

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

**SCHEDULE 14A**

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

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

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

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

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

**Ciena Corporation**

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(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):

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:

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

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(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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(5) Total fee paid:

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Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

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(2) Form, schedule or registration statement no.:

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(3) Filing party:

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(4) Date filed:

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February 8, 2017

Notice to Ciena Employees

### **Availability of Proxy Materials & Ciena Annual Meeting of Stockholders**

Each year Ciena stockholders have the opportunity to participate in the governance of our company by submitting proxies and voting at our Annual Meeting. This year's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. As noted in today's press release, our Annual Meeting will be completely virtual and held online at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ciena2017](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/ciena2017).

If you were a Ciena stockholder as of January 26, 2017, the record date for this year's Annual Meeting, you will soon receive a Notice that your proxy materials are available online. The Notice will detail the items that are on the agenda for stockholder consideration at this year's Annual Meeting. These include:

- the election of three nominees to serve as Class II directors;
- the approval of Ciena's 2017 Omnibus Incentive Plan;
- the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers as our auditors for fiscal 2017;
- an advisory vote on our named executive officer compensation; and
- an advisory vote on the frequency of future stockholder advisory votes on our named executive officer compensation.

**The Notice you receive will explain how to access our proxy materials online and how to vote your shares. This year, in addition to traditional voting methods, we are providing stockholders the ability to vote via mobile device.**

Even if you are not a Ciena stockholder, you may be interested in reviewing our Fiscal 2016 Annual Report as well as our proxy statement for the Annual Meeting — both of which are available online at <http://investor.ciena.com/>. Printed copies of our proxy materials can be obtained by completing the information request form accessible on that same webpage. As in the past, we will provide printed copies of the Annual Report to the receptionist or facilities coordinator at each major Ciena facility for distribution to employees, customers and visitors as needed.

If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact Amanda Norton in Ciena's Investor Relations department directly at 410.865.8989 or by email at [anorton@ciena.com](mailto:anorton@ciena.com).