SAR and replace it with a new Option or SAR, another Award or cash or take any action that would have the effect of treating such Award as a new Award for tax or accounting purposes and (iii) the Committee may not take any other action that is considered a “repricing” for purposes of the stockholder approval rules of the applicable securities exchange or inter-dealer quotation system on which the Common Shares are listed or quoted.

15. *General.*

(a) *Award Agreements.* Each Award under this Plan shall be evidenced by an Award agreement, which shall be delivered to the Participant (whether in paper or electronic medium (including email or the posting on a web site maintained by the Company or a third party under contract with the Company)) and shall specify the terms and conditions of the Award and any rules applicable thereto, including without limitation, the effect on such Award of the death, Disability or termination of employment or service of a Participant, or of such other events as may be determined by the Committee. The Company’s failure to specify any term of any Award in any particular Award agreement shall not invalidate such term, provided such terms was duly adopted by the Board or the Committee.

(b) *Nontransferability; Trading Restrictions.*

(i) Each Award shall be exercisable only by a Participant during the Participant’s lifetime, or, if permissible under applicable law, by the Participant’s legal guardian or representative. No Award may be assigned, alienated, pledged, attached, sold or otherwise transferred or encumbered by a Participant other than by will or by the laws of descent and distribution and any such purported assignment, alienation, pledge, attachment, sale, transfer or encumbrance shall be void and unenforceable against the Company or an Affiliate; provided that the designation of a beneficiary shall not constitute an assignment, alienation, pledge, attachment, sale, transfer or encumbrance.

(ii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, permit Awards (other than Incentive Stock Options) to be transferred by a Participant, with or without consideration, subject to such rules as the Committee may adopt consistent with any applicable Award agreement to preserve the purposes of this Plan, to: (A) any person who is a “family member” of the Participant, as such term is used in the instructions to Form S-8 under the Securities Act (collectively, the “*Immediate Family Members*”); (B) a trust solely for the benefit of the Participant and his or her Immediate Family Members; or (C) a partnership or limited liability company whose only partners or stockholders are the Participant and his or her Immediate Family Members; or (D) any other transferee as may be approved either (I) by the Board or the Committee in its sole discretion, or (II) as provided in the applicable Award

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agreement (each transferee described in clauses (A), (B) (C) and (D) above is hereinafter referred to as a “*Permitted Transferee*”); provided, that the Participant gives the Committee advance written notice describing the terms and conditions of the proposed transfer and the Committee notifies the Participant in writing that such a transfer would comply with the requirements of this Plan.

(iii) The terms of any Award transferred in accordance with the immediately preceding sentence shall apply to the Permitted Transferee and any reference in this Plan, or in any applicable Award agreement, to a Participant shall be deemed to refer to the Permitted Transferee, except that (A) Permitted Transferees shall not be entitled to transfer any Award, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution; (B) Permitted Transferees shall not be entitled to exercise any transferred Option unless there shall be in effect a registration statement on an appropriate form covering the Common Shares to be acquired pursuant to the exercise of such Option if the Committee determines, consistent with any applicable Award agreement, that such a registration statement is necessary or appropriate; (C) the Committee or the Company shall not be required to provide any notice to a Permitted Transferee, whether or not such notice is or would otherwise have been required to be given to the Participant under this Plan or otherwise; and (D) the consequences of the termination of the Participant’s employment by, or services to, the Company or an Affiliate under the terms of this Plan and the applicable Award agreement shall continue to be applied with respect to the Participant, including, without limitation, that an Option shall be exercisable by the Permitted Transferee only to the extent, and for the periods, specified in this Plan and the applicable Award agreement.

(iv) The Committee shall have the right, either on an Award-by-Award basis or as a matter of policy for all Awards or one or more classes of Awards, to condition the delivery of vested Common Shares received in connection with such Award on the Participant’s agreement to such restrictions as the Committee may determine.

### (c) Tax Withholding.

(i) A Participant shall be required to pay to the Company or any Affiliate, or the Company or any Affiliate shall have the right and is hereby authorized to withhold, from any cash, Common Shares, other securities or other property deliverable under any Award or from any compensation or other amounts owing to a Participant, the amount (in cash, Common Shares, other securities or other property) of any required withholding taxes in respect of an Award, its exercise, or any payment or transfer under an Award or under this Plan and to take such other action as may be necessary in the opinion of the Committee or the Company to satisfy all obligations for the payment of such withholding and taxes.

(ii) Without limiting the generality of clause (i) above, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, permit a Participant to satisfy, in whole or in part, the foregoing withholding liability by (A) the delivery of Common Shares (which are not subject to any pledge or other security interest and are Mature Shares) owned by the Participant having a fair market value equal to such withholding liability or (B) having the Company withhold from the number of Common Shares otherwise issuable or deliverable pursuant to the exercise or settlement of the Award a number of shares with a fair market value equal to such withholding liability (but no more than the minimum required statutory withholding liability).

(d) *No Claim to Awards: No Rights to Continued Employment: Waiver*: No employee of the Company or an Affiliate, or other person, shall have any claim or right to be granted an Award under this Plan or, having been selected for the grant of an Award, to be selected for a grant of any other Award. There is no obligation for uniformity of treatment of Participants or holders or beneficiaries of Awards. The terms and conditions of Awards and the Committee’s determinations and interpretations with respect thereto need not be the same with respect to each Participant and may be made selectively among Participants, whether or not such Participants are similarly situated. Neither this Plan nor any action taken hereunder shall be construed as giving any Participant any right to be retained in the employ or service of the Company or an Affiliate, nor shall it be construed as giving any Participant any rights to continued service on the Board. The Company or any of its Affiliates may at any time dismiss a Participant from employment or discontinue any consulting relationship, free from any liability or any claim under this Plan, unless otherwise expressly provided in this Plan or any Award agreement. By accepting an Award under this Plan, a Participant shall thereby be deemed to have waived any claim to continued exercise or vesting of an Award or to damages or severance entitlement related to non-continuation of the Award beyond the period provided under this Plan or any Award agreement, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in any written employment contract or other agreement between the Company and its Affiliates and the Participant, whether any such agreement is executed before, on or after the Date of Grant.

(e) International Participants. With respect to Participants who reside or work outside of the United States of America and who are not (and who are not expected to be) “covered employees” within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee may in its sole discretion amend the terms of this Plan or outstanding Awards (or establish a sub-plan) with respect to such Participants in order to conform such terms with the requirements of local law or to obtain more favorable tax or other treatment for a Participant, the Company or its Affiliates.

(f) Designation and Change of Beneficiary. Each Participant may file with the Committee a written designation of one or more persons as the beneficiary(ies) who shall be entitled to receive the amounts payable with respect to an Award, if any, due under this Plan upon his or her death. A Participant may, from time to time, revoke or change his or her beneficiary designation without the consent of any prior beneficiary by filing a new designation with the Committee. The last such designation filed with the Committee shall be controlling; provided, however, that no designation, or change or revocation thereof, shall be effective unless received by the Committee prior to the Participant’s death, and in no event shall it be effective as of a date prior to such receipt. If no beneficiary designation is filed by a Participant, the beneficiary shall be deemed to be his or her spouse or, if the Participant is unmarried at the time of death, his or her estate. Upon the occurrence of a Participant’s divorce (as evidenced by a final order or decree of divorce), any spousal designation previously given by such Participant shall automatically terminate.

(g) Termination of Employment/Service. Unless determined otherwise by the Committee at any point following such event: (i) neither a temporary absence from employment or service due to illness, vacation or leave of absence nor a transfer from employment or service with the Company to employment or service with an Affiliate (or vice-versa) shall be considered a termination of employment or service with the Company or an Affiliate; and (ii) if a Participant’s employment with the Company and its Affiliates terminates, but such Participant continues to provide services to the Company and its Affiliates in a non-employee capacity (or vice-versa), such change in status shall not be considered a termination of employment with the Company or an Affiliate.

(h) No Rights as a Stockholder. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Plan or any Award agreement, no person shall be entitled to the privileges of ownership in respect of Common Shares that are subject to Awards hereunder until such shares have been issued or delivered to that person.

(i) Government and Other Regulations.

(i) The obligation of the Company to settle Awards in Common Shares or other consideration shall be subject to all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and to such approvals by governmental agencies as may be required. Notwithstanding any terms or conditions of any Award to the contrary, the Company shall be under no obligation to offer to sell or to sell, and shall be prohibited from offering to sell or selling, any Common Shares pursuant to an Award unless such shares have been properly registered for sale pursuant to the Securities Act with the Securities and Exchange Commission or unless the Company has received an opinion of counsel, satisfactory to the Company, that such shares may be offered or sold without such registration pursuant to an available exemption therefrom and the terms and conditions of such exemption have been fully complied with. The Company shall be under no obligation to register for sale under the Securities Act any of the Common Shares to be offered or sold under this Plan. The Committee shall have the authority to provide that all certificates for Common Shares or other securities of the Company or any Affiliate delivered under this Plan shall be subject to such stop transfer orders and other restrictions as the Committee may deem advisable under this Plan, the applicable Award agreement, the federal securities laws, or the rules, regulations and other requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, any securities exchange or inter-dealer quotation system upon which such shares or other securities are then listed or quoted and any other applicable federal, state, local or non-U.S. laws, and, without limiting the generality of Section 9 of this Plan, the Committee may cause a legend or legends to be put on any such certificates to make appropriate reference to such restrictions. Notwithstanding any provision in this Plan to the contrary, the Committee reserves the right to add any additional terms or provisions to any Award granted under this Plan that it in its sole discretion deems necessary or advisable in order that such Award complies with the legal requirements of any governmental entity to whose jurisdiction the Award is subject.

(ii) The Committee may cancel an Award or any portion thereof if it determines, in its sole discretion, that legal or contractual restrictions and/or blockage and/or other market considerations would make the Company’s acquisition of Common Shares from the public markets, the Company’s issuance of Common Shares to the Participant, the Participant’s acquisition of Common Shares from the Company and/or the Participant’s sale of Common Shares to the public markets, illegal, impracticable or inadvisable. If the Committee determines to cancel all or any portion of an Award in accordance with the foregoing, unless doing so would violate Section 409A of the

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Code, the Company shall pay to the Participant an amount equal to the excess of (A) the aggregate fair market value of the Common Shares subject to such Award or portion thereof canceled (determined as of the applicable exercise date, or the date that the shares would have been vested or delivered, as applicable), over (B) the aggregate Exercise Price or Strike Price (in the case of an Option or SAR, respectively) or any amount payable as a condition of delivery of Common Shares (in the case of any other Award). Such amount shall be delivered to the Participant as soon as practicable following the cancellation of such Award or portion thereof. The Committee shall have the discretion to consider and take action to mitigate the tax consequence to the Participant in cancelling an Award in accordance with this clause.

(j) Payments to Persons Other Than Participants. If the Committee shall find that any person to whom any amount is payable under this Plan is unable to care for his affairs because of illness or accident, or is a minor, or has died, then any payment due to such person or his estate (unless a prior claim therefor has been made by a duly appointed legal representative) may, if the Committee so directs the Company, be paid to his spouse, child, relative, an institution maintaining or having custody of such person, or any other person deemed by the Committee to be a proper recipient on behalf of such person otherwise entitled to payment. Any such payment shall be a complete discharge of the liability of the Committee and the Company therefor.

(k) Nonexclusivity of this Plan. Neither the adoption of this Plan by the Board nor the submission of this Plan to the stockholders of the Company for approval shall be construed as creating any limitations on the power of the Board to adopt such other incentive arrangements as it may deem desirable, including, without limitation, the granting of stock options or other equity-based awards otherwise than under this Plan, and such arrangements may be either applicable generally or only in specific cases.

(l) No Trust or Fund Created. Neither this Plan nor any Award shall create or be construed to create a trust or separate fund of any kind or a fiduciary relationship between the Company or any Affiliate, on the one hand, and a Participant or other person or entity, on the other hand. No provision of this Plan or any Award shall require the Company, for the purpose of satisfying any obligations under this Plan, to purchase assets or place any assets in a trust or other entity to which contributions are made or otherwise to segregate any assets, nor shall the Company maintain separate bank accounts, books, records or other evidence of the existence of a segregated or separately maintained or administered fund for such purposes. Participants shall have no rights under this Plan other than as general unsecured creditors of the Company, except that insofar as they may have become entitled to payment of additional compensation by performance of services, they shall have the same rights as other employees under general law.

(m) Reliance on Reports. Each member of the Committee and each member of the Board shall be fully justified in acting or failing to act, as the case may be, and shall not be liable for having so acted or failed to act in good faith, in reliance upon any report made by the independent public accountant of the Company and its Affiliates and/or any other information furnished in connection with this Plan by any agent of the Company or the Committee or the Board, other than himself.

(n) Relationship to Other Benefits. No payment under this Plan shall be taken into account in determining any benefits under any pension, retirement, profit sharing, group insurance or other benefit plan of the Company except as otherwise specifically provided in such other plan.

(o) Governing Law. The Plan shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Delaware, without giving effect to the conflict of laws provisions.

(p) Severability. If any provision of this Plan or any Award or Award agreement is or becomes or is deemed to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction or as to any person or entity or Award, or would disqualify this Plan or any Award under any law deemed applicable by the Committee, such provision shall be construed or deemed amended to conform to the applicable laws in the manner that most closely reflects the original intent of the Award or the Plan, or if it cannot be construed or deemed amended without, in the determination of the Committee, materially altering the intent of this Plan or the Award, such provision shall be construed or deemed stricken as to such jurisdiction, person or entity or Award and the remainder of this Plan and any such Award shall remain in full force and effect.

(q) *Obligations Binding on Successors*. The obligations of the Company under this Plan shall be binding upon any successor corporation or organization resulting from the merger, amalgamation, consolidation or other reorganization of the Company, or upon any successor corporation or organization succeeding to substantially all of the assets and business of the Company.

(r) *Code Section 162(m) Approval*. If so determined by the Committee, the provisions of this Plan regarding Performance Compensation Awards shall be disclosed and reapproved by stockholders no later than the first stockholder meeting that occurs in the fifth year following the year in which stockholders previously approved such provisions, in each case in order for certain Awards granted after such time to be exempt from the deduction limitations of Section 162(m) of the Code. Nothing in this clause, however, shall affect the validity of Awards granted after such time if such stockholder approval has not been obtained.

(s) *Expenses; Gender; Titles and Headings*. The expenses of administering this Plan shall be borne by the Company and its Affiliates. Masculine pronouns and other words of masculine gender shall refer to both men and women. The titles and headings of the sections in this Plan are for convenience of reference only, and in the event of any conflict, the text of this Plan, rather than such titles or headings shall control.

(t) *Other Agreements*. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee may require, as a condition to the grant of and/or the receipt of Common Shares under an Award, that the Participant execute lock-up, stockholder or other agreements, as it may determine in its sole and absolute discretion.

(u) *Section 409A*. The Plan and all Awards granted hereunder are intended to comply with, or otherwise be exempt from, the requirements of Section 409A of the Code. The Plan and all Awards granted under this Plan shall be administered, interpreted, and construed in a manner consistent with Section 409A of the Code to the extent necessary to avoid the imposition of additional taxes under Section 409A(a)(1)(B) of the Code. Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, in no event shall the Committee exercise its discretion to accelerate the payment or settlement of an Award where such payment or settlement constitutes deferred compensation within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code unless, and solely to the extent that, such accelerated payment or settlement is permissible under Section 1.409A-3(j)(4) of the Treasury Regulations. If a Participant is a "specified employee" (within the meaning of Section 1.409A-1(i) of the Treasury Regulations) at any time during the twelve (12)-month period ending on the date of his termination of employment, and any Award hereunder subject to the requirements of Section 409A of the Code is to be satisfied on account of the Participant's termination of employment, satisfaction of such Award shall be suspended until the date that is six (6) months after the date of such termination of employment.

(v) *Payments*. Participants shall be required to pay, to the extent required by applicable law, any amounts required to receive Common Shares under any Award made under this Plan.

**APPRAISAL RIGHTS****Section 262 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware**

(a) Any stockholder of a corporation of this State who holds shares of stock on the date of the making of a demand pursuant to subsection (d) of this section with respect to such shares, who continuously holds such shares through the effective date of the merger or consolidation, who has otherwise complied with subsection (d) of this section and who has neither voted in favor of the merger or consolidation nor consented thereto in writing pursuant to § 228 of this title shall be entitled to an appraisal by the Court of Chancery of the fair value of the stockholder's shares of stock under the circumstances described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. As used in this section, the word "stockholder" means a holder of record of stock in a corporation; the words "stock" and "share" mean and include what is ordinarily meant by those words; and the words "depository receipt" mean a receipt or other instrument issued by a depository representing an interest in 1 or more shares, or fractions thereof, solely of stock of a corporation, which stock is deposited with the depository.

(b) Appraisal rights shall be available for the shares of any class or series of stock of a constituent corporation in a merger or consolidation to be effected pursuant to § 251 (other than a merger effected pursuant to § 251(g) of this title), § 252, § 254, § 255, § 256, § 257, § 258, § 263 or § 264 of this title:

(1) Provided, however, that no appraisal rights under this section shall be available for the shares of any class or series of stock, which stock, or depository receipts in respect thereof, at the record date fixed to determine the stockholders entitled to receive notice of the meeting of stockholders to act upon the agreement of merger or consolidation (or, in the case of a merger pursuant to § 251(h), as of immediately prior to the execution of the agreement of merger), were either: (i) listed on a national securities exchange or (ii) held of record by more than 2,000 holders; and further provided that no appraisal rights shall be available for any shares of stock of the constituent corporation surviving a merger if the merger did not require for its approval the vote of the stockholders of the surviving corporation as provided in § 251(f) of this title.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (b)(1) of this section, appraisal rights under this section shall be available for the shares of any class or series of stock of a constituent corporation if the holders thereof are required by the terms of an agreement of merger or consolidation pursuant to §§ 251, 252, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 263 and 264 of this title to accept for such stock anything except:

a. Shares of stock of the corporation surviving or resulting from such merger or consolidation, or depository receipts in respect thereof;

b. Shares of stock of any other corporation, or depository receipts in respect thereof, which shares of stock (or depository receipts in respect thereof) or depository receipts at the effective date of the merger or consolidation will be either listed on a national securities exchange or held of record by more than 2,000 holders;

c. Cash in lieu of fractional shares or fractional depository receipts described in the foregoing paragraphs (b)(2)a. and b. of this section; or

d. Any combination of the shares of stock, depository receipts and cash in lieu of fractional shares or fractional depository receipts described in the foregoing paragraphs (b)(2)a., b. and c. of this section.

(3) In the event all of the stock of a subsidiary Delaware corporation party to a merger effected under § 253 or § 267 of this title is not owned by the parent immediately prior to the merger, appraisal rights shall be available for the shares of the subsidiary Delaware corporation.

(4) [Repealed.]

(c) Any corporation may provide in its certificate of incorporation that appraisal rights under this section shall be available for the shares of any class or series of its stock as a result of an amendment to its certificate of incorporation, any merger or consolidation in which the corporation is a constituent corporation or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the corporation. If the certificate of incorporation contains such a provision, the provisions of this section, including those set forth in subsections (d),(e), and (g) of this section, shall apply as nearly as is practicable.

(d) Appraisal rights shall be perfected as follows:

(1) If a proposed merger or consolidation for which appraisal rights are provided under this section is to be submitted for approval at a meeting of stockholders, the corporation, not less than 20 days prior to the meeting, shall notify each of its stockholders who was such on the record date for notice of such meeting (or such members who received notice in accordance with § 255(c) of this title) with respect to shares for which appraisal rights are available pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of this section that appraisal rights are available for any or all of the shares of the constituent corporations, and shall include in such notice a copy of this section and, if 1 of the constituent corporations is a nonstock corporation, a copy of § 114 of this title. Each stockholder electing to demand the appraisal of such stockholder's shares shall deliver to the corporation, before the taking of the vote on the merger or consolidation, a written demand for appraisal of such stockholder's shares; provided that a demand may be delivered to the corporation by electronic transmission if directed to an information processing system (if any) expressly designated for that purpose in such notice. Such demand will be sufficient if it reasonably informs the corporation of the identity of the stockholder and that the stockholder intends thereby to demand the appraisal of such stockholder's shares. A proxy or vote against the merger or consolidation shall not constitute such a demand. A stockholder electing to take such action must do so by a separate written demand as herein provided. Within 10 days after the effective date of such merger or consolidation, the surviving or resulting corporation shall notify each stockholder of each constituent corporation who has complied with this subsection and has not voted in favor of or consented to the merger or consolidation of the date that the merger or consolidation has become effective; or

(2) If the merger or consolidation was approved pursuant to § 228, § 251(h), § 253, or § 267 of this title, then either a constituent corporation before the effective date of the merger or consolidation or the surviving or resulting corporation within 10 days thereafter shall notify each of the holders of any class or series of stock of such constituent corporation who are entitled to appraisal rights of the approval of the merger or consolidation and that appraisal rights are available for any or all shares of such class or series of stock of such constituent corporation, and shall include in such notice a copy of this section and, if 1 of the constituent corporations is a nonstock corporation, a copy of § 114 of this title. Such notice may, and, if given on or after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, shall, also notify such stockholders of the effective date of the merger or consolidation. Any stockholder entitled to appraisal rights may, within 20 days after the date of giving such notice or, in the case of a merger approved pursuant to § 251(h) of this title, within the later of the consummation of the offer contemplated by § 251(h) of this title and 20 days after the date of giving such notice, demand in writing from the surviving or resulting corporation the appraisal of such holder's shares; provided that a demand may be delivered to the corporation by electronic transmission if directed to an information processing system (if any) expressly designated for that purpose in such notice. Such demand will be sufficient if it reasonably informs the corporation of the identity of the stockholder and that the stockholder intends thereby to demand the appraisal of such holder's shares. If such notice did not notify stockholders of the effective date of the merger or consolidation, either (i) each such constituent corporation shall send a second notice before the effective date of the merger or consolidation notifying each of the holders of any class or series of stock of such constituent corporation that are entitled to appraisal rights of the effective date of the merger or consolidation or (ii) the surviving or resulting corporation shall send such a second notice to all such holders on or within 10 days after such effective date; provided, however, that if such second notice is sent more than 20 days following the sending of the first notice or, in the case of a merger approved pursuant to § 251(h) of this title, later than the later of the consummation of the offer contemplated by § 251(h) of this title and 20 days following the sending of the first notice, such second notice need only be sent to each stockholder who is entitled to appraisal rights and who has demanded appraisal of such holder's shares in accordance with this subsection. An affidavit of the secretary or assistant secretary or of the transfer agent of the corporation that is required to give either notice that such notice has been given shall, in the absence of fraud, be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein. For purposes of determining the stockholders entitled to receive either notice, each constituent corporation may fix, in advance, a record date that shall be not more than 10 days prior to the date the notice is given, provided, that if the notice is given on or after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, the record date shall be such effective date. If no record date is fixed and the notice is given prior to the effective date, the record date shall be the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which the notice is given.

(e) Within 120 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, the surviving or resulting corporation or any stockholder who has complied with subsections (a) and (d) of this section hereof and who is otherwise entitled to appraisal rights, may commence an appraisal proceeding by filing a petition in the Court of Chancery demanding a determination of the value of the stock of all such stockholders. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at any time within 60 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party shall have the right to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and to accept the terms offered upon the merger or consolidation. Within 120 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, any stockholder who has complied with the requirements of subsections (a) and (d) of this section hereof, upon request given in writing (or by electronic transmission directed to an information processing system (if any) expressly designated for that purpose in the notice of appraisal), shall be entitled to receive from the corporation surviving the merger or resulting from the consolidation a statement setting forth the aggregate number of shares not voted in favor of the merger or consolidation (or, in the case of a merger approved pursuant to § 251(h) of this title, the aggregate number of shares (other than any excluded stock (as defined in § 251(h)(6)d. of this title)) that were the subject of, and were not tendered into, and accepted for purchase or exchange in, the offer referred to in § 251(h)(2)), and, in either case, with respect to which demands for appraisal have been received and the aggregate number of holders of such shares. Such statement shall be given to the stockholder within 10 days after such stockholder's request for such a statement is received by the surviving or resulting corporation or within 10 days after expiration of the period for delivery of demands for appraisal under subsection (d) of this section hereof, whichever is later. Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, a person who is the beneficial owner of shares of such stock held either in a voting trust or by a nominee on behalf of such person may, in such person's own name, file a petition or request from the corporation the statement described in this subsection.

(f) Upon the filing of any such petition by a stockholder, service of a copy thereof shall be made upon the surviving or resulting corporation, which shall within 20 days after such service file in the office of the Register in Chancery in which the petition was filed a duly verified list containing the names and addresses of all stockholders who have demanded payment for their shares and with whom agreements as to the value of their shares have not been reached by the surviving or resulting corporation. If the petition shall be filed by the surviving or resulting corporation, the petition shall be accompanied by such a duly verified list. The Register in Chancery, if so ordered by the Court, shall give notice of the time and place fixed for the hearing of such petition by registered or certified mail to the surviving or resulting corporation and to the stockholders shown on the list at the addresses therein stated. Such notice shall also be given by 1 or more publications at least 1 week before the day of the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Wilmington, Delaware or such publication as the Court deems advisable. The forms of the notices by mail and by publication shall be approved by the Court, and the costs thereof shall be borne by the surviving or resulting corporation.

(g) At the hearing on such petition, the Court shall determine the stockholders who have complied with this section and who have become entitled to appraisal rights. The Court may require the stockholders who have demanded an appraisal for their shares and who hold stock represented by certificates to submit their certificates of stock to the Register in Chancery for notation thereon of the pendency of the appraisal proceedings; and if any stockholder fails to comply with such direction, the Court may dismiss the proceedings as to such stockholder. If immediately before the merger or consolidation the shares of the class or series of stock of the constituent corporation as to which appraisal rights are available were listed on a national securities exchange, the Court shall dismiss the proceedings as to all holders of such shares who are otherwise entitled to appraisal rights unless (1) the total number of shares entitled to appraisal exceeds 1% of the outstanding shares of the class or series eligible for appraisal, (2) the value of the consideration provided in the merger or consolidation for such total number of shares exceeds \$1 million, or (3) the merger was approved pursuant to § 253 or § 267 of this title.

(h) After the Court determines the stockholders entitled to an appraisal, the appraisal proceeding shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Court of Chancery, including any rules specifically governing appraisal proceedings. Through such proceeding the Court shall determine the fair value of the shares exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the merger or consolidation, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be the fair value. In determining such fair value, the Court shall take into account all relevant factors. Unless the Court in its discretion determines otherwise for good cause shown, and except as provided in this subsection, interest from the effective date of the merger through the date of payment of the judgment shall be compounded quarterly and shall accrue at 5% over the Federal Reserve

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discount rate (including any surcharge) as established from time to time during the period between the effective date of the merger and the date of payment of the judgment. At any time before the entry of judgment in the proceedings, the surviving corporation may pay to each stockholder entitled to appraisal an amount in cash, in which case interest shall accrue thereafter as provided herein only upon the sum of (1) the difference, if any, between the amount so paid and the fair value of the shares as determined by the Court, and (2) interest theretofore accrued, unless paid at that time. Upon application by the surviving or resulting corporation or by any stockholder entitled to participate in the appraisal proceeding, the Court may, in its discretion, proceed to trial upon the appraisal prior to the final determination of the stockholders entitled to an appraisal. Any stockholder whose name appears on the list filed by the surviving or resulting corporation pursuant to subsection (f) of this section and who has submitted such stockholder's certificates of stock to the Register in Chancery, if such is required, may participate fully in all proceedings until it is finally determined that such stockholder is not entitled to appraisal rights under this section.

(i) The Court shall direct the payment of the fair value of the shares, together with interest, if any, by the surviving or resulting corporation to the stockholders entitled thereto. Payment shall be so made to each such stockholder, in the case of holders of uncertificated stock forthwith, and the case of holders of shares represented by certificates upon the surrender to the corporation of the certificates representing such stock. The Court's decree may be enforced as other decrees in the Court of Chancery may be enforced, whether such surviving or resulting corporation be a corporation of this State or of any state.

(j) The costs of the proceeding may be determined by the Court and taxed upon the parties as the Court deems equitable in the circumstances. Upon application of a stockholder, the Court may order all or a portion of the expenses incurred by any stockholder in connection with the appraisal proceeding, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and the fees and expenses of experts, to be charged pro rata against the value of all the shares entitled to an appraisal.

(k) From and after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, no stockholder who has demanded appraisal rights as provided in subsection (d) of this section shall be entitled to vote such stock for any purpose or to receive payment of dividends or other distributions on the stock (except dividends or other distributions payable to stockholders of record at a date which is prior to the effective date of the merger or consolidation); provided, however, that if no petition for an appraisal shall be filed within the time provided in subsection (e) of this section, or if such stockholder shall deliver to the surviving or resulting corporation a written withdrawal of such stockholder's demand for an appraisal and an acceptance of the merger or consolidation, either within 60 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation as provided in subsection (e) of this section or thereafter with the written approval of the corporation, then the right of such stockholder to an appraisal shall cease. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no appraisal proceeding in the Court of Chancery shall be dismissed as to any stockholder without the approval of the Court, and such approval may be conditioned upon such terms as the Court deems just; provided, however that this provision shall not affect the right of any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and to accept the terms offered upon the merger or consolidation within 60 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, as set forth in subsection (e) of this section.

(l) The shares of the surviving or resulting corporation to which the shares of such objecting stockholders would have been converted had they assented to the merger or consolidation shall have the status of authorized and unissued shares of the surviving or resulting corporation.

**Form of Proxy Card for Stockholders**

Annex F-1

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**FAIRNESS OPINION**

December 1, 2023

The Board of Directors  
Vaso Corporation  
137 Commercial Street, Suite 200  
Plainview, NY 11803

Members of the Board:

You have requested our opinion as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, to Vaso Corporation, a Delaware company (“Vaso” or the “Company”), of the Sponsor Consideration (as defined below) proposed to be paid by Vaso to Achari Sponsor Holdings I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the “Sponsor”) pursuant to the terms of the Business Combination Agreement (the “Agreement”) to be entered into by and among Achari Ventures Holdings Corp I, a Delaware corporation (“Achari” or the “SPAC”), Achari Merger Sub, Inc. (the “Merger Sub”) and Vaso (the “Transaction”). Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings set forth in the Agreement.

This Opinion is being provided solely for the information of the board of Vaso. This Opinion and the reviews, analyses, studies and consultations performed in connection with this Opinion are, (i) limited to matters within the scope of our engagement as set forth in the engagement agreement, dated October 25, 2023, between River Corporate Advisors, LLC (“RCA”) and Vaso (the “Engagement Agreement”), and (ii) subject to the covenants, representations and warranties of Vaso described in the Engagement Agreement and in any separate letters or certifications delivered to RCA in connection with this engagement.

**TRANSACTION**

Vaso intends to combine with the Merger Sub in the Transaction which is the subject of the Agreement. Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Agreement, at the Closing, the stockholders of the Company, being the holders of all of the issued and outstanding Company Common Stock, shall sell, transfer, convey, assign and deliver to Merger Sub all of the shares of Company Common Stock to Merger Sub. For purposes of this Fairness Opinion, “Sponsor Consideration” (or the “Sponsor Consideration”) means 750,000 shares of the Merger Sub with value of \$7.5 million assuming Achari’s initial public offering price of \$10 and 4.09% of the Merger Sub assuming the SPAC investors redeem 100% of their shares, an option to sell those shares to Vaso at \$8.00 per share (the “Put Option”) and 5 years warrants to purchase 750,000 shares at \$11.50 per share (the “Warrants”).

The merger and other transactions described in the Agreement and contemplated by the above transaction description is referred to herein as the “Transaction”.

**ENGAGEMENT SCOPE**

In connection with the Transaction, the board of Vaso appointed RCA as an independent financial advisor for the purpose of providing a Fairness Opinion on the Transaction. This document constitutes the opinion (the “Fairness Opinion” or the “Opinion”) contemplated by Engagement Agreement with Vaso. The financial adequacy of the value of the Sponsor Consideration is assessed on a stand-alone basis without considering buyer-specific potential synergies.

The Fairness Opinion does not constitute a recommendation regarding the Transaction and makes no reference to the benefits or the likelihood of an alternate transaction.

RCA will receive a fee upon the delivery of this Opinion. RCA’s fee is not contingent upon, or related to, the size of the Transaction, or whether the Sponsor Consideration is accepted. In addition, Vaso has agreed to reimburse certain of our expenses arising, and indemnify us against certain liabilities that may arise, out of our engagement. We may provide investment banking and other services to the Company or their respective affiliates in the future, for which we may receive compensation.

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RCA was not asked to and did not: (a) initiate any discussions with, or solicit any indications of interest from, third parties with respect to the Transaction, assets, businesses or operations of the Company, or any alternatives to the Transaction; (b) negotiate the terms of the Transaction; or (c) advise the management or board of directors or any other party with respect to alternatives to the Transaction. This Opinion is necessarily based on financial, economic, market and other conditions in effect on, and the information made available to us as of, the date hereof. We have not undertaken, and are under no obligation, to update, revise, reaffirm or withdraw this Opinion, or otherwise comment on or consider events occurring after the date hereof.

#### **METHODOLOGY AND DUE DILIGENCE**

In connection with this opinion, we have reviewed, among other things: (i) a draft of the Agreement, dated November 29, 2023; (ii) Achari and Vaso's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, as filed by Achari and Vaso with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"); (iii) certain Current Reports on Form 8-K, as filed by Achari and Vaso with, or furnished to, the SEC; (iv) certain internal information relating to the business, operations, assets, liabilities and prospects of the Company, including certain 3 year financial forecasts, analyses and projections relating to the Vaso prepared by management of Vaso and furnished to us by the Company for purposes of our analysis and approved for our use by Vaso (the "Forecasts"); (v) stock trading charts of Vaso and Achari; (vi) Company presentations. We have also conducted discussions with members of the senior management of Vaso and their respective advisors and representatives regarding such internal information as well as the past and current business, operations, financial condition and prospects of each of Vaso. We did not conduct discussions with the management of Achari. Furthermore, we reviewed (i) comparable reverse mergers and (ii) comparable SPAC mergers. We also conducted such other financial studies and analyses and took into account such other information as we deemed appropriate.

#### **OPINION ASSUMPTIONS**

Our Opinion is subject to the following assumptions, conditions and limitations:

We assume that the financial statements and other information we were provided were accurate and complete and that the Forecasts were reasonably prepared in good faith and reflect the best currently available estimates. All have been accepted, without further investigation or independent verification. We express no opinion as to whether the Forecasts can be realized and give no assurance that actual results will not vary materially from those projected.

We are not responsible for any errors or inaccuracy in historical financial statements, Forecasts, and other information.

Our Opinion assumes that all conditions to the consummation of the Transaction will be satisfied without waiver thereof, and that the Transaction will be consummated as described to us and as provided in the relevant transaction documents provided to us without amendment or modification thereto.

We were not retained to and have not conducted any analysis, review, or investigation of the SPAC's contingent, disputed or potential liabilities and our Opinion reflects only the contingent liabilities made known to us. RCA has no duty to and does not express any opinion as to the validity, amount, reasonableness, or propriety of such contingent liabilities.

It is understood that this Opinion is limited to the matters set forth herein as of the date hereof, and no opinion may be inferred or implied beyond the matters expressly contained herein or beyond the date hereof (forward-looking statements notwithstanding).

We assume that the Company has provided us with all material non-public information available to the extent relevant and material to this Opinion, and that such party has not withheld any such information that would materially affect or change our Opinion.

We assume that the properties or assets of the Company post the proposed Transaction are as represented to us and that a physical inspection of such assets would not reveal any material facts not known to us that would affect or change our Opinion.

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We have assumed, without independent verification or any responsibility therefor, the accuracy and completeness of the financial, legal, regulatory, tax, accounting and other information supplied to, discussed with, or reviewed by us for purposes of this opinion and have, with your consent, relied upon such information as being complete and accurate.

The use, disclosure, distribution, and other external reference to this Opinion is strictly governed and limited by the terms and conditions set forth in the Engagement Agreement. This Opinion is confidential between RCA and the Company and may not be disclosed to any third party without the express prior written consent of RCA. Notwithstanding the foregoing, RCA hereby consents to such disclosure as may be required in the opinion of Vaso and its counsel in connection with the Transaction, including, without limitation, the inclusion of this letter in its entirety in any proxy statement, prospectus, and/or registration statement to be distributed to securityholders of the Company in connection with the Transaction. No third party may use or rely upon our Opinion for any purpose.

We express no view or opinion as to the Forecasts or the assumptions on which they are based. In addition, with your consent, we have not made any independent evaluation or appraisal of any of the assets or liabilities (contingent, derivative, off-balance-sheet or otherwise) of the SPAC or the Company, nor have we been furnished with any such evaluation or appraisal, and we have not been asked to conduct, and did not conduct, a physical inspection of the properties or assets of the SPAC or the Company. We have assumed, with your consent, that the final executed Agreement will not differ in any respect material to our analysis or this opinion from the last draft of the Agreement reviewed by us. We have also assumed, with your consent, that the Transaction will be consummated on the terms set forth in the Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements and in accordance with all applicable laws and other relevant documents or requirements, without delay or the waiver, modification or amendment of any term, condition or agreement, the effect of which would be material to our analysis or this opinion and that, in the course of obtaining the necessary governmental, regulatory and other approvals, consents, releases and waivers for the Transaction, no delay, limitation, restriction, condition or other change will be imposed, the effect of which would be material to our analysis or this opinion. We have not evaluated and do not express any opinion as to the solvency or fair value of the SPAC or the Company, or their respective abilities to pay their obligations when they come due, or as to the impact of the Transaction on such matters, under any state, federal or other laws relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or similar matters. We are not legal, regulatory, tax or accounting advisors, and we express no opinion as to any legal, regulatory, tax or accounting matters.

Given Achari's nature as a special purpose acquisition company, for purposes of our opinion and with your consent we have assumed a value of \$10.00 per share in calculating the value of the Shares to be issued as the Consideration under the Agreement, with such \$10.00 value being based on Achari's initial public offering price. In rendering our opinion, we do not express any view or opinion as to the price or range of prices at which the Achari Shares may trade or otherwise be transferable at any time before or after announcement or consummation of the Transaction.

We express no view as to, and our opinion does not address, Vaso's underlying business decision to proceed with or effect the Transaction, or the relative merits of the Transaction as compared to any alternative business strategies or transactions that might be available to Vaso or in which the Company might engage. This opinion is limited to and addresses only the fairness, from a financial point of view, as of the date hereof, to Vaso of the Sponsor Consideration to be paid by Vaso pursuant to the terms of the Agreement. We have not been asked to, nor do we express any view on, and our opinion does not address, any other term or aspect of the Agreement or the Transaction, including, without limitation, the structure or form of the Transaction or any other agreements or arrangements contemplated by the Agreement or entered into in connection with or otherwise contemplated by the Transaction, including, without limitation, the fairness of the Transaction or any other term or aspect of the Transaction to, or any consideration to be received in connection therewith by, or the impact of the Transaction on, the holders of any class of securities, creditors or other constituencies of Vaso or any other party. In addition, we express no view or opinion as to the fairness (financial or otherwise) of the amount, nature or any other aspect of any compensation to be paid or payable to any of the officers, directors or employees of Vaso or the SPAC or any other party, or class of such persons in connection with the Transaction, whether relative to the Consideration to be paid by Vaso pursuant to the terms of the Agreement or otherwise. Our opinion (i) does not address the individual circumstances of specific stockholders of Vaso with respect to rights or aspects which may distinguish such holders or equity securities held by such holders, (ii) does not address, take into consideration or give effect to any existing or future rights, preferences, restrictions or limitations or other attributes of any such securities or holders (including the Sponsor) and (iii) does

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not in any way address proportionate allocation or relative fairness (including, without limitation, the allocation of any consideration among or within any classes or groups of security holders or other constituents of Vaso or any other party).

Our opinion is necessarily based on financial, economic, monetary, currency, market and other conditions and circumstances as in effect on, and the information made available to us as of, the date hereof, and we do not have any obligation or responsibility to update, revise or reaffirm this opinion based on circumstances, developments or events occurring after the date hereof. Our opinion does not constitute a recommendation to any stockholder of Vaso as to whether or how such holder should vote with respect to the Transaction or otherwise act with respect to the Transaction or any other matter.

The opinion expressed herein is provided for the information and assistance of the Board of Directors of Vaso (in their capacity as directors and not in any other capacity) in connection with and for purposes of its consideration of the Transaction. This opinion has been authorized by our Fairness Opinion Review Committee.

**OPINION**

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, including the various assumptions, qualifications and limitations set forth herein, it is our opinion that, as of the date hereof, the Consideration to be paid by Vaso pursuant to the terms of the Agreement is fair, from a financial point of view, to Vaso.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "River Corporate Advisors". The script is cursive and elegant, with the first letters of "River" and "Advisors" being capitalized and prominent.

River Corporate Advisors, LLC

