ALLIED HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS INC Form DEF 14A October 07, 2010

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

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant x
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o
Check the appropriate box:

o Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

x Definitive Proxy Statement

o Definitive Additional Materials
Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Allied Healthcare Products, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

N/A

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

x No fee required. Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

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

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value amount on which the filing fee is calculated	e of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the lated and state how it was determined):			
(4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:			
(5)	Total fee paid:			
• •	Fee paid previously with preliminary materials. as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for asly. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the g. Amount previously paid:			
(2)	Form, schedule or registration statement no.:			
(3)	Filing party:			
(4)	Date filed:			

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October 8, 2010

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders which will be held at the Corporate Headquarters of Allied Healthcare Products, Inc., 1720 Sublette, St. Louis, Missouri 63110 at 9:00 a.m., Central Time, on Thursday, November 11, 2010. On the following pages you will find the formal Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement.

Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting in person, it is important that your shares be represented and voted at the meeting. Accordingly, please date, sign and return the enclosed proxy card promptly.

We hope that you will attend the meeting and look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

John D. Weil Chairman of the Board

Earl R. Refsland Chief Executive Officer

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Thursday, November 11, 2010

To the Stockholders of Allied Healthcare Products, Inc.:

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Allied Healthcare Products, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Company), will be held at the Corporate Headquarters of Allied Healthcare Products, Inc., 1720 Sublette, St. Louis, Missouri 63110 on Thursday, November 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., Central Time, for the following purposes:

- To elect five directors to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their successors are elected and qualified;
 - (2) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof. The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement accompanying this Notice.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on October 1, 2010 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. A list of stockholders of the Company at the close of business on October 1, 2010 will be available for inspection during normal business hours from October 20 through November 11, 2010 at the offices of the Company at 1720 Sublette Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63110 and will also be available at the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Daniel C. Dunn Vice President Finance, Chief Financial Officer Secretary & Treasurer

> St. Louis, Missouri October 8, 2010

FILL OUT, DATE AND SIGN THE ENCLOSED FORM OF PROXY AND RETURN IT IN THE ACCOMPANYING POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE, EVEN IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING. YOU MAY REVOKE YOUR PROXY IN WRITING, OR AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IF YOU WISH TO VOTE IN PERSON.

ALLIED HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS, INC.

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ALLIED HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS, INC. 1720 Sublette Avenue St. Louis, Missouri 63110

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS Thursday, November 11, 2010

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Why am I receiving these materials?

I.

The Board of Directors of Allied Healthcare Products, Inc. (the Company, we or our) provides you these materials to solicit your proxy in connection with our annual meeting of stockholders (the Annual Meeting) and any and all A: adjournments thereof. You are encouraged to vote on the proposals presented in these proxy materials. You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting, but you do not need to attend to vote. The Company first mailed these materials on October 8, 2010.

Q: When and where is the Annual Meeting?

A: We will hold the Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Central Time at our corporate headquarters, located at 1720 Sublette Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110.

Q: What information is contained in this Proxy Statement?

The information in this Proxy Statement relates to the election of directors at the annual meeting, the voting A: process, our corporate governance, the compensation of our directors and most highly paid executive officers and other required disclosures.

Q: Can I get electronic access to the proxy materials?

A: These proxy materials, including our 2010 annual report to stockholders are available at www.alliedhpi.com.

O: Who is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting?

Stockholders of record at the close of business on Friday, October 1, 2010 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. As of the close of business on that date, there were outstanding and entitled to vote 8,093,386 shares of common stock, each of which is entitled to one vote. No cumulative voting rights exist under the Company s Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation. For information regarding the ownership of the Company s Common Stock by holders of more than five percent of the outstanding shares and by the management

Q: How do I vote my shares?

of the Company, see Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management.

A: If you are a stockholder of record and you attend the meeting, you may vote by ballot. Whether you hold shares directly as the stockholder of record or beneficially in street name, you may also direct how your shares are voted without attending the Annual Meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, you may vote by proxy by completing and returning the enclosed proxy card.

Q: How do I vote if my shares are held in street name?

If you hold your shares in street name, (i.e., you hold the shares through a broker, bank or other intermediary), as a opposed to holding them of record, you will receive a form from your broker or bank seeking instruction as to how your shares should be voted. If you desire to vote shares held in street name in person at the meeting, you need to contact your broker or intermediary and ask how to obtain a legal proxy to directly vote such shares.

Q: What am I voting on?

A: The only matter to be voted upon this year is the election of our Board of Directors. Common stockholders may also vote on any other matter that is properly brought before the meeting.

O: Who are the nominees for directors?

A: We have five directors who are standing for election. We provide biographical information for each director in this Proxy Statement.

Q: How does the Board recommend I vote?

A: Our Board recommends that you vote your shares FOR each of the nominees to the Board O: How will my employee stock purchase plan shares be voted?

A: Shares of Common Stock held by participants in Allied Healthcare s employee stock purchase plans will be voted in accordance with instructions provided on a separate card given to participants in such plans.

Q. What is the voting requirement to elect the directors?

A. The election of directors at the Annual Meeting will be determined on the basis of the five candidates receiving the highest pluralities of votes cast at the Annual Meeting.

: How are votes counted?

A: In the election of directors, you may vote FOR all of the nominees or your vote may be WITHHELD for some or all of the nominees.

Q: What happens if additional matters are presented at the annual meeting?

We are not aware of any business other than the election of directors to be acted upon at the annual meeting. If you A: grant a proxy, the person(s) named as proxy holder(s) will have the discretion to vote your shares on any additional matters properly presented for a vote at the meeting.

Q: What if I vote and then change my mind as to how I want to vote or want to revoke my proxy?

If you are a stockholder of record, you may change your vote by granting a new proxy bearing a later date, by providing our Secretary with written notice of revocation of your proxy, or by attending the meeting and casting your vote in person. To change or revoke your vote for shares you hold in street name, you will need to follow the

instructions in the materials your broker or bank provides you.

Q: Whom may I call with questions about the annual meeting?

For information about your stock ownership, or for other stockholder services, please contact Stockholder Relations A: at 314-771-2400, extension 604. For information about the meeting itself, please contact Daniel C. Dunn, our Secretary, at 314-771-2400.

Q: What should I do if I receive more than one proxy card?

If you hold shares in more than one account you will receive a proxy card for each account. It is important that you vote shares represented by each proxy card you receive.

II. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Company s Board of Directors is comprised of a single class. The directors are elected at the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Company and each director elected holds office until his or her successor is elected and qualified. The Board currently consists of five members. The stockholders will vote at the 2010 Annual Meeting for the election of all five directors for the one-year term expiring at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in 2011. There are no family relationships among any directors or executive officers of the Company.

The persons named in the enclosed proxy will vote for the election of the nominees named below unless authority to vote is withheld. All nominees have consented to serve if elected. In the event that any of the nominees should be unable to serve, the persons named in the proxy will vote for such substitute nominee or nominees as they, in their discretion, shall determine. The Board of Directors has no reason to believe that any nominee named herein will be unable to serve.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS VOTING FOR EACH OF THE NOMINEES NAMED BELOW. IF YOU SIGN AND RETURN THE PROXY CARD AND DO NOT SPECIFY OTHERWISE, WE WILL VOTE YOUR SHARES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE FIVE NOMINEES LISTED BELOW.

The following material contains information concerning the nominees for election as Directors.

The biographies of each of the nominees and continuing directors below contains information regarding the person s service as a director, business experience, director positions held currently or at any time during the last five years, information regarding involvement in certain legal or administrative proceedings, if applicable, and the experiences, qualifications, attributes or skills that caused the Governance and Nominating Committee and the Board to determine that the person should serve as a director for the Company beginning in 2010.

The Governance and Nominating Committee does not have a fixed process for identifying and evaluating potential candidates to be nominees for directors, and there is no fixed set of qualifications that candidates must satisfy to be considered. The Governance and Nominating Committee has the flexibility to consider any factors as it deems appropriate. These factors may include education, diversity, experience in the Company s industry, the interplay of the candidate s experience with that of other members of the Board of Directors, and the extent to which the candidate would be a desirable addition to the Board of Directors and to any of the committees of the Board of Directors. The Governance and Nominating Committee will evaluate nominees for directors submitted by shareholders in the same manner in which it evaluates other director nominees. No shareholder has properly nominated anyone for election as a director at the Annual Meeting.

NAME OF NOMINEE	AGE	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION	DIRECTOR SINCE	
Judith T. Graves	63	Retired	February 2004	
Joseph E. Root	65	Attorney	October 2006	
		Director, Center for Health Policy, School of		
William A. Peck	77	Medicine, Washington University, St. Louis,	April 1994	
		Missouri		
Earl R. Refsland	67	President and Chief Executive Officer of the	September 1999	
Laii K. Keisialiu		Company, St. Louis, Missouri	September 1777	

John D. Weil (Chairman) 69 Private Investor August 1997
Except as set forth below, each of the nominees has been engaged in his principal occupation described above during the past five years.

Ms. Graves retired as the Assistant Director for Administrative Services and Controller to the Board of Commissioners of the Saint Louis Art Museum. Prior to assuming expanded responsibilities, Ms. Graves had been the Museum s Director of Finance and Controller to the Board of Commissioners since 1984. Ms. Graves brings to the board over thirty years of experience in finance and accounting.

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Mr. Root is an attorney and is the founder and chief executive officer of Qualipat, LLC, a consulting firm providing training and outsourcing solutions to corporations and patent lawyers. He serves as an independent consultant to UnitedLex Corp. a leader in legal process facilitation. Prior to that, he served as Chief Patent Counsel to UnitedLex Corp. from April 2008 to August 2009. Mr. Root s legal practice has been focused in the field of intellectual property, technology and patent law, and he was of counsel to Haynes Beffel & Wolfeld, an IP boutique located in Half Moon Bay, CA. Previously, he served as Senior IP Counsel to SAP AG, a worldwide leader in enterprise management software headquartered in Germany. During the 2000 to 2002 period, Mr. Root served as Senior Vice-President and General Counsel to two affiliated public companies: Fidelity National Information Systems and Micro General Corp. His career before that point spanned a range of positions both in-house and in private practice, including General Counsel of Marquip, Inc. in Phillips, Wisconsin and IP counsel positions with Johnson Controls, Inc. and RJR-Nabisco, Inc. He engaged in private practice with the New York offices of the Bryan Cave and Kenyon & Kenyon law firms. Mr. Root received a J.D., magna cum laude, from Wake Forest University, and a B.S. from the United States Military Academy. Before attending law school, Mr. Root served as an Armor Officer in the U.S. Army and in engineering and production management positions. The Board believes that Mr. Root s knowledge in the field of intellectual property law and his experience in advising small businesses make him a desirable member of the Board.

Dr. Peck is currently serving as the Wolff Distinguished Professor at Washington University and Director of the Center for Health Policy. From 1993 to June 2003, Dr. Peck served as Executive Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs at Washington University and from 1989 to June 2003, Dean of the School of Medicine at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Peck served as a director of Angelica Corporation from 1996 until August 2006. From 1990 until 2005 Dr. Peck served as a director of Hologic and from 1993 until 2004 he served as a director Reinsurance Group of America. Dr. Peck brings to the board of directors many years of experience as a director of public companies, including service as chairman and service on audit, compensation and executive committees, as well as knowledge of the health care system.

Mr. Refsland has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since September 1999. From
February 1999 to January 2000, Mr. Refsland served as Director and Chairman of the Board of Andros Technologies.
From May 1995 to March 1998, Mr. Refsland served as President and CEO of Photometrics Limited. Mr. Refsland previously served as Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of Directors of Allied Healthcare Products,
Inc. from 1986 to 1993. Mr. Refsland brings to the board of directors nearly thirty years of experience in the medical industry, including eighteen years as the Chief Executive Officer of Allied Healthcare Products, Inc. The Board believes that Mr. Refsland s medical industry experience, executive experience, and extensive experience in all disciplines of business and manufacturing make him a desirable member of the Board.

Mr. Weil serves as the Chairman of the Company s Board of Directors. Mr. Weil has been the President of Clayton Management Co., a private investment company, since 1973 and currently is a director of Baldwin & Lyons, Inc, a publicly traded insurance company. Mr. Weil was also a member of the board of directors of Pico Holdings, Inc. from 1996 until August 2010 and a member of the board of directors of Highbury Financial Inc from 2009 until that company was sold in April 2010. Mr. Weil also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, and as President of the St. Louis Art Museum Commission.

Mr. Weil has wide-ranging experience on various boards and as president of an investment company. The Board believes that Mr. Weil s knowledge in the areas of officer compensation, risk assessment and oversight, corporate governance, finance, investment, and board development makes him a valuable resource as our independent Chairman, the Chairman of our Compensation Committee and a member of our Governance and Nominating Committee.

In December 2002 an action initiated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (Commission) against Mr. Weil was settled simultaneously with its filing pursuant to a consent agreement entered into by Mr. Weil. The Commission alleged violations of the anti-fraud provisions of the federal securities laws arising in connection with transactions in the securities of Kaye Group, Inc. (Kaye Group) involving material non-public information. Mr. Weil was not an officer or director of Kaye Group. The transaction cited by the

Commission in its complaint involved less than one percent of the securities of Kaye Group beneficially owned by Mr. Weil and less than one-tenth of one percent of the Kaye Group s outstanding shares. Mr. Weil consented to the entry of a final judgment of permanent injunction and other relief, including disgorgement of alleged profits in the amount of \$47,000 and civil penalties of a like amount, but did not admit to nor deny any of the allegations in the Commission s complaint.

Board of Director Independence

The Board has determined that each of the current Directors other than Mr. Refsland is independent within the meaning of the Company s director independence standards, which reflect the Nasdaq Stock Market director independence standards, as currently in effect. Furthermore, the Board has determined that each of the members of each of the committees is independent within the meaning of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Audit Committee) and the Nasdaq Stock Market committee independence standards (Audit, Compensation and Nominating/Corporate Governance Committees).

Board Structure Committees of the Board

Board Structure

The Board believes that having an independent Chairman of the Board is in the best interest of stockholders. An independent Chairman ensures a greater role for the independent directors in the oversight of the Company and active participation of the independent directors in setting agendas and establishing priorities and procedures for the work of the Board.

The Board is actively involved in overseeing the Company s management of risk. This oversight is conducted primarily through committees of the Board, as described below. The full Board has retained responsibility for general oversight of risks. The Board satisfies this responsibility through full reports by each committee chair regarding the committee s considerations and actions, as well as through regular reports directly from officers responsible for oversight of particular risks within the Company.

The Board of Directors of the Company held four meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The Board of Directors presently maintains a Compensation Committee, an Audit Committee and a Governance and Nominating Committee.

Committees of the Board

The Compensation Committee consists of Messrs. Weil, Root, Peck and Madam Graves. This committee reviews and approves the Company s executive compensation policy, administers the Company s incentive compensation bonus plan and makes recommendations concerning the Company s employee benefit policies and stock option plans in effect from time to time. The Compensation Committee held one meeting during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The Compensation Committee does not have a charter, but in the course of performing its duties, the committee adheres to the Company s Corporate Governance Principles, a copy of which is available on the Company s website: www.alliedhpi.com.

The Compensation Committee is responsible for overseeing management of risks relating to the Company s compensation and benefits systems. To assist it in satisfying these oversight responsibilities, the Committee may

retain its own compensation consultant and hold meetings with management and with outside counsel to understand the financial, human resources and stockholder implications of compensation decisions being made. In fiscal year 2010, the Committee did not engage any consultant to provide advice or services related to compensation of the Company s named executive officers.

The Audit Committee consists of Messrs. Weil, Root, Peck and Madam Graves. The Charter for the Audit Committee is available on the Company s web site: www.alliedhpi.com. This committee recommends engagement of the Company s independent auditors and is primarily responsible for approving the services performed by the Company s independent auditors. This committee is also responsible for reviewing and evaluating the Company s accounting principles and its systems of internal accounting controls and overseeing the management of risks related to these activities. The Audit Committee held three meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The Board of Directors has determined that nominees for director should meet all the criteria that have been established by the Board of Directors and the Nomination, Compensation and

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Committees of the Board 14

Governance Committee for board membership and not just have certain specific qualities or skills, such as those that would qualify a nominee as an audit committee financial expert. Accordingly, the Board of Directors believes that it is not in the best interests of the Company to nominate as a director someone who does not have all the experience, attributes and qualifications sought. The Audit Committee consists of three independent directors, each of whom has been selected for the Audit Committee by the Board of Directors based on its determination that they are fully qualified to monitor the performance of management, internal accounting operations and the independent public accountants, and are fully qualified to monitor the disclosures of the Company to the end that they fairly present its financial condition and results of operations. Although one or more of the members of the Audit Committee meets, in the Company s opinion, the SEC definition of an audit committee financial expert, the Board of Directors has decided not to designate any one of them as such. In addition, the Audit Committee has the ability on its own to retain other independent public accountants or other consultants whenever it deems appropriate. The Board of Directors believes that this is fully equivalent to having an audit committee financial expert on the Audit Committee.

The Governance and Nominating Committee consists of Messrs. Weil, Root, Peck and Madam Graves. This committee recommends nominees to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. The Governance and Nominating Committee did not hold a meeting during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The Governance and Nominating Committee will consider nominees submitted by stockholders for inclusion on the recommended list of nominees submitted by the Company and voted on at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in 2010 if such nominations are submitted in writing to the Company s headquarters Attention: Governance and Nominating Committee, no later than June 1, 2010. The Governance and Nominating Committee does not have a charter, but in the course of performing its duties, the committee adheres to the Company s Corporate Governance Principles, a copy of which is available on the Company s website: www.alliedhpi.com.

Compensation of Directors

Each director who is not an employee of the Company is entitled to receive an annual fee of \$15,000 for his services as a director and additional fees of \$1,000 for attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors and \$350 for attendance at each meeting of committees of the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee Chairman is entitled to receive an additional annual fee of \$1,000. Directors are also entitled to reimbursement for their expenses in attending meetings.

In 1995, the Company s stockholders approved and adopted the 1995 Stock Option Plan for Directors (the 1995 Directors Plan). The 1995 Directors Plan granted options to non-employee directors on a formula basis at the time of initial election to the board, for service on certain board committees and for reelection to the board. Options outstanding under the 1995 Directors Plan are subject to adjustment in the event of a reorganization, merger, consolidation, stock split, dividend payable in Common Stock, split-up, combination or other exchange of shares. The options are treated as non-qualified options for federal income tax purposes such that any value in the option is taxable as ordinary income as of the date of exercise. The purchase price for shares of Common Stock to be purchased upon the exercise of options is equal to the last reported sales price per share of Common Stock on the Nasdaq National Market on the date of grant (or the last reported sales price on such other exchange or market on which the Common Stock is traded from time to time).

As adopted, the 1995 Directors Plan was intended to provide formula awards in accordance with certain then-applicable exemptive rules of the SEC and is administered by the Board of Directors, which may delegate administration thereof to a committee of the Board. The 1995 Directors Plan expired in accordance with its terms prior to the 2005 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Options generally expire ten years from date of grant and the expiration of the 1995 Directors Plan had no impact on outstanding options.

Pursuant to the express terms of the 1995 Directors Plan, options to purchase 10,000 shares of Common Stock were granted to each eligible director on the date such person is first elected to the Board of Directors of the Company. An option to purchase an additional 5,000 shares of Common stock is granted to each eligible director on the date such person is first elected to serve as Chairman of the Board of the Company. These options may not be exercised for a period of two years from the date of grant and thereafter become

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exercisable on a cumulative basis in 25% increments beginning on the second anniversary of the date of grant and concluding on the fifth anniversary thereof.

In addition, the 1995 Directors Plan provided that options to purchase 1,000 shares of Common Stock were granted to each eligible director on the date such person is re-elected to the Board of Directors by the vote of the stockholders, at the annual or other meeting at which directors are elected, and that options to purchase 500 shares of Common Stock are granted to each eligible director on the date such person is elected or re-elected to serve as Chairman of a Committee maintained by the Board of Directors from time to time. These options may not be exercised for a period of one year from the date of grant and thereafter are exercisable in full.

Following termination of the 1995 Directors Plan, the Board adopted and the stockholders approved at the 2006 Annual Meeting, the Allied Healthcare Products Inc. Incentive Stock Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the 2005 Directors Plan). That Plan permits the Board discretion in continuing formula stock option grants on the basis used in the 1995 Directors Plan or alternative forms of equity interests as discussed below.

Director Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the compensation we paid to our non-employee directors for their service in fiscal year 2010.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)		Awards	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	and Nonqualified	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	