ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC Form N-CSRS

June 29, 2007

## **UNITED STATES**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **FORM N-CSR**

## CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT

#### **INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

Investment Company Act file number: 811-04438

Exact name of registrant as specified in charter: Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Address of principal executive offices: 800 Scudders Mill Road

Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536

Name and address of agent for service: Mr. Christian Pittard

Aberdeen Asset Management Inc.

1735 Market Street

37th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: 866-839-5205

Date of fiscal year end: 10/31/07

Date of reporting period: 4/30/07

Item 1 Reports to Stockholders [INSERT REPORT]

Invests primarily in equity securities of Australian companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

Semi-Annual Report

April 30, 2007

## Letter to Shareholders

June 18, 2007

Dear Shareholder,

We present this Semi-Annual Report which covers the activities of Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (the Fund ) for the six months ended April 30, 2007. The Fund s principal investment objective is long-term capital appreciation through investment primarily in equity securities of Australian companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange Limited. The Fund s secondary investment objective is current income.

#### **Net Asset Value Performance**

The Fund s total return based on net asset value (NAV) was 22.7% for the six months ended April 30, 2007, assuming reinvestment of distributions, compared with 25.5%, in U.S. dollar terms, for the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index.

#### **Share Price Performance**

The Fund s share price increased 17.1% over the six months, from \$14.00 on October 31, 2006 to \$16.40 on April 30, 2007. The Fund s share price on April 30, 2007 represented a premium of 6.7% to the NAV per share of \$15.37 on that date, compared with a premium of 5.7% to the NAV per share of \$13.25 on October 31, 2006. At the date of this letter, the share price was \$17.47, representing a premium of 7.4% to the NAV per share of \$16.27.

#### **Managed Distribution Policy**

The Fund has a managed distribution policy of paying quarterly distributions at an annual rate, set once a year, that is a percentage of the rolling average of the Fund s prior four quarter-end net asset values. In March 2007, the Board of Directors determined the rolling distribution rate to be 10% for the 12 month period commencing with the distribution payable in April 2007. This policy will be subject to regular review by the Fund s Board of Directors. The distributions will be made from current income, supplemented by realized capital gains and, to the extent necessary, paid-in capital.

On June 13, 2007, the Board of Directors authorized a quarterly distribution of 34 cents per share, payable on July 13, 2007 to all shareholders of record as of June 29, 2007.

#### Registration Statement for Secondary Offering of Fund s Shares

On May 8, 2007, the Fund filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The registration statement will permit Landesbank Berlin AG (the Bank), the beneficial owner of approximately 13.6% of the Fund s outstanding shares of Common Stock, to sell its shares of the Fund on the open market pursuant to the registration provisions of the Securities Act of 1933. The Bank will bear a majority of the expenses in connection with the offering of shares pursuant to the registration statement, and those expenses not covered by the Bank will be paid by Aberdeen Asset Management Inc., the Fund s administrator. The Fund will not pay any of the expenses in connection with the

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

## Letter to Shareholders (continued)

| offering of shares pursuant to the registration statement. | Although the registration | statement has been file | ed with the Securities | and Exchange |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Commission, it has not yet become effective.               |                           |                         |                        |              |

#### **Portfolio Holdings Disclosure**

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Fund s Forms N-Q are available on the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov and may be reviewed and copied at the SEC s Public Reference Room in Washington D.C. Information about the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. The Fund makes the information on Form N-Q available to shareholders on the Fund s website or upon request and without charge by calling Investor Relations toll-free at 1-866-839-5205.

#### **Proxy Voting**

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities, and information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the twelve months ended June 30, 2006, is available: (i) upon request and without charge by calling Investor Relations toll-free at 1-866-839-5205; and (ii) on the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov.

#### **Investor Relations Information**

For information about the Fund, daily updates of share price, NAV and details of recent distributions, please contact Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. by:

Calling toll free on 1-866-839-5205 in the United States,

E-mailing to InvestorRelations@aberdeen-asset.com, or

Visiting the website at www.aberdeeniaf.com.

For information about the Aberdeen Group, visit the Aberdeen website at www.aberdeen-asset.com.

Yours sincerely,

#### **Martin Gilbert**

President

All amounts are U.S. dollars unless otherwise stated.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Your Board s policy is to provide investors with a stable distribution rate. Each quarterly distribution will be paid out of current income, supplemented by realized capital gains and, to the extent necessary, paid-in capital.

The Fund is subject to U.S. corporate, tax and securities laws. Under U.S. tax accounting rules, the amount of distributable income for each fiscal period depends on the actual exchange rates during the entire year between the U.S. dollar and the currencies in which Fund assets are denominated and on the aggregate gains and losses realized by the Fund during the entire year.

Therefore, the exact amount of distributable income for each fiscal year can only be determined as of the end of the Fund s fiscal year, October 31. However, under the U.S. Investment Company Act of 1940, the Fund may be required to indicate the sources of certain distributions to shareholders.

The Fund estimates that distributions for the fiscal year commencing November 1, 2006, including the distribution paid on April 13, 2007, are comprised of 50% net investment income and 50% realized capital gains.

This estimated distribution composition may vary from quarter to quarter because it may be materially impacted by future realized gains and losses on securities and fluctuations in the value of the currencies in which Fund assets are denominated.

In January 2008, a Form 1099-DIV will be sent to shareholders, which will state the amount and composition of distributions and provide information with respect to their appropriate tax treatment for the 2007 calendar year.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

## Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan

We invite you to participate in the Fund  $\,$ s Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan (the  $\,$ Plan  $\,$ ), which allows you to automatically reinvest your distributions in shares of the Fund  $\,$ s common stock at favorable commission rates. Distributions made under the Plan are taxable to the same extent as are cash distributions. The Plan also enables you to make additional cash investments in shares of at least \$100 per transaction, with a maximum of \$10,000 per month, and an aggregate annual limit of \$120,000. Under this arrangement, The Bank of New York (the  $\,$ Plan Agent  $\,$ ) will purchase shares for you on the American Stock Exchange or otherwise on the open market on or before the investment date. The investment date is the 15th day of each month, but if such date is not a business day, the preceding business day.

As a Participant in the Plan, you will benefit from:

**Automatic reinvestment** - the Plan Agent will automatically reinvest your distributions, allowing you to gradually grow your holdings in the Fund;

**Lower cost** - shares are purchased on your behalf under the Plan at low brokerage rates. Brokerage on share purchases is currently 2 cents per share:

**Convenience** - the Plan Agent will hold your shares in non-certificated form and will provide a detailed plan account statement of your holdings at the end of each month.

To request a brochure containing information on the Plan, together with an enrollment form, please contact the Plan Agent, The Bank of New York, Shareholder Relations Department, P.O. Box 11258, Church Street Station, New York, NY 10286 or call toll free on 1-800-432-8224.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

## Portfolio Composition

The following chart summarizes the composition of the Fund s portfolio, in industry classification standard sectors, expressed as a percentage of net assets. An industry classification standard sector can include more than one industry group. The Fund may invest between 25% and 35% of its total assets in the securities of any one industry group if, at the time of investment, that industry group represents 20% or more of the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index. As of April 30, 2007, the Fund did not have more than 25% of its assets invested in any industry group. The financial industry sector is comprised of several groups.

As of April 30, 2007, the Fund held 94.4% of its net assets in equities, 2.4% in short-term investments and 3.2% in other assets in excess of liabilities.

The following were the Fund s top ten holdings at April 30, 2007:

| Name of Security                              | Percentage of Net Assets |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BHP Billiton Limited                          | 8.7%                     |
| Rio Tinto Limited                             | 8.5%                     |
| Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Limited | 6.9%                     |
| QBE Insurance Group Limited                   | 6.9%                     |
| Westpac Banking Corporation Limited           | 6.5%                     |
| Woolworths Limited                            | 5.6%                     |
| Woodside Petroleum Limited                    | 4.7%                     |
| Westfield Group Limited                       | 4.7%                     |
| TABCORP Holdings Limited                      | 4.4%                     |
| Suncorp-Metway Limited                        | 4.0%                     |

Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited

June 2007

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

# Portfolio of Investments (unaudited)

As of April 30, 2007

|                             |                                               | Value                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Shares                      | Description                                   | (US\$)                      |
| LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS 94.4% |                                               | (554)                       |
| Common Stocks 94.4%         |                                               |                             |
| Capital Goods 0.2%          |                                               |                             |
| 65,806                      | Bradken Limited                               | \$ 523,087                  |
| Consumer Discretionary 8.2% |                                               |                             |
| 1,099,500                   | APN News & Media Corporation Limited          | 5,500,154                   |
| 405,000                     | Billabong International Limited               | 5,562,168                   |
| 862,500                     | TABCORP Holdings Limited                      | 12,993,999                  |
|                             |                                               | 24,056,321                  |
| Consumer Staples 10.2%      |                                               |                             |
| 958,000                     | Foster s Group Limited                        | 5,095,320                   |
| 1,126,000                   | Lion Nathan Limited                           | 8,575,602                   |
| 697,000                     | Woolworths Limited                            | 16,418,155                  |
| 007,000                     |                                               |                             |
|                             |                                               | 30,089,077                  |
| Energy 4.7%                 |                                               |                             |
| 420,500                     | Woodside Petroleum Limited                    | 13,797,098                  |
| Financials 33.2%            |                                               |                             |
| 798,500                     | Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Limited | 20,337,684                  |
| 202,000                     | Australian Stock Exchange Limited             | 8,070,450                   |
| 475,500                     | Bendigo Bank Limited*                         | 6,304,802                   |
| 268,000                     | Commonwealth Bank of Australia                | 11,769,140                  |
| 786,000                     | QBE Insurance Group Limited*                  | 20,189,409                  |
| 664,000                     | Suncorp-Metway Limited                        | 11,854,972                  |
| 846,000                     | Westpac Banking Corporation Limited           | 19,047,710                  |
| 0+0,000                     | Westpac Banking Corporation Elimited          | 13,047,710                  |
|                             |                                               | 97,574,167                  |
| Industrials 8.8%            |                                               |                             |
| 1,455,500                   | Downer EDI Limited*                           | 9,074,008                   |
| 260,000                     | Leighton Holdings Limited                     | 7,535,416                   |
| 284,500                     | Wesfarmers Limited                            | 9,270,842                   |
| 204,300                     | Westamers Limited                             | 9,270,042                   |
|                             |                                               | 25,880,266                  |
|                             |                                               | Value                       |
| Shares                      | Description                                   | (IICA)                      |
| Materials 17.1%             | Description                                   | (US\$)                      |
| 1,035,000                   | BHP Billiton Limited                          | \$ 25,422,292               |
| 362,500                     | Rio Tinto Limited*                            | \$ 25,422,292<br>25,004,057 |
|                             |                                               | . ,                         |
|                             |                                               | 50,426,349                  |
| Property 4.7%               |                                               |                             |
| 784,000                     | Westfield Group Limited                       | 13,703,784                  |
| 704,000                     | Woothold Group Ellillod                       | 13,703,704                  |

| Telecommuni                | cation Services    | 3.2%    |                                                               |    |             |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|
|                            | 1,729,000          |         | Telecom Corporation of New Zealand Limited*                   |    | 6,202,652   |
|                            | 788,500            |         | Telstra Corporation Limited                                   |    | 3,064,952   |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    | 9,267,604   |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
| Utilities 4.1%             |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
|                            | 493,700            |         | AGL Energy Limited                                            |    | 6,320,109   |
|                            | 4,789,000          |         | SP Ausnet                                                     |    | 5,879,522   |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    | 10 100 001  |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    | 12,199,631  |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
| Total long terrinvestments |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
| (cost \$153,091            |                    |         |                                                               |    | 277,517,384 |
| (0031 \$ 100,00            | 1,730)             |         |                                                               |    | 277,517,504 |
| SHORT-TERM                 | INVESTMENT         | 2 /10/2 |                                                               |    |             |
|                            | INVESTIMENT        | 2.4 /0  |                                                               |    |             |
| Par Amount                 | \$7,034,000        |         | Repurchase Agreement, State Street Bank and Trust Company,    |    |             |
|                            | Φ7,034,000         |         | 4.60% dated 4/30/07, due 5/01/07 in the amount of \$7,034,899 |    |             |
|                            |                    |         | (collateralized by \$5,140,000 U.S. Treasury Bonds, 8.75% due |    |             |
|                            |                    |         | 8/15/20; value \$7,180,318)                                   |    | 7,034,000   |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
| Total short-ter            | rm                 |         |                                                               |    |             |
| investments 2              | 2.4%               |         |                                                               |    |             |
| (cost \$7,034,0            | 00)                |         |                                                               |    | 7,034,000   |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
| Total Investme             |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
| (cost \$160,125            |                    |         | 200/                                                          |    | 284,551,384 |
| Otner Assets in            | n Excess of Liabil | ities 3 | 3.2%                                                          |    | 9,468,923   |
| Net Assets 10              | nn no/             |         |                                                               | ¢  | 294,020,307 |
| NEL ASSELS IL              | JU.U 70            |         |                                                               | \$ | 294,020,307 |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |
|                            |                    |         |                                                               |    |             |

<sup>\*</sup> Portion of security is on loan. (See Note 3)

#### **Tax Cost of Investments**

The United States federal income tax basis of the Fund s investments and net unrealized appreciation as of April 30, 2007 were as follows:

| Тах            |                |              | Net            |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                |                |              | Unrealized     |
| Cost Basis     | Appreciation   | Depreciation | Appreciation   |
| \$ 160,125,793 | \$ 124,425,591 | \$           | \$ 124,425,591 |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities (unaudited)

As of April 30, 2007

| Assets                                                                             |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Investments, at value (including \$43,928,291 of securities on loan)               |                |
| (cost \$160,125,793) (Note 3)                                                      | \$ 284,551,384 |
| Foreign currency, at value (cost \$4,378,749)                                      | 4,424,767      |
| Cash                                                                               | 555            |
| Receivable for investments sold                                                    | 5,894,115      |
| Dividends and interest receivable                                                  | 98,316         |
| Other assets                                                                       | 13,199         |
|                                                                                    |                |
| Total assets                                                                       | 294,982,336    |
|                                                                                    |                |
|                                                                                    |                |
| Liabilities                                                                        |                |
| Payable for investments purchased                                                  | 523,379        |
| Investment management fee payable                                                  | 198,099        |
| Administration fee payable                                                         | 9,864          |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities                                             | 230,687        |
|                                                                                    |                |
| Total liabilities                                                                  | 962,029        |
|                                                                                    | ,              |
|                                                                                    |                |
| Net Assets                                                                         | \$ 294,020,307 |
| not Addition                                                                       | Ψ 204,020,007  |
|                                                                                    |                |
| Commonition of Not Access                                                          |                |
| Composition of Net Assets Common Stock (par value \$.01 per share)                 | \$ 191,290     |
| Paid-in capital in excess of par                                                   | 165,465,834    |
| Distributions in excess of net investment income                                   | (5,257,830)    |
| Accumulated net realized gains on investment transactions                          | 8,432,413      |
| Net unrealized appreciation on investments                                         | 99,201,564     |
| Accumulated net realized foreign exchange gains                                    | 707,810        |
| Net unrealized foreign exchange gains                                              | 25,279,226     |
| , lot amounized for one hange game                                                 | _0,_: 0,0      |
|                                                                                    |                |
| Net Assets                                                                         | ¢ 204 020 207  |
| NEI ASSEIS                                                                         | \$ 294,020,307 |
| Netturbus manuscrame based on 40 400 000 shares issued.                            | <b>\$45.07</b> |
| Net asset value per common share based on 19,128,968 shares issued and outstanding | \$15.37        |
|                                                                                    |                |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

# Statement of Operations (unaudited)

For the Period Ended April 30, 2007

| Net Investment Income                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Income                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |
| Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$85,712)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | \$ 4,632,571    |
| Interest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 269,223         |
| Income from securities loaned, net                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 124,536         |
| 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | ,===            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 5,026,330       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | -,,             |
| Expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |
| Investment management fee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1,046,719       |
| Legal fees and expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 535,232         |
| Directors fees and expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 118,533         |
| Custodian s fees and expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 93,659          |
| Insurance expense                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 58,250          |
| Reports to shareholders and proxy solicitation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 51,835          |
| Administration fee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 51,311          |
| Investor relations fees and expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 38,695          |
| Independent auditors fees and expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 38,590          |
| Transfer agent s fees and expenses  Excise tax                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 15,131<br>9,212 |
| Miscellaneous                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 31,874          |
| Wild Collaboration of the Coll | 31,074          |
| Total expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2,089,041       |
| Reimbursement of excise tax (Note 5)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | (9,212)         |
| Trombulsoment of exoloc tax (Note o)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | (0,212)         |
| Net expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2,079,829       |
| Not expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2,070,020       |
| Net investment income                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2,946,501       |
| Not investment income                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2,540,501       |
| Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                 |
| and Foreign Currencies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |
| Net realized gain on:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |
| Investment transactions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 8,455,591       |
| Foreign currency transactions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 2,266,793       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 10,722,384      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | , ,             |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation on:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                 |
| Investments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 30,321,942      |
| Foreign currency translation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10,841,897      |
| <u> </u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 41,163,839      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ,.55,550        |
| Net gain on investments and foreign currencies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 51,886,223      |
| Tot gain on involutionite and foreign earteriolog                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 01,000,220      |
| Net Increase In Net Assets Resulting From Operations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$ 54,832,724   |
| not increase in het Assets nesulting i rolli Operations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Ψ 54,052,724    |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets

| Increase in Net Assets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | For the Six Months<br>Ended April 30, 2007<br>(unaudited) |              |       | or the Year Ended<br>October 31, 2006 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| Operations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Net investment income                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | \$                                                        | 2,946,501    | \$    | 6,930,884                             |
| Net realized gain on investments transactions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                           | 8,455,591    |       | 16,987,814                            |
| Net realized gain on foreign currency transactions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           | 2,266,793    |       | 5,618,853                             |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                           | 30,321,942   |       | 19,316,908                            |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) on foreign                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| currency translation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                           | 10,841,897   |       | (309,640)                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                           | 54,832,724   |       | 48,544,819                            |
| The state of the s |                                                           | 0 1,002,12 1 |       | .0,0,0 . 0                            |
| Distributions to Shareholders from:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Net investment income                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                           | (6,371,194)  |       | (8,064,605)                           |
| Long-term capital gains                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                           | (8,389,897)  |       | (15,156,776)                          |
| Long torm capital game                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                           | (0,000,007)  |       | (10,100,770)                          |
| Total decrease in net assets from distributions to shareholders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           | (14,761,091) |       | (23,221,381)                          |
| Total decrease in their assets from distributions to shareholders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                           | (14,701,031) |       | (23,221,301)                          |
| Common Stock Transactions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Reinvestment of dividends resulting in the issuance of 34,847 and                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                           | 400.045      |       | 004.740                               |
| 65,611 shares of common stock, respectively                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                           | 496,245      |       | 824,718                               |
| Proceeds from the offering of common stock (Note 4)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                           | 31,150,000   |       |                                       |
| Expenses in connection with offering of common stock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | (1,285,591)                                               |              | 10.00 |                                       |
| Payment by shareholder of short-swing profit                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                           |              |       | 19,036                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Total increase in net assets from common stock transactions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                           | 30,360,654   |       | 843,754                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Total increase in net assets resulting from operations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                           | 70,432,287   |       | 26,167,192                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Net Assets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| Beginning of period                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                           | 223,588,020  |       | 197,420,828                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| End of period (including distributions in excess of net investment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           |              |       |                                       |
| income of (\$5,257,830) and (\$1,833,137), respectively)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | \$                                                        | 294,020,307  | \$    | 223,588,020                           |
| (4.,555,15.1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Ψ                                                         | ,0_0,007     | Ψ     | ,                                     |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

# Financial Highlights

|                                                                                       |                   | Moi<br>En<br>April 3 | he Six<br>nths<br>ded<br>0, 2007<br>idited) |                                                |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----|
| PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE <sup>(1)</sup> : Net asset value, beginning of period |                   | \$                   | 13.25                                       |                                                |     |
| Net investment income                                                                 |                   |                      | 0.16                                        |                                                |     |
| Net realized and unrealized gains on investments and foreign currencies               |                   |                      | 2.84                                        |                                                |     |
| Total from investment operations                                                      |                   |                      | 3.00                                        |                                                |     |
| DISTRIBUTIONS FROM:                                                                   |                   |                      |                                             |                                                |     |
| Net investment income                                                                 |                   |                      | (0.33)                                      |                                                |     |
| Long-term capital gains                                                               |                   |                      | (0.48)                                      |                                                |     |
| Tax return of capital                                                                 |                   |                      | ,                                           |                                                |     |
| Total distributions                                                                   |                   |                      | (0.81)                                      |                                                |     |
| Payment by shareholder of short-swing profit                                          |                   |                      |                                             |                                                |     |
| Expenses in connection with offering of common stock                                  |                   |                      | (0.07)                                      |                                                |     |
| Increase resulting from Fund share repurchase                                         |                   |                      |                                             |                                                |     |
| Net asset value, end of period                                                        |                   | \$                   | 15.37                                       |                                                |     |
| Market value, end of period                                                           |                   | \$                   | 16.40                                       |                                                |     |
| TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN DAGED ON(2)                                                   |                   |                      |                                             |                                                |     |
| TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN BASED ON(2):                                                  |                   |                      | 23.9%                                       | ,                                              |     |
| Market value Net asset value                                                          |                   |                      | 23.97                                       | -                                              |     |
| RATIO TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS/<br>SUPPLEMENTARY DATA:                                   |                   |                      | <i>LL.1</i> /                               | o.                                             |     |
| Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)                                               |                   | \$                   | 294,020                                     |                                                |     |
| Average net assets (000 omitted)                                                      |                   | \$                   | 258,684                                     |                                                |     |
| Cost of sales<br>Gross profit                                                         | 768,021<br>91,755 |                      |                                             | 418,773 1,939,484 1,200<br>60,545 250,731 175, |     |
| Operating expenses (income):                                                          | 07.000            |                      |                                             | 47,000,000,055                                 |     |
| Selling, general, and administrative Gains from sales of property                     | 87,692            |                      |                                             | 47,088 238,655 149,2<br>— — (6,70              |     |
| , , ,                                                                                 |                   |                      |                                             | •                                              | ,   |
| Depreciation and amortization                                                         | 8,068             |                      |                                             | 2,249 18,177 6,869                             |     |
| Total operating expenses                                                              | 95,760            |                      |                                             | 49,337 256,832 149,4                           | 455 |
| Operating income (loss)                                                               | (4,005            |                      | )                                           | 11,208 (6,101 ) 26,07                          | 70  |
| Non-operating expenses (income):                                                      |                   |                      | ,                                           | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,        |     |
| Interest expense                                                                      | 13,273            |                      |                                             | 5,670 33,947 16,23                             | 70  |
| •                                                                                     |                   |                      | \                                           |                                                | ۱ ا |
| Other income, net                                                                     | (94               |                      | )                                           | (271 ) (282 ) (549                             | )   |
| Income (loss) before provision for (benefit from) income taxes                        | (17,184           |                      | )                                           | 5,809 (39,766 ) 10,34                          | 40  |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                                             | (7,288            |                      | )                                           | 123 (7,885 ) 832                               |     |
| Net income (loss)                                                                     | \$                | (9,896               | s)                                          | \$5,686 \$(31,881) \$9,5                       | 80  |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share                                                       | \$                | (1.07                | )                                           | \$0.63 \$(3.46 ) \$1.0                         | 5   |

| Diluted earnings (loss) per share                     | \$  | (1.07)  | \$0.62  | \$(3.46)   | \$1.04   |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------|---------|------------|----------|---|
| Comprehensive income (loss): Net income (loss)        | \$  | (9,896) | \$5,686 | \$(31,881) | \$ 9.508 |   |
| Other comprehensive income (loss):                    | •   | (2,222) | * =,=== | ,          |          |   |
| Foreign currency translation, net of tax              | _   |         | _       | (3)        | 14       |   |
| Amortization of unrecognized pension loss, net of tax | 201 |         | 260     | 605        | 796      |   |
| Pension curtailment, net of tax                       |     |         | _       |            | (592     | ) |
| Other                                                 | _   |         | _       |            | _        |   |
| Total other comprehensive income (loss)               | 201 |         | 260     | 602        | 218      |   |
| Comprehensive income (loss)                           | \$  | (9,695) | \$5,946 | \$(31,279) | \$9,726  |   |

See accompanying Notes.

## BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands, except share data) (Unaudited)

| (Unaudited)                                                                                                 |              |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                             |              | December 30, |
| ASSETS                                                                                                      | 2018         | 2017         |
| Current assets:                                                                                             |              |              |
| Cash                                                                                                        | \$ 7,630     | \$ 4,696     |
| Receivables, less allowances of \$4,278 and \$2,761, respectively                                           | 285,489      | 134,072      |
| Inventories, net                                                                                            | 401,222      | 187,512      |
| Other current assets                                                                                        | 44,947       | 17,124       |
| Total current assets                                                                                        | 739,288      | 343,404      |
| Property and equipment:                                                                                     |              |              |
| Land and land improvements                                                                                  | 22,513       | 30,802       |
| Buildings                                                                                                   | 178,698      | 84,781       |
| Machinery and equipment                                                                                     | 112,770      | 70,596       |
| Construction in progress                                                                                    | 1,812        | 570          |
| Property and equipment, at cost                                                                             | 315,793      | 186,749      |
| Accumulated depreciation                                                                                    | (102,865)    | (102,977 )   |
| Property and equipment, net                                                                                 | 212,928      | 83,772       |
| Goodwill and other intangibles, net                                                                         | 74,172       | _            |
| Deferred tax asset                                                                                          | 45,964       | 53,853       |
| Other non-current assets                                                                                    | 19,200       | 13,066       |
| Total assets                                                                                                | \$ 1,091,552 | \$ 494,095   |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY                                                                        |              |              |
| Current liabilities:                                                                                        |              |              |
| Accounts payable                                                                                            | \$ 153,814   | \$ 70,623    |
| Bank overdrafts                                                                                             | 36,264       | 21,593       |
| Accrued compensation                                                                                        | 7,611        | 9,229        |
| Current maturities of long-term debt, net of discount and debt issuance costs of \$64 and \$0, respectively | 1,736        | _            |
| Capital leases - short-term                                                                                 | 8,058        | 3,552        |
| Real estate deferred gains - short-term                                                                     | 5,330        | 1,836        |
| Other current liabilities                                                                                   | 21,528       | 10,772       |
| Total current liabilities                                                                                   | 234,341      | 117,605      |
| Non-current liabilities:                                                                                    | 201,011      | 117,000      |
| Long-term debt, net of discount and debt issuance costs                                                     | 570.000      | 070 077      |
| of \$13,280 and \$3,792, respectively                                                                       | 579,380      | 276,677      |
| Capital leases - long-term                                                                                  | 145,175      | 14,007       |
| Real estate deferred gains - long-term                                                                      | 86,768       | 10,485       |
| Pension benefit obligation                                                                                  | 25,616       | 30,360       |
| Other non-current liabilities                                                                               | 18,048       | 9,959        |
| Total liabilities                                                                                           | 1,089,328    | 459,093      |
| Commitments and Contingencies                                                                               |              |              |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:                                                                                       |              |              |
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value, Authorized - 20,000,000 shares,                                             | 92           | 91           |
| Issued and Outstanding - 9,288,673 and 9,100,923, respectively                                              |              |              |
| Additional paid-in capital                                                                                  | 258,088      | 259,588      |

| Accumulated other comprehensive loss       | (35,905      | ) (36,507  | ) |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|---|
| Accumulated stockholders' deficit          | (220,051     | ) (188,170 | ) |
| Total stockholders' equity                 | 2,224        | 35,002     |   |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$ 1,091,552 | \$ 494,095 |   |

See accompanying Notes.

# BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

| Net cash used in operating activities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Nine Months Ended<br>SeptemberSeptember<br>29, 2018 30, 2017<br>\$(59,293) \$(38,278)                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cash flows from investing activities: Proceeds from sale of assets Acquisition of business, net of cash acquired - see Note 2 Property and equipment investments Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 107,972 27,461<br>(353,094) —<br>(1,872 ) (241 )<br>(246,994) 27,220                                                                                                          |
| Cash flows from financing activities: Borrowings from revolving credit facilities Repayments on revolving credit facilities Borrowings from term loan Repayments on term loan Principal payments on mortgage Bank overdrafts Debt issuance costs Payments on capital lease obligations Repurchase of shares to satisfy employee tax withholdings Cash released from escrow related to the mortgage Net cash provided by financing activities | 736,254 329,936<br>(503,577) (288,841)<br>180,000 —<br>(900) —<br>(97,847) (28,976)<br>14,671 (55)<br>(10,470) —<br>(5,890) (2,446)<br>(3,020) —<br>— 1,490<br>309,221 11,108 |
| Net change in cash Cash at beginning of period Cash at end of period                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 2,934 50<br>4,696 5,540<br>\$7,630 \$5,590                                                                                                                                    |

See accompanying Notes.

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## BLUELINX HOLDINGS INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 29, 2018 (Unaudited)

# 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of BlueLinx Holdings Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries (the "Company"). These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and do not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted ("GAAP") in the United States ("U.S.") for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. These statements should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K (the "Annual Report on Form 10-K") for the year ended December 30, 2017, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2018. Our financial condition as of, and our operating results for, the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2018 are not necessarily indicative of the financial condition and results that may be expected for the full year ending December 29, 2018 or any other interim period. Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation. These reclassifications did not materially impact the Company's operating income (loss) or consolidated net income (loss).

## Inventory Valuation

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value. The Company's inventory is comprised of finished goods. Cost is determined based on the moving average cost method of inventory valuation. We evaluated our inventory value at the end of each quarter to ensure that inventory, when viewed by category, is carried at lower of cost and net realizable value. In valuing inventory, the Company is required to make assumptions regarding the level of reserves required to value potentially obsolete or over-valued items at the lower of cost or net realizable value. As of September 29, 2018, and December 30, 2017, the Company decreased the value of inventory on hand by \$5.2 million and \$0, respectively, as a result of a decline in commodity pricing.

#### Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

Revenue from Contracts with Customers. In 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)" ("ASC 606") that superseded existing revenue recognition guidance. Under this ASU and subsequently issued amendments, revenue is recognized at the time a good or service is transferred to a customer for the amount of consideration received. The standard was effective for the first interim period within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017, with early adoption permitted for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016. Entities were permitted to adopt the standard using a "full retrospective" approach (retrospectively to each prior reporting period presented) or a "modified retrospective" approach (reporting the cumulative effect as of the date of adoption).

On December 31, 2017, the first day of our fiscal 2018 year, we adopted ASC 606 using the modified retrospective method applied to those contracts which were not completed as of that date. Results for reporting periods beginning after the first day of fiscal 2018 are presented under ASC 606, while prior period amounts are not adjusted and continue to be reported in accordance with our historic accounting under the previous accounting standard, ASC 605.

There was no adjustment due to the cumulative impact of adopting ASC 606 (See Note 4).

#### Accounting Standards Effective in Future Years

Leases. In 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, "Leases (Topic 842)." This update will require leases with durations greater than twelve months to be recognized on the balance sheet and is effective for interim and annual

reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018. We will adopt this standard, and all related amendments thereto, effective December 30, 2018, the first day of our fiscal 2019 year.

We have not completed our assessment, but the adoption of this standard will have a significant impact on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. However, we do not expect the adoption to have a significant impact on the recognition, measurement or presentation of lease expense within the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) or the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. Information about our undiscounted future lease payments and the timing of those payments is presented in Note 13, "Lease Commitments," in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Goodwill. In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, "Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350)." This standard is intended to simplify the test for goodwill impairments by removing Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test, which requires a hypothetical purchase price allocation. Under the new ASU, a goodwill impairment will now be the amount by which a reporting unit's carrying value exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. The accounting standard will be effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and early adoption is permitted. We have not completed our assessment of the standard but we do not expect the adoption to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Comprehensive Income. In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-02, "Income Statement—Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220)." This standard provides an option to reclassify stranded tax effects within accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ("AOCI") to retained earnings due to the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate change in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. This standard is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and early adoption is permitted. We have not completed our assessment, but the adoption of the standard may impact tax amounts stranded in AOCI related to our pension plans. We will adopt this standard effective December 30, 2018, the first day of our fiscal 2019 year.

Fair Value Measurement. In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-13, "Fair Value ("FV") Measurement (Topic 820)". In addition to making certain modifications, the standard removes the requirements to disclose: (i) the amount of and reasons for transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the FV hierarchy; (ii) the policy for timing transfers between levels; and (iii) the valuation process for Level 3 FV measurements. The standard will require public entities to disclose: (i) the changes in unrealized gains and losses for the period included in other comprehensive income for recurring Level 3 FV measurements held at the end of the reporting period; and (ii) the range and weighted average of significant unobservable inputs used to develop Level 3 fair value measurements. For certain unobservable inputs, an entity may disclose other quantitative information in lieu of the weighted average if the entity determines that other quantitative information would be a more reasonable and rational method to reflect the distribution of unobservable inputs used to develop Level 3 FV measurements. The additional disclosure requirements should be applied prospectively for the most recent interim or annual period presented in the fiscal year of adoption. All other amendments should be applied retrospectively to all periods presented. The amendments in this standard are effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2019. Early adoption is permitted, and an entity may early adopt the removed or modified disclosures and delay the adoption of new disclosures until the effective date. We have not completed our assessment of the standard but we do not expect the adoption to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Defined Benefit Pension Plan. In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-14,

"Compensation-Retirement-Benefits-Defined Benefit Plans-General (Subtopic 715-20)". The amendments in this update modify the disclosure requirements for employers that sponsor defined benefit pension or other postretirement plans by removing six previously required disclosures and adding two. The amendments also clarify certain disclosure requirements. The amendments in this standard are effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2020. Early adoption is permitted. We have not completed our assessment of

the standard but we do not expect the adoption to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

## 2. Acquisition

On April 13, 2018, we completed the acquisition of Cedar Creek Holdings, Inc. ("Cedar Creek") for a preliminary purchase price of approximately \$361.8 million. The acquisition was completed pursuant to the terms of an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement"), dated as of March 9, 2018, by and among BlueLinx Corporation, one of our wholly owned subsidiaries, Panther Merger Sub, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of

BlueLinx Corporation ("Merger Sub"), Cedar Creek, and CharlesBank Equity Fund VII, Limited Partnership ("CharlesBank"). Upon closing the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, among other things, Merger Sub was merged with and into Cedar Creek, with Cedar Creek surviving the acquisition as one of our indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries. As a result of the acquisition, we increased the number of our distribution facilities to approximately 70 facilities, and increased the number of our full-time employees to over 2,500. The merger allowed us to expand our product offerings, while maintaining our existing geographical footprint.

Cedar Creek was established in 1977 as a wholesale building materials distribution company that distributes wood products across the United States. Its products include specialty lumber, oriented strand board, siding, cedar, spruce, engineered wood products and other building products.

The acquisition is being accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting. The assets acquired, liabilities assumed and the results of operations of the acquired business are included in our consolidated results since April 13, 2018.

The acquired business contributed net sales and net loss of \$706.6 million and \$0.2 million, respectively, to the Company for the period from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018. The net loss for the period from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018, included integration-related costs and the negative impact of selling a higher cost Cedar Creek inventory recorded at fair value. The following unaudited consolidated pro forma information presents consolidated information as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2017:

|                                       | FIO IOIIII         | а                       |                   |                        |    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----|
|                                       | Three Months Ended |                         | Nine Months Ended |                        |    |
| (In thousands, except per share data) | September 2018     | 29September 30,<br>2017 | September 29 2018 | , September 30<br>2017 | ), |
| Net sales                             | \$859,776          | \$ \$41,330             | \$2,592,597       | \$2,459,713            |    |
| Net income (loss)                     | (6,219             | ) 8,033                 | (5,455            | (20,477                | )  |
| Earnings (loss) per common share:     |                    |                         |                   |                        |    |
| Basic                                 | \$(0.67            | ) \$ 0.88               | \$(0.59           | \$(2.27)               | )  |
| Diluted                               | (0.67              | 0.87                    | (0.59             | (2.27                  | )  |

The pro forma amounts above have been calculated in accordance with GAAP after applying the Company's accounting policies and adjusting: (i) the three- and nine-months ended September 29, 2018, to reflect a \$0.9 million and \$11.8 million, respectively, charge related to an inventory step-up adjustment, and the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, for \$0 and \$11.8 million, respectively; (ii) the three- and nine-months ended September 29, 2018, for \$3.8 million and \$37.9 million, respectively, for transaction related costs, and the three- and nine-months ended September 30, 2017, for \$0 and \$37.9 million, respectively. Due to the net loss for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2018, and for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2017, 0 incremental shares, 0.1 million incremental shares and 0.2 million incremental shares, respectively, from share-based compensation arrangements were excluded from the computation of diluted weighted average shares outstanding, in both periods, because their effect would be anti-dilutive. The pro forma amounts do not include any potential synergies, cost savings or other expected benefits of the acquisition, are presented for illustrative purposes only, and are not necessarily indicative of results that would have been achieved had the acquisition occurred as of January 1, 2017, or of future operating performance.

The purchase price of Cedar Creek consisted of the following items:

|                                                                   | (In<br>thousands) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Consideration paid to shareholders and amounts paid to creditors: |                   |
| Payments to Cedar Creek shareholders <sup>[1]</sup>               | \$166,447         |
| Subordinated unsecured note (due to shareholder) <sup>[2]</sup>   | 13,743            |
| Seller's transaction costs paid by Company                        | 7,349             |
| Add: pay off of Cedar Creek debt <sup>[3]</sup>                   | 174,213           |
| Total preliminary cash purchase price                             | \$361,752         |

<sup>[1]</sup> Payments to Cedar Creek's shareholders include the purchase of common stock and certain escrow adjustments.

The purchase is subject to a customary post-closing adjustment for, among other things, the final working capital of the acquired business.

The excess of total preliminary purchase price, which includes the aggregate cash consideration paid in excess of the fair value of the tangible and intangible assets acquired, was recorded as goodwill. The goodwill recognized is attributable to the expected operating synergies and growth potential that the Company expects to realize from the acquisition. None of the goodwill generated from the acquisition is deductible for tax purposes.

When determining the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed, management made significant estimates, judgments and assumptions. As of September 29, 2018, the purchase price allocation for the acquisition was preliminary and subject to completion. Adjustments to the current fair value estimates in the table below may occur as the process conducted for valuation and assessments is finalized, including tax assets, liabilities and other attributes. We expect to complete the purchase price allocation during the 12-month period following the acquisition date, in line with the acquisition method of accounting, during which time the value of the assets and liabilities may be revised as appropriate.

The following table summarizes the preliminary values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the date of the acquisition:

| date of the acquisition.                                  |                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| (In thousands)                                            | Preliminary<br>Allocation<br>as of<br>September<br>29, 2018 |
| Cash and net working capital assets (excluding inventory) | \$90,768                                                    |
| Inventory                                                 | 159,227                                                     |
| Property and equipment                                    | 71,352                                                      |
| Other, net                                                | 6,992                                                       |
| Intangible assets and goodwill:                           |                                                             |
| Customer relationships                                    | 25,500                                                      |
| Non-compete agreements                                    | 8,254                                                       |
| Trade names                                               | 6,826                                                       |

The Cedar Creek note payable to a shareholder of \$13.7 million was paid in full upon the acquisition of Cedar Creek and included \$10 million in subordinated debt and \$3.7 million in accrued interest.

To finance the acquisition of Cedar Creek, the Company amended and restated its Revolving Credit Facility to increase the [3] availability thereunder to \$600.0 million and also entered into a new \$180.0 million senior secured Term Loan Facility (See Note 6).

| Favorable leasehold interests        | 800       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Goodwill                             | 36,787    |
| Capital leases and other liabilities | (44,754)  |
| Cash purchase price                  | \$361,752 |

#### 3. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

In connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we acquired certain intangible assets. As of September 29, 2018, our intangible assets consist of goodwill and other intangible assets including customer relationships, noncompete agreements, trade names, and favorable leasehold interests. *Goodwill* 

Goodwill is the excess of the cost of an acquired entity over the fair value of tangible and intangible assets (including customer relationships, noncompete agreements, trade names and favorable lease interests) acquired and liabilities assumed under acquisition accounting for business combinations.

During the nine-months ended September 29, 2018, we preliminarily allocated the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the acquisition of Cedar Creek and recognized \$36.8 million in goodwill. This amount is subject to change.

Goodwill is not subject to amortization but must be tested for impairment at least annually. This test requires us to assign goodwill to a reporting unit and to determine if the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill is less than its carrying amount. We evaluate goodwill for impairment during the fourth quarter of each fiscal year. In addition, we will evaluate the carrying values of these assets for impairment between annual impairment tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would indicate the carrying amounts may be impaired. Such events and indicators may include, without limitation, significant declines in the industries in which our products are used, significant changes in capital market conditions and significant changes in our market capitalization.

Definite-Lived Intangible Assets.

At September 29, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we had definite-lived intangible assets that related to customer relationships, noncompete agreements, trade names and favorable leasehold interests.

At September 29, 2018, the gross carrying amounts, the accumulated amortization and the net carrying amounts of our definite-lived intangible assets were as follows:

| (In thousands)                               | Gross carrying amounts | Accumulat<br>Amortizati | ed <sub>[2]</sub><br>on | Net carrying amounts |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Customer relationships                       | \$25,500               | \$ (1,962               | )                       | \$23,538             |
| Noncompete agreements                        | 8,254                  | (952                    | )                       | 7,302                |
| Trade names                                  | 6,826                  | (1,050                  | )                       | 5,776                |
| Favorable leasehold interests <sup>[1]</sup> | 800                    | (31                     | )                       | 769                  |
| Total                                        | \$41,380               | \$ (3,995               | )                       | \$37,385             |

<sup>[1]</sup> Amortized to rent expense

#### Amortization Expense

The weighted average estimated useful life remaining for customer relationships, noncompete agreements, trade names and favorable leasehold interest is approximately 12 years, 4 years, 3 years and 12 years respectively. Amortization expense for the definite-lived intangible assets was \$2.1 million and \$4.0 million for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2018, respectively. There were no amortization charges for the comparative periods of the prior year.

<sup>[2]</sup> Intangible assets except customer relationships are amortized on straight line basis. Customer relationships are amortized on a double declining balance method.

Estimated annual amortization expense for definite-lived intangible assets over the next five fiscal years is as follows:

| (In thousands) | Estimated<br>Amortization |  |  |  |
|----------------|---------------------------|--|--|--|
|                | Amortization              |  |  |  |
| 2019           | \$ 8,152                  |  |  |  |
| 2020           | 7,527                     |  |  |  |
| 2021           | 5,035                     |  |  |  |
| 2022           | 3,183                     |  |  |  |
| 2023           | 1,873                     |  |  |  |

## 4. Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when control of the promised goods or services is transferred to the Company's customers in an amount that reflects the consideration we expected to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services.

Contracts with our customers are generally in the form of standard terms and conditions of sale. From time to time, we may enter into specific contracts with some of our larger customers, which may affect delivery terms. Performance obligations in our contracts generally consist solely of delivery of goods. For all sales channel types, consisting of warehouse, direct, and reload sales, we typically satisfy our performance obligations upon shipment. Our customer payment terms are typical for our industry, and may vary by the type and location of our customer and the products or services offered. The term between invoicing and when payment is due is not deemed to be significant by us. For certain sales channels and/or products, our standard terms of payment may be as early as ten days.

In addition, we provide inventory to certain customers through pre-arranged agreements on a consignment basis. Customer consigned inventory is maintained and stored by certain customers; however, ownership and risk of loss remains with us. When the consigned inventory is sold by the customer, we recognize revenue, net of trade allowances.

All revenues recognized are net of trade allowances (i.e., rebates), cash discounts and sales returns. Cash discounts and sales returns are estimated using historical experience. Trade allowances are based on the estimated obligations and historical experience. Adjustments to earnings resulting from revisions to estimates on discounts and returns have been insignificant for each of the reported periods. Certain customers may receive cash-based incentives or credits, which are accounted for as variable consideration. We estimate these amounts based on the expected amount to be provided to customers and reduce revenues recognized. We believe that there will not be significant changes to our estimates of variable consideration.

The following table presents our revenues disaggregated by revenue source. Sales and usage-based taxes are excluded from revenues.

|                      | <b>Three Month</b>    | s Ended            | Nine Months Ended  |                    |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| (In thousands)       | September<br>29, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | September 29, 2018 | September 30, 2017 |  |
| Structural products  | \$387,347             | \$228,424          | \$1,016,806        | \$633,036          |  |
| Specialty products   | 481,946               | 254,476            | 1,185,332          | 758,788            |  |
| Other <sup>[1]</sup> | (9,517)               | (3,582)            | (11,923)           | (9,897)            |  |
| Total net sales      | \$859,776             | \$479,318          | \$2,190,215        | \$1,381,927        |  |

<sup>[1] &</sup>quot;Other" includes unallocated allowances and discounts. Beginning third quarter 2018 allowances and discounts are allocated to product categories where available. Prior year and nine months ended periods have been updated for this presentation.

The following table presents our revenues disaggregated by sales channel. Sales and usage-based taxes are excluded from revenues.

|                                | Three Month           | s Ended            | Nine Months Ended  |                    |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| (In thousands)                 | September<br>29, 2018 | September 30, 2017 | September 29, 2018 | September 30, 2017 |  |
| Warehouse                      | \$685,468             | \$361,992          | \$1,723,103        | \$1,034,580        |  |
| Direct                         | 153,847               | 89,242             | 402,420            | 274,482            |  |
| Reload and service revenue     | 32,116                | 35,915             | 95,300             | 95,817             |  |
| Customer discounts and rebates | (11,655)              | (7,831)            | (30,608)           | (22,952)           |  |
| Total net sales                | \$859,776             | \$479,318          | \$2,190,215        | \$1,381,927        |  |

## **Practical Expedients and Exemptions**

We generally expense sales commissions when incurred because the amortization period would have been one year or less. These costs are recorded within selling, general, and administrative expense.

We have made an accounting policy election to treat any common carrier shipping and handling activities as a fulfillment cost, rather than as a separate obligation or separate promised service.

## 5. Long-Term Debt

As of September 29, 2018, and December 30, 2017, long-term debt consisted of the following:

|                                                                |                      | September<br>29, | December 3 | 30, |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|-----|
| (In thousands)                                                 | <b>Maturity Date</b> | 2018             | 2017       |     |
| Revolving Credit Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance  |                      |                  |            |     |
| costs of \$6.2 million and \$3.1 million at September 29, 2018 | October 10, 2022     | \$409,112        | \$ 179,569 |     |
| and December 30, 2017, respectively)                           |                      |                  |            |     |
| Mortgage Note Payable (net of discounts and debt issuance      |                      |                  |            |     |
| costs of \$0 million and \$0.8 million at September 29, 2018   | NA                   | _                | 97,108     |     |
| and December 30, 2017, respectively)                           |                      |                  |            |     |
| Term Loan Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance costs   |                      |                  |            |     |
| of \$7.1 million and \$0 million at September 29, 2018         | October 13, 2023     | 172,004          | _          |     |
| and December 30, 2017, respectively)                           |                      |                  |            |     |
| Total debt                                                     |                      | 581,116          | 276,677    |     |
| Less: current portion of long-term debt                        |                      | (1,736 )         | _          |     |
| Long-term debt, net                                            |                      | \$ 579,380       | \$ 276,677 |     |

## Revolving Credit Facility

On April 13, 2018, in connection with the acquisition Cedar Creek, we entered into an Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, with certain of our subsidiaries as borrowers (together with us, the "Borrowers") or quarantors thereunder, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, in its capacity as administrative agent ("Wells Fargo"), and certain other financial institutions party thereto (the "Revolving Credit Agreement"). The Revolving Credit Agreement provides for a senior secured asset-based revolving loan and letter of credit facility (the "Revolving Credit Facility") of up t\$600 million and an uncommitted accordion feature that permits the Borrowers to increase the facility by an aggregate additional principal amount of up to \$150 million, which will allow borrowings of up to \$750 million under the Revolving Credit Facility. Letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$30 million are also available under the Revolving Credit Agreement, which would reduce the amount of the revolving loans available under the Revolving Credit Facility. The maturity date of the Revolving Credit Agreement is October 10, 2022. The Revolving Credit Agreement amended and restated the Borrowers' existing\$335 million secured revolving credit facility, dated October 10, 2017, as amended. The proceeds from the Revolving Credit Facility were used to repay outstanding obligations under the Borrowers' existing revolving credit facility, to fund a portion of the cash consideration payable in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, to fund transaction costs in connection with the acquisition and the amendment of the Revolving Credit Facility, to provide working capital and for other general corporate purposes.

In connection with the execution and delivery of the Revolving Credit Agreement, we also entered into, with certain of our subsidiaries, a Guaranty and Security Agreement with Wells Fargo (the "Revolving Guaranty and Security Agreement"). Pursuant to the Revolving Guaranty and Security Agreement, the Borrowers' obligations under the Revolving Credit Agreement are secured by a security interest in substantially all of our and our subsidiaries' assets (other than real property), including inventories, accounts receivable, and proceeds from those items.

Borrowings under the Revolving Credit Agreement will be subject to availability under the Borrowing Base (as that term is defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement). The Borrowers will be required to repay revolving loans thereunder to the extent that such revolving loans exceed the Borrowing Base then in effect. The Revolving Credit Facility may be prepaid in whole or in part from time to time without penalty or premium, but including all breakage costs incurred by any lender thereunder.

The Revolving Credit Agreement provides for interest on the loans at a rate per annum equal to (i) LIBOR plus a margin ranging from 1.75 percent to 2.25 percent, with the amount of such margin determined based upon the average of the Borrowers' excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter as calculated by the administrative agent, for loans based on LIBOR, or (ii) the administrative agent's base rate

plus a margin ranging from 0.75 percent to 1.25 percent, with the amount of such margin determined based upon the average of the

Borrowers' excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter as calculated by the administrative agent, for loans based on the base rate.

In the event excess availability falls below the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the Borrowing Base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time, the Revolving Credit Agreement requires maintenance of a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 until such time as the Borrowers' excess availability has been at least the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the Borrowing Base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time for a period of 30 consecutive days. The Revolving Credit Agreement also contains representations and warranties and affirmative and negative covenants customary for financings of this type as well as customary events of default.

As of September 29, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$415.4 million, excess availability of \$122.8 million, and a weighted average interest rate of 4.2 percent under our Revolving Credit Facility. As of December 30, 2017, our principal balance was \$182.7 million, excess availability was \$63.3 million, and our weighted average interest rate was 4.2 percent under our Revolving Credit Agreement.

We were in compliance with all covenants under the Credit Agreement as of September 29, 2018. Term Loan Facility

On April 13, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we entered into the a new credit and guaranty agreement (the "Term Loan Agreement") with WHOS Investment Partners, LLC, as administrative agent and collateral agent ("HPS") and certain other financial institutions as party thereto. The Term Loan Agreement provides for a senior secured first lien loan facility in an aggregate principal amount of \$180 million (the "Term Loan Facility"). The maturity date of the Term Loan Agreement is October 13, 2023. The proceeds from the Term Loan Facility were used to fund a portion of the cash consideration payable in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek and to fund transaction costs in connection with the acquisition and the Term Loan Facility.

In connection with the execution and delivery of the Term Loan Agreement, we also entered into a pledge and security agreement with HPS (the "Term Loan Security Agreement"). Pursuant to the Term Loan Security Agreement and other "Collateral Documents" (as such term is defined in the Term Loan Agreement), the obligations under the Term Loan Agreement are secured by a security interest in substantially all of our and our subsidiaries' assets, including inventories, accounts receivable, real property, and proceeds from those items.

The Term Loan Agreement requires monthly interest payments, and quarterly principal payments of \$450,000, in arrears. The Term Loan Agreement also requires certain mandatory prepayments of outstanding loans, subject to certain exceptions, including prepayments commencing with the fiscal year ending December 28, 2019, based on a percentage of excess cash flow (as defined in the Term Loan Agreement for such fiscal year). The remaining balance is due on the loan maturity date of October 13, 2023.

The Term Loan Facility may be prepaid in whole or in part from time to time, subject to payment of the "Prepayment Premium" (as such term is defined in the Term Loan Agreement) if such voluntary prepayment does not otherwise constitute an exception to the Prepayment Premium under the Term Loan Agreement and is made prior to the fourth anniversary of the closing date of the Term Loan Agreement, and all breakage costs incurred by any lender thereunder.

Borrowings under the Term Loan Agreement may be made as Base Rate Loans or Eurodollar Rate Loans. The Base Rate Loans will bear interest at the rate per annual equal to (i) the greatest of the (a) U.S. prime lending rate published in The Wall Street Journal, (b) the Federal Funds Effective Rate plus 0.50 percent, and (c) the sum of the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate of one month plus 1.00 percent, provided that the Base Rate shall at no time be less than 2.00 percent per annum; and (ii) plus the Applicable Margin, as described below. Eurodollar Rate Loans will bear interest at the rate per annum equal to (i) the ICE Benchmark Administration LIBOR Rate, provided that the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate shall at no time be less than 1.00 percent per annum; plus (ii) the Applicable Margin. The Applicable Margin will be 6.00 percent with respect to Base Rate Loans and 7.00 percent with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans.

The Term Loan Agreement requires maintenance of a total net leverage ratio of 8.25 to 1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending September 29, 2018, and such required covenant level reduces over the term of the Term Loan Facility as

set forth in the Term Loan Agreement. As of September 29, 2018, we were in compliance with the total net leverage ratio.

The Term Loan Agreement also contains representations, warranties, affirmative and negative covenants customary for financing transactions of this type, and customary events of default.

As of September 29, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$179.1 million under our Term Loan Credit Facility and a stated interest rate of 9.2 percent per annum. At December 30, 2017, there were no outstanding borrowings under our Term Loan Credit Facility.

We were in compliance with all covenants under the Term Loan Agreement as of September 29, 2018. Our remaining principal payment schedule for each of the next five years and thereafter is as follows:

#### <u>(III)</u> thousands)

| 2018       | \$450   |
|------------|---------|
| 2019       | 1,800   |
| 2020       | 1,800   |
| 2021       | 1,800   |
| 2022       | 1,800   |
| Thereafter | 171,450 |

### 6. Net Periodic Pension Cost

The following table shows the components of our net periodic pension cost (benefit):

|                                               | Three Months<br>Ended  |                       | Nine Months Ended      |                       |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| (In thousands)                                | Septemb<br>29,<br>2018 | September<br>30, 2017 | Septemb<br>29,<br>2018 | September<br>30, 2017 |  |
| Service cost                                  | \$133                  | \$133                 | \$399                  | \$ 499                |  |
| Interest cost on projected benefit obligation | 963                    | 1,153                 | 2,889                  | 3,509                 |  |
| Expected return on plan assets                | (1,327)                | (1,684)               | (3,98)                 | (4,852)               |  |
| Amortization of unrecognized loss             | 271                    | 260                   | 813                    | 796                   |  |
| Net periodic pension cost (benefit)           | \$40                   | \$(138)               | \$120                  | \$ (48 )              |  |

## 7. Stock Compensation

### Cash-Settled Stock Appreciation Rights ("SARs")

During fiscal 2016, we granted certain executives and employees cash-settled SARs. The cash-settled SARs vested on July 16, 2018. On the vesting date, half of the vested value of the cash-settled SARs became payable within thirty days of the vesting date, and the remainder payable within one year of the vesting date. The exercise price for the cash-settled SARs was amended so that it is based a 20 day trading average of the Company's common stock through the vesting date, in excess of the\$7.00 grant date valuation.

As of September 29, 2018, there were 222,500 cash-settled SARs issued and outstanding. On December 30, 2017, we had accrued a total liability of approximately \$1.0 million for the cash-settled SARs. On September 29, 2018, the total liability was approximately \$7.2 million, which reflects the fair value of the remaining SARs valued at the vesting date.

The following table summarizes the assumptions used to compute the current fair value of our cash-settled SARs:

|                          | September 29, 2018 <sup>[1]</sup> | December 30, 2017 | _   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----|
| Stock price              | \$ 38.17                          | \$ 9.76           |     |
| Expected volatility      | Not applicable                    | 33.80             | %   |
| Risk-free interest rate  | Not applicable                    | 1.55              | %   |
| Expected term (in years) | 0                                 | 0.54              |     |
| Expected dividend yield  | Not applicable                    | Not applical      | ole |

<sup>[1]</sup>Reflects the exercise price based on the 20 day trading average through vesting date (June 18, 2018 - July 16, 2018). [2]Reflects an assumed exercise price based on the closing stock price, as per the original SARs Agreement. The closing stock price used in the analysis was the closing stock price on the last trading day of the fiscal quarter.

## Stock Compensation Expense

During the three months ended September 29, 2018 and September 30, 2017, we incurred stock compensation expense of \$1.7 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. During the nine months ended September 29, 2018 and September 30, 2017, we incurred stock compensation expense of \$14.7 million and \$1.8 million, respectively. The increase in our stock compensation expense for the three- and nine-month periods of fiscal 2018 is attributable to cash-settled SARs.

### 8. Lease Commitments

### Capital Leases

We have entered into certain long-term, non-cancelable capital leases for real estate, along with certain logistics equipment and vehicles. The real estate leases contain customary extension option periods and annual fixed rent escalations. As of September 29, 2018, the acquisition value and net book value of all assets under capital leases was \$166.5 million and \$143.7 million, respectively.

At September 29, 2018, our total commitments under capital leases recorded in the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets within "capital leases - short term" and "capital leases - long term" were as follows:

| (In thousands) | Principal <sup>[1]</sup> | Interest  |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 2018           | \$ 2,118                 | \$3,523   |
| 2019           | 7,498                    | 13,802    |
| 2020           | 6,749                    | 13,425    |
| 2021           | 4,389                    | 13,127    |
| 2022           | 3,620                    | 12,921    |
| Thereafter     | 128,859                  | 182,788   |
| Total          | \$ 153,233               | \$239,586 |

Our principal amounts include negative amortization. Negative amortization occurs for us on some of our real estate leases because of the structure of the lease payments where the cash payment is applied to both interest and principal and wherein a calculated interest rate results in interest exceeding principal. The remaining amount of interest owed is added to the principal, resulting in the principal payment appearing as a negative.

### Sale-Leaseback Transactions

In the case of certain of our real estate capital leases, negative amortization may occur because of a required allocation between land and building. Under the capital lease rules of the current lease accounting standard, ASC 840 (Leases), the lease payment is bifurcated between land and building, if certain conditions are met. In these cases, the portion of the payment attributed to the building is capitalized at the lesser of net present value or fair market value, and the interest rate is thus determined as the previously unknown variable; while the portion of the rental payment attributed to land is treated as rental expense.

On January 10, 2018, we completed sale-leaseback transactions on four distribution centers. We sold these properties for gross proceeds of \$110.0 million. As a result of the sale-leaseback transactions, we recognized capital lease assets and obligations totaling \$95.1 million on these properties, and a total deferred gain of \$83.9 million, which will be amortized over the lives of the applicable leases, in accordance with U.S. GAAP. These capital lease obligations are reflected in the capital lease table above.

## 9. Commitments and Contingencies

## Environmental and Legal Matters

From time to time, we are involved in various proceedings incidental to our businesses, and we are subject to a variety of environmental and pollution control laws and regulations in all jurisdictions in which we operate. Although the ultimate outcome of these proceedings cannot be determined with certainty, based on presently available information management believes that adequate reserves have been established for probable losses with respect thereto. Management further believes that the ultimate outcome of these matters could be material to operating results in any given quarter but will not have a materially adverse effect on our long-term financial condition, our results of operations, or our cash flows.

## Collective Bargaining Agreements

As of September 29, 2018, we had over 2,500 employees on a full-time basis, of which approximately 1,100 were former employees of Cedar Creek. Additionally, as of September 29, 2018, approximately 20 percent of our employees were represented by various local labor union Collective Bargaining Agreements ("CBAs"). As of September 29, 2018, approximately 5 percent of our employees are covered by CBAs that are up for renewal in fiscal 2018 or are currently expired and under negotiation.

## 10. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Comprehensive income (loss) is a measure of income (loss) which includes both net income (loss) and other comprehensive income (loss). Other comprehensive income (loss) results from items deferred from recognition into our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) is separately presented on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as part of common stockholders' equity.

The changes in balances for each component of accumulated other comprehensive loss for the nine months ended September 29, 2018, were as follows:

| (In thousands)                                    | Foreign currency, net of tax | benned<br>benefit<br>pension<br>plan, net<br>of tax | net of | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss |  |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|--|
| December 30, 2017, beginning balance              | \$ 674                       | \$(37,393)                                          | \$ 212 | \$ (36,507 )                         |  |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax [1] | (3 )                         | 605                                                 | _      | 602                                  |  |
| September 29, 2018, ending balance, net of tax    | \$ 671                       | \$(36,788)                                          | \$ 212 | \$ (35,905 )                         |  |

<sup>[1]</sup> For the nine months ended September 29, 2018, the actuarial loss recognized in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) as a component of net periodic pension cost was \$0.8 million, net of tax of \$0.2 million (See Note 7).

### 11. Earnings (Loss) per Share

We calculate basic earnings (loss) per share by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. We calculate diluted earnings per share by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus the dilutive effect of outstanding share-based awards, including restricted stock units, performance shares, and performance units. Due to the net loss for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 29, 2018, 0 and 0.1 million, respectively, of incremental shares from share-based compensation arrangements were excluded from the computation of diluted weighted average shares outstanding, in both periods, because their effect would be anti-dilutive.

The reconciliation of basic earnings (loss) and diluted earnings (loss) per common share for the three- and nine-month periods of fiscal 2018 and 2017 were as follows:

|                                             | Three Months<br>Ended |                        | Nine Mont            | hs Ended               |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| (in thousands, except per share data)       | •                     | eßeptember<br>30, 2017 | Septembe<br>29, 2018 | rSeptember<br>30, 2017 |
| Net income (loss)                           | \$(9,896)             | \$ 5,686               | \$(31,881)           | \$ 9,508               |
| Basic weighted shares outstanding           | 9,274                 | 9,079                  | 9,209                | 9,033                  |
| Dilutive effect of share-based awards       | _                     | 164                    | _                    | 152                    |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding | \$9,274               | \$ 9,243               | \$9,209              | \$ 9,185               |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share             | \$(1.07)              | \$ 0.63                | \$(3.46)             | \$ 1.05                |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share           | \$(1.07)              | \$ 0.62                | \$(3.46)             | \$ 1.04                |

# ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The information contained in this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") has been derived from our historical financial statements and is intended to provide information to assist you in better understanding and evaluating our financial condition and results of operations. This MD&A section should be read in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and notes to those statements included in Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2017, as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). This MD&A section is not a comprehensive discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations, but rather updates disclosures made in the aforementioned filing.

The discussion below contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance, liquidity levels or achievements, and may contain the words "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "intend," "project," "plan," "will be," "will likely continue," "will likely result" words or phrases of similar meaning. All of these forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions made by our management that, although believed by us to be reasonable, are inherently uncertain. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, economic, competitive, governmental, and technological factors outside of our control that may cause our business, strategy, or actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties may include those discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2017, as filed with the SEC, and other factors. some of which may not be known to us. We operate in a changing environment in which new risks can emerge from time to time. It is not possible for management to predict all of these risks, nor can it assess the extent to which any factor, or a combination of factors, may cause our business, strategy, or actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements. Factors you should consider that could cause these differences include, among other things:

the imposition or threat of protectionist trade policies or import or export tariffs;

modified or new global or regional trade agreements:

changes in the prices, supply and/or demand for products which we distribute;

inventory management and commodities pricing;

new housing starts and inventory levels of existing homes for sale:

general economic and business conditions in the U.S.;

acceptance by our customers of our privately branded products;

financial condition and creditworthiness of our customers;

supply from our key vendors;

reliability of the technologies we utilize;

activities of competitors;

changes in significant operating expenses:

fuel costs:

risk of losses associated with accidents;

exposure to product liability

claims;

changes in the availability of capital and interest rates:

adverse weather patterns or conditions;

acts of cyber intrusion;

our ability to realize anticipated synergies from the acquisition of Cedar Creek and to integrate Cedar Creek's business;

risk of loss of material customers, suppliers, or product lines in connection with the acquisition; the significant indebtedness that we have incurred in connection with the Cedar Creek acquisition; charges or other liabilities relating to the Cedar Creek acquisition;

variations in the performance of the financial markets, including the credit markets; and other factors described herein and in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2017, as filed with the SEC and as supplemented in the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the guarters ended March 31, 2018, and June 30, 2018.

Given these risks and uncertainties, we caution you not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

### **Executive Level Overview**

## Background

We are a leading distributor of building and industrial products in the U.S. We are headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, with executive offices located at 4300 Wildwood Parkway, Atlanta, Georgia, and we operate our distribution business through a broad network of distribution centers. We serve many major metropolitan areas in the U.S. and deliver building and industrial products to a variety of wholesale and retail customers. We distribute products in two principal categories: structural products and specialty products. Structural products include plywood, oriented strand board, rebar and remesh, lumber and other wood products primarily used for structural support, walls, and flooring in construction projects. Structural products represented approximately 45 percent of our year-to-date fiscal 2018 net sales. Specialty products include exterior roofing, insulation, moulding, engineered wood products, vinyl products (used primarily in siding), metal products (excluding rebar and remesh), spruce and cedar. Specialty products accounted for approximately 55 percent of our year-to-date fiscal 2018 net sales.

## Recent Developments

Acquisition of Cedar Creek

On April 13, 2018, we completed our previously announced acquisition of Cedar Creek for a preliminary aggregate purchase price of approximately \$361.8 million. As a result of the acquisition, we increased the number of our distribution facilities to approximately 70 facilities, and increased the number of our full-time employees to over 2,500.

The assets acquired and liabilities assumed and the results of operations of the acquired business are included in our consolidated results since April 13, 2018.

### Revolving Credit Facility

On April 13, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we amended and restated our Revolving Credit Facility to increase the aggregate commitments to \$600.0 million (an increase of \$265.0 million). The Amended Revolving Credit Facility also provides for an uncommitted accordion feature that permits us to increase the facility by an aggregate additional principal amount of up to \$150.0 million, subject to certain conditions, including lender consent. A portion of the proceeds from the Revolving Credit Facility were used to fund the purchase price for Cedar Creek, transaction costs in connection with the amendment and restatement of the Revolving Credit Facility, and transaction costs in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek.

### Term Loan Facility

On April 13, 2018, in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek, we entered into the Term Loan Agreement with HPS and other financial institutions as party thereto. The Term Loan Agreement provides for a \$180.0 million Term Loan Facility secured substantially by all our assets. The proceeds from the Term Loan were used to fund a portion of the purchase price for Cedar Creek, and to fund transaction costs of the Term Loan and transaction costs in connection with the acquisition of Cedar Creek.

## **Industry Conditions**

Many of the factors that cause our operations to fluctuate are seasonal or cyclical in nature. Our operating results have historically been correlated with the level of single-family residential housing starts in the U.S. At any time, the demand for new homes is dependent on a variety of factors, including job growth, changes in population and demographics, the availability and cost of mortgage financing, the supply of new and existing homes and, importantly, consumer confidence. Since 2011, the U.S. housing market has shown steady improvement. Recent data as of September 29, 2018 on single-family residential housing starts and permits continue to suggest potential near-term challenges, but we continue to believe the housing market improvement trend will continue in the long term, and that we are well-positioned to support our customers. Our operating results are also affected by commodity pricing, and during the third quarter of 2018 the industry experienced a rapid decline in commodity prices, including with respect to panels and framing lumber. The decline negatively impacted our financial results, particularly our margins. We continue to closely monitor these pricing trends, and will work to manage our business, inventory levels, and costs, accordingly.

## **Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth our results of operations for the third quarter of fiscal 2018 and fiscal 2017:

| (Dollars in thousands)                                                                                                                                                  | Third<br>Quarter of<br>Fiscal 2018 | % of<br>Net<br>Sales                                 | Third<br>Quarter of<br>Fiscal 2017                          | % of<br>Net<br>Sales                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Net sales                                                                                                                                                               | \$859,776                          | 100.0%                                               | \$479,318                                                   | 100.0%                                                |
| Gross profit Selling, general, and administrative Gains from sales of property Depreciation and amortization Operating income (loss) Interest expense Other income, net | 13,273                             | 10.7%<br>10.2%<br>—%<br>0.9%<br>(0.5)%<br>1.5%<br>—% | 60,545<br>47,088<br>—<br>2,249<br>11,208<br>5,670<br>(271 ) | 12.6%<br>9.8%<br>—%<br>0.5%<br>2.3%<br>1.2%<br>(0.1)% |
| Income (loss) before provision for (benefit from) income taxes                                                                                                          | (17,184)                           | (2.0)%                                               | 5,809                                                       | 1.2%                                                  |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes<br>Net income (loss)                                                                                                          | (7,288 )<br>\$(9,896 )             | (0.8)%<br>(1.2)%                                     | 123<br>\$5,686                                              | —%<br>1.2%                                            |

The following table sets forth our results of operations for the nine-month periods of fiscal 2018 and fiscal 2017:

|                                                                | First Nine                  | % of          | First Nine               | % of          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| (Dollars in thousands)                                         | Months of<br>Fiscal 2018[1] | Net<br>Sales  | Months of<br>Fiscal 2017 | Net<br>Sales  |
| Net sales                                                      | \$2,190,215                 | 100.0%        | \$1,381,927              | 100.0%        |
| Gross profit                                                   | 250,731                     | 11.4%         | 175,525                  | 12.7%         |
| Selling, general, and administrative                           | 238,655                     | 10.9%         | 149,290                  | 10.8%         |
| Gains from sales of property                                   |                             | <del></del> % | (6,700)                  | (0.5)%        |
| Depreciation and amortization                                  | 18,177                      | 0.8%          | 6,865                    | 0.5%          |
| Operating income (loss)                                        | (6,101)                     | (0.3)%        | 26,070                   | 1.9%          |
| Interest expense                                               | 33,947                      | 1.5%          | 16,279                   | 1.2%          |
| Other income, net                                              | (282)                       | <del></del> % | (549)                    | <del></del> % |
| Income (loss) before provision for (benefit from) income taxes | (39,766)                    | (1.8)%        | 10,340                   | 0.7%          |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                      | (7,885)                     | (0.4)%        | 832                      | 0.1%          |

Net income (loss) \$(31,881)

\$(31,881) (1.5)% \$9,508

0.7%

The following table sets forth net sales by product category for the three- and nine-month periods of fiscal 2018 and 2017:

|                      | Three Months Ended    |                       | Nine Months Ended      | t                  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| (In thousands)       | September<br>29, 2018 | September<br>30, 2017 | September 29, [1] 2018 | September 30, 2017 |
| Structural products  | \$387,347             | \$228,424             | \$1,016,806            | \$633,036          |
| Specialty products   | 481,946               | 254,476               | 1,185,332              | 758,788            |
| Other <sup>[2]</sup> | (9,517)               | (3,582)               | (11,923)               | (9,897)            |
| Net sales            | \$859,776             | \$479,318             | \$2,190,215            | \$1,381,927        |

Fiscal 2018 includes incremental operating results for Cedar Creek from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018.

Nine Months Ended

|                                     | Inree Mor            | Inree Months Ended |                      |   | Nine Months Ended  |     |                |     |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| (In thousands)                      | Septembe<br>29, 2018 | r                  | Septembe<br>30, 2017 | r | September 2018 [1] | 29, | September 2017 | 30, |
| Structural products                 | \$21,720             | )                  | \$21,199             | 9 | \$83,046           |     | \$58,489       |     |
| Specialty products                  | 74,502               |                    | 39,326               |   | 183,516            |     | 115,586        |     |
| Other <sup>[2]</sup>                | (4,467               | )                  | 20                   |   | (15,831            | )   | 1,450          |     |
| Gross profit                        | \$91,755             | 5                  | \$60,545             | 5 | \$250,73           | 1   | \$175,525      | 5   |
| Gross margin percentage by category | •                    |                    |                      |   |                    |     |                |     |
| Structural products                 | 5.6                  | %                  | 9.3                  | % | 8.2                | %   | 9.2            | %   |
| Specialty products                  | 15.5                 | %                  | 15.5                 | % | 15.5               | %   | 15.2           | %   |
| Total gross margin percentage       | 10.7                 | %                  | 12.6                 | % | 11.4               | %   | 12.7           | %   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup>Fiscal 2018 includes incremental operating results for Cedar Creek from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018.

### Third Quarter of Fiscal 2018 Compared to Third Quarter of Fiscal 2017

Net sales. For the third quarter of fiscal 2018, net sales increased 79.4 percent, or \$380.5 million, compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2017. Sales growth was largely driven by the acquisition of Cedar Creek and the inclusion of Cedar Creek's sales revenue of 348.6 million in thethird quarter of 2018, versus the exclusion of such sales results during the comparable period of the prior year.

Gross profit and gross margin. For the third quarter of fiscal 2018, gross profit increased by \$31.2 million, or 51.5 percent, with gross margin of 10.7 percent, compared to 12.6 percent in the third quarter of fiscal 2017. The increase in gross profit was due to the acquisition of Cedar Creek, while the decrease in gross margin percentage was primarily driven by declining commodity pricing during the current period, as well as a lower of cost or net realizable value adjustment on inventory of \$5.2 million and acquisition related inventory step-up charges of \$0.9 million.

Selling, general, and administrative expenses. The increase in selling, general, and administrative expenses of 86.2 percent, or \$40.6 million, for the third quarter of fiscal 2018, compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2017, is primarily due to: (i) the acquisition of Cedar Creek and the inclusion of expenses from the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup>The first nine-months of fiscal 2018 includes incremental operating results for Cedar Creek from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[2]</sup> "Other" includes unallocated allowances, and discounts. Beginning third quarter 2018 allowances and discounts are allocated to product categories where available. Prior year and nine months ended periods have been updated for this presentation. The following table sets forth gross profit and gross margin percentages by product category for the three-and nine-month periods of fiscal 2018 and 2017:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[2]</sup> "Other" includes adjustment for lower of cost or net realizable value of \$5.2 million for the three- and nine- month periods, inventory acquisition step-up charge of \$0.8 million for the three months ended September 29, 2018, \$11.8 million for the nine months ended September 29, 2018, unallocated allowances and discounts. Beginning third quarter 2018 allowances and discounts are allocated to product categories where available. Prior year and nine months ended periods have been updated for this presentation.

acquired business for the third

quarter of 2018, versus the comparable period of the prior year; (ii) \$3.8 million in charges for legal, professional and other integration costs related to the Cedar Creek acquisition; and (iii) \$6.5 million in costs related to multi-employer pension plan withdrawal.

Depreciation and amortization expense. For the third quarter of fiscal 2018, depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$5.8 million to \$8.1 million due to the acquisition of Cedar Creek, which resulted in a higher depreciable asset base and the addition of amortizable intangible assets. During the third quarter of fiscal 2018 Cedar Creek added \$3.3 million and \$2.1 million to our depreciation and amortization expense, respectively.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased by \$7.6 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2018, compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2017. The increase was largely attributable to a higher average debt balance over the period, coupled with a higher average interest rate on outstanding debt. We increased our outstanding debt to finance the acquisition of Cedar Creek, incurred transaction costs that are amortized as interest expense, and incurred capital lease interest of \$3.7 million, versus \$0.6 million during the comparable period of the prior year.

Provision for income taxes. Our effective tax rate was 42.4 percent and 2.1 percent for the third quarter of fiscal 2018 and 2017, respectively. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2018 was impacted by: (i) the inclusion of Cedar Creek's operations from April 13, 2018, toSeptember 29, 2018; (ii) the permanent addback of certain nondeductible expenses including transaction costs related to the Cedar Creek acquisition; (iii) the discrete tax benefit of \$0.6 million for stock vesting; and (iv) the effect of the valuation allowance for separate company state income tax losses generated during the third quarter of fiscal 2018. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 was reduced by the utilization of our net operating loss deferred tax asset and the corresponding release of the valuation allowance due to net income generated during the third quarter of fiscal 2017. The effect of the valuation allowance for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 was impacted by alternative minimum tax and state income taxes recorded on a separate company basis.

Net income (loss). Net income (loss) was substantially impacted by the factors described above including: (i) higher selling, general, and administrative expenses resulting from the acquisition of Cedar Creek and related transaction fees; (ii) higher depreciation and amortization expenses due to the increase in depreciable assets and the addition of amortizable intangible assets; and (iii) increased interest expense due to higher interest rates on outstanding debt and higher average outstanding loan balances.

## First Nine Months of Fiscal 2018 Compared to First Nine Months of Fiscal 2017

Net sales. For the first nine months of fiscal 2018, net sales increased 58.5 percent, or \$808.3 million, compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2017. Sales growth was largely driven by the acquisition of Cedar Creek and the inclusion of Cedar Creek's sales revenue of \$706.6 million from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018, versus the exclusion of such sales results during the comparable period of the prior year.

Gross profit and gross margin. For the first nine months of fiscal 2018, gross profit increased by \$75.2 million, or 42.8 percent, with gross margin of 11.4 percent, compared to 12.7 percent for the first nine months of fiscal 2017. Gross margin was negatively impacted by the acquisition related inventory step-up charge of \$11.8 million, the lower of cost or net realizable value adjustment on inventory of \$5.2 million, and declining commodity pricing during the current period.

Selling, general, and administrative expenses. The increase in selling, general, and administrative expenses of 59.9 percent, or \$89.4 million, for the first nine months of fiscal 2018, compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2017 was primarily due to: (i) the acquisition of Cedar Creek and the inclusion of expenses from the acquired business from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018, versus the comparable period of the prior year; (ii) \$19.1 million in charges for legal, professional and other integration costs related to the Cedar Creek acquisition; and (iii) \$14.7 million in expenses related to cash-settled stock appreciation rights and other share based compensation in fiscal 2018.

Gains from sales of property. Gains from sales and leaseback of property in the first nine months of fiscal 2018 were deferred, due to the rules of accounting for sale and leaseback transactions, and are amortized as a credit to selling, general, and administrative expenses in the amount of approximately \$1.3 million per fiscal quarter. The accounting treatment of gains from sale and leaseback transactions differs from that of sale transactions with no leaseback, as sales of property without leaseback are allowed immediate and full gain recognition in the period of the sale. Sales of property with no leaseback in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 resulted in gains recognized of \$6.7 million.

Depreciation and amortization expense. For the first nine months of fiscal 2018, depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$11.3 million to \$18.2 million due to the acquisition of Cedar Creek, which resulted in a higher depreciable asset base and the addition of depreciable intangible assets. During the first nine months of fiscal 2018, Cedar Creek added \$6.2 million and \$4.0 million to our depreciation and amortization expense, respectively.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased by \$17.7 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2018, compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2017. The increase was largely attributable to a higher average debt balance over the period, coupled with a higher average interest rate on outstanding debt. We increased our outstanding debt to finance the acquisition of Cedar Creek and incurred transaction costs that are amortized as interest expense. During the nine months ended September 29, 2018, we incurred debt modification fees of \$2.2 million related to the mortgage, and capital lease interest of \$9.5 million during the first nine months of fiscal 2018 versus \$1.2 million during the comparable period of fiscal 2017, partially offset by a decrease in mortgage interest expense of \$3.0 million.

Provision for income taxes. Our effective tax rate was 19.8 percent and 8.0 percent for the first nine months of fiscal 2018 and 2017, respectively. The effective tax rate for the first nine months of fiscal 2018 was impacted by: (i) the inclusion of Cedar Creek's operations from April 13, 2018, to September 29, 2018; (ii) the permanent addback of certain nondeductible expenses including transaction costs related to the Cedar Creek acquisition; and (iii) the effect of the valuation allowance for separate company state losses. The effective tax rate for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 was reduced by the utilization of our net operating loss deferred tax asset and the corresponding release of the valuation allowance due to net income generated during the first nine months of fiscal 2017. The effect of the valuation allowance for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 was impacted by alternative minimum tax and state income taxes recorded on a separate company basis.

Net income (loss). Net income (loss) was substantially impacted by the factors described above including: (i) higher selling, general and administrative expenses resulting from the acquisition of Cedar Creek and related transaction fees totaling \$19.1 million; (ii) higher depreciation and amortization expenses due to the increase in depreciable assets and the addition of amortizable intangible assets; (iii) increased interest expense due to higher interest rates on outstanding debt and higher average outstanding loan balances as we increased borrowings on our Revolving Credit Facility and added a new Term Loan Facility; and (iv) \$14.7 million of additional expense recognized for cash-settled stock appreciation rights and other share based compensation.

### Seasonality

We are exposed to fluctuations in quarterly sales volumes and expenses due to seasonal factors common in the building products distribution industry. The first and fourth fiscal quarters are typically our slowest quarters, due to the impact of poor weather on the construction market. Our second and third fiscal quarters are typically our strongest quarters, reflecting a substantial increase in construction, due to more favorable weather conditions. Our working capital generally increases in the fiscal second and third quarters, reflecting increased seasonal demand.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

We expect our primary sources of liquidity to be cash flows from sales in the normal course of our operations and borrowings under our Revolving Credit Facility. We expect that these sources will fund our ongoing cash requirements for the foreseeable future. We believe that sales in the normal course of our operations and amounts currently available from our Revolving Credit Facility and other sources will be sufficient to fund our routine operations, including working capital requirements, for at least the next 12 months.

Long-Term Debt

As of September 29, 2018, and December 30, 2017, long-term debt consisted of the following:

|                                                                |                      | September<br>29, | December 30, |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| (In thousands)                                                 | <b>Maturity Date</b> | 2018             | 2017         |
| Revolving Credit Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance  |                      |                  |              |
| costs of \$6.2 million and \$3.1 million at September 29, 2018 | October 10, 2022     | \$409,112        | \$ 179,569   |
| and December 30, 2017, respectively)                           |                      |                  |              |
| Mortgage Note Payable (net of discounts and debt issuance      |                      |                  |              |
| costs of \$0 million and \$0.8 million at September 29, 2018   | NA                   | _                | 97,108       |
| and December 30, 2017, respectively)                           |                      |                  |              |
| Term Loan Facility (net of discounts and debt issuance costs   | 0 . 1 . 40 .000      | 470.004          |              |
| of \$7.1 million and \$0 million at September 29, 2018         | October 13, 2023     | 172,004          | _            |
| and December 30, 2017, respectively)                           |                      |                  |              |
| Total debt                                                     |                      | 581,116          | 276,677      |
| Less: current portion of long-term debt                        |                      | (1,736 )         | _            |
| Long-term debt, net                                            |                      | \$ 579,380       | \$ 276,677   |

### Revolving Credit Facility

On April 13, 2018, we amended and restated our Revolving Credit Facility to provide for a senior secured revolving loan and letter of credit facility of up to \$600 million and an uncommitted accordion feature that permits us to increase the facility by an aggregate additional principal amount of up to \$150 million. If we obtain the full amount of the additional increases in commitments, the Revolving Credit Facility will allow borrowings of up to \$750 million. Borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility are subject to availability under the Borrowing Base (as that term is defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement). Letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$30 million are also available under the Revolving Credit Agreement, which would reduce the amount of the revolving loans available under the Revolving Credit Facility. The Revolving Credit Agreement provides for interest at a rate per annum equal to (i) LIBOR plus a margin ranging from 1.75 percent to 2.25 percent, with the margin determined based upon average excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter for loans based on LIBOR, or (ii) the administrative agent's base rate plus a margin ranging from 0.75 percent to 1.25 percent, with the margin based upon average excess availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter for loans based on the base rate. If excess availability falls below the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the borrowing base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time, the Revolving Credit Agreement requires maintenance of a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.0 to 1.0 until excess availability has been at least the greater of (i) \$50 million and (ii) 10 percent of the lesser of (a) the borrowing base and (b) the maximum permitted credit at such time for a period of 30 consecutive days.

As of September 29, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$415.4 million and excess availability of \$122.8 million under our Revolving Credit Facility with a weighted average interest rate of 4.2 percent. As of December 30, 2017 our principal balance was \$182.7 million, excess availability was \$63.3 million and our stated interest rate was 4.2 percent.

### Term Loan Facility

On April 13, 2018, we entered into the Term Loan Agreement with HPS and certain other financial institutions as party thereto. The Term Loan Agreement provides for a Term Loan Facility of \$180 million secured by substantially all of our assets. Borrowings under the Term Loan Agreement may be made as Base Rate Loans or Eurodollar Rate Loans. The Base Rate Loans will bear interest at the rate per annual equal to (i) the greatest of the (a) U.S. prime lending rate published in The Wall Street Journal, (b) the Federal Funds Effective Rate plus 0.50 percent, and (c) the sum of the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate of one month plus 1.00 percent, provided that the Base Rate shall at no time be less than 2.00 percent per annum; and (ii) plus the Applicable Margin, as described below. Eurodollar Rate Loans will bear interest at the rate per annum equal to (i) the ICE Benchmark Administration LIBOR Rate, provided that the Adjusted Eurodollar Rate shall at no time be less than 1.00 percent per annum; plus (ii) the Applicable Margin. The Applicable Margin will be 6.00 percent with respect to Base Rate Loans and 7.00 percent with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans.

The Term Loan Agreement requires maintenance of a total net leverage ratio of 8.25 to 1.00 for the fiscal quarter ending September 29, 2018, and such required covenant level reduces over the term of the Term Loan Facility as set forth in the Term Loan Agreement.

As of September 29, 2018, we had outstanding borrowings of \$179.1 million under our Term Loan Credit Facility and a stated interest rate of 9.2 percent per annum.

Mortgage Payoff and Capital Lease Commitments

On January 10, 2018, we completed sale-leaseback transactions on four distribution centers. We sold these properties for gross proceeds of \$110.0 million. As a result of the transactions, we recognized capital lease assets and obligations totaling \$95.1 million on these properties, and a total deferred gain of \$83.9 million, which will be amortized over the lives of the applicable leases, in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The net proceeds received from the transactions were used to pay the remaining balance of our mortgage of \$97.8 million, in its entirety, in the first guarter of fiscal 2018.

Our total capital lease commitments, which substantially relate to leases of property, totaled \$153.2 million as of September 29, 2018.

## Sources and Uses of Cash

### Operating Activities

Net cash used in operating activities for the first nine months of fiscal 2018 was \$59.3 million, compared to net cash used in operating activities of \$38.3 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2017. The use of net cash in operating activities was substantially higher due to increased working capital, as well as transaction costs related to the Cedar Creek acquisition. Accounts receivable increased by \$151.4 million during the first nine months of fiscal 2018. Inventory increased by \$213.7 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2018, which reflects the addition of the Cedar Creek business. The increases in accounts receivable and inventories were partially offset by increases in accounts payable.

### Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities for the first nine months of fiscal 2018 was \$247.0 million compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$27.2 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2017. The net cash used primarily related to the \$353.1 million net cash paid for the acquisition of Cedar Creek during the second quarter of 2018, and the proceeds from the sale of assets of \$108 million.

### Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities totaled \$309.2 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2018, primarily reflecting the increase in our Revolving Credit Facility and the addition of the new Term Loan Facility, partially offset by \$503.6 million in repayments of our Revolving Credit Facility, debt issuance costs relating to our Revolving Credit Facility and Term Loan Facility, and a \$97.8 million pay-off of our mortgage loan.

# Operating Working Capital [1] Selected financial information (in thousands)

| ,                                                     | September 29, 2018 | December 30, 2017 | September 30, 2017 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Current assets:                                       |                    |                   |                    |
| Cash                                                  | \$ 7,630           | \$ 4,696          | \$ 5,590           |
| Receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts     | 285,489            | 134,072           | 173,748            |
| Inventories, net                                      | 401,222            | 187,512           | 206,788            |
| Other current assets                                  | 44,947             | 17,124            | 21,063             |
| Total current assets                                  | \$ 739,288         | \$ 343,404        | \$ 407,189         |
| Current liabilities:                                  |                    |                   |                    |
| Accounts payable                                      | \$ 153,814         | \$ 70,623         | \$ 97,606          |
| Bank overdrafts                                       | 36,264             | 21,593            | 21,641             |
| Accrued compensation                                  | 7,611              | 9,229             | 8,491              |
| Current maturities of long-term debt, net of discount | 1,736              | _                 | 54,521             |
| Capital leases - short-term                           | 8,058              | 3,552             | 3,423              |
| Real estate deferred gains - short-term               | 5,330              | 1,836             | 1,836              |
| Other current liabilities                             | 21,528             | 10,772            | 9,822              |
| Total current liabilities                             | \$ 234,341         | \$ 117,605        | \$ 197,340         |
| Operating working capital                             | \$ 506,683         | \$ 225,799        | \$ 264,370         |

Operating working capital is defined as current assets less current liabilities plus the current portion of long-term debt. Operating working capital is an important measurement we use to determine the efficiencies of our operations and our ability to readily convert assets into cash. Management of operating working capital helps us monitor our progress in meeting our goals to enhance our return on working capital assets. Operating working capital of \$506.7 million at September 29, 2018, compared to \$225.8 million as of December 30, 2017, increased on a net basis by approximately \$280.9 million, primarily as a result of the acquisition of Cedar Creek. Accounts receivable and inventory increased by \$151.4 million and \$213.7 million, respectively, offset by an increase in accounts payable of \$83.2 million.

Operating working capital increased from September 30, 2017, to September 29, 2018, by \$242.3 million, primarily driven by the acquisition of Cedar Creek in the second quarter of 2018.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with GAAP requires our management to make judgments and estimates that affect the amounts reported in our condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. There have been no material changes to our critical accounting policies from the information provided in Item 7 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2017.

### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

As a Smaller Reporting Company, we are not required to provide the information required by this Item. **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES** 

Our management performed an evaluation, as of the end of the period covered by this report on Form 10-Q, under the supervision of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")). Based on that evaluation, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and is accumulated and communicated to our management including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

During the period covered by this report, there have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation described above that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

On April 13, 2018, we acquired Cedar Creek Holdings Inc. in a business combination. We are currently in the process of integrating policies, processes, information technology systems and other components of internal controls over financial reporting of the combined business. We believe that we will be able to maintain sufficient controls over the substantive results of financial reporting of Cedar Creek and its subsidiaries, but because of the size, complexity and timing of the integration, the internal controls over financial reporting of Cedar Creek have been excluded from management's assessment of the Company's internal control over financial reporting for the quarter ended September 29, 2018, and will be excluded for the year ended December 29, 2018.

# PART II. OTHER INFORMATION ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

During the third quarter of fiscal 2018, there were no material changes to our legal proceedings as disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2017. Additionally, we are, and from time to time may be, a party to routine legal proceedings incidental to the operation of our business. The outcome of any pending or threatened proceedings is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, operating results, or cash flows, based on our current understanding of the relevant facts. Legal expenses incurred related to these contingencies are generally expensed as incurred.

### **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

Total Number

There have been no material changes to the risk factors disclosed in Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2017, as supplemented by the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2018.

### ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The following table summarizes the Company's common stock repurchase activity for each month of the quarter ended September 29, 2018:

| A۱ | erage Price   |
|----|---------------|
| P  | aid Per Share |
|    |               |
|    |               |
| \$ | 34.12         |
|    |               |
|    |               |
|    |               |
|    |               |
| \$ | _             |
|    |               |
|    |               |
|    |               |
|    |               |
| \$ | 31.49         |
|    |               |
|    |               |
|    |               |
|    | \$<br>\$      |

The Company did not repurchase any of its equity securities during the period covered by this report pursuant to any publicly announced plan or program, and no such plan or program is presently in effect. All [1] purchases reflected in the table above pertain to purchases of common stock by the

to purchases of common stock by the Company in connection with tax withholding obligations of the Company's employees upon the vesting of such employees' restricted stock awards.

Slock awards.

## ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES Not applicable.

Tiot applicable.

**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION** 

None.

## **ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

| Exhibit<br>Number | Description                                                                                    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31.1 *            | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of  |
|                   | <u>2002.</u>                                                                                   |
| 31.2 *            | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of  |
|                   | <u>2002.</u>                                                                                   |
| 32.1 *            | *Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of |
|                   | <u>2002.</u>                                                                                   |
| 32.2              | *Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of |
|                   | <u>2002.</u>                                                                                   |
| 101.Def           | Definition Linkbase Document.                                                                  |
| 101.Pre           | Presentation Linkbase Document.                                                                |
| 101.Lab           | Labels Linkbase Document.                                                                      |
| 101.Cal           | Calculation Linkbase Document.                                                                 |
| 101.Sch           | Schema Document.                                                                               |
| 101.lns           | Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File         |
|                   | because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.                            |
|                   |                                                                                                |

- \* Filed herewith.
- Exhibit is being furnished and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the \*\*Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

## **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

## **BlueLinx Holdings Inc.**

(Registrant)

Date: November 8, 2018 By:/s/ Susan C. O'Farrell

Susan C. O'Farrell Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, and Principal Accounting Officer